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## American Irish Newsletter - August 1990

American Ireland Education Foundation - PEC

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# AMERICAN IRISH NEWSLETTER

AMERICAN Irish Political Education Committee

Volume 15, Number 8

August 1990

NEWS BITS by Kathy Regan

(excerpts from the *Andersonstown News*, June 9, 1990)

## "CONFERENCE TACKLES THE CHILL FACTOR"

On Saturday, June 9 representatives from official government bodies, trade unions, and political parties united in the afternoon session of the IS BELFAST WORKING conference to back a comprehensive resolution promoting a vigorous campaign for jobs in West Belfast. As well as directly endorsing investment in the area, the resolution pledges to encourage debate about the government's economic strategy in the West.

The 2-hour plenary session, chaired by Inez McCormack, was kicked off by SDLP councilor and Phoenix Trust chairman, Alasdair McDonnell (a guest speaker at the morning session). Calling for efforts to improve the image of West Belfast, he said that some people in the area suffered from an inferiority complex, going as far as to claim they came from Finaghy when actually they lived in Andersonstown.

Workers Party stalwart and representative of the Leeson Street Tenants' Association, Jim Sullivan, defended the right of workers to the employment of their choice. Too often, he claimed, ACE jobs (one-year training schemes) went to people not on merit but because they "had a particular point of view, go to chapel, or drank in a certain club."

Jim Gibney of Sinn Fein said government sincerity in the Making Belfast Work program was "suspect", while Bob Rolston (Obair) protested that the church groups patronized by the government were "accountable to no-one."

West Belfast MP, Gerry Adams, asked why it was left to the ordinary people of West Belfast, rather than the governmental bodies, to organize a conference about the area's economic future. "They don't want to organize a conference like this because they have no real interest in resolving our problems," he said. "The deliberate government neglect which nationalist areas such as West Belfast have suffered is not defined as discrimination. One thousand, two hundred million pounds have been poured into East Belfast over the last two years as opposed to 92.5 million pounds in the deprived areas of Belfast. This disparity actually highlights the structural discrimination which the British government continue to practice against nationalists and nationalist areas, in its administration of the Six County economy."

Patricia McKeown of NUPE insisted that any economic recovery programme for the West must include a "clear women's perspective." Derry visitor, Kerry O'Connor warned that retail developments alone would not create a firm economic base for West Belfast. "Derry is becoming a shopping mall and your district is in danger of going the same way."

Continued on page 5

## SPECIAL REPORT: PEC DELEGATION'S VISIT TO NORTHERN IRELAND

See *American Delegation Visits Northern Ireland* on page 4

**ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS** -- You are requested to reproduce and distribute this report to as many people as possible, including: journalists, human rights activists and groups, clergy and religious groups, political, labor, corporate leaders, etc.

## NIO TO OPEN IN WASHINGTON, DC

by Sandy Carlson

The British government will open a Northern Ireland Office (NIO) in Washington, DC, this summer. The government is spending the British taxpayers' money to provide a voice for Northern Ireland which the American people do not hear, according to a London NIO official. The PEC would like to point out that the American people do not receive news from Ireland precisely because the British have silenced that voice through its censorship legislation. Journalists are inhibited from reporting on the war in Northern Ireland because they can be fired, jailed, or excluded from the United Kingdom for doing so. As a result, the only Irish news Americans receive is processed in and transmitted from London.

Members are urged to contact their congressional representatives (Central Telephone No. 202-225-3121), urging them to voice in Washington their opposition to the establishment of a Northern Ireland Office in our nation's capital. Please send copies of your letters to British Ambassador Antony Acland, British Embassy, 3100 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20008.

## PEC IRISH HERITAGE FESTIVAL

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## THE MACBRIDE PRINCIPLES: A MAJOR THREAT TO BRITISH COLONIALISM

Some of the most important conclusions derived from the PEC's recent FACT-FINDING trip to Northern Ireland are that the MacBride Principles campaign is the most effective and necessary work being conducted by Americans, and that the campaign must be intensified, as attested to by every nationalist representative we met excluding the SDLP; and that the PEC has been on target with its work in promoting MacBride Principles legislation.

It is also clear that the combined efforts of American organizations promoting justice in Northern Ireland indeed have a significant impact.

We learned too, that many in the Unionist community have been misled into believing that the MacBride Principles Campaign is designed to discourage investment. This is in total contradiction with the aims of the Principles.

The MacBride Principles campaign is now active in Norway,

Italy, and Canada. Campaign leaders in these countries look to the United States campaign for their incentive.

