

SAOIRSE

IRISH FREEDOM

THE VOICE OF THE REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT



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GOSS & GAUGHAN
COMMEMORATION

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

ST PATRICK'S
CEMETERY
DUNDALK, 2.30pm

Assemble: Lisdoon
Arms, 2.30pm
Speaker: Des Dalton



EU bullies' Dublin
message:

Ireland 'just a state like California'

SINCE the Irish people's rejection of the Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution on June 12 the reaction of the EU political elite to the result of the referendum has ranged from a dismissal of the vote in the days immediately following the referendum to a concerted campaign of threats if the 26-County State did not hold a second referendum in the weeks since.

At the same time with the full support of the Dublin Administration they insisted on the ratification process continuing in the other states.

The intention of course is to isolate the Irish people, increasing the pressure for a second referendum.

Over the past six weeks the contempt for democracy at the heart of the EU project has been exposed and has if

anything galvanised the opposition to the Lisbon Treaty. The scale of the protest to the visit by French President Nicolas Sarkozy coupled with the results of the Red C poll published in the *Sunday Business Post* on July 27 – showing that a second referendum on the Lisbon Treaty would be heavily defeated – illustrates that the Irish people will not allow

themselves to be bullied into a 'United States of Europe'.

Republican Sinn Féin activists and supporters were to the forefront in the protests at Sarkozy visit on July 21, in a statement the Vice President of Republican Sinn Féin Des Dalton said: "The visit of French President Nicolas Sarkozy to Dublin on is part of the campaign of the EU political elite to steamroll the Irish people into voting again on the rejected Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution. Since June 12 the Franco/German governments as well as the heads of the various EU Institutions such as the President of the EU Parliament Hans-Gert Pötering and the President of the EU Commission José Manuel Barroso have shown only contempt for the democratic decision of the Irish people.

"The big lie being put forward by the EU political establishment is that the EU can go ahead with the Lisbon Treaty despite or in defiance of its rejection in Ireland. In fact the 26-County administration could halt the ratification process by simply stating that the vote of the Irish people must be respected and cannot be overturned by a second referendum. Instead of defending the Irish people's democratic decision the Dublin administration have lined up with the EU political establishment to try and create a 26/1 situation by the end of the year.

"On June 12 the Irish people made it clear that they rejected the further tightening of the EU's grip. They are not prepared to give over more power to an institution which they do not elect and which is not accountable to them. Three times in three years the people of three states have now said no to a militarised and unaccountable EU superstate. "This is the clear and unequivocal message which



• 'No, Accept the No Vote' and 'The Treaty of Lisbon is Dead' banners at the protest against the visit of French President Sarkozy in Dublin on July 21.

should be delivered to Nicolas Sarkozy on his visit to Dublin. In the past the Irish people welcomed the support of France in their struggle against British rule. Today we reject the efforts of Nicolas Sarkozy to subvert Irish democracy."

The Red C poll released by Open Europe – a London-based think-tank which opposes the ceding of power from the EU member states to Brussels – shows that just over half of all voters in the 26 Counties (52 per cent) said they would vote against the Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution if a second referendum were held immediately.

When asked if the Dublin administration should do as "the French President has reportedly said and organise a second referendum on the treaty", just a quarter of voters agreed, while 71 per cent disagreed. The two-to-one lead for the No side is a direct reversal of the advantage held by the Yes side at the beginning of the year.

In an EU-wide RED C poll conducted at around the same time as the Irish poll, a

majority in 16 states said they would vote no to the Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution if given the opportunity to vote.

Leaving aside all of the side issues the purpose of the Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution is the creation of an EU superstate, and this is illustrated by the comments of Jean-Claude Trichet, President of the ECB (European Central Bank), as reported in *The Irish Times* on July 18. Jean-Claude Trichet gives an insight into how the EU power brokers view the EU project.

Asked if the ECB would change its monetary policy to assist those Euro area members such as the 26 Counties, Spain or Portugal that are currently experiencing economic problems, Trichet compared

the ECB to the US Fed (the US central bank) saying that just as the Fed would not look at what is in the interests of individual states such as California or Missouri but rather the interests of the US, the ECB would act only in the interests of the EU and not those of member states.

Now more than ever the momentum created by the Irish rejection of the Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution must be maintained and built on throughout Europe.

All attempts to stamper and bully the people into accepting an undemocratic superstate must be resisted and the lies of the political establishments both in Brussels and Dublin challenged and exposed.

Annual H-Block
HUNGER STRIKE
Commemoration

Bundoran, Co
Donegal
Saturday, August 30

Assemble:
East End, 3pm

Speakers:
Dan Hoban
Micheál Óg Lavelle
Bob Loughman



UNVEILING OF MEMORIAL TO CAPTAIN
MICHAEL DANFORD

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10
BALLYSIMON ROAD, LIMERICK
Organised by: *The Limerick Republican
Graves Association*

Violence erupts for loyalist Twelfth

CLASHES involving protesters and the RUC took place over the nights of July 11-13.

In Portadown 13 members were injured during disturbances at Obin Street. Two men were arrested with one of them being charged.

In the New Lodge area of north Belfast more than 50 people were involved in what was described as "disturbances".

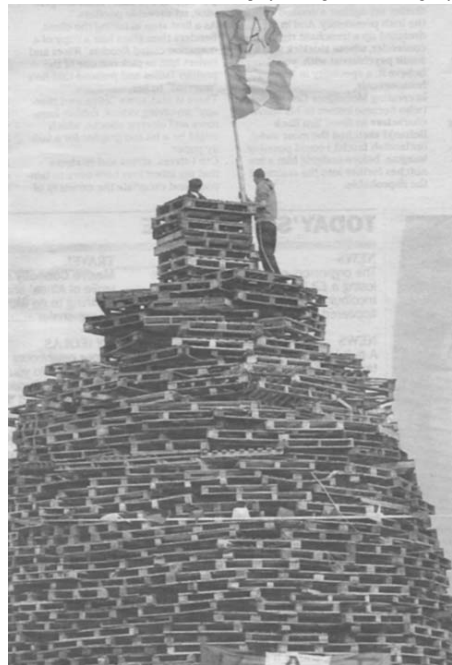
Five people were injured during violent sectarian clashes at Broadway, Belfast. A crowd of around 100 drunken loyalists attacked homes in the area in the early hours of Saturday morning. Residents fought the gang back to the Broadway roundabout before the RUC/PSNI arrived and the loyalists disbanded.

The invasion occurred after loyalists set alight an Eleventh Night bonfire on the Donegal Road. They then crossed the motorway on to Broadway, collecting bricks and iron bars from the Westlink building works. The loyalists made it as far as Iveagh Crescent before being beaten back by brave locals.

Thousands of Orangemen and supporters attended the annual Twelfth of July marches in which the traditional pledges of "loyalty to the Protestant faith, the crown and to the union of Great Britain and Northern Ireland" were made.

On July 11 a petrol bomb was thrown at Sé Óg's pub in Rasharkin, Co Antrim. All the windows were broken and petrol was poured on the front door. A window in the home of a

nationalist family in Kilrea, Co Antrim was smashed and



• An Eleventh night bonfire site at Ballycraigy Estate in Antrim town. 'KAT' on the Tricolour stands for 'Kill All Taigs'.

windows were broken in the GAA club. Locals say the attacks are linked to the Orange marches and the owner of Sé

Óg's pub said this the fifth year running that his pub has been attacked on July 11.

The RUC/PSNI used CS gas spray during clashes allegedly

between nationalists and loyalists in Rasharkin, Co Antrim. Thirteen members of the

RUC were injured in Obin Street, Portadown, Co Armagh during the Eleventh night bonfires.

Antrim Borough Council received complaints on July 12 after the Irish national flag bearing the initials 'KAT' – which stand for Kill All Taigs – was draped across the bonfire in Antrim town's mainly loyalist Ballycraigy estate.

The Council is coming under pressure to withhold £3,000 funding from the organisers of the loyalist bonfire. This is the first year that Ballycraigy has signed up to the council-sponsored bonfire incentive scheme.

The flag was removed on July 11 afternoon following contact of the council by the media.

On July 11 in Belfast preparations for the so-called Eleventh Night disrupted traffic when loyalists closed several arterial routes. Parts of the Donegal Road in south Belfast were closed off, as was the Shore Road in north Belfast where a bonfire was built close to the road.

More than 200 people were fined and 60 arrested at Scotland's biggest Orange Order parades. Organisers said around 12,000 marchers from all over the Britain and Ireland took part in a parade in Glasgow with 182 lodges and 92 bands taking part on July 5. Around the same number marched at Larkhall.

Most were fined for drinking or urinating in public. Five arrests were for sectarian breach of the peace.

Gearrscéalta

Provos 'counter-revolutionary force'

MARTIN McGuinness' claims that those opposed to English rule in Ireland wish to force the Provos' former military wing back onto a military footing are laughable Republican Sinn Féin Director of Publicity, Richard Walsh said in a statement on June 30.

"Republicans have no desire to see the Provisionals resume hostilities, as these would undoubtedly be conducted against those who have remained faithful to the Republican ideal. The Provos retained their military capacity through the adoption of the RUC as their armed wing. There is absolutely no useful purpose for the continued existence of the so-called 'Provisional Army Council'," he said.

"We already know that statements purporting to emanate from that body in fact originated from 10, Downing Street. They exist merely as a counter-revolutionary force," he said

MI5 harassment intensifies

ON the Twelfth of July as Tyrone Republican Sinn Féin member Aodhán Ó Cuinn passed through security at Belfast's Aldergrove airport he was approached by an RUC/PSNI member who tried to lead him into a side room in the airport.

Aodhán asked if it was in relation to airport security and was told that some people wanted to speak to him. As Aodhán approached the room he saw two men – one of whom he recognised as a member of British Intelligence. He refused to enter the room but the men approached him and tried to give him a contact number. He naturally refused to take it.

This is not the first occasion Aodhán was approached. Over the last two years the British Crown Forces have repeatedly tried to recruit him as an informer, to no avail. They have used threats and bribes, waited for him outside his home, his friends' homes and outside his place of work.

All the family bags were searched and his mother and father questioned in front of everyone by the RUC/PSNI and MI5. His parents were asked what it felt like to raise a terrorist and did they not know they would be sending Aodhán home in a body bag. Needless to say they were distraught.

Aodhán condemned the harassment aimed at him and his family. He said: "I have come to expect this lowlife behaviour from the Crown Forces, the fact I am constantly harassed makes me know I am doing my job as an Irish Republican, it makes me stronger and more determined."

His comrades in Republican Sinn Féin condemn this harassment of Irish Republicans and especially the ongoing targeting of Aodhán Ó Cuinn.

RSF oppose Garvaghy Road sell-out

REPUBLICAN Sinn Féin in North Armagh has criticised recent talks between the Provisionals and Orangemen in Portadown.

A spokesperson for the Thomas Harte Cumann, Lurgan said on June 26 that they were opposed to the forcing of an Orange march down the Garvaghy Road.

"Gerry Adams, a man from West Belfast, has no right to negotiate on behalf of the people of North Armagh. He certainly does not speak for us," he said.

"We are aware that a large number of people in the area have expressed their continued opposition to an Orange march being forced through nationalist areas, which is the ultimate objective of the current talks. Whilst Orangemen have been banned from marching down the Garvaghy Road this year, we fear that there are moves afoot to ensure that they are able to march freely along it next year. Republican Sinn Féin will continue to support those who oppose these triumphalist sectarian demonstrations," the spokesperson said.

Sinn Féin Poblachtach, Newry, results of Draw

1ú Duais: Nathan Collins, £200; 2ú Duais: Noel Marron, Framed Proclamation; 3ú Duais: Aidan Doyle, Resistance Plaque made by Portlaoise POWs; 4ú Duais: Rory McSweeney, Book: *My Fight for Irish Freedom* (Dan Breen).

Results of Dublin raffle

JULY results: 1st.prize ticket no 494; 2nd prize no 36; 3rd prize no 302; 4th prize no 623; 5th prize no 610; 6th prize no 032; 7th prize no 215; 8th prize no 590.

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- 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>

I would like to join Republican Sinn Féin

Ba mhaith liom bheith i mo bhall de Sinn Féin Poblachtach

Ainm

Seoladh

Tel: Age (if under 21)

Send to:

Teach Dáithí Ó Conaill
223 Parnell Street, Dublin 1
Tel: 01-872 9747; Facs: 01-872 9757.

or 229 Falls Road, Belfast
e-mail: saoirse@iol.ie
<http://rsf.ie>

or contact your local paper seller for details

JOIN REPUBLICAN SINN FÉIN



OUR AIMS

For a full British withdrawal from Ireland . . . The establishment of a true 32-County FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC . . . The establishment of a new all-Ireland parliament, completely outside the present partitionist set-up, to oversee the running of the new neutral non-aligned Ireland . . .

OUR HISTORY

Formed in 1905 . . . We are the oldest political organisation in the country . . . Organised throughout the 32 Counties . . . We have continuously rejected the failed political entities of the Six and 26 Counties in existence since the British partitioned our country . . .

For a full British withdrawal from Ireland

Gearrscéalta

Condemnation of Goggins plans for jails

THE proposal that all prisoners must submit to drug-testing is in effect yet another attempt to criminalise Republican prisoners, Richard Walsh, Director of Publicity for Republican Sinn Féin and PRO of the Republican Prisoners' Action Group said on July 19:

"Today's announcement by [British minister] Paul Goggins will not be welcomed by Republican POWs in Maghaberry," said.

"No Republican prisoner has ever been found to be in possession of illicit substances, nor have any of their visitors. Furthermore, drugs have never been found in the segregated regime in Maghaberry within which Republican prisoners are held.

"The suggestion that the use of the sniffer dogs will be increased is also unwelcome, as these have long been abused to create false 'indications' for the purpose of preventing open visits," he said.

Fundraiser for floodlighting of Elphin memorial

A SOCIAL and ballad session will be held in the Croghan Bar, Croghan, Co Roscommon on August 1, in aid of the project to floodlight the Co Roscommon IRA Memorial at Shankill Cross, Elphin.

Music and ballads will be provided by Frank Feery, Drumboylan and an enjoyable night's entertainment is guaranteed to all.

The memorial itself is one of the most imposing in Ireland. It was erected in 1963 to the memory of the 41 Roscommon people who gave their lives for Irish freedom in the years 1896-1916.

Surviving veterans of the struggle comprised the original committee which raised the necessary funds at home and in America.

Forty years following on its unveiling their successors in the present committee had the memorial completely refurbished. In 2003 an additional Roll of Honour memorial carrying the names and parishes of the Republican dead was added.

Now the Co Roscommon IRA Commemoration Committee deems it appropriate to have this outstanding memorial floodlit and the proceeds of this social and ballad session in the Croghan Bar will go to this worthy project.



• Members of Republican Sinn Féin at the Patrick Cannon commemoration in Dublin on July 19.

Pat Cannon remembered

SINN Féin Poblachtach remembered Volunteer Pat Cannon, Dublin at a commemoration in Balgriffin Cemetery, Dublin on July 19.

Members walked from the gates of the graveyard behind the Tricolour which was carried by Dermot Douglas and marched to the grave. Andy Connolly, Leinster organiser chaired the proceedings. He called on Paddy King to lay a wreath on behalf of the Republican Movement, Dublin and on Peig King to say a decade of the rosary.

A minute's silence was observed for all those who gave their lives in the cause of Irish freedom.

Frank Graham gave the oration which covered Pat's life and his commitment to the Republican Movement, which would not have included the acceptance of Stormont, Partition or British rule in any guise. The ceremony ended with the singing of Amhrán na bhFiann.

26-County administration funds loyalist festival

THE 26-County Department of Foreign Affairs is to finance this year's loyalist Apprentice Boys of Derry Maiden City Festival in August to the tune of £27,000. A number of other organisations, including Derry city council and the Stormont Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure are also funding the event.

RSF condemn raids and arrests in Co Fermanagh

THREE men were arrested on Thursday, July 17 during early morning raids in the Donagh, Newtownbutler and Aghadrumsee areas of County Fermanagh. These include an Ard-Chomhairle member of Republican Sinn Féin. They were taken to the Interrogation Centre at Antrim RUC Barracks.

Two of those arrested had previously been subjected to malicious prosecution, and the other has a case pending against the RUC for wrongful arrest and detention.

Mobile telephones and computers were taken from the properties, as well as compact discs and cassette tapes.

A daughter of one of the arrested men entered a house asking "Daddy, Daddy, where are you?" and was told he had been taken to Antrim. As she left the house, another RUC man mimicked her asking the question and said that had her father been an upstanding member of the community, they would not have been raiding the premises. The Brit then went on to claim that her father had been involved in the attempted execution of two RUC men near Roslea.

RSF Director of Publicity, Richard Walsh said: "Three Fermanagh Republicans were

abducted from their homes this morning by the RUC. Evidently Provo cop Lynch as yet has failed to put manners on them. Again it is Hugh Orde's men who are 'lashing out like cornered animals' despite his protestations.

"The men were members of the Fermanagh/Cavan Commemoration Committee responsible for organising the 50th Anniversary Commemoration for Volunteers James Crossan and Pat McManus in Swanlinbar, Co. Cavan this Saturday at 3p.m. We would encourage uncompromised Republicans in these counties and from further afield to attend this commemoration and show that they will not be intimidated from the path of true Republicanism. The actions of the RUC will not hinder the growth of the Republican Movement.

"We also condemn the outrageous comments made

by RUC personnel to the daughter of one of those seized which were clearly designed to cause distress. Furthermore, they are prejudicial to any inquiries they claim to be conducting at this time.

