

1975

Ballymurphy News : May Day Call

Republican Clubs

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BALLYMURPHY NEWS

Organ of ORR--GRAY Rep. Club
CLARKE--LARKIN Rep. Clubs
CASEMENT Rep. Club
TRACEY Rep. Club



MAY DAY CALL

**Workers of Belfast — UNITE
To Fight For**

THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

**Give Republicanism
A Chance**

**VOTE
REPUBLICAN
CLUBS**

Volunteer Paul Crawford



We are gathered here today to mourn the death of one of our comrades, Paul Crawford, the eldest of a family of seven, who was gunned down by cold-blooded killers while selling the national paper of the Republican Movement.

Our hearts are filled with sadness and we join with his family in their grief. No words can convey to them how much every member of the Republican Movement shares their loss, and we extend to his family our deepest and sincerest sympathy.

Our sadness is tinged with anger and many standing here have hearts and minds filled with the desire for vengeance. But this is not the Republican way. Have we not resisted the vicious and inhuman demands to engage in tit-for-tat sectarian killings? Have we not opposed the anti-civilian bombing campaign which has caused so much unnecessary death and widened the gap between Irish workers?

We can be proud of the fact that our organisation, because it had members like Paul Crawford, has kept the record of true Republicanism free from stain: but we demand justice.

I have been asked to state by the I.R.A. that the shootings and cowardly murderous attacks mounted by IRSP on members of the Republican Movement will be resisted with all the means at their disposal.

The people who direct and organise these likker squads can not expect to be permitted to continue with their crimes.

We, comrades, are in a more dangerous period today than at any other time in the past six years, but we have not built our organisation from Cork to Belfast, from Newry to Galway, to permit its destruction by a handful of ultra-left terrorists.

We have outlined the path to revolutionary victory. Paul Crawford was playing his role in that struggle: foremost in Housing Action in his area, he died because he was engaged in one of the most important dimensions in revolutionary activity--education, bringing the Republican understanding and solution to the people.

Paul Crawford died for a Democratic Socialist Republic. We would rather have him alive and working for the people; we do not glorify death---we deplore the waste of his young life, but we re-dedicate ourselves at his grave to his goal of the unified peaceful Socialist Ireland.

Oration by Des O'Hagan, Ard Comairle Sinn Fein, over the grave of Volunteer Paul Crawford, IRA, and member of Sean South Republican Club, Beechmount, who was gunned down while selling the United Irishman at Beacon's Bar on Saturday afternoon, April 12th.



Joe McCann Commemoration



Why no Centre?

The Government decision to scrap in the interests of economy, the proposed District sports Centre, which had been earmarked for the wasteground between the Community Centre and Saint Aiden's school should come as no surprise given the totally inexcusable delay in taking the plans of the drawing boards. From the riot situation of 1970, it has established and accepted that the B/Murphy area was is one of the worst, if not the the worst, socially deprived estate in the western world.

The sports complex, a crying-out need for the thousands of children, was supposed to right the wrongs that had been inflicted on the people.

But despite pressure and requests from many local political and community organisations, no commitment to the project was forthcoming.

Only six weeks ago, when the B.H.A.G. Cllr McDomagh met Stormont Officials to discuss the over-all housing situation, and to question the sports complex was raised, the officials indicated it would be going ahead - but no date was given.

Now they have finally got what they believe is a viable excuse - there is no money.

They think they can fool the people but the people will not be fooled. We know that.

(1) There never was any commitment or will to provide basic social amenities for this area. The district plan was good propaganda when kids were rioting - a smoke-screen.

(2) No government official or corporation planner gives two tuppenny damns about the people here - as long as they are quiet.

(3) We in the Rep. Clubs will do all in our power to ensure that this decision is revoked; petition forms will be circulated shortly; contractors will be approached, asked to give estimates of cost; investigations have been begun into ways of means of securing the land so that nothing else can be built on it but the sports complex.

(4) To succeed, everyone, irrespective of creed or politics, must unite behind the demand: Amenities as well as houses failure to have this decision revoked could mean a return to the riot situation of five years ago or another generation of socially deprived children.

(5) The Rep Clubs have written to the Ministry requesting an immediate meeting to discuss the matter: we are not taking no for an answer.