Many superficial changes have taken place in Northern Ireland in direct response to the MacBride Principles. Many of these changes come through the rebuilding of areas like Derry City. Much of this work is done by people hired through the ACE Scheme--a training scheme for hard core unemployed (unemployed for more than one year). The majority of these people train for one year and are then put out of work and back on unemployment. These one-year jobs make up many of the 8,000 jobs supposedly created by the British government. People need jobs with a future, but it was clear to our delegation that there can be no future while Northern Ireland remains a British colony. Proponents across the board also conclude that the MacBride Principles have succeeded in bringing, for the first time, the attention of many influential people to the true nature of the injustices and wrongs of the British colonial presence in Northern Ireland.

### The American Irish PEC

founded 1975

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STUDENT ORGANIZER: Sandy Carlson, 19 Pond Brook Road, Newtown, CONNECTICUT, 06470-(203)270-0497.

Supported in part by the Emerald Society, NYC Fire Department.

### ARIZONA STATE DIRECTOR APPOINTED

We are happy to announce the appointment of Susan Catt as the PEC Arizona State Director. All members residing in Arizona are urged to contact Susan and to offer their assistance. Susan can be contacted at 2292 North Ironwood, #110, Apache Junction, AZ 85220 - Phone No. (602) 983-6371.

#### FROM THE EDITOR

*One thing that became very clear on our recent trip to Northern Ireland is that Nationalists and Unionists can live and work together, if they are permitted to do so.*

*There are plenty of fair-minded and capable community leaders on both sides who are willing to work together for the benefit of the ordinary citizen -- the victims. Unfortunately, their efforts are often suppressed, sometimes brutally, by the very people who should be helping them.*

*Political, government and even religious leaders are as often as not responsible for keeping the the people divided. Their reasons are less than honorable, namely the desire to maintain the status quo, for this guarantees their power. Grassroots efforts by capable community leaders are a threat to that power. For that reason, those in power continue to suppress all such initiatives. Their corruption and immoral behavior is covered up by blaming the victims. Abuse of power is a major problem in Northern Ireland and explains why no lasting solutions can be had. The present leadership refuses to address the issues since doing so would jeopardize their privileged positions. In this they have the support of the British, Irish and American governments.*

*What is needed is new political leadership, much of which can easily be provided by community activists. The power of the existing religious and political leadership must be curtailed and their religious and political control over the people taken away from them.*

*We can begin this process by directing the attention of people to community activists and their associations and by constantly bringing this abuse of power to the public's attention.*

## MOTHER JONES

by Irene McDonnell

Mary Harris Jones was born May 1, 1830 in a cottage near the city of Cork, County Cork, Ireland. Mary was one of three children. As a child, she witnessed British troops marching through the streets with the heads of Irishmen on their bayonets. Her paternal grandfather was hung in the fight for Irish freedom. Mother Jones's father was a Fenian who was forced to flee Ireland for agitating for freedom. He escaped on a fishing boat to Canada and established citizenship while working with a canal building crew and then on a railroad gang. In 1838, the family joined him in Toronto, Ontario.

Mary attended Toronto public schools and graduated at the age of 17. At the same time, she learned the skill of dressmaking. She taught school for eight months until she began dressmaking, preferring it to the bossing of little children. In 1851, she met and married George E. Jones, an iron moulder, in Memphis, Tennessee. Mr. Jones was active in his union and Mary learned the psychology of the worker. She learned that the wife must care for what the husband cares for if he is to remain resolute.

The year 1867 saw the death of Mary's husband and four children to yellow fever. The yellow fever victims were mainly among the poor and the workers, for the well-to-do fled the city. Mary applied for a permit to nurse the sick through the epidemic and afterwards went to Chicago to take up dressmaking again. While working in the grand houses on Lake Shore Drive, she noticed the poor shivering wretches, jobless and hungry walking along the frozen lakefront. Her employers seemed neither to notice nor to care.

The great Chicago fire left Mother Jones with only the clothes on her back at the age of 41. She began to attend nightly lectures at the Knights of Labor. Her personal tragedies forged an amalgam of compassion and fervor which drove her onward.

Mother Jones organized workers first for the Knights of Labor and later for the UMW (United Mine Workers of America). She worked in Alabama cotton mills to see for herself "If the gruesome stories of little children working in the cotton mills were true." For a long time after her southern experience, she could scarcely eat. "Not alone my clothes, but my food too, at times seemed bought with the price of the toil of children."