"Republican Sinn Féin calls on the people of Ireland to join the Republican Movement and work to secure the expulsion of the British invader from our shores." The three were released without charge on the afternoon of Friday July 18.

That morning two relatives of one of the men were stopped by around twenty members of the RUC between Lisnaskea and Derrylin, backed up by Customs officials. One of the men was called a "murdering bastard", a "w***ker" and a "p***k". The other, who suffers from a disability, was called a "crippled bastard" and an RUC man spat upon his face.

They were also stopped that afternoon outside Donagh by the same personnel, who included RUC Constables Miller and Paddy McCullough and no fewer than three sergeants.

Michael Óg Lavelle, spokesperson for Republican

Sinn Féin in Fermanagh said, "These remarks made by the RUC/PSNI were vile and disgusting and certainly reinforce our opinion that this police force is not fit for purpose. While they insulted the two men they stated that they had 'moved on' as had the Provos. Their actions clearly mirror that of the RUC and prove that there has been no change within their ranks. I welcome the release of the three men.

"These raids and arrests demonstrate that they were merely about punishing known Republicans for their steadfast stance against British rule in Ireland. It will be interesting to see what Provo Constables Lynch and Ó Cobhthaigh's reaction is to this harassment and how they will 'put manners' on their new bedfellows.

"Clár Ó Cobhthaigh had the audacity to refer to himself as a Republican following their collaboration in the Cornagrade area on the eleventh night. Republican Sinn Féin have been contacted by a number of residents in the area and will be working on the ground to assist them in the coming weeks."

Campaign for retention of post office network

A RANGE of community and voluntary groups have joined forces to campaign against the closure of local post offices - some 500 post offices have been closed over the last eight years.

The group met early in July with the 26-County Irish Postmasters' Union (IPU), which said further decline is inevitable unless the 26-County administration takes action. It wants post offices to be made the provider of choice for social welfare payments, a policy on the future size and spread of the network, and commitments to maintaining services in remote areas.

Representatives of the Society of St Vincent de Paul, Irish Farmers' Association, Age Action, Irish Senior Citizens' Parliament, Irish Rural Link and the Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed attended.

John Monahan, national vice-president of St Vincent de Paul, said it would be "catastrophic" if post offices were to lose the contract for social welfare payments. People used the post office network to pay bills and receive social welfare payments and organised their budgeting around the availability of this service.

In rural areas, the big difficulty was not necessarily financial but the "poverty of loneliness, isolation and fear". Local post offices provided a social service for isolated old people but their closure often forced elderly customers to travel long distances by public transport to access the service.

Robert Lynch, of the Irish National

the most vulnerable and the most at need in the country.

Sylvia Meehan, president of the Irish Senior Citizens' Parliament, said the possible closure of more post offices was a matter of tremendous concern to older people.

IPU general secretary John Kane said there was a clear message coming from the community and voluntary sector that a structured policy to protect the post office network was needed.



Organisation of the Unemployed, said the people served by post offices were

SINN FÉIN POBLACHTACH



National Private Members DRAW

1ú Duais:	Two 2009 All-Ireland tickets (1 hurling & 1 football) plus €500 spending money.
2ú Duais:	€500
3ú Duais:	€300
4ú Duais:	Framed picture, 1916 Martyrs
5ú Duais:	Bodhrán
	Extra prizes

Donations: £2/€5 each or £5/€10 for book of three.
Draw will take place at Ard-Fheis in Dublin, November 2008.

For The Record

MON. JUNE 30: A 20-year-old man, from Dundrum in Dublin, was shot dead by police in Silverton, Oregon. The family of Andrew Hanlon said that they are unable to get any details of the shooting as protestors gathered outside the police station in the town.

New figures reveal that schools in South-West Dublin are paying more than double for their water than they were six years ago. In 2001 the total bill for the schools in the area was €81,000 but by 2007 that figure was €164,000.

TUES. JULY 1: UDA and UVF flags and emblems were erected in the Mall area of Armagh. Calls were made for the removal of the flags by the townspeople including the Mayor.

A gun was stolen from an RUC man allegedly during a burglary in his home.

Erin Brockovich urged residents to demand answers from the 26-County authorities on the Haulbowline toxic dump scandal. Erin Brockovich, who successfully sued American utilities company Pacific Gas and Electric Company, proved that the company in Hinkley was leaking carcinogen chromium 6 into a town's water supply resulting in a range of chronic illnesses, including cancer. Traces of Chromium 6 were found among at least 500,000 tonnes of hazardous material on the site of the former Irish Steel plant at Haulbowline.

WED. JULY 2: An 18-year-old woman was charged in connection with the murder of Emmet Sheils in the Creggan area of Derry on June 24.

Bernice Swift, a Provisional councillor who was suspended from the party last October for "contravening media protocols" has resigned. She is the third Provisional member from Fermanagh Council to resign in just over a year.

Séamus Heaney, Nobel prize winning poet, joined in the campaign against the M3 motorway through Tara. He donated a number of rare, signed works for sale at auction along with pieces from artist Louis le Brocqy. Money raised will enable experts to travel to a Unesco summit in Canada next month.

According to the European Court of Human Rights, the British government breached international conventions by monitoring e-mails and phone calls between the 26 and Six Counties and Britain. The case was taken by the Irish Council for Civil Liberties, Liberty and British-Irish Watch. Data was intercepted from 1990 to 1997 and the court found the surveillance was in breach of a convention guaranteeing respect for private correspondence.

Fifteen hostages held by FARC in the Colombian jungle were rescued and flown to a military base and from there to Bogotá, among them Ingrid Betancourt who had been held for six years.

THURS. JULY 3: Mortgage holders face an increase in their repayments after the European Central Bank raised lending rates by one quarter of a point to 4.25% - the highest level in seven years.

Up to 500 jobs could be at risk after the sale of Pfizer's pharmaceutical plant at Little Island in Cork has fallen through. The plant may now close.

Traffic was disrupted in Cork after an acid spillage at a chemical plant at Gouldings on Centre Park Road. Nearly 1,000 workers in the area were evacuated.

Cyprus ratified the Lisbon Treaty despite opposition from the ruling communists.

FRI. JULY 4: Orangemen in Portadown were denied permission to march along the nationalist Garvaghy Road. This is the tenth year they have been refused permission for the march.

Over 80 workers at Sykes Enterprises in Shannon, Co Clare are to lose their jobs over the next three months.

Orders for home repossessions more than doubled in the first half of this year in the 26 Counties.

Poland refused a request from the George Bush US Administration to station part of a missile defence system on Polish territory.

The number of people signing on the live register according to figures from the State's Central Statistics Office is 220,811.

SUN. JULY 6: The Drumcree parade in Portadown, Co Armagh passed off without incident.

Protestors gathered in Sapporo in the Japanese island of Hokkaido as leaders from the US, Japan, Germany, Canada, France, Italy, Russia and Britain gathered for the G8 summit in Toyako.

The British Prison Reform Trust called on the



• 2,500 people demonstrated on July 5 at the G8 summit on the Japanese island of Hokkaido.

British government to set up a Sentencing Commission and to reject 'the US-style sentencing grids'.

Environmental consultant Stephen Griffin, who blew the whistle on the Haulbowline toxic dump in Cork, vowed to continue to highlight what he describes as "the worst pollution incident in the history of the state" and said he will not be silenced by the threat of legal action. He is also one of five contractors who were involved in the removal of hazardous materials from the area and who have now been warned not to release any documentation on the work they did for the Department of the Environment on the former Irish Steel site.

MON. JULY 7: Dermot Aherne, foreign minister in the 26 Counties, met with EU justice ministers to debate "a European pact on immigration and asylum".

The number of heroin addicts in treatment in the 26 Counties is over 10,000. Most addicts reside in Dublin and the number of those presenting for treatment in jail has also increased according to figures released by the Drug Treatment Centre Board.

Africa asked the leaders of the world's wealthiest nations at the G8 conference to honour commitments on aid made three years ago.

TUES. JULY 8: Employers group IBEC said that any local agreement to provide agency workers with the same pay and conditions as regular workers after three months would be "quite inappropriate". Trade unions had argued strongly on the issue of equal treatment for the 30,000 temporary agency workers who will benefit under the new EU directive.

The 26-County Minister for Finance Brian Lenihan has introduced a series of cut-backs to reduce public expenditure by €40 million by the end of the year and to reduce spending by a further €1 billion in 2009.

The Czech Republic signed a deal with the United States to allow it to build part of a missile shield near Prague, despite strong public opposition to it. The radar base will allow the US to track long range rockets fired by "rogue states".

A confidential report titled *Freedom, Security, Privacy - European Home Affairs in an Open World*, which was discussed at the EU interior ministers meeting in Cannes, suggested that 'the EU should set up a network of anti-terrorism centres across the EU to share intelligence gathered by the various secret service agencies to tackle terrorism'. It stated that 'the EU states need to make up their mind by 2014 whether to create a Euro-Atlantic area of co-operation in the field of justice and anti-terrorism policy. It also advocated 'conducting background checks on transport employees' and 'screening more freight arriving at ports'.

Michael Martin, Minister for foreign Affairs in the 26-County administration, arrived in Cairo on the first leg of a three-day visit to the Middle East. The Orange Order lodged a formal complaint with Newry and Mourne District Council over a playground named after the hungerstriker Ray McCreech.

Mark Haddock, a British Special Branch agent and due for release from prison, launched a legal bid to ban the media from publishing pictures of him or disclosing his whereabouts.

THURS. JULY 10: Michael Martin expressed "concern" over the impact of the separation wall "on Palestinian economic and social development" during a meeting with Israeli's foreign minister Tzipi Livni on the fourth anniversary of an International Court of Justice ruling that the barrier

[wall] is illegal.

There were 89 arson attacks in Limavady, Co Derry over the last 15 months. In the latest attack a coal bunker was set alight after two gas cylinders were placed against it at the home of a couple and their five children.

Tensions between rival factions within the loyalist ranks are still high in the town of Carrickfergus, Co Antrim a year after a member of the RUC/PSNI was shot and injured. Windows were broken in some homes and paint bombs thrown at several others. Over the last year there have been 65 house searches and 45 arrests as the RUC/PSNI investigate five attempted murders and 25 incidents of intimidation and threats to kill.

Seagate Technologies will close its factory in Limavady, Co Derry in September.

An all-party motion was passed in Leinster House, Dublin urging the British government to release security files, relating to the Dublin bombings in May 1974, to an international judge.

The campaigning group Relatives for Justice criticised the British government's declaration that the cost of inquiries was "unsustainable". The committee said the rising cost of inquiries was down to the "British government attempting to block the truth coming out".

The British Ministry of Defence are to pay almost £3 million to the two orphan children of an Iraqi man beaten to death while detained in custody by British troops (he sustained 93 injuries) in September 2003, and to nine other men who were ill treated while in custody in Iraq.

Col Gaddafi of Libya repeated his refusal of a suggestion of French president Nicolas Sarkozy to set up a strategic Mediterranean block of Europe, the Middle East and North Africa and warned of a Muslim backlash if the suggestion was accepted.

FRI. JULY 11: Four men were arrested in Enniskillen after petrol bombs were thrown at the RUC.

Hundreds of failed asylum seekers claim they have been assaulted by security teams contracted by the British Home Office to deport them, according to a new report. In *Outsourcing Abuse* over 300 assaults are documented as having taken place between 2004 and 2008.

SAT. JULY 12: Up to 80 prisoners barricaded themselves into a recreation area inn Mountjoy prison in Dublin. Prison officers in riot gear stormed the area after several hours of a standoff.

When Irish Steel was sold off to Ispat in 1995 (for £1) an assurance was given that the site was 'pollution free'. However even then an investigation carried out at the plant found samples showing high concentrations of copper, chromium, cadmium, lead and zinc - up to 17 times the acceptable level.

The former British Attorney General Peter Goldsmith told the International Society for the Reform of Criminal Law conference on criminal law codification that the British proposal to hold suspects for 42 days without charge was "wrong in principle and counter-productive in practise".

Electricity prices in the 26 Counties will rise by 17.5% from August.

An estranged father lost his High Court bid to have Section 5 of the Domestic Violence Act 1996 which provides for the making of protection orders declared unconstitutional.

MON. JULY 14: The world's largest pipe-laying vessel, the 400m 1,300ft boat *Solitaire*, is berthed at the St John's Point, Co Donegal and will be involved in the laying of 83km of underwater pipeline from Glend in Broadhaven Bay, Co Mayo to the Corrib gas field. The ship can weld sections of the gas pipeline on board.

A nationalist civil servant, injured two years ago in a sectarian attack, and still in a coma is "in a state worse than death" according to his family. Paul McCauley, Derry and two friends were attacked by seven men as they cleared up after a barbeque.

Families in the Occupied Six Counties are paying 21% more for staple foodstuffs than this time last year.

The International Criminal Court (ICC) issued a warrant for the arrest of the President of Sudan Omar al-Bashir on genocide charges, for crimes against humanity and war crimes committed in Darfur. Bashir denies the charges and claims the ICC has no jurisdiction in the country.

A US watch list of 'terrorism suspects' passed the one million record, corresponding to 400,000 people according to the American Civil Liberties Union.

TUES. JULY 15: Paul Gallagher, the 26-County Attorney General, told a panel of UN human rights experts at a conference in Geneva that the US President George Bush and Condoleezza Rice gave assurances to the 26-County administration that no extraordinary rendition flights took place through Shannon. Amnesty International disputes this assertion.

Some weeks ago when the Israeli administration refused permission to seven Fulbright students to

leave Gaza to take up scholarships in US universities, the US department of state cancelled their awards with immediate effect.

Local government workers in the Occupied Six Counties began a two-day strike over pay and conditions.

WED. JULY 16: Three men, arrested on July 15 in connection with the shooting of an RUC man in Derry, were released without charge.

Five Lebanese prisoners and the bodies of 199 Palestinian and other fighters were handed over by Israel to Hezbollah in return for the bodies of two Israeli soldiers killed in fighting between Israel and Hezbollah in 2006.

THURS. JULY 17: The Campaign against ESB pylons the Northeast Pylon Pressure campaign announced a protest for August 4.

Under new British legislation people travelling from Ireland to Britain will in future have to carry photographic identification.

SUN. JULY 20: CS gas was used by the RUC/PSNI in Ballymena, Co Antrim after a 'disturbance' in the town.

A woman was injured when she jumped through a window following an arson attack. A wheeled bin was pushed up against the door of the flats at Moygashel, Co Tyrone, and set alight.

MON. JULY 21: French president Nicolas Sarkozy visited Dublin.

Salim Hamdan, allegedly a driver for Osama Bin Laden, went on trial in the US military base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. American military make up the jury.

Bosnian Serb Radovan Karadzic was arrested in Serbia. He is to face trial at the UN War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague. He is accused of genocide over the massacre of 7,500 Muslim men and boys in Srebrenica in 1995.

Some 30 schools in the Occupied Six Counties under the guidance of the Association of Quality Education (AQE) are to introduce new tests to continue selecting top-performing primary pupils after the 11-plus is ended.

Three men were injured in Derry over the weekend in three separate attacks. In one a 12-year old nationalist schoolboy was attacked by a group of youths wearing Rangers T-shirts at Carlisle Road as he walked with a friend. A 19-year-old art student suffered a broken jaw and two broken fingers when he was attacked in Foyle Street and another man suffered serious leg injuries in an assault at Racecourse Road.

Colm Murphy, Dundalk and Séamus Daly, Monaghan lost their appeal against the granting of exceptional legal aid to relatives of those killed in the Omagh bombing. They challenged the method in which the British government helped fund the lawsuit. The two men are among five people being sued by the relatives.

Two men, one from Dundalk and one from Dublin, appeared before the Special non-jury Court in Dublin on firearms charges.

Shots were fired through the windows of a home in the Altnaveigh Park area of Newry Co Down, No one was injured.

The RUC found a handgun and a shotgun in searches in the Drumquin area of Co Tyrone.

According to figure released by the 26-County Department for Justice, 50% of prisoners in the state are sharing cells. In Mountjoy there are 64 prisoners in cells of four people 186 in cells of two people. In Cork prison 27 prisoners are in cells of three and 236 are in cells of two. The report came two days after the Irish Council for Civil Liberties strongly criticised the problem of overcrowding and the practice of 'slopping out'.

On a visit to Palestine and Israel, British Prime Minister Gordon Brown called for "justice for the Palestinian people and an end to the occupation". He condemned Israeli settlements in the West Bank and called for a freeze on the building of further settlements and an end to Israeli incursions into Palestinian Territories. He spoke about the wall and the restrictions place on travel for the Palestinians. He pledged £30 million to help the Palestinians "with the economy and security".

Zimbabwe is to transfer ownership of all foreign-owned companies that support western sanctions on Robert Mugabe's government to locals and investors from 'friendly' countries.

Three bombs exploded in Cantabria in northern Spain. No one was injured. A warning had been received from the Basque group ETA.

A community wind-farm project at Killala, Co Mayo was refused planning permission by An Bord Pleanála.

TUES. JULY 22: Two members of the Garda Síochána face disciplinary hearings arising from an inquiry into the death of 14-year-old Brian Rossiter in garda custody in Clonmel in 2002.

THURS. JULY 24: The Provisionals and the DUP clashed over the planned Orange parade for Ballymena, Co Antrim Saturday August 2.

The British Labour Party lost the Glasgow East by-election to the Scottish National Party.

