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## American Irish Newsletter - November 2002

American Ireland Education Foundation - PEC

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### Recommended Citation

American Ireland Education Foundation - PEC, "American Irish Newsletter - November 2002" (2002). *American Irish Newsletter*. Paper 33.

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# AMERICAN IRISH NEWSLETTER

Political Education Committee of the American Ireland Education Foundation

Volume 27, Number 11

November, 2002

## Why Not a Fire Fighters' Memorial?

### *New York City Snubs Emerald Society's Call for a Special Monument*

By John J. Finucane, *PEC National President and Emerald Society Political Activities Coordinator*

(New York City, Nov. 1) – THE EMERALD Society of the Fire Department, City of New York, seeks your support for the creation of a memorial to the fire fighters who died on Sept. 11, 2001. The Emerald Society is FDNY's largest fraternal organization, and 180 of the fire fighters who perished last Sept. 11 were members. [Editor's Note: The Emerald Society has supported PEC, both financially and through activity, for more than 25 years.]

We are asking that a suitable memorial listing the names and fire companies of the 343 fighters lost on Sept. 11 be erected at the site of the World Trade Center as a distinct part of the greater memorial.

The Lower Manhattan Development Corporation (LMDC) is responsible for developing the memorials. The LMDC prefers one memorial listing the names of the fire fighters and other emergency service workers together with the names of all the other precious souls lost that day.

We disagree with the LMDC. What the fire fighters did that day—ran into burning buildings while everyone else ran out—was special. They saved thousands of lives. Surely, it is fitting that they be acknowledged for their bravery in a special way, a fire fighter's memorial.

As Americans, we owe this to our fallen heroes to make sure they will forever be remembered. A distinct fire fighters' memorial will ensure that future generations of

Americans who visit the Sept. 11 memorials will appreciate the magnitude of the fire fighters' sacrifice.

### Urgent Action Request

You will make a difference if you communicate your views to the LMDC. Urge your friends to do the same. Send the message below in your own words or as it is. (It is not necessary to mention if you are a fire fighter.)

Contact John Whitehead, Director, Lower Manhattan Development Corporation, One Liberty Plaza, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10006; tele. 212 962-2300; fax 212-962-2431; email [acontini@empire.state.ny.us](mailto:acontini@empire.state.ny.us) (include your name, address, and date on email messages).

Send this message: I prefer that a separate memorial be erected at the site of the World Trade Center to memorialize the 343 brave fire fighters lost on Set. 11, 2001. They must be listed separately by name and fire company.

Let's not forget our heroes.

For further information, contact Lieut. John J. Finucane, Ret., tele. 45-548-4234.

Copy this article and distribute to friends and associates. Urge them to take action to memorialize New York City's bravest.

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### Direct Rule Resumes

AT PRESS time, Northern Secretary John Reid is set to declare an open-ended suspension of the Northern Executive and assume the powers of government over the North for himself, his Ministers and the Westminster parliament, according to reports.

(continued on Page 8)

## **Our View: What's in a Name?**

*FIFTEEN years ago, the Birmingham Six and Guildford Four were the tags of the men whose imprisonment represented the failure of British government in Ireland. Then there was Joe Doherty. His imprisonment in New York symbolized the Administration's compliance with Britain in failing the people of Ireland. Then there were the Ballymurphy Seven, young men sentenced to life for murder, though the British courts readily admitted the men were not responsible for murder.*

*Since the late 1980s, we have seen all of these men released from jail--along with many other men and women.. Their releases have come with an evolving peace process in which Britain and Ireland and the US have acknowledged that British government is a nonstarter in Northern Ireland.*

*The peace process acknowledges the failure of partition, internment, propaganda wars, collusion, torture, Diplock courts, martial law, spy towers, supergrasses, loyalist terror, unionism.....every tool Britain has ever wielded against the Irish to destroy Irish identity and the Irish people's propensity for self-government.*

*The peace process is a beautiful thing all those parties to partition, internment, the propaganda war, collusion, torture, Diplock courts, martial law, spy towers, supergrasses, loyalist terror, unionism.....try to mangle.*

