



Sacred Heart
UNIVERSITY

Sacred Heart University
DigitalCommons@SHU

American Irish Newsletter

The Irish American Community Collections

9-2002

American Irish Newsletter - September 2002

American Ireland Education Foundation - PEC

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.sacredheart.edu/irish_ainews



Part of the [European Languages and Societies Commons](#), [Other American Studies Commons](#), and the [Political Science Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

American Ireland Education Foundation - PEC, "American Irish Newsletter - September 2002" (2002). *American Irish Newsletter*. Paper 31.

http://digitalcommons.sacredheart.edu/irish_ainews/31

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the The Irish American Community Collections at DigitalCommons@SHU. It has been accepted for inclusion in American Irish Newsletter by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@SHU. For more information, please contact ferribyp@sacredheart.edu.



AMERICAN IRISH NEWSLETTER

Political Education Committee of the American Ireland Education Foundation

Volume 27, Number 9

September, 2002

PEC President Urges Members to Stay Involved

AFTER 27 years of worthy service to the American Irish people, often leading the way in grass-roots political activism, we inform you with utmost regret that the AIEF-PEC will be phasing out operations as of Dec. 31, 2002.

Our success came about through your support and active efforts over the years. Our letter writing and phone call campaigns played key roles in many successes—including enacting the MacBride Principles, helping Sinn Fein leader **Gerry Adams** secure a visa to the US, deterring of Boston College from presenting former British Prime Minister **Margaret Thatcher** the President's Medal, and bringing about British Prime Minister **Tony Blair's** public acknowledgment of Britain's role in the Great Hunger, to name a few. Your support enabled the PEC to place advertisements in the *New York Times* and other major newspapers during the 1992 presidential campaigns. These ads finally brought British injustice in Ireland to the fore in American politics.

The PEC hopes your activism will continue. We know that unity among organizations can work. The Council of Presidents of American Irish Organizations, which the PEC initiated in 1984, was very successful during its brief life.

With this desire to force unity among such organizations that we highly recommend that you join the Irish American Unity Conference. The IAUC is a reputable organization that shares our ideals, objectives, and activist methods.

Many of you have paid PEC memberships extending beyond 2002. It is not fair to keep that dues beyond the end of this year without providing services. We therefore offer the following options to members who have paid memberships extending beyond 2002. Per your request mailed via the USPS to the PEC, the PEC will:

1. Return your membership dues for the period extending beyond Dec. 31, 2002 (approximately \$2 per month);
2. Convert your membership that extend beyond Dec. 31, 2002 to IAUC membership through the term of the PEC membership; or
3. Retain the membership dues to defray the cost of publishing the *Newsletter* through Dec. 31, 2002.

To find your membership expiration date, go to your address label on the last page of the *Newsletter*. The number at the top of your address label is the expiration date. The first two numbers represent the year, and the second two, the month. For example, 0302 would represent Feb. 2003. Members should use the coupon on Page 8 to indicate how they would like the PEC to handle the balance of their dues. Do not email your preferences.

The IAUC, which has its national headquarters in Washington, DC, will continue to publish the *American Irish Newsletter*. The *Newsletter*, the catalyst for political action, will continue to provide that service through the IAUC. The PEC will continue to publish the *Newsletter* through the Dec., 2002, issue or until funds necessary to print it are depleted—whichever comes first. At that time, the IAUC will take over publication.

We regret the PEC's having to take this action. Many of you have been ardent supporters and activists within the PEC for a long time. We hope that you will continue your activism for justice in Ireland through the IAUC. Many of us on the PEC will be doing just that.

Thank you sincerely for all your support over the years. Please stay active. The Mitchell Agreement is still vulnerable and unfinished, and the valiant people in the North need our support now more than they did four years ago.