Tá an t-ór dubh ag na Cúbaigh

DE réir tuairiscí i Mí an Mheithimh, tá na Cúbaigh tar éis teacht ar láthair mhór ola agus gáis faoin bhfarrage ar an taobh ó thuaidh den oileán. Is fionnachtain thábhachtach í seo, ar ndóigh, ach tá impleachtaí breise ag baint léi nuair a smaoinítear go bhfuil Cúba i bhfoisceacht 140 ciliméadar do chósta SAM i bhFlorida.

Tá na taiscí luachmhara seo go domhain faoi Mhuir Chairib, ag doimhneacht 9.7 chiliméadar, ag pointe atá 45 chiliméadar ó chósta thuaidh Chúba agus 95 chiliméadar ó chósta SAM. Meastar go bhfuil suas le

cúig bhiliún bairille ola anseo agus 280 billiún méadar ciúbach gáis freisin. Le dul níos faide leis an meastachán, d'fhéadfadh na Cúbaigh a bheith ag táirgeadh 525,000 bairille sa lá amach anseo, méid

mór a d'fhágadh iad beagnach neamhspleách i gcúrsaí fuinnimh, ag cur san áireamh go bhfuil láthair níos lú ola agus gáis ag táirgeadh cheana féin, le 10 mlánaí anuas, ar an gcósta thuaidh idir Havana agus Varadero.

Tá spéis nach beag ag SAM sa nuacht seo, óir is tomhaltóirí craosacha ola iad na Poncáin. D'admhaigh an comhairleoir gnó Kirby Jones san *International Herald Tribune* ar

Mheitheamh 13 gurb í seo an chéad uair go gcosnódh an lánchosc ar thrádáil le Cúba, atá i bhfeidhm ó 1962, suim ollmhór dollar orthu féin. "Tá gá againn le hola, is cuma cá as a dtagann sí. Agus anois tá sí ann, 90 ciliméadar ar shiúl ónár gcósta."

Is éard atá i gceist ag an eolaí seo ná go gcaillfidh comhlachtaí Meiriceánacha deis ar chonarthaí gur fiú na billiún dollar iad, de bharr an lánchois. Níl an

teicneolaíocht ag na Cúbaigh leis an ór dubh a thógáil aníos, tá sé folaithe chomh domhain sin faoi ghrinneall na mara. Ach tá an cumas táirgthe sin ag comhlachtaí áirithe Meiriceánacha.

Thagair an Leas-Uachtarán Dick Cheney don cheist ar Mheitheamh 12 agus mhaigh sé go raibh na Síngih ag tolladh cheana féin ar an láthair mhara seo.

Ní raibh an ceart aige. Níl aon tolladh déanta fós. Ach is soiléir go bhfuil

rialtas SAM inníoch, áfach, mar tá conarthaí le sé chomhlacht, ón Spáinn, ón Iorua agus ón Ind, tugtha amach cheana féin ag Cúba. Beidh siad seo ag tógáil na geimeanna tosaigh i scaothrú na láithreach luachmhara seo i 2009.

An éireoidh na Meiriceánaigh as an lánchosc? B'fhéidir, ach ar mhaithe leo féin, ar ndóigh. Ach ní tharlóidh sé roimh imeacht George Bush as oifig, cinnte.

Géarghá le beartas oideachais nua, arsa an Conradh

TÁ Conradh na Gaeilge ag lorg cruinníú leis an 26-Contae Aire Batt O'Keeffe chun moltaí an Chonartha i dtaca le múineadh na Gaeilge sa chóras oideachas a phlé sna sála ar thuairisc de chuid chigirí na Ranna Oideachais agus Eolaíochta féin a foilsíodh ar Iúil 15, 2008, a thug le fios go raibh beagnach 25% de mhúinteoirí bunscoile na tíre seo gan cumas sásúil Gaeilge acu agus nach muintear a dhóthain Gaeilge do dhá thrian de mhic léinn ag déanamh an Teastais Shóisearaigh sa mheánscóil.

Dúirt Dáithí Mac Cárthaigh, Uachtarán Chonradh na Gaeilge: "Táimid ag súil go dtarraingeoidh taighde óna Roinn Oideachais féin aird ar an bhfadhb phráinneach seo a

bhaineann le múineadh na Gaeilge sa chóras oideachais faoi láthair, agus bheadh an Conradh lánásta comhoibriú leis an Roinn maidir le beartas úr oideachais a fhorbairt don teanga amach anseo."

Is léir don Chonradh go bhfuil géarghá múineadh agus foghlaim na Gaeilge a fhorbairt ag an trí leibhéal ar bhonn iomlánaíoch, i. sna bunscoileanna, ag an dara leibhéal agus sna coláistí oiliúna araon. Molann Conradh na Gaeilge:

- Go múnfí ábhar amháin de bhreis ar an nGaeilge – ábhar spreagúil spráúil dá leithéid corpoideachas, drámaíocht nó ealaín - trí Ghaeilge do gach dalta bunscoile ("an páirt-thumoideachas") agus go bhforbrófaí seo ar bonn piólatach leis an tacaíocht agus an oiliúint agus na háiseanna cuí;
- Go múnfí gach ábhar oide trí Ghaeilge i dtimpeallacht lán-Ghaeilge, ag foghlaim tríd an tumoideachas agus faoin

tumoideachas, ar feadh tréimhse bliana acadúla le linn a gcúrsa oiliúna chun ionchur ar thumoideachas agus ar pháirt-thumoideachas a éascú; agus

• Go gcuirfidh béim ar an nGaeilge labhartha trí dhá shliolabas a fhorbairt don Ghaeilge sa mheánscóil le dhá pháipéar scrúdaithe ar leith don Ardeiste agus don Teastas Sóisearach Teanga na Gaeilge le déanamh ag gach mac léinn dara leibhéal. i. múineadh agus ag measúnú na scileanna

tuisceana, labhartha, léite agus scríofa agus an Fráma Coiteann Eorpach mar thagairt; • Litríocht na Gaeilge le déanamh ag mic léinn ardleibhéil amháin agus le múineadh go comhtháite le Teanga na Gaeilge ag an leibhéal cuí.

Creideann an Conradh go bhfuil gá le coláiste oiliúna lán-Ghaelach a bhunú freisin agus tá cruinníú á éileamh acu leis an Aire O'Keeffe leis na moltaí oideachais uile a phlé a luaithe agus is féidir.

Guth na Mumhan: Inniu is Inné

Croom commemoration
THE loss of four IRA volunteers in the burning of Croom Courthouse on May 31, 1921 will be remembered on Sunday, August 17, at 3 o'clock, with a parade through the town of Croom to the old

courthouse where the action took place. A wreath-laying ceremony will be held afterwards at the Republican Plot in Anhid Graveyard, one mile south of Croom on the Cork road.
Volunteers Edward Donnelly and John Moloney,

Development Fund Special Appeal

Republican Sinn Féin is preparing to launch its campaign for a No vote in the Lisbon Treaty 26-County referendum. Funds are urgently required if an effective campaign is to be mounted including the production of leaflets, posters and the organisation of public



meetings. Please send donations to Ard-Oifig, 223 Parnell St, Dublin 2

We know we can call on you for your support and we will contact all who support our aims and objectives with details of our plans and how they can help to attain our goals, in due course.

All subscriptions, large or small, can be sent to the treasurer of the Republican Sinn Féin Development Fund at Head Office or made payable to: Republican Sinn Féin Development Fund, AIB, Capel Street, Dublin 1. Account number: 15411-097. All donations will be appreciated and acknowledged.

both from Honeypond Road, died in the inferno and are buried at Anhid. Volunteer James Hogan of Fanningstown, died from his wounds ten days later and is buried at Mount Saint Lawrence Cemetery, Limerick. Volunteer Simon Howard never fully recovered and died a few years later at the age of 25. He is buried in the family plot at Fedamore.

Cumann Smith O'Brien / Colbert of Sinn Féin Poblachtach, representing West Limerick, is organising the event. The parade will form up near St Mary's Park on the Limerick Road and will march behind a piper and colour party to the old courthouse. Cathaoirleach is Des Long and the oration will be given by Séamus Ó Súilleabháin. Tá fáilte roimh cách.

Cluster plan will create more problems

A PLAN being put forward by the Limerick City Council Housing Committee to relocate troublesome families in special clusters of ten to 20 houses has been described as creating "a ghetto mentality" by Mick the Quill Ryan from Ballynanty, Republican Sinn Féin chairperson in the north side of Limerick.

He said on July 24 that the Council plan calls for clusters in the north and south side of Limerick where families involved in anti-social behaviour could be housed.

The plan is part of a submission from the City Council to the newly established Regeneration Agencies in Limerick. "This approach is akin to a Soviet era gulag where the



• Mick Ryan

families are deposited in a cluster of dwellings. While the Council plan calls for intensive support services, the reality is that such a place would fast become a no go area.

"The idea of a cluster of troublesome families housed in small units and overseen by State agencies may seem good at first glance but past experience has shown that within a very short time these families will rule the area with an iron fist and no amount of social intervention will prevent it.

"In fact it is rich coming from Limerick City Council, the local authority responsible for creating the problem of anti-social behaviour in the first place. It is a bit late in the day for the City Councillors to be submitting plans to the Regeneration Boards on how to solve the problem of anti-social behaviour.

"This latest approach is a backward step and will only serve to create more problems in the long run."

Give land to regeneration board
A TRACT of inner city land

near the Railway Station owned by Limerick City Council should be handed over to the Southside Regeneration Board to allow work on new houses commence, a spokesman for Republican Sinn Féin said on July 21.

Joe Lynch from Beechgrove Avenue in Ballinacurra Weston, a member of the local Regeneration Board subcommittee said that the site of a former flats complex in Carey's Road is ideal for development.

The fact is land is needed in order for the Regeneration Board to commence work in the Ballinacurra Weston area and this tract of open space near the Park is perfect for new houses, he said.

"By providing the land to the Regeneration Board, Limerick City Council will be making a positive contribution to the upgrading of the area and improving the lives of the local people.

"Many families now in Ballinacurra Weston were moved from this area around the Railway Station fifty years ago and would welcome the opportunity to return to new homes in the area.

"The Councillors for the ward have been silent so far on the proposal yet they readily posed for pictures when the City Council sold off part of the People's Park for private housing.

"By donating the tract of land in Carey's Road, Limerick City Council would be making some amends for their neglect of the Ballinacurra Weston area and their action would allow regeneration work to commence."

Scrap means test for carers

THE imposition of a means test to determine the level of payments to people who act as carers for family members is well past its sell by date, a spokesman for Republican Sinn Féin said on July 5.

Joe Lynch of Ballinacurra Weston in Limerick, vice-chairperson of Comhairle na Mumhan (Munster RSF Executive), said that the carers payment is divided into allowance and benefit.

The amount a carer receives is dependent on a means test, but this artificial division is a throw back to a bygone age, he said. The reality is that both the allowance and the benefit are totally inadequate.

"A role of a carer is one that is almost unrecognised by the Dublin Administration yet it is an essential service that saves the State untold millions each year.

"The fact is many carers who look after a family member have to give up jobs and careers and devote all their time to a job that is a great burden.

"The recent study by the Carers Association found that most carers feel overburdened and unappreciated. The removal of the artificial means test to determine a benefit or allowance would demonstrate that it appreciates the role of family carer was appreciated

"The fact is the lack of State-funded home services is placing an unfair burden on carers who are left to care twenty four hours a day for their family member."

ÉIRE NUA — A New Beginning

SAOIRSE continues the serialisation of the governmental structures policy of Republican Sinn Féin, ÉIRE NUA - A NEW DEMOCRACY. We welcome comment from our readers.

EU MEMBERSHIP

Our problems were magnified when both states were led into full membership of the so-called "European Community". Such membership was unsuited to a country at our early stage of economic development — the result of Ireland's being a British colony for centuries. No modern nation has managed to bring itself from underdevelopment to full development in circumstances of unrestricted free trade — a situation that in Ireland's case is compounded by continued foreign occupation.

Under the Act of Union of 1800 Ireland lost half its population and suffered dire poverty and stunted growth. In the early twentieth century Ireland attempted to break entirely with Britain; but under the Partition arrangement the malign influence of British power has persisted for nearly eighty years. This influence persists within the neo-colonial framework of the EU.

Since 1972, when we were promised "markets in Europe and jobs at home", native manufacturing industries, never designed to withstand competition from heavily bankrolled multinational European industries, have been shut down. EU agricultural policy has resulted in elimination of family farms, with detrimental social consequences for rural communities.

Agricultural policy is almost totally dictated by Brussels. It has favoured the wealthier farmers and has even ordered Irish citizens to take some of their land out of production. So

many have now left the land that schools and post offices are being closed down and some rural parishes even have difficulty in fielding a sporting team. This has undermined people's idea of self-sufficiency, and the resultant movement to urban areas has increased the culture of dependency, creating new problems in the towns and cities.

Sinn Féin Poblachtach regards the European Union, as it has developed and continues to develop, as a modern form of imperialism.

It serves the interests, above all, of big business and the super-rich. Corruption is rampant there also as we saw in 1999 when the whole EU Commission had to resign. It is undemocratic in its institutions and it is over-centralising; in this it runs 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.

It is sometimes remarked that the EU has promoted progressive policies in Ireland, like equal pay for equal work and protection of the environment. These are steps which any Irish administration could have taken at any time. Our standards should be even higher than those imposed by Brussels. The 'Laval' and 'Rüffert' judgements of the European Court of Justice highlight the fact that neo-liberal economics are at the heart of the EU agenda, setting the 'free movement of goods and services' as superior to the



rights, pay and living standards of working people. The rejection of the Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution by the people of the 26 Counties in June was a rejection of the further tightening of the grip of the EU and the creation of an undemocratic and militarised superstate.

The Celtic Tiger economy has served to provide more jobs, but those who benefit most from it are those who are already rich. In recent years the gap between rich and poor has widened. There is more social exclusion and rates of real poverty and illiteracy are actually getting worse. A crisis in housing our people is with us.

Whatever economic improvements we have witnessed have been brought about by the transfer of structural and other funds by the EU and by the driving force in economic development which is based on encouraging multinational companies to locate in Ireland and by an over dependence on the construction industry. This is not the solid foundation on which to build a national economy.

Too many people have been left on the margins of society and a sub-culture of poverty has been generated. Economic development based on inward investment by multinational companies means that there is no indigenous input and there are no roots in the communities. The factors which sustain such an economy are totally beyond the

control of the Irish people.

As Sinn Féin Poblachtach forecast, in 2008 we see a major down-turn in the 26-County economy, brought about by external events such as the collapse of the sub-prime lending institutions in the United States and by the collapse of the building industry as well as mismanagement and overspending by the Dublin Administration during the boom times. Despite big budget surpluses over the past eleven years the 26-County Administration made no attempt to halt or more importantly bridge the growing gap between rich and poor. Currently the 26-County state is one of the most unequal societies in the western world.

(The Sinn Féin Poblachtach perspective on social and economic questions is presented in our policy document SAOL NUA.)

MODERN TECHNOLOGY

Sinn Féin Poblachtach recognises the enormous influence of modern technology, especially mass communications which have made the world smaller. We also recognise the interdependence of peoples and our duty to play a positive role in international affairs. But an over-emphasis on economic development, based on a rapacious exploitation of the world's finite resources and measured by growth in GNP, is inadequate. Recent United

Nations Human Development Reports on Ireland have shown just how deficient such an approach is, resulting in social exclusion, poverty and illiteracy, which in turn denies many thousands of people the rights of full citizenship and leads to escalating crime.

Both states in Ireland boast of increasing the number of police and building new prisons. The suicide rate has been growing at an alarming rate. These are hardly the signs of a healthy community.

Ireland, with its historic experience of English colonisation and exploitation, has much in common with former European colonies in the Third World. We can best serve the interests of our own people and of humankind by maintaining a principled non-aligned stance in international affairs, avoiding military alliances and promoting the cancellation of Third World debt. Our democratic and egalitarian principles and our own long struggle for national independence should lead us to promote human rights and the liberation of people everywhere.

A NEW BEGINNING

The following proposals indicate ways to remedy Ireland's weakened and wasted conditions and gradually bring the nation to its full health. These proposals aim to abolish the failed, undemocratic system of Partition rule, and to replace this with a democratic system

based on the unity and sovereignty of the Irish people, as well as on their right as free citizens to equal treatment and equal opportunity. After decades of armed conflict and political turmoil — and given the clear failure of the British-model systems now in operation to provide adequate and improving standards of living — there is an obligation on all Irish people to work together to find a new, constructive way forward. Our nation is made up of diverse traditions, each of which can make a valuable and positive contribution to the community as a whole.

The structures which we propose are designed to embrace and include all the people of Ireland, on the basis of "cherishing all the children of the nation equally". Dáil Uladh and the regional and local structures in Ulster will ensure that both unionists and nationalists can have access to power — real power. A federal structure involves a sharing of sovereignty, and Dáil Uladh would have more power than the old Stormont ever had. Similarly in the other three provinces, all communities and citizens would have access to real power.

What we seek to establish is a pluralist participative democracy with appropriate structures at every level in society. When the malign influence of Westminster rule is removed at last a New Ireland can be fashioned by the Irish people themselves, of all persuasions. A federal system, with strong regional and local government, will make it possible for unionists and nationalists to co-operate in the common interest, pooling the talents of all and working together to build a new and prosperous Ireland.

In the twenty-first century it is finally time for the Irish people to apply their undoubted creative genius, and the talent for government that they have so often demonstrated abroad, to the needs of the Irish nation at home.