*They do not succeed. Agents of unionism and loyalism and Toryism want to buy time before the inevitable collapse of the British oligarchy. Even Trimble knows it and has hinted at it in his frustration with the UUP's anti-Agreement element and the DUP. Nice guys don't always finish last. As the Newsletter changes hands, we hope you will keep the peace process in yours. Remember the Birmingham Six, Guildford Four, Joe Doc, Ballymurphy Seven. Remember the people. Remember the pain of struggle.*

## **Peace Process Update**

### **September 2**

SINN Fein responds cautiously to the Loyalist Commission's statement calling on Sinn Fein to work with it to stop violence at interface areas. The Loyalist Commission includes the illegal Ulster Volunteer Force, Red Hand Commando, and the UDA. Sinn Fein MLA for North Belfast **Gerry Kelly** says, "We have had statements from the Loyalist Commission in the past such as the so-called no-first-strike policy, which was almost immediately found to be worthless." Northern Secretary **John Reid** welcomes the statement, saying, "While there is violence, always apparently defensive violence, then the underlying social problems, investment, employment, jobs, security, peace of mind, better standard of living, education will not be enhanced. The paramilitaries, whatever guise they are under, are actually destroying the chances of ordinary people."

### **September 3**

A youth appears in court accused of attempting to murder with a hatchet a teenager in Antrim. The charges relate to an assault on a 15-year-old Catholic boy close to Greystone Primary School on the Greystone Road in Antrim Aug. 30. Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) Chief Constable **Hugh Orde** angers nationalists when he says that the police full-time reserve must be retained for the foreseeable future, in contradiction to the Patten Report.

### **September 4**

Loyalists are responsible for most street violence in the North, says Orde in his report to the Policing Board. Over the last three months, according to police reports, 94 people have been arrested for rioting. In east Belfast, police arrested 38 people for street violence—29 loyalists and nine nationalists. In north Belfast, PSNI arrested 56 people

*(continued on Page 7)*

### **American Ireland Education Foundation-PEC**

*A non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization  
founded 1975*

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**Supported in part by the Emerald Society, New York City Fire Department**

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## **From the North: Have Unionists Shot Themselves in the Head?**

By Robert Heatley, *co-founder of the Campaign for Democracy, a predominantly Protestant organization, Belfast, Northern Ireland*

THE IRA HAS BEEN on cease-fire for eight years. Under the supervision of Canadian General **John de Chastelain's** Independent International Commission for Decommissioning, the IRA has carried out two acts of putting arms beyond use.

The IRA has expressed regret for actions that killed or injured innocent, uninvolved civilians. Even Britain's Northern Ireland Office concedes the IRA has facilitated the peace process.

Despite pro-British media misrepresentations in Britain and Ireland, significant blame for the interface sectarian rioting in Belfast over the summer lies with loyalists. Ascribing responsibility to "both sides," even the PSNI eventually came clean and announced that fact.

In addition, the UDA and the UVF has waged for two years a bombing and killing campaign against Catholics. No unionist has said what he or she is doing to bring loyalists to book.

Then several weeks back in Oct., with a Stormont Assembly election looming in May, First Minister **David Trimble's** Ulster Unionist Council met in panic. The republicans were not scaring the pants off the UUC, though. It was the fear that it was about to be eclipsed by **Ian Paisley's** DUP. The anti-Agreement elements within the UUC registered a victory over Trimble's foot-dragging goers-along with the Agreement who had believed they could stem Paisley's advance by out-Paisleying him.

The UUC interpreted this as meaning the UUP could not go into an election while in government with Sinn Fein. It had been contemplating an exit strategy for a long time but had needed an excuse that would not cast

the blame for wrecking the political institutions on itself. The anti-Agreement people within Trimble's party had prepared the ground, and now he had become indistinguishable from them. Unproven allegations of republican misdemeanors would not be a sufficient fig-leaf for its attempt to destroy the Agreement--although, in the propaganda battle, they would be useful enough to go on with.

