



AONAD 7:

Leabhar Tionscadail na hIdirbhliana:

COGADH NA SAOIRSE

1919-21

cuid 3

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STAILC MUINISEAN

Ba í an stailc muinisean a thosaigh ag Caladh Bhaile Átha Cliath i mBealtaine 1920, an eiseamláir ba shuntasáí den fhrithbheartaíocht neamhfhoréigineach le linn Chogadh na Saoirse. Dhiúltaigh dugairí agus oibrithe iarnróid traenacha a láimhseáil nó a oibriú a raibh muinisean cogaidh nó trúpaí agus póilíní armtha á n-iompar orthu. Chuir an stailc isteach go tromchúiseach ar iompar soláthairtí agus trúpaí agus iallach á gcur orthu taisteal ar bhóithre na hÉireann áit a raibh siad ní ba leochailí maidir le hionsaithe. Thug na cuideachtaí iarnróid, a bhí faoi rialú an rialtais le linn an chogaidh ó Nollaig 1916, an bóthar d'oibrithe agus dhruid siad roinnt línte iarnróid in Éireann. Nuair a bhagair rialtas na Breataine chun an córas iarnróid iomlán a dhruidim, cuireadh an stailc ar ceal ag comhdháil speisialta arna heagrú ag an ITGWU i Samhain 1920.

Athchóiriú Oird in Éirinn. Rinne Sinn Féin an bású a phoiblíú go gníomhach chun comhbhá a spreagadh don chúis phoblachtach.

Tháinig drámadóir, ceannaire IRA agus teachta na chéad Dála, Terence MacSwiney i gcomharbacht ar Tomás MacCurtain mar ard-mhéara poblachtach Chorcaí i Márta 1920. Nuair a cuireadh i bpríosún é i Lúnasa ar chúiseamh ceannairce, thosaigh MacSwiney ar stailc ocrais a mhair ceithre lá agus seachtó. Thuairiscigh nuachtáin ar fud an domhain faisnéis faoina shláinte a bhí ag éirí ní ba mheasa agus tógadh círéib ar shráideanna Barcelona agus spreagadh stailc dugairí i Nua-Eabhrac. Mar gheall ar iarrachtaí údaráis na Breataine chun cosc a chur ar shochraid MacSwiney in Éirinn, tarraingíodh aird fiú ní ba mhó ar cheann de na himeachtaí a bhí ina chor cinniúna i gCogadh na Saoirse.

ROINN POIBLÍOCHTA NA DÁLA

I gcomhthéacs na cinsireachta géire ar an bpreas faoin Acht um Chosaint na Ríochta (DORA), ba é an Irish Bulletin, arna fhoilsiú ag Roinn Poiblíochta na Dála faoi cheannas Desmond Fitzgerald, an foilseachán ba thábhachtaí maidir le poiblíocht phoblachtach le linn Chogadh na Saoirse. Tríd an mbileog nuachta laethúil, a foilsíodh den chéad uair an 11 Samhain 1919, tugadh 'gníomhartha ionsaithe' ag na póilíní agus ag arm na Breataine in Éirinn chun suntais, agus rinneadh ionsaithe an IRA ar Fhórsaí na Corónach a chosaint mar chogadh i gcoinne 'fhórsaí neamhdhleathacha na forghabhála'.

Faoi 1921, bhí eagráin den Bulletin á dtáirgeadh i dteangacha iasachta chun freastal ar an éileamh air san Eoraip áit a raibh meas gnóthaithe aige mar fhoinse iontaofa. Bhí éifeacht chinntitheach ag an mbileog nuachta ar mheon an phobail sa Bhreatain agus go hidirnáisiúnta maidir leis an gcoinbhleacht in Éirinn. Rinneadh freagairt le hAchoimre Sheachtainiúil Chaisleán Bhaile Átha Cliath a seoladh i mBealtaine 1920, ag déanamh ionsaí ar an IRA mar 'bhuíon dúnmharaithe' agus ag éileamh i gcónaí go raibh na reibiliúnaigh ar tí na treascartha.



TERENCE MACSWINEY AGUS KEVIN BARRY

Bhog an cogadh isteach ina chéim ní b'fhíochmhaire ag deireadh 1920 nuair a básaíodh mac léinn leighis ocht mbliana d'aois Kevin Barry agus le bás Terence MacSwiney i bPríosún Brixton, Londain, an 25 Deireadh Fómhair 1920, tar éis 74 lá ar stailc ocrais.

An 20 Meán Fómhair 1920 gabhadh óglach óg an IRA, Kevin Barry, agus piostal ina lámh tar éis ionsaí ar phatról míleata a bhí ag tógáil soláthairtí ó bhácús ar Shráid na hEaglaise, Baile Átha Cliath. Maraíodh triúr saighdiúirí agus an 1 Samhain, d'éirigh Barry ina chéad Óglach le bheith curtha chun báis faoi fhorálacha An Achta um

THE IRISH BULLETIN

BY KATHLEEN MACKENNA

My task was to type, and make mimeographed [printed] copies of the proposed news-sheet, and be responsible, under all circumstances, for its distribution ... My colleague was Anna Fitzsimons (Fitzie) whose task was to get from the daily press items of news suitable for publication, as well as for use in compiling the weekly summary of British atrocities in Ireland ...

I put a stencil into my typewriter, typed the words 'The Irish Bulletin Vol. 1 No 1. 11 November 1919'. Three men stood near me: three pairs of critical eyes were fixed upon my fingers as they danced unerringly over the keyboard ... The Irish Bulletin had been born. Griffith said I was its godmother. During the twenty terror-filled, hunted months in which, on a point of honour, its publication never once failed, I guarded my godchild with jealous affection ...

With the reinforcement of the British military in March 1920 by 12,000 'Black and Tans' and 1,000 Auxiliary police, a veritable reign of terror began. Day by day our secretly-circulated paper made known such alarming information concerning the uncontrolled activities of these agents of the British Crown that the hunt to locate our den became even more intense - and every more intense, too, grew our precautions to shield it, and our anxiety for its fate.

Early in the new year, Mrs Larry Nugent agreed to give the Propaganda Department of Dáil Éireann a flat on the upper floor of her home in Upper Mount Street ... Towards the end of the summer, the locality in which our 'hide out' was situated had become one in which notorious spies were living and working. Nugent's was a house in which hunted volunteers, actively engaged in the guerrilla warfare, found refuge. Armoured



[Photo: Private Collection/McKenna family]

cars and Crossley tenders prowled around the zone during curfew, and we were warned that on a few occasions, suspicious looking individuals were observed loitering around Nugent's. One night Fitzie, who had considered it was unsafe to spend the night in her Hume Street digs, spent the night in the front room of our department, only to be alarmed by the rays of search-lights focused pryingly on the windows. I was advised to 'hop' with the *Bulletin*, while 'the hopping' was good'. And it was well I did so, for shortly after we evacuated Nugent's it was subject to a terrifying raid...

The winter we spent in Molesworth Street was an exceptionally wet and cold one. Owing to the need for secrecy we could not request the caretaker, whom we did not yet trust, to clean the flat and light fires. Often the duplicating ink froze in the tubes and ... Fitzie and I resorted to putting blotting paper beneath our stockings to dry them and keep us warmer.

The sentiments of the members of our little Bulletin staff were rather mixed on the day of 'the truce broke!' On the whole, we did not appreciate it, for we realised that it meant the termination of a period of staunch comradeship, that was unique, precious and dear ... With a tear and a sigh I whispered 'Béannacht De leath a leinbh' to my twenty month old godchild.

VOLUME 2. No. 5

Irish Bulletin,
7th May 1920.

WILFUL MURDER.

Guilty Soldiers and Police Named by Coroner's Jury.

After an exhaustive inquiry into the circumstances of the death of the three men shot down without provocation in the streets of Miltown Malby, County Clare, the Coroners Jury have returned the following verdict:-

"WE FIND THAT JOHN O'LOUGHLIN, PATRICK HENNESSY, AND THOMAS O'LEARY DIED AS A RESULT OF SHOCK AND HEMORRHAGE, CAUSED BY BULLET WOUNDS, ON THE NIGHT OF APRIL 14th, INFLICTED BY MEMBERS OF THE PATROL, CONSISTING OF SERGT. J. HAMPSON, CONSTABLES T. O'CONNOR AND T. KEENAN R.I.C. (ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY) AND LANCE-CORPORAL K. M'LEOD AND PRIVATES W. KILGONE, J. M'EVAN, P. M'LOUGHLIN, R. BUNTING, AND R. ADAMS, ALL OF THE HIGHLAND LIGHT INFANTRY.

"WE FIND THAT EACH OF THE ABOVE-NAMED MEMBERS OF THE PATROL WAS GUILTY OF WILFUL MURDER, WITHOUT ANY PROVOCATION, AND WE ALSO CONDEMN ALL THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PATROL FOR THEIR ACTION IN TRYING TO SHIELD BY THEIR EVIDENCE THOSE WHO COMMITTED THE MURDERS."

This is the 24th verdict of murder and unjustifiable homicide returned by coroners juries in Ireland against the English Military and Police.

Irish Bulletin, 7th October 1920.

EIGHTEEN INNOCENT MEN MURDERED IN TWENTY-ONE DAYS

By organised murder, the English Military government in Ireland is endeavouring to break the National Movement for Independence. It is well to follow step by step this organisation of murder.

After twenty-seven Irish men and women had been done to death by English Agents during the 36 months of 1917-18-19, and the first three months of 1920, in March 1920 a murder gang was created within the English Police Force in Ireland. Its first victim was Alderman Thomas MacCurtain, Lord Mayor of Cork...

Progress was slow. The police feared public exposure before a Coroner's Court. On June 19th, and on the following days, an effort was made by their Chief Officials to reassure those timorous [fearful] police. One of the Divisional Commissioners of the Royal Irish Constabulary informed the men stationed at various barracks in Munster, that they might kill without fear. At Listowel, Co Kerry on June 19th he said:

'You may make mistakes occasionally and innocent persons may be shot, but that cannot be helped; and you are bound to get the right parties sometime. The more you shoot, the better I will like you, and I assure you, men, no policeman will get into trouble for shooting any man'.