IMEACHTAÍ

POLITICAL STATUS PICKET
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 12.45pm, GPO, DUBLIN

SOCIAL FUNCTION IN AID OF CO ROSCOMMON IRA COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE
FRIDAY, AUGUST 1
CROGHAN BAR, CROGHAN
CO ROSCOMMON

WHITE-LINE PICKET, FALLS ROAD, BELFAST
IN SUPPORT OF MAGHABERRY JAIL POWS
SATURDAY, AUGUST 9
Anniversary of internment

GOSS & GAUGHAN COMMEMORATION
SUNDAY, AUGUST 10
ST PATRICK'S CEMETERY, DUNDALK, 2.30pm

COMMEMORATION
CROOM, CO LIMERICK
SATURDAY AUGUST 17
ASSEMBLE AT CROOM VILLAGE 3PM
Speaker: Seamus Ó Suilleabháin

SOCIAL FUNCTION
FRIDAY, AUGUST 22
FORESTER'S CLUB, NORTH STREET
LURGAN, CO ARMAGH
Music by: Foggy Dew
Organised by: the Thomas Harte Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin

HUNGER STRIKERS COMMEMORATION
GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE, OLD JAIL WEXFORD
SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 3pm

WELCOME HOME FUNCTION
GERARD MOONEY
FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, BUNDORAN

TEAGMHÁLACHA

O'SULLIVAN/ENRIGHT CUMANN
Republican Sinn Féin, Listowel, Co Kerry
Anyone wishing to join should contact 086-1204592

KERRY COMHAIRLE CEANTAIR RSF:
<http://www.freewebs.com/republicansinnfeinkerry/>

ROGER CASEMENT/FRANCIS HUGHES CUMANN
Republican Sinn Féin, Dún Laoghaire/Rathdown
Anyone wishing to join should contact Ard-Oifig, 223 Parnell Street, Dublin 1

Mac CURTÁIN/Mac SWINEY CUMANN
Republican Sinn Féin, Cork
Anyone wishing to join should contact 086-3352006 or visit our website www.rsfcork.com

BRUGHA/SABHAT — HURSON/SANDS CUMAINN
Republican Sinn Féin, Limerick
Anyone wishing to join should contact www.freewebs.com/republicansinnfeinlimerick/index.htm

COMHAIRLE CEANTAIR ÁTHA CLIATH RSF
Anyone wishing to join should visit our website: www.freewebs.com/rsfdublin

COMHAIRLE ULADH, RSF
Anyone wishing to join Republican Sinn Féin in Ulster should email: republicansinnfein@googlemail.com

REPUBLICAN SINN FÉIN, BELFAST
Anyone wishing to join Republican Sinn Féin in Belfast should email: rsfbelfast@googlemail.com

McKEARNEY/McCAUGHEY CUMANN, DUNGANNON
and applications throughout Co. Tyrone should contact us on: 07511047896 or via email: rsfdng@yahoo.co.uk

DAN KEATING CUMANN, COALISLAND

Anyone wishing to join the above Cumann email: rsfcoalisland@googlemail.com

JAMES McDAID CUMANN, REPUBLICAN SINN FÉIN
Anyone interested in joining in the Midlands, England, should contact: Ard Oifig, 223 Parnell St, Dublin 1, Ireland, Dublin 8729747 or saoirse@iol.ie

ROGER CASEMENT/JAMES STEPHENS CUMANN, LONDON
Anyone interested in joining in the Midlands, England, should contact 00447926357676

KEVIN COEN CUMANN
Anyone wishing to join Republican Sinn Féin in West Roscommon contact: Joe Murphy, tel: 086 1281 861

McNEELA/GAUGHAN/STAGG CUMANN
Republican Sinn Féin, Mayo
Anyone wishing to join contact: 087 9232 096

CUMANN AN tATHAIR Ó GRÍOFA
Republican Sinn Féin, Galway
Anyone wishing to join in contact: Tomás at 087 2933 782 or Seán at 091 525 977

REPUBLICAN SINN FÉIN, LEITRIM
Anyone wishing to join in contact: Micheál at 071 9641 804 or John at 086 4061454

REPUBLICAN SINN FÉIN, DONEGAL
Anyone wishing to join Republican Sinn Féin in Donegal should email: rsfdonegal@googlemail.com

THOMAS ALLEN CUMANN, CO NA MHÍ
Anybody wishing to join Republican Sinn Féin, Co Meath, contact 087 914 7537

SMITH O'BRIEN/ COLBERT CUMANN,
Sinn Féin Poblachtach, west Limerick
Anyone wishing to join contact 086-8153657

SECTARIAN SLOGANS, TRICOLOURS BURNED ON ORANGE BONFIRES

A Belfast Chronology

Monday June 30, 2008. A cavalcade of black taxis travelled through Belfast city centre as part of a rally calling for justice for victims of anti-social behaviour. At the same time over 200 people gathered in front of City Hall also as part of the rally.

Tuesday July 1, 2008. The conviction against Danny Morrison for false imprisonment of Special Branch agent Sandy Lynch in 1991 is to be overturned.

During the first week in July a number of sectarian attacks took place in Belfast. In one instance a 33-year-old man was attacked by a 10-strong loyalist gang in Duncairn Avenue.

According to the editorial in the *North Belfast News*, the victim was extremely lucky to escape with his life. "Given that one of the weapons used on him has been described as a 'spear', it's clear that those behind this brutal assault had nothing less than murder in mind."

The editorial continued: "It wasn't the only sectarian attack of the week on an innocent Catholic (*sic*), and as well as the vicious personal assaults, a number of cars were attacked, some with bricks, some - more worryingly - with acid.

"If only those who are so quick to don the broly and take the microphone on the Twelfth would show as much energy when it comes to reining in the wilder elements of the Protestant community, then some progress might be made."

Monday, July 7, 2008. A sectarian

motive has not been ruled out in an attack on a council worker in north Belfast.

A west Belfast man awaiting trial on gun charges is suing the Northern Ireland prison service for its failure to provide adequate medical treatment while on remand in Maghaberry which has led to his losing the power of speech.

Tuesday, July 8, 2008. The loyalist souvenir shop on the Newtownards Road in east Belfast advertised Tricolours as: "Fenian Flags To Burn €5".

UDA flags were erected in the Rathcoole estate in Newtownabbey.

Hugh Orde is to launch a legal challenge to try to block Belfast City Coroner John Leckey from gaining access to the RUC investigation into the shooting of Pearse Jordan in Belfast in November 1992.

Thursday July 10, 2008. A "hate crime" investigation was launched in Belfast following the advertising in an east Belfast shop of "Fenian flags to burn" on the night of the Eleventh.

Friday July 11, 2008. Speaking at an event organised by Belfast County Grand Orange lodge, DUP leader and First Minister at Stormont Peter Robinson said that the Parades Commission should be abolished as "curtailment of the right to parade" needed to be addressed. He said his party would 'work with the Orange Order to develop the Twelfth demonstrations as a cultural celebration'. This came amid bonfires



• Bonfire in the Village area of Belfast on July 11.

all across the Occupied Six Counties with the Tricolours flying on top of them and the sectarian slogan KAT [Kill All Taigs] on several of them. In Antrim the Council is coming under pressure to withdraw funding from the bonfire organisers after the sectarian slogans were displayed in the bonfire

along with Tricolours on top.

In west Belfast five people were injured after clashes between nationalists and loyalists at Broadway off the Falls Road when loyalist attempted to attack nationalist's homes.

Saturday, July 12, 2008. The

home of a family in Norglen Grove, west Belfast was gutted by fire in an arson attack.

Monday, July 14, 2008. Secretary of State Shaun Woodward repeated his apology to the victims and families of those murdered in the bombing of McGurk's bar, Belfast, in December 1971 in which 15 people lost their lives. Seven years after the bombing loyalists admitted they carried out the sectarian attack. British Minister Paul Goggins also apologised on behalf of the British Government.

Shaun Woodward called for the devolution of policing and justice powers to Stormont.

Saturday, July 19, 2008. Sarah Conlon died at her home in Belfast. She spent 30 years campaigning for justice for her husband Guisepppe (the Maguire Seven) and son Gerard (the Guildford Four) who were wrongly convicted for bombings in England in 1974. Guisepppe died in prison in 1980 aged 56 and Gerry, along with Paul Hill, Carol Richardson and Patrick Armstrong had their convictions overturned in 1991 by the British Court of Appeal. In February 2005 the British Prime Minister Tony Blair apologised to the Guildford Four and the Maguire Seven.

Thursday, July 24, 2008. The family home of a member of St James's Community Watch and Residents' Association involved in opposing anti-social behaviour was attacked by 40 youths who had threatened to burn down his home on the Falls Road, Belfast, the previous Sunday night.

Wexford residents take the initiative

FOLLOWING calls from local councillors for the closure of a local walkway in Ferndale Park, Wexford, local residents, including Aaron Hunt (member of the Pádraig Ó Pearaill Cumann, Sinn Féin Poblachtach), decided to make a stand against them.

nearby school and elderly people shopping in the local supermarket."

Aaron Hunt, Shaun Mullins and Kathleen Walsh met with Wexford mayor

people do not hang out in the alleyway. The do not dump rubbish, drink or do drugs or light bonfires as has been alleged by the councillors who do not even live in the area.

lampposts are not replaced (in one instance for the last ten years) and when the council moved the entrance to the alleyway they never finished it, just couldn't extend the footpath by 5 meters. All this neglect

takes the 'look' of the area. "But it must be said that local residents do an excellent job maintaining the estate with no help from the council and they are to be applauded".



• Aaron Hunt, Republican Sinn Féin (second from left), accompanied by Ferndale residents Shaun Mullins and Kathleen Walsh as they handed over their petition to Wexford Mayor Ted Howlin and Town Clerk Pat Collins.

After collecting over 200 local signatures from local residents against the closure, they went straight to the Borough Council to voice their objection. The councillors called for the

closure on false and unsubstantiated claims about the alleyway.

Local resident Kathleen Walsh said: "The thoroughway is used by children walking to the

Ted Howlin and Town Clerk Pat Collins on July 15 to hand in their petition. Also present was Brendan Howlin TD.

Aaron said that "Young

"Far from wanting the alleyway closed the residents want it upgraded with proper lighting." An engineer's report is to be prepared for the September meeting of the council.

The South-East Comhairle Ceantair, Sinn Féin Poblachtach chairperson Mick Hunt - who lives three doors away from the alleyway - said "I have lived here since the houses were built and I have never seen any of the allegations made happening.

"But what I have seen is the escalating neglect of the estate by the local council. When people move from the estate their house are boarded up and some are left like that for years.

"The roads are never swept; light bulbs on

TEACH DÁITHÍ Ó CONAILL RENOVATION FUND

THE Trustees and Ard Chomhairle have decided to set up a fund to renovate the Republican Sinn Féin Ard-Oifig, Teach Dáithí Ó Conaill, 223 Parnell Street, Dublin 1.

Donations will be gratefully received from members and supporters of the true Republican cause. All moneys received will be acknowledged and receipted.

Donations should be sent to: The Dáithí Ó Conaill Memorial Fund, 223 Parnell Street, Dublin 1.

Tara's world heritage significance

FOLLOWING the largest ever international gathering of archaeologists in Dublin, the World Archaeological Congress (WAC-6) at UCD released a statement on July 11, 2008 expressing its opposition to any further development alongside the new stretch of motorway in the wider landscape zone surrounding the historical site of Tara in Co Meath.

"Tara has significance far beyond Ireland itself," said Professor Claire Smith, President of the World Archaeological Congress. "Its iconic significance derives from its unique cultural character, as situated in a broader landscape. The World Archaeological Congress strongly encourages the Irish Government (sic) to instigate formal protection measures for this area, and to consider nominating Tara for inscription as a World Heritage site".

Because a number of competing and often contradictory claims were made during the Congress the World Archaeological Congress has now commissioned a report on the Tara discussions. "We do not question the validity of the planning process undertaken in Ireland. Our purpose is to learn lessons for the future and for other countries with issues surrounding development archaeology," said Professor Smith.

"There are many strong opinions about Tara and it is important that valid claims receive due attention, and

that misinformation be sifted out. This can only be done through a considered study."

Recognising that the reburial of ancient remains in Ireland is subject to the provisions of the National Monuments Act and the agreement of the National Museum of Ireland, the World Archaeological Congress also drew attention to the Vermillion Accord on human remains and suggests that any human remains excavated from the cultural landscape of Tara should be re-interred with due respect as close as possible to their original locations, as this is where these people would have wished to be buried.

Professor Smith said that "Cultural heritage needs to be factored into the planning process from the beginning. In order to address these issues from a global perspective the World Archaeological Congress will be holding an Inter-Congress with the theme "Rethinking relations of Archaeology and Development".



• Tara, the most sacred place in Ireland, is said to have been the seat of the kingship of Ireland in antiquity. It was also a place of burial and a ritual centre for hundreds of years. The Dublin Administration is siting the M3 motorway in sight of the monument.

The Inter-Congress is likely to be held in Lund, Sweden, in 2009.

On July 3 it was claimed at the Congress that archaeologists working on excavations on the controversial

M3 motorway feared they would be "sacked, blacklisted or bullied out of their profession" for not supporting the building of the chosen route.

Speaking at a debate on the motorway near Tara, Maggie

Ronayne, a lecturer at the Department of Archaeology at NUI, Galway, said that pressure was put on site directors and field teams by archaeologists employed by the 26-County National Roads Authority (NRA).

"Lip service was paid to archaeology but archaeologists were used to destroy our heritage," said Maggie Ronayne.

"From the point of view of archaeology, the route chosen by the NRA was the least desirable and other routes were not properly considered because they were not profitable for developers."

She claimed recently that reports submitted to the NRA had been altered, said that the building of the motorway posed serious ethical questions for archaeologists worldwide.

She said she would be asking congress to pass a resolution calling for the re-routing of the M3.

Laura Grealish of TaraWatch, called on the congress to pass a resolution demanding a stop to work on the M3 in its present route.

"It would send out a very strong message were the congress to do that," she said.

"It wouldn't be legally binding but it would send out a powerful message. I think it would make Ireland the embarrassment of the global archaeological community."

Shell to Sea protesters arrested

They challenged Shell on the arrived at the scene, and spoke with ON JULY 22 in Glengad, Mayo 13 people were arrested when they confronted Shell over digging in a Special Area of Conservation.

permissions they had to do excavation and other works around the site of the proposed landfill area of the pipeline. The arrested people included Goldman Prize winner Willie Corduff as well as Shell to Sea trailer hostess Mary Horan.

They were arrested at 2pm and taken to Belmullet barracks. Three hours later they were released without charge. Files are being sent to the DPP. The mood of the arrestees after release was definitely one of resolute defiance. After the 13 were arrested, Shell attempted to re-commence the excavation work however another group of around 20 locals arrived and halted the work for the remainder of the day.

While Shell received a Foreshore Licence in 2002 by the then Minister for the Marine and Natural Resources for the offshore part of the pipeline this licence is only valid up to high-water mark.

The protestors believe that Shell does not have the necessary permission to continue with this work. Shell have now installed about 5 large port-cabins which include office and cafeteria facilities on the Special Area of Conservation (SAC) only about 300m away from where the Rosport Solidarity Camp stood, until they were removed less than a year ago.

Superintendent John Gilligan

and then approached the protest group who told him about the concerns over the permissions for the work. Supt Gilligan was told that members of the assembled protestors had met with Conor O Raghallaigh, Director of the National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS) on the previous day and that it had been agreed that the necessary permission were to be sought from the Dept of Energy, Communications and Natural Resources and the Dept of Agriculture & Fisheries. However, the Departments hadn't replied to any of the queries sent so far, and so it was requested by the protestors that the work be halted until the situation was clarified.

Supt. Gilligan was also reminded how last October he had attempted to push through drilling work in the area for Shell that was challenged by locals and which was subsequently found to be illegal. Supt. Gilligan then once more spoke with Shell personnel inside the compound and after warning all the people assembled, people began to be arrested.

Attempts have been made over the last two weeks to establish the legality of these works but to no avail. The whole episode once again shows way that this project has been split up from start to finish and how no person or department will take any



• Shell workers at the Glengad site.

responsibility once questioned.

It should be noted that NPWS in their report seeking the removal of the Rosport Solidarity Camp, stated that site where the camp was would take "10 to 15 years for the site to fully recover" and recommended that the camp be removed and "the habitats allowed to recover naturally". Now NPWS turn a blind eye when a whole compound (which is probably illegal) has been set up.

A north Mayo family made a formal complaint to the 26-County police about constant surveillance of

their movements by security staff attached to the Corrib gas project.

Colm Henry, a resident of Glengad, says that he and his grandchildren have been filmed by security staff with video cameras every time they walk across family land to a local beach.

Shell EP Ireland confirmed that surveillance is taking place in Glengad, landfill for the Corrib gas pipeline, but has denied that any film of the children exists.

The company's external affairs manager, John Egan, said at the

weekend the surveillance was needed because of "criminal activity" close to the point where the gas will come ashore. He said that since April there had been six serious incidents involving the burning of nets which had been erected by the company on a cliff to prevent sand-martins nesting there during construction work.

John Egan stressed that the company was not suggesting the Henrys were involved in criminal activity, but the "facts were that known objectors had walked through his field in the past".

True Republicans are successors of McManus, Crossan and Duffy

A CROWD of over 250 gathered in Swanlinbar on Saturday, July 19 to unveil a commemorative stone to three IRA Volunteers who died during the 1950's Resistance Campaign against British Occupation.



• Ruairí Ó Brádaigh and Ben McHugh unveiled the monument to Pat McManus and James Crossan on July 19.

Volunteers Patrick McManus and Ben McHugh who was with Volunteer James Crossan died within six weeks of each other during the summer of 1958. Also remembered was Wreaths were laid on behalf of the



• The colour party leading the parade to the memorial on July 19.



