



BEIR BUA



The honest voice of Republicanism

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derry32csm@hotmail.com

VOLUNTEER PATSY DUFFY COMMEMORATION

On a cold winter's night on the 24th of November 1978, IRA volunteer Patsy Duffy stopped his car outside number 2 Maureen Avenue "I'll only be a few minutes" he told his daughter, Margarita, who was accompanied by her six month old nephew Martin, Patsy's grandson. This was the last time they would see their father and grandfather alive.

Patsy climbed the stairs of number 2 Maureen Avenue and entered one of the rooms and proceeded towards a locked wardrobe, inside were arms belonging to the IRA. The arms dump was under his control and it was his intention to check them, make sure they were safe, and continue on his way. As he approached the dump British soldiers (members of the SAS) entered the room and immediately opened fire on the unarmed IRA volunteer.

The soldiers who had been concealed in another room fired a total of 38 rounds with 14 hitting Patsy killing him instantly.

Patsy Duffy was 50 years of age when he was executed by British Crown forces.

Patrick (Patsy) Duffy was born on the 14th of March 1928 in Bishop Street no more than a stones throw from where he died. In 1950 Patsy married Moira and settled down in the Brandywell where they had six children, two boys and four girls. A hard working family man Patsy was actively supported in his republican activities by his devoted family. A life long republican, Patsy was well known and respected within

the community. With a long history of republican involvement, he was a valuable activist responsible for a network of arms dumps throughout the city.

Selflessly and courageously he stood against injustice and imperialism. Such was the strength of Patsy's republican beliefs he was determined to play a full and active role in the struggle against British occupation. A role which would lead to him making the ultimate sacrifice in the pursuit of Irish independence.



The 24th of November will mark the 29th anniversary of the death of volunteer Patsy Duffy. Republicans in Derry recently had the honour of naming our cumann after Patsy

Duffy alongside General Liam Lynch who died for the republic during the civil war.

On Sunday the 25th of November 2007, the 32 County Sovereignty Movement, in conjunction with the Duffy family, will be holding a commemoration to honour the memory of the late Patsy Duffy. Anyone wishing to take part in the commemoration is asked to assemble at 2pm sharp, at the cemetery gate, Bligh's Gardens, Creggan.

A hail of bullets laid him low
From the forces of the Crown
Long he'll be remembered
In his native Derry town
The role of fame
Will hold his name
And proud we'll always be
Of comrade Patsy Duffy
No braver man than he.

Volunteer
Patsy Duffy
Commemoration
25th November
2pm
Cemetery Gates

IRPWA CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Once again it is coming close to Christmas and this is the hardest time for POW's and their families. We in the IRPWA are again appealing to you to give a little extra money to us to help our prisoners and their families this Christmas.

Donations can be given to our collectors at the credit union in Abbey Street on Saturday every week or to any IRPWA member.



Money can also be given directly to IRPWA, Ulster Bank, Andersonstown road, Belfast, Account number 88919077, Sort code 980015.

The IRPWA POW's on E3 wing Portlaoise would also like to thank all those who contributed to the sponsored cycle in aid of Aid Cancer Treatment, Cork University Hospital, €5000 in all was raised.

TAKE IT DOWN FROM THE MAST!

“We should not forget that the brilliant events that we have seen at Stormont and the driving forward of change would not have happened without the deaths of the volunteers from Derry and elsewhere. I recall their deaths every day...I, along with the other elected representatives think of the importance of their sacrifice every day and they remain the most important memory of all our elected representatives in the work that we do.” Martina Anderson.

It can be safe to assume that Martina Anderson and the Provisional Sinn Fein consider their activities at Stormont to be a continuation of the struggle in which these volunteers gave their lives for. There is a dawning of realisation amongst republicans that what the Provisional leadership called the `new phase of struggle` is nothing more than entering the Uncle Tom's Cabin we know as Stormont. After the steady stream of lies that the republican base have been fed; no six county settlement, no return to Stormont, no arms surrender etc, it is hard to believe that there is people who genuinely still believe that this is a republican project to achieve Irish freedom. Gerry Adams promised a `battle a day` at Stormont however there is no evidence of it. The Irish Language Act was stopped in its tracks by the Paisleyites and there was little that Sinn Fein could do about it as Orangeism flexed its muscles at its home ground. Feeble protest and `half a loaf` politics is all that the Provo's can muster these days as it has abandoned republican principles, that is all that the queen of England would expect of her ministers. The Margaret Ritchie/UDA funding row and the remarkably quick and embarrassing U-turn, which Martin McGuinness preformed in regards to his position on this matter, exposed an instinctive tendency to fall on Paisley's side. In her regular col-



umn in the Sunday Journal, Mary Nelis wrote a scathing article on the RUC/PSNI and concluded that the new dawn to policing seems more like a dark night. The 32csm would argue that there is no new start to policing and the incidents of RUC brutality mentioned in Mary's article only vindicate our position, whilst at the same time unmasking the hypocrisy of the Provo's appeals for people to become informers for the RUC/PSNI. Paisley and his deputy appear to get on quite well with each other and no doubt Sinn Fein will portray this as reaching out the hand of friendship to unionism. They try to

hide the fact that Unionism is the clear victor if the present status quo is maintained and this reason, and the fact that the Provisional's had to effectively renounce republicanism and accept the Unionist veto, is why Ian and his party tolerate today's `castle Catholic's`.

The whole edifice of the undemocratic, artificial six county state-let and its components is the very antithesis of republicanism and only its destruction, and as history has shown us, that reformism will not lead us to the republic. Although we hold the SDLP equally responsible for upholding the six county state those who do so whilst masquerading as republicans should have the honesty to `take it down from the mast`. What is certain is that the dead IRA volunteers died for the republic and that Martina Anderson's words rang very hollow with republicans. Francie Molloy once stated “we are really prepared to administer British rule for the foreseeable future. The principle of partition is accepted and if unionists had this in the 1920's they would be laughing.” Did Martina's party colleague and `other elected representatives` have the dead volunteer's in mind as he outlined Sinn Fein's position.