

SAOIRSE



IRISH FREEDOM

UIMH. 1 BEALTAINE — MAY 1987

20p

Vote NO

In a speech to the delegates at the establishment of Comhairle na Mumhan in Limerick on May 3 last, Ruairi Ó Brádaigh, Uurlabhraí, put the Republican Sinn Féin case for a "No" vote in the upcoming 26 County referendum:

"The Single European Act further diminishes the sovereignty of the Irish people and impinges on their control of their own affairs which is necessary in order to develop the country and provide employment for its people".

This was a logical follow up, he said, to the Sinn Féin campaigns against full membership of the E.E.C. in the 26 Counties in 1972 and in the Six Counties in 1975. The alternative proposed by Republicans was to urge a trade agreement with that body, or Associate Membership.

"The S.E.A. seeks to amend the original Treaty of Rome and enmesh us further in the E.E.C. Reason and historical experience indicate the impossibility of an underdeveloped country like Ireland thriving in the face of the full forces of a free market, in this case one dominated by the former colonial powers of Europe.

"Jobs at home and markets in Europe" was the slogan in 1972 of those advocating full E.E.C. membership. In the outcome the home market was opened up and the jobs destroyed.

"Farming interests will be affected by the S.E.A. proposals to increase the powers of the Commission bureaucracy and the Council of Ministers. (The Assembly would remain basically an advisory body.) The curbing of C.A.P. is indicative of their approach in favour of the majority consumer interest in manufacturing countries and against the minority Irish farming interest.

If the S.E.A. goes through, the much-vaunted "Veto", which we were told would protect small countries, will be replaced in certain cases by qualified majority voting, e.g. 54 out of 76 in the Council, out of which the 26 Counties would have only three votes.

"In the Assembly, all Ireland has 18 members out of 560. (In the Westminster parliament after the Union of 1801, Ireland had 100 out of 600.) In such circumstances the proposed transfer of control over the Irish banking system to the E.E.C. can readily be appreciated by farmers and industrial interests alike.

The outflow of capital from Ireland

Solidarity Message

A telegram of support was sent to the Irish Ad Hoc Committee in the U.S.A., on the occasion of their participation in the massive demonstration in Washington on Saturday, April 25.

The demonstrators, 100,000 strong, marched for peace and justice in Central America and Southern Africa and in opposition to U.S. policy in these areas. Along with the Irish Committee, trade unions, religious groups, teachers, students and peace groups paraded from the White House to Capitol Hill.

The text of the telegram read:

'Republican Sinn Féin, Ireland expresses solidarity with the oppressed peoples of Central America and Southern Africa. Good Luck on April 25th.'

This first issue of Saoirse-Irish Freedom incorporates Republican Bulletin-Iris na Poblachta which was published between November 1986 and April 1987.



Joe O'Neill, Cisteoir Náisiúnta draws the £2,000 ticket in the National Draw. Results page 8.

would become a flood and force up interest rates to a disastrous level. The promises of 1972 and 1975 have not been delivered on and now a further immersion is proposed, which will undoubtedly do increased damage to agriculture, industry and especially the ordinary working people.

"Is it necessary to point out that unemployment stood at 74,779 in the 26 Counties in 1972 and that it is now 250,710? That the number employed in industry has fallen by 21,000 in that period despite billions of pounds spent on grants and other incentives?"

On the second part of the S.E.A. called Title III which deals with Foreign Policy, Security and Defence, what is intended is clear: (To Page 7)

Comhairle na Mumhan

Officers elected at a meeting to establish Comhairle na Mumhan in Limerick on Sunday May 3 are:

Cathaoirleach: Tom Sullivan (South Tipp.)
Rúnaí: Alfie McAvoy (Cork)
Cisteoir: John Ryan (North Tipp.)
Leas-Chathaoirleach & P.R.O.: Mick Hegarty (Clare)
Education & Organiser: Des Long (Limerick)

Paddy Mulcahy (Limerick) and Gearóid Mac Cárthaigh (Cork) were made Honorary Life Presidents of the Comhairle.

Céilí Dinnéar

Republican Testimonial
West County Hotel,
Dublin

Saturday, June 13, 1987
8 pm to 1 am
Dinner 9 pm sharp
Táille £10.50



Bodenstown Sunday June 14

The Leinster House Rip-Off

PENSIONS

Do you know . . .

* That Ministers receive a life-long pension after only three years' service in Leinster House, as soon as they go out of office?

Charlie Haughey gets £13,570 a year in this way.

Garret FitzGerald will get £13,770 a year after defeat in the recent election.

Twenty-eight sitting TDs in Leinster House got £152,218 in Ministerial pensions in 1986.

* That TDs who lose their seats after eight or more years in Leinster House also qualify for a pension?

A TD with eight years' service, for example, would get £3,595 a year for life, regardless of age or other incomes.

If all TDs retired now, their pensions would cost the community £8,970,000.

* That under a new scheme, passed on December 17, 1986 (without debate) TDs who lose their seats after five, six or seven years will be eligible for a pension at the age of 60?

Thirty-one TDs with five to eight years' service will cost another £670,000 to cover their new pensions.

* That TDs' pension contributions amount to only 20% of the cost — the rest is made up by the taxpayer?

* That Ministers can qualify for both pension schemes?

* That the Contributory Old Age pension in 1985 only amounted to £2,590 a year?

SALARIES

● That Garret FitzGerald and his government increased politicians' pay by 20.7% in the years 1983 to 1985?

This was 5.3% more than the increase given to the poorest sections dependent on Unemployment Assistance.

	1983(£)	1985(£)	% Increase
Average TD	14,672	17,726	20.7
Receiving Unemployment Assistance	1,433	1,655	15.4
Average Transport Worker	7,462	8,652	15.9
Farm Labourer	4,325	5,081	17.4

HARASSMENT

On March 5 last, the home of Meath Republican, Niall Fagan, was raided by the Special Task Force. Arriving in five cars upwards of twelve Special Task Force detectives covered off the area around Niall's house, one stood guard at each corner of the house with sub-machine guns while the others searched the house, outhouses and even the septic tank!

Personal letters and business papers were examined and they remained for some time. Nothing was found but the Task Force then went on to raid both Niall's brother and son, who live nearby.

That a TD's basic salary in 1986 was £18,517: a Minister got an extra £20,737, i.e. a total of £39,254?

One hundred and sixty-six Leinster House politicians were paid over £3.4 million in 1985. The 26-County government's salaries came to over £1 million in 1985.

* That one Minister's salary is equivalent to that of twenty people on Unemployment Assistance?

ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

* That State cars for the 15 ministers cost the community about £2,500 per day or £900,000 a year?

* That Dublin TDs get £16 'attendance money' for simply turning up at Leinster House each day it sits? This amounts to £1,392 per year (1983 figures).

