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## American Irish Newsletter - November 1991

American Ireland Education Foundation - PEC

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# AMERICAN IRISH NEWSLETTER

AMERICAN Irish Political Education Committee

Volume 16, Number 11

November 1991

## **RUC Intimidate Nationalist Youths**

by Sandy Carlson, *Reporting from Northern Ireland*

The RUC's campaign of harassment of Belfast's Nationalist youths has become so acute that seven youths have gone into hiding south of the border for "fear of arrest and maltreatment." Meanwhile, the RUC are currently holding ten youths in the Crumlin Road Jail; they are awaiting trial for alleged involvement in a rocket attack in Beechmount in May (1 RUC killed) and for a blast bomb attack on soldiers in Ballymurphy.

The recently-formed **Voice of the Innocent**, which is campaigning for the rights of these young people, has called this "youth internment", for these young people will face trial only after two years of detention. All bail applications to date have been refused.

According to the **Voice of the Innocent**, which wants these cases of RUC harassment addressed at the Anglo-Irish Conference level, the RUC are conducting a campaign of intimidation and harassment against West Belfast's teenagers.

Seventeen-year-old Damian Austin's case has been the most publicized to date, for it has been the subject of an Amnesty International worldwide action call. Amnesty is concerned with Austin's allegations of RUC ill-treatment and threats. Austin claimed that, during detention at Castlereagh, detectives ripped stitches from his ear, beat him, burned him with cigarettes, and threatened him with death. In addition, the

detectives told him that the UVF (Ulster Volunteer Force, Loyalist paramilitaries) would kill his father, a Sinn Fein councillor, and him before Christmas.

Austin's doctor's affidavit to the court corroborates this allegation. The doctor, who examined Austin in Castlereagh, said in his affidavit that he "found evidence of severe assault to his body". Only when Austin's family sought a Writ of Habeas Corpus did Judge Nicholson order the RUC to stop their interrogation of the youth. Austin will be taking a civil action against the RUC and the RUC Chief Constable Hugh Annsley.

**Voice of the Innocent** has said that other youths have been similarly harassed and verbally abused. Other youths have been warned that, when they are seventeen and can be held in custody without a parent present, they will be arrested.

Other cases of RUC abuse of Nationalist youths include: a 19 year-old who was hospitalized due to the effects of being left in his own urine for 48 hours, and a diabetic and an asthmatic on remand whose medicines have been "messed about" according to **Voice of the Innocent**.

These incidents and the **Voice of the Innocent** campaign have gone virtually unnoticed by the mainstream Irish media. However, those campaigns organized and led by former paramilitaries, spouses of informers, and militant Loyalist politicians (STOP, FIAT) have received much media publicity. Hence, in spite of these anti-nationalist developments, the Irish media continue to fail to address the question of why the war in the six counties continues. *PEC*

## **Newsbits** by Kathy Regan

On October 16, as we go to press, Mary Pike, attorney for Joe Doherty, was arguing his case before the US Supreme Court. A decision is expected in the first half of 1992. (AIN-PEC)... On October 14 California Governor Pete Wilson vetoed the MacBride Principles bill which had been overwhelmingly adopted in the State Legislature. According to PEC President John Finucane, "We believe Wilson vetoed the bill in direct response to a personal request by former British PM Margaret Thatcher. He has placed British government interests above American interests". (AIN-PEC 10/15/91)...According to Dr. Liam O'Dowd, senior lecturer in sociology at Queen's University Belfast, Catholics in Northern Ireland are still two-and-a-half times more likely to be unemployed than Protestants -- showing that little has changed in 20 years. (Irish Post, 8/31/91)...More than 1,000 troops have been moved temporarily to Northern Ireland as part of a major operation in South Armagh...A large convoy began the journey along roads in the

*Continued on page 2*

## **New York City PEC FUNDRAISER**

Come out and support us as we present an evening of great Irish music and dancing! A ceili will be held on Friday, November 22 at St. Elizabeth of Hungary, 211 East 83 Street, New York City. The first dance will kick off at 7 pm. Music will be provided by Brian Conway and friends and dances will be called by Mary Holt Moore, both PEC members. Admission \$8.00

If you have never done ceili dancing before and want to give it a try, this is the place to be. If you just want to listen to great Irish music, come on over. Proceeds will benefit the PEC and Catholic Alumni Club Nativity Mission.