We look forward to working with you under the new banner. In unity,
John J. Finucane, National President

INSIDE

Peace Process Update	2
From the North	3
Newsbits	4
Mayo Cottage Becomes Part of a Great Hunger Memorial ...	5
Who Would Erase the Faces of the WTC Flag-raisers?	6
Finucane Murderers Targeted Other Lawyers	7
Action Requests	8

Our View: Don't Give Up the Ghost of a Chance of Success

AN ANTI-APARTHEID activist once told us that after the South African government and the ANC came to an agreement over the future of South Africa as a democracy, civil rights activists and supporters all but disappeared. Thus, the stroke of a pen halted an international movement.

Once such networks of activists disperse, they as much as never existed; when we need them again, we're back at square one trying to make connections, motivate people, win support from opinion-makers, and initiate the changes that make lives better in whatever part of the world we hold dear.

There is a danger, now that the Mitchell Agreement is an aging institution, that the American Irish and others think activism is outdated or unnecessary or a sign of crankiness without a place to go.

The truth is, we have no reason yet to believe that the Agreement can bring the change it promised in 1998. There is clearly a lack of will among unionists and their loyalist counterparts to work with nationalists and accept voters' demand for change. The British government backs up whatever the unionists say to justify stalling progress. Dublin can't make a difference. The Bush Administration, via Richard Haass, says the right things but does little (See Action Request, Page 8).

The bottom line is that the political leaders for whom Americans vote know what we want and tell us our hope of seeing a peaceful, democratic Ireland is a worthy one. We don't need to be told this. We are activists because we have known it all along. We need to see action. To achieve results, we need to remain organized and strong and committed to seeing peace and democracy take hold in Ireland. Our work is a long way from done. Continue to support this important work with your action letters and support for the IAUC.

Peace Process Update

July 5

THE PARADES Commission upholds its Drumcree decision banning the Orange Order from marching on the mainly nationalist Garvaghy Road in Portadown, County Armagh.

July 7

Orangemen riot with PSNI officers when the police ban the Orangemen from marching down the Garvaghy Road. British Prime Minister **Tony Blair** pledges to rebuild unionist confidence in the peace process after talks with the pro-Agreement parties and Irish premier **Bertie Ahern** at Hillsborough Castle, County Down. Ahern warns Blair against creating an "unnecessary crisis."

July 8

Over the past few days, three nationalists are injured in hit-and-run traffic incidents involving British army vehicles. A nationalist from Kilkeel, County Down, vows to leave Ireland after loyalists beat him and cause him serious injuries.

July 10

Loyalists attack a nationalist estate in Antrim.

July 12

UUP hard-liner **Jeffrey Donaldson** tells Orangemen that nothing short of Sinn Féin's expulsion from government will restore unionist confidence in the peace process.

July 13

The PSNI attacks nationalist protesters in the Springfield Road area of west Belfast who oppose the Orange Order's marching through this area.

July 16

The IRA issues a statement of apology for the deaths and suffering of non-combatants and their families. It issues the statement before the 30th anniversary of an IRA bombing offensive in Belfast, when it detonated 27 bombs in three-and-a-half-hours, causing massive economic destruction and killing nine people—two soldiers

(continued on Page 7)

American Ireland Education Foundation-PEC

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

National President John J. Finucane
Membership/Subsorption Coordinator Loretta Fitzgibbons
Recording Secretary Kathy Regan
Financial Secretary Tom Sheridan
Newsletter Editor Sandy Carlson
Webmaster Edward Dzitko

Newsletter Mailing Address:

Five Woods Way, Woodbury, CT 06798

PEC & Newsletter Email Address:

pec-newsletter@worldnet.att.net

National Headquarters

P.O. Box 102, Blauvelt, NY 10913-9915

(845) 947-2726 Fax (845) 947-2599

PEC Web Site Address: <http://aipec.homestead.com>

STATE DIRECTORS: Jack O'Brien, 11109 Belton St., Upper Marlboro, MARYLAND 20772-(301)336-5167; Leah Curtin, Hibernian Life, 790 Cleveland Ave., Ste. 221, St. Paul, MINNESOTA 55116-(612)690-3888; Kathy Regan, 7 Balint Dr., Apt 714, Yonkers, NEW YORK 10710-(914)395-1995; Frank O'Day, 21 Pierce Ln., Madison, CONNECTICUT 06443-(203)245-4739; Bob West, 683 Walnut Rd., Wauconda, ILLINOIS 60084-(847)526-6520; Terry Deem Reilly, 1123 Clarkson, Denver, COLORADO 80218-(303)837-9443; Ned A. Delaney, 1211 El Grande St., Lafayette, INDIANA 47905-(317)474-2546; Larry Doyle, 2036 Calhoun, Bellevue, NEBRASKA 68005-(402)292-5291; Kathy Whitford, 15910 Lucille Dr., Cleveland, OHIO 44111-(216)251-7551; Paul D. McGuigan, 1525 NW 57th St., Unit 407, Seattle, WASHINGTON 98107-(206)782-5567; Nancy Love, 14151/2 Grand Ave., Racine, WISCONSIN 53402-(414)633-4085; Dr. John T. Gleson, 1107 Ironwood Dr., Coeur D'Alene, IDAHO 83814-(208)667-7459; Hal Cousins, 905 Shallmar Dr., Del City, OKLAHOMA 73115-(405)677-3623; Robert J. Fuhrel, 1901 Rio Canyon Ct. #202, Las Vegas, NEVADA 89128-(702)255-9619; Mary Holford, 6555 Tam O'Shanter Dr., San Jose, CALIFORNIA, 95120-(408)268-4548

NATIONAL ORGANIZER: Pete Foley, 3615 Greystone Ave., Bronx, NY 10463-(718)884-2220

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

AIIEF-PEC, P.O. Box 102, Blauvelt, New York 10913-9915, <http://aipec.homestead.com>

From the North: Rejectionists Will Soon Lack a Sparring Partner

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

IF THE CURRENT speculation comes true, the Mitchell Agreement will be a dead duck by next May.

By then, the British government and the unionists will have succeeded in killing it—the British government, by eagerly cossetting and submitting to UUP leader **David Trimble**; and the unionists, by pandering to the rejectionists for four years.

Elections for the Stormont Assembly are due next May, and most people think it likely that **Ian Paisley's** DUP will scoop more seats than the UUP, and Sinn Fein will overtake the SDLP.

Should these things happen, no one in his or her right mind would visualize the Assembly's continuing to function. Since the other Mitchell Agreement institutions—such as, the cross-border bodies—are dependent for their functioning on the Assembly and its Executive, they will all sink together. The rejectionists will have triumphed.

It is a mystery why they cannot grasp that such a victory would be pyrrhic. Paisley, along with Trimble opponents **Jeffrey Donaldson** and **David Burnside** of the UUP, believes rejectionists can renegotiate the Mitchell Agreement to replace it with an agreement more biased toward unionism.

Maybe—but there's a problem.

With whom do the rejectionists expect to renegotiate? The Mitchell Agreement constituted Sinn Fein's major compromise as a transitional measure providing a political and constitutional conduit through which it could work toward the unification of Ireland. There is already much in the Agreement about which the republican party had to agonize before giving it a fair wind. They are not likely to parley for something even less to their liking.

In the case of the DUP, the rejectionists need not worry. Paisley has made it abundantly clear (see the Aug. 13 *Belfast Telegraph*) that he will not be talking to Sinn Fein.

With whom, then, will the rejectionists renegotiate Mitchell? With the SDLP, which has just emerged from an election further weakened because nationalists consider the party too scrupulous in not giving offense to unionist sensitivities? Rejectionists have always railed against the Mitchell Agreement because, despite referenda North and South, they contend that it did not have the majority of unionists' support. Would Paisley really expect the minority party representing nationalism to act in a way that he himself would not and give its support to any renegotiated agreement approved of by him? Not likely.

The question remains: With whom does Paisley, et al, hope to renegotiate? There can be only one answer: the British government.

Irish News columnist **Brian Feeney's** calls the Donaldsons and Burnsides of six-county politics nutters. The only thing that would prevent them from being that would be the winning of a majority position in government by elements with the British state who are sympathetic to the unionist cause.