One time, organizing men in Pennsylvania, she said, "Boys, this strike is called in order that you and your wives and your little ones get a little bit of heaven before you die." Another time, she organized women to support the men by bringing pots, pans, mops and brooms to march over the mountains to elicit the support of workers in other mines.

Always trying new things, Mother Jones in May 1903 led a procession of pathetic children with lint-clogged lungs and gnarled hands from the textile mills of Philadelphia to see President Roosevelt. Although he was not home at Oyster Bay, Long Island, the nation saw and heard. Stricter laws in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania were enacted a few years later. In 1941 finally came the enactment of a federal child labor law which declared child labor unconstitutional.

Mother Jones believed union leaders should try to live as do those they seek to help. John Mitchell, UAW president, and

Mother Jones clashed over a rank and file petition to assess miners to buy Mitchell a ten-thousand-dollar house.

Mother Jones advised her men, "Get you some books and go into the shade while you are striking. Sit down and read. Educate yourself for the coming conflicts."

In New York in 1918, Mother Jones and three other union organizers were jailed for not having a permit to speak in the street. After having been released on a fifteen-dollar bond, six days later she claimed innocence and told the magistrate she had a permit. Who issued it? he asked. "Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, and John Adams," she replied. Mother Jones was released without penalty; the others were fined one dollar each.

Ironically, Mother Jones believed women did not belong in industry. Women were supposed to be mothers and wives, not industrial workers. If the industrial problem were solved, she proclaimed near the end of her life, "men would earn enough so women could remain home and attend to their duties."

Mother Jones died on November 29, 1930 at the age of 100. The entire labor movement paused to honor Mother Jones in death, but most of the five thousand mourners were the poor working class. Buried in the Miners' Cemetery in Mount Olive, Illinois, the grave of the "Miners' Angel" is tended by the Progressive Mine Workers of America.

If Mother Jones were alive today, one of her causes would certainly be that of freedom for Joe Doherty. She would also engage the entire Union movement in advocating freedom for Joe. Mother Jones was a woman of action.

### PEC TELEPHONE HOTLINE

(914)429-7849

For urgent action letters.

Message changes every Sunday night.

### THE STUDENT CAMPAIGN

The American Irish Political Education Committee's student MacBride Principles campaign will continue in the autumn. The PEC encourages students to take advantage of our new program:

For a fee of \$30.00 per semester, student groups will receive:

1. Newsletters for members of the group.
2. *Reproduce and Distribute* material.
3. Postcards relevant to our campaigns for each member in the group, along with background information for each postcard.
4. The PEC's *Student Action Guide* packet.
5. MacBride Principles campaign action materials.

For further information, contact Sandy at the PEC office or use the multipurpose coupon at the back of the newsletter.

## AMERICAN DELEGATION VISITS NORTHERN IRELAND Findings and Recommendations

During June 10 through 16, 1990 a delegation from the American Irish Political Education Committee (PEC) visited Northern Ireland. The purpose of the visit was to investigate the causes of the conflict; to determine the affects of the American MacBride Principles For Fair Employment in Northern Ireland Campaign and for the first time, to reach out to the Unionist community.

The delegation represented business, civil service and educational interests and included: John Finucane, National President; Kathleen Regan, New York State Director; Thomas O'Flaherty, National MacBride Principles Consultant; Brian McGrath, Public Relations Officer; Terry Deem Reilly, Colorado State Director; and Kathleen Young, Political Consultant.

The delegation met with political, religious, government and community leaders from the Unionist and Nationalist communities. The delegation was warmly received by both the Nationalist and Unionist communities and their leaders.

In a series of 21 meetings with groups and individuals the delegation interviewed Most Rev. James Mehaffey, Anglican Bishop of Derry; Mary Nellis, Director of Temple More Crafts Cooperative; Seamas Heaney, Director of the Creggan Community Initiative; representatives of the office of Northern Ireland Secretary of State Peter Brooke; Gerry Adams, MP and President of Sinn Fein; Ted Howell, Sinn Fein Information Officer; Inez McCormack, labor leader and signatory of the MacBride Principles; Hon. Douglas Archerd, American Consul-General; Oliver Kearney, Executive Secretary of the Fair Employment Trust; Robert Cooper, Chairman of the Fair Employment Commission (which replaced Northern Ireland's Fair Employment Agency); Martin Durkin (SDLP), Derry Councillor (the delegation also sought a meeting with SDLP leader John Hume); Dodie McGuinness (Sinn Fein), Derry Councillor; Gusty Spence, Shankill Activity Centre; John McQuillan and Jack Redpath, directors of the Shankill Redevelopment Agency; Rev. Des Wilson and Joseph Reed, directors of the Conway Mill and Springhill Community Center; Doctors Sean Loughlin and Susan Baker of Misneach; Michael Ritchie and Martin O'Brien, Committee for the Administration of Justice; Emma Groves and Clare Reilly, United Campaign Against Plastic Bullets; Mike Tomlinson and Eileen Howell, Obair Campaign for Employment; Captain James Kelly, Stop Extradition Committee; and Daniel Burke, of Belfast Exposed.

