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Extradition: An Irish Crisis

By Rev. Des Wilson, PEC Belfast Correspondent

The Dublin Government has provided the British government with the easiest extradition request ever. If it extradites its own citizens not only to Britain, but to a country which is illegally occupied by the British government, Observers say that the British government has offered some monumental bribe to the Fianna Fail administration or have some dreadful secret which it threatens to reveal if it does not get what it wants.

The present subservience of the Dublin government is fully approved by political interests represented by the extreme right in the British government under pressure by churches interests in general. The extradition of Robert Russell, however, illustrates the irrationality of what is happening.

Robert Russell was convicted in the first place by an Irish court on an entirely fictitious evidence. Then, following the principal that the court which, without respecting a human right to escape, he did so. When he was caught in the "south" of Ireland he could, under present legislation, have a human right to escape, he did so. The Irish government chose not to do this, so that when Robert Russell left prison, he was still to have charges to face in the north.

It was cruel and cynical, but under-state the political climate in Ireland at the moment: given the choice between bringing all charges once in their entirety to the "north" Robert Russell could have escaped to step out of an Irish prison a free man, the author then would have had nothing to charge him of, but the fact that he did not suggests that the Irish government deliberately contrived a situation which extradition was inevitable.

Extradition without extraditing also exposed some aspects of the Fianna Fail party. Gras... Last contest was almost entirely against it. Yet this opposition was entirely overwhelm by a simple decision by the police that there was an extradition whether grassroots opinion was against it or not. The whole organization caved in without a struggle. Faulty attempts to create a rival party failed; faultless attempts to create a new recruit within the party failed. Conscience, not for the first time, proved more effective than convention. Even those found members who threatened to resign from the party seemed not to have any human right to equality and with great party leadership did not.

It seemed that the civil war was being fought in the north without even most of it being on the British side, not only through conventional means but by the very political system which the British imposed in their control freedom of expression in Britain. The agony of prisoners, and of the families and neighbors of the extradited, would seem to be in the minds of these politicians as negligible as the agoniizing of the deportees when in the forties Vichy gloriously betrayed its own people.

News Bits

by Kathy Regan

Referring to the recent British decisions to deny prisoners the right to remain silent and to detain Sinn Fein from the closed media cast, Bernadette McAliskey said, "The British government has now simul­taneously reversed the decisions it has made to strip us of our right to remain silent" (AIRE, 10/22/88). Although censorship of Sinn Fein, as well as censorship of commen­tion, has been charged with offences said to have been committed in the "south" of the border. The Irish government chose not to do this, so that when Robert Russell left prison, he was still to have charges to face in the north.

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The Bad Odor Of British Justice
by Albert Doyle

Most Americans have a favorable view of the British criminal justice system. Among the exceptions are the Albemarle County Magna Carta lands and those who have been fundamentally fair and very much like ours. This might also be the case with regard to Northern Ireland. Is it possible that the Irish government, lacking in strength and leadership, will comply with the demands? The British government, with its overwhelming power, has made the case for the need for reform.

To hide the deceit, the government incorrectly texted a U.S. government record that the British government is in receipt of, telling a weak Irish government what to do and what not to do. This is the case with apartheid in South Africa.

As Americans we must change our minds to fight to abolish apaiheid In South Africa and to protect British colonialism and oppressed groups. If we do not support British colonialism and oppression of the Irish people, the Irish people and the Irish government will not support British colonialism and oppression.

You can start now by contacting your senators and congressmen and insisting that they support the MacBride Principles legislation when it is reintroduced in Congress in the United States. You can also write to your local and state government representatives and ask them to support the MacBride Principles legislation when it is reintroduced in Ireland.

Before there can be peace and justice in Ireland, the cause of British colonialism — and its inherent injustices, must first be publicly aired. If the truth is known, world opinion will quickly turn against British government state terrorism. This, as the case with apartheid in South Africa.

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Part II

by Bob West, PEC, Illinois

While the elimination from Ireland to America of about 200,000 people per year over a period of two centuries was much more massive and encompassed both Protestants and Catholics, it did the campaign pay for itself, but it netted the PEC $15,000. The campaign was very successful. Not only did it result in recruiting new members from across the nation. In this first mailing we reached over 10,000 Americans of Irish heritage. Phase II began in November with 22,000 piece mailing. At the helm of this campaign are professionals Brian McGrath, Colette Sanders and Lewis Abrams of Executive Enterprises. The conception of this aggressive campaign is credited to Sandy Carlson of Connecticut. In her final presentation at the meeting, she was asked: "What do you mean by your Corps of Directors?" She replied: "I mean the Continental Army."

Comment: Of the above mentioned one fourth (1/4) Americans, probably well over one half of them were descended from the one half of them were descended from Americans of Irish heritage. This is a clear-cut, easy-to-understand, strategy for carrying out the objectives of the PEC. Those who have followed the programs for carrying out these strategies. The following quotes are a small amount of proof available in support of the foregoing assertion concerning George Washington.

(1) Joseph Galloway, a prominent American who in his, was an Irishman, admitted in 1778 that in America "I am an Irishman." He was much traveled in the colonies. He gave testimony before the House of Commons in London, October 27th, 1779. Galloway said: "I am concerned in a question concerning the make-up of Washington's Continental Army. Galloway replied: "...I can answer the question with precision. There were precisely one fourth (1/4) natives of Ulster (2/4) and the other one fourth (1/4) were English and Scotch." Galloway's testimony is an important point that must be stressed in determining the nationalities of Revolutionary soldiers. It must be stressed that if we are to be able to determine the ability to represent itself. America requires an accurate Race as being the most prolific of all European races.