Among demands that even those well-disposed toward them considered to be unrealizable at this stage was the UUP's calling on the IRA to disband immediately. Decommissioning had thus become disbanding. Failing that, the UUP wanted Sinn Fein excluded from the Executive.

Then something fell from the sky to give them a shade of credibility: the spying scandal given prominence by a 40-officers-strong PSNI raid on the Sinn Fein offices at Stormont.

Reams have now been written about this media event, and we do not have the space to discuss it here. (See the Oct. 10 *Irish News*, <http://www.irishnews.com>, for more information. In it **Martin Ingram**, a former British army intelligence agent, puts this matter into context by considering the IRA's support for Sinn Fein's peace project.)

Nevertheless, Trimble sped over to Downing Street and put his demand for Sinn Fein's exclusion to the British prime minister. Had **Tony Blair** granted this, unionists would have destroyed the Mitchell Agreement, the foundation of which is inclusion based on electoral strength, and restored their dominance of the Executive.

Even though the media supported unionists by blaming republicans and

never using the words "unionist rejectionism of the Mitchell Agreement" to explain the crisis, Britain considered Trimble's demand as a not-on option.

Britain decided to try to salvage something from the wreckage its tactics over the five years of the Agreement had created. Pandering to Trimble had brought Britain to a dangerous juncture. For the fourth time, Britain suspended the Assembly and reintroduced direct rule.

None of the main players in Ireland asked for that. Now no one, including Britain, can see a way out of a stalemate with the UUP and the DUP having rejected Mitchell and Sinn Fein and the SDLP adamant they want its full implementation.

The British government has asserted that, in accordance with the Stage Three provisions of the Mitchell Agreement, it will push ahead with the Dublin in implementing the outstanding reforms, with policing first on the list. If that transpires, unionists will have shot themselves in the head. We can only wait and see.

[Footnote: I understand from the *Newsletter's* editor, Sandy Carlson, that this will be the final issue of the publication under the PEC banner alone and under her editorship. I wish to record my appreciation for the work that she and all the others involved with the AIEF-PEC have done for the cause of Ireland. Anyone who wishes to continue following my take on the situation can do so by writing to the *Irish Democrat*, 244 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8JR or by browsing its website: [www.irishdemocrat.co.uk](http://www.irishdemocrat.co.uk), where my articles often appear.]

## Newsbits

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THE SAVILLE Inquiry into Bloody Sunday will take evidence in Derry for the next three weeks before it relocates to London. A live video link will relay proceedings to the Guildhall for relatives and others after the move. British soldiers and others who have permission not to travel to Derry will be heard in London. A former RUC officer told the inquiry on Monday that alleged forensic evidence against victims of the 1972 British army massacre might have been contaminated. **John Montgomery**, who took swabs from the hands of a number of the deceased, told the inquiry that the swabs could have been contaminated by soldiers coming into contact with the bodies or from the vehicles they were transported in. The retired Dr. **John Martin** told the inquiry that it was "very likely that all the findings that I got on hands and clothing were due to contamination." Martin had told the original but discredited Widgery Tribunal in 1972 that there was a "strong suspicion" that some of the dead had used weapons or had been standing close to those using weapons. Martin, a Principal Scientific Officer at the Department of Industrial and Forensic Science in 1972, faced more than four hours of questioning from counsel for the inquiry, **Christopher Clarke**, QC. (RM Dist. 9/3/02)

Economic progress is needed to underpin the peace process, according to **President Bush's** special advisor on the North, **Richard Haass**. He says fostering economic vitality is an important basis of progress. Haass says a summit in Washington hosting business leaders from the US and the North and South of Ireland could help show people that they can expect a better standard of living in peace. (IAIS 9/5/02)

The PSNI has informed Sinn Fein Fermanagh South Tyrone MP **Michelle Gildernew** that her life is under threat from a loyalist group that the force refuses to name. "As a young mother, I take this threat to my life very seriously. However, I am angry and frustrated—but not surprised—with the failure of the PSNI to furnish me any details about where the threat originates from or exactly what is the precise nature of the threat. My solicitor has been in contact with the PSNI in an attempt to ascertain the origin and nature of the threat—to date with no success. This means that I am unable to properly take steps to ensure the safety of my family, my young son or myself. It is unacceptable." (RM Dist. 9/6/02)