... Similar statements are known to have been made to the police by other police officials in other parts of Ireland. These promises had a marked effect. The murders jumped from one in the month of May and three in the month of June to FIFTEEN in the month of July ... SIXTY-TWO Irishmen and women - none of whom was killed in armed conflict with English military or police - have been murdered in the nine months of 1920. The murders with one single exception, are still in active service of English Military Government in Ireland.

VOLUME 4. No. 1

Irish Bulletin,
3th January 1921.

TWELVE MONTHS OF MURDER

The following is a complete list of the men, women and children murdered in Ireland by English military and constabulary in the twelve months of 1920. The total number murdered is TWO HUNDRED AND THREE

Of these

One hundred and seventy-two were young men and men of middle age;
Twelve were children under seventeen years;
Six were women, two of them being pregnant at the time of their murder;

Ten were old men of sixty years and over;
Three were boys of 18 years;

One of the old men was a Catholic Priest of 73 years of age;
Of the total murdered

Ninety-eight were killed in indiscriminate and unprovoked firing by military and constabulary

Sixty nine were deliberately assassinated in their beds or on the street;
Thirty-Six were assassinated in prison or while in custody.

None of these casualties occurred in any kind of armed conflict. The official reports issued by the English Military Authorities in many instances stated that the men murdered had opened fire upon them before they were killed. On none of the [above] cases has that statement been found on examination to be accurate except in the case of the murder of five civilians at a Christmas night dance at Bruff, Co. Limerick. There, shots were fired by some men outside the dance hall at the constabulary party which surrounded it. Constable Hogsden was killed. As a reprisal, five of the men who were inside the dance hall at the time of the firing were shot dead. Seventeen others were wounded. The five dead are mentioned as murdered in this list.

[Source: National Library of Ireland, P 2044]

VOLUME 2. No. 5

Irish Bulletin,
7th May 1920.

THE FIRST FRUITS OF THE NEW POLICY OF CONCILIATION

During the month of April the acts of aggression committed in Ireland by the armed forces of the British Government included the following:-

- 3836 raids upon private houses by military and police, usually carried out after midnight and frequently accompanied by unprovoked insult and acts of sabotage and loot.
- 580 arrests on political charges or on no charge.
- 197 deportations without trial of prominent Irishmen.
- 26 armed attacks upon peaceful gatherings of civilians, and
- 5 murders by soldiers and police.

Sleachta arna gcur in eagar ó thuairisc an leathanaigh thosaigh den Saturday Herald ar theacht ar ais chorp Terence MacSwiney chuig Corcaigh, a chathair dhúchais, Dé Sathairn an 29 Deireadh Fómhair 1920

SATURDAY HERALD

[No. 259 Vol. 29

DUBLIN, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30st, 1920

[THREE HALF PENCE]

CITY OF SILENCE: TO-DAY'S MOURNING SCENES IN CORK

AMONG HIS OWN

Lying-in-State of Lord Mayor's Body

MOVING SCENES IN CORK

Irish Volunteers Remove Remains from Military Custody

THE hallowed remains of Lord Mayor Terence MacSwiney lie in State to-day in the City Hall in Cork, surrounded by a guard of honour of Irish Volunteers. Solemn scenes are being enacted in the southern capital and a wave of terrible emotion and tensiety is sweeping over the Rebel City.

The body arrived in Cork at 4 o'clock yesterday and remained in military custody until 9.30 p.m., when a company of about 100 Volunteers marched to the scene and presented a letter to the military officer in charge who, having read the contents, ordered the withdrawal of the military guard.

Six of the Volunteers shouldered the coffin and bore it to the City Hall, whilst the remainder carried the wreaths which had been brought from London. The funeral takes place to-morrow.

FEELING OF TENSION

The Press Association says:

The people of Cork are viewing the lying-in-state of the Lord Mayor in their thousands, and business will be suspended this afternoon. Good order prevails, but there is no doubt of the feeling of tension. It is, however, abundantly clear that the military authorities and the Republican leaders are exercising, all restraint, and the funeral to-morrow is expected to proceed quietly.



ITEMS OF THE HOMECOMING

THE 'Rathmore' with the coffin containing the body of the Lord Mayor, entered Cove Harbour at 2 o'clock yesterday, but the local civil representatives refusing to accept the remains as a protest against the authorities, they were conveyed to Cork on a Government tug, the deck of which was lined with armed forces, wearing black coats and khaki tam-o-shanters.

When the 'Rathmore' arrived the coffin was lying in the hatchway at the forward part of it, covered by a tarpaulin.

The scenes in Cork were of the most extraordinary and impressive character, terrible emotion and tensiety prevailing.

The tugboat came into sight through the mists enshrouding the river as the clock on City Hall, whose chimes marked many toilsome hours spent by the late Lord Mayor, tolled four, the quayside being then crowded with people.

A very large crowd met the special train from Dublin, and passages were kept [clear] by the Volunteers, through which the relatives and members of delegations passed.

The special train from Dublin brought over 200 sympathisers and, along the route there were many manifestations of public sympathy. Men working in the fields uncovered their heads as the train passed.

There were crowds at the platforms at Maryboro, Portarlinton, Thurles, Mallow, and other stations, whilst at Gould's Cross a company of Volunteers stood to attention, their officer saluting.

In addition to 200 wreaths, which arrived with the remains, 75 came by train and there were at least 25 from Irish Societies in America.

Close on 5,000 Leeds people attended the Requiem Mass in Leeds yesterday for the late Lord Mayor of Cork. The service in the Cathedral was most impressive, and about 100 priests took part. The Labour Lord Mayor and many Trade Unions and other labour organisations were represented. At the Church of the Oblate Fathers, Mount St. Mary's, Leeds, the Mass was sung by the O'Mara Opera Company.

Cordons of troops were drawn across the entrance to the quay and the Custom House gates leading to the dock where the tug boat berthed were closed. About 1:30, six military lorries filled with armed troops, and two armored cars, arrived on the scene. The soldiers took up positions about the boat, while the armoured cars drew up at the approaches to the dock.

Mrs Wyse Power, Mrs D Mulcahy, Miss Madge Daly, and K Breen will represent the Executive of Cumann na mBan at the funeral.



CEISTEANNA TUISCEANA

Doiciméad Z-A2

1. Cén ról a bhí ag Kathleen McKenna san *Irish Bulletin*? (Doiciméad Z)

2. Cén cineál faisnéise a foilsíodh san *Irish Bulletin*? (Doiciméad Z)

3. Bunaithe ar chuntas Kathleen McKenna, cad é mar a chuirfeá síos ar an atmaisféar i Nugent's sna míonna ag tús 1921? Mínigh do fhreagra agus tagairt á déanamh do Dhoiciméad Z.

4. An smaoiníonn tú go raibh an obair a bhí á déanamh ag Kathleen McKenna ina hobair luachmhar do na Poblachtaigh le linn Chogadh na Saoirse? Mínigh do fhreagra agus tagairt á déanamh do Dhoiciméad Z.

5. Bunaithe ar do léamh ar bhailiúchán na bhfoinsí i nDoiciméad A1, cad é mar a chuirfeá síos ar an teanga a úsáideadh ag scríbhneoirí an *Irish Bulletin*? (A1)

6. Cad é mar a dhifríonn stíl na scríbhneoireachta in alt an *Evening Herald*? (A2)

7. Cén fhianaise atá curtha ar fáil san alt san *Evening Herald* faoi (a) tábhacht bhás Terence MacSwiney i 1920, agus (b) an teannas sa chathair?

Irish Bulletin,
25th Dec 1920

Ba chor cinniúna é Samhain 1920 i gCogadh na Saoirse. Tar éis na n-eachtraí ar Dhomhnach na Fola i mBaile Átha Cliath agus luíochán Chill Mhichíl (inár maraíodh seisear ball déag de Rannán Póilíní Cúnta an RIC), níorbh fhéidir an chogaíocht a shainmhíniú níos mó go simplí mar bheart de chuid na bpóilíní. Coinbhleacht mhíleata a bhí inti.

DOMHNACH NA FOLA

Fuair Michael Collins faisnéis gur seoladh grúpa d'oifigigh na Rúnseirbhíse ar a dtugadh an 'Cairo Gang' chuig Baile Átha Cliath chun córas faisnéise an IRA a scriosadh. Le faomhadh ón GHQ, cuireadh Dick McKee agus Peadar Clancy i gceannas an taisc de na gníomhairí Briotanacha 'a dhíothú'. D'ainneoin an fhórais gur gabhadh Clancy agus McKee, aontaíodh go rachadh an misean a bhí beartaithe ar aghaidh ar mhaidin Dé Domhnaigh an 21 Samhain 1920. Díreach tar éis a naoi a' chloig, bhuail foirne feallmharaithe ar leith an IRA láithreacha éagsúla go comhuaineach i mBaile Átha Cliath agus chuir siad aon ghníomhaire déag Briotanach chun báis.

An iarnóin sin, scaoil Fórsaí na Corónach ar an slua le linn cluiche peile dúshláin idir Áth Cliath agus Tiobraid Árann i bPáirc an Chrócaigh agus maraíodh ceathrar sibhialtach déag agus gortaíodh ceathrar is seasca eile. An oíche sin scaoileadh McKee agus Clancy agus fear neamhchiontach darbh ainm Conor Clune marbh i gCaisleán Bhaile Átha Cliath.

LUÍOCHÁN CHILL MHICHÍL

Tharla ceann amháin de na luíocháin is clúití b'fhéidir le linn Chogadh na Saoirse leathbhealach idir Dún Mánmaí agus Maigh Chromtha ar an Domhnach, an 28 Samhain 1920. Ag áit darb ainm Cill Mhichíl, rinne an colún reatha de Bhriogáid Chorcaí Thiar faoi cheannas Tom Barry a bhí trí bliana is fiche d'aois, rinne siad luíochán agus mharaigh siad seachtar Póilíní Cúnta déag den ochtar déag a bhí faoi cheannas Chigire Ceantair an RIC Francis Crake.

