



The British have taken full control of all aspects of life in the occupied Northern 6 Counties of Ireland through their puppets in the British Stormont regime and through the mainstream media who with the aid of former Republicans now in the pay of their British masters have launched a non stop Barrage of Criminalisation of Republicans who refused to be part of the Provisional Movements surrender and to accept the partition of Ireland as legitimate and the 6 Counties as British.

These Provisional's are now fully behind the British occupation forces, mostly to protect the criminal empires they have build on the backs of brave men and women who sacrificed so much for the cause. If people take a good look around they will see paid members of the Provisional movement and the lifestyles they lead, the Provisional robbery squads are still very active and bring money into the coffers but as their struggle is over "Where is the money going, The people in the areas are now seeing the Provisional's as the treacherous mercenaries they are.

Since the Provisional's have taken their place at the British center of power that is Stormont in the occupied 6 counties apart from paid employees of Provisional Sinn Fein have you seen any change to the lives of the Nationalist people, The answer is NO, The Provisional's are protecting their empire and don't give a toss about the people accept when they stage manage a photo op. Say no to Provisional Shame Fein and the British attempts to criminalise the Irish Struggle and support the Republican Prisoners who now still lie in British Jails fighting the British presence.



**They are all British Puppets in Occupied Ireland,
Their shared goal, to destroy over 800 years
of Resistance to British Occupation
and criminalise Irish Republicanism**

In the words of Bobby Sands who died fighting the criminalisation of the Irish Struggle:

I am a political prisoner. I am a political prisoner because I am a casualty of a perennial war that is being fought between the oppressed Irish people and an alien, oppressive, unwanted regime that refuses to withdraw from our land.

I believe and stand by the God-given right of the Irish nation to sovereign independence, and the right of any Irishman or woman to assert this right in armed revolution. That is why I am incarcerated, naked, and tortured.

I am dying not just to attempt to end the barbarity of H-Block, or to gain the rightful recognition of a political prisoner, but primarily because what is lost in here is lost for the Republic and those wretched oppressed whom I am deeply proud to know as the "risen people."

Bobby Sands

IRPWA Protest on E3 Portlaoise Gaol.

It is with great regret that the IRPWA call upon the republican family to once again support POW's in their protest against the blatant injustice of the Prison system in Ireland.

The IRPWA have been tasked by the republican POW's to state how and why this protest has occurred and to clarify the facts of this protest.

A protest is currently underway on E3 Portlaoise due to the suspension of the temporary release (TR) and compassionate release (CR) programmes. It is the belief of the POW's that this has happened due to IRA actions in the occupied six counties, indeed the Irish Prison Service have indicated this much and one of their spokespersons has even asked the OC of E3 if he 'Believed in the border'!

The situation at present is as follows: Two republican prisoners (Vinny Kelly and Justin McCarthy) are currently involved in a no wash/dirty protest, NOT on the blanket as some have suggested. At intervals republican POW's will join this protest until the whole landing is on protest, at this stage the protest will escalate.

The Irish Prison Service representative and the Governor have asked the Officer Commanding to reconsider the POW's stance pending talks with the Free State government, the only concession the POW's have been willing to make at this stage is to delay further men joining the protest for a short period to give them a chance to resolve the issue. It is the understanding of the IRPWA that this window of opportunity is fast closing and we would urge all those involved in the Free State government and the Irish Prison Service to make strenuous efforts to resolve this intolerable situation as soon as possible.



Statement from Republican Prisoners E3 to the Irish Prison Service.

The Irish Prison Service (IPS) states in its mission statement that one of its goals is to try to maintain relationships between prisoners and their families. This is one of the reasons for its Temporary Release (TR) programme. When a prisoner is released his chances of settling back into normal family relationships are improved. The programme was also to help prisoners to seek housing accommodation and social welfare payments and help further their education upon release.

The process for Political prisoners has always been compassionate on TR. We have always obeyed the rules set out surrounding releases of this nature. We have always maintained the integrity of being Republican prisoners by returning on time and there has never been an issue with this. We recognise the importance of these releases on the grounds that if we are to maintain family ties important events must be attended. In the past the IPS has allowed Republican prisoners to attend funerals of family and loved ones. It has also allowed for important religious events such as Christenings, First Holy Communions and Confirmations.

It has recently stopped all of this without any explanation being given. Examples of this include denials of applications to attend children's First Holy Communions and funerals of close relatives. One application was submitted when a Republican prisoner's only aunt passed away and the application came back denied after the funeral had already taken place. Another application was denied for a prisoner to attend the funeral of his twin's mother and denied again for the twins Confirmation eight months after the death of their mother.

We the Republican prisoners of E3 landing will not tolerate this blatant discrimination and unjust treatment. It is only following recent events in the six counties that this unfair treatment of our prisoners has intensified. We believe it is directly related and until the IPS and the Governor of Portlaoise Prison are willing to stop this harassment and mistreatment of all Republican prisoners we will commence protest. We will not be used as leverage for the British and Free State governments.

WE WILL NOT BE BROKEN.



32 County Sovereignty Movement
In Defence Of The Nation



E3 Prison Protest to escalate.

The current protest by republican POW's on E3 landing in Portlaoise gaol is set to escalate following a ruling that yet another prisoner has been denied temporary release by the Free State department of justice. Last week two republicans prisoners went on a no wash/dirty protest over the politically motivated denial of temporary release, more prisoners were set to follow but an agreement was made between the Irish Prison Service and the Officer Commanding republican POW's to call a temporary halt to the escalation of the protest in order to see what moves could be undertaken to end the action by the prisoners.

Earlier today the OC of the prisoners informed the IRPWA that the Irish Prison Service had come back empty handed and another prisoner was denied temporary release. It seems that the Department of Justice and the Irish Prison Service are committed to the policy of confronting republican prisoners.