Mayor **Alex Maskey** has unveiled an Irish flag in Belfast City Hall. It is the first time the flag has been displayed alongside the Union Jack in the city hall, which Maskey says has been "a cold house for nationalists." He says, "The reality of city hall, as a unionist-dominated institution, casts a long shadow over the life and work of the council. Nowhere is this more clearly demonstrated than in the display of flags, emblems, and symbols inside and outside the city hall itself." His actions anger unionists. North Belfast DUP MP **Nigel Dodds** says the mayor is displaying "the flag of a foreign country." However, the decor in the mayoral rooms is still dominated by British symbols, including pictures of **Queen Elizabeth**, the **Queen Mother**, and **Prince Philip**. The mayor says flags could become "tools of the political divide" but says that he will display the Irish and British flags together with "neither more prominent than the other." (RM Dist. 9/6/02)

The most senior former RUC police officer to give evidence to the Saville

Inquiry has admitted that the RUC did not interview any Bloody Sunday soldiers even after concluding that one of them was guilty of murder. On the second day of his evidence, former RUC second-in-command in Derry, **Patrick McCullagh**, says the RUC did not interview any of the soldiers but left the task to the British army. (RM Dist. 9/13/02)

Kentucky Fried Chicken is coming under pressure in the US because of intimidation of Catholic employees in its Antrim restaurant and a UDA-UFF mural on its Shankill Road outlet. Front-runner for the position of state comptroller in New York **Alan Hevesi** has taken up the issue (See Action Request, Page 8). "We're going to take action to try to get the company to deal with this," said a senior source in the Hevesi campaign. **Christopher Tierney**, who worked for a year in the Antrim outlet, alleges KFC transferred him 12 miles away to Glengormley rather than deal with the problem directly. "Loyalists used to come up every night, about 20 to 30 every time," he said. "They used to shout 'Tierney, you're dead, you Fenian bastard.' They paint-bombed the place. They wrote, 'Tierney' with a bullet beside it. They made threatening phone calls." Tierney lives within walking distance of the outlet but always had to take a taxi to and from work. (RM Dist. 9/16/02)

The Bloody Sunday inquiry moves to London next week. Proceedings are open to the public. The first scheduled witness to take the stand in London is Brigadier **Frank Kitson**, the army commander in the early seventies who was instrumental in introducing counter-insurgency strategies including the use of black propaganda and pseudo-gangs. (Pat Finucane Center 9/20/02)

## Finucane Urges Members to Stay Involved in the Peace Process

Dear Members,

WE AND THE IRISH American Unity Conference are in the process of joining forces under the IAUC banner. We have been the two most powerful and respected Irish human rights organizations in the US, and we will now be one. This strengthens us in the fight for peace, justice, fairness, and equal rights for all traditions in Northern Ireland. I will continue to act as a member of the IAUC Advisory Board. The *Newsletter* will continue with the same format and with **Robert Heatley's** insightful articles.

I ask all AIEF-PEC members (past and present) to fill out the IAUC membership form on Page 8 and send in the \$25 membership dues. Activism, membership, and dues are vital to our bringing our message to our government and public as we fight the powerful forces of misinformation from the British government and the press.

Your IAUC dues help pay for organization activities, the *Newsletter*, mailings, speakers from Ireland, information sites, news gathering, our office, and other expenses. These activities have helped gain the much-needed publicity that focuses world attention on Northern Ireland.

### Put Ireland in Readers' Hands

HOW MANY books on Irish history, culture, current affairs, and Ireland's Great Hunger are on the shelves in your local library? How does this number compare with the number of books exploring other ethnic identities?

If there are not many Irish interest books in your library, you can easily remedy the situation by taking these steps.