For further information, please call Kathy Regan at (212) 365-0213 or Maureen Brosnan at (212) 364-3935.

## FROM THE EDITOR

Contrary to what the American news media and our Government's Administration would have us think, the **problem in Northern Ireland is not the violence of the IRA. The violence of the IRA and that of the British Army and the pro-British Ulster Defence Association (UDA) is the consequence of the problem. The problem is the British government's continuing refusal to address the issue: the right of the Irish nation to self-determination.**

**When we speak out against British government injustices we are not supporting violence. We are supporting those hundreds of thousands of innocent men, women and children, who are daily denied democracy, justice and freedom.**

**We must never miss the opportunity to educate the public of this. The views of most Americans are shaped solely by what they glean from the mainstream media. They are the victims of media misinformation and their views are erroneous.**

**Informed Americans will ask the same questions we ask: Why is Ireland Europe's Last Captive Nation? What is England doing in Ireland?**

### Offensive Situations

by Kevin P. Murphy, Massachusetts

We are happy to report another success for our letter writers.

Recently, at the request of member Bert Anderson of Wisconsin, we asked you to write to *Genealogy Unlimited* in Orem, Utah to protest their description of Ireland as part of the United Kingdom. *Genealogy Unlimited* has agreed to correct the situation. Below we print in part the response from Carol Mehr Schiffman, President of *Genealogy Unlimited*:

*"...We have given considerable thought to this problem and have decided to drop the heading of United Kingdom...and list these geographically grouped countries separately in alphabetical order, i.e., England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. We do not want to be accused of taking sides either with England or Ireland or contributing to the political turmoil and enmity between these countries, so we hope this solution is acceptable".*

In this issue we do not have any action requests as we did not receive any reports of Offensive Situations from members.*PEC*

**SEND ALL OFFENSIVE SITUATIONS TO: Kevin P. Murphy, PO Box 8895-JFK Station, Boston, MA 02114**

### NEWS BITS Continued from page 1

area which have been almost permanently out of bounds to military vehicles because of the threat of landmine attack. The army posts concerned are routinely serviced by air because of the risks involved in moving by road in the area. In a plan drawn up in secret over the last few months, the access routes were cleared and secured in advance by patrols... (Irish Post, 9/14/91)...**The army posts** are not being refurbished but have been taken down and are now being reconstructed in a much more imposing manner. All roads leading out of Crossmaglen have been secured by hundreds of troops with dug-outs every few hundred yards...This huge military operation extends south of the border, with Garda and Irish troops operating constant

## The American Irish PEC

founded 1975

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checkpoints and patrols on all roads in the area...Surely it cannot be right that the Irish army and Garda are used to assist Britain in the cratering of Irish roads? There is a clear distinction between routine patrolling and participation in the blowing up of our roads. (Irish Post, 9/28/91) ...**The Cork Anti-Extradition Committee** has condemned what they term "the unjustifiable harassment" of their members by the Garda Special Branch while attending anti-extradition meetings. The Committee claimed that nine members had been searched and threatened with further harassment should they continue to attend anti-extradition meetings. (Cork Examiner, 9/16/91)...**The Committee on the Administration of Justice** has been getting an "increasing" number of claims of mistreatment at Castlereagh [detention center in Belfast]...In addition to the case of Damien Austin, Amnesty International in London is now monitoring all cases of ill-treatment that it hears of. (Irish Post, 8/31/91)...**Since 1986**, visas have not been required for visitors to the [U.S.] from eight countries, Britain among them. Thirteen countries will now join the list. The Irish Republic remains one of the three European countries where the visa requirement was not waived. (Irish Post, 9/14/91)

## ***From The North***

by Rev. Des Wilson  
 Director, Spring Hill Community, Belfast

Recently a French policeman was found guilty of setting up three Irish citizens on arms charges.