They have supporters within various adjuncts of the British state: the far right of the Tory party, brass hats in the military, the intelligence services, and the print and electronic media.

At the moment, however, there is no reason to believe that their input into the formation of British government policy might be the determining input.

Indeed, given demographic changes within the North and the new relationships between London and Dublin within the European Union, there is little reason to believe such backward strata within Britain will become strong enough to rescue orangeism.

Feeney could be correct. They might be nutters. Whatever about that, the Mitchell Agreement has given unionism—the UUP especially—enough problems to drive unionists mad, and that is how its proponents are behaving. Donaldson and Burnside want to drive out Trimble. They are tempted to make another heave come Sept., but they know that, should his nominally pro-Agreement supporters defect, the UUP—to Paisley's great advantage—will be reduced to a rump.

To stave this off, a dream ticket for leadership comprising anti-Agreement Donaldson and pro-Agreement **Reg Empey** is being whispered about. How that would work is anyone's guess. In short, the unionists are eminently capable of pulling down the Agreement, but they have not worked out where to go from there. Paisley fails to contemplate that it is likely that no one will talk to him. The UUP refuseniks still conspire to topple Trimble so they can take the party aboard Paisley's ship, which looks impressive in the tiny harbor of Northern Ireland but will sink like a stone once it gets into the choppy waters of Anglo-Irish-EU relationships. Unionists dare not speak about the most likely outcome in a post-Mitchell period: a return to Direct Rule from London. For the few who trust London, that would be okay, but here is the snag for them, it would be accompanied by joint-authority from Dublin. That's a pyrrhic victory.

Newsbits

THE FAMILY of murdered Belfast teenager Peter McBride is furious at remarks broadcaster **Ludovic Kennedy** made on BBC *Breakfast News* this morning. Kennedy, who has campaigned on behalf of the two Scots Guards convicted of the 1992 murder, called for compensation to be paid to the men for the six years they spent in prison. **Jean McBride** is said to be "incandescent with rage" at the remarks. "Who does this man think he is? **Mark Wright** and **James Fisher** stand convicted of Peter's murder. He may not accept that shooting an unarmed 18-year-old boy in the back is murder--the British army doesn't seem to believe it's murder--but the courts certainly did. How dare he demand compensation for these two? If anything, his remarks strengthen my determination to carry on until they are dismissed from the British army. I have believed all along that the decision to retain these men in the British army encouraged those like Ludovic Kennedy and others who have campaigned on behalf of the Scots Guards. This is only rubbing salt into the wound." (*Pat Finucane Center* 7/4/02)

Pledges by the Protestant Orange Order that their protest today against the decision to reroute their annual parade in Portadown would be peaceful this year have rung hollow after a pitched battle on Drumcree bridge. After the parade by the Portadown Orangemen reached the reduced security barricade preventing them from entering the nationalist Garvaghy Road, the Orangemen and their loyalist supporters made speeches and then rioted. Clashing violently with riot police, they forced their way through the barricade and razor wire and surged towards the Garvaghy Road. In chaotic scenes, reinforcements of PSNI surged

forward in a bid to halt the attack before retreating to their trucks. With some loyalists sitting on top of the barrier taunting the security forces, others broke through part of the metal fence. Some cynically waved US flags in a bid to curry international favor for their actions. Several hundred loyalists cheered as the attack continued. With the security barrier breached, riot squad officers again surged forward and formed a human wall in a bid to stop the loyalists from forcing their way through. Orangemen joined the clashes, attacking police with umbrellas. Some took off their sashes before rushing forward, but others wore full regalia as they attacked security lines. (*RM Dist.* 7/7/02)