* That Charlie Haughey received £181,215 in 1985 to help with the expenses of being Leader of the Opposition? Garret FitzGerald received £50,740 for his advisers, etc., while Dick Spring got £21,746 for the same reason.

* That free postage and phones cost an average of £70.74 per TD every day Leinster House sits (only 87 days in the year, on average)?

* That the Leinster House restaurant is subsidised by £200,000 or £13.84 per TD every day they 'legislate' (1983 figures)?

* That the politicians' travel allowance is about 50p per mile for going to and from Leinster House? And rural TDs get £27.50 per night to stay in Dublin.

TAX

* That politicians in Leinster House have a 'special relationship' with the Revenue Commissioners? Fifty per cent of their 1983 salary, or £6,901 is tax-free, therefore their basic salary is the equivalent of £22,657.

* That Ministers get an additional tax allowance on their Minister's salary, but the amount of this is kept secret!?

* That 300 workers must pay £3,000 each in tax every year to provide free transport for the Cabinet Ministers?

An Anglo-American Perspective

"The absence of Government policy is a major factor in securing the obliteration of Italian in Irish schools, but it is not the only factor. Indeed, it may be a symptom of a wider problem: general ignorance of foreign languages and their cultures.

The Irish media show little awareness of Europe. We tend to define our identity (even the Irish language) in relation to Britain, whether in a favourable or a hostile mode. This is as much a product of our shared language as of our political history.

Our perspective on world affairs is Anglo-American: a shared language means that we

frequently relay British and American television coverage of world events, cut off by language barriers from the very different world perspectives of, for example, the French.

An abject new colonialism brings radio advertisements plugging Japanese cars and Irish butter in twanging transatlantic tones, with not a hint of irony"

An interesting and relevant comment by Cormac Ó Cuilleain of the Association of Teachers of Italian, in Teangeolas, Earrach, 1987.

TRÍOCHA BLIAIN Ó SHIN

Shílfeá ó go leor den chaint a bhí sna nuachtáin agus ar RTE le linn an Olltoghcháin sna 26 Chontae le gairid nár sheas Sinn Féin i dtoghchán ó 1927 i leith — ar a laghad.

Ceann de na nithe a chuir daoine amú le bliain anuas agus a thug ar go leor daoine óga ach go háirithe b'fhéidir vótáil don athrú polasaí maidir le Teach Laighean an fómhar seo caite ná an bholscaireacht leanúnach seo ó na tráchtairí polaitíochta faoi Shinn Féin a bheith "ar tí dul le polaitíocht", "Sinn Féin a bheith ag éirí dáiríre", srl. faoin iarracht pholaitiúil.

Shílfeá go mba ionann suí i dTeach Laighean agus dul le polaitíocht "dáiríre", — nuair is léir ó stair fhada na ndreamanna eile ar fad — Fianna Fáil, Clann na Poblachta, Páirtí na nOibrithe — gurb é a mhalairt ar fad atá i gceist.

Doibh siúd ar bheagán tuisceana — daoine áirithe a chaith dua, allas agus airgead leis an iarracht Olltoghcháin is déanaí ina measc! — ní hionann Teach Laighean agus fóram mór na polaitíochta. Tá cuma na Parlaiminte puipeidí níos mó air ná riamh — in aghaidh an lae beagnach.

Ní hionann toghchán Dála a throid agus dáiríreach polaitíochta, agus fiú sa chás go measfaí gur cheart toghchán do theach Laighean a throid — mar a tharla i 1982 an uair dheiridh ar eagla an dearmaid! — ní hionann suíocháin a lorg go cinnte "pragmatúil" agus gan aon tábhacht a bheith le hiarrachtaí chun tacaíocht a mhealladh do chúis tríd an mbosca ballóide féin.

Tá Sinn Féin ag troid toghcháin, thuaidh agus theas, ón uair a bunaíodh é i 1905. Tá clár dearfach Poblachtach ag an bpáirtí seo ó 1917, agus níl i mbua Olltoghcháin na bliana 1918 ach ceann de na buanna stairiúla a bhí ag an bpáirtí — arís thuaidh agus theas — ó shin i leith.

Tá sé mar aidhm ag Sinn Féin cloí leis an mbonn ar a bhfaighimid tacaíocht, bíodh sé mór nó beag, ar bhonn an tseasaimh agus na bprionsabal seo atá againn. Sin é an fáth a vótáilann daoine dúinn. Más páirtí leath-Bhúnaireachtúil atá ó dhaoine — le téarma Sheáin Lemass i 1938 a úsáid — is fearr go mór a oireann an cháil sin d'Fhianna Fáil.

Tá dearcadh "pragmatúil" amháin ag Sinn Féin Poblachtach áfach mar a bhí acu ó 1927 i leith go dtí gur athraíodh an port droim ar ais ag an Ardtheis anuraidh. Is gnách linn, ba ghnách linn, dul san iomaíocht ar bhonn an riachtanais, de réir atmaisféir na polaitíochta ginearálta ag aon am ar leith, ag cur san áireamh leas na Gluaiseachta trí chéile, leas na bpríosúnach mar shampla, agus go háirithe gach rud is tábhachtaí agus is mó a chabhróidh in aghaidh smacht na Sasanach in Éirinn.

Ní foláir do Shinn Féin ar gach ócáid toghcháin a sheasamh a fhógairt go boscailte maidir le staoanamh ó Theach Laighean, Westminster, Stormont (nuair a bhí sé ann) agus an difríocht idir an méid sin agus an obair mhór leanúnach ar mhaithe leis an bpobal is féidir lenár gcuid iomadaíthe tofa a dhéanamh ag an leibhéal áitiúil i gcomhairlí áitiúla.

Ba ar an mbonn sin a toghadh sinn riamh agus is ar an mbonn seo amháin is mian linn go dtoghfaí daoine in ainm agus faoi bhratach Shinn Féin Poblachtach san am atá le teacht. Níl ciall le seasamh ar bith eile. Is leor an teip mhór i gcás an Olltoghcháin is deireanaí le cruthú gur fíor sin.

An toradh polaitiúil is mó atá ar an iarracht chun cluiche Theach Laighean a imirt ná laghisneach a chur ar phobal Náisiúnach na Sé Chontae, nuair is gá smaoinicim ar dhúshlán an SDLP a thabhairt sa chéad Olltoghchán Sasanach eile, nach bhfuil i bhfad uainn. Ar bhonn staonta ar ndóigh.

Tríocha bliain ó shin, go díreach, throid Sinn Féin na linne Olltoghcháin eile sna 26 chontae. Ag freagairt riachtanais na linne a bhí an páirtí. Bhí an troid ar siúl ó thuaidh in athuair agus bhí go leor daoine faoi ghlas cheana féin sa saorstát, an sampla ba nua ag an am sin den "chomhoibriú slándála" ag an dara comhrialtas.