1. Determine if there are fewer Irish interest books than books about other ethnicities.
2. Ask your head librarian who prepares the book budget. Ask where and when he or she does this.
3. Visit, write, or phone the person responsible and ask that your heritage—and that of a good many of your neighbors—be represented. You pay the taxes that pay for the books.
4. Stay in touch with that person to make sure that the library honors your request. Don't accept much stalling. This puts more Irish books in visible locations and might incline readers to get informed.

Your moral support and personal activity are essential in the continuing effort to implement *all* aspects of the Mitchell Agreement, in support of which the majority of the people of Ireland voted and to which the British and Irish governments and most Northern Ireland political parties signed up.

The unionist and British politicians and governments do not want to let go of their idea of supremacy, and they continue to delay the Mitchell Agreement. Nonetheless, change is happening.

We will all feel a great sense of satisfaction and accomplishment when the Irish people have achieved a real, just, and permanent peace and full self-determination. We will know *we were there when it really mattered*—later on could be too late.

We must continue our letter-writing campaigns and other forms of activism. With your moral and financial support of the IAUC, we can help see the peace process through to completion. Let's now fail Ireland for the sake of a few dollars. Sign up to the IAUC now.

In unity,  
**John J. Finucane**

### Letter to the Editor

From: Jere Springer  
To: PEC Newsletter  
Subject: Robert Heatley  
Date: Sat, 14 Sep 2002 09:32:02 -0700

I, FOR ONE, SHALL miss your publication, especially **Robert Heatley's** column, "From the North." I find his articles thoughtful, insightful, and interesting. Will his articles be appearing elsewhere, or is there a Web site where his articles can be viewed? Good luck to all of you and thank you for a good run.

*Editor's Note:* The *Newsletter* will continue under the editorial control of the Irish American Unity Conference. Heatley's articles will, likewise, continue to run in the *Newsletter*. Thank you, Bobby, for your dedication.



## **IAUC Leader Calls for Your Support**

By Jim Gallagher, *IAUC President*

THE OVERALL goal of the IAUC is to use peaceful means to achieve self-determination for the Irish people and eventually to achieve a united Ireland for the island of Ireland. Our principal objective is to facilitate the quick, full, and proper implementation of the Mitchell Agreement. We acknowledge that this Agreement is the only vehicle approved by all of the people of Ireland that provides any hope of a peaceful and just settlement in the six counties.

### **Human Rights and Political Action Committees**

Our human rights and political action committees are constructed to monitor, assess, and report on the status of all of the elements of the Agreement. We have established communication links with key members of congress, the State Department, and the Irish and British embassies.

The Media Alert program on our Web site monitors false, misleading, and biased reporting about the North and quickly and easily responds to the sources of these articles. We are increasing our interactions with community groups in the North, on both sides, to facilitate their addressing mutual and common problems. If democracy is going to work, then it must work at the neighborhood level, regardless of what politicians do or do not do.

### **Advocacy Days**

Each spring, IAUC members and invited representatives from other American Irish organizations conduct a two- to three-day Advocacy Days campaign in Washington, DC. In an intensive series of visits to members of congress, the White House, the State Department, the Irish Embassy, the Northern Ireland Bureau, and other agencies, we deliver our message and our concerns directly to key decision makers. In turn, we seek their support on these issues.

In particular, we have been trying to curry support for the full implementation of the Mitchell Agreement, fair deportation negotiations, and other Irish-related issues. We are planning to extend this annual effort to appropriate European Union and United Nations offices. Further, for those who cannot travel to Washington during our Advocacy Days, we are establishing a Constituent Advocacy project in which members can conduct similar activities in their respective states with their elected federal officials, local media, and others.

### **Education Committee**

The education committee raises awareness of past and current events in the North. Its primary emphasis is on

human and civil rights in the North. Recently, we added selected academia to our standard distribution list--that is, graduate schools who have curricula in conflict resolution, peace and justice, international affairs, and other such fields of study. We are planning to add appropriate law schools to this list. Our objective is to cultivate communication with faculty and students in these schools and to enhance our college intern program.