The families of Gervaise McKerr and Pearse Jordan—both of whom the RUC shot dead—today called on the British government to tell the truth about taking steps to enforce damning human rights judgements. Thirteen months after unprecedented European judgments criticized the state's role in handling the aftermath of the controversial killings, the government and the judiciary continue to obstruct the families in their quest for the truth. The British government has failed to address the severe criticisms raised by the European Court. **Patricia Coyle**, a partner with Madden & Finucane who represents the McKerr and Jordan families, said: "The delay in implementing these judgements is overwhelming. The failure of the government suggests a tactical strategy to delay proper investigations for another 10 years. We have written to **Jane Kennedy**, security minister at the NIO, who has told us that "the government has drawn up a package of measures and submitted this to the Committee of Ministers." We have had no clarification as to what this package of measures is, when it was

submitted, or when the Committee of Ministers will consider it. A year after the judgments, we are no further forward." (*Madden & Finucane* 7/18/02)

Local people angry at the siting of spy cameras in the middle of the nationalist Ardoyne area of north Belfast are accusing the RUC/PSNI police of mounting an intelligence gathering operation on nationalists. Local people argue that the camera pylons sited at Estoril Park, which is not on the interface, are intrusive and serve no purpose other than to spy on locals. The rotating, high-powered cameras point into the windows of homes. In the early hours of this morning, nationalists immobilized the camera when they set a fire at its base, using tires. In response, British forces moved into the area at about 5.30 a.m. to repair the camera. (*RM Dist.* 7/10/02)

A Ku Klux Klan/Neo-Nazi mural painted on a derelict building off the lower Lisburn Road in south Belfast has been widely condemned. The plain, black-and-white mural, which features the letters KKK surrounding a swastika, is on a wall close to the loyalist Village area above other loyalist paramilitary murals. Loyalists have well-documented links with neo-Nazi organizations in Britain—such as, Combat 18, named after the position in the alphabet of the letters A and H (for Adolf Hitler). South Belfast is a relatively integrated and cosmopolitan area, although students have come under loyalist attack in recent months, and loyalists have staged riots in an apparent effort to claim territory. Flags, murals, and painted kerb stones in the south Belfast area have also served to deter newcomers from settling the area. (*RM Dist.* 8/9/02)

Mayo Cottage Becomes Part of a Great Hunger Memorial

A RUINED 19th-century cottage from Mayo rebuilt in New York is now a memorial to the Great Hunger. In mid-July, president of Ireland **Mary McAleese** addressed the ceremony in mid-July in lower Manhattan overlooking the harbor where many survivors from the disaster first arrived in the US.

"We will not forget the tragedy that brought so many Irish immigrants to these shores; nor will we forget the great embrace of this wonderful country," said McAleese.

During her speech, she paid tribute to the people of the US for their pride in their Irish heritage and their appreciation of the suffering caused by the Great Hunger.

"Some call it the Great Famine; others, the Great Hunger; and others, the Great Starvation. In the Irish language we call it *an gorta mor*. Whatever its name, it is a colossal, heart-rending fault line in the story of Ireland," she said.

"That shameful starvation, which ravaged 19th-century Ireland, changed the future of this country, changed the future of Ireland, and left a heavy shadow on our psychological landscape. It has taken many generations to lift that shadow, and today we are proud that Ireland is a first world country with a third world memory," she said.

An estimated one million people died, and millions more emigrated as a result of successive blighted potato harvests from 1845-50.

A three-bedroom stone cottage that originally stood in Ballina, County Mayo, was dismantled brick by brick and reconstructed in Battery City Park as the centerpiece of the Irish Hunger Memorial Park.

The cottage, which dates from the 1830s, was transported from County Mayo and shipped to the US with the assistance of the Irish government.

The memorial includes native Irish wild flowers, plants, and grasses as well as stones from each of Ireland's 32 counties.

The New York State Legislature allocated \$3 million of state funds to the \$5 million project, the

masterminds of which were Battery City Park Authority **Jim Gill** and Chief Executive **Tim Carey** and their team.

New York Governor **George Pataki**, who was the driving force behind the tribute (*See Action Request, Page 8*), told the attendees of the dedication ceremony: "The memorial will serve as a reminder to millions of New Yorkers and other Americans who proudly trace their heritage to Ireland of those who were forced to emigrate during one of the most heartbreaking tragedies in the history of the world."