I measc na bpríosúnach a toghadh ina dTeachtaí Dála san am bhí Ruairí Ó Brádaigh i Longfort/Iarmhí. Buadh na suíocháin eile i Muineachán (Eineachán Ó hAnluain, deartháir Fheargail a maraíodh ag tús 1957 i dteannta Sheáin Sabhat) Sligeach-Liatroim (Seán S. Mac Fhearghail — fear nár éirigh leis an uair seo) agus Ciarraí Theas mar ar toghadh an sean-Óglach, Seán Seosamh de Rís.

Polasaí staonta a bhí ag an dream seo ar

ndóigh. D'éirigh leo ar bhonn an pholasaí seo, d'ainneoin cuid acu a bheith faoi ghlas ag an am agus míbhuntáistí móra eile a bheith ina gcoinne, fiú le hais na ndeacrachtaí a bhí ag an "Sinn Féin" cláraithe i dTeach Laighean an uair seo.

Seans nach n-éireodh le Teachtaí '57 mar a d'éirigh dá mbeadh aon amhras ann i dtaobh an ruin a bhí acu gan suí i dTeach Laighean. Ní fhágann sin nár Teachtaí Dála maithe iad agus nach raibh siad in ann feidhmiú go cumasach ar mhaithe lena lucht leanúna mar lucht staonta — chomh luath agus a fuair cuid acu deis é sin a dhéanamh.

Mar a tharla, ní dhearna an toghadh aon difríocht do sheasamh dlí na dTeachtaí seo i súile na n-údarás. Mar a tharla, chuaigh Fianna Fáil i mbun cumhachta le móramh glan ochtair faoi cheannas De Valera. Níor ligeadh na Teachtaí a bhí faoi ghlas amach le freastal ar Theach Laighean dá ba mhaith leo. Rud nár mhaith.

Mar a tharla, nuair a bhí Ruairí agus a chairde réidh le scaoileadh amach as Muinseo ag deireadh a gcuid téarmaí príosúin, gabhadh ag an ngeata iad nó gur sheol rialtas De Valera iad, agus go leor ball eile de Shinn Féin, go Campa Géibhinn an Churraigh, áit ar coinníodh faoi ghlas gan triail iad — go dtí gur éalaigh siad!

Ba shuimiúil an beart é ag dream a bhí ag moladh do Shinn Féin toghcháin a bhuanach agus suí sa Dáil mar bhealach oibre. Mar a tharla, ní dhearna an ceithre vóta difríocht do chinneáil an rialtais Fhianna Fáiligh ag an am. Ach cuir i gcás go raibh an móramh níos caoile, nach raibh ach guth nó beirt idir an dá thaobh, mar atá faoi láthair. An bhféadfaí iad a chur sa Churrach go dtí go mbeadh an lá ag an Taoiseach nua? Ar ndóigh, ní mór na suíocháin a bhuanach i dtosach! Ní léir gur chuir an polasaí nua páirtíochta le seansanna oiread is duine amháin. Ar mhalairt a tharla.

Tomás Ó Neachtain

What Next?

'In an oration Sinn Féin councillor and Ulster chairman Jim McAllister sharply criticised the SDLP for supporting the Public Order legislation which he said, had made the republican Easter commemorations illegal in South Armagh for the first time ever.'

Leinster House Sinn Féin speaker on Easter Sunday as reported by the Irish News, Belfast.

'Both ceremonies at which Jim McAllister the Sinn Féin candidate in the Newry and Armagh constituency was the speaker, were organised by the National Graves Association who had given notice to the RUC.'

Irish News report on events on Easter Monday in Armagh City and Ballymacnab.

More of the tactics and less of the principles!

CO. DOWN

Three Cumainn were recently formed in Co. Down. They are:

- Peter McNulty Cumann, Kilcoo.**
Rúnaí — Patrick MacEvoy,
Kilcoo, Newry, Co. Down.
- Downpatrick Cumann.**
Rúnaí — Marie Carlin,
Downpatrick, Co. Down.
- Drumroad cumann.**
Rúnaí — Gerry Fitzpatrick,
Drumroad,
Castlewellan, Co. Down.

I gCUIMHNE

Doherty, Brendan — 3rd Anniversary

In proud and loving memory of Brendan Doherty, Droumroe, Currow, Killarney, who died on June 3, 1984.

Free State police brutality, followed by an eight-year sentence in Port Laoise, during which he endured a 47 day hunger strike, led to his early death.

While the task remains uncompleted
There is work still waiting for you
So you must not idly stand
Do it now while life remaineth
And help to free Ireland.

Always remembered by his mother and sister Margaret.

Doherty, Brendan — 3rd Anniversary

In loving memory of Brendan Doherty, Droumroe, Currow, Killarney, who died on June 3, 1984.

Always remembered by his widow, Margaret, and the Linehan family.

EASTER 1987

IRELAND HON

DUBLIN

Republicans in Dublin gathered at the gates of Glasnevin Cemetery on Easter Sunday at 12 noon and marched behind a Cumann na mBan colour party to the Republican plot.

Seán Ó Sé chaired the proceedings and called on Peig King to recite a decade of the Rosary. Wreaths were laid and Mairéad Langsdorf read the 1916 proclamation. The crowd of around 100 people heard Dióg Ní Chonaill read the RSF Easter Statement which was followed by a fine oration from Brendan Magill of Ballyshannon.

At 1 pm on Easter Monday a wreath was laid at Deansgrange Cemetery by Jack Butler and Lita Ní Chathmhaoil read the Easter Statement.

WESTMEATH

The graves of Republicans throughout the county were honoured by wreath laying ceremonies over the Easter weekend. In Moate, wreaths were placed at the Republican Memorial in the town. Victor Fagg laid the wreath at the graves of Kit McKeown and Tom Hughes in Cornanagh Cemetery in Athlone.

Peter Barnes and James McCormack, hanged in Birmingham on February 7, 1940 were remembered at their graves in Mullingar on Easter Sunday. At Enniscoffey near Milltownpass a wreath was laid at the grave of Joe Leavy by Seosamh Ó Maoileoin.

Paddy Geraghty and Paddy Seery were remembered in Meedin Cemetery and wreaths were also placed there on the graves of the Malone and Newman families.

LOUTH

A very successful commemoration was held in Dundalk on Easter Sunday at 1.30 pm, starting from the Market Square and attended by over 120 people. Paddy Murphy carried the National Flag and Ronnie Rossiter sounded the Last Post and Reveille. Peter Cunningham from Dublin gave the oration.

MEATH

A crowd of around 40 people turned out for the Republican Sinn Féin Commemoration in Longwood, Co. Meath at the grave of Tom Allen, a 1916 man, at 12 noon.

John L. MacCormack recited a decade of the Rosary. George Stagg chaired the ceremony and Pat Farrelly of Trim read the 1916 Proclamation. Niall Fagan then gave the oration.