We have been informed that all republican prisoners on E3 will join the protest on Monday. The POW's had earlier stated that they would stagger men in pairs until the whole landing was on protest, the OC has informed the IRPWA that this is no longer the case as the prisoners now see no merit in this course of action.

The IRPWA call on the entire republican family to support the men in their protest and to support the IRPWA in a series of protests they are now planning, we thank those republican comrades who have already come out in support of the POW's.

The Department of Justice and the Irish Prison Service are making a grave mistake if they think they can call these man's bluff and they are guilty of a gross underestimation of the Óglaigh na hÉireann POW's resolve.



REPUBLICAN PRISONERS TO BE PUNISHED OVER EASTER LILIES

IT was reported on April 14 that Republican prisoners in Maghaberry jail were to be punished for wearing Easter lilies in communal areas over Easter weekend.

Out of 28 prisoners being held in Roe House, the 'separated wing' of the Co Antrim prison near Lisburn, 19 are to be punished for wearing the symbol outside their cells.

It is believed that other Republican prisoners also wore lilies but without leaving their cells.

Poppies and shamrocks are permitted within the prison but Easter lilies are banned because they are classed as 'conflict emblems'.

Earlier this month Belfast man Christopher Donaldson, who is serving a 12-year sentence, failed to secure a judicial review to challenge the ban on the grounds that it interfered with his already restricted scope for political expression.

A judge upheld an earlier ruling in 2006 after a case taken by the north Belfast man Terence McCafferty.

In December last year Terence McCafferty was returned to prison after his parole licence was revoked by the British Six-County secretary of state.

He is one of the prisoners now facing punishment for wearing a lily.

All the 19 prisoners face loss of privileges and time in isolation in the prison's punishment cells.



An Nuacht

Attempts to recruit Republicans as informers

A SPOKESPERSON for the Thomas Harte Cumann, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, Lurgan, north Armagh, called on all Republicans on March 2 to be on their guard after approaches by members of Special Branch were made to recruit informants in the Lurgan/Craigavon area.

A member of Sinn Féin Poblachtach in north Armagh said that he had been approached by two Special Branchmen both inside and outside the RUC barracks as he signed for his bail. "One of them asked if I was willing to help do something about the awful people in my area. They stated that these people could be family members, friends and neighbours, to which I made no reply. They offered to give me a contact number, asked how much money I required and when could we meet again. At that point I walked away without answering."

Similarly on March 3, 2009 an attempt was made by MI5 to recruit a member of the Francis Hughes Cumann of Republican Sinn Féin, Glasgow as an informer. The PRO of the Cumann said that the man "received a phone call on March 2 from the local police station asking him to come down to the police station about an 'incident regarding his car' so that they could eliminate him from their enquiries.

"When he arrived at the police station today he was led to a room where a man introduced himself as an MI5 agent. The agent then proceeded to question him about his involvement in the Republican Movement and about any knowledge he had on Continuity IRA activity. "The agent made it clear to him that several members of the Francis Hughes Cumann of Republican Sinn Féin have been under surveillance by the authorities, and that they had his mobile number.

"They asked the Cumann member if he would help them with gathering information on various people they had written down on a list. The Cumann member told them he was not prepared to give them any information regarding anyone. They then said they would contact him in the near future, before allowing him to leave the station.

"We urge all Republicans to be wary of any other such attempts by British 'security forces' and report them to the Republican Movement immediately. Acts such as this only serve to strengthen our resolve." These are dangerous times for Republicans facing the power of the British state backed up by former comrades turned policemen. Indeed given the level of co-operation between the Gardaí in the 26 Counties and the RUC/PSNI in the Occupied Six, Republicans in Ireland are facing increasing harassment and intimidation. With the announcement from Hugh Orde, chief constable in the Occupied Six Counties that MI5 requested the return of the Special Reconnaissance from Afghanistan and Iraq to police the Occupied Six Counties, further pressure will be brought to bear on those opposed to the current Provo/British/Free State/US strategy.



'Police asked me to become informer on holiday' - claim

Published Date: 24 April 2009

A Derry man claims he was approached by the PSNI to become an informer while on holiday in Spain. The man, who did not wish to be named, said he was on holiday in Salou last week when two men he claimed were PSNI detectives asked him to supply information about a prominent republican from the city.

The Derry man said that, while he is a close friend of the republican, he himself is not involved in any kind of politics himself and has never been a member of any republican organisation.

He told the 'Journal': "There was a mishap which meant we had to rebook the flights at Dublin airport and go to Barcelona instead. When I got to Barcelona, three Spanish policemen came over to me and said they wanted to speak to me and took me into a small room where two PSNI CID men were sitting.

"They told me to sit down and I said I didn't want anything to do with them. They mentioned a well known Derry republican who I was at school with and have remained friends with ever since and started asking questions about him. One of them handed me a phone number written on a small piece of paper and I ripped it up. I asked if I could leave and one of the CID men told me they would make my life a misery and that it was my friend's fault," he claimed.

Followed

The man said that, when he left the airport, a Spanish police car followed him to his hotel. "The next day at the apartments, I saw Spanish police in the reception area and when I went back to my room after lunch there was an envelope on the bed with my name on it and a phone number inside. I asked at reception where it had come from and was told that the police asked the maid to leave it in," he said. He also said he was detained for a short time by Garda detectives at Dublin Airport on his return to Ireland.

When the 'Journal' contacted the telephone number given to the man, it went straight to an answering service.

A spokesperson for the PSNI said: "We do not comment on intelligence matters and no inference should be drawn from this. However, in line with all other police services across the UK, the PSNI's policy in relation to the use of Covert Human Intelligence Sources is strictly governed by the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 and is fully compliant with Human Rights legislation."

RELIANCE ON INFORMERS IS NOT NEW

THE use of informer evidence to secure convictions is not a new tactic in the judicial history of the Six Counties.

An increase in Republican activity during the 1981 Republican hunger strikes had created an increasingly unstable political climate.

As part of the increased push to break the IRA, the supergrass trial was born.