### **Cultural Committee**

Our cultural committee is also designed to raise awareness of Irish and American Irish heritage. We recognize that, unfortunately, Irish-Americans know and appreciate little of their history and culture. A greater knowledge and appreciation of one's heritage should generate increased interest in it and, therefore, make for a stronger membership.

Our primary communications vehicles are the periodic newsletter and the Web site. PEC founder and national president **John J. Finucane** and I agree to continue the *PEC Newsletter* by combining it with the IAUC Newsletter and maintaining its quality.

### **Members**

Our membership consists of both chapter and at-large members. The latter are members who are either outside of a geographic area covered by a chapter or who choose not to belong to a chapter. We have about 30 chapters in 15 States. At this time, five regional representatives coordinate communication and activities between chapters/ members in respective states and the national board.

AIEF-PEC members in states in which the IAUC is not now represented will extend the member advocacy base. We encourage members of the AIEF-PEC to transfer their knowledge, interests, and energy to the IAUC to continue the fine work that the AIEF-PEC has done over the years.

At this critical juncture in the faltering Irish peace process, this is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate that American Irish unity is alive and well and effective. I hope that you will join us as we strive to strengthen the effort to finally bring a real democracy, real peace and justice, and a stable society to all of the people in the island of Ireland. Our need is greater now more than ever. Our opportunity is limited, and it's now.

(continued from Page 2)

for similar incidents—29 nationalists and 27 loyalists. PSNI Belfast Commander **Alan McQuillan** reports that police and British army personnel mount massive joint operations every night to prevent bombings and shootings in the city. McQuillan says 18 months ago, when he became assistant chief constable, there was no need for military backup apart from during the loyalist marching season, but “military brigades are now common on the street virtually every night.”

#### September 9

The British government is examining ways to keep the public fully informed about which paramilitary organizations in Northern Ireland are breaching their cease-fires, Reid says. He says there is a need to address the demands from all sections of the community to keep them fully briefed on the behavior of loyalist and republican groups.

#### September 13

Loyalists murder Stephen Warnock, a senior member of the Loyalist Volunteer Force, in a drugs-related feud. Before the week is out, loyalists will injure another one of their own in another drugs-related attack.

#### September 14

The UDA injures three people in a gun attack in a nationalist district of north Belfast.

#### September 18

Sinn Fein leader **Gerry Adams** tells reporters following a meeting with British Prime Minister **Tony Blair** that he has raised issues of policing, sectarian violence, and demilitarization, including a “review of events of the summer.” Adams says he is concerned that the peace process has fallen into a trough. “The great changes that have taken place over the last 10 years have now ground down to a halt,” Adams says. He points to Reid’s failure to bring about changes in Northern Ireland for “delaying, slowing down, and minimizing the changes” promised in the Mitchell Agreement. He adds, “We’re committed to moving forward, but only if we have confidence among republicans and nationalists and other pro-Agreement people that it seems to be a process for change and that the pain people are taking is actually for something and that [London] is honoring its commitments. The prime minister told us that he accepted this analysis.”

#### September 19

Adams says his party would call an ard fheis (national convention) to discuss joining the Policing Board if the British government tabled sufficient legislative changes to bring policing arrangements into line with the Patten Report recommendations.

#### September 23

Sinn Fein and the SDLP condemn the UUP’s threat to collapse the Northern Ireland Executive unless the IRA disband by Jan. 18. Trimble announces that his ministers

will no longer attend meetings of the North-South Ministerial Council with Sinn Fein ministers. The body, which consists of ministers from Dublin and Belfast, is an important area of all-Ireland cooperation under the Mitchell Agreement. Ulster Unionist MP **Jeffrey Donaldson** says the IRA must “disappear” before his party will consider sharing power with Sinn Féin.

#### September 25

British and Irish government officials hold crisis talks in a bid to hold together the Mitchell Agreement following the UUP’s Jan. 18 ultimatum. The UDA kicks **Johnny Adair** out of its organization, revealing a major rift inside the largest of the Protestant terror groups following a shooting of a major drugs dealer and rival in Northern Ireland. The UDA accuses Adair, the UDA’s west Belfast commander, of acting as an “agent provocateur” between his organization and the splinter Loyalist Volunteer Force.