KILDARE

The local parade formed up at Liffey Bridge, Celbridge and marched to the grave of Volunteer Anthony O'Reilly who was executed by the Free State in 1923.

OFFALY

A wreath laying ceremony took place at the grave of Joe Byrne in Kilclonfert Cemetery, near Duingean, Co. Offaly.

CAVAN

Killoughter Cemetery, Redhills was the location of the Cavan Commemoration on Easter Sunday at the grave of Captain Michael O'Reilly. A colour party led the parade of 130 people to the grave-side where Liam Mimmagh, Chairman, called on Sally Smith to recite a decade of the Rosary.

The County Cavan Roll of Honour was read by

Ben McHugh and Hugh McGovern read the 1916 Proclamation. Gerry Glancy read the Easter Statement and Emmett Walsh delivered the oration during which he said that

"The armed struggle is the most important Republican strategy to end partition and create circumstances where revolutionary policies and institutions can be implemented".

He rejected the contention that successive generations of Republicans had failed to grasp the centrality, the fundamental nature and the primacy of Republican politics. Calling on youth and women to involve themselves in Republicanism he stated that there could be no successful socialist revolt without the emancipation of women.

Earlier in the day a wreath laying ceremony took place at the County Memorial in Cavan Town. On Easter Monday a wreath was laid at the grave of Jack McCabe at Killane, Shercock.

CLARE

Easter ceremonies began with a wreath laying ceremony at the graves of Volunteers Patrick Mahony, Christopher Quinn and William O'Shaughnessy in Drumcliffe Cemetery at 10am on Easter Sunday. These men were executed in Ennis Barracks on April 21, 1923. Also honoured was Volunteer James Glynn who died after a political clash in Ennis in 1934.

Wreaths were laid at Martin White's grave in Lisdoonvarna at 10.30 am.

The county Commemoration took place at 3pm from Henchy's Cross to the Republican Plot at Clooney Cemetery, where Volunteers MacMahon and Hennessy were remembered.

Led there by a colour party, flag bearer and the Clonbony Pipe Band, the crowd of 80 people heard Martin Calligan, Chairman, call on Des Brennan to read the Proclamation of the Republic 1916. Michael Hegarty delivered the Easter Statement of RSF and Tomás Malone of Nenagh gave the oration.

TIPPERARY

The North Tipperary Commemoration took place on Easter Sunday in Drom, near

Borrisoleigh at 3 pm. A crowd numbering about 120 paraded behind a colour party to the cemetery where J. P. McDonnell presided.

Donal Hackett, a brother of Patrick Hackett, read the 1916 proclamation and the Easter Statement was read by Donal Malone. The Roll of Honour followed, read by Jim Morris and an oration was delivered by Cathleen Knowles.

Earlier in the day a wreath was laid at the Nenagh Memorial by Cathleen Knowles. The ceremony was conducted under the auspices of the local Monument Committee.

On Easter Monday South Tipperary Republicans marched to the grave of George Plant at St. Johnstown, Fethard. George Plant was executed by firing squad on March 5, 1942 and the gathering was honoured by the presence of his sister Elizabeth Plant as well as the Carrigan sisters, relatives of men who died for Ireland.

Also present was Al O'Brien of Noraid in San Diego, California. Councillor Finbar Kissane of Tipperary Town was the chairman and the 1916 Proclamation was read by Tom O'Sullivan of Doon. The crowd then listened with interest to the oration delivered by Paddy Ryan of Dublin.

CORK

Sinn Féin Poblachtach Chorcaí honoured Ireland's patriot dead on Easter Sunday with a parade and Commemoration at the Republican plot, St. Finbarr's Cemetery, Cork.

After the laying of a wreath by a member of Cumann na gCailíní at the National Monument, the parade moved off for St. Finbarr's. The parade was led by a Republican colour party, the Cork Volunteer Pipe Band, and contingents of Cumann na mBan and Cumann na gCailíní.

Along the route the parade halted at the site of the Old Cork Jail where a wreath was laid at the gates by a young member of Cumann na gCailíní.

At the cemetery, the parade slow marched from the gates to the Republican plot and the colour parties halted by the tall cross. A wreath was laid on behalf of the Republican Movement by a member of Cumann na mBan and the Last Post was sounded by Christy Murphy of the Cork Volunteer Pipe Band.

After the recital of a decade of the Rosary, the



Róisín of Cumann na gCailíní in the Cork City Easter Commemoration parade. Mrs. Thatcher can sleep easy as the 26-County State does its "duty".

DURS HER PATRIOT DEAD

Statement from the Leadership of Republican Sinn Féin was read by Mary Kenneally.

The oration was then delivered by veteran Republican Domhnall O Lúbhlaí to the attendance of around 250 people.

Alfie McAvoy thanked those who attended the commemoration, and called on the Cork Volunteer Pipe Band to close the proceedings with the National Anthem.

Later in the evening, Cork Republican Sinn Féin held a very successful function at Springhill House in Mayfield, Cork City, which was attended by 150 people.

On Easter Monday morning wreaths were laid on behalf of the Republican Movement on the Republican graves and monuments around Cork City.

DONEGAL

On Holy Saturday at 6 pm a commemorative ceremony was held on Cladybridge where Volunteer James MacGinn was killed on active service in 1973.

The bridge spans the Border between Co. Donegal and Co. Tyrone; and Gardaí and RUC with rifles sealed off both ends, enclosing the colour party and people in attendance.

The RUC advanced to the centre of the bridge and took names. The Gardaí later did likewise. Ted MacGarrigle, Ballybofey, presided and read the Co. Donegal roll of Honour. Conall Gallagher, Ballyshannon read the 1916 Proclamation and Councillor Michael MacGonigle the Easter Statement. Wreaths were laid at the spot where Volunteer MacGinn died for Ireland.

Tommy MacGinty, Lifford, recited the Rosary at the graves of Comdt. John James Kelly and Tobias Molloy in Donnyloop cemetery, Castlefinn, Co. Donegal. Seán Keenan of Derry gave the oration.

Comdt. Kelly, a Black-and-Tan War veteran was killed in an accidental explosion at Castlefinn with Jimmy Joe Reynolds of Leitrim and Charles MacCafferty of Strabane in 1938. Tobias Molloy, aged 12 years and a member of Fianna Éireann was killed in 1972 by a rubber bullet fired by British Forces in Strabane, Co. Tyrone.

DERRY

On Easter Sunday morning, 120 people gathered for the Republican Sinn Féin ceremony in Derry City at the Cúchulainn Republican Memorial in the city cemetery.

John Johnson presided and Róisín Barton read the Proclamation of the Republic 1916. Richard Halpenny recited a decade of the Rosary and Joe MacGlynchey laid a wreath on behalf of RSF.

Councillor Michael MacGonigle, Dungiven, read the Easter Statement.