PEC President **John J. Finucane** said he hopes the creators of the Great Hunger memorial will ensure that the project includes a simple plaque that explains the Great Hunger and lays responsibility at the feet of the British government of the time.

"British Prime Minister **Tony Blair** acknowledged Britain's responsibility for the Great Hunger when the PEC ran its Great Hunger campaign in the 1990s," Finucane said.

He added, "It's not enough to say these things once because they're forgotten. They need to be written down in simple layman's terms for the visitors to this memorial so they will understand that the Great Hunger was the result of Britain's failure to help the Irish people.

"Britain exported food from Ireland while Irish people starved. It saw an empty landscape as a place to raise cattle. This cynicism led to death. This is what we need to remember. This memorial needs to spell that out," Finucane said.

McAleese added that in southern Africa 13 million people were currently at risk of starvation in one of the worst humanitarian crises in a decade. The experience of the Irish and the American Irish, she said, conferred a responsibility to do everything possible to help.

"We need to be a champion of those who dream of social justice, equal opportunity, of an end to slavery, of a real childhood for children, of regular food on the table, fresh water to drink, a school to attend, affordable medicines, a sustainable livelihood, a permanent home, a life with meaningful choices," she added.

Who Would Erase the Faces of the WTC Flag-raisers?

By Roger D. McGrath

Reprinted from the May 2002 issue of Chronicles

THREE New York firefighters raise Old Glory over the rubble of the World Trade Center. The dramatic moment is captured from afar by a photographer.

Within a day or two, the photo is featured in newspapers across the US. It becomes as recognizable as the Marine flag raising on Mt. Suribachi. Tee shirts soon appear with the two images juxtaposed.

A New York real estate developer commissions an artist to replicate the event in a monument to be erected on the grounds of the New York fire department (FDNY) headquarters. All are ecstatic.

Then it is revealed that the actual event will not be replicated, that there is a problem with the flag raising—the three firefighters are white.

On the statue, one of the whites will be transformed into a black and another, into a Latino.

The news of the change spreads like wildfire and becomes a topic for radio talk shows. A fireman initiates a protest and petition drive that mobilizes thousands in New York and beyond.

For the time being, the erection of the monument is suspended.

This episode reveals all too much about life in America at the beginning of the 21st century—false symbols are replacing reality, and history be damned, so long as it is at the expense of whites and Western civilization.

Usually whites roll over and play dead for fear of being called racists. This case was different, though, and I

suspect the reason can be found in the strong Irish identity of many of the firemen.

Of the 10,000 firefighters on the FDNY, more than 4,000 of them are American Irish. Two of the three firemen who raised the flag are American Irish. Of the 343 firefighters who died on Sept. 11, 150—44 percent of them—were American Irish.

The scroll of those who died reads like a clan map of Ireland: Barry, Boyle, Brennan, and Byrne; Devlin, Donnelly, Downey, and Duffy; Fanning, Farrelly, Feehan, and Foley; Garvey, Geraghty, Giberson, and Ginley; Halloran, Healey, Hickey, and Holohan; Keating, Kelly, Kennedy, and Kerwin; McAvoy, McHugh, McMahon, and McSweeney; Maloney, Mullen, Mulligan, and Murphy; O'Callaghan, O'Hagan, O'Keefe, and O'Rourke; Regan, Reilly, Rogan, and Ryan; and a hundred more from Ahearn to Whelan.

It is not by accident, then, that the firefighter who initiated the protest against the politically-correct but historically-perverted statue is **Stephen Cassidy**. Nor is it by accident that the fire captain at Engine Co. 236 in Brooklyn who supported Cassidy's efforts is **Kevin McCabe**.

Cassidy told me, "I was shocked that the statue would not accurately reflect the event. A world-famous photograph which captured a great, patriotic moment is somehow lacking. Nearly all my fellow firefighters are angry, and many are outraged."

PEC President **John J. Finucane**, a retired lieutenant from Engine Co. 85,

Lad. 59 in the South Bronx and the Political Education Coordinator for the Emerald Society, is one of those who are outraged.