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NEW BOOK

HELL OR CONNAUGHT!
The Violence of Irish Colonisation of Ireland 1652-1660

By Peter Berrington Ellis

Cromwell's ruthless colonisation of Ireland is a story of cruelty and terror which still reverberates in the Irish psyche. Ellis, the author of The Irish Weepers, explained to the Boston Irish Cultural History Group that "The United Irishmen" fought for Irish independence. In 1916, both Protestants and Catholics were killed in that rebellion in the Sinn Fein. How the English people of America got back 26 years. He was much traveled in the colonies. He gave testimony before the House of Commons in London, October 27th, 1779. Galloway said: "I am concerned in a question concerning the make-up of Washington's Continental Army. Galloway replied: "...I can answer the question with precision. There were precisely one fourth (1/4) natives of Ulster (2/4) and the other one fourth (1/4) were English and Scotch." Galloway's testimony is an important point that must be stressed in determining the nationalities of Revolutionary soldiers. It must be stressed that if we are to be able to determine the ability to represent itself. America requires an accurate Race as being the most prolific of all European races.

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Thirty-eight-year-old Paul Kane was born in Longford, near Belfast. He is a British citizen by domicile and an Irish citizen by birth. The government of Britain and the Irish Republic both claim responsibility for protecting the human rights and civil liberties of Paul Kane — citizen of Ireland, subject of Britain.

Paul Kane was jailed in the Maze (Long Kesh) prison in Northern Ireland on information provided by the notorious paid informer (Supergrass) Christopher Black whose evidence against Kane and 37 other victims was later totally discredited.

Kane escaped from prison with a large number of Republican prisoners in September 1983. He was subsequently recaptured and charged with escaping from prison. In the meantime, the charges on which he had originally been jailed were dropped.

Kane was released on bail — an innocent man who had escaped from prison — to await charges of escaping from prison and returning to Northern Ireland.

On November 23, 1987 Kane was found in Granard, Co. Longford with another escaped Republican, Dermot Finucane, during the vast military operation mounted in the Republican Ardcore area of British government to find non-existent guns. Kane was arrested under the Republic's Special Laws — the Offences Against the State Act.

After being held without charge for 48 hours, Kane was released. He had committed no offenses against the Irish State. In the meantime, the R.U.C. in the six counties had been contacted by the Gardai (Police), and indicated that they were looking for Kane, and would consider instituting extradition proceedings.

Upon his release Kane was closely followed by two detectives along a street in Granard. Kane encountered a B.B.C. reporter who agreed to give him a ride to Cavan.

The detectives jumped into an unmarked Gardai car, and the two civilian cars, and army had expected them to. The police demanded that the young men produce their identification, but the Gardai opposed bail, but did not attempt to serve the provisional warrant which had been sworn out.

The following day Kane was brought before the Justice again, granted bail and released. The R.U.C. extradition warrant had not arrived, so the Gardai re-arrested him. The Gardai formally arrested Kane on foot of the provisional warrant which they themselves had obtained. Kane's lawyers went to the Republic's High Court to submit that Kane had been placed under a form of "detention" quite illegally, in order that he might be available for an R.U.C. warrant to arrive.

Judgement was given on December 21 when the Irish High Court ruled that Kane had been free to "go where he wished at any time". The Gardai had not entered the house. They bore no relationship whatever to the anti-social service volunteers who were homosexual, for certainly heterosexual inhabitants of the house had been free to "go where they wished at any time". They were not going to be accepted. Please write a letter, in your words, along the lines of the suggested letter. These letters do count and must be considered by the recipient. WRITE NOW!

On October 27th three young Irish people were convicted in a British Court of conspiracy to murder British Northern Ireland Secretary, Tom King. They were sentenced to twenty-five years imprisonment. Impartial observers considered the verdict incredible as there was no evidence of any involvement in any crime.

The civil and political situation in Ireland has developed to such a degree that virtually all legal safeguards for the citizen have been abandoned. Recently one Irish citizen was sentenced to five years in jail for possession of "incriminating documents and enters copies of a Republican poster which had been on public display and sale in Ireland for over twelve years." While another was sentenced for membership in the I.R.A. with the only evidence being the sworn testimony of a Garda officer that he "believed the defendant to be a member of the I.R.A."

**The Civil Liberties Of Citizen Kane**

*by Bernard Fox, PEC Northern Ireland Correspondent*

An American Reports From The North

by Sammy

(Again, this is the pseudonym of a PEC member, who is currently traveling Northern Ireland. From time to time Sammy provides us with information.)

Two young German men working as volunteers for an Irish Republican group, a community for the mentally handicapped, were harassed by both the RUC and the British Army recently when they returned from a late evening cycle. The youths riding along the Newry Road created a threatening image for the armed British soldiers on patrol. Convicted they discovered an IRA unit riding down the well-lit main road, the police called for assistance in ambushing the young men as they stopped at their apolgial beds.

The unsuspecting youths turned into a tree-protected driveway before the police and army had expected them to. The Gardai had not arrived, so the Gardai re-arrested him. The Gardai formally arrested Kane on foot of the provisional warrant which they themselves had obtained.

Two Sinn Fein members, Gerry Adams and a Provisional Sinn Fein member, who is currently traveling in the United States, were arrested.

Satisfied that the young social service volunteers were guilty of nothing more than taking advantage of the only free time they were allowed, the soldiers and police (who made no apology for their actions) proceeded to hold the two young men in the RUC Social Services Department, a location that he will no longer believe the constitute the treatment of Irish citizens in British courts. Since it is apparent that Irish defenders will not be treated fairly in British courts, I suggest that Ireland should repudiate the recent extradition treaty with Britain and join in the appeal of the Winchester decision. This would serve to focus world attention on this little-known abuse.