Evidence provided by former members in return for immunity from prosecution led to some of the most prominent court cases in legal history. The mass trial heard by a judge sitting without a jury was an effective way of taking large numbers of Republican activists out of circulation without forensic or corroborating witness evidence.

Between 1981 and 1985 supergrass trials became a common occurrence in Belfast's Crumlin Road Courthouse. In 1982 alone evidence given by 25 loyalist and 'republican' informers was used to jail more than 600 suspects.

Among the most famous cases was that of Christopher Black, a north Belfast IRA man turned Queen's evidence.

Throughout the 120-day trial, senior Crown Court judge Sir Basil Kelly wore a bullet-proof vest and was flanked by two RUC men armed with automatic rifles.

When he travelled to London to prepare his verdict the SAS gave him 24-hour protection.

On August 5 1983, 22 alleged members of the Provisional IRA were sentenced to a total of more than 4,000 years in prison based solely on Black's testimonies.

The former IRA man was placed in the witness protection programme and has never been seen or heard of since.

Know Your Rights

SECTION 44 - TERRORISM ACT 2000 (Six Counties Only) – WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

Section 44 of the Terrorism Act 2000 allows the police to stop and search anyone in a specific area.

Before Section 44, the police could only stop and search individuals if they had 'reasonable grounds' and certain criteria were met. That is no longer necessary, and we have seen Section 44 powers used against anti-war, anti-weapons and anti-capitalist protestors.

The power to stop and search under anti-terrorism powers should only be used when there is evidence of a specific terrorist threat. It should not be simply an addition to the day to day powers of officers policing protests.

YOUR RIGHTS UNDER SECTION 44:

The police can only give you a pat down, remove outer clothes (eg jacket, hat), search your bags and have you empty your pockets

You do not have to give your name and address

You do not have to explain why you are there

You are not allowed to flee the search, but you are not required to be actively compliant. You are allowed to 'go limp' as passive resistance during the search if you wish not to comply

There is no permission to collect DNA data during the search

You do not have to comply with any attempt to photograph or record you

Women cannot be touched by male police during these searches

Make notes about the officers searching you - name, number and police force

Note the time and the events preceding the search

Note the specific wording used by the police to explain their authority to search you

Ask the police for the reason that they are searching you. Specifically, are they searching for terrorists or are they simply trying to deter, delay or inconvenience you?

** IMPORTANT - Afterwards:

Hold on to the Search Record or any other documentation the police give you (or note if you don't receive one)

Make brief notes about the search while you still remember all the details

Do not write anything down on the day that you don't want disclosed to the police. Police may search you again and be able to read anything that you have written down

Please complete and submit Liberty's search monitoring form

Consider making a complaint to the Independent Police Complaints Commission

Write to Lord Carlile, the independent monitor of the implementation of anti-terrorism legislation (Lord Carlile of Berriew QC, The House of Lords London SW1A 0AA)

Consider pressing charges if the officers used unnecessary force during the search

CONTACT A SOLICITOR AND HAVE THE EVENT LOGGED

WE WOULD ALSO ENCOURAGE ALL PERSONS AND GROUPS TO REPORT INCIDENTS TO THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS

:

Committee on the Administration of Justice (C.A.J.)

45/47 Donegall Street

Belfast BT1 2BR

Northern Ireland

Tel: +44-(0)28-90961122

Fax: +44-(0)28-90246706

e-mail: info@caj.org.uk

The Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission

Temple Court

39 North St, Belfast, BT1 1NA

028 90243987

OFFENCES AGAINST THE STATE ACT 1939 (SECTION 30):

Arrest and detention of suspected persons – Legal Text. Section 30.—

(1) A member of the *Gárda Síochána* (if he is not in uniform on production of 'his identification card if demanded) may without warrant stop, search, interrogate, and arrest any person, or do any one or more of those things in respect of any person, whom he suspects of having committed or being about to commit or being or having been concerned in the commission of an offence under any section or sub-section of this Act or an offence which is for the time being a scheduled offence for the purposes of Part V of this Act or whom he suspects of carrying a document relating to the commission or intended commission of any such offence as aforesaid or whom he suspects of being in possession of information relating to the commission or intended commission of any such offence as aforesaid.

(2) Any member of the *Gárda Síochána* (if he is not in uniform on production of his identification card if demanded) may, for the purpose of the exercise of any of the powers conferred by the next preceding sub-section of this section, stop and search (if necessary by force) any vehicle or any ship, boat, or other vessel which he suspects to contain a person whom he is empowered by the said sub-section to arrest without warrant.

(3) Whenever a person is arrested under this section, he may be removed to and detained in custody in a *Gárda Síochána* station, a prison, or some other convenient place for a period of twenty-four hours from the time of his arrest and may, if an officer of the *Gárda Síochána* not below the rank of Chief Superintendent so directs, be so detained for a further period of twenty-four hours.

(4) A person detained under the next preceding sub-section of this section may, at any time during such detention, be charged before the District Court or a Special Criminal Court with an offence or be released by direction of an officer of the *Gárda Síochána*, and shall, if not so charged or released, be released at the expiration of the detention authorised by the said sub-section.

(5) A member of the *Gárda Síochána* may do all or any of the following things in respect of a person detained under this section, that is to say:— (a) demand of such person his name and address; (b) search such person or cause him to be searched; (c) photograph such person or cause him to be photographed; (d) take, or cause to be taken, the fingerprints of such person.

(6) Every person who shall obstruct or impede the exercise in respect of him by a member of the *Gárda Síochána* of any of the powers conferred by the next preceding sub-section of this section or shall fail or refuse to give his name and address or shall give, in response to any such demand, a name or an address which is false or misleading shall be guilty of an offence under this section and shall be liable on summary conviction thereof to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months.