The French government had set up an "anti-terrorist" unit, so police, government and newspapers rejoiced when three Irish "terrorists" were captured. However, the police had planted arms in their apartment. The crime was so crude that even the French courts had to find the three not guilty and in a later trial found the police guilty. The police were set free.

This crime was the result of establishment pressure on the "anti-terrorist" squad to produce results. Since there were no terrorists, around the police had to invent some. British propaganda, that has criminalized the Irish internationally, made it easy for the police to select Irish targets and for French citizens to accept that Irish people are likely "terrorists".

The police arrested the three, planted the arms and hailed their triumph to a delighted French government and press.

The three were set free, but the matter should not be closed.

Anti-Irish propaganda was responsible for this crime. Governments have peddled a myth about the dangers of "international terrorism". There is no major problem of international terrorism which cannot be dealt with by ordinary law. Governments are using this concept in order to build up repressive laws which in time will be used against citizens for ordinary offences.

This has been done in Britain with the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA) and in Ireland by "emergency" laws. In the United States "international terrorism" can be used to justify almost any action by government. It keeps Joe Doherty in prison, it created the atmosphere that pushed through the controversial 1986 changes in the US-British extradition treaty.

Much more violence is committed by common criminals than

by "international terrorism". British anti-Irish "terrorist" propaganda has instilled in people's minds that Irish nationalists in Northern Ireland are slaughtering large numbers of innocents. Yet in reality, the violent death rate in Northern Ireland is 50 people per million as compared to well over 300 violent deaths per million in many large American cities.

The myth persists because dissident movements the world over sometimes challenge government and do damage to them.

But, as in the case of the French, once you create a unit within the police, that unit has to produce results. They have to bring people to court, otherwise they are seen to be ineffective or unnecessary. Their careers depend upon success, or apparent success. Pressure comes from politicians and press and they respond by arresting innocent people.

The truth is that when you create such myths and the laws to sustain them you inevitably create injustice.

In Northern Ireland there are many victims of injustice. Regularly we get appeals from families who say their loved ones have been wrongfully convicted. The best known examples took place in Britain, the Birmingham Six, the Guildford Four, and the Winchester Three.

The system is geared to producing victims, not for justice but for public relations. The public, once persuaded that "international terrorism" is a problem, have to be convinced also that both government and police are, as British politicians put it, "winning the fight against terrorism".

In the North there are currently many hundreds of victims who have been convicted in the same manner as the Irish citizens in France. The police don't know who attacks them, they arrest somebody, if necessary fabricating the evidence. They keep their jobs, the British public is satisfied, the politicians breathe freely again.

And hundreds of innocent people are sorrowing in prison in the North as a result of political expediency. *PEC*

## ***Ireland Restored: The New Self-Determination***

by Vincent J. Delacy Ryan (*Freedom House, New York, 1991*)

If there is room in your library for just one more book on the conflict in Northern Ireland, *Ireland Restored* by Vincent J. Ryan is the one to get. The Irish-born Ryan goes well beyond the usual descriptions of problems in Ireland's six northeastern counties to focus on the very heart of all those problems: partition.

Ryan proposes a solution based on what he calls interfiliation. Drawing a distinction between territory and people, Ryan argues that Ireland can be reunited territorially while the society of the six counties remains pluralistic and multinational. To do this there must be a return to the Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1921 which would provide a framework of "constitutionalism" that all parties could work within. Ryan believes this would allow the reunification of Ireland and, at the same time, allow the Unionists to be governed by Britain, governed that is on a personal rather than a territorial basis. Ireland would have responsibility for national defense and other such duties in the

"major powers area" while Unionists could look to Britain for jurisdiction in the "minor powers area."

Such a solution would recognize, in the words of the New Ireland Forum Report, "the right of unionists to effective political, symbolic and administrative expression of their identity, their ethos and their way of life." Obviously, if Ireland is to be reunited, somehow the Unionists must be accommodated. Interfiliation is Ryan's solution. He is not alone. Tom Collins in *The Center Cannot Hold* suggests something similar in arguing that national allegiance should be based on personal preference and not territory.