"This is like the English version of Irish history," Finucane told me.

"American children will see a lie," he said, adding, "The children and grandchildren of firefighters will see a false image."

Finucane emphasized that firefighters themselves, the men in the ranks, have to take action because the politicians at the top have their own self-serving agendas and lack the courage to confront political correctness.

There is now talk about a generic monument depicting firefighters of all races picking through the rubble of the World Trade Center. That would certainly be dramatic.

For the record, 12 (3 percent) of the firefighters who died on Sept. 11 were black, and another 12 were Latino.

Will the generic statue represent 94 percent of the men as white, or will it have a politically correct but grossly misrepresentative 33 1/3 percent?

I don't think generic whites will have much to say about this, but the firefighters themselves might, especially American Irish firemen who are unwilling to acquiesce to the false reality of the New Order.

John Finucane has sent a letter on behalf of the Emerald Society to the committee responsible for the

(continued on Page 8)

Finucane Murderers Targeted Other Lawyers

(Belfast – Aug. 2) THE LOYALISTS who assassinated lawyer Pat Finucane in 1989 planned to shoot two more lawyers listed in British army intelligence files as being “sympathetic” to the IRA, according to a report today.

The lawyers targeted were Patrick McGrory and Oliver Kelly, according to BBC *Panorama* reporter **John Ware**’s report in the Aug. 2 *The Guardian*. The Stevens Inquiry discovered the assassination plans, but police never warned either lawyer that his life was in peril.

McGrory, lawyer for the families of three unarmed IRA members whom the SAS killed in Gibraltar, died in 1994.

Sources close to the Stevens Inquiry suspect the police’s failure to warn the men was no accident, according to the report. One detective described it as “collusion by omission.”

Kelly said: “This is what the cops were feeding out to loyalists: if you defended someone in court, you were acting against the state. They felt that you should throw in the towel; you shouldn’t defend someone to the best of your ability. They were telling the loyalists to wipe us out—to take us out of the road.”

Three days after Finucane’s murder, the RUC Special Branch received a report from one of its several sources within the UDA that had killed Finucane that “Oliver Kelly and PJ McGrory will be next.” The source stated that the

threat came directly from the two UDA leaders who had been heavily involved in Finucane’s murder.

Kelly said: “I was hearing from other sources what the cops were saying about us to loyalist type persons—that we were up to our eyes in the Provos, we were worse than the worst, we were orchestrating things and all that nonsense.”

In the case of McGrory—as with Finucane—British agent **Brian Nelson** collected details of the lawyer’s movements.

The draft Stevens report says the failure to provide a warning was “another Finucane tragedy in the making.” The Stevens inquiry has recovered a targeting document Nelson received five months after loyalists killed Finucane. It records that McGrory spent “a lot of time” in the Chester bar on Belfast’s Antrim Road; that he went there “in the late afternoon;” and that every Sunday he visited the Kitchen bar, to which he drove in his Mercedes, which was parked “unprotected” nearby.

Although Nelson passed the document to his British army handlers, none of the references to McGrory were entered on to their official record. **Barra McGrory**, son the late lawyer, said the information was “substantially accurate, which is what I find so deeply shocking.”

(continued on Page 8)

(continued from Page 2)

and seven noncombatants. The day is known as Bloody Friday.

July 24

RM Distribution reports that in the last three months there have been at least 363 attacks against Catholics. Loyalists are responsible for 144 bomb attacks, 25 shooting incidents, damage to 151 homes, 42 assaults, and the murder of Gerard Lawlor. Blair and Secretary of State **John Reid** are to set out “more rigorous standards” today in deciding whether the paramilitary cease-fires are intact. President **George Bush** supports Blair’s statement. The move comes at the behest of Ulster Unionist leader **David Trimble**, who is under electoral pressure from unionist hard-liner **Ian Paisley**. The move is designed to confound any IRA effort to remain organized and intact while threatening Sinn Fein’s political mandate. Republicans believe it might be in breach of the 1998 Mitchell Agreement. The Irish government says it believes Sinn Fein is “totally committed” to the peace process and calls on all pro-Agreement leaders not to allow rumor to destabilize the Northern institutions.