• Thomas Harte Cumann RSF, Lurgan, Co Armagh banner carried in the parade.



• A section of the crowd at the commemoration, including former nationalist MP Frank McManus and Fr Seán McManus of the Irish National Caucus, brothers of Vol Pat McManus.

Volunteer John Duffy (Derry City) who was fatally wounded in 1960 during training.

Led by a colour party of 14, seven of whom were in military uniform, the parade marched from Swanlinbar to the Border where the commemorative stone was unveiled.

The Pride of Erin Republican Flute Band, Portadown, provided music for those assembled as they marched the short distance. A piper from the Glens of Antrim also participated in the parade. Proceedings were chaired by

Leadership of the Republican Movement, the men's families, Fermanagh/Cavan Republican Sinn Féin, the Kieran Doherty Cumann and the McManus/Crossan Cumann. Members of the dead men's family were present including former nationalist MP Frank McManus and Fr Seán McManus of the Irish National Caucus, brothers of Vol Pat McManus.

Prior to the main address a statement was read out by a masked man representing the South Fermanagh Command of the

Continuity IRA. Paying tribute to their fallen comrades the man claimed that the cause that they had died for was alive and well and that resistance to British Occupation would continue.

The statement continued: "It has come to our attention that in recent weeks Customs and Excise and the DVLA (the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency) have been collaborating with the RUC in the County Fermanagh area.

"We order them to desist

immediately or we will be forced to label them legitimate targets."

The main address came from Republican Sinn Féin President, Ruairí Ó Brádaigh. He stated: "Men such as McManus and Crossan had time to prove themselves on different levels of service.

"John Duffy was not spared to develop his full potential. Their true successors today are those who reject the British colonial statelet north of this line of the border and the collaborationist state south of it and who stand by the All-Ireland Republic

of Tone, Pearse and Connolly. Those who deserted that Republic and turned quisling to destroy arms given for the freedom of Ireland and join the enemy forces should stay away from occasions such as today's event.

"They are puppets of the English occupation enemy now."

Following the oration the stone was unveiled by Ruairí Ó Brádaigh and Ben McHugh. Those assembled paraded back to Swanlinbar and enjoyed refreshments at a well-attended function that evening.

RSF visit to Palestine

HAVING arrived in Bethlehem early on the morning of May 3 the four members of Republican Sinn spent the afternoon in Herodium. Absolutely fascinating and beautiful. It was here King Herod had his palace and there is much speculation that he is buried here.

The Israeli National Parks took charge of the site in 1969 and are excavating it. So far they have unearthed much of the original buildings including the underground water system. Also unearthed are many of the columns and they are in perfect condition and part of the frescos are visible. Today however many of the local villages are no longer standing and an Israeli military base is situated at the base of the climb up to the palace.

Our tour guide Rafat told us that Flavius Josephus wrote two books which give a full history of Herod's reign. Rafat himself has an encyclopedic knowledge of Palestine that he willingly parted with. He was unstinting in his assistance to us for the entire trip. Unfortunately he was not allowed to go to certain areas in the country, partly because as a Palestinian he had no work permit outside of Bethlehem.

Next we went to the Church of the Nativity which was equally fascinating and historical. This church is built over the Grotto where the Virgin Mary is said to have given birth to Jesus and is not the preserve of just one religion but shared by many.

The small stone entrance is called the Door of Humility. The door, dating from Ottoman times, was built small to prevent looters from driving a horse and cart into the church and carrying off treasures. The array of iconostasis inside are impressive. Equally impressive is the Constantinian mosaic floor beneath the wooden floorboards of the nave. On many of the nave's columns are Crusader paintings of saints and the Virgin and Child. Fragments of wall mosaics dating from the 1160s are visible on both sides of the nave.

The columns of polished limestone are, according to historical documents, reused from the original 4th-century Constantinian Basilica. Mosaics on the walls date from the 1160s and the Baptismal font dates from the 6th-century church of Justinian.

The Grotto is also very ornate. The birth place of Christ is marked by a silver star above which hang 15 lamps - six of which belong to the Greeks, five to the Armenians and four to the Latins. The Chapel of the Manger is also here.

The main altar at the east end and the one on the south, Altar of the Circumcision, are the property of the Greek Orthodox Church. On the north side of the high altar is the Armenian Altar of the Three Kings, dedicated to the Magi, and in the north apse is an Armenian altar dedicated to the Virgin Mary. A door in the north apse leads to the Catholic Church of St. Catherine.

From there we visited the Milk Grotto where Mary is supposed to have breastfed Jesus and when a drop of milk fell on the floor all the stone and earth turned white. It is widely believed that there is a cure in this stone/earth especially for infertility.

The Shepherds Field was the next stop. Again Rafat gave us the history of the Field, the caves and the Church.

Our final stop of the day was to the Siraj Centre in Beit Sahour where we met with the local people involved in the Centre who attempted to teach us phrases in Arabic! This is the Centre for Holy Land Studies and runs a 'summer camp' called the Palestinian Summer Celebration (June 15-August 17 this year).

Incursions into Bethlehem and Beit Sahour by the Israeli military are almost nightly. Once they arrive on the streets the local Palestinian police have to withdraw to barracks. Anyone on the streets is liable to be put up against the wall at the point of a gun and searched. Young males are a prime target and are often beaten and left lying injured on the ground. One local woman from Beit Sahour spoke of the military base across the 'Israeli only' road beside her house - Palestinians are forbidden to drive or walk on Israeli only roads. This puts miles and miles onto a journey for Palestinians, a drive that should take 10 minutes can take two to four hours.

A report from *B'Tselem* on July 20 reported on the shooting of a young Palestinian at close range on July 7. The video clip documents a soldier firing a rubber coated steel bullet, from extremely close range, at a cuffed and blindfolded Palestinian youth. The shooting took place in the presence of a lieutenant colonel, who was holding the Palestinian's arm when the shot was fired.

"The incident took place on July 7, in Nil'in, a village in the West Bank. A Palestinian demonstrator, Ashraf Abu Rahma, 27, was stopped by soldiers, who cuffed and blindfolded him for about thirty minutes, during which time, according to Abu-Rahma, they beat him. Afterwards, a group of soldiers and border policemen led him to an army jeep. The video clip shows a soldier aim his weapon at the demonstrator's legs, from about 1.5 meters away, and fire a rubber coated steel bullet at him. Abu-Rahma stated that the bullet hit his left toe, received treatment from an army medic, and released by the soldiers".

Following exposure by *B'Tselem*, the Israeli Military Police are to investigate the shooting (July 21).

B'Tselem is The Israeli Information Centre for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories.

(Continued next month.)

Bil'in launch lawsuit

THE West Bank village of Bil'in, west of Ramallah, has launched a lawsuit in Montreal against two

WORLD NEWS

Canadian construction companies. Green Park International and Green Mount International are accused of illegally building 250 apartments in 30 buildings in an Israeli settlement located on land belonging to Bil'in.

The suit alleges that the firms are advertising and selling



• *The Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem.*

housing units to Israelis, "thereby creating a new dense-settlement neighbourhood on the lands of the village of Bil'in. In so doing, the defendants are aiding, abetting, assisting and conspiring with the State of Israel in carrying out an illegal purpose."

This, argues Bil'in, constitutes a violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, both of which prohibit an occupying power from settling its citizens on occupied land.

Basque POWs ill-treated by French and Spanish states

BOTH Amnesty International and the EU Commission on the Prevention of Torture have criticised the Spanish government on its ill-treatment and torture of detainees and prisoners (particularly of refugees/asylum seekers and of Basque political prisoners).

In June the mother of Arkaitz Bellon told a public meeting that her son had been tied to a bed naked for 48 hours in Algericas prison in Spain and also beaten black and blue and was on hunger strike. Two Basque prisoners in France have also been on hunger strike for a number of weeks in protest at their treatment by the French prison authorities.

Both EU and UN conventions on the treatment of prisoners state that prisoners should serve their sentences as close as possible to their families. However, the Spanish and French states have been deliberately dispersing their Basque political prisoners throughout their territories and far from their families. Prisoners' families have to travel hundreds (sometimes thousands) of kilometres to visit them, sometimes finding that the prisoners were transferred without warning to another prison even though the visit was scheduled, this is particularly hard on families with young children and on the aged.

The Spanish state is also increasing the time political prisoners have to serve in jail - unless they repent their past "crimes" and renounce their allegiances.

You can help by writing to the Spanish and French Embassies; Irish Amnesty can supply further information or www.irishbasquecommittees.blogspot.com.

Sellafield decommissioning to take over 100 years

IT will take more than 100 years before the toxic nuclear site at Sellafield is safe, it was revealed on July 10.

A report from the British parliament's Westminster's Public Accounts Committee (PAC) warned that the cost of decommissioning all nuclear plants was likely to rise because successive British governments and the industry found it easy to push costs on to future taxpayers.

Reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel is expected to end by 2020 but it will take years for radioactivity levels inside unused reactors to fall to safe limits. The buildings will have to be demolished and the site readied for possible redevelopment.

In May Friends of the Earth revealed that Sellafield has the world's largest stockpile of plutonium and uranium, and storage tanks containing radioactive waste "more dangerous" than the Chernobyl reactor.

A spokesperson for Sellafield Ltd said: "Sellafield isn't a place that can just be closed down. It is about the removal of plant and equipment from the building, it is about decontaminating and knocking them down, and that takes decades."

Belgian support for the Miami Five

IN the first signs of a shift in the EU position, Belgium has broken the conspiracy of silence that has surrounded the case of the Miami Five at EU level.



The Belgian Foreign Minister, Karel De Gucht, has declared his support for the findings of a UN committee which declared the Miami Five to be "arbitrarily detained".

He said that his country endorses the conclusions of a UN working group that in 2005 demanded the release of five Cuban anti-terrorist fighters who remain unjustly imprisoned in the United States since 1998.

Gerardo Hernandez, Rene Gonzalez, Antonio Guerrero, Ramon Labañino and Fernando Gonzalez were arrested in 1998 in the United States for infiltrating anti-Cuba extremist groups in South Florida that were planning and carrying out terrorist actions against Cuba.

In June the US government denied a visa to Olga Salanueva, wife of René González, for the ninth time, and stated that the denial is permanent. A visa for Adriana Pérez, wife of Gerardo Hernández, is still described as "pending".

Proposals for new travel controls

THE push for British and Irish "electronic border" systems continued on July 24 with the publication of a consultation paper on the proposed reform of the Common Travel Area (CTA).

Checks for people travelling between the Occupied Six Counties and the rest of the Britain will be the subject of a separate consultation to be launched in the autumn.

People travelling from the 26-Counties to Britain will be required to produce a passport or other photographic proof of identity.

Views are now being sought about acceptable documentation for air and sea travel - and on whether those forms of documentation would be different for air travel from the 26 Counties to the Occupied Six Counties.

The British government will clarify the CTA rules by way of an amendment to the new Immigration and Citizenship Bill.

The Moncada Attack

ON July 26, 1953, at 6am, Fidel Castro and his brother Raúl led a group of approximately 160 rebels in an attack on the second largest military garrison in Cuba, headquarters of the 1,000 strong Antonio Maceo regiment, under the command of President Fulgencio Batista.

That was the opening salvo in a battle which led in 1959 to the liberation of Cuba from US domination.

Fifty-five years later, the Cuba Support Group would like to encourage its members to take up the Moncada challenge and write to local and national newspapers on issues of public interest demonstrating how Cuba can inform public debate in Ireland on current topics.

Most newspapers also have blog forums which can be useful in establishing a foothold before getting material published. Above all, be persistent, as only a small percentage of letters submitted will ever be published.

WHAT THEY SAID

After the rejection of the European constitution, the Lisbon Treaty represented a bureaucratically engineered emergency solution that was supposed to be forced through out of the sight of the population.

— Irish Times, July 28, 2008, article by German philosopher Jürgen Habermas.

Yet we are a hugely rich society. We have the fifth-highest per capita income among the EU's 27 countries.

Not for a millisecond will it occur to them [Leinster House deputies] that this ["savagery" cuts in health, social welfare and education] is grossly unfair in a society so wealthy.

— Sunday Business Post, June 29, 2008, Vincent Browne column.

Not for a millisecond will it occur to them that perhaps the rich should pay for the recession, as they were the ones who benefited most from the boom.

That idea will not be entertained, because the option of tax increases to relieve the state's exchequer difficulties is a political non-starter in the society we have created.

In other words, the suggestion that the rich should bear the burden — the entire burden — of the recession is anathema.

— Vincent Browne column headed "The rich should be made to pay for this recession".

At the last count, 280,000 people in Ireland were living in consistent poverty [on less than €10 a week], including 100,000 children. The government cutbacks have started.

"The people who are going to suffer severely are the vulnerable," says Professor John Monaghan, the St Vincent de Paul's vice-president.

— Sunday Tribune, June 29, 2008, article by Justine McCarthy headed "Poorest people the hardest hit in bad times".

In 1979, Greenland established home rule and the first item on the agenda was to leave [the EU]. Six years later, feeling that their key fishing industry was being sidelined — a stand that has echoes in our own

rejection [of Lisbon] — they departed. The Greenlanders are still subject to various EU treaties, however.

— Sunday Tribune, June 29, 2008, article by Martin Frawley headed "Would it really be so bad if we had to leave the European Union?"

Similarly, Algeria, which was a territory of France until 1962, quit what was then called the EC [European Community] once it managed to extract itself from France.

— Martin Frawley. Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Switzerland are members of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) and are not members of the EU.

A deal in 1994 between the EU and EFTA to create the European Economic Area (EEA) gave the EFTA nations very close to full membership of the EU but without any of the compromises which would be too much for those countries to bear.

— Martin Frawley. It may be seen as the 'poor man's EU' but membership of the EEA/EFTA alliance could be an option for Ireland as we turn our backs on Brussels again.

— Martin Frawley. He said it was a mistake for the [26-County] Government to hold a referendum on Lisbon and described such plebiscites as "tools for dictators" as evidenced by European history.

— Jamie Smith column, Irish Times, July 4, 2008, quoting Alain Lamassoure, French MEP who claims that Ireland risks splitting the EU if they don't ratify the Lisbon Treaty by next spring.

Our view is necessarily different, and therefore we must try to stop the European Union developing in the way that France and the rejected Lisbon Treaty propose. I hope that the constitutional court or Senate will not allow adoption of the Lisbon Treaty here.

— Irish Times, July 4, 2008, Czech President Vaclav Klaus.

We in Ireland thought we had invented a war around the inevitability by borrowing against inflated houses.

We put our hearts and souls into this scam, becoming one of the most indebted nations on earth in the process. We realised that our income could not sustain our lifestyle so, instead of reining in, we splurged.

The main architects of this shaky edifice are the Irish



• Republican Sinn Féin protest against the visit of French President Nicolas Sarkozy outside the 26-County Administration buildings on June 21.

banks, and its structural mortgage debt rose by 522 percent per capita; in the US the same debt fell by 103 percent. In terms of new debt we are five times more exposed than our American cousins.

— Sunday Business Post, July 13, 2008, article by David McWilliams.

In the 10 years from 1996 to 2006, Irish residential mortgage debt rose by 522 percent per capita; in the US the same debt fell by 103 percent. In terms of new debt we are five times more exposed than our American cousins. The same shunting bad debt cycle will happen in Ireland, make no mistake about it.

— David McWilliams. During the boom, for month after month, the Central Bank produced figures telling us that credit growth was roaring ahead.

At the same time saying that it was happy that Irish banks were not in breach of mortgage guidelines! — David McWilliams.

At the same time, the growing cost of all these wars is causing the possible collapse of the western neoliberal capitalist system.

Faced with this, the Irish people, far from being "out of our minds" in rejecting this horrific vista, have shown to the world a rare glimpse of sanity and reality by voting No to Sarkozy and his treaty.

— Irish Times, July 17, 2008, article by Roger Cole, chairman of the Peace and Neutrality Alliance (PANA).

The irony is that it is the global peace movement and the alliance that are the realists. It is our message of inclusive dialogue, negotiations and social justice that will provide the means by which global stability and sustainable growth can be restored.

The Irish No vote was a

tremendous decision that echoes the historic vote 90 years ago when the Irish people's vote in favour of the Irish Republic marked the beginning of the end of the British Empire.

— Roger Cole. The European Central Bank (ECB) will not change the course of its monetary policy to assist those Euro area members such as Ireland, Spain or Portugal that are currently experiencing economic difficulties, the president of the ECB, Jean-Claude Trichet, has told the Irish Times.

— Irish Times, July 18, 2008. "The ECB has to care for the superior interest of the euro area," Mr Trichet said, adding, "Our monetary policy must be optimal at the level of the whole euro area — exactly like the Fed [the US central bank] would not look at what is in the interests of Missouri, California or Texas."

— Irish Times, July 18. What could be clearer? A United States of Europe is being built and that was what the Lisbon Treaty was all about.

PSNI (sic) detectives were last night questioning three men about the Continuity IRA landmine attack on a police patrol near Roslea, Co Fermanagh, last month in which two officers suffered minor injuries. The men were arrested in Roslea yesterday.

Republican Sinn Féin, the political wing of the Continuity IRA, issued a statement complaining that the "RUC" had "abducted three Republicans in Fermanagh".

— Irish Times, July 18,

2008. Republican Sinn Féin is not the "political wing" of any organisation, nor has it a "military wing".

"The French No — by 55% — following by the Dutch No at 60% only three days later was terrifying," an [French] official said.

Because of the No votes in 2005, it would be impossible for the other 26 to go ahead under Lisbon without Ireland, he added.

— Lara Marlowe in Paris, writing in the Irish Times, July 18, 2008.

Irish voters rejected Lisbon by a majority of 63.4%. Mr Sarkozy was elected president by 53.06%. "The [Irish] No is perfectly legitimate," a French official admitted.

— Lara Marlowe in Paris. "God's creation is one and it is good. The concerns for non-violence, sustainable development, justice and peace and care for our environment are of vital importance for humanity," he [Pope Benedict XVI] said.

"Perhaps reluctantly, we come to acknowledge that there are also scars which mark the surface of our earth — erosion, deforestation, the squandering of the world's mineral and ocean resources in order to fuel an insatiable consumption."

— Irish Times, July 18, 2008, report by Pádraig Collins in Sydney of an address to a World Youth Day event. Yet recent years have witnessed marked trends to place larger and additional Irish flags on the bonfires. The years since the peace (sic) agreement have emphasised rather than diminished symbolic flag burning. Why? Watching your flag melt ar

midnight [on the Eleventh Night bonfire] to techno music with 2,000 others was, for this writer, a surreal experience.

— Irish Times, July 18, 2008, column by Elaine Byrne.

We cannot afford to take peace for granted given the underlying reality of division in Northern Ireland (sic).

— Elaine Byrne column. Ministerial impotence in the face of large, questionable projects zipping ahead without regard for the environment is becoming somewhat tiresome.

What is the point if big business gets its way no matter what the people, or indeed the minister's own party, want?

— Sunday Business Post Agenda, July 20, 2008, Stephen Price column.

The Corrib [gas] refinery, the north-south [electricity] interconnector and the M3 [Tara] motorway all have this in common; they may cost a lot, but in each case they are the cheapest short-term solutions. Think of Haulbowline though — funny how, in the longer term, the taxpayer is left to tidy up afterwards.

— Stephen Price. I remain saddened by the reinstatement of Fisher and Wright to military service. I think that the injustice done to the McBride family remains in need of redress.

— Jim McDonald former assessor of military complaints, Irish News, July 24, 2008. Peter McBride was murdered by British army members Fisher and Wright in 1992. They served six years and were reinstated into the army on release.

Just over half of all Irish voters [52%] said they would vote against the Lisbon Treaty is a second referendum were held immediately. Only 32% said they would vote in favour of the treaty.

— Sunday Business Post, July 27, 2008.

The new opinion poll was carried out by the research firm Red C. The poll was released by Open Europe, a London-based think-tank which opposes further European integration. It said that the poll showed EU leaders should not drop the Lisbon Treaty.

— Sunday Business Post. When asked if "the Irish government should do as the French president [Sarkozy] has reportedly said and organise a second referendum on the treaty," just a quarter of voters agreed, while 71% disagreed.

— Sunday Business Post.

Joe Dillon

REPUBLICANS in the North West were saddened to hear of the sudden death of Joe Dillon, a native of Castlederg, Co Tyrone.

Joe had been a member of the Republican Garden of Remembrance Committee and had helped in every way possible to make the garden the place it is today. Fundraisers and functions

were always held in the Four Provinces of which Joe was the owner. Joe also served as a valuable member of the Ballyshannon, Bundoran Hunger Strike

Commemoration Committee.

One of the most memorable occasions in the Four Provinces was when the Kevin Lynch RFB played in the bar after the annual H-Block march in Bundoran.

Joe came from a strong Republican family and both his father and uncle were interned on the Argenta prison ship and Joe's home house was always open for Republicans and indeed this



• Joe Dillon marching at the annual Bundoran hunger strike commemoration.

showed at his funeral with people in attendance who had stayed there.

Joe will always be remembered for his quick wit and generosity and will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

It was a tribute to Joe and all his family the large attendance of both local people and people from all over Ireland.

Ar dheis de go raibh anam dílis.

McGuinness — Not a Republican

A chara
After watching the recent appearance of Martin McGuinness on TV with head of the Crown forces in Ireland, condemning Irish Republican soldiers for attacking the Crown Forces, we the Republican POWs feel we have to voice out disgust at this man who dares to call himself a Republican. The Irish Republican soldiers who are continuing the armed struggle against the British presence in Ireland are being criticised by McGuinness and former comrades who abandoned the struggle for the Saxon shilling.

McGuinness is a liar, hypocrite and traitor. First we have to watch the ceasefires that McGuinness and company told Republicans in 1986 would never happen until the Brits declared their intent to withdraw. Then we watched the dismantling of the Provisional's wing and the surrender of weapons procured for Ireland's fight for freedom. As soon as this was achieved, bearing in mind he coached his Republican followers to this point with statements written by the Brits, passed off as Provisional documents/statements. He lost no time jumping into bed with the arch-bigot Paisley.

Now he is calling on the Irish people to become something which they have despised. He is asking the people to become informers. Has McGuinness forgotten the hurt, death and misery inflicted upon the community by these traitors? He calls the soldiers who are committed to the struggle 'no hopers' and 'idiots'. What does that say about the Volunteers who lost their lives in the struggle? Were they no hopers and idiots?

McGuinness should hang his head in shame. We should all remember this man is paid by the Brits to run Stormont with his friends in the DUP to administer British rule in Ireland.

This man is not a Republican, he has forsaken all his Republican principles for English money and power.

REPUBLICAN PRISONERS
Roe 3 & 4, Maghaberry jail

ÉIRE NUA (New Ireland)

A chara
ÉIRE NUA (New Ireland) is a conflict resolution policy that was launched by the Irish Republican movement leadership in 1971. Its non-confrontational and non-sectarian nature allowed that period's Republican leadership to successfully engage the leadership of the unionist and loyalist communities in direct peace talks.

ÉIRE NUA's proposed federation of Ireland's four historic provinces along with a devolution of power via provincial parliaments – including a nine-county Ulster provincial parliament – was key to getting both sides to support ÉIRE NUA as the way to move forward to peace. The Irish Republican Movement's (IRM) leadership of that time was also able to sell the ÉIRE NUA policy to the IRA Army Council who offered a cease-fire to demonstrate its support of a peaceful solution through ÉIRE NUA. The success of the ÉIRE NUA policy went to the heart of Britain's self-serving claim of acting as peacekeepers. ÉIRE NUA was also viewed with alarm by the beneficiaries of the status quo – the Dublin and British governments (and as it turns out, elements within the IRM) which undertook a coordinated attack on ÉIRE NUA that included:

- introduction of the sectarian Sunningdale Agreement
- internment without trial
- violations of cease-fire and truce periods
- alarming increases in state-directed sectarian killings
- introduction of draconian measures by the Dublin government including special courts and non-jury trials
- criminal cover-up of the Dublin-Monaghan bombings by agents of the British intelligence agencies.
- the introduction of official state censorship.
- the vicious attack on the Feakle Peace Talks in Co. Clare between the Republican movement and representatives of the British government, and the denial of US visas to proponents of ÉIRE NUA by the American



• René González of the Miami Five (see letter on right).

government – a policy that is still in force today.

MIKE COSTELLO
New Jersey

No Comparison

A chara
There is no comparison between Ruairí Ó Brádaigh and Gerry Adams. Today's Provos are taking some €9 million from the British House of Commons. If the British government offered Ruairí Ó Brádaigh one cent it would throw it back in their face.

BRENDAN TOBIN
Co Wexford

Pearse's Prophecy Still holds

A chara
As my response to Denis Bradley (*Irish News*, July 4), referring to the activity of Republicans and how they should be dealt with, may I simply quote the prophecy of Patrick Pearse that Ireland unfree shall never experience peace.

Cumann na Saoirse. It was Mike Skeahan who came up with the name "Cumann na Saoirse", and who insisted, to avoid being embarrassed by back-sliding politicians at home in Ireland, that Cumann na Saoirse would have no foreign principle, but rather would be an independent American organisation devoted to furthering the bright dream of the men and women of 1916.

Mike could always be counted on to do the heavy lifting, all the while shunning publicity. He died in the early hours of Friday, July 25 after a long battle with cancer. He was 80. Cumann na Saoirse recently honoured him at their 2007 Annual Testimonial when he was presented with the Michael Flannery Spirit of Freedom Award. His death is deeply regretted by his comrades in the Cumann na Saoirse Náisiúnta/the Irish National Freedom Committee in the US and by the Republican Movement in Ireland.

self-determination but their behaviour is similar to the tactics of Michael Collins and Éamon de Valera when they abandoned the national struggle in the last century.

They have become pillars of the British presence and their reference to national unity is merely lip service. Yes, among their supporters there are many sincere Republicans but unfortunately they have been conned by Adams and McGuinness.

LIAM Ó COMÁIN
Derry

A message From René González

A chara
After almost 10 years of unjust imprisonment, justice seems more removed. The ruling of the Court of Appeals – so plagued with omissions and falsifications that at times it seems to be about another process – demonstrates once more that one cannot expect even the appearance of this judicial system applying its own laws.

We have always counted on you for the morale that sustains us, on the support of our people and the affection of people like you, which has been bestowed upon us for all those years, attention that we have not even been able to reciprocate within proper measure. These words do not aspire to do so, they are only an attempt to tell you: Thank you very much.

It has been a privilege to count on you all this time, multiplied in thousands of letters, books, cards, prayers, good wishes, subscriptions or personal photographs. In these moments, in which we rise above the injustice and our commitment is much stronger, I rightfully think of you at this time and thank you.

In the past we did something to deserve this gift of solidarity and affection, rest assured that we will never stop struggling, and hopefully continue to merit that gift.

RENÉ GONZÁLEZ
One of the Miami Five
incarcerated in the United States

Nuclear Weaponry Threatens Everyone

A chara
Sixty-three years ago this month, the United States dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The nuclear age had truly begun with the first military use of atomic weapons. After six months of

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Letters may also be faxed to Dublin 872 9757 or sent by e-mail to saoirse@iol.ie

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

intense firebombing of 67 other Japanese cities, the nuclear weapon "Little Boy" was dropped on the city of Hiroshima on Monday, August 6, 1945, followed on August 9 by the detonation of the "Fat Man" nuclear bomb over Nagasaki. The bombs killed as many as 140,000 people in Hiroshima and 80,000 in Nagasaki by the end of 1945, roughly half on the days of the bombings. Since then, thousands more have died from injuries or illness attributed to exposure to radiation released by the bombs. In both cities, the overwhelming majority of the dead were civilians.

In spite of international backing for the objectives of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, tens of thousands of nuclear weapons still remain. Nuclear proliferation threatens everyone, and therefore requires global cooperation in addressing non-compliance, in resolving concerns over nuclear programmes, and in ensuring the most reliable controls over nuclear materials.

After describing her personal struggle as a survivor of the bombing, Miyoko Matsubara offered this message to the young people of the world: "Nuclear weapons do not deter war. Nuclear weapons and human beings cannot co-exist. We all must learn the value of human life. If you do not agree with me on this, please come to Hiroshima and see for yourself the destructive power of these deadly weapons at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum."

Sixty-three years later the people of the world must ask of their governments; what lessons have been learned from the horrific events in Japan? No lessons have been learned in the years; it is still the civilian populations that suffer the murder, rape and mutilation that governments force war on people. Governments of the world continue to hold civilians to ransom with the threat of violence and continued intimidation. Today all over the world, governments continue to engage in war or facilitate wars; such as the Dublin government allowing the use of Shannon Airport for US military flights. These wars continue to bring about massive civilian casualties and war crimes continue to be used on the civilian population as a means of intimidation.

This practice must end now. Peace is the basic right of humanity and it must be given to humanity. The children of our world have the right to grow up in a world of peace and a world without the threat of nuclear power.

MICHAEL ROONEY
Co Mayo

Michael Skeahan

REPUBLICANS were saddened to hear of the death on July 25 of Veteran Republican Mike Skeahan, New York.

Mike Skeahan has always been the strong, silent type, operating in the background. But unlike Brecht's character, Mike Skeahan was never in it for himself, but always served a higher cause. One of many examples of this is found back when the recent troubles began; the Republican movement at home produced a book called *Freedom Struggle*, which was promptly banned on the other side of the pond. Having obtained a bootleg copy of same, Mike took it upon himself to produce an American edition of the same (typeset and all, from scratch). The distinguishing difference on the cover was a photograph of some IRA men armed with US Rifle, calibre .30, M-1. [Mike had a love affair with the M-1 Rifle

that went back to the end of the Second World War, when he volunteered for the 82nd Airborne Division.] While maintaining his daytime job, Mike (with the occasional assistance of a friend or two) put in more nights than he would care to remember making *Freedom Struggle* happen -- much to the chagrin of Brits and Free Staters alike.

A native of New York City, Mike came of good Fenian stock. His father, also named Michael, was an IRA man (and an Irish Volunteer before the Rising) from Kilkree, County Clare (a town once served by the famous West Clare Railroad). While on the run during the Tan War, the senior Michael Skeahan met his future wife, Christina Barton (a

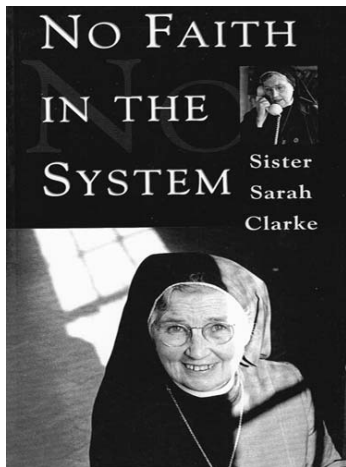
member of Cumann na mBan) in a safe house in Limerick, operated by her father, Michael Barton, an IRB man.

Mike graduated from Saint Sebastian's school in Queens, and attended Power Memorial Academy under the gentle tutelage of the Irish Christian Brothers, where he majored in football and track. He graduated from St. Michael's High School and then, with two buddies, joined the US Army for World War II. A bricklayer by trade, he was an officer of Local 34 of the Bricklayer's Union, in Manhattan.

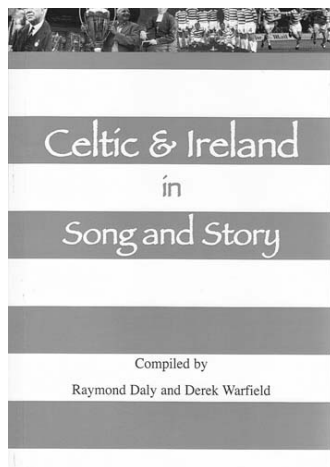
Whenever there was trouble at home, Mike was there, always behind the scenes, lending his own special support to the Cause of Irish Freedom. He worked very closely, and always very discretely, with the late Martin Madden, and others, during the recent Troubles.

After the parting of the ways in 1986, Mike Skeahan was one of seven men who met in Mike Flannery's parlour to found

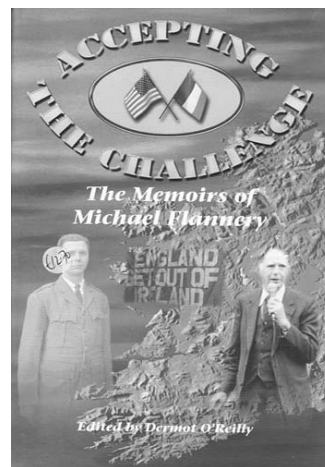
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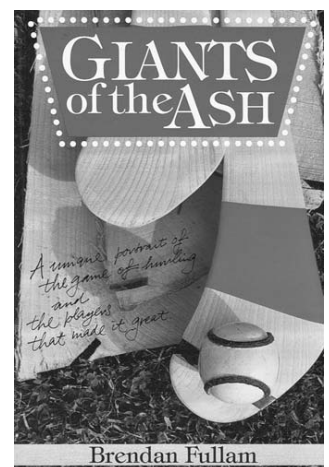
• *No Faith in the System*, Sister Sarah Clarke, €12.68.



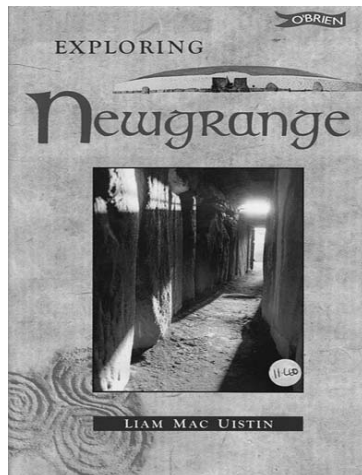
• *Celtic & Ireland in Song and Story*, compiled by Raymond Daly and Derek Warfield, €20.



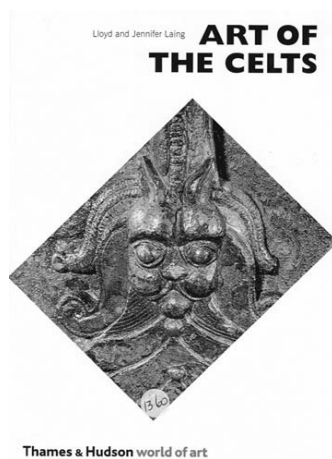
• *Accepting the Challenge — the Memoirs of Michael Flannery*, ed Dermot O'Reilly, €12.70 HB.



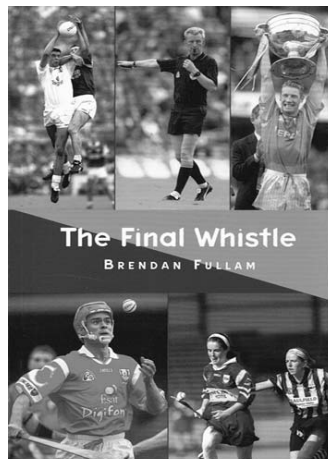
• *SALE. Giants of the Ash* by Brendan Fulham (1992), was €11.40, now €8.



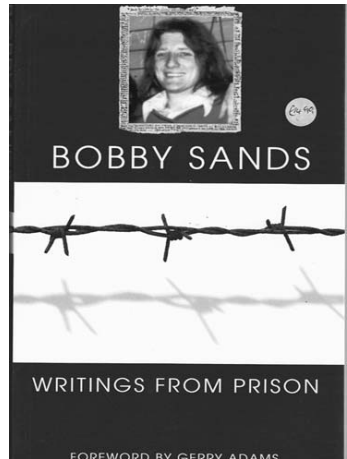
• *Exploring Newgrange* by Liam Mac Uistin, €11.40.



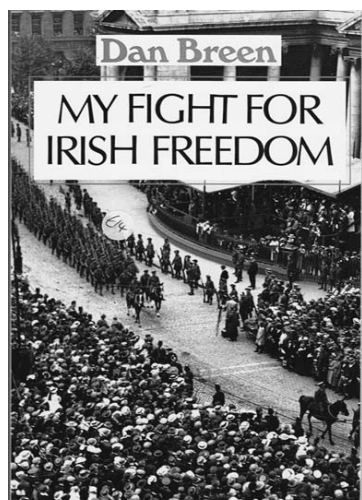
• *Art of the Celts* by Lloyd and Jennifer Laing, €13.60.



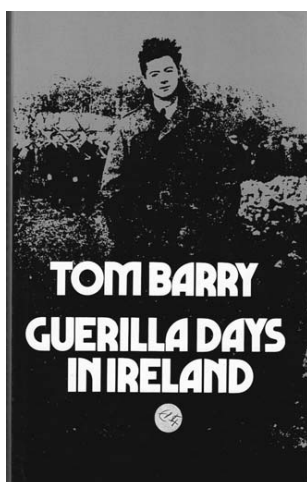
• *The Final Whistle* by Brendan Fulham, (2000), €10.



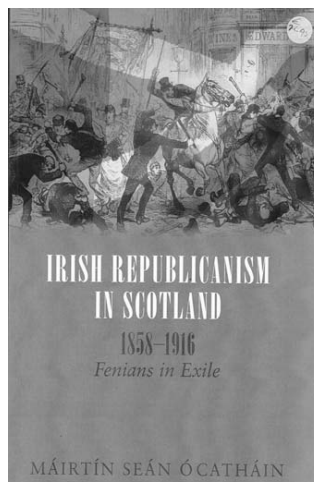
• *Bobby Sands, Writings from Prison*, €14.99.



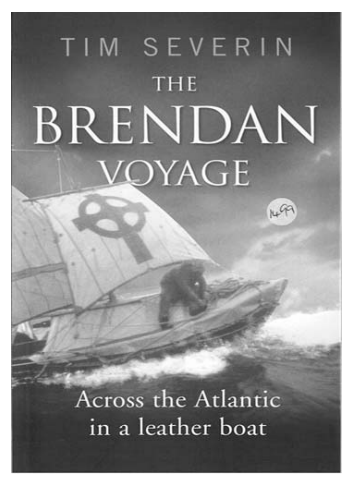
• *My Fight for Irish Freedom*, Dan Breen, €14.



• *Guerrilla Days in Ireland* by Tom Barry, €14.



• *Irish Republicanism in Scotland, 1858-1916* by Máirtín Seán Ó Catháin €24.95.



• *The Brendan Voyage* by Tim Severin, €14.99.

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MALLON AND TALBOT CLEARED – AND RE-ARRESTED

James Crossan
murdered

50
Years
Ago

ON August 5, 1958, the capital charges of being involved in the death of RUC Sergeant Owens at Coalisland, Co Tyrone against Kevin Mallon and

Francis Talbot were thrown out by the jury after two-and-a-quarter hours consideration.

There had been no forensic evidence, or any other evidence produced against the two youths. Other than statements which the prisoners alleged were beaten out of them by the British Crown Forces.

The high-powered legal team for the Crown led by Stormont Attorney General Brian Maguinness, the judge and the equally high-powered defence team all agreed on the main point: were the statements voluntary, or were they made under torture as a result of police pressure?

The Stormont Attorney-General put it this way: "The story of these men is more reminiscent of what took place in the concentration camps of Germany.

"If that story is true, none of the police officers from the County Inspector down is fit to be a member of the Royal Ulster Constabulary."

An *t-Eireannach Aontaithe/The United Irishman* commented on this: "He, of course, was asking the jury to reject the story of torture or else they were striking at the very foundations of Crown rule in the North by exposing the concentration camp techniques and the torture processes which are part and parcel of all authoritarian rule."

The Recorder of Swansea, Elywn Jones QC, (MP) who led for the Defence said: "I submit that the evidence discloses in this case that Mallon in particular was subjected to long, persistent, repeated and determined interrogation by teams of detective officers and that the statement was the result of excessive intimidation and pressure."

Mr Jones asked why was it necessary to take Mallon at midnight with his hands handcuffed behind his back from Dungannon to Belfast?

"Was this," he asked, "part of the process of moral intimidation?"

The other prisoners were taken together to Belfast but Mallon was singled out. En route the vehicle was driven down a side road and the prisoner was taken out, surrounded by hostile armed men.

The judge told the jury: "A great part of the jury's task would be to consider whether the statements were voluntary or not. If the jury believed that evidence [of ill-treatment] or any part of it, they were bound to disregard [the confession] statements."

The jury's reply was: the torture stories were true. The men were found not guilty.

There was great excitement in the courtroom when the verdict was announced. When the applause died down, the families tried to approach the two prisoners. Mallon's father and sister Sheila were prominent here.

Despite the judge's order that they be "discharged", the families were held back by the RUC and the two men were moved out to another room where "detention orders" were served on them. They were to be interned.

Councillor Gerry Fitt was in the public

Soldiers of the Resistance Campaign

James Crossan
Patrick McManus

50th Anniversary
1958 — 2008



• *Soldiers of the Resistance Campaign — the story of Pat McManus and James Crossan, €6/£5, available from Irish Freedom Press, 223 Parnell Street, Dublin 1.*

gallery and he rushed out to announce the good news to a waiting crowd. Cheers followed, of course, as the case was a matter of great interest in the nationalist community.

This was the same Gerry Fitt who was named in the slogan "Gerry Fitt is a Brit" 15 years later.

But the ordeal of Mallon and Talbot did not end there. The shadow of the British Imperial hangman may have receded — but only for the moment.

In an unprecedented action on August 8, the British Crown authorities in Occupied Ireland placed Kevin Mallon and Francis Talbot on trial on a new set of charges.

The four new charges were for possession of machine guns and explosives and membership of the IRA. Under the Special Powers Act in Occupied Ireland at the time, possession of explosives could carry the death penalty.

The British hangman still lurked in the background. The Crown again introduced torture-statements obtained by the same means and under the same circumstances as those which a Belfast jury had decisively rejected in the Owens case a few days earlier.

The Republican organ commented: "The bare-faced injustice of re-jailing the men after the trial itself and dragging them away in full view of Press and relatives, was condemned by the British Council of Civil Liberties.

"The subsequent charging was to cover up this gross action which put 'British justice' itself in a most embarrassing position.

"Let the following be noted: No arms or ammunition were found in the men's possession when arrested. Nothing was ever found in their homes despite many raids and arrests.

"Other men are serving long sentences in Crumlin Road [Jail, Belfast] in connection with the same explosives, arms and ammunition.

"The statements extracted from the men were got under the same circumstances as those with which the Crown authorities attempted to send the men to the gallows in the death-trial."

It concluded: "No public figure in the 26 Counties, no daily newspaper, has protested against this barbarism or even commented on the torture revelations."

The newspaper then called on the Irish people themselves to raise their voices "in a united demand that the terrible ordeal of these two youths be ended without delay."

A letter carried in the *Manchester Guardian*

of August 12 said: "Protest is due that these two men should be detained after having been held for many months upon a capital charge, of which a jury has now cleared them.

"There should also be the loudest public demand throughout the British Isles [no, it was obviously not an Irish Republican writer, Ed] for the fullest and most impartial inquiries into police methods in Northern Ireland (sic).

"A full enquiry into methods of law and government in the Six Counties is overdue. It is not over-impressive to talk about free democracy when a police State, or something very like it, is being run in six of the Irish counties contrary to the wishes of the majority of the inhabitants in at least two of them."

JAMES CROSSAN MURDERED

Then, in the early hours of Sunday, August 24, the Sinn Féin organiser for Co Cavan, James Crossan from Bawnboy, was shot dead by British Crown Forces at the Fermanagh-Cavan Border.

The *United Irishman* of October 1958 described him: "At 26 years he had made his mark in the Republican Movement as a man of great energy, drive and depth.

"Even the night of his killing was spent preparing for a Sinn Féin [public] meeting to be held on Sunday, August 24 in Ballyconnell, Co Cavan.

"But on the night of the rally James Crossan was dead — foully murdered. A silent crowd paid tribute to his memory instead.

"And then they brought his body over the Border and the thousands filed past."

The balladmakers were soon at work, eg, the following to the air of *Down by the Glenside*:

Where the fairy-like night dew, the grass is adorning

*A volley rang out without any warning,
A young man fell dead in the cold grey of morning*

God bless you, God rest you, James Crossan from Bawn.

They carried him back o'er the blood spattered Border

Through lines of his comrades arrayed and in order;

But now he's at rest, and God is his warder

God bless you, God rest you, James Crossan from Bawn.

James Crossan was born and reared in Aughavas, Co Leitrim and came to live with his bachelor uncle Patrick McGinn at Cloneyra, Bawnboy, Co Cavan at the age of 18. He assisted him on the farm.

Consequently, the name of James Crossan appears on both the Cavan and Leitrim Rolls of Honour of those who died for Ireland.

But what were the facts surrounding his untimely death from a British bullet in the early hours of August 24? The pamphlet entitled *The Murder of James Crossan* records the evidence based on first-hand statements from those associated with him on that fatal night.

James Crossan had no car but he had a tractor and was very helpful to his neighbours. As was usual he got his neighbour Seán Reilly to drive him to Swanlinbar to secure a Tricolour to be flown at the meeting.

There the two met Ben McHugh and at some stage after midnight all three met with three Fermanagh men, Thomas McCarron, a bar manager in the town, Stanley Moffat, a Sergeant in the B-Specials, and Glover Rooney, a cattle-dealer and a unionist politically.

Moffat says in his published statement: "The six of them were together until 1.45am on Sunday. The conversation on general topics was very friendly. Politics were not mentioned. He had not met Crossan before but he knew McHugh very well, having met him many times in Swanlinbar."

The three Fermanagh men needed a lift to the Border where Rooney's van was parked. Seán Reilly drove all six the distance and parked near the Border. All got out and the three Fermanagh men drove off in Rooney's van.

In view of what had happened since he said: "I would as life have been a thousand miles away from Swanlinbar that night." He said it was too bad that Crossan had lost his life.

He, from what he saw, did not think it likely that McHugh or Crossan would have intended any attack on the Customs Post at the time he left them.

On Monday, August 25, what can only be described as a travesty of an inquest was held in Enniskillen. Apart from evidence of identification and medical evidence, only one witness was called, Head Constable WJ Liggett.

His evidence was unsworn and was entirely hearsay. He went to the scene at 4.30am and said what he was told. No members of the Crown Forces patrol, nor Moffat, Rooney or McHugh were produced to give evidence.

The proceedings differ sharply from the inquest in Newry in March 1955 when Arthur Leonard (18) was shot dead and Clare Mallon (16) were wounded at a Crown Forces roadblock.

There the B-Specials concerned were put on the witness stand and cross-examined. The Enniskillen inquest was a cover-up and after "a few minutes" (*Impartial Reporter* — a unionist paper) returned a verdict of justifiable homicide as suggested by the Coroner.

Seán Reilly fell asleep in his van, was awakened by shots and flare lights and drove home. He had no watch.

It is believed that James Crossan was shot on the 26-County side of the Border. Medical evidence stated that his only wound was on the right side of the chest. Yet he was supposed to have been shot running away.

The pamphlet said, "the patrol consisted of B-Specials commanded by Head Constable Nixon Thompson of the B-Special Constabulary and one RUC man Constable JA Young who fired the burst that killed James Crossan."

The full text of that pamphlet is carried in the booklet issued on the 50th anniversary of the deaths of James Crossan and Pat McManus entitled *Soldiers of the Resistance Campaign*. It should be read in order to get the full facts.

The funeral took place to Kilnavert Cemetery in the parish of Templeport. There James Crossan was buried in the Republican Plot alongside Captain Michael Baxter. IRA, killed in action by British troops at Selton Hill, between Ballinamore and Mohill in Co Leitrim in 1921.

A piper from the Cork Volunteer Pipe Band led the procession, a Fianna Éireann bugler sounded the Last Post and Reveille and 30 wreaths were carried by women in Cumann na mBan uniform.

Tomás Ó hUiginn of Longford spoke and said James Crossan was a model Irishman who helped his local community and his country.

"Maireann sé i smaointe agus i gcoirthe na ndaoine, agus gach uair a chloiseann Gaela dílse a ainm spreagann sé iad chun gníomhartha uaisle agus gíroisann sé iad chun lorg Laochra na hÉireann go léir a leanúint, pé deire a bhéas leis an mbóthar. Sin é an fáth nach féidir an tír seo a choimead go deo fé réim na nGall."

Among the messages of condolence was one from his uncle, Michael McGinn, Vice-President of Clan na Gael, Philadelphia, who had spoken in Bodenstown the previous June.

God bless you, God rest you, James Crossan from Bawn.

(More next month. Refs. An *tÉireannach Aontaithe/The United Irishman*, September and October 1958; *The Manchester Guardian*, August 12, 1958; *The Impartial Reporter*, August 31, 1958 and *Soldiers of the Resistance Campaign*, publ July 2008.)

Fenian Notes

From our Washington Correspondent

THE Constitution of the United States is the basic law of the land and is not a toy to be played with, but certain ideologically oriented judges ignore vital sections of the law at the peril of the American people who suffer from the judicial grandstanding.

Liberals and conservatives alike accuse each other of judicial activism, manipulating the law to suit narrow political purposes. Bush and his cohorts have ignored the constitution in pursuit of their crusade against so-called enemies of America and especially their political opponents in the United States.

Political opposition is the target of the Bush people because when you destroy the economy of the nation and start an unjust and unnecessary war, you have to create bad guys by a series of lies meant to demonise the opposition and to suggest they are not real Americans as defined by the Bush team who are in power and control the means of propaganda.

There is another assault on the opposition by Bush who is never satisfied with his power and seeks more constantly through a series of draconian laws. We have another about to go into effect. The enemy are supposed to be terrorists who are going to attack the United States, but let us examine the true intent of Bush's administration.

Bush, like other paranoid presidents, has tried to bend the constitution to his political needs by irrational interpretations never intended by its authors. Bush has literally attacked the Constitution whenever it becomes inconvenient to his purposes.

Bush had his party in power with him in Congress, which was a rubber stamp for his issues. The US Congress accommodated Bush for six years while he undermined the Bill of Rights and tried to destroy the balance of power between the three branches of government.

The judiciary, the third branch of government is also controlled by Bush's

party, the process of government during his time as president has been the equivalent of a dictatorship.

Congress is now nominally controlled by the opposition party which has not held him accountable as it should. In a post 9/11 world, the opposition is afraid to show weakness on terrorism and as long as the American people buy into the climate of fear, the opposition will not make Bush accountable.

There has been talk of impeachment and a bill of particulars charging him with high crimes and misdemeanours by a famous US Prosecutor, but Congress will not move on it.

Congress had a chance to redeem itself in the latest Bush attempt to continue his assault on the rights of the American people and the slander of the Constitution. The problem is that the opposition has to take on Bush and that takes courage and that is a virtue lacking these days in Washington.

Neither Bush and his party nor the opposition has the best interests of the American people in their sights. The Democratic opposition campaigned that they would change things and were elected on that promise, but they failed to deliver and now Bush knows he can bait them and they will cave in to his demands.

This new Bill would expand the governments ability to spy on Americans and this is now the emphasis — to spy on Americans where it used to be those in other countries who might be a threat to the US.

There is no more pretence; Americans who do not march to Bush's tune are the enemy. The new Bill would ensure Bush could spy on Americans and they would never know the full extent of this unconstitutional activity of unlawful wiretapping.

The extent of the Bill is to weaken the 1978 Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA). Wiretapping is a key law enforcement tool but it must be controlled from abuse and the targets



are supposed to be criminals or terrorists. Bush has used this technique against innocent Americans, political opponents and dissidents.

ILLEGAL ACTS

He seeks to legitimise his illegal acts. The intent of this new Bill is to spy on Americans at home, reduce the courts powers and grant immunity to the companies that turned over Americans' private communications without a warrant.

This new law would allow the government to bypass the FISA court and collect large amounts of information from Americans communications without a warrant simply by declaring that it is doing so for reasons of national security without any evidence of support.

It removes the vital foreign power provision from FISA, never mentions counterterrorism and defines national security to mean almost anything a president wants it to mean. In other words no restrictions.

There is no requirement that the government name a target. The purpose of this warrantless eavesdropping is so vague as listening to all calls to a particular area code in any other country.

The real reason for the existence of this Bill is because Bush decided after 9/11 that he was above the law. When his illegal wiretapping was exposed, Bush demanded that Congress legalise it after the fact.

The White House scared Congress into doing that last year with a one year Bill that shredded FISA protections. The opposition promised to fix it when they took power in this year. They have not restored the preservation of American's fundamental protections.