In his oration, veteran Republican Seán Keenan said:

"We have not gone home and we have no intention of doing so. It would have been more honourable if those opposed to us since November last had gone home instead of trying to get into Leinster House".

He traced the continuity of the Republican Government from 1916, through the 1st and 2nd All-Ireland Dáileanna to the present day. He said that the Republican Movement had split only on the basis of accepting Westminster, Stormont or Leinster House down the years.

Wreaths were laid at Republican graves in Dungiven on Easter Sunday morning by Tommy Toner, Dungiven and on the grave of Brigadier-

General Seán Larkin at the Loup by Councillor Michael MacGonigle.

Brig.-Gen. Larkin was executed by Free State firing squad at Drumboe Castle, Co. Donegal along with Charles Daly, Tim O'Sullivan and Dan Enright of Kerry in March 1923.

DRUMBOE

The annual Drumboe commemoration was held at Stranorlar, County Donegal on Easter Sunday afternoon. Ted MacGarrigle, Ballybofey was in command of the parade through the town to the place of execution of Comdt. General Charles Daly, GOC 1st Northern Division, IRA,



Brig.-Gen. Seán Larkin and Lieutenants Tim O'Sullivan and Dan Enright.

A colour party of twelve young men bearing the National Flag, the Starry Plough and the Fianna Éireann flags led the parade of about 120 people.

Councillor Joe O'Neill, Bundoran, presided and Pat Ward, Burtonport recited the 1916 Proclamation. Tommy MacGinty, Lifford, read the County Roll of Honour and Bernadette Cullen, Bundoran, the Easter Statement.

Guest of honour was Katie B. Keaney, Corranmore, Co. Leitrim, niece of Easter Rising executed leader Seán Mac Diarmada. Mrs. Keaney was applauded by the 150-strong attendance as she ascended the platform.

Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, Uriabhraí for Republican Sinn Féin, delivered the oration, following which the parade re-formed and marched back to Stranorlar.

GALWAY

The annual commemoration to Volunteer Séamus Ó Máille was held on Sunday April 12, in Uachtar Ard, organised by Republican Sinn Féin.

The parade was led by a colour party, followed by a lone piper. Cathaoirleach was Caoimhín Mac Cathmhaoil.

A decade of the Rosary was said by Pat Gibbons, a cousin of Volunteer Séamus Ó Máille.

The oration was given by Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, who said that Séamus Ó Máille was one of six people taken from Galway Jail and shot at the Work House in Tuam in 1923 by Free State soldiers on orders from the Dublin Government.

Many traumas have struck the Republican Movement since then. The epic struggle in the H-Blocks and subsequent loss of ten lives on

hunger strike is still a vivid memory. The shoot-to-kill policy of the RUC took its deadly toll in true Black-and-Tan fashion. The degrading treatment of the women prisoners brought shame on what was once believed to be a civilised people. The Dublin Government continues its policy of super-collaboration, culminating in the recent Extradition Act which no self-respecting government would entertain.

TYRONE

Felix MacAteer presided at the commemoration ceremony in Aghyaran, West Tyrone at the graveside of Vol. Séamus Harvey,

Emmett Walshe of Ofalloy speaking at the Co. Cavan Commemoration.

killed in action in 1973. Mary Ward, Burtonport, Co. Donegal delivered the oration.

On Easter Sunday evening, Jimmy MacElhinney, Omagh, laid a wreath on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin at the Co. Tyrone Memorial in Carrickmore.

MONAGHAN

Volunteer Séamus McElwaine of Knockatallon, Scotstown, County Monaghan was commemorated at Urbleshanny cemetery this Easter. Séamus was 26 years old when he was killed on active service by undercover British soldiers in the townland of Mullaghglass near Roslea, County Fermanagh, on April 26, 1986.

In a simple ceremony attended by his family, neighbours and local Republicans from the Scotstown area, the Rosary was recited in Irish.

FERMANAGH

The county commemoration was held at Arney on Easter Sunday where Volunteer Philip Cassidy was remembered. Cathaoirleach Mick McManus gave the oration and Patsy Magee of Belcoo read the Easter Statement of Republican Sinn Féin.

Mrs Murray read the 1916 Proclamation of the Republic to the crowd of about 60 people. Wreaths were laid by Kevin McManus, Derrylin and Michael Lavelle, Donagh and the ceremony concluded after a minute's silence was observed for all those who died in the fight for Irish freedom.

NATIONWIDE EASTER CEREMONIES

BELFAST

Sinn Féin Poblachtach held their Easter Commemoration in Belfast at 11 am Easter Sunday morning. A crowd of 120 people gathered at the Republican Plot in Milltown cemetery, where Joe McKelvey, executed by the Free State in 1922, was interred in 1924. At that time the oration was given by Sean Lemass!

Bob Murray, Ulster Organiser, acted as Cathaoirleach and a lone piper played a lament. The Proclamation of 1916 was read by Mary McDermott, mother of Staff Captain Seán McDermott, who was killed on active service on April 5, 1976.

The National Flag and the Starry Plough were carried at the ceremony and wreaths were laid. Gearóid Mac Cárthaigh from Cork delivered an oration.

ANTRIM

Shane's cairn, Cushendun, was the scene of the North Antrim Easter commemoration at 2.30pm on Easter Sunday.

Councillor Frank McCarry, Cathaoirleach, read the 1916 Proclamation to the crowd of about 30 people while the National Flag flew from the mast.

Bob Murray read the Easter Statement from the Leadership and Séamus Ó Caoil from County Down followed this with a fitting address.

ARMAGH

Almost 40 South Armagh Republicans attended Republican Sinn Féin's first Easter Commemoration in Camloch since re-organisation and joined the local cumann at the Republican plot in Carrickcruppin graveyard to honour Peter Deran, Brendan Quinn, veteran Republican Art McAlinden and hunger-striker Raymond McCreesh and all who died in the struggle for freedom.

Assembling at 7.30 pm on a cold and wet Easter Saturday night the group paraded a short distance to the cemetery in defiance of the RUC and British Army who had gathered to enforce a law intended to criminalise all Republican parades.

At the graveside Éamonn Larkin, Newry and Mourne Councillor and Comhairle Uladh Chairman, welcomed everyone present at that historic place and introduced Éamonn Ó Mathúna who recited the Rosary in Irish. Wreaths were laid by Mrs Quinn on behalf of the Quinn family, by Deirdre Quinn on behalf of the Camloch Cumann and by Mrs John O'Hare, Camloch, (widow of the late John and sister of Art McAlinden, both Republicans of renown) who laid a wreath on behalf of the Leadership.

Éamonn Ó Mathúna then read the Proclamation of Easter Week and was followed by Tom Lonergan who read the Easter Statement from the Leadership. There followed a lament played by local piper Desmond Mackin. The commemoration continued with an oration by Cork Republican Gearóid Mac Cárthaigh who spoke at length about the reasons which brought Republicans to that place and of the treachery which brought us partition and the partition assemblies of Leinster House and Stormont which still remain anathema to republicans.