Key Information- Your Rights:

An arrest is the apprehending or restraining of a person to bring that person to a District Court within a reasonable time. You cannot be arrested for the purpose of gathering evidence or 'helping the Gardai with their enquiries'. You must be told why you are being arrested, for example, because you are suspected of having stolen goods. However, if you are arrested under Section 30 of the Offences Against the State Act 1939, you do not have to be told exactly why you are being arrested, you need only be told that you are being arrested under that section.

If you go voluntarily to a Garda station to assist the Gardai with their enquiries and are subjected to questioning or interrogation, you must be told and it must be clear to you that you are free to leave the station at any time unless you are arrested.

Often an arrest is on foot of a warrant. However, a warrant is not always necessary.

Rules

Arrest without a warrant

You may be arrested without a warrant when a Garda, with reasonable cause, suspects that an arrestable offence has been committed and that you are guilty of the offence. An 'arrestable offence' is an offence for which the penalty, for a person who has no previous convictions, can be 5 years imprisonment or more. Specific laws give the Gardaí specific powers of arrest as well. For example, a Garda can arrest you under the Road Traffic Acts without a warrant if he/she suspects that you are committing an offence in relation to drinking and driving.

Entry and search of a premises to carry out an arrest.

If a Garda has obtained a warrant to arrest you, he or she may enter and search any premises where he or she suspects you to be. He or she must identify himself or herself, demand entry and state why he or she is there. If the Garda is refused entry, he or she may break open outer and inner doors to get in.

When a Garda does not have an arrest warrant, he or she may enter and search any premises where he or she, with reasonable cause, suspects you to be. However, if the premises is a dwelling and he or she does not have the permission of the person who lives in the dwelling, the Garda cannot enter unless :

- You live at the dwelling
- The Garda has seen you inside or entering the dwelling or
- The Garda, with reasonable cause, suspects that before he or she can get an arrest warrant, you will either abscond or you will obstruct the course of justice or
- He or she, with reasonable cause, suspects that before he or she can get an arrest warrant, you will commit an offence

Manner of Arrest

Force can only be used to make an arrest if it is absolutely necessary.

When a Garda arrests you, he or she will actually touch your body or otherwise restrain your liberty. If you are arrested on a criminal charge, you must be informed at the time you are arrested of the charge unless this is very clear (for example, if you are arrested while committing an offence).

After you have been charged, the Garda must caution you with the following words: "You are not obliged to say anything unless you wish to do so, but whatever you say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence."

When you are brought to the Garda station, details of the offence must be set out in a 'charge sheet'. A copy of the details must be given to you. The Garda will formally charge you by reading each charge over to you and you will be cautioned after each charge is read out. The Garda must keep a note of any reply you make.

Search of the Arrested Person A Garda may search you after your arrest and take • articles that he or she believes to be connected with, or evidence relating to, the offence charged or • articles that he or she believes to be connected with, or evidence relating to, some other offence or • articles that you might use to injure another person or property or to escape

Procedure after Arrest Once you are charged and cautioned, you must be • released on bail by the member in charge of the station (a form of bail known as station bail) • transferred from the Garda Station to the District Court as soon as reasonably possible. If you are arrested after 5 p.m. you may be brought to the District Court as early as possible before noon the following day. At the District Court, you may be released on bail or remanded in custody by the judge.

Only in certain specific circumstances may you be detained in a Garda Station for a length of time before being brought to court. Under the Criminal Justice Act 1984, you may be detained in a Garda Station for up to 12 hours. The offence of which you are suspected must be one that may be punished by imprisonment for at least 5 years. The 12 hour period runs from the time of your arrest but you may agree to a rest period between 12 midnight and 8 am and this will not be included in the 12 hours.

In general, if you are arrested you do not have to say anything. However, if you are detained under the Criminal Justice Act 1984 you must tell the Gardai your name and address. The Gardai have no general power to take fingerprints or make forensic tests. They may do these things if you consent or if they have specific power under specific laws, for example, under the Offences Against the State Act or the Criminal Law (Jurisdiction) Act of 1976. Under Section 30 of the Offences Against the State Act you may be detained for up to 48 hours before being brought to Court.

If you are detained you must be informed of your right to consult a solicitor.

Immunity from Arrest

- Ambassadors and their suites and other diplomatic agents who represent foreign governments while living in this country cannot be arrested.
- Members of each House of the Oireachtas cannot be arrested while going to, returning from and within the confines of either House of the Oireachtas, except in the case of treason, felony or breach of peace.

ALWAYS CONTACT YOUR SOLICITOR

Log all stops, searches, threats or other harassment. Additionally, notify human rights groups and agencies such as the; Irish Human Rights Commission (IHRC)

Postal Address

Fourth Floor,
Jervis House,
Jervis Street,
Dublin 1

Telephone + 353 (0)1 858 9601

Fax + 353 (0)1 858 9609

Email info@ihrc.ie

Website www.ihrc.ie



PSNI harass activists distributing Proclamations on anniversary of Rising 15/04/09

On the Anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising éirígí activists were followed, harassed, and verbally abused by heavily-armed PSNI whilst distributing copies of the 1916 Proclamation in the Enniskillen area. éirígí chairperson in Fermanagh, Kevin Martin said the harassment was part of a wider trend of attempted intimidation of éirígí activists and supporters in the area by the PSNI of late.

He said “éirígí members in Fermanagh laid wreaths, attended commemorations and distributed proclamations this year to mark the anniversary of the Easter Rising. However, the PSNI attempted to undermine the anniversary by harassing republicans throughout the period.”

“The most sinister of these developments happened on Monday (April 13). As part of our Reclaim the Republic campaign we were distributing copies of the Proclamation in the Hillview area of Enniskillen, when a heavily armed carload approached me and others.

“Four paramilitary police armed with assault rifles, and more, exited the vehicle and surrounded a number of our activists. They then attempted to interrogate us on the street, asking questions about our activities, éirígí’s origin, and peculiarly, what we thought about Sinn Féin. When we refused to answer any questions, they demanded to search us, which we again refused to comply with.”

