

# Irish National Caucus

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**thirteen cents . . .**

**and a few words**

**CAN SAVE AN IRISH LIFE**

ARE YOU WILLING TO MAKE THAT INVESTMENT ?

THE FACT IS: OUR GOVERNMENT IS PRESENTLY INFLUENCING THE COURSE OF EVENTS IN IRELAND - UNFORTUNATELY, AT THE DIRECTION OF THE ENGLISH GOVERNMENT AND AGAINST THE WILL OF THOUSANDS OF IRISH-AMERICANS.

THE FACT IS: YOU HAVE THE POWER TO CHANGE THE DIRECTION OF OUR GOVERNMENT'S INFLUENCE TO THAT OF ASSISTING THE IRISH PEOPLE ATTAIN FREEDOM AND A JUST PEACE

IT IS UP TO YOU

YOUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES CAN AND DO RESPOND TO THE WISHES OF THEIR PEOPLE. BUT, FIRST, THEY MUST KNOW WHAT IT IS THEIR PEOPLE WANT.

Won't you please set aside just a few minutes each week to write to the President, your Congressmen, Senators and all the current candidates for political office - local and presidential.

Ask for their position on the situation in Ireland. Do they really know what is taking place in Ireland today with the tacit approval of our government? It is your responsibility to make certain that they do know.

ASK ALL OF THEM TO RESPOND TO THESE QUESTIONS:

1. DO THEY SUPPORT A DECLARATION OF INTENT BY ENGLAND TO WITHDRAW FROM IRELAND ?
2. DO THEY SUPPORT IMMEDIATE CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS INTO THE SITUATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND ?
3. DO THEY SUPPORT THE IMMEDIATE REVERSAL OF OUR STATE DEPARTMENT'S ACTION IN WITHHOLDING CERTAIN IRISH VISAS ?

RESPOND TO THEIR ANSWERS

If they support our position, ask if a few of your group can meet with them to discuss how they might help initiate such action.

If they do not support our position, ask if you might meet with them to further explain our point of view.

CONSTANT LETTER-WRITING IS THE SOLUTION

IF YOU ARE NOT PART OF THE SOLUTION.....YOU ARE PART OF THE PROBLEM

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PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS

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SUGGESTION CORNER

- OBTAIN A CONGRESSIONAL MAP of your State (from your Congressman's office) This will indicate how your state is broken down into "Congressional Districts". Try to find someone in each District who will correspond with their Congressmen. It only takes one or two to start the ball rolling.

If you can't locate anyone in a particular District, drop us a note and we will try to help; if you recruit someone new, let us know so we can place them on our mailing list

- Try to make copies of these bulletins and interest other clubs in your area to participate

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DEMOCRATIC & REPUBLICAN CONVENTIONS

As you may know, when each political party meets in Convention this summer, they will draft and approve a "PLATFORM." The Platforms are made up of what is called "PLANKS" on every important issue of the day - domestic and foreign. It is this "Platform" their candidates will stand on & take to the public in the hope of winning their support in November.

We, of course, would very much like to see the Irish issue addressed in each Platform.

The Washington office has submitted a statement to the Democratic and Republican National Platform Committees, calling in part for:

- immediate Congressional Hearings on America's role in the English/Irish conflict
- support for a declaration of intent by England to withdraw from Ireland in an orderly fashion at a specified date, and
- the right to self-determination for all the Irish people

Several State Caucus Chapters and numerous local Caucus chapters have submitted similar requests to local, state and National Political Committees

YOUR HELP IN SECURING AN IRISH PLANK IS URGENTLY NEEDED

PLEASE: call your local Democrat and Republican Committees - find out WHO THE DELEGATES ARE TO THE CONVENTION from your area...

CABLE, WRITE and/or PHONE THEM IMMEDIATELY

asking them to support and work for a STRONG IRISH PLANK in their Party's Platform

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TELEPHONING IS IMPORTANT

Many times in the past seven years, situations have arisen when immediate and massive response was needed from the Irish-American community.

Because we are so wide-spread, this has been difficult to orchestrate.

We are attempting to establish a "Telephone Tree" of sorts. A system where a few phone calls would have a chain-link effect and activate our supporters across the country.

Please assist us in this effort. Send us the name, address & phone numbers of all in your area who would be interested in helping when such situations occur.

We will compile a list, with instructions, to be sent to all. Then, when needed, we will be ready.

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ELECTIONS

This is an ELECTION YEAR...make certain ALL THE CANDIDATES in your State are well-informed on the Irish issue...ask each candidate for HIS POSITION.