The opinion of the delegation regarding the atmosphere in Northern Ireland can be summed up in three words: **restrictions, powerlessness and intractability**. *Restrictions* regarding one's place of work, residence, and freedom of expression; *powerlessness* on the part of the entire community -- both Unionist and Nationalist -- to deal with the restraints imposed on them by the occupying power; and *intractability* which characterized everyone who held a position of power.

One thing that became abundantly clear to the delegation was the fact that every one of the above groups and individuals who held a position of power seemed convinced that there were no problems in Northern Ireland which could not be solved by

an influx of more money and a reaffirmation of the status quo, i.e. continued British rule of the province.

*Not a single one of those who held a position of power even mentioned indefinite remand, a shoot-to-kill policy, strip-searching, interrogation under torture, the use of plastic bullets, censorship, or the collusion between Loyalist terrorists and the British security forces as problems needing to be solved -- despite the well-documented existence of such abuses!*

Their interest focused on cosmetic measures, namely, inter-faith meetings, economic development, increasing tourism and so on.

On the other hand, the political activists and self-help advocates we met (particularly among the Nationalists), expressed feelings ranging from frustration to near-despair at the prospect of a continuation of the current political and economic arrangements.

The lack of meaningful employment and economic independence were concerns for both Unionists and Nationalists.

Nationalists labor under the added burden of harassment and violence from the security forces, and the knowledge that the British government considers them political nonpersons, if not outright enemies.

Particularly ominous is the blanket condemnation of Nationalist activists and the ordinary people living in Nationalist areas as "terrorists," regardless of individual commitment to nonviolence. Northern Ireland Secretary of State Peter Brooke has now gone to the extreme of characterizing the entire Nationalist community of West Belfast as "the terrorist community."

*It appears to the members of the delegation that Secretary Brooke is setting the stage for an intensification of repression of the Nationalist community. British politicians seem determined to institute some form of devolved government that will exclude Sinn Fein's large constituency. They intend to do this by declaring that those excluded from power constitute "the terrorist community."*

If abuses of the rights of the Nationalists escalate, so too will the violent reaction from that community.

### FOLLOWING ARE SOME FINDINGS OF THE DELEGATION:

1. The upcoming talks in Northern Ireland will not produce significant change or an end to injustice. They will result perhaps in a devolved form of government in which Nationalists will remain excluded and powerless. The talks will be heralded as a major breakthrough by the media and by the British, Irish and U.S. governments. The talks are designed to produce the *image of change*, but in reality any changes will be cosmetic and will merely prolong the agony and injustice.
2. The talks will further isolate the Nationalist community. British Army repression and violence will be intensified. There will also be the possibility of reinstating internment (imprisonment without charge).
3. Britain's new fair employment legislation will not effectively combat blatant discrimination in employment still practiced by employers in all sectors of the Northern Ireland economy. The main purpose of the new legislation is to derail the highly successful American MacBride Principles Campaign which is now under way in European nations.

4. The members of the delegation came away concerned that Church leaders in general have no wish to make significant change. They are not even willing to listen to members of their own flocks concerning solutions to the economic and political problems facing Northern Ireland. Reverend Cahal Daly, Roman Catholic Bishop of Down and Connor which includes Belfast, for instance, will not meet with anyone, whether community activist or elected representative, including SDLP and Sinn Fein. Church leaders seem more concerned with maintaining their power and privilege as guaranteed by the British Army and British funding.
5. All the Churches oppose the proposed integrated school system, apparently because it will destroy their power base and lessen their control over their flocks.
6. Political leaders, much like Church leaders in their thinking, offer no new ideas and are more concerned with protecting their power base. Many are bigoted and lack the desire and courage necessary to bring about real change.
7. The Orange Order, which is comparable to the American Ku Klux Klan, and other secret Unionist societies hold much power.
8. Community leaders and their associations have the potential and the desire to bring Nationalists and Unionists together. Since the early 70s, however, their efforts have been suppressed by Church leaders, politicians, and government officials.
9. International Fund for Ireland funds are being used mostly for cosmetic changes, and do not help those most deprived areas for which the funds were intended. They do not create stable, long-term employment opportunities.
10. The prospects for economic investment in Northern Ireland remains nil until there is political and economic stability.
11. There is a saturation in predominantly Nationalist areas by the British Army, the RUC (police); and the UDR (Ulster Defence Regiment).
12. Unionist opposition to a united Ireland is mixed and many in the Unionist community consider themselves to be Irish.