Ryan contends that interfiliation is not a radical, new proposal at all. Instead, it would simply be fulfillment of the Anglo-Irish Treaty.

*Ireland Restored* is a well-written and thoroughly documented piece of work. This volume in many ways is a legal blueprint of how to end partition and reunite Ireland. It is not for the beginner or dilettante. It is packed full of legal, constitutional and historical information. This is top-flight scholarship for the serious student and is clearly the product of years of painstaking research and mature reflection.

(Reviewed by Roger McGrath, California).

## **Irish Sold Into Slavery**

by Kay Givens-McGowan, *Michigan*

At the close of what was called the "Confederate War" in Ireland in the 1650's, the Cromwellians had confiscated virtually all of the land belonging to Catholics in the province of Ulster as well as in the rest of Ireland.. The intent of the British was to force all of the displaced families into Ireland's poorest province which was Connaught in the west of Ireland.

Nearly 40,000 men were "permitted," however, to enter the service of foreign states (*Condon, 1887*) because their services were needed as a result of growing British colonialism, before the decision to force Catholics off the land and to "Hell or Connaught" was announced.

The deserted land in the other three provinces of Leinster, Munster and Ulster were ordered divided into sections and given to Cromwell's followers and friends, including many who even returned from the colonies in America to accept these land gifts.

The history of the Cromwellian Settlement in Ireland gave this account: "In 1656, several families arriving from New England at Limerick had the excise of tobacco, brought with them for the use of themselves and families remitted; and other families in May and July of that year, who had came over from the same colony, were received as tenants of State land near Garristown, in the County of Dublin" (*History of Cromwellian Settlement in Ireland.*)

Many thousands of women and children whose husbands/fathers were those "permitted" to join the foreign service were still in Ireland without support and without land. The British were determined to get rid of these charges in a variety of ways. A Commissioners report ordered by Cromwell in 1652 reported that: "Irish women were too numerous now and should be sold to merchants and transported to Virginia, New England, Jamaica and other countries."

Cromwell agreed with his Commissioners report and an exodus of over 100,000 Irish women and children began. British merchants of Bristol sent their agents to Ireland to pick up the women and children to be sent to the sugar plantations in the West Indies, to the islands of Monserrat and Saint Kitts, and to New

England.

The women and children were delivered as prisoners of war to masters of the work houses. The masters preferred those who: "were of an age to labor, or if women who were marriageable, and not past breeding" (*History of England, Vol. X, p. 336.*)

Any Irish man, woman or child who had no visible means to support themselves were likely to be seized and sold to the ships merchants. The merchants became more and more greedy and the evilness became more and more obvious. The names of these dealers in Irish flesh should go down in history. Mr. Sellick, Mr. Leader, Mr. Robert Yeoman, Mr. Joseph Lawrence were the "Slave Traders of Bristol," England (*Condon, 1883*).

Orders were actually taken for Irish slaves. One "order" given to Captain John Vernon by Mr. Daniel Sellick and Mr. Leader asked for the delivery of: "250 women of the Irish nation, above twelve years and under the age of forty-five, also 300 men above twelve years of age and under fifty to be found in Cork, Youghal, Kinsale, Waterford and Wexford, to be transported to New England" (*Condon, 1883*).

The history of the Irish slave was rarely recorded. The history of these events, like so many atrocities by the British against the Irish, are virtually unknown in Britain, the United States and Ireland today.

The history of Black Slavery has been more difficult to erase since skin color has been the basis for racism in the United States. The African-American descended from slavery is easily recognized by the boundaries created by racism. The Irish slave has blended into oblivion, but a history lives on, just as tragic.

The Irish slave, like the African slave, came with nothing but strong backs, dirt poor. They were strangers in a foreign land. Powerless, separated from their religion, their culture, and all that was familiar to them, they struggled to survive. The descendants of slaves rarely have taken pride in that fact. The slave mentality usually dictates assimilation as soon as possible. African-Americans have gained a degree of pride in their heritage. The heritage of Irish slavery has been virtually erased. Irish slavery is another sad chapter in the collective consciousness of those that still long to be free of the British yoke of slavery . . . to long a sacrifice makes a stone of the heart.