July 26

Congressmen **Peter King**, **James Walsh**, **Richard Neal**, **Chris Smith**, **Joseph Crowley**, and **Ben Gilman** write to Blair, warning him against allowing anti-Agreement elements to collapse the North’s government. The British House of Lords rules by a three-to-two majority that the appointment of the North’s first and deputy first ministers last year was legal.

August 1

Dissident republicans kill a construction worker who picks up a booby-trapped lunch box in Derry.

August 5

Belfast Lord Mayor **Alex Maskey** receives a death threat from the Orange Volunteer Force. It sends him a bullet in the mail a day before an anti-sectarian rally in the city that he organized. Thousands attend the rally.

August 7

Sinn Fein leader **Gerry Adams** claims British intelligence is involved in a plan to reorganize the loyalist paramilitary UDA under a single commander.

My Preference

PLEASE take the following action with my membership dues following the Dec. 31, 2002, phasing out of the AIEF-PEC. (Please note: The AIEF-PEC will retain membership dues to defray the cost of publishing the *Newsletter* if it does not hear from you by Sept. 21, 2002.)

- ☐ Refund my dues that extend beyond Dec. 31, 2002.
- ☐ Convert my membership that extends beyond Dec. 31, 2002, to membership in the IAUC through the term of my AIEF-PEC membership.
- ☐ Retain my membership dues to defray the cost of publishing the *American Irish Newsletter* through Dec. 31, 2002.

Name _____

Address _____

Town/State/Zip _____

Phone Number (____) _____

Email Address _____

Mail to AIEF-PEC, P.O. Box 102, Blauvelt, New York 10913-9915

American Ireland Education Foundation-PEC
Garnerville, NY 10923

Non-Profit Organ.
US Postage Paid
Leesburg, FL
Permit No. 1040

Action Requests

*Please take the actions recommended below.
Mention that you are a PEC member.*

Contact: New York Gov. George Pataki,
State Capitol, Albany, NY 12224;
email gov.pataki@chamber.state.ny.us

Message: I am very happy that New York City is home to a Great Hunger Memorial. Thank you for supporting this project. Please urge the project organizers to install a plaque at the memorial that simply explains the Great Hunger of 1845-50 and how British government policy was responsible for the devastation of Ireland. British Prime Minister Tony Blair has acknowledged the responsibility of the British government of the time, and this memorial should do likewise.

Contact: Richard N. Haass, Director, State
Dept. Policy Planning; Dept. of State; 2201
C Street, NW; Washington, DC 20520; tele.
202-647-4000; fax 202-647-0844; email
r.haass@state.gov

Message: Please urge the Bush Administration to be active role in the Northern Ireland peace process. As nationalists work toward democratic government, unionists are working to divide the North. Please use your good offices to make Ireland a model for peace processes around the world.

(continued from Page 7)

Meanwhile, new Chief Constable of the RUC/PSNI **Hugh Orde** said it was "vital" to maintain an effective Special Branch, the police unit that has colluded with loyalists to murder nationalists.

Orde said he was determined to oversee the policing reforms in the Patten Report but he would not make "knee-jerk" changes.

"We must recognize the reality of the security situation in Northern Ireland," he said. "From my experience, I know that we need to use intelligence to take on the terrorists and criminals and protect the communities they terrorize."

(continued from Page 6)

proposed monument requesting that the Emeralds be included in the decision-making process.

That only seems fair, since nearly half of those fire fighters who died on Sept. 11 were members of the society.

The English are fond of saying that the Irish remember too much history. Let's hope that all Americans remember and refuse to allow their history to be distorted and misrepresented for the sake of political correctness.

Let's not follow in the footsteps of the Soviet Union, which even manufactured history to serve its political and social agendas. Let the New York fire fighters—and others like them—put us on the right road once again.