The commemoration ended with a fine rendition of our National Anthem played by Desmond Mackin. The group then dispersed and refused to be intimidated by the large force of RUC and Brits who sought to harass the younger republicans.

At Mullaghbawn graveyard a brief wreathlaying ceremony was held at the grave of Vol. Gerry McKiernan from Forkhill.

Bearna Uladh Republican Sinn Féin's programme of Easter Commemorations continued on Easter Sunday morning at Drumintee. Here, as at Killeen and Newry later in the day our parade was watched closely by a strange alliance of RUC, British Army and Leinster House Sinn Féin.

A small number paraded to St. Patrick's Church before 9am Mass and later gathered at the grave of Volunteer Jim Lochrie where up to 50 local Republicans heard Councillor Éamonn Larkin introduce the ceremonies.

Joe Cunningham read the Proclamation and Máirtín Mac an Ailí read the Leadership statement before Éamonn Larkin introduced Mr. Myles Shevlin from Dublin who delivered the oration. He spoke of his personal family connections with the Drumintee area and of his father's faith in the Republican spirit of the people in South Armagh. The ceremony ended with the Proclamation.

Killeen was the venue for Republican Sinn Féin's next and most successful commemoration. In what was the largest gathering by far that day at the Republican Plot to honour three Republicans who were murdered by sectarian death squads Republican Sinn Féin attracted the support of most local Republicans.

Éamonn Larkin introduced Myles Shevlin who delivered his second fine address of the day in South Armagh and was well received by the local people who were very impressed with his eloquence of speech, his sound local knowledge and his determined restatement of Republican principles.

The Proclamation was read by Michael Donegan and the Leadership statement by Sarah Murphy. This meeting closed with our National Anthem played by Desmond Mackin. Among those who attended were the O'Neill family, relatives of the O'Reilly Brothers who were murdered in 1922 by Orange elements.

Short wreathlaying ceremonies were held on Easter Sunday at the Edentubber Martyrs memorial; at the grave of Volunteer Francis Jordan in Jonesborough and at the grave of a founding member of the Republican Movement buried at Drumintee. A wreath laying ceremony was also held at Cullyhanna where Éamonn Larkin paid his respects at the Michael McVerry memorial.

Bearna Uladh's Easter programme concluded with a commemoration parade in Newry where up to 40 Republicans defied RUC bullyboy tactics and paraded from the public road to the cemetery and gathered at the Republican Plot where a number of our fallen heroes lie buried.

Tom Lonergan chaired the ceremonies which followed. Wreaths were laid on behalf of local cumainn and the Leadership. An oration was delivered by local councillor Éamonn Larkin. The meeting ended with the playing of our National Anthem.

On leaving the cemetery the RUC stopped and questioned a number of people including Éamonn Larkin and threatened further action because they claimed ours was an illegal demonstration. Republican Sinn Féin does not recognise the RUC as being an acceptable police force in any part of Ireland nor do we allow them any right to say where and when a Republican parade is legal.

The Lurgan commemoration attracted a crowd of between 3-400 people who marched behind St. Mary's Accordion Band and flag bearers with the National Flag and the Four Province flags.

Peter Corey, Cathaoirleach, called on Thomas Mulholland to read our Charter of Freedom, the

1916 Proclamation. Liam Haddock read the statement from the Leadership and then Gearóid Mac Cárthaigh from Cork delivered the oration.

On the evidence of the fine turn-out Republicans in the Lurgan area have every reason to hold their heads high!

The ceremony at Derrymacash was also a success with about 100 people in attendance and a colourful display of the National and Provincial flags. Gearóid Mac Cárthaigh also spoke here.

In Maghera a wreath was laid at the grave of Seamus Robinson who was shot in 1922. Julie Dougan, killed in 1972 was honoured by a wreath-laying ceremony at her grave in Portadown.

DOWN

All the local Republicans turned out at Aghlinsnafin, County Down on Easter Sunday for the County Commemoration. A lone piper led the crowd of about 80 people and the National Flag, the Starry Plough and the Fianna Flag were carried.

James McClements read the 1916 Proclamation and Marie Carlin, widow of Volunteer James Carlin read the County Roll of Honour. Éamonn Ó Mathúna read the Easter Statement from the Leadership of Sinn Féin Poblachtach and then Cathaoirleach Danny Fitzpatrick called on Tom Lonergan to deliver the oration.

Mrs Carlin organised a wreath laying ceremony in the Downpatrick area and laid one on the grave of Thomas Russell from Cork, the 'Man from God knows where' who was hanged in Downpatrick Jail in 1803.

KERRY

The North Kerry commemoration took place at the Republican Plot in Rath cemetery in Tralee on Easter Sunday afternoon. Between 150-200 Republicans gathered at the '98 Memorial in Denny Street at 3pm. The parade was led by the Millstreet, Co. Cork Pipers Band and a colour party carrying the National and the Four Provinces flags.

The proceedings were chaired by George Rice, Tralee and a decade of the Rosary was recited by Pádraig Ó Droma. Wreaths were laid by Mrs. Elsie O'Connor, a sister of Charlie Kerins who was hanged in Mountjoy in 1944 and buried in the Rath cemetery, and also by Michael O'Brien.

The 1916 Proclamation was read by Eibhlín Talbóid and Siobhán Cotter of the Spa read the Easter Statement. The oration was delivered by Ruairí Óg Ó Brádaigh.

A ceremony was held at the Republican Memorial, Killarney on Easter Monday at 3pm.

Wreaths were laid on behalf of Sinn Féin Poblachtach by Gerry O'Sullivan, Keel, Glencar; in memory of all those who have died for Irish Freedom by Paddy Scanlon, Ballyhar; on behalf of the Irish Prisoners' Dependents Committee by Margaret O'Sullivan, Knocknahoe, Killarney.

A decade of the Rosary was recited by Ruairí Óg Ó Brádaigh.

The oration was given by Dáithí Ó Conaill, Cathaoirleach RSF.

Following the oration, Brian Smullen who chaired the proceedings thanked the people for attending and on behalf of Kerry Republican Sinn Féin thanked Dáithí Ó Conaill and Ruairí Óg Ó Brádaigh for their presence in Kerry over the weekend. He then called on Bugler Paddy Short to close the commemoration with the sounding of the Last Post.

WEXFORD

The annual Wexford National Graves Association Commemoration took place on Easter Sunday at 3 pm. The Assembly point was on the Quay in Wexford where a colour party of Fianna Éireann and St. Patrick's Fife and Drum Band took the front.

A crowd of 120 people marched from there to St. Ibar's Cemetery and gathered at the Republican Plot. George Molloy led the crowd in a decade of the Rosary and Mrs. Kavanagh laid a wreath on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin.