#### **FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE DELEGATION'S RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. International Fund for Ireland funding should be put on hold until its misuses can be investigated. Changes should be made to ensure it is used for the purposes intended.
2. Nationalist and Unionist community leaders should be encouraged and supported. Their associations continue to offer the best hope for the future. They have the potential and desire to bring both communities together. **These community leaders, who represent the views of most people in the affected areas, offer a way forward. They are the people whose ideas and opinions must be sought by all those who seek a solution to the tragedy of Northern Ireland.**
3. Efforts by concerned Americans to reach out to the unionist community, and to develop a greater understanding of their legitimate fears and concerns must continue. Those concerns include the power and political influence of the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church in the Irish Republic. This concern was stressed by almost every individual and group we contacted, including Nationalists.

4. Church leaders of all religions must take a stand against injustice and bigotry and must support the implementation of an integrated public school system. They must begin the process of separating Church and State along the line of the United States.

5. **The MacBride Principles Campaign has proven to be the single most effective non violent approach to social change and must be continued and intensified. More than any other effort, the Principles keep exerting intense pressure for real change on the British government.**

#### **CONCLUSION:**

The ability of the British government to hold Northern Ireland as a colony depends entirely on its ability to control the different segments of society. This control is achieved by guaranteeing to favored segments the power and privilege to control their constituents. Too much power and too much control in the hands of a few, as is the case in Northern Ireland, makes a just society impossible. It is the vast majority of both Nationalists and Unionists, i.e. the working people, who are the real victims of this unjust society.

If equal rights are guaranteed to everyone in Northern Ireland, and the existing abuse of power by so few is stopped, there would no longer be any motive for the power-brokers to remain under British colonial rule.

The only just and lasting solution to centuries of British oppression and economic exploitation in Ireland, and the only solution which has never been tried, is a complete British withdrawal.

A phased withdrawal over a period of years will lessen the threat of civil war (an excuse for a continued British Army presence?) and allow for the people of Ireland to develop understanding, trust and respect for each other; and allow time for a complete separation of Church and State in both north and south.

With reunification, American organizations like the PEC could dedicate themselves to raising funds to build Ireland's economy (north and south) and to promote private and government investment and support.

The American Irish Political Education Committee (PEC), founded in 1975, is a non-sectarian membership organization of Americans made up of people from all walks of life and different ethnic backgrounds. We oppose all violence and work through the American democratic process to achieve equal rights and equal opportunities for all people in Northern Ireland.

The PEC seeks to affect a change in American foreign policy by keeping the issue of human rights in Northern Ireland before the American people. Our ultimate goal is to end British colonialism in Northern Ireland and to bring about the peaceful reunification of Ireland.

**Note:** Each member of the delegation paid his/her own way on the visit to Northern Ireland.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** American Irish Political Education Committee, Malloy Building, Stony Point, New York 10980, Phone# (914) 947-2726; Fax# (914) 947-2599.

# THE WALLACE AFFAIR

by Sandy Carlson

From 1968 to 1975, Colin Wallace was a civil servant in Northern Ireland, acting as assistant information officer, information officer, and then senior information officer for the British Army. Wallace was involved in a limited way with the Widgery tribunal of the British murders of 14 civil rights marchers on what is now known as Bloody Sunday in January 1972. According to Minister of State for the Armed Forces Archie Hamilton, during that tumultuous time in Northern Ireland "it was essential to regain the incentive, and effective measures were imperative to counter both the terrorists and their propaganda. Explaining the true purpose of the work of the security forces and countering IRA propaganda were key ingredients in restoring law and order in the community."

Countering propaganda with propaganda and lies was Wallace's duty until he was found guilty of providing journalists with classified documents without authority. This unauthorized transmission led to his dismissal. The government subsequently determined that Wallace should be dismissed. However, Wallace appealed to the Civil Service Appeal Board, which recommended that he be allowed to resign in view of his previous good service to the government. The government complied, and Wallace resigned in 1975.

