

For The Republic



Chris Fogarty



My usual space yields to the following historic letter.

AN OPEN LETTER FROM THE IRISH REPUBLICAN BROTHERHOOD TO ALL CLUBS AND VOLUNTEER MEMBERS OF THE G.A.A.

It is our intention to make all volunteer members aware of a number of important issues.

Firstly, that the sod on Croke Park was removed on 12th July 2009 to an unknown destination as part of a lucrative contract and replaced with British soil.

Secondly, that on 4th September 2008, the Sovereign Seal Harp and 'Eire' were removed from the All Ireland Medal and replaced with a Corporate G.A.A. Logo.

Thirdly, that Hayes Hotel in Thurles, where the G.A.A. was founded on November 1st, 1884, is in receivership with KPMG and that the G.A.A. have ignored requests to purchase and safeguard this most important Historical Property.

The G.A.A is an I.R.B. organisation, and the Liam Mc Carthy and Sam Maguire Cups and All Ireland Medals are distinguished I.R.B. Trophies. No permission was either sought from the I.R.B. or granted by it to alter them in any way, nor remove the sacred Soil from Croke Park. As a result, the teams have not received All Ireland Medals for their achievements since 2008 to date, only corporate logo G.A.A. Medals.

It is the intention of the President of the I.R.B. William James McGuire, to present authentic All Ireland Medals to this year's - 2013 Senior Championship winners.

All volunteers are encouraged to play their parts in the replacing of Irish Soil on Croke Park, from every corner of the Nation, all 32 Counties. To lobby the G.A.A. to rescind the three-Serpent Corporate logo medal, reinstated the authentic All Ireland Medal and purchase Hayes Hotel in order to retain our Heritage.

By this means each G.A.A. club is requested to bring this to the attention of all its members, especially

the players.

The Spirit of our Nation is under attack.

Is nise, Anraí O'Raghallaigh, Chairman I.R.B., P.O. Box 12476, Dublin

The stated quid pro quo for the Croke Park topsoil replacement was a British grant of 64 million pounds to the GAA to renovate its Casement Park in Belfast. Such symbolism registers little on me, but Elizabeth II was standing on British soil when she addressed Ireland from Croke Park. The symbolism becomes meaningful upon knowledge that on the first Bloody Sunday the GAA athletes' blood flowed into that soil. Meanwhile, people across Ireland are donating their gold jewelry to be melted and cast into true GAA medals to be awarded to the 2013 All-Ireland winners. The GAA will soon realign itself with its proud, honorable history. GAA members should respond directly to Mr. O Raghallaigh about these historic issues. They go to the core of GAA values and self-identity.

U.S. ENVOY HAASS will have made his big move regarding Occupied Ireland when you read this. Like Palestine/Israel; the Irish are not supposed to notice that the US is not an honest broker. It promotes one side at the other's expense. The real U.S. that fought a revolution to free itself and opposed colonialization on principle, has switched sides in recent decades. FDR's colony-stripping policies have been replaced by the Bush/Obama policies that duplicate Britain's of a century ago. Let's hope that current hyper-aggression doesn't ignite WW3. It is hard to believe that our gov't has sided with Britain against Irish-America and Ireland but a State Dept. official explained it as long ago as 1994. Its "Head of the Britain Desk" denied to UVF leader David Irvine that the US favored the IRA, thusly: "The IRA don't have Buccaneer bombers, they don't have aircraft carriers, and

we (the US gov't) must sew up the British Exchequer so as to use British forces in our upcoming wars against Islam." To free up British forces from Occupied Ireland, available for the US's wars of empire, it arranged the sign-over to Britain of the contested Six-Counties; history's greatest-ever surrender of territory absent catastrophic military defeat.

More surprising than the US gov't's siding with Britain is the "Irish" gov't's taking Britain's side against its own people. We remember the "Irish" Consul General's opposition to the MacBride Principles, his opposition to freedom for Joe Doherty, the Birmingham Six, Guildford Four, his silence regarding British murders of Irish citizens, etc. The incomprehensible makes sense only upon learning that the true Irish Constitution and Dail Eireann of 1919 were overridden by King George V and his imposed 1922 "Irish" Constitution.

TO GAIN FREEDOM, Ireland's people must unite. They must restore an Irish Constitution and gov't that works for Ireland not, as at present, for predatory finance and neo-colonialists. Its army must, for the first time since George V founded it in 1922, defend its own nation; and must stop being hit-men for global predators. The gardai síochana must protect Irish taxpayers and stop being enforcers for Shell/Stateoil looters and stop executing banksters' wrongful evictions.

THE FOUR MASTERS. The survival of one of them, Cucogry "Peregrine" O'Clery, was covered here last month. He has descendants in Ballycroy, Co. Mayo, to where he fled in 1653-4. Ex-Castlebar Chicagoan Ciaran McHale phoned to say that he and others are descendants; that Cleary cousin Mrs. Bolton who migrated to Chicago in the 1920s sponsored other relatives; that Chicago pub-owners Murray are O'Clery descendants. How gratifying! Survivors of genocide! Of course all Irish descend from genocide survivors, but how many from so eminent a survivor as "Peregrine" O'Clery? Contact fogarty@att.net