



Hibernian News



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Hibernian Hall
845-534-2528

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Eamon deValera: Celtic Hero or British Harlot? (by Dave Sutton)

Recently, Brother Tim Hogan introduced me to a book; "England's Greatest Spy: Eamon deValera", by John J. Turi, Stacey International; 1st Edition, Oct 2009.

This book provides a new analysis on the life and activities of the famous and beloved President of the Irish Republic and President of Ireland. Mr. Turi's summative evaluation is that no man has done as much harm to Ireland as deValera. The English, utilizing deValera's weak personality, manipