## PRESS RELEASE

A ceremony to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the handover of the Treaty Forts in Cork Harbour to the Irish State will take place in Fort Mitchel, Spike Island on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2013. The event will be attended by An Taoiseach Enda Kenny who will make an address and unveil a commemorative plaque in the presence of the Mayor of the County of Cork, Cllr. Noel O Connor. A ceremonial Flag Raising and Gun Salute on Spike Island, performed by Members of the Defence Forces, will be preceded by Flag Raisings and Gun Salutes in Fort Davis and Camden Fort Meagher.

The ceremony will be followed by a Public Conversation facilitated by University College Cork, entitled "Historical perspectives on the Handover of the Treaty Forts". This Public Conversation will be moderated by Myles Dungan, Broadcaster and Presenter of The History Show, RTE.

The Programme for the Spike Island event is attached. Transport arrangements for Members of the Press wishing to attend the event are available from Lt. Cdr. Trish Butler on 087/6738331.