The local Roll of Honour was read and Jimmy Kavanagh read the Easter Message from the Leadership of Republican Sinn Féin. Matt Murphy of the N.G.A. then delivered the oration.

The Cenotaph in the Republican Plot lists many of the Republican dead from Wexford and under it are interred the remains of six Volunteers, three of whom were shot by the Free State in Wexford Jail in 1923.

LIMERICK

On Easter Sunday the annual Limerick commemoration took place with a march from Bedford Row at 1 pm to the Republican Plot in the city cemetery.

A crowd of about 80 people marched behind St. Mary's Pipe Band to the graveside where Des Long, Leas-Chathaoirleach Sinn Féin Poblachtach, presided.

A decade of the Rosary was recited by An t-Athair Ó Tuathaigh and a wreath was laid by Donal Hynes. Following the reading of the Proclamation, an oration was delivered by Cáthleen Knowles.

LONGFORD

The Longford Commemoration began with a parade from Churchland Bridge to Ballymacormack cemetery at 3 pm on Easter Sunday.

Mattie Casey, a brother of Comdt. Barney Casey, IRA, who was shot dead in the Curragh Camp in 1940, carried the National Flag and music was provided by the Ballyjamesduff Youth Band from Co. Cavan.

At the graves of Captain Henry Hughes and Patrick MacKeown, who were being honoured this year, Seán Lynch of Aughnaliffe acted as Cathaoirleach.

A wreath was laid on behalf of the Co. Longford Easter Commemoration Committee by Stephen Fullam, Mostrim. Barney Lennon of Moydow recited a decade of the Rosary in Irish.

After the Proclamation, Roll of Honour and Easter Statement were read Matt Murphy of Sligo delivered the oration.

LEITRIM

Easter Sunday morning saw Republicans in the South Leitrim area gathering in Drumshanbo to honour Captain Séamus McGlynn, Captain Jim Vaughn and Volunteer Paul Bofin, who are buried in the local cemetery.

Tom Lavin of Arigna read the 1916 Proclamation at the graveside and Eddie Doyle read the Easter Statement from the Leadership of Sinn Féin Poblachtach. Cathaoirleach Peadar Ó Gríofa then called on Seán Ó Brádaigh from Dublin to give the oration.

In the afternoon there was a commemoration in Rossinver cemetery at the grave of Jack McCabe, the Omagh raid prisoner. The ceremony was organised by Republicans in the North Leitrim area.

A crowd of about 30 people listened with interest to the Easter Statement which was read by Cathaoirleach Declan Curneen of Gléhade and to the oration delivered by Jack Murphy of Dublin which followed.

KERRY

A crowd of about 200 people turned out for the annual Easter Commemoration in Cahirciveen on Easter Sunday despite the bad weather. Commencing at 3 pm the crowd followed the National Flag and the Valentia Pipe Band over to the Republican Plot in Keelovarnogue Cemetery.

A wreath was laid on the way at the monument outside Cahirciveen Library and later Derek McKenna, Cathaoirleach, presided at the graveside.

Michael O'Neill, a brother of Maurice O'Neill, who was shot in Mountjoy on November 12, 1942, laid a wreath and Seán O'Neill said a decade of the Rosary.

The oration was given by Dáithí Ó Conaill, Cathaoirleach, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, who said: "This is not the time to further surrender ourselves to the dictates of an imperialist EEC. It is a sad reflection that 71 years after the Easter Rising, we are portrayed as the paupers and beggars of Europe. It is time to shout "Stop" and the coming referendum gives the people of the 26 counties that opportunity by giving a resounding No vote on May 26th."

ROSCOMMON

Easter Sunday ceremonies in the county began with a parade after 11.30 Mass in Elphin to the County Memorial where wreaths were laid in honour of Roscommon's freedom fighters.

The main commemoration took place in the afternoon to the grave of Volunteer Terence MacGlynn in Ardcarne cemetery near Boyle. The Raheen Pipe Band led the crowd of 150 people to the graveside where a decade of the Rosary was recited by Patsy O'Connell, Elphin, the secretary of the County Roscommon IRA Commemoration Committee.

Addie Clarke of Hillstreet read the 1916 Proclamation and Michael Hannily of Ballinagar read the Easter Statement. In charge of the proceedings was Cathaoirleach Pádraig Cryan of Cortober. Seán Ó Brádaigh delivered the oration at the graveside.

SLIGO

The County Sligo Commemoration took place as usual at 3 pm in Sligo town on Easter Sunday. Under the auspices of the National Graves Association the parade formed up at the City Hall.

Led by members of the Sligo Pipe Band and a local colour party bearing flags the procession of approximately 40 people marched to Sligo cemetery.

En route the parade was interrupted by a Leinster House Sinn Féin group who marched ahead of the NGA parade to the cemetery.

At the Republican Plot where Sligo's Noble Six are laid to rest the proceedings were chaired by Con Darcy. He called on Val Harnen to lay a wreath on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin.

Vincent O'Doherty read the 1916 Proclamation of the Republic. The Easter Statement of RSF was read by Eamonn Healy. After a decade of the Rosary was recited in Irish John Horan of Dublin delivered the oration.

GALWAY

The largest crowd for several years turned out in Donoughpatrick despite the wet weather on Easter Sunday. The parade, accompanied by a lone piper and a colour party moved off from Quellies' Cross at 3 pm and paraded to Donoughpatrick cemetery.

Councillor Frank Glynn, Milltown, acted as Cathaoirleach at the graveside and a wreath was laid by Ger Hoade. The County Galway Roll of Honour was read by Pádraig O Sionnachain and

Vote NO

(From Page 1)

1. An end to "neutrality" in that a common foreign policy with 11 other states who are all members of the N.A.T.O. military alliance, means inevitably a common defence policy;
2. Support for Sellafeld nuclear pollution because that plant produces plutonium which is "essential" for Britain's defence and is therefore protected by Title III;
3. An independent voice from this country on world issues at the U.N. and other such bodies would be denied; our attitudes on apartheid, world hunger, human rights, the arms race and so forth would be subjected to E.E.C. superpower interests;
4. All efforts to stand with the exploited Third World peoples against the industrialised Seven (U.S., Canada, Britain, France, Italy, West Germany and Japan) would end, running contrary to the moral and principled position of the Irish people over the years and undermine the valuable work for justice done by our missionaries of all persuasions — many of whom are radical-minded and a great influence for social change at home in Ireland.

"There is also the question of the other Europe again (the E.E.C. embraces South-Western Europe, while Eastern Europe is allied to the Eastern Superpower). The European Free Trade Association includes Austria, Sweden, Switzerland, Finland, Iceland and Norway — the first four of which are neutral.

"Average unemployment in EFTA is 3% compared with the E.E.C.'s 12% and 19% in both the Six and 26 Counties of Ireland. It has no common policy except free trade and has 17 civil servants compared to the E.E.C.'s 17,000. The E.E.C. does 56% of its trade with E.F.T.A. but each member-state of E.F.T.A. has its own trade agreement with the E.E.C.