However, Wallace believed that he had suffered a great injustice. His contention was that he was dismissed because he refused to engage in disinformation activities. Wallace alleged that the British government was involved in covering up the homosexual activities committed by workers against residents at the Kincora Boys' Home in East Belfast. He also alleged that in 1974 the crown forces in Northern Ireland had undertaken a covert operation called Clockwork Orange, which involved issuing defamatory material against British ministers and Members of Parliament in an effort to upset the Labor government. Wallace has also alleged undercover government-authorized assassinations.

After Wallace left the civil service, he worked as press officer at Arun District Council in Sussex. In 1980, he was sentenced to ten years imprisonment for the manslaughter of the husband of a local woman with whom he wanted to have an affair.

When Wallace was released in 1986, he produced a military memo, written in 1974, which outlined the army's knowledge of the disinformation campaign.

Ken Livingstone, MP, pointed out the fact that in 1973 Wallace's superior saw and initialled Wallace's report of abuses at Kincora but did nothing about it, for the abuses continued for 7 years before any worker at the home was convicted. Livingstone has also claimed that Margaret Thatcher's former aide, Airey Neave, had commissioned Wallace's disinformation work.

A previous private inquiry by the Northern Ireland Office (NIO) staff confirmed Wallace's allegations that he had attempted to smear Unionists by linking them with sexual abuses at Kincora. The NIO also alleged that, during conversations with journalists, Wallace was attempting to link Democratic Unionist Party leader Ian Paisley, Official Unionist Party leader Jim Molyneux, and Orange Order leader Martin Smyth with events at the home.

The Kincora scandal was not publicly exposed until 1980. Although the scandal has been the subject of 3 police and 2 government inquiries, there lingers suspicion of official cover-up.

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For more than 20 years, dozens of boys have been sexually assaulted in the East Belfast home, but only 2 workers have been convicted.

Ian Paisley told BBC's *Spotlight* that he had complained in 1975 and 1976 of the dirty tricks campaign. Merlyn Rees, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland in the mid-1970's, stated that he had at the time received letters from America thanking him for his contribution to the IRA.

Regarding previous statements about Colin Wallace's claims of sexual abuses at East Belfast's Knocora Boys' School, Margaret Thatcher admitted to Tam Dalyell, MP, in a January 30, 1990 letter that "there were a number of statements in my letters, and in other Ministerial statements and official correspondence, which were incorrect or required clarification." Her personal secretary responded to Mr. Morris, MP, that he would look into the question of previous errors. However, the corrections do not corroborate Wallace's allegations.

The Ministry of Defense knew for 5 months that Parliament had been misled about the affair. According to Tom King, only after 6 months of searching through archive material was any case-related material found. After a review of relevant material in September, 1989 did the British government determine to conduct a more extensive inquiry. Upon re-examining Wallace's file, it was found that he had undertaken unattributable covert briefings, probably designed to discredit the IRA.

In his book, *Who Framed Colin Wallace?*, Paul Foot asserts that the purpose of the campaign was to confuse or disorient the IRA and to reduce U.S. support for the IRA campaign. Foot claims that the disinformation campaign later spread to smearing politicians--including members of the Labor party and former Prime Minister Heath--by linking them with the sex scandal and with communists. Foot also claims that the authorities did not want to do anything about the Kincora scandal because the home was being run by a Protestant extremist with paramilitary ties.

The dismissal procedure is being looked into again to determine whether or not Wallace's case was fairly presented to the Civil Service Appeal Board.

The Parliamentary record of February 12, 1990 include statements from Mr. Hamilton affirming the correctness of Wallace's dismissal as well as claims that Clockwork Orange was never officially approved. Hamilton further claims that there is no evidence that Clockwork Orange ever existed. Home Secretary David Waddington has stated that after examining arguments and claims, nothing raised any doubt about the manslaughter claim.

Irish politicians as well as Britain's Labor party are dissatisfied with the limited scope of the inquiry, for it does not include the disinformation program or Clockwork Orange per se; rather, it concerns only Wallace's dismissal. Thus, the British government protects itself while it discredits and dismisses one of its former servants.

**JOIN THE AMERICAN IRISH  
POLITICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
for membership information, call 800-777-6807**

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## NEWS BITS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

**OBAIR ROCK THE BOAT**

There will be no apology for Obair's no-holds-barred approach to job creation in West Belfast, writes Jim Andrews.