D'áitigh Tom Barry go diongbháilte gur lig na Póilíní Cúnta orthu go raibh siad ag géilleadh ag pointe

amháin sa chomhrac, sular thosaigh siad ag troid arís. De thoradh na calaoise sin, d'áitigh Barry, maraíodh beirt dá fhir a tháinig amach as an áit ina raibh siad i bhfolach agus mar gheall ar an bhfeillbheart sin shocraigh sé gan príosúnaigh ar bith a ghlacadh. Mhaígh lucht cáinte Barry gur chum sé an scéal faoin ngéilleadh bréagach chun bonn cirt a thabhairt le sléacht réamhbheartaithe. Cibé rud a tharla sa cheo cogaidh, rinneadh bearta díoltais go luath ina dhiaidh sin.

DLÍ MÍLEATA

Tar éis sin fógraíodh dlí míleata i gcontaetha Chorcaí, Chiarraí, Luimnigh agus Thiobraid Árann an 10 Nollaig 1920 - dhá lá sular chuir na Póilíní Cúnta lár chathair Chorcaí trí thine. Fógraíodh Dlí Míleata i gceithre chontae eile - an Clár, Port Láirge, Cill Chainnigh agus Loch Garman - an 29 agus an 30 Nollaig. Tugadh córas de bhearta díoltais oifigiúla isteach freisin i gcontaetha an iardheiscirt - Corcaigh, Chiarraí, Luimneach agus Tiobraid Árann - i Nollaig 1920.

*“TÁ BUÍON BEAG FEALLMHARFÓIRÍ, BUÍON
DÚNMHARAITHE I NDÁIRÍRE, I RÉIM SA TÍR AGUS AG
CUR SCEIMHLE UIRTHI.... TÁ SÉ RÍTHÁBHACHTACH
CHUN LEASA NA HÉIREANN GO NDÉANFAÍ AN BUÍON
SIN A BHRISEADH TÁ GREIM SCORNAÍ FAIGHTE
AGAINN AR AN DÚNMHARÚ.”*

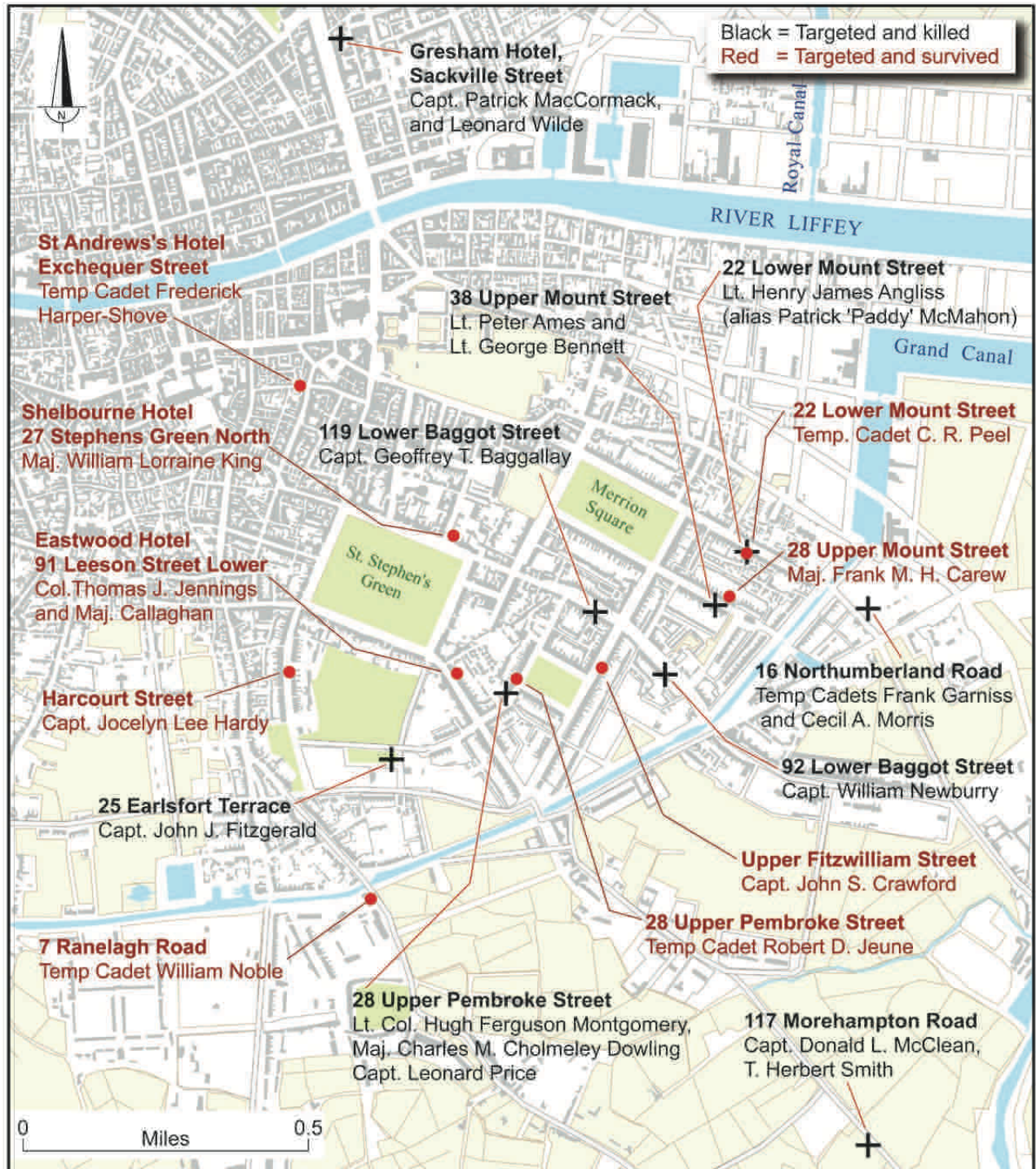
- Teach na dTeachtaí, ráiteas an Phríomh-Aire Lloyd George, an 9 Deireadh Fómhair 1920 - -

Bunaíodh Cúirteanna Míleata dhá leibhéal sa Limistéar Dlí Míleata (MLA). Phléigh an Chúirt Achomair le cásanna nach raibh chomh tromchúiseach, agus cuireadh 2,296 dhuine faoi thriail agus gearradh 549 mbreith de phríosúnacht. Bhí an leibhéal uachtarach freagrach as cionta móra i gcoinne an Dlí Míleata. Níor cuireadh ach 128 duine faoi thriail idir deireadh Nollaig 1920 agus an Sos Cogaidh i Iúil 1921, agus daoradh seachtar fear is tríocha chun báis. Básaíodh ceathrar déag de na fir sin. Tionóladh trialacha na gCúirteanna Míleata ag Beairic Victoria, Corcaigh, ag an mBeairic Nua, Luimneach agus ag Beairic Phort Láirge.

- Doiciméad B1-

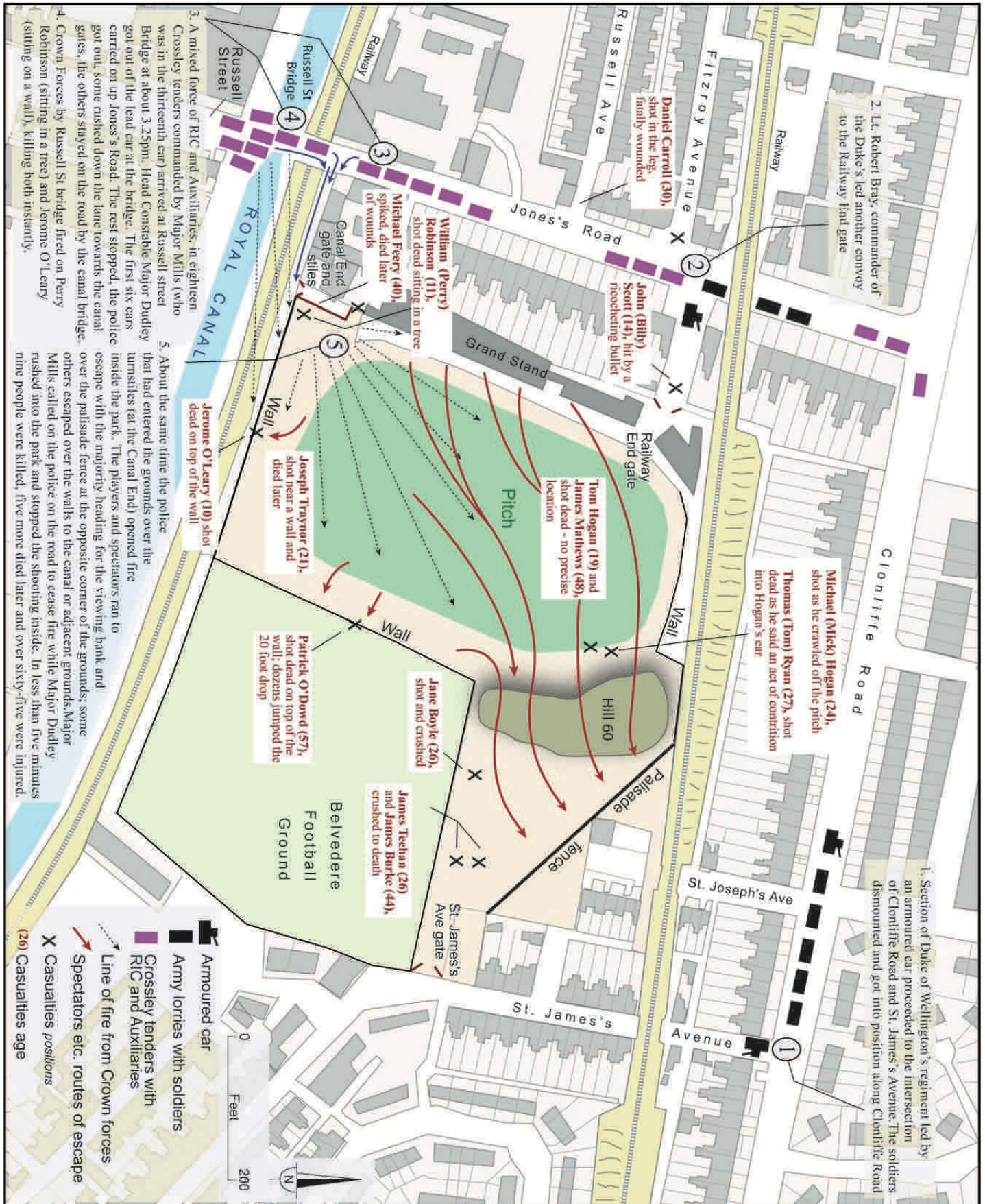
Ionsaithe an IRA ar 'Dhomhnach na Fola', an 21 Samhain 1920

Go luath ar an Domhnach an 21 Samhain, bhuaíl foirne feallmharaithe ar leith an IRA ceithre áitreabh déag go comhuaineach, ina raibh beirt is fiche a raibh amhras fúthu mar ghníomhairí faisnéise Briotanacha. Mar atá léirithe sa léarscáil, tharla an chuid is mó de na feallmharuithe i limistéar galánta dheisceart Bhaile Átha Cliath, a raibh an-tóir air ag pearsanra Bhaile Átha Cliath. D'éalaigh go leor acu ar an liosta ós rud é go raibh siad imithe ón teach le linn an ruathair feallmharaithe. Tar éis Dhomhnach na Fola, bhí beag seans ann go mbeadh gníomhairí na Breataine ina gcónaí taobh amuigh de chosaint na mbeairicí míleata, agus scaradh iad ón bpobal a raibh siad ag iarraidh síothlú isteach ann.



- Doiciméad B2 -

Léarscáil lena dtaispeántar na heachtraí ag Páirc an Chrócaigh ar 'Dhomhnach na Fola', an 21 Samhain 1920



MOURNING

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VOL. 29 No. 227

NOVEMBER 22, 1920

TWO PENCE

ELEVEN OFFICERS OF CROWN KILLED

Yesterday the most tragic of the events which have recently happened in Ireland took place in Dublin, and resulted in the deaths of 27 persons, while a great many were wounded. The great tragedy commenced about 9 a.m. when civilian raiders entered a great many houses in various parts of the city, but particularly in the Lr. Mount St., Baggot St., Earlsfort Tce. districts, in which army officers and ex-officers resided, and, inquiring for them by name, demanded to be conveyed to their rooms, and 14 were shot dead and 5 wounded.

THE CASUALTY LIST

The tragedies formed, perhaps, the most sensational happenings of which Dublin has been the scene since 1916 ... The casualties, so far as can be gathered, and the scenes of the tragedies are:—

Dead.

Capt. D. L. McLean, 117 Morehampton Road
Capt. Newbury, 92 Lr. Baggot St.
Capt. Baggally, 92 Lr. Baggot St.
Capt. Fitzgerald, 28 Earlsfort Tce.
Capt. P. McCormack, Gresham Hotel.
Major Dowling, 28 Up. Pembroke St.
Capt. Price, 28 Pembroke St.
Lt. Bennett, 38 Up. Mount St.
Lt. Aimes, 38 Up. Mount St.
Lt. Mahon, 22 Lr. Mount St.
Mr L. A. Wilde, Gresham Hotel.
Mr T. H. Smith, Brienna House, 117 Morehampton road.
Cadet Gamin, Up. Mount St.
Cadet Morris, Up. Mount St.

Wounded.

Col. Woodcock, 28 Up. Pembroke St.
Col. Montgomery, 28 Up. Pembroke St.
Capt. Kerliside, 28 Up. Pembroke St.
Lt Murray, 23. Up. Pembroke St.
Mr J. Caldow, 117 Morehampton road.

BATTLE IN MOUNT STREET

At Lower Mount St. the raiders were surprised by a body of Crown forces, and ... an eye-witness said that about 8.45 he was disturbed by loud banging at the door of No. 22 by men in civilian clothes and wearing haversacks, who had come out of a lorry which was on the roadway. They went into the house, and immediately shooting began.

Practically simultaneously firing broke out at the rear of the house, and going to a window overlooking the scene he saw ... five civilians, who were evidently trying to get away, were being shot at by other men ... The retreating men zig-zagged on the street, fired, and a battle on a big scale developed for a few minutes .. Anything to equal it, our informant said, could hardly be conceived. Smoke belched from the weapons ... "The veritable hail of lead made death certain for anyone at close range." ...

Eventually the retreating men got into Grattan Street and away. An ex-army officer who also witnessed the battle on the street said he had seen some hot passages in France, but while it lasted in Mount St. such a strikingly daring and audacious stand-up fight he never saw.

CROKE PARK SHOOTINGS RAID ON FOOTBALL MATCH

Terrifying scenes were witnessed yesterday at Croke Park when, during the progress of a challenge football match between teams representing Dublin and Tipperary, military, RIC, and auxiliary police made their appearance. Volleys of rifle fire were heard, and 15,000 spectators fled in a desperate attempt to escape ... According to rough estimates, there were 10 killed, one of whom died of heart failure, and another was a player. Sixty-five were wounded, 11 are in hospital

AEROPLANE OVERHEAD

The game was in progress about 15 minutes when the attention of the thousands of spectators was momentarily diverted by the appearance of an aeroplane which twice encircled the playing pitch at a fairly low altitude. This incident did not strike the crowd as having any particular significance, but 5 minutes had not elapsed when the gathering was startled by the sound of rifle-fire coming apparently from the entrance to the enclosure close by the canal bridge ... A gentleman who was convenient to the ground, related how *'about 17 lorries filled with Crown Forces came dashing along, stopping about twenty yards from the canal bridge. Dismounting, they opened fire.'*

The great mass of people at that end of the ground swept like an avalanche on to the playing pitch. It was a terrifying scene. The firing increased; volley after volley rang out in quick succession...

WILD STAMPEDE OF CROWD UNDER FIRE

The cries of the weak and shrieks of the womenfolk mingling with the sound of rifle fire, struck terror into the hearts of the people. The exits were choked and men and women fainted in their efforts to get away... Houses were invaded by some of the fleeing mass. The inhabitants were frightened beyond conception, not knowing what was happening.

Those emerging from houses when the shooting had ceased were confronted with big pickets of military, who had apparently taken charge. Everyone was subjected to a 6 minute search, being first ordered to put up their hands. People were compelled to keep their hands above their heads until they had reached the end of the road. Most of the men bore marks of their terrible experience. Some were bleeding profusely from the face and hands; others were hatless, while more had their clothes torn and blood-spattered.

THE OFFICIAL ACCOUNT

An official report says:— "It was believed that a number of countrymen came to Dublin to-day under the guise of wishing to attend the Gaelic match between Dublin and Tipperary, but that their real motive was to take part in the series of murderous outrages which took place in Dublin this morning.

In this belief the authorities decided to make an investigation at the match itself, and for this purpose a mixed party of military. RIC and auxiliary police were detailed. They approached the ground from different directions and found that pickets had been posted at the various entrances to the field to give warning of, presumably, of the approach of any of the forces of the Crown. These pickets not only raised an alarm, but also fired on the approaching troops. Details are not yet to hand as to what actually ensued, but the firing was returned, and a number of casualties were sustained by people amongst those watching the match ... several people, it is believed, were badly crushed in the stampede which ensued."

Sliocht ó chuntas a scríobh an Captaen R.D. Jeune i 1972, Oifigeach Faisnéise i mBaile Átha Cliath i 1920

In November [1920], information was coming in well and we were beginning to get on top of the IRA, who were becoming desperate. I happened to receive information from three different sources to the effect that something was going to happen, but there was nothing definite.

In the evening of Saturday 20 November, I received orders to collect my fellows and search the railway yards at Inchicore, where it was thought that ammunition might be stored. We went there and searched for several hours, but there was obviously nothing to be found, so we slept in railway carriages, and in the morning I telephoned the Castle and asked whether I was to be relieved. Our Adjutant, Hyems, said 'I am sorry to say that there have been some raids by the "Shinners" and I am afraid that they have got some of our fellows.' So it was agreed that we should return to our lodgings.

I was at the time sharing a flat at 28 Upper Pembroke Street, with a colleague, Murray, and on getting back there I found a very distressing scene. In the flat next to Murray's and mine, I saw the body of my friend, 'Chummy' Dowling, a grand ex-guardee, wounded three times in the war, lying full length on the floor. As he was to have relieved me, he was in uniform and had obviously been shot through the heart, probably by a small Sinn Féiner because there was a bullet hole in one corner of the ceiling. In the doorway of the bathroom was Price's body. Murray had already been taken to hospital. Colonel Woodcock, commanding the 1st East Lancs, had been shot three times, but survived. Likewise, Captain Keenleyside, Adjutant of the same battalion. Colonel breakfast.

Montgomery had been shot on the stairs, as he came up after after breakfast. He died some time later...

In addition, Peter Ames and Bennett, who had been in 28 Upper Pembroke Street the evening before I went out, were murdered in their beds in Lower Leeson Street. Two officers, temporarily at the Gresham Hotel while going on leave, or returning, I think, were also shot dead. Two or three gunmen were shot and captured in another street.

In the afternoon we received information to the effect that the gunmen had been told to meet at Croke Park, where a football match was to be played that afternoon, in order to compare notes. I was not in on this, but saw a number of truckloads of police moving off, and was told later that when they arrived at Croke Park, there were fired on, and of course opened fire causing a number of casualties.

After the crowd had dispersed, the police found a considerable number of revolvers and automatic pistols on the ground.

The object of the exercise on the part of the IRA, was to eliminate Intelligence and Courts Martial officers, because the gunmen felt that the net was closing round them.. So men were brought up to Dublin from other parts of the country, particularly Tipperary, in order to catch as many as possible of us unawares on a Sunday morning when most people slept late.

As a result of this, those of us who had survived were shut up under guard in a hotel, from where it was impracticable to do any useful work. In fact, our job had to all intents and purposes been done, the organisation was breaking up.

[Source: Reproduced in William Sheehan, *British Voices: From the Irish War of Independence 1918-1921*, (The Collins Press, Dublin 2007)]

- Doiciméad B5- Ráiteas Finné Bhiúró na Staire Míleata a cuireadh isteach ag **Thomas Ryan** an 20 Eanáir 1953

ROINN COSANTA.
BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY, 1913-21.
STATEMENT BY WITNESS
DOCUMENT NO. W.S. 783

Thomas Ryan, Member of No. 2 Flying Column, 3rd. Tipperary Brigade, IRA

I was a member of the Tipperary All-Ireland football team which travelled to Dublin to play a match at Croke Park on the Sunday, which became known afterwards as Bloody Sunday ...

The match was in progress for about ten minutes when an aeroplane flew overhead and fired a very light signal ... A penalty had been awarded against the Dublin team and I was about to take the free kick when a burst of machine-gun and rifle fire occurred. The crowd of spectators immediately stampeded. The players also fled from the field in among the sideline spectators, except six of us who threw ourselves down on the ground where we were. The six of us who remained - Hogan and I and four of the Dublin team - were, I think, all Volunteers. I suppose it was our Volunteer training that prompted us to protect ourselves by lying

down rather than by rushing around. From where we lay, we could see sparks flying off the railway embankment wall where the bullets struck the wall, and we saw people rolling down the embankment who presumably were hit. There was general pandemonium ... Two of the players who were lying on the field at this stage got up and made a rush for the paling surrounding the pitch on the Hill Sixty side, which was nearest to them. One by one we followed their example, and it was while Hogan was running from the field to the paling that he got hit by a bullet ... Going across to Hogan, I tried to lift him but ... I knew he was very badly injured. He made the exclamation when I lifted him, "Jesus, Mary and Joseph! I am done!", and died on the spot. My hands and my jersey were covered with his blood.

I remained in Dublin over the Monday, returning to Tipperary for Hogan's funeral about Wednesday. I did not go home, however, as the police and military had raided my home ... From then on, I became a full time Volunteer

Report from Major E.L. Mills

To: Adjutant, Auxiliary Division, RIC, Beggars Bush Barracks, Dublin



SUBJECT: Shooting at Cork Park, 21/11/1920

At 1:30pm, 21st inst., I was detailed to take charge of a mixed force of RIC and Auxiliary Division to hold up and search people at CROKE PARK

I arranged with Major Dudley, DSO, MC, who was in charge of a part of 100 RIC, to split up the two forces so that there would be an equal number posted on the 4 gates of the ground to search people as they came out.

The method to be adopted was that as soon as possible they were to make the onlookers file out of the ground.

I was ordered to leave the Barracks at 3:20pm and arrived at the gate in Russell Street at about 3:55pm

I was travelling in a car in the rear of the RIC leading the Auxiliaries. As we approached the railway bridge in Russell Street near the S.W. corner of the ground I saw men in the tender in front of me trying to get out of their car and heard some of them shouting about an ambush. Seeing they were getting excited, I stopped my car, jumped out and went to see what was the matter. At this moment I heard a considerable amount of rifle fire. As no shots were coming from the football field and all the RIC Constables seemed excited and out of hand, I rushed along and stopped the firing with the assistance of Major Fillery who was in the car with me. There was still firing going on in the football ground. I ran down into the ground and shouted to all the armed men to stop firing at once and eventually the firing ceased.

The Crowd by this time was in a state of panic.

After considerable trouble we got the people into more or less of a queue and they filed out as they were searched

I went round the ground and found two children being carried out apparently dead. I found one female who had been trampled to death, also a man who had apparently died the same way. I saw a few wounded men and I got some sense into the crowd. I got the DMP to get ambulances for the wounded. We found no arms on any of the people attending the match. After the ground had been cleared and all the buildings had been searched I returned to the Barracks.

I did not see any need for any firing at all and the indiscriminate firing absolutely spoiled any chance of getting hold of any people in possession of arms.

The men of the Auxiliary Division did not fire.

The casualties I personally saw, were 6 dead and 4 wounded. Two of the dead were apparently trampled to death.

Signed: *EL Mills*

EL Mills, Major 1st DI, Adjutant,
Auxiliary Division, RIC,
Beggars Bush Barracks,
Dublin

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CÉIM III: Eanáir - Iúil 1921

Thosaigh céim dheiridh an chogaidh go luath i 1921 de réir mar a baineadh an bonn ón IRA chun oibríochtaí deacra a chur chun feidhme mar gheall ar láithreach mhéadaithe arm na Breataine agus na teaicticí a bhí á n-úsáid acu, agus mar gheall ar easpa leanúnach arm freisin. Ba é an chomhairle ó GHQ chun líon níos mó d'oibríochtaí níos lú a chur i bhfeidhm óna dteastaigh airm níos lú agus riosca níos lú d'Óglaigh ag gabháil leo. Rinneadh an comhrac a ghéarú ar an dá thaobh le líon níos mó luíochán agus básuithe.

LUÍOCHÁN DHROM CAOIN

Tar éis dhá mhí thubaisteacha nuair a maraíodh dáréag Óglach, d'eagraigh an tIRA i Luimneach luíochán Dhrom Caoin - ceann de na gníomhartha is cinntithí de chuid an IRA i gCogadh na Saoirse. Chuir timpeall ar caoga fear ó aonaid fiannais Bhriogáid Luimnigh Láir agus Bhriogáid Luimnigh Thoir an oibríocht chomhpháirteach chun feidhme faoi cheannas foriomlán Donnchadh O'Hannigan. Maraíodh aon phóilín déag ag Drom Caoin - an dara líon is mó básanna Briotanacha dearbhaithe tar éis luíochán Chill Mhichíl - agus níor cailleadh Óglach ar bith. Ba é an beartas ón tús gan príosúnaigh a ghlacadh agus maraíodh beirt phóilíní tar éis dóibh géilleadh.

CLUAIN FIONN, CO. LONGFORT

Ba é contae Longfort ceann de na contaetha ab fhoréigní le linn Chogadh na Saoirse. Ba é bua Shinn Féin i bhfothoghchán Longfort Theas i mBealtaine 1917 an rud a spreag gluaiseacht phoblachtach láidir, ó thaobh na polaitíochta de agus go míleata, sa chontae. Ba é comhrac ba rathúla an IRA i Longfort le Fórsaí na Corónach an luíochán ag Cluain Fionn, idir Gránard agus Béal Átha na Lao, an 2 Feabhra 1921, nuair a maraíodh ceathrar Póilíní Cúnta.

CROIS AN BHARRAIGH, CO. CHORCAÍ

An 19 Márta 1921, agus iad ag gníomhú ar bhonn faisnéise iontaofa ar láthair cheanncheathrú briogáide an IRA, d'eagraigh Fórsaí na Corónach cuardach leathan ar an limistéar idir Droichead na Bandan agus Cathair Chorcaí. D'eagraigh Tom Barry cúlú trodach cróga, agus mharaigh siad deichniúr ar a laghad de na Briotanaigh, agus triúr marbh ar a dtaobh féin. Ba é an eachtra sin ag Crois an Bharraigh an rud is gaire do ghnáth-chath sa chogadh Angla-Éireannach iomlán.

ARM PHOBLACHT NA HÉIREANN

I Márta 1921, mar fhreagairt ar áitiú leanúnach na Breataine nach raibh san IRA ach 'buíon dúnmharaithe' gan smacht, shoiléirigh Dáil Éireann go raibh sé ag troid ar a son agus ghlac sí le freagracht as gníomhartha na nÓglach go dtí sin. In Aibreán, dúirt de Valera le comhfhreagraí nuachtáin:

‘Ó ÓGLAIGH NA HÉIREANN CHRUTHAÍOMAR ARM
PHOBLACHT NA HÉIREANN (ÓGLAIGH NA HÉIREANN)
LE BHEITH ANN MAR EITE MHÍLEATA AN RIALTAIS
... DÁ BHRÍ SIN, TÁ AN RIALTAS FREAGRACH AS
GNÍOMHARTHA AN AIRM SIN.”

– Eamon de Valera, Aibreán 1921–

TUAR MHIC ÉADAIGH, CO. MHAIGH EO

Ba cheann de na heachtraí ba chluíití é i gCogadh na Saoirse 'Cath Thuar Mhic Éadaigh' mar a tugadh air ina dhiaidh sin. An 3 Bealtaine 1921, rinne óglaigh an IRA luíochán ar phatról na nDúchrónach/RIC i sráidbhaile Thuar Mhic Éadaigh. Maraíodh ceathrar póilíní san ionsaí agus thug colún an IRA faoi Shléibhte Partraí tar éis an chatha. Bhí stádas cáiliúil ar cheannaire cholún reatha an IRA tar éis an luíocháin, Ceannfóirt Tom Maguire nach maireann.

AN DARÁ DÁIL

Tháinig an tAcht um Rialú na hÉireann i bhfeidhm an lá sular tháinig Éamon de Valera ar ais go Baile Átha Cliath ar Oíche Nollag 1920. Leis an Acht rinneadh Éire a chríochnú le feadh na línte céanna a bhí leagtha amach ag Lloyd George i 1916 agus rinneadh foráil do dhá rialtas Rialtais Dúchais in Éirinn. Ceann amháin i mBaile Átha Cliath do na sé chontae is fiche agus ceann eile i mBéal Feirste do na sé chontae san oirthuaisceart, áit a raibh aontachtaíthe ina dtromlach de thoghthóirí. Rinneadh forálacha d'aontú faoi dheireadh na hÉireann, ach amháin nuair a theastódh sé ó na haontachtaíthe, nó dá dteastódh sé uathu ar chor ar bith. D'ainneoin an fhórais gur cuireadh críochnú le bhfeidhm leis an Acht, bhí an Dáil agus an tIRA fós díoghabhailte chun leanúint leis an troid ar son Phoblacht na hUile-Éireann a bheadh neamhspleách ina hiomláine ar an mBreatain.

Faoi théarmaí an Achta eagraíodh toghchán sna sé chontae is fiche an 19 Bealtaine 1921 chun teachtaí a thoghadh chuig an bParlaimint i nDeisceart na hÉireann. Dhiúltaigh an Dáil don Acht um Rialú na hÉireann, ach shocraigh sí socruithe an toghcháin a úsáid chun teachtaí a thoghadh don dara Dáil. Gan aon fhreasúra i 124 thoghcheantar de na 128 dtoghcheantar nua, bhuaigh Sinn Féin gach suíochán iontu.

Eagraíodh toghchán sé lá ina dhiaidh sin sna sé chontae don Pharlaimint i dTuaisceart na hÉireann. Bhuaigh aontachtaíthe 40 as na 52 shuíochán agus bhuaigh Sinn Féin 6 shuíochán. Chruthaigh lucht Shinn Féin a thoghadh sa dá thoghchán an dara Dáil arna háitiú aici féin mar pharlaimint Phoblacht na hUile-Éireann.

DÓ THEACH AN CHUSTAIM

Agus é ar an eolas maidir le cáineadh i gcoinne an IRA, ghlaoigh de Valera ar fheachtas míleata ní ba ghnásúla. Mura raibh siad in ann cathanna réamhullmhaithe móra a eagrú, ansin rud eile seachas luíocháin agus feallmharuithe. Ba é an toradh air sin an t-ionsaí ar Theach an Chustaim an 25 Bealtaine 1921.

Mar shuíochán rialtais áitiúil na Breataine in Éirinn, ba thargaid shiombalach é Teach an Chustaim. Rinne páirtí an IRA ó Bhaile Átha Cliath de níos mó ná 100 fear an dó, agus OC (Oifigeach i gCeannas) Briogáid Bhaile Átha Cliath, Oscar Traynor, ag déanamh maoirseachta air. Bhí sé dodhéanta an foirgneamh a chur trí thine agus é a aslonnú sular tháinig na fórsaí Briotanacha ar an láthair. Fuair cúigear óglach an IRA bás, agus bhí na dosaenacha acu i measc caoga duine is céad faoi amhras a gabhadh ag Fórsaí na Corónach. Lagaíodh go tromchúiseach an ASU (Aonad Fiannais) agus Zú Cathlán Bhaile Átha Cliath mar thoradh air sin agus tháinig na gníomhaithe a bhí fágtha le chéile chun Garda Bhaile Átha Cliath a chruthú.

GLAONNA AR SHOS COGAIDH

I Feabhra 1921 d'éirigh an Briogáidire-Ghinearál Crozier a bhí i gceannas ar na Póilíní Cúnta as a phost agus thug sé an déistin a bhí air le beartas an rialtais in Éirinn le fios don phobal. Ag Comhdháil an Chomhlathais i Meitheamh, chuir Príomh-Aire na hAfraice Theas, Jan Smuts, ina luí ar Lloyd George chun cuireadh a thabhairt do de Valera chun teacht go Londain le haghaidh cainteanna. Tháinig tobréiteach san idirbheartaíocht as foinse aisteach. An 22 Meitheamh d'oscail an Rí George V Parlaimint Thuaisceart Éireann agus rinne sé achainí ar son síochána:

TÁ MÉ AG ACHAINÍ AR ÉIREANNAIGH UILE CHUN STAD, CHUN LÁMH
NA FOIGHNE AGUS AN ATHMHUINTEARAIS A SHÍNEADH AMACH
AGUS CHUN TEACHT LE CHÉILE CHUN RÉ NUA SÍOCHÁNA, SÁSAIMH
AGUS DEA-THOIL A CHRUTHÚ DON TÍR A BHFUIL BHUR GCROÍTHE
ISTIGH INTI... ..

– An Rí George V, 22 Meitheamh 1921–

Tar éis na hachainí sin, mhol Lloyd George cruinniú i Londain. Ghlac de Valera leis an gcuireadh agus cuireadh an Sos Cogaidh Angla-Éireannach i bhfeidhm an 11 Iúil 1921. Bhí deireadh leis an troid, ach bhí comhrac chomh deacair sin ar tí a thosú timpeall ar thábla na comhdhála.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT, 10 DECEMBER 1920

The PRIME MINISTER: ... During the last few weeks the Government have been in touch with intermediaries who have been anxious to bring about a better understanding. The majority of the people of Ireland are anxious for peace and a fair and lasting settlement ... On the other hand the Government are also very regretfully convinced that the party, or rather the section, which controls the organisation of murder and outrage is not yet ready for a real peace, that is to say, for a peace that will accept the only basis on which peace can be concluded - a basis which would be consistent with the unbroken unity of the United Kingdom.

In these circumstances the Government determined on the double policy which I propose now to declare. On the one hand, they feel they have no option but to continue, and indeed intensify, their campaign against that small but highly organised and desperate minority who are

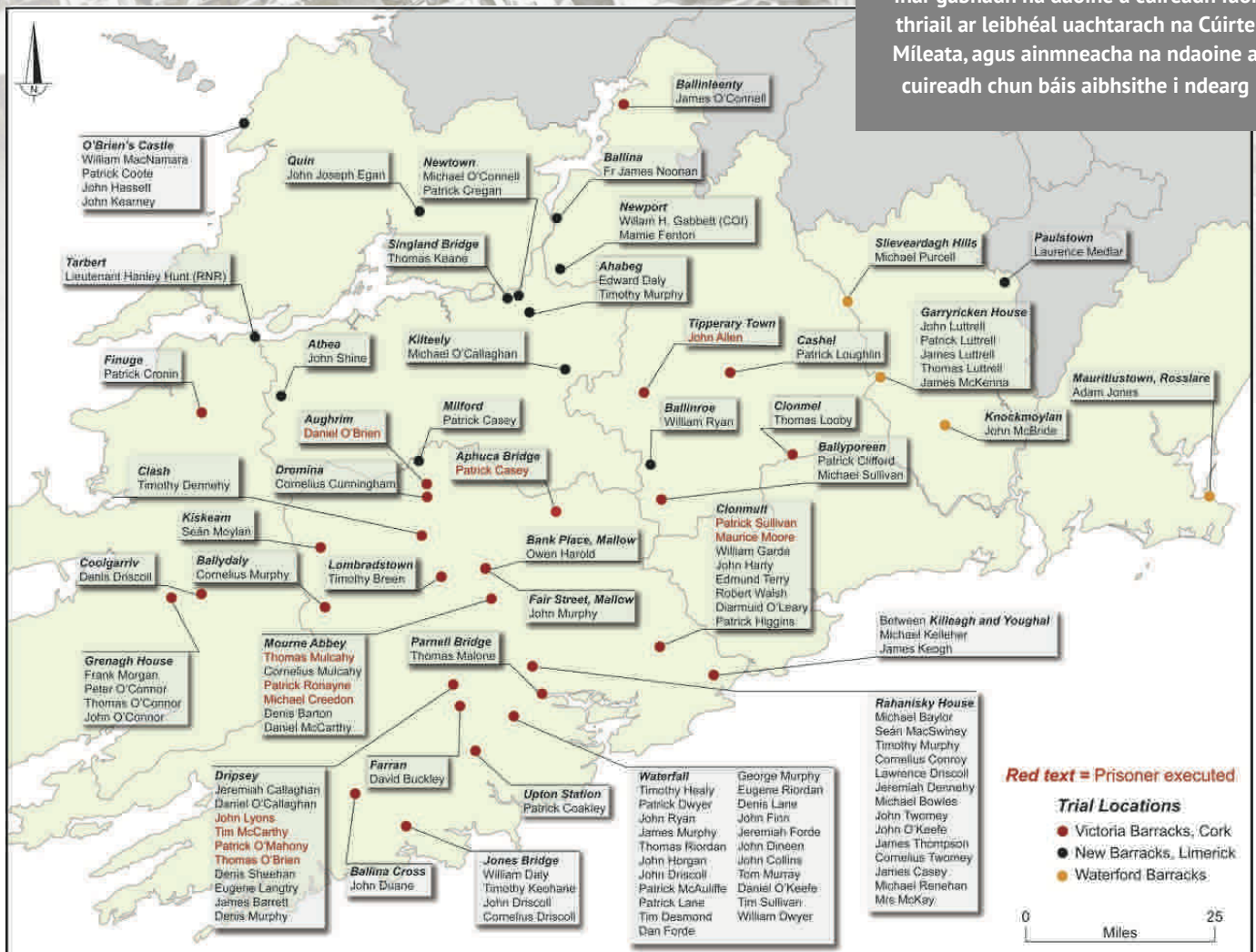
using murder and outrage ... but on the other hand they are anxious to open every channel ... for an honourable settlement ... We have decided to proclaim in that quarter of Ireland [the south west] martial law, and to mete out exactly the same treatment to these people as would be done if they were open rebels ... We are only meting out the ordinary rules of civilized warfare ... There will be a proclamation of martial law ...

The effect will be that after a certain date unauthorised persons found in possession of arms in the specified areas to which martial law is applied will be treated as rebels, and will be liable on conviction by a military court to the penalty of death. The same penalty will be applied to the unauthorised wearing of the uniforms of any of His Majesty's forces and to the aiding and abetting and harbouring of rebels ...

David Lloyd George

- Doiciméad D2 -

Taispeántar sa léarscáil seo na láithreacha inar gabhadh na daoine a cuireadh faoi thriail ar leibhéal uachtarach na Cúirte Míleata, agus ainmneacha na ndaoine a cuireadh chun báis aibhsithe i ndearg



Sliocht ó dhialann an tSaighdiúra Shingil J.P Swindlehurst ón 1ú Cathlán de na Lancashire Fusiliers a bhí bliain is fiche d'aois agus a rinne seirbhís i mBaile Átha Cliath i gcéim dheireanach Chogadh na Saoirse

7 January, 1921

We have just been told the most welcome news, I don't think. We are [leaving] for Ireland at six o'clock tonight. You should see the faces, it's a wonder we don't step on them, they're so long ... we have a rumour going the rounds, that the favourite joke of the Irishmen is to get you to stand [them] a bottle of Guinness, drink your health, and then crash you on the head with the empty bottle. We now know what the rifles ... are for.

8 January, Dublin

We arrived at Arrans Quay on the Liffey at 9 this morning. All Dublin seemed to be out to see us arrive. I bet they got a shock, we looked and felt terrible - cold, hungry and fed up to the teeth. Stewed Bully and fried bread didn't improve our spirits, but the tea has been better.

The Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion of the Lancashire Fusiliers gave us a welcome, told us what we had come for, and said we would all feel better when we had a good sleep and a general clean up. He never said a truer word. We have come over here to finish our time, doing guards, curfew patrols, street patrols, and heaven knows what else. Ship Street Barracks, Great Dame Street is the new address, and it's raining. What a life.

The men stationed here have regaled our ears with some lurid things that take place daily. The Black and Tans seem to do a lot of bloodthirsty deeds, but the Sinn Féiners don't seem far behind. I thought about chucking this [diary], it might not be possible to get time to write any experiences, but I'll see later ...

9 January, Dublin

Gilby and I have just arrived back from the city. After we had cleaned up etc., passed the doctor, had a lecture at the same time ... about

not forgetting the tin hat, to stop the empty bottles of 'Guinness', we were given a pass [to go] out until 9:30. The time is now 8:45. We thought it better to get back after what happened to us.

We were along Sackville Street ... when someone came up behind us and told us to 'stick your hands up' ... The voice spoke Irish alright, but we never saw a face. We were told to look to the front and answer politely, and no harm would come. It seemed to be a long while before he finished questioning us - Were we married? - Where had we come from? - How long were we going to be here? - and I don't know what else. To say we were alarmed is putting it mildly. ... Our pockets were taffed from behind and after explaining what the contents were, the voice said, 'Away wid yez Tommy, down the road a bit, and you don't look back at all, now go'. We didn't stop. It would have been foolish to look back, so we made our way back to the barracks. We have since heard, that a Sergeant out of the 1st Batt has been brought in shot in the stomach. He showed fight, silly chap, its no use when the odds are against you

Dublin seems to be in our first acquaintance a rotten place to be in, people hurry along the streets, armoured cars dash up and down, bristling with machine guns ... The men who style themselves as Black and Tans walk about like miniature arsenals, a brace of revolvers on each hip, bandoliers of ammunition slung around, and a short musket to finish off the ensemble. They dash about in cars with wire netting covers at all hours of the day and night, bent on some raid, reprisal, or the capture of some Sinn Féiners. The wire netting on the cars is to prevent bombs being thrown in amongst the occupants, an occurrence which seems to have been frequently done quite recently ... I have been detailed to mount guard at the City Hall for 48 hours at 12 noon tomorrow so I must finish off for tonight ...



Litir ó Maud Gonne, chuig a cara Meiriceánach, John Quinn i Feabhra 1921

Ba phoiblitheoir gníomhach í do chúis na hÉireann, agus chónaigh Gonne i lár Bhaile Átha Cliath sna blianta 1918-22 Bhí a hiníon Iseult ar tí leanbh a bhreith agus bhí a mac, Sean MacBride ["Seaghan"] ag déanamh staidéar ar an dlí. Gan fhios dá mháthair bhí sé ina bhall den IRA.

73, St Stephen's Green,
21 February, 1921

My dear friend,

It is so long, since I have seen or heard from you. What are you thinking? What are you doing? Here we are having a very strenuous and trying time, but the heroism and courage of everyone makes one proud of being Irish. The English may batter us to pieces but they will never succeed in breaking our spirit. The spirit of the people in the devastated areas is perhaps the most resolute of all. They are suffering untold horrors. I have seen and heard things far worse than in the war zones of France and Belgium.

Mrs Despard, Lord French's sister, has been staying with me. She is the most remarkable woman and intensely Irish in feeling. We travelled together though the south of Ireland and with her I was able to visit places I should never have been able to get to alone, in the martial law areas. It was amusing to see the puzzled expressions on the faces of the officers and the Black and Tans, who continually held up our car, when Mrs Despard said she was the Viceroy's sister...

We are very busy with work organising the Irish White Cross. The American Relief delegates are here now, do you know Mr France or Mr McCoy? The others are all Quakers. They are all very cautious timid people but I hope they will do good.

Iseult is staying with me. Her baby will be born next month. Luckily her nerves are pretty good, for Dublin is a terrible place just now. Hardly a night passes that one is not woken up by the sound of firing. Often there are people killed, but often it is only the crown forces firing to keep up their courage...

Seagan is working at his law course in the National University. There again, it is hard for boys to work, with raids and arrests among the students going on continually. The English are particularly down on the students. Lots of them are in jail. One quiet boy of 17, a divinity student, Lawlor, was beaten to death by the Black and Tans.

Do write me a long letter. Tell me what you think of it all, and if America is likely to protest against all these horrors. Seagan and Iseult join me in sending you kindest regards,

Always your old friend,
Maud Gonne MacBride



The Burning of the Custom House

by Oscar Traynor,

Early in the new year of 1921, I received a note informing me that there would be a meeting of the army council in the home of the late O'Rahilly in 40 Herbert Park ... I was later informed verbally that the meeting would be a rather important one and that ... the president, who had just arrived back from America, would be present. I arrived at Herbert Park at the appointed hour and found most of my colleagues already there. Those present, as far as my memory goes, were Cathal Brugha, Austin Stack, Richard Mulcahy, Diarmid O'Hegarty, Michael Collins Gearoid O'Sullivan, Liam Mellowes, Sean Russell, J.J. O'Connell, Sean McMahon, Piaras Bealsai and, I think, Eoin O'Duffy ...

Then the president spoke and he made it clear that something in the nature of a big action in Dublin was necessary in order to bring public opinion abroad to bear on the question of Ireland's case. He felt that such an action in the capital city, which was as well known abroad as London or Paris, would be certain to succeed. He suggested that the capture of the headquarters of the Black and Tans, which was situated in Beggar's Bush barracks, would capture the imagination of those he had in mind, apart from the serious blow it would constitute to the enemy. As an alternative to this he suggested the destruction of the Custom House which was the administrative heart of the British civil service machine in this country. It was finally decided that I, as the officer commanding the Dublin Brigade should examine these propositions and report back to the Army council in due course.

I immediately set to work and was given the help of GHQ intelligence. Two weeks were spent in the investigation and examination of the possibilities of capturing Beggar's Bush. The experience of the men engaged in this work was such that they reported against such an operation. My activities were then turned to the alternative suggestion - the Custom House. I made a personal inspection of the building [and...] was greatly impressed by its solidity, its granite walls, and what appeared to me its complete lack of structural material that would burn. However, each office ... was surrounded by wooden presses and shelves which held substantial bundles of papers and office files

My next step was to secure plans of the building ... [which] indicated the magnitude of the task. There were three floors to be dealt with as well as the basement floor, numerous of corridors, and hundreds of offices. The staff probably numbered upwards of a hundred with the control of large numbers of telephones. In the course of our investigations it was also discovered that there was a direct line to the Castle for emergency uses. There was also the problem of the general public who were continually entering and leaving the building [...] and there was a number of police patrolling the front and rear of the building.

I spent nearly three months on the preparation of the plans. They were in my mind day and night. They were altered dozens of times as weaknesses or better points occurred to me ... As the target was in the 2nd battalion area, it was decided that the actual destruction of the building would be entrusted to that unit, Commander Tom Ennis was appointed to take sole control of the party within the building. The 2nd battalion were reinforced by the addition of the Squad, a party of about twelve men who were attached to the Intelligence Department and some men of the Active Service Unit.

To the 1st battalion was allocated the task of protecting the outside of the building. In the event of a surprise attack by enemy forces, the battalion was to engage them with grenade rifle and machine gun fire ... in addition to this task, the 1st battalion was also to deal with any fire stations in their area. In other words, they were to put all fire-fighting appliances out of action by the removal of vital parts of their machines. The 3rd and 4th battalions dealt in a similar way with the stations in their areas.

To the 5th battalion was given the very important task of cutting off from all communications, telephonic or otherwise, the Custom House with the outside world. This was a highly technical job and the most skilled men of the engineers were called on to carry out the work ... I decided right from the beginning that in no circumstances was petrol to be used ... as the gas manufactured by the contact of petrol with air would have made a very dangerous explosive mixture This necessitated the commandeering of a large quantity of paraffin oil and ... commandeering a motor lorry to bring the tinned paraffin oil to the Custom House precisely on time.



PÓILÍNÍ CÚNTA, IN ÉINEACHT LE BAILL AN DMP AGUS BRIGÁID DÓITEÁIN BHAILE ÁTHA CLIATH, TAOBH AMUIGH DE THEACH AN CHUSTAIM, BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH, LE LINN AN IONSAÍ AR AN BHFOIRGNEAMH AG AN IRA.

[Foinse: Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann, HOGW 115]



DAOINE FAOI AMHRAS ARNA GCOINNEÁIL AG NA PÓILÍNÍ CÚNTA TAR ÉIS IONSAÍ AN IRA AR THEACH AN CHUSTAIM, BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH, AN 25 BEALTAINÉ 1921. GABHADH NÍOS MÓ NÁ 100 FEAR, LENAR ÁIRÍODH NA DOSAENACHA DE BHAILL AN IRA A BHÍ RANNPHÁIRTEACH I NDÓ AN FHOIRGNIMH

[Foinse: Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann, HOGW 122]

The Irish Times

THURSDAY, MAY 26, 1921

WANTON AND COSTLY OUTRAGE

As we write, one of Dublin's largest and most beautiful buildings is a mass of fire and there is little prospect that even its framework can be saved ... we fail utterly to understand the minds of those who think that it is sound warfare and sound patriotism to scourge their own country because they hate another country. To us this presents itself as a policy of folly and sheer despair. Sooner or later we must have a settlement of the Irish problem. ... If [Sinn Fein] believes that a Republic is inevitable, by what logic can it justify the destruction of a building that would have done honour to the mightiest Republic in the world?

That is the material aspect of the question. From the moral and political aspects, the wickedness of yesterday's outrage assumes a darker hue ... Its political effect in Great Britain will be to discredit the Republican demand still further; but the effect in Ireland will be to increase the difficulties of any form of national settlement. Peace can come only through agreement with North and South ... what can such deeds as the burning of the Custom House do to bring Irishmen together? Their fatal effect is to drive North and South further apart and to create new hatreds and new suspicions ... Are the flames of the Custom House to be, indeed, the funeral pyre of a nation's hope?

A MILITARY NECESSITY

In accordance with a decision arrived at after due deliberation by the Ministry of Dail Éireann, a detachment of the Dublin Brigade of the Irish Army was ordered to carry out the destruction of the Dublin Custom House. The operation, a most hazardous one, was carried out with complete success at 1 p.m. on May 25th...

The great fire has caused paralysis in the tax-gathering departments. Those departments have been extracting from the Irish people a revenue at the rate of £60,000,000 a year, only half of which was spent on the civil government of Ireland. £4,000,000 was spent in the year 1920-21, on a 'police force,' whose functions are spying, murder and arson. The remainder, over £21,000,000, left the country as a forced tribute from the Irish people to the Imperial Treasury in London, mainly to be redibursed to swell the resources of the military tyranny at present in operation in this country ...

Irish Bulletin, 27th May 1921.