"In 1972, 212,000 people or 17% voted against full E.E.C. membership. Sinn Féin played a leading role in this achievement of a minimum radical base in the 26 Counties. Will Republican Sinn Féin respond to the challenge this time and expand and build upon that groundwork — this time with a younger generation included?"

What kind of Ireland do you want? A slum province of Britain and the E.E.C. or the New Ireland for which so much has been sacrificed down to this very day — the Republic of Pearse and Connolly?

The choice is clear. Vote No!"

Peadar Hughes of Kilbeg led the crowd in reciting a decade of the Rosary as Gaeilge.

Joe Darcy, a son of the hunger striker Tony Darcy read the 1916 Proclamation and Maitiú Ó Brádaigh read the Easter Statement of the Leadership. The crowd responded warmly to the fine oration delivered by Liam Cotter of Tralee.

Earlier in the day Shanaglish on the Galway/Clare border was the scene of another commemoration presided over by Tommy Campbell of Derra, Gort.

Mattie Shannon, Doolin, recited a decade of the Rosary and Martin Calligan of Kilmurry/MacMahon read the 1916 Proclamation. After Tommy Campbell read the Easter Statement, Liam Cotter gave the oration.

Easter Statement to the Irish People

MESSAGE FROM REPUBLICAN SINN FÉIN LEADERSHIP 1987

On the occasion of the 71st anniversary of the historic Rising of Easter Week, 1916, Republican Sinn Féin sends greetings to Irish people at home and in exile who are gathered in commemoration of those who died for Ireland in every generation down to the present day.

The Proclamation of the All-Ireland Republic which you have heard read to you today is clear and unambiguous as to the motivations and intentions of the 1916 leaders and their followers. It declares "the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland" and proclaims "the Irish Republic as a Sovereign Independent State".

The Proclamation continues: "Until our arms have brought the opportune moment for the establishment of a permanent National Government, representative of the whole people of Ireland and elected by the suffrages of all her men and women, the Provisional Government, hereby constituted, will administer the civil and military affairs of the Republic in trust for the people".

NO STEPPING STONES

Nothing could be clearer. For the men and women of 1916 there was to be no half-way house, no stepping stones to freedom, no Westminster, Stormont or Leinster House. That has been the position of those who fought, suffered and died for Irish Freedom in the centuries of resistance to British rule before the great event we commemorate today, and in the struggle down the years since 1916.

That is also the position of Republican Sinn Féin in 1987. The constitution of Sinn Féin to which we adhere says that for a Sinn Féin elected representative to accept and take part in any parliament other than that of the All-Ireland Republic of 1916 is "an act of treachery to be dealt with as such".

Cumann na mBan stands with Republican Sinn Féin in principled adherence to their constitution and to the All-Ireland Republic. The National Graves Association, under whose auspices many of this week-end's ceremonies are held, states in its constitution: "It shall be the guiding principle of the Association that neither of the Partition institutions of Stormont or Leinster House represents the true aspirations of those who died for Irish Freedom".

Standing here at the graveside of our fallen comrades we renew our allegiance to the 32-County Republic for which they made the supreme sacrifice and publicly deny any other pretended authority in Ireland, whether British or British controlled, directly or indirectly.

THREE BASIC DEMANDS

We take our stand on the three basic Republican demands of (1) a complete British withdrawal from Ireland; (2) self-determination for the Irish people acting as a unit; and (3) a general amnesty for all political prisoners.

At this time we send renewed greetings to all Republican prisoners and their families wherever they may be and assure them of our continued support. We deplore the continued degrading strip-searching of the women prisoners in Maghaberry, Co. Antrim and the persecution of Republicans in Magilligan Prison, Co. Derry.

Here today at these sacred places we re-assert once more the right of the Irish people to use whatever measure of controlled and disciplined force is necessary to secure a British withdrawal from Ireland. In particular we salute the memory of those brave men and women who have in recent years made

the supreme sacrifice to bring this about. Their noble endeavour continues to inspire us.

Republican Sinn Féin rejects the imperialist social and economic system operating in Ireland which is now in crisis. It is at present engaged in crushing further the poor and oppressed so that the rich may continue to prosper. We pledge ourselves to fight it at every opportunity.

In this connection we rejoice at the reversal of the Single European Act which seeks to fasten the shackles of the EEC tighter about our country and prevent the growth and development of a free, dignified and just society in Ireland, fashioned by the Irish people themselves in control of their own destinies. The 1916 Proclamation and the new imperialism of the EEC are in direct contradiction to each other. Our choice is clear: we stand by Pearse and Connolly.

We reject both power-blocs, East and West; we oppose all military alliances and seek a neutral, non-aligned Ireland. Above all else, we renew our opposition to the hateful and shameful attempts at the extradition of political prisoners by the 26-county State into the clutches of the British Government and its agents. We pledge ourselves to continue our already energetic opposition to this latest collaboration by imperialists acting at the lowest level yet.

We uphold our Irish heritage and culture, now despised by the Establishment and down-graded by RTE. It is now highly unfashionable among those who exercise power in Ireland, just as the gallant Rising of 1916 is ignored and rejected by them.

WE HAVE KEPT FAITH

We call on those who have departed from the historic and principled Republican position in the past year to return to their allegiance. We remind them that so very many of those patriots and martyrs we honour today died at the hands of the Free State, simply because they in their time, at various stages of the fight for Irish freedom, refused to accept or enter the southern partitionist assembly at Leinster House.

We express appreciation of the support and encouragement given by our exiles in the United States, Canada and Australia; we acknowledge the work of our supporters among the peoples of Europe, and especially of the oppressed nationalities like ourselves; and we are keenly aware of the efforts of our friends in the Third World of Asia, Africa and Latin America — many of whom are engaged in the self-same struggle as ourselves for the dignity of mankind.

We salute all of them on this Easter Day. We tell them once again, as we tell the entire people of Ireland themselves: "We have kept the faith; we have not broken trust; and come what may, we will continue our efforts as heretofore to realise the ideals of 1916 in our time".

NATIONAL DRAW

Week 3 — £250: Donal Rogan, Kilcoo, Co. Down; £100: Jacqueline Maguire, Tallaght, Dublin 24; £75: Tina and Sile McNulty, Cullyhanna, Co. Armagh.

Week 4 — £100: Angela McParland, Dundalk, Co. Louth; £50: N. and K. McEvoy, Castlewellan, Co. Down; £25: Christy Gallagher, Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal.

Week 5 — £2,000: Joe Walker, Ravensdale, Co. Louth; £300: Brian T. Burns, Dundalk, Co. Louth; £150: Dominic Craig, Dungiven, Co. Derry.

Title: Saoirse/Irish Freedom: Uimh. 1

Organisation: Republican Sinn Féin

Date: 1987

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