That was the message from Mike Tomlinson of the West Belfast jobs body at Saturday's gathering. "We have been counselled not to rock the boat," disclosed Mr. Tomlinson, "but we are not going to be apologetic about our efforts. We will continue to argue for employment for all and will continue to criticize unequal development, discriminatory development, low-budget development, and development designed more for propaganda than progress. We will also seek to promote forms of accountability which go beyond dinner parties at Stormont for selected priests and other notables."

The Obair representative complained that style had become more important than substance in the job creation field. "The proliferation of glossy reports, brochures and prospectuses may be good for designers and a printing company or two, but our impression is that this is more about the marketing of the British government than the marketing of West Belfast."

He added, "We are also concerned with the politics of economic development in West Belfast. Richard Needham said on November 19 last year: 'It has to be in our [Government's] interests...for us to try and get more jobs into West Belfast...that is the way in which we will reduce the terrorist menace, by making people economically independent from terrorism. That is the prime strategic objective of the government.' It is highly regrettable that economic development is being used as an integral part of the war against terrorism."

Much of the blame for the area's worsening economic crisis lay with the cutbacks in social security payments under the new Social Fund.

"Even if we accept the underlying private enterprise philosophy of Making Belfast Work (MBW), some basic flaws still exist," he said. "It has ignored the fact that general economic activity limits the potential to develop new businesses, which are often dependent on local markets in the crucial formative years. The reduction in the cash available for people to spend due to the April 1988 Social Security changes and the highest interest rates ever have had a major effect on the local economy by reducing demands for locally produced goods and services."

Improved levels of grant aid from the Belfast Action Teams for local community groups had been offset by a gradual reduction in City Hall funding for the same groups. "The accountability of BAT also needs to be addressed, Mr. Johnson argued. "Those putting forward a project which is turned down have no appeal. They may be unwilling to criticize the decision for fear that future projects will be jeopardized. This lack of accountability extends to the whole process of MBW and the government's failure to provide real jobs in West Belfast. Those who criticize the process are automatically deemed to be supporters of republican politics. Given the very real threat of political vetting, many in the community think it is better to say nothing than risk the wrath of government. This self-censorship makes effective consultation and accountability impossible."

He added, "The shallowness of the government's commitment to consultation can be seen in the approach being taken

**REMINDER: PLEASE SEND OFFENSIVE SITUATIONS TO KEVIN P. MURPHY  
P.O. BOX 8895, J.F. KENNEDY STATION  
BOSTON, MA 02114**

**Please do not send offensive situations to National Headquarters in New York**

**ACTION REQUEST #2: Offensive Situations**

We are happy to inform you that our 1989-1990 campaign to **Hallmark Cards Inc.** concerning offensive St. Patrick's Day cards appears to have been an overall success.

While the number of offensive cards Hallmark offered during the 1990 St. Patrick's Day season declined from previous years, and the number of complaints received from our members during that same period was also down significantly, there were still 10 cards in question. The PEC advised Hallmark of the improvement and noted the 10 cards in question.

On June 27, 1990 Irvine O. Hockaday, Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer of Hallmark, responded to the PEC that Hallmark's greeting card division has no intention of publishing 9 of those 10 cards in 1991.

**We commend our members, and others, who participated in this campaign, are commended. Because we persisted, we succeeded.**

We must now concentrate our efforts on Recycled Paper Products. **Course of Action:** Locate the large department stores in your area that sell Recycled's products and forward this information to Kevin Murphy (see address above). We want to bring pressure on Recycled through the companies that sell their products. **We need your cooperation!**

toward Springvale, the flagship of MBW. The government has for some time known that this site would be available, yet the period for consultation is just eight months. We are faced with proposals which offer 'a reorientation of communications cutting across traditional routes and boundaries.'-- which in English means building roads over people's homes. The routes for these new roads are represented by a squiggle from a felt-tip pen, which is then incorporated as the project logo. No wonder the people begin to think the DED and DOE are poking fun at the communities most likely to suffer."

**The Way Forward adopted unanimously at the Whiterock conference was the following, six-part resolution:**

1. To produce and distribute a report on the "Is West Belfast Working?" conference.
2. To seek meetings with interested parties, governmental and otherwise, to express the concerns of the conference.
3. To monitor the impact of government economic and social policies, and of special employment and training measures on the people of West Belfast.
4. To inform and encourage debate within local communities on current policies and future development.
5. To re-call the 'Is West Belfast Working Conference' within two years.
6. To support the creation of real jobs and the economic regeneration of West Belfast.



**ACTION REQUEST #1**  
by John Schell, PEC Maryland

PEC members were asked to write to The President, Public Broadcasting Service in December 1989, and to *The MacNeil/Lehrer Newshour* and *Frontline* in March 1990. This campaign is to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB).

The CPB's 1988 Annual Report states the CPB's important role, "...CPB is the vehicle through which Congress supports and encourages noncommercial broadcasting. CPB is not, however, a federal agency. Rather, it is a private, nonprofit corporation with a 'heat shield' role to allocate funding to programming independent of political considerations....In Fiscal Year 1988 Congress appropriated \$214 million to CPB to carry out its mission." (p. 2-3). For instance, the CPB provided funding to both *Frontline* and *MacNeil/Lehrer Newshour* in 1988 (CPB 1988 Annual Report, p. 7).

We must thank public broadcasting organizations that have aired programs in the recent past concerning Northern Ireland. However, as concerned taxpayers, we must also ask for the allocation of additional funds for special programming and continuous reporting of the human and civil rights issues in Northern Ireland. We should be especially interested in the CPB's role of allocating funds to programming independent of political considerations. Accordingly, all PEC members are asked to write letters to the president of CPB using the sample letter as a guide.

return address date

Mr. Donald Ledwig, President  
Corporation for Public Broadcasting  
901 E Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Mr. Ledwig:

I am deeply concerned about the numerous reports of extremely serious human and civil rights violations against the minority Nationalist population in Northern Ireland. I thank the public broadcasting organizations for airing programs on Northern Ireland. I respectfully ask, however, that the CPB allocate additional funding for programs dealing specifically and solely with the human and civil rights violations committed against the Nationalist population of Northern Ireland. I also ask the CPB to allocate funds to air news events as they occur regarding the human and civil rights issues. Peace with justice can be achieved in Northern Ireland by the mass media's continuous, unbiased exposure and analysis of the human and civil rights issues. Such exposure will engender needed discussion by American foreign policy decision-makers and citizens. As a taxpayer, I am aware that Congress appropriates money to CPB to carry out its mission. Please forward a copy of my letter to Mr. Ken Towery, Chairman, CPB Board of Directors. I look forward to your reply to on this urgent matter.

Sincerely,  
signature

**PEC 15th ANNIVERSARY  
DINNER DANCE**

*Honored Guests*  
**Police Officer Steven McDonald & Dr. Frank Holt**

**Bishops of Tappan**  
**Saturday, September 29, 1990**

We are privileged to announce that the 1990 recipients of the PEC's Outstanding American Award will be Dr. Frank Holt, a long-time promoter of American Irish interests and of the Gaelic League; and the courageous Police Officer Steven McDonald, an outspoken supporter of Joe Doherty.

Tickets are \$40 per person (\$400 per table of 10), which includes: Hot & Cold Buffet from 8 to 9 PM, full course Prime Rib Dinner and Open Bar from 8 PM to 1 AM.

**Music by John Egan & The Irish Tradewinds.**

Your help is needed to make this event a success. Make your reservations now, as we expect a sell-out. We also ask that you solicit ads for our journal. A journal ad application appears in the July edition of the Newsletter. Ads cost \$150 gold-page, \$100 full-page, \$60 half-page, \$40 quarter-page and \$25 eighth-page.

**For reservations or further information call (914) 947-2726, or evenings (914) 947-2998 or (212) 365-0213.**

**WE WISH TO COMMEND**

...New York City Mayor David Dinkins for approving the City Council resolution naming the street outside the Manhattan Correctional Center after Joe Doherty. He certainly must have done the right thing for it upset U.S. Ambassador to England, Henry Cato...Mario Cuomo, Governor of New York, has advised the PEC that he will travel to Northern Ireland after New York's 1990 gubernatorial election.

**ANNUAL RAFFLE**

Enclosed with this Newsletter are three raffle tickets. The tickets cost \$3 each. The drawing will be at our Annual Dinner Dance on September 29, 1990.

The prizes are: 2 round-trip tickets to Ireland from New York or Boston or \$1,000 cash, and 5 \$100 consolation prizes.

Please return the stubs and your check payable to AIPEC as soon as possible in the enclosed return envelope.

The proceeds will help fund the PEC's ongoing and vitally important MacBride Principles campaign (see The MacBride Principles on Page Two).

**Thank you for your support!**