OUR POLICIES

Vote — Republican Clubs

REPUBLICAN OBJECTIVE: —

Republicans recognise that British control and exploitation of Ireland North and South is the source of social inequality in Ireland and of the continuing division between the Irish people

Withdrawal of British political and economic control is essential for peace and prosperity in Ireland.

Only the creation of a Democratic Socialist Republic will ensure that all of the Irish people control their own future and the wealth and resources of their country;

In the Convention, Republicans will raise the option of a Socialist Republic as well as a clear programme of immediate demands which will open the path for Irish workers and farmers towards a Democratic Socialist Republic.

DEMOCRACY: —

The calling off of the Provisional campaign with no gains achieved allows people now to judge it against the great successes of the Civil Rights Campaign. The campaign for Democratic Rights must be resumed and completed.

A Bill of Rights Should:

- Defend the victory gained against discrimination in housing which is again under attack.
- Extend anti-discrimination legislation in public employment to private industry.
- Defend the franchise victories and P.R. in Elections.
- Provide for an unarmed, civilian controlled, police service, free from party political control.
- Abolish all repressive and discriminatory legislation and permanently ban internment.
- Establish the right of all political groups to freedom of organisation and expression.
- Reform the Courts and Judiciary and remove them from party political control.

In the Convention, Republican members will seek agreement in the first session to table an interim report to Westminster



JACK BRADY

Jack Brady-A life-long Republican and Socialist. Member of George Plant. Reb.Club.A'Town. Interned from 1940-45 in Crumlin Road Jail and on the Al Aiwdagh Prison Ship.

Member of Cumann Gaelic in Andersonstown.

Secretary Connolly Youth Band.

Has had a son interned for 2 years and a daughter is in Armagh Prison

serving an 8 year sentence. "The Republican voice must be heard at Election time; to fail to give working class people the option of voting Republican would be to betray them into the hands of the politicians whose sole interest is power and privilege. Internment must be ended and political prisoners amnestied before any "settlement" can take place.

urging immediate legislation for a Bill of Rights covering these and other democratic rights.

MAJORITY RULE: —

Only in the event of a comprehensive and effective Bill of Rights being enacted could majority rule in the Six Counties be considered as 'democratic rule'.

SAFEGUARDS: —

As well as legislative guarantees against sectarianism, there must be structural safeguards against a sectarian power block. Such a safeguard could be provided by ensuring that a bloc of up to one third of the seats in any Assembly would be filled by the Trade Union and Tenant Movements.

POWER SHARING: —

Power Sharing is artificial and undemocratic and far from helping to normalise society and end sectarian tensions it will tend to perpetuate them. Its only advantages lies with the politicians sharing power.

CLASS POLITICS: —

A democratic Society in Northern Ireland would permit normal political development in which coalitions of different political organisations would be on the basis of protecting their class interests and not on their religious interests.

ALL IRELAND: —

The development of a similar civil and religious rights and freedoms in the constitution of the Southern State would create the conditions in which the establishment of a Democratic Socialist Republic for all Ireland would become a natural development.

REPUBLICANS WILL OPPOSE THE CONVENTION BEGINNING ITS BUSINESS UNLESS ALL INTERNEES ARE RELEASED.

HOUSING: —

Housing powers should remain centralised and house allocation kept above patronage and party politics. A new high powered Housing Emergency Committee of Government, Trade Unions and Community Organisations should be set up to deal with the housing crisis and the collapse of the house building industry.

MAY 1st.

**VOTE
Republican
Clubs**

VOTE 1,2,3 in order

YOUR CANDIDATES

Bernie Mc Donagh: Founder member of James Larkin Rep Club in Whiterock in 1970 and currently its chairman.

Founder member of Whiterock Housing Action Group which was responsible for the renovation scheme in the Whiterock Houses.

On the steering Committee of central Falls Community Association.

Help in organizing bus runs to Tyrella for 2 years for children from Whiterock area.



COUNCILLOR BERNARD McDONAGH

Councillor for D area since October 1974.

"It is imperative that people vote for those who have constantly defended their interests.

Only the Republican Movement has been available day and night to help the people of this area. Whether it be social problems, Brit aggression, or hardship caused by the loyalist strike. We need our vote to continued to defend your interests in the convention."