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PEACE PLAN FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

PEACE PLAN FOR NORTHERN IRELAND, by Hon. Frank McManus, former Member of the British Parliament, provides the reader with a clear concise explanation of the Republican Movements' proposal for a New Ireland (Eire Nua) - a plan based on a federal form of governemnt for Ireland much like our own. Although this plan has been hailed by many - including leading Unionists - as the only reasonable solution put forth to date, it has been ignored by the media and the governments involved.

About a New Ireland, Frank McManus says:

"There can be a peaceful prosperous future for Northern Ireland. The shape of that future will depend not only on how the two dominant traditions - loyalist and republican - cooperate, but also on how the British decide to face the future and phase out their presence in Northern Ireland.

"We all want a just peace. We want to create a new Ulster as the guardian of that peace. We want to create a new Ulster as the cornerstone of a new Ireland... We have attempted to outline the political shape which reconciliation of the unionist and republican experience will take in a parliament for the nine counties of Ulster."

PEACE PLAN FOR NORTHERN IRELAND has been printed by the IRISH NATIONAL CAUCUS and is available at a price of \$2. If you wish to sell this excellent book in your area, let us know. You may keep 75¢ of each sale for your own unit, returning to the main office \$1.25 per copy, which we need for the printing costs.

A copy of PEACE PLAN FOR NORTHERN IRELAND has been mailed to your Congressmen and Senators from the Washington office, with the following letter. As you will note, we advised them they would be hearing directly from you.

DON'T LET US DOWN

Ask them to read the book carefully and comment on its contents.

Dear:

This letter has been sent, with a copy of PEACE PLAN to your Congressman and Senators - please follow-up!

I am writing in behalf of the Irish National Caucus, which is now organized in 13 states, representing more than three million members of the 30 leading Irish-American organizations.

For too long now, we have heard there is "no solution" to the problem in Northern Ireland. That is just not true. Enclosed you will find a copy of PEACE PLAN FOR NORTHERN IRELAND, a proposal drafted by the Republican Movement and presented by Frank McManus, former member of the British Parliament.

This proposal, which we believe is the only practical solution put forth to date, is based on the concept of a federal Ireland - much like our own United States, guaranteeing freedom and justice for all. Most importantly, it assures the Unionist segment in the North a strong, equal voice in a new government.

It is most unfortunate that this proposal has not been given the attention it deserves. We feel certain that, using this plan as a base, a true and lasting peace could be made a reality for Ireland. It is our sad belief that this plan has been "shoved under the rug" by the politicians in England and Ireland because they fear losing any of the power they now enjoy - a small price for peace, one would think.

We ask you to read this plan. Evaluate it yourself. Do you think it merits at least serious consideration? If so, we would greatly appreciate your doing everything possible to call it to the attention of the American people and the American government, perhaps through press releases or inclusion in the Congressional Record.

We want all to know the truth about the "Irish question" and we want them to know the Irish people are sincere in their quest for peace. We feel if our government understood the problem and saw a reasonable solution, they could use their influence to bring the English and Irish governments to a realistic conference with all the parties involved.

\*\*\* We have advised our Chapter in your area of our actions and they will be in touch with you in the near-future for your opinion and advise on this matter

signed

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YOUR LETTER  
IS  
IMPORTANT



NB: THE PRISONERS IN LONG KESH HAVE ASKED THEIR FRIENDS IN AMERICA TO SEND LETTERS, PETITIONS, AND/OR TELEGRAMS, SIMILAR TO THE FOLLOWING

TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS BRANCH  
Northern Ireland Office  
Stormont, Belfast, N.Ireland

and SIR PETER RAMSBOTHAM  
Ambassador  
British Embassy  
3100 Massachusetts Ave.N.W.  
Washington,D.C. 20008

and YOUR CONGRESSMEN & SENATORS  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
or  
United States Senate,  
Washington,D.C. 20510

"We, the undersigned, pledge our full backing and support to the Republican Prisoners of war in the prisons of the British occupied six counties of Ireland, and England, in their fight to be recognized as political prisoners.

"We, furthermore, back them in their call for Merlyn Rees to abandon his policy of treating political prisoners as criminals. His words can not alter the fact that Republican prisoners were not convicted because of self gain, but are imprisoned because of their courageous resistance to the British presence in Ireland.

In other words, they are political prisoners - nothing else." (signed)

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IF WE CAN HELP YOU  
BY SUPPLYING NAMES, ADDRESSES, INFORMATION OR ANYTHING ELSE  
PLEASE DROP US A LINE  
AND  
WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO ASSIST  
SUCCESS IN MAKING THE IRISH PROBLEM AN AMERICAN ISSUE DEPENDS ON EACH ONE OF US ! !

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