An outcry, repulsive in its hypocrisy, is being raised in the English Press, and the pro-British Press in Ireland against the destruction by Irishmen of an historic and beautiful edifice. We, in common with most of the Nation, regret the destruction of historic buildings. But the lives of four million people are a more sacred charge than any architectural masterpiece. The Custom House was one of the seats of an alien tyranny ... The destruction was an unavoidable military necessity.

The press which cries out against it is the same press which remained callously silent while ... whole streets of shops and hundreds of residences and farmsteads were being wiped out of existence by British soldiers and 'police'... Freedom comes by sacrifice, and in property, as well as in life, Ireland is willing to make that sacrifice.

The Daily Chronicle

No. 33,091

LONDON, THURSDAY, MAY 26, 1921

One Penny

WANTON ACT OF NATIONAL SABOTAGE

The burning of the Dublin Custom House may probably be described, like other special outbreaks of crime in the past fortnight, to the desire of the I.R.A. extremists to queer the pitch for negotiations and spoil the chances of any hoped for settlement between the Government, Sinn Fein, and Ulster. In so far as it has involved the destruction of the records of the Irish Local Government and Revenue Departments' it creates serious difficulties for the administration, and one is at a loss to understand why such an important building was not more effectually guarded. As a wanton act of national sabotage, permanently injuring both the country and the city, it fairly outdoes even Sinn Fein's previous record.

The Freeman's Journal

VOL. CLIV

DUBLIN, THURSDAY, MAY 26TH, 1921

TWOPENCE

CUSTOM HOUSE GUTTED

Probably not since the Insurrection of Easter Week 1916 did the people of Dublin experience such a series of startling events as those which were witnessed yesterday. The Custom House, which is headquarters of some most important Government departments in Ireland, was attacked, set on fire, and completely consumed by flames... As far as can be ascertained at present 7 civilians were killed, 10 wounded, and 111 arrested, and 4 Axillary Police wounded in the action which took place between Crown Forces and Republicans after the building had been set ablaze."

The tragic and terrifying drama began shortly before one o'clock, when a party of armed men, estimated at between fifty and one hundred, made a descent on the Custom House, held up the staff and promptly proceeded to fire the building, which was first sprinkled with petrol from end to end. Soon the whole of the classic structure was a mass of smoke and flame...

Simultaneously with the raid on the Custom House, raids were also carried out on the various fire stations in the city ... On receiving information of what was on foot, Crown forces rushed to the scene. Revolver and rifle firing almost immediately broke out, interspersed with deafening explosions... In less than an hour the flames had made such headway that all hope of saving the building had to be abandoned.

The Times

No. 33,091

LONDON, FRIDAY MAY 27, 1921

One Penny

AN ACT OF DELIBERATE VANDALISM

It is difficult to imagine a more senseless and wanton outrage than that perpetrated by the Irish Republican Army in the burning of the Dublin Custom House. The building, which was one of the finest in Ireland, dated from the end of the eighteenth century and was regarded with pride by the people of Dublin. Its destruction is an act of deliberate vandalism done by miscreant Irishmen to the hurt of Ireland herself. In what way do these reckless firebrands imagine that an act so shameful can advance their cause, accredit their political ideas, or establish their claim to guide the destinies of their country? ... The Easter Rebellion of 1916 destroyed another fine edifice, the General Post Office. Now the Custom House has shared its fate at Irish hands. Whatever view may be taken in Ireland of the outrage, the English view will assuredly be that Ireland's worst foes are they of their own household!

CEISTEANNA TUISCEANA

Doiciméid D1-D6

1. De réir ráiteas Lloyd George i dTeach na dTeachtaí, cén fáth nach raibh rialtas na Breataine in ann síocháin a shocrú? (*Doiciméad D1*)

2. Cad a bhí i 'mbeartas dúbailte' nua rialtas na Breataine in Éirinn? (*Doiciméad D1*)

3. Cad iad na cionta a bheadh faoi réir ag pionós an bháis anois i limistéir áirithe? *(Doiciméad D1)*

4. Cá mhéad duine a gabhadh ag Cluain Molt, (b) cá háit inar gcuireadh faoi thriail iad agus (c) cá mhéad duine a cuireadh chun báis? (Doiciméad D2)

5. De réir na léarscáile, cá mhéad duine san iomlán a cuireadh chun báis faoi Dhlí Míleata? (*Doiciméad D2*)

6. Agus an léarscáil á húsáid mar thúsphointe, déan taighde agus scríobh cuntas gairid ar an méid a tharla ag Mainistir na Móna a raibh gabháil agus bású bhaill an IRA ina dtoradh i 1921. *(Doiciméad D2)*



7. Cad é mar a d'fhreagair an Saighdiúir Singil J.P Swindlehurst agus a chomplacht go rabhthas á n-imscaradh go hÉirinn i 1921 agus cén fáth? (Doiciméad D3)

8. Cén fáth a ndearnadh an Saighdiúir Singil J.P Swindlehurst agus a chomplacht a ghabháil sa tsráid, i do bharúil?

9. Cén fáth a raibh Maud Gonne in ann taisteal sna limistéir Dlí Mhíleata i 1921? (Doiciméad D4)

10. Sonraigh na láidreachtaí agus na laigí a bhaineann le (a) dialanna agus (b) litreacha pearsanta mar fhoinsí stairiúla.

Dairy

Láidreachtaí: -----

Laigí: -----

Personal Letter

Láidreachtaí: -----

Laigí: -----

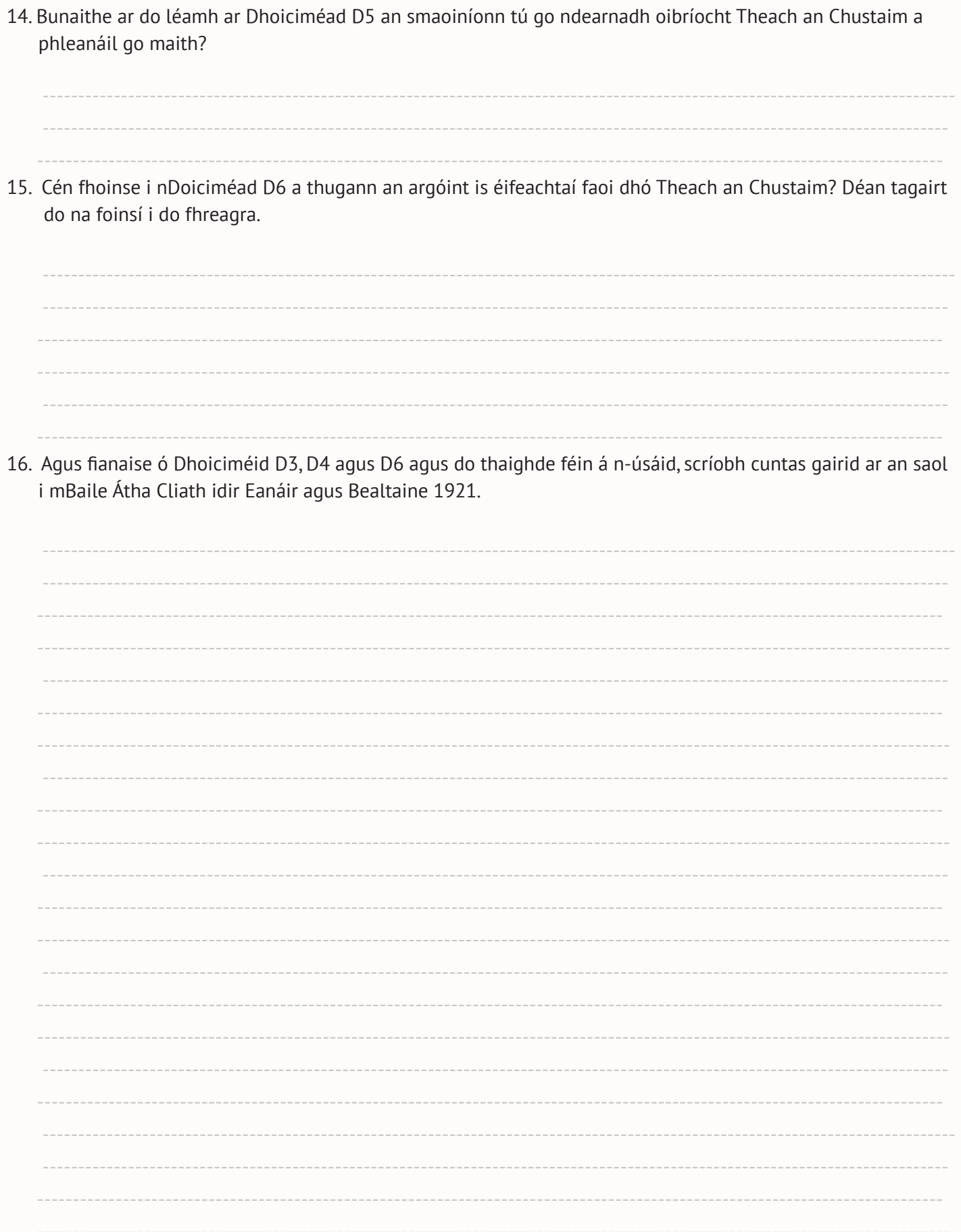
11. De réir Oscar Traynor, cén fáth a raibh fonn ar de Valera 'aicsean mór' a eagrú i mBaile Átha Cliath? (D5)

12. Cén tasc a thug Comhairle an Airm do Oscar Traynor ag a gcéad cruinniú? (Doiciméad D5)

13. Sonraigh trí fhadhb arna sainaithint ag Oscar Traynor le linn a imscrúduithe ar thubaiste Theach an Chustaim. (Doiciméad D5)

(1) -----

(2) -----





Bileog Measúnaithe Phearsanta

Anim: _____ Dáta Críochnaithe: _____

Gné an Taispeántais: _____

Baill an Ghrúpa:

Ainm: _____ Ról: _____

Ainm: _____ Ról: _____

Ainm: _____ Ról: _____

Ainm: _____ Ról: _____

Ainm: _____ Ról: _____

Déan cur síos achomair ar an tionscadal a rinne do ghrúpa:

Déan cur síos mionsonraithe ar do chuid ionchuir sa tionscadal grúpa:

Cad a rinne tú go maith mar chuid den ghrúpa?

Cad iad na rudaí a dhéanfa ar bhealach difriúil dá ndéanfa an tionscadal seo arís?