Has been actively involved in agitation and discussion on the issues of Housing, Lighting, and Bus Services. over the past number of years.

INDUSTRY: ———

• The industrial policy of Northern Ireland for the past few decades (and of the 26 Counties since 1965) has deliberately killed off native industries, based on a stable home market and replaced them by Multi National Companies making spare parts and unfinished goods for their parent companies abroad. They give no security to Irish workers.

In 1974 44% of all manufacturing jobs in Northern Ireland was created by subsidiaries of multi national companies who were given grants, tax concessions and the right to take all profits out of the country. Sixteen such firms made £161 million profit in 1973/74 divided as follows: U.S.A. - £65m, Britain - £50m, France - £22m, Holland - £16m and Germany - £8m.

Republicans in the Convention will seek united action behind an industrial policy based on processing native resources and retention of accumulated capital for further investment at home.

AGRICULTURE: ———

Irish agriculture must break the connection with Britain. This connection only guarantees that the interests of Irish farmers are ignored while the interests of large British cereal growers are promoted, particularly to the detriment of the Northern pig and poultry industry. The fertiliser and feedstuff industry must be brought under public ownership and control and managed in the interests of the people. The food processing industry must be nationalised under farmer/state control thus enabling farmers to receive a decent price while consumers could buy food at reasonable prices.

EEC: ———

In the Common Market the future of Irish workers is decided in Brussels. Republicans actively opposed it when Britain and Ireland were joining. We are now calling for a 'No' vote in the U.K. Referendum.

We are in particular demanding:

- A separate count of votes from Northern Ireland
- The right of Northern Ireland to opt out of the Common Market if the majority so wish



COUNCILLOR JIM SULLIVAN

Councillor Jim Sullivan, life-long member of the Republican Movement. Interned during the 1956 campaign and from Dec. 1971-June 1972: subsequently received damages for wrongful arrest and assault.

Member of Terence Perry REPublican club, Leeson St.

Member of Lower Falls Residents Association and Lower Falls Social and Recreational Centre.

Elected Councillor for 'F' area in May 1973.

Has been involved in the campaign to have the re-development plans for the Lower Falls altered to allow for houses instead of flats.

"The ending of Internment is our priority: to ensure that never again can democracy be negated in

such a manner. It is essential that a Bill of Rights be passed guaranteeing the civil liberty of every citizen. Republican Clubs are the only organisation to have consistently proposed and worked towards the ending of sectarianism as a necessary pre-requisite to ending the control of the middle-class on working-class people's lives."

of your choice

Before and After

The renovation of the Springhill houses
in pictures:



The living room.



The work must go onanother house nears readiness.



The kitchen....a final check.

Bungalows Future

The Whiterock Housing Action Group have circulated a leaflet among residents of the Bungalows to find out opinion on two options regarding the future of the bungalows. Despite assurances given to the Greater Ballymurphy Housing Action Group at the recent meeting with officials of the Dept. of Housing, that the future of the bungalows was a matter to be decided by the residents in consultation with planners, and that two options were open: refurbishing at a cost of £2,000 per bungalow or

demolition and new houses, the Housing Executive this week told representatives of the Whiterock HAG that they were only prepared to spend £200 each year on maintenance for each bungalow. When the forms have been returned to the HAG a meeting of residents and the HAG will take place with both the Housing Executive and the Dept. of Housing.

This is certain: the future of the bungalows will be decided by the people, not Government officials or town planners.

IRSP ATTACKS CONTINUE

Some people still seem to be under the impression that there is a feud between the I.R.A.; and the I.R.S.P.

Within the last 3 weeks the following attacks have taken place on members of the Republican Clubs.