Kevin continued: “One particularly aggressive armed PSNI member proceeded to threaten us with arrest and detention, citing that he had a right to stop and search our activists under the prevention of terrorism act. We again refused, much to their frustration, at which point all lines of questioning and attempts at searching us halted, only to be replaced with a general tirade of verbal sectarian abuse and threats, before they drove off.

“Whilst we in éirígí expect nothing less from these thugs in uniform, there are many in our community who are reporting regularly that they have been harassed and subjected to aggressive stop and search tactics by the PSNI, in what is a general policy of harassment of the republican community in the area.

“We in éirígí will not bow to these tactics, and will continue to build and spread our message throughout the area. We are also documenting all such cases with a view to raising these breaches of human rights with the relevant agencies. As was proven yesterday, these thugs can be faced down and should be given no legitimacy whatsoever. If anyone is experiencing such abuse they should document and forward the information to éirígí.”



Wolfe Tone Commemoration 2009.

Republican Sinn Féin will be holding its annual Wolfe Tone Commemoration on Sunday 14 June 2009 in Bodenstown at 2.00pm .

All Welcome !

Annual Wolfe Tone Commemoration , Sallins , Co. Kildare , 2.00pm , Sunday June 14 , 2009.

The annual Wolfe Tone Commemoration will be held this year on Sunday 14 June (2009). The Dublin bus will leave from Aston Quay (ex-McBirneys/Virgin Megastore) at 12.45pm , and will be returning from Sallins to Dublin at 6.00pm . Price per seat €10, or nearest donation.



Brendan Hughes

The following is a transcript of remarks made by Brendan 'Darkie' Hughes to a public meeting in 2001 in which he reflects on a lifetime of struggle and the current political situation in Ireland.

After that last speaker I was prepared to walk out, I don't know how I am going to beat that. Listen, we are a bit stuck for time and I could ramble on here for a long time on the jail situation but there is a few important points I want to make.

Briefly I will give a bit of history on where I came from. I was born into a working class background, a socialist background, and became a member of the IRA, and went to jail, escaped from jail, went back into jail, became part of the prison protest. In 1972 there was a truce and the IRA asked for the British to give a declaration of intent to withdraw and that would end the war. Two weeks later it was obvious the British were not coming across with that. The end of 1974/75 another ceasefire was called, this time it was a long drawn out ceasefire and the intentions of the British at that time was to get the IRA involved in a long drawn out ceasefire, and an attempt to normalise the situation, criminalise the situation and to pacify the situation. That basically meant to get the British troops off the street, the RUC back onto the street and put republicans in jail. That they done.

In 1974/75/76 I was in the cages of Long Kesh and soon became O/C in the cages of Long Kesh. In 1978 it was decided that I was no longer a political prisoner and on a morning in January 1978 I was negotiating with the governor and he called me "Mr Hughes" or "O/C". That afternoon I was taken out, brought to the H Blocks of Long Kesh, and stripped, given a blanket and thrown into a cell. That was part of the criminalisation policy that the British government employed at that time. The intention was to turn me into a nice law abiding criminal.

At that time the British believed that they had the struggle beaten - they refused to give a declaration of intent to withdraw, they refused to agree for the Irish people to come to their own conclusions of what sort of democracy, what sort of social democracy, we wanted here. The intentions from the war when I first got involved was to bring about a 32 county democratic socialist Republic.



By 1980 we had been on the blanket protest for over four years and the brutality that took place there is just so undecipherable. I mean we were locked in the cells 24 hours a day, we were starved, we were beaten, we went through the white light torture treatment at night - when the lights was left on. In the winter the heating was turned off, in the summer the heating was turned on. Men were taken out and beaten. They introduced the wing shifts, where a whole series, thirty men at a time - not all at one time, one man at a time, but thirty men on a wing - were taken out individually, beaten and thrown into another wing.

By 1980 we decided on the Hunger Strike, because we needed to end this protest, we needed to bring this to an end. There was so much suffering and so much agony. On the outside what was taking place was that the Republican Movement had rebuilt. This time more politically aware than they were before 1975. On the streets there were mass protest on behalf - there wasn't mass protests actually - not until the Hunger Strikes. The common phrase in the H Blocks at that time was "Does anyone care?", "Does anyone know?". The first Hunger Strike was called and it wasn't long before the world knew, and we called on the world for support, to support our five demands.

The Hunger Strike which I was involved in, myself and Bobby decided - Bobby Sands - we decided to call the Hunger Strike. Tommy was on the Hunger Strike with me. We negotiated what we believed was the settlement of that Hunger Strike.

I don't know if anyone here has any experience of a hunger strike, but it is an agonising, torturous, smelly way to die. I remember the first thought I had the first day I was on hunger strike. I was lying in a shitty cell, on a piece of mattress, on a wet floor, cold, hungry - and I'd been that way for over three years. But the first day I went on hunger strike was the day I looked back at yesterday and thought 'well, that wasn't too bad'. I mean this is the day you start to die. Yesterday I could have lived for a year, two years, three years, I could have stuck it for that length of time. But today is

hell, today is the day you die.

When you go on hunger strike, if you have any excess fat on your body, your body will eat it. Once the excess fat is gone, and believe me there wasn't too many fat men in the H Blocks of Long Kesh, it then eats at the muscle and your muscles starts to go. Once all the muscle is gone all that is left is flesh and bone. The body is a fantastic machine, it will keep itself alive. So the next thing to go is the brain. Your body starts to live off your brain, it takes the glucose from your brain. Once that starts that's the critical period. That's when your eyesight starts to go, your smell, all your senses start to go. Then you go into a coma. Then you die. Agonisingly, an agonising death. And an agonising death for a family member, a parent, a mother, to sit and have to watch this. That is the reality of hunger strike.