### **Place This Ad In Your Local Newspaper**

Please consider placing the attached ad in your local newspaper, union newspaper, organization publication, etc. that a fellow member placed in their local newspaper.

It is dramatic! It is to the point! It is effective!

Call the advertising department of your local newspaper(s). The size of the ad will depend on what you can afford. A small 2" x 2" ad can be inexpensive. Some papers might run it for free. You can give them a copies of the attached ad to use. You can add the option of your name and telephone number.

In this way you can help spread the message in your community and get to know others who share our concern.

We must get the true word out on Northern Ireland.

Send us copies of the ad when your paper(s) print it. Include name of paper and date.

Cut Here

### **IRELAND EUROPE'S LAST CAPTIVE NATION !!!**

For information contact American Irish Political Education Committee (PEC), Fairgrounds Plaza, 18 Route 9W, West Haverstraw, NY 10993 or call 800 777-6807

Option -- add to bottom of ad  
or call Local PEC Representative

(666) 666-6666

## **A MESSAGE FROM OUR ANNUAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE**

by Matthew P. Zebatto, *Chairperson*

The newly formed Annual Campaign Committee recently met to review the PEC's current budget and plans for the future. Based upon our discussions, a fundraising goal was set for the year. Unless this goal is met, many of our future plans will have to be sacrificed.

Simply put, the current system of fundraising is not allowing the PEC to grow. When members contribute their annual membership dues of \$20 they receive services and information equal to that amount. As a result, we are not able to establish a reserve of funds to facilitate growth and expansion.

In order to address this situation, we are making plans to initiate new special events that, hopefully, will garner new dollars while concurrently increasing the PEC's visibility. But this is definitely not a panacea for the challenges we face. Clearly, we need more support from our members.

This request is not made blindly. It is understood that these are difficult economic times. For this reason, it was decided to postpone increasing membership dues. We recognize that many members already are giving what they can afford through membership dues. And to them, on behalf of the abused children and oppressed families in Northern Ireland, we say thank you.

However, as we are not increasing the dues, it is imperative that members who can afford to give more, do so. The \$20 membership dues is minuscule compared to what other ethnic groups charge their members. The PEC accomplishes so much with your money.

An additional \$25 contribution allows PEC to make available to active members printed information about Northern Ireland

for distribution in their communities...an additional \$50 allows PEC to mail information packets to 50 potential supporters or members...an additional \$100 allows PEC to send complimentary subscriptions of our Newsletter to eight influential Americans ...and an additional \$250 allows a PEC representative to travel to Washington, DC to testify at a legislative hearing and to lobby for support.

Every additional dollar you give makes a difference.

As you know, it is the goal of PEC to leverage political and economic pressure to free Northern Ireland from the thralls of British oppression. In addition, PEC is working to help educate the American public about Irish contributions to this nation so that prejudice and cruel stereotypes are finally erased making our job of winning support easier.

For too long this goal has been passed down from generation to generation without progress. As a result, the sense of urgency is becoming diluted while the atrocities mount.

We cannot pass this mission down to our children to pass on to their children, further perpetuating the cycle of inaction and frustration. It is our responsibility. **The legacy stops here!**

By working together through PEC, we truly can make a difference. Relying on each other for strength and support, the PEC goal can be achieved in our lifetime. We can see it happen and revel in our accomplishment.

This is our challenge. This is our mission.

Please give what you can when you are called upon. The cost of not giving is too great!

To assist in raising funds, contact the PEC national office.

## **PEC Western Region Report**

by Susan Catt, *Western Region Executive Director*

Response to the formation of the PEC Western Region has been exciting. State Directors have expressed their interest and pride in having a voice, and acknowledgement for their state's important work. Members have begun contacting the new Western Regional Office for the purpose of joining the *National Telephone Chain*. Ronan Byrne of California, suggests that a campaign be setup to initiate educational programs in colleges that will cover the Irish nation's struggle for freedom and democracy.