1. Three men shot in Moyard Workingmans Club- one of them the drummer. in the band (April 6th)
 2. Shots fired at a Republican Club member on Whiterock Road, (April 9th)
 3. Fatal attack on U.I. seller at Beacons bar. One man killed another wounded. (April 12th)
 4. Republican Club member shot in Divismore Crescent
 4. Republican Club member shot in the leg in Divismore Crescent. (April 13th)
 5. Shots fired at Seamus Lynch Republican Clubs candidate on his way to hand in nomination papers. (April 14th)
 6. Republican Club member abducted from G.P.O. and taken to Divis Flats. (April 21st)
 7. Republican Club member shot while at work in Springhill. (April 22nd)
 8. Attempted kidnap of Republican Club member in Great Victoria Street (April 22nd)
 9. An unsuccessful effort by one cowboy to force election workers out of the Markets. He shot himself in the leg trying to whip his gun out, stupid bastard. (18th April)
- If the I.r.s.p. think that they can divert the energies of the Republican Movement from involvement in political activity, designed to secure effective

working class representation

at the convention or any other elected body they are sadly mistaken.

But: they need not think that they will get away with thier crimes. We have resisted Brit aggression, Provo aggression and Loyalist aggression and by Jesus they need not think we are going to bend our knees to them. Who the hell do they think they are.

Typical of thier mentality was thier action in painting Paddy Joe Maginess car on Monday morning, a man who has given a life time of service to the Republican Cause and whose son was shot by the Provos in 1970 and left paralysed from the neck down.

The I.R.A. has a duty to protect its own personell and the public at large from such murderous attacks.

It finds no joy in spending time and effort in not only protecting people but trying to track down those responsible for these attacks.

Homes Attacked

On Wednesday night two armed men burst into a house in Divismore

Crescent looking for a member of the Junior Republican clubs. The youths mother was held at gun-point while the other 'man' searched the house.

On leaving the house, the gun-men then went across the streets and fired shots into the home of another Junior Republican Club member...who is in hospital after being shot by IRSP last week.

These two incidents, coupled with other attacks referred to elsewhere is indicatved of the murderous onslaught being made on Republicans by gun-totting, slogan-shouting, sectarian gangsters.

But they will fail: because the Republican message will still be spelt out loud and clear, come hell or high water: the Brits, Provos and Loyalists have not stopped us neither will these hoodlums.



One of the houses which is being renovated in Springhill after the IRSP had visited it on Sunday night.

Responsible

The IRA, in a statement this week, admitted responsibility for the wounding of a youth in the Whiterock area. The statement said that the person shot had been involved in the attempted murder of one Republican Club member and in the daubing of slogans on houses and on a car belonging to a veteran Republican in the Ballymurphy area at the weekend.

The same person had been tarred and feathered two years ago for his involvement in acts of vandalism in the White rock.

Anglers

Any-one interested in joining Moyard Community Centre Angling Club (Age from 14 upwards) please contact Tommy Delaney or Peter Hamill at the Centre any Friday evening.

Information

The disclosure that the British Army are using school-boys to act as paid informers, as has been disclosed by Republican Clubs in the North Queen St. area, should remind everyone to be wary of the 'friendly gestures of the Brits during the cease-fire period.

The boys were asked to give names and ranks of any members of the Official or Provisional IRA or Na Fianna Eireann. After making contact by telephone with the Brits the boys would be picked up by the Army and taken to North Queen St., and/or Girdwood Barracks.

In return for information given the boys received payments of £4.50 and £1.50.

It was an alert and concerned parent who found out what was going on and immediately contacted the local Republican Club.

Mr. Seamus Lynch, Republican Clubs candidate for North Belfast, speaking at a Press Conference with the three boys on Friday said that The British Army had used and exposed to danger school-children without the slightest regard for their safety and he urged

that any school-child who found themselves in a similar position to contact without delay a local Republican Club, who would ensure their safety and expose the practise.

Moyard Social Club



For the best in entertainment.

Every Thursday night Penny Lane
Admission 15p.

Every Friday night Green Aces
Admission 15p.

Every Sunday afternoon 2.00p.m.--5.00p.m.
Penny Lane

Every Sunday night Penny Lane
Admission 20p.
(Come early, doors close at 9.00p.m.)

Justice?

The acquittal of another British soldier on a blatant murder charge, reduced to manslaughter, is a further indication of intent by the judiciary to dig in their heels and support, without regard to law or justice the actions of the armed forces. Its whole-hearted support for the British Army in its campaign of terror and murder of the civilian population is reminiscent of Nazi Germany.

Sack Threat

Did you know that when colleagues of Paul Crawford who worked in the GPO, asked for the half-day to attend his funeral they were threatened with dismissal?