We believed that we had settled the first Hunger Strike. It turned out that we were betrayed in that settlement and that led to the second Hunger Strike. Now the second Hunger Strike, as you all know, cost ten men their lives. Ten men died on it. The Hunger Strikes ended. Now I don't want to get in too deeply into that, just keep it brief because I think the next few points are the most important points that I am trying to make.

The Hunger Strike is so important to the struggle. It was part of the struggle, part of our struggle to bring about a 32 county democratic socialist Republic. But to be honest with you the day I called the Hunger Strike was the day to end the prison protest. That was the main decision, to end the prison protest, to end the struggle in the jails. The struggle then went on until the next major development, which was the Hume-Adams document. Now I don't know if any of you have read the Hume-Adams document, but I certainly haven't read it and I've searched for it, looked for it, but I've never come across the Hume-Adams document. If anyone has it would they please give me it, because I have never come across it. The Hume-Adams document went on to the thing we now call the Good Friday Agreement.

Now I went to jail, spent the last thirty years of my life, trying to bring down an unjust, undemocratic, immoral, corrupt, sectarian statelet set up by the British. The Good Friday Agreement has brought about that same state, the thirty year struggle did not end the injustice of that statelet. We still have the RUC. The slogans were on the walls 'Disband the RUC', then it became 'Reform the RUC'. Some time ago they brought a discredited conservative politician here to sort out the policing problem - the 'policing problem'. The new in word, by the way, with the RUC now is 'transist', they are 'transisting'. So the next slogan goes on the wall is that the "RUC are transisting", into what I don't know, but they are no longer to be disbanded.



Stormont is still there, but it is a Stormont with Republicans in it. Stormont has not changed. The whole apparatus of the Stormont regime is still there, it is still controlled by the British, it is still unjust, it is still cruel. The RUC is still there. The whole civil service are still there, the same civil servants who controlled the shoot-to-kill policy, who controlled the plastic bullets, who controlled the H Blocks of Long Kesh, who took responsibility for ten men dying. It is all still there. But, saviour of saviours, we have two Sinn Féin ministers there, who happen to close hospitals.

The sad thing about all this is that the British set this up. This is the British answer to the Republican problem in Ireland. It's a British solution, it's not an Irish solution. It's not a solution that we have control of. There are people up there and the British ministers are handing money out. But the whole thing is built on sand. First of all the statelet still exists. Secondly, whenever Tony Blair, or whoever comes after him, decides - or the Unionists decide - to walk out, the Good Friday Agreement is finished. It's all finished. So the whole thing is built on sand. The unfortunate thing about it is that there are people who actually believe that we have a settlement, that we have a settlement to our problem, to your problem, to my problem, to everybody's problem in Ireland. And I don't believe that.

I was in London a few weeks ago. I was asked over by a group of people, the Kurds and the Turkish people, who are in Turkish prisons. Why I was there was they asked Sinn Féin for support. Thirty two people have died, twelve of them hunger strikers in Turkish jails. Sinn Féin's response to these people was "we do not get involved in the internal politics of another country". God help us all. That's what the response was "we do not get involved in the internal politics of another country". To me that is a total betrayal. [applause].

On the Falls Road, the heart of the resistance struggle in Ireland to bring about a socialist republic, we have employers who are paying women #2 an hour, who are paying men #20 a day for working on building sites in all types of weather with no security that they will have a job tomorrow morning. I know men who went in to work for a day and because the people did not like their face they were sacked. They were sacked because the person who was employing did not like their face. These same people are employing a lot of ex-prisoners, a lot of these people done 10, 15, 20 years in prison. These same people, these rogue builders, are now millionaires who own five bars on the Falls Road. These are the same people that built the new Sinn Féin office, with slave labour. The new Sinn Féin office on the Falls Road, a real luxury building; and the local paper, the Andytown News, these same people built that. These are the people who are paying men #20 a day and who are abusing them and sacking them and it's so totally unbelievable and so disgusting, but that's what they are getting away with.

Now it took me a long time within the Republican Movement, if you are in a movement for over thirty years you have a certain amount of loyalty to it. When the Good Friday Agreement was agreed upon I had my doubts, I had my reservations. But I stayed there for a long time, I stayed there for far too long while people like Tommy McKearney and Anthony McIntyre were sticking their necks out. Until I began to see and open my eyes and see what was going on. The best friend I had all my life was Gerry Adams. This isn't anything personal against Gerry Adams, although I have been accused of it, of mounting a personal campaign against Gerry Adams. I am not. Gerry Adams happens to wear an Armani suit, I attack everybody in Sinn Féin who wears Armani suits, because the working class doesn't have them. [applause]

So I joined the Republican Writers Group and began to write. I began to write about the excesses of these rogue builders. I began to write about a old Republican, who I knew all my life, who the IRA and Sinn Féin evicted out of his house, because the British government was offering #50,000 of a grant to Sinn Féin open it as drop-in centre for prisoners. I was an ex-prisoner and I'd have been saying to them "Fuck your fifty thousand, the Republican is more important to me than fifty thousand pounds". [applause]

So really what we are doing, and it wasn't easy for people like us to do this. I mean we have lost so-called friends. I wouldn't say we have lost comrades, because you don't lose a comrade unless he dies, or she dies. We have lost so-called friends because of our actions and, as I say, it is not easy to do what we do. Myself and Anthony travelled all over, we went to meet the families of the hunger strikers from London. We were arrested on the way in and probably will be arrested again. They won't let us in to America. What we are trying to do is cause a debate. We have an alternative to the Good Friday Agreement, we have an alternative to the British settlement in Ireland. We have it, the people have it. It has to be a socialist alternative, it has to be a republican alternative. That's what we are trying to do. We are trying to start a great debate, we have one organised in Belfast next week and I hope to God it is as well attended as this, I somehow doubt it, but I hope it is.

To end I want to thank you all for coming and I really appreciate you listening to me. Thanks very much.



Brendan Hughes (An Dorcha) 1949– 2008



Strabane RSYM

Just want to let people now that there is a Strabane RSYM email address now (strabanersym@hotmail.co.uk) and if you know any-one that is interested in joining friends or family have them email and should be in touch asap. Posters are getting sent up to us aswell and should be up and around soon Thanks. Click here for

[New blog site for the RSYM](#)



1917-1981 : Commemorating the 22 Hunger-Strikers .

Between the years 1917 and 1981 , 22 Irish men died on hunger strike in their fight for Irish Freedom . Their sacrifice will be commemorated in Dublin on Saturday May 9th 2009 on the isle facing the GPO , between the hours of 12 noon and 2pm .

On Saturday May 9th 2009, in Dublin , the Republican Movement will hold a Memorial Rally for the 22 Irish men that died on hunger-strike between 1917 and 1981 :

Thomas Ashe, Kerry, 5 days, 25 September 1917 (force fed by tube , died as a result).

Terrence McSweeney, Cork, 74 days, 25 October 1920.

Michael Fitzgerald, Cork, 67 days, 17 October 1920.

Joseph Murphy, Cork, 76 days , 25 October 1920 .

Joe Witty, Wexford , 2 September 1923.

Dennis Barry, Cork, 34 days, 20 November 1923.

Andy O Sullivan , Cork, 40 days, 22 November 1923.

Tony Darcy, Galway, 52 days, 16 April 1940.

Jack 'Sean' McNeela, Mayo, 55 days, 19 April 1940.

Sean McCaughey, Tyrone ,22 days, 11 May 1946 (hunger and thirst Strike).

Michael Gaughan, Mayo , 64 days, 3 June 1974.

Frank Stagg, Mayo , 62 days, 12 February 1976.

Bobby Sands, Belfast , 66 days, 5 May 1981.

Frank Hughes , Bellaghy (Derry) , 59 days, 12 May 1981.

Raymond McCreesh , South Armagh , 61 days, 21 May 1981.

Patsy O Hara , Derry , 61 days, 21 May 1981.

Joe McDonnell , Belfast , 61 days, 8 July 1981.

Martin Hurson , Tyrone , 46 days, 13 July 1981.

Kevin Lynch, Dungiven (Derry) ,71 days, 1 August 1981.

Kieran Doherty , Belfast , 73 days, 2 August 1981.

Tom McIlwee , Bellaghy (Derry) , 62 days, 8 August 1981.

Micky Devine , Derry , 60 days, 20 August 1981.

As stated above , the Rally will be held on the isle facing Dublin's GPO on Saturday 9th May 2009 , between the hours 12 noon and 2pm.

All Welcome!

Thanks,
Sharon.

Related Link: <http://1169andcounting.blogspot.com>



Sinn Féin 26 County Local Election Candidates

County Council Candidates:

Seamus Ó'Suilleabháin - Newcastle West Electoral Area, Limerick County Council
Tomás Ó'Curraoin - Conamara Electoral Area, Galway County Council
Seán Lynch - Drumlish Electoral Area, Longford County Council
Paddy Keanneally - Ennistymon Electoral Area, Clare County Council

City Council Candidates:

Sean O'Neill - South Ward, Limerick City Council
Mick "The Quill" Ryan - North Ward (formerly Ward 1), Limerick City Council

Town Council Candidates:

Des Dalton - Athy Town Council (Co. Kildare)
Peter Fitzsimons - Kells Town Council (Co. Meath)

In Defence of the Nation



Welcome to the 32 County Sovereignty Movements Tyrone website

32csm.tyrone@googlemail.com

The 32 County Sovereignty Movement has established in Tyrone. We are currently building through out the County with the aim of establishing a strong Irish Republican alternative to the failed institutions of the Northern state.

The 32 CSM will be working on social issue's at both a local and National level, we will also be campaigning on human rights issue's and campaigning against British injustice in the occupied six counties.

Our members have been inundated with complaint's from the local communities as regards to Anti-social behaviour, Drug dealing and other criminal activity. We look forward to interaction with the local community on resolving such issues.

JOIN NOW



Coalisland Wall Mural



INTRODUCTION TO THE IRISH REPUBLICAN

POLITICAL ACTIVISTS SUPPORT CAMPAIGN

General

The NIFC will support, through **Cabhair in Ireland**, the dependants of Irish Republican political activists who are harassed and prosecuted by British and Irish authorities for promoting Eire Nua. This undertaking is an obligation inherent in the NIFC's founding principles as espoused by Wolfe Tone i.e.,

To unite the whole people of Ireland regardless of religious conviction.

To break the connection with England, the never-ending source of all political evil.

As a result of constant police harassment at homes and places of employment, political activists and family members are being ostracized and marginalized in their own communities. As an added burden, political activists appearing before non-jury courts are subjected to arbitrary bail conditions that inflict severe hardships on their dependants. These arbitrary bail conditions are tantamount to a virtual state of imprisonment. All of these malicious tactics are designed to silence the voice of Eire Nua proponents, who are viewed by the ruling elite in both states as a threat to the status quo; hence, a threat to their own privileged lifestyles. The NIFC will continue to highlight their plight.

Campaign Objective

To support the dependants of Irish Republican Political Activists who are harassed and prosecuted by British and Irish authorities for promoting Eire Nua.

Associated Activities

The NIFC will prepare information packages for general distribution containing information relevant to the campaign

The NIFC will implement a *Monthly Sustainer* to support the dependants of Irish Republican political activists.

The NIFC will conduct a **letter-writing** campaign targeting newspapers and politicians and other interested parties, regarding issues relating to the treatment of Irish political activists.

Participating in the Campaign

Distribute flyers and other materials detailing the treatment of political activists by the authorities in both states in Ireland for their efforts to promote Eire Nua.

Support the Monthly Sustainer program. The program operates on the pledge principal, whereby, donors pledge a monthly contribution; the amount to be decided by the donor. In lieu of contributing through the Monthly Sustainer campaign you can make one annual contribution.

Join with other members and or supporters in a letter-writing campaign.

Contact the National IRPAS Campaign Coordinator for additional information at irpas@irishfreedom.net

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

Sligo 32CSM POW Protests

Donations With Thanks

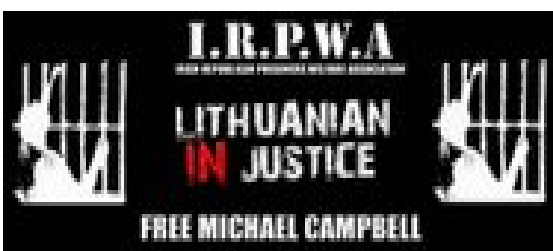


Contribute direct:

**IRPWA.
Ulster Bank
Andersonstown Rd, Belfast.
Account Number
88919077
Sort Code
98 00 15**



Sligo 32 County Sovereignty Movement putting up posters in support of the POW's



Letter from Republican;

As an Irishman living abroad I felt the need to write my thoughts on what has happened in the few weeks. As all Irish people who live all over the world we follow the news, follow the podcasts and follow the views that are given to us over this wonderful thing known as internet.

In this past week this information hub has been compromised.

The world media is telling one side of the story so I decided to start listening to the podcasts from home and I was even more disgusted. I tried to phone into a certain radio show to tell them of my disgust and my side of the story but I was denied the right to speak out.

I was denied the right to say that Martin McGuinness disgusted me, that the show's podcast telling only the RUC wives and ex member's sides of the story disgusted me and sent a completely false objective to the world. This show's website has pictures from people all over the world who are subscribed to the podcast, including my own as it once was a great way to touch ground with what's going on at home, but I have downloaded my last podcast from them and will never listen to the show again.

The "touching" stories of how the RUC/PSNI officer who was killed on Monday night was a loving father, a loving husband and the numerous people on the podcast whose husbands were police officers (most of them for over 20 years) were

British / Loyalist Death Squads, In the aftermath of the attacks on crown forces in the occupied north. There is now a concerted effort by the pro British elements to create an atmosphere of fear using their chosen weapon of sectarian division. There are shadowy rumours of Loyalist paramilitary retaliation and the specter of these Pro British death squads being reactivated.

It is a clearer picture now of why the occupation forces were never serious about disarming their death squads as they will now be used to instill fear into the nationalist communities to protect their phony peace.

The facts are simple in an interview with the Belfast Telegraph 29th July 2008 Assistant Chief Constable Peter Sheridan stated "the PSNI has intelligence to lead them to loyalist paramilitary arms dumps once the decommissioning period has ended, a top officer claimed today". When asked if the PSNI can locate the sites he said: "Well, the short answer to that is yes — and then if the opportunity to arrest and prosecute is there, we will." Mr Sheridan, the chief of Special Branch, said they will DNA weapons and fingerprint them in order to get forensic evidence.

So if in July 2008 the British paramilitary PSNI believed they could take illegal arms held by British controlled loyalist death squads of the streets, why has this not happened? And after the attacks on the occupation forces is the need to remove these weapons out of the hands of the Pro British paramilitaries not of paramount importance, it must surely reflect on the credibility of the reformed RUC as not having reformed at all but still in the collusion business with the death squads and will allow and aid these same squads in achieving the destruction of Republicans their sympathizers and as usual any member of the nationalist community.

Why are the nationalist politicians not drawing attention to the lack of will to remove the loyalist weapons by the British and their Security Services?

These weapons may be ultimately responsible for the deaths of Nationalists and if the death squads reemerge then these self serving politicians who are ignoring the situation for political expediency and have been aware of this situation for a long time must be challenged as to why they have not publicly decried this inaction against loyalist arms dumps.

Sean



"innocent God fearing and loving men" disgusted me.

These people were members of the RUC, the RUC as we all know were the political police in the 6, the police who harassed, murdered innocents and colluded with loyalist hit squads. Did being part of the "all new and shiny" PSNI change them? No it didn't, it couldn't. The PSNI still collude with loyalists and still harass Republicans. The PSNI is still a political police force and cannot be accepted in the 6 as anything less. Republicans are still scared of the PSNI and I personally am victim to them when I return home on my holidays.

There was also an ex UDR member crying on this show. I felt like throwing up. The UDR were notorious for sectarian murders and passing information to the loyalists on their Catholic neighbors, Republican or not.

To be fair, there was one person who declared herself Republican on one of the podcasts, she said her husband was an ex IRA member and that she believed in the political path. If phone records be checked I'm sure this call came from a PSF office

and I think I recognize the voice as that of a PSF councilor in the Fermanagh area.

Republicans who are anti GFA were not on the podcast, making it seem that those who oppose the GFA are a small minority in the 6. This is not true. I personally know of 50 people who have walked since McGuinness stood on Stormont steps and spilt his venom as though he was a loyalist and undermined all those who died for Republicanism in the past 900 years. With his words he criminalized a 900 year struggle and all those who fought it, himself included. He criminalized Wolfe Tone, the men of 1916 and the Hungerstrickers. He criminalized every act, thought and every

person ever done for Republicanism. The media has hunted down those who oppose British Rule in Ireland with the same cruelty and lies as in it in the past, but now it has had the help of or ex comrades. They chose to accept British Rule, we did not. We did not sell our ideals but we held on to them stronger than ever, does that make us traitors? No it doesn't.

As this letter goes to print tonight we are hearing about riots and vehicles burning in the 6. Maybe this will show them that we will not lie down and be called traitors by the people who once had our same beliefs.

A True Unrepentant Republican





End State Censorship
End the Criminalisation policy
End Political Policing
Reject the unreformable RUC

British Injustice in the Occupied 6 Counties



REJECT BRITISH POLITICAL POLICING



Join us for News and Debate
at irishfreedomnews.click on
Picture above to go to Forum

<http://irishfreedomnews.freeforums.org/index.php>

Support Political Status



For Political Prisoners