#### October 1

Ulster Unionist MP **David Burnside** says unionists will leave Northern Ireland’s Policing Board if the British government introduces more police reforms in the North to bring the PSNI into line with the Patten Report’s recommendations.

#### October 2

Orde and the Policing Board say the North will retain the services of the 2,000 men and women on the Police Reserves, contrary to the Patten Report’s recommendations.

#### October 5

Police raid Sinn Fein offices outside Stormont, saying they are investigating republican terrorist activity. Police arrest Sinn Fein’s head of administration, **Denis Donaldson**. Sinn Fein calls the raids and arrest a political attack on the party.

#### October 9

Orde apologizes for the manner in which the PSNI has raided Sinn Fein offices. He says, “I regret the way it was done. You can take that as a general apology.” Orde accepts the police made an “error of judgment” in handling the planned raids. Adams assures Irish Prime Minister **Bertie Ahern** that Sinn Fein was not involved in an intelligence-gathering operation at Government Buildings at Stormont. Adams says, “If there is a crisis, in any crisis, whether it’s a contrived crisis or a real crisis, then it goes over to the people to decide what the outcome should be, and there shouldn’t be any sort of a structure which has some sort of super referee from London coming in to take away from the natives whatever little political structure that they have bestowed on us.”



## IAUC Membership Form

TO JOIN THE IAUC, complete the form below and send it with your check to IAUC, P.O. Box 102, Blauvelt, New York 10913-9915

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Congressperson/District \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Paid: ☐ \$25 Regular Membership

☐ \$35 Family Membership

Additional Donation: ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$500 ☐ Other

Credit Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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## Action Requests

*Please take the actions recommended below.*

**Contact:** John Whitehead, Director, Lower Manhattan Development Corporation, One Liberty Plaza, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10006; tele. 212-962-2300; fax 212-962-2431; email [acontini@empire.state.ny.us](mailto:acontini@empire.state.ny.us) (include your name, address, and date on email messages)

**Message:** I urge that a separate memorial be erected at the site of the World Trade Center to memorialize the 343 fire fighters lost on Sept. 11. Their names should be listed separately by name and fire company. Let's not forget our heroes.

**Contact:** Alan Hevesi, Democrat for Comptroller, 271 Madison Avenue, 18th Floor, New York, NY 10016; tele. 212-696-9308; fax 212-696-9147; email [Hevesi2002@hotmail.com](mailto:Hevesi2002@hotmail.com)

**Message:** I support your announcement that your office will address the anti-Catholic discrimination against Kentucky Fried Chicken employees in Belfast, Northern Ireland. I understand that the company has relocated employees rather than properly address these employees' experiences of loyalist intimidation. Such intimidation is common throughout Belfast, despite the peace process; and your calling attention to it will do much to pressure the company and the British government to put an end to this crisis.

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While a review of the 1998 Mitchell Agreement is set to follow this fourth collapse of power-sharing, the Stormont administration could ultimately be scrapped and Assembly elections, due by May, postponed indefinitely.

A schedule of UUP demands two weeks ago, including the disbandment of the IRA and a halt to policing reform, is likely an insurmountable obstacle to the return of power-sharing. Politically, the increased hostility of the UUP to the Agreement and the willingness of the British government to accommodate its veto on political change paved the way for the current collapse.

Long threatening to bring down the administration, UUP leader David Trimble advanced his expel-Sinn-Fein -or- else ultimatum from next Jan. 18 to next week following allegations of an "IRA spy ring" in Belfast and a police raid on Sinn Fein's offices at the Stormont Assembly last week. Republicans accused the UUP and its supporters in the British government of engaging in political theatre to create a strategy to escape from the Agreement.

The Irish and British governments are attempting a soft landing for the peace process. Pending a review of the Agreement by the North's political parties and the two governments, at least some of the infrastructure of the Mitchell Agreement are set to be maintained.

While the Policing Board is set to go—unless special orders are made for its preservation—it appears that the North-South implementation bodies and British-Irish Intergovernmental Conference will continue with their work.