Those who favour the new law say companies should not be punished for

co-operating with the government's spying on Americans. That is Washington-speak for a cover-up. Bush does not want his outlaw activity to be exposed.

While contemplating the changes in the law members of Congress were already attempting to justify how they would vote in the affirmative.

If fear persisted among Americans generally, it was magnified in Congress which is raised to the level of cowardice. Bush's party was a rubber stamp and the opposition allowed itself to be intimidated.

Dissent against Bush and his war puts you on a list, an enemies' list that Bush considers by definition as anti-American and by extension unpatriotic.

You cannot be "patriotic" unless you support his war and the slaughter of tens of thousands of innocent civilians and in the process the death of 4,000 plus Americans soldiers and the maiming of 30,000 others who have missing limbs and other maladies.

America 2008 is divided into two ideological nations that despise one another, making the political system one of psychological warfare for the hearts and minds of the unsuspecting. Bush has not only introduced a climate of fear into American society, but also a climate of hatred.

Fear has given him the opportunity to convince Americans if they give up their basic rights when he deems it necessary, he will protect them from terrorists. The hatred he has engendered means its "them or us" and the 'us' group are his rich benefactors and the extreme right wing religious who are his base.

We cannot be shocked or surprised that he keeps introducing new laws to remove people's rights. His supporters are happy to let him spy on the evil opposition as he has portrayed them to his people.

Bush's first attempt to expand his powers was met with dissent, so he demonised those in Congress with the label they were soft on terrorism. They caved into him rather than be seen they were soft on terrorism.

NOW the Intelligence Authorisation Act expansion was put to Congress and after token dissent was put to a vote. Bending the knee to Bush's demands, the United States Senate approved and sent to the

White House a bill to overhaul bitterly disputed rules on secret government eavesdropping and shield telecommunications companies from lawsuits because they helped the Bush administration spy on Americans.

This activity had been carried out illegally by Bush, and he demanded that Congress make it legal. They did. American privacy protected by the Bill of Rights of the Constitution took a direct hit.

There was the usual debate between privacy advocacy groups and civil libertarians against the line that it was all necessary to prevent terrorist attacks.

Bush now has the right to order wiretaps without prior court approval against any American for any reason he deems necessary. This gives him a field day against dissidents and political opponents.

They cannot protest because that brings them under surveillance by federal law enforcement. If they go public about what happens, they violate the law and can be charged.

So he can know what anyone might be about, Bush and his agents can gain access to any records of any kind such as business, medical, banking, personal or whatever suits the spies. This is all directed against Americans not terrorists.

Phone records are sought so there is a list of every person an American talks to in another country. Foreign calls are considered subversive to Bush.

Target countries include the Middle East, Ireland and Britain. Bush does not trust any Muslim group or real Irish Republican groups because they are considered a threat to Britain and by treaty a threat to America.

Bush has adopted the "peace process" in Ireland as his model for turning an area in turmoil to one where divergent sides are co-operating. He uses Ian Paisley and Gerry Adams forming government under the British as an example how factions in Iraq can do the same and Afghanistan. It is in his interests to maintain the process.

As the election approaches, both major parties support the peace process. Its failure would enhance Republicanism and a just peace, leaving EIRE NUA the only way to go, because it is a solution, not an excuse for failure.

— Peadar Mac Fhínn

Comhbhróin

CONLON. Deepest sympathy is extended to the Conlon family Belfast on the death of their mother Sarah. From the members of the Cumann, Comhairle Ceantair and Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht Sinn Féin Poblachtaí.

DILLON. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Joe Dillon, Bundoran who died recently. From the Ard Chomhairle, Sinn Féin Poblachtaí.

DILLON. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Joe Dillon, Bundoran who died recently. From Adrian O'Haire, Mayo.

DILLON. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Joe Dillon, Bundoran who died recently. From the McNeelan/Gaughan/Stagg Cumann Republican Sinn Féin, Mayo.

DILLON. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Joe Dillon, Bundoran who died recently. From Pat Garvey, Cahersiveen.

DILLON. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Joe Dillon, Bundoran who died recently. From Republican Sinn Féin, Donegal.

DILLON. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Joe Dillon, Bundoran who died recently. From Joe & Mary O'Neill, Bundoran.

DILLON. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Joe Dillon, Bundoran who died recently. From the Maurice O'Neill Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Co Kerry.

DORAN. Deepest sympathy is extended to Tom Doran on the death of his sister who died on July 6. From Ruairi and Naomh White, Newry.

DORAN. Deepest sympathy is extended to Tom Doran on the death of his sister who died on July 6. From Comhairle Laighean, Republican Sinn Féin.

DORAN. Deepest sympathy is extended to Tom Doran on the death of his sister who died on July 6. From Frank Hanratty, Dundalk.

DORAN. Deepest sympathy is extended to Tom Doran on the death of his sister who died on July 6. From the Willie Stewart Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Dundalk.

I gCuimhne

DORAN. Deepest sympathy is extended to Tom Doran on the death of his sister who died on July 6. From Brendan and Frances Magill, Lurgan, Co Armagh.

DORAN. Deepest sympathy is extended to Tom Doran on the death of his sister who died on July 6. From the Republican POWs, Maghaberry jail.

DORAN. Deepest sympathy is extended to Tom Doran on the death of his sister who died on July 6. From the Thomas Harte Cumann, Lurgan, Co Armagh.

DORAN. Deepest sympathy is extended to Tom Doran on the death of his sister who died on July 6. From the Ard Chomhairle, Sinn Féin Poblachtaí.

KELLY. The Ard Chomhairle, Sinn Féin Poblachtaí extends deepest sympathy to Tomás Kelleher, Cork on the recent death of his wife Elma (sister of our late Vice-President Dáithí Ó Conaill). Go raibh suaimhne síoraí dá hanam.

KELLY. Deepest sympathy is extended to Tomás Kelleher, Cork on the recent death of his wife Elma (sister of the late Dáithí Ó Conaill). Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a hanam. From Cathleen Knowles McGuirk.

LYNCH. Deepest sympathy is extended to Seán Lynch Longford on the recent death of his sister Peggy. From Cathleen Knowles McGuirk.

McCABE. Deepest sympathy is extended to Fergus McCabe, Co Tyrone on the recent death of his wife. From the Republican POWs, Maghaberry jail.

McCABE. Deepest sympathy is extended to Fergus McCabe, Co Tyrone on the recent death of his wife. From the Thomas Harte Cumann, Lurgan, Co Armagh.

O'BRIEN. Deepest sympathy is extended to Kitty O'Brien, Cork on her recent passing. From the members of the Cumann, Comhairle Ceantair and Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht Sinn Féin Poblachtaí.

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I gCuimhne

July 13, 1981. Never forgotten by the Martin Hurson Memorial Committee, Longford-Westmeath.

HURSON — 27th Anniversary. In proud and loving memory of Vol Martin Hurson, Irish Republican Army who died on hunger strike in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh on July 13, 1981. Never forgotten by the James Daly Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Kiltbegan, Co Westmeath.

KAVANAGH — 68th Anniversary. In loving memory of John Joe Kavanagh and comrades of the 1st Cork Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who were shot by the special branch in Cork on August 3, 1940. Always remembered by the members and supporters of the Cumann, Comhairle Ceantair and Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht Sinn Féin Poblachtaí.

KILLIAN — 87th Anniversary. In loving memory of Luke Killian, 4th Battalion South Roscommon Brigade Óglaigh na hÉireann, who died on August 21, 1921. Always remembered by the members and supporters of Cumann, Comhairle Ceantair and Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht Sinn Féin Poblachtaí.

LYNCH — 27th Anniversary. In loving memory of Kevin Lynch, Dungiven, Co Derry who died on hunger strike in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh on August 2, 1981. Always remembered by the members and supporters of the Cumann, Comhairle Ceantair and Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht Sinn Féin Poblachtaí.

GAUGHRAN, GOSS. In proud and loving memory of Richard Goss and Liam Gaughran. From the Joe Conway Cumann, Newry.

GOSS — 67th Anniversary. In loving memory of Richard Goss of Dundalk, executed by Free State firing squad on August 9, 1941. Richard was attached to the North Leinster and South Ulster Division and commanded the Firing Party at Killow Cemetery for his comrade Barney Casey. Always remembered by the members and supporters of the Cumann, Comhairle Ceantair and Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht, Sinn Féin Poblachtaí.

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HURSON — 27th Anniversary. In proud and loving memory of Vol Martin Hurson, Irish Republican Army who died on hunger strike in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh on

Milltown, Co Galway. A member of the Flying Column he died on August 15, 1929 from wounds received in the attack on Headford barracks on April 9, 1923. Always remembered by the members and supporters of the Cumann, Comhairle Ceantair and Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht Sinn Féin Poblachtaí.

McELWEE — 27th Anniversary. In loving memory of Tom McElwee, Bellaghey, Co Derry who died in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh on August 8, 1981. Always remembered by the members and supporters of the Cumann, Comhairle Ceantair and Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht Sinn Féin Poblachtaí.

McKEOWN — 34th Anniversary. In loving memory of Volunter Patrick McKeown, South Down/South Armagh Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann killed in action on August 27, 1974. Always remembered by the members and supporters of the Cumann, Comhairle Ceantair and Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht Sinn Féin Poblachtaí.

McKEOWN/WATTERS — 34th and 24th Anniversaries. In proud and loving memory of our fallen comrades Volunteers Patrick McKeown and Brendan Watters, Óglaigh na hÉireann whose lives were cruelly taken by premature explosions while on active service. Remembered always by the Republican Movement, Newry and South Down.

McKEOWN/WATTERS — 34th and 24th Anniversaries. In proud and loving memory of Volunteers Patrick McKeown and Brendan Watters, Óglaigh na hÉireann whose anniversary occurs in August. You died to unite your country, not to copfferalism British rule. Never forgotten by the Joe Conway Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Newry.

McKEOWN/WATTERS — 34th and 24th Anniversaries. In proud and loving memory of our dear nephew Volunteer Brendan Watters and our dear friend Volunteer Patrick McKeown Óglaigh na hÉireann, whose anniversaries occur in August. Sadly missed by Paddy and Patricia, Newry, Co Down

O FLANAGAN — 66th Anniversary. In loving memory of Fr Michael O'Flanagan of Cloonfower, Castlereagh, Co Roscommon, who died in Dublin in August 1942. A patriot who served his country well. Always remembered by the members and supporters of the Cumann, Comhairle Ceantair and Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht Sinn Féin Poblachtaí.

O'DONOVAN ROSSA — 93rd Anniversary. In loving memory of Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa of Rosscarbery, Co Cork. Fenian leader, poet, journalist and orator. Died in exile and brought home for burial in Glasnevin Cemetery. Pádraig Pearse gave the oration at his funeral on August 1, 1915. Always remembered by the members and supporters of Cumann, Comhairle Ceantair and Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht Sinn Féin Poblachtaí.

STEELE — 38th Anniversary. In loving memory of Jimmy Steel, Belfast Brigade Óglaigh na hÉireann who died on August 9, 1970. Always remembered by the members and supporters of the Cumann, Comhairle Ceantair and Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht Sinn Féin Poblachtaí.

WATTERS — 24th Anniversary. In proud and loving memory of my dear son Volunteer Brendan Watters, Óglaigh na hÉireann whose anniversary occurs on August 8, 1984. You would never have sold out like so many have since your passing. Proudly remembered by your father Eddie.

WATTERS — 24th Anniversary. In proud and loving memory of our dear nephew Volunteer Brendan Watters, Óglaigh na hÉireann, whose anniversary occurs at this time. Fondly remembered by Dominic and Agnes.

WATTERS — 24th Anniversary. In proud and loving memory of our dear cousin Volunteer Brendan Watters, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who died in a premature explosion while on active service on August 8, 1984. Never forgotten and proudly remembered by Ollie and Ruairi, Newry, Co Down.

Beannachtaí
 HAPPY 90th birthday to Nelson Mandela. From the Rafter/Mellows Cumann, Sinn Féin Poblachtaí, Enniscorthy, Co Wexford.

Déjà vu... or how the north was won?

DURING 1966 Ian Paisley and a few buddies organised the murder of a barman in Belfast and orchestrated a row over a Tricolour flag in Divis Street which in some part lead to the escalation of the long war... this part of which is euphemistically called the 'Northern Troubles' by the reformist 'republicans' of today.

That story is in part true. However even without Paisley the war was inevitable. A state of gerrymandering of votes in Derry, widespread unemployment among nationalists, high death rates among nationalists, especially children, and a chronic lack of housing would have seen to that.

It is ironic that at this present juncture in Gerry Adams' British-inspired 'peace process' many of those causes are on the agenda again.

Up north statistics have been released which show that the housing situation is worse now than it was in 1969.

Up north 90,000 jobs have been lost since the Belfast Agreement was signed ... a 'peace dividend'?

South of the border the Lisbon Treaty vote is an example of how democracy in Ireland only exists when the 'majority' vote the 'right' way. After Lisbon people are aware of how they must guard the little freedom they have...

North of the border Gerry and Limited Intelligence don't even want such a vote to take

place... happy to fall in behind the decision by the British Parliament to ratify.

While all this has been emerging it is reported that Martin McGuinness on behalf of the Limited Intelligence Group has been off in Iraq representing the American colonial power there... not really a surprise since he has been representing British colonial interests here in Ireland for some time now...

A final little-known fact is that of the 175 Provo council candidates at the last elections only 12 had been in prison for revolutionary activity — of these six were elected. During the week one of the final survivors was asked to resign, to be replaced by a 'clean' candidate... a person

described as a 'professional' replaced him... how many of those six ex-prisoners continue to represent their constituencies?... well... I know... you must find out for yourself!

ONE thing is certain... as has been pointed out by one even more cynical than myself... those asked to resign are the lucky ones... some years ago the Provo leadership would simply have 'arranged' to have them assassinated by their comrades in British intelligence... if you don't believe me you have a 'mountain to climb'...!

Do any further examples of the victims of this 'political cul-de-sac' spring to mind...? The Letters Page of this paper

is waiting for your informed reply.

Of course, all of this intrigue is nothing new... Martin who went to Iraq was previously in the Basque country... Representatives of Limited Intelligence have been 'captured' in FARC-held areas of Columbia from which recently the 'French' Columbian Ms Betancourt was released by just such NGOs (intelligence-speak for 'friendly' spies...). Palestine is on the agenda and then... where will they be sent next... and on behalf of whom are they acting?

Will this activity help the new Nazis (National Socialists) of Europe accept the Irish No vote... will it help create employment and

housing in deprived areas of the North... and can it help to increase the health budget...?

Hegarty... Donaldson... Scappaticci... It is becoming ever clearer they were just 'small fry' sacrificed on the altar of international intrigue... The real picture of how the 'north was won', and who orchestrated that victory and why is becoming clearer by the day.

Oh, how a stink does rise when s**te is poked with a stick (a roughly translated quote from the Bible, the Torah and the Koran) which shows that God really is all-seeing... with the rest of us it just takes a little longer...

— Mac Cool

Comdt-General Tom Maguire commemorated in Mayo

MORE than 100 people attended the annual Comdt-General Tom Maguire commemoration in Cross, Co Mayo on July 5 last.

People from all over Ireland but mainly from Mayo and Galway marched behind a colour party to the grave in Cross Cemetery where

proceedings were chaired by Dan Hoban, Newport. The oration was delivered by Des Long, Ard Chomhairle member from Limerick. Following the

commemoration many copies of Dilseacht, the story of General Maguire written by Ruairi Ó Brádaigh were sold.

In the course of his oration Des Long said that the declaration by Martin McGuinness that Republicans must pursue a peaceful future was "a breathtaking example of Josef Goebbels-like Nazi propaganda"

He said that the political hypocrisy of men like McGuinness is an affront to all those who died in the ongoing struggle for Irish freedom.

"Not content with selling out and surrendering to the British Crown, McGuinness and his ilk are now doing the dirty work of the British forces of occupation and felon setting for the police.

"For Martin McGuinness to condemn Republicans is to be expected because he is now a Crown Minister. His party seem to forget however that being a Crown Minister is incompatible with being a true Republican. So his condemnation of Republicans must be seen in the light of a man who is now serving the



• The colour party and a section of the crowd at the Tom Maguire commemoration in Cross Cemetery on July 5.

interests of the British Crown in Ireland.

"The ideals of the 1916 Proclamation and the aims of the Easter Rising cannot be judged on what he terms community support. The people of Ireland have an age old right

to national self-determination and no matter how many former Republicans defect from the cause or are lured by the power and wealth of political office, the fact remains that the ideal of the All Ireland Republic is still alive.

"The ideal is alive thanks today to men like Tom Maguire who took principled stands and resisted the British - they will still be remembered when men like McGuinness will be relegated to the list of traitors to the All Ireland Republic."

REPUBLICAN GARDEN BUNDORAN CO DONEGAL
Special Appeal for Funds - to pay off our loan of €2,000

The committee and trustees of the Republican Garden in Bundoran, Co Donegal are pleased to announce that plans are being drawn up for the next stage of development at the garden.

It is proposed that six commemorative plaques will be erected in the coming year. To date, the garden has had visitors from all over Ireland, America, Europe and beyond, and the response has been positive.

In the weeks running up to Easter, the gates and railings, seats and flagpoles were all painted. New flags were erected and additional flowers and shrubs were added. This in keeping with the continued development and is only fitting considering the Republicans who are remembered there.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed in any way small or big and ask anyone who wishes to make further donations to forward them to any committee member, head office or Joe O'Neill directly.

NB. DVDs and Videos of the opening ceremony are available, price €20.



Don't sell at to Stormont or Leinster House ...

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Britain	Stg £25.00
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