Also work is being done to encourage video stores to carry *Hidden Agenda*. Elizabeth McElligott has succeeded in getting 14 Blockbuster Video Stores to carry *Hidden Agenda*.

Apart from our energy, willingness to participate in campaigns and sharing of experiences, which have been an inspiration, the organization of the Western Region is being approached with a great deal of care. The plan being to give support to each state's membership in their existing campaigns.

WISCONSIN State Director Nancy Love advises: Activities for organizing to date have been making contacts at Milwaukee's Irish Fest, writing US Senators Herbert Kohl and Robert Kasten in regards to Joe Doherty and speaking on the PEC at City and State Board meetings for *Educators for Social Responsibility*. She invited members to join the PEC.

She advises that organizing for future campaigns, such as the MacBride Principles, media censorship and Joe Doherty, is well underway. Nancy Love asks that Wisconsin based members wanting to get more active contact her at: 804 Riverwalk Drive #209, Waukesha, WI 52188 or call (208) 667-4767.

WASHINGTON State Director Andy Kelly informs us of members are again preparing to have MacBride legislation introduced in the State Legislature. They have contacted the Bishop of the Diocese of Spokane requesting his support for the legislation.

Andy also informs us that they are encouraging Congressional leaders to visit the Justice Department on behalf of Joe Doherty. Andy hopes to see more participation in the media and has suggested that members of the Western Region seek a column in such newspapers as the *Irish Echo* among others.

ARIZONA -- During the Arizona State Legislature's off season PEC members conducted an extensive letter-writing campaign to members of the Legislature for the purpose of reintroducing MacBride Principles legislation. Sponsors have been lined up and bills are now being drafted in both the State Senate and House. Members have contacted Monsignor Ryle requesting that the Phoenix Diocese endorse the Principles.

Other organizations, including the AFL-CIO and the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, have joined with the Americans For MacBride in promoting the Principles.

Get involved in your state's activities! Contact your State Director today!

# IRELAND: EUROPE'S LAST CAPTIVE NATION

by Albert Doyle

Reproduce & Distribute

The bumper sticker proclaiming the message **Ireland: Europe's Last Captive Nation**, distributed by the *American Irish Political Education Committee* (PEC), has never been more timely than now. The world watches in astonishment and with general approval as the nations of Eastern Europe move rapidly to end communist dictatorships of many years standing.

The courageous people of the Soviet state, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Romania, and other nations have voted by their actions -- risking all to end an intolerable system. The winds of change will result in new political situations all over Eastern Europe and painful adjustments and compromises will be made.

The present turmoil in Yugoslavia is but one example of what can happen when the weight of powerful and ruthless central authority is removed and long pent-up national divisions emerge, clamoring for recognition and justice. Similar national divisions exist in the vast Soviet Union and elsewhere.

What is the relevance of this to the campaign to reunite Ireland? (*Ed. Note: Ireland was illegally divided by the British government in 1921 against the wishes of more than 80% of Ireland's citizens.*) Simply this: with the attention of the world now focused on the attempts to resolve the long-standing national divisions now coming to the surface as the communist flood recedes from Eastern Europe -- with the hopes of the world concentrating on the solution of their long-standing national disputes -- why should the world community not also bring to the table the issue of the partition of Ireland? People of good will must insist upon it!

Such efforts will not be welcomed in London, Washington and Dublin. The United Nations has a full plate of problems to deal with and is not seeking new ones. None of this must deter us.

The partition of Ireland and the record of British colonial rule is an international injustice that must be addressed by the international community -- particularly today when talk of a **new world order** is the latest slogan of the US Administration. If the US can now actively intervene to solve long-standing disputes in Palestine, South Africa, and Eastern Europe, certainly Americans have the right to be heard on the issue of Northern Ireland -- whether or not it is a "popular" issue in the media or with the State Department.

Ethnic nationalism has long been perceived as undesirable and even less than respectable in elite circles in this nation of immigrants. However, the ideal of the "melting pot" has not been achieved in our country with its serious racial and social problems and it most certainly is not accepted anywhere else in the world.

The present national awakening in Eastern Europe will cause our leadership to address the issues of nationalism again and to recognize the positive aspects for a people of national pride in a common heritage and culture. Such things can enrich the world and need not be a source of conflict if pursued in positive ways.

Few Americans realized the strength of their feelings among the nationalities of Eastern Europe until the present crisis there. The attraction of common culture, language (a failure in Ireland), and viewpoint, is strong and will have to be recognized.

Our government is presently in a position similar to that of Woodrow Wilson's administration after World War One. Having proclaimed the ideal of national identity and freedom for small nations -- having Belgium in mind -- they were dismayed to have to recognize that the Irish too had similar claims with similar justice behind those claims. Since it was too painful for Wilsonian Anglophiles to recognize that Britain too could be guilty of historic injustice they tried to ignore those claims. Pro-Irish freedom activists of that time did not accept being shunted aside, nor must we.

For too long our government has turned its back on Ireland's right to reunification and an end to oppression. The idea that we must look the other way simply because Britain is an ally is just not acceptable in this day and age. A free and united Ireland must also be part of the New World Order.

## You Can Help

1. **Send a donation to the American Irish Political Education Committee.** Make checks payable to AIPEC and mail to Fairgrounds Plaza, 18 Route 9W, West Haverstraw, NY 10993. For information call toll-free 800 777-6807.
2. **Reproduce and distribute this article.** Pass it on to influential members of your community, the media, business associates, elected officials, clergy, etc.; pass it out whenever and wherever the general public gathers; rallies, concerts, festivals, dances, etc.
3. **Write the sample letter below to:** President Bush (*Honorable George Bush, President, The White House, Washington, DC 20500*), your U.S. Senators (*Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, United States Senate*) and to your Congressional Representative (*Honorable \_\_\_\_\_ House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515*).

### Sample Letter

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:  
I urge that you call for the reunification of Ireland and an end to human rights violations in Northern Ireland, as part of the New World Order. Ireland too has the right to self-determination.

4. **Write letters to your local newspapers.** Keep the issue of injustice in Northern Ireland before the public eye. Point out the similarities between Northern Ireland and the other situations of historic injustice now being revealed all over the world. Speak out politely, but firmly, in your churches, schools and work place. Keep the issue alive!

(The author is the Vice President of the American Irish Political Education Committee (PEC).)

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When ordering rings be sure to include size on order form on page 6.



# Action Request # 1

by Dr. John T. Giesen, Idaho

President George Bush and House Speaker Thomas Foley, as powerful leaders of the democratic world, have an obligation to speak out against British injustice in Northern Ireland. Today even more so, because of the sweep of democracy in Europe.

As citizens of the United States, we have an obligation to urge our President and the House Speaker, to take such action.

All our members are asked to write the letter below to: Honorable George Bush, President, The White House, Washington, DC 20500 and Honorable Thomas Foley, House Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515.

Your letter will complement our postcard campaign which is aimed at President Bush. Write the letters in your own words, using our letter as a guide, or simply copy the letter as is. Urge family members, organizations, business associates, friends, etc. to do the same. Remember: be courteous in your letters.

Dear (Mr. President) (Mr. Speaker):

Please use your good office to end collusion between the British forces and paramilitaries in the murder of Irish citizens and to promote the peaceful reunification of Ireland. Without your help Ireland will remain the only unfree and divided nation in Europe.

Respectfully yours,

## A FREE NEWSLETTER OFFER FOR RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS

We make the following suggestion as requested by several members.

Send us the names of three people you feel are interested in Northern Ireland and we will send them 3 free issues of the Newsletter.

With the first issue we will send a letter indicating that they are being sent the Newsletter at your request. With the third issue they will receive a request to join the PEC.

Send only the names and addresses, zip code included, of people you feel are sincerely interested.

If possible, please include a small donation to help cover our costs.

We thank our members who made this suggestion.

### NANCY CARR

The passing of Nancy Carr on October 15 is a sad loss to the PEC. She will be missed by all those who had the privilege to know and work with her.

Nancy was active with the PEC Executive Board in Rockland County, New York and was active in many of our activities including our annual Irish Heritage Festival.

Nancy will be sorely missed.

----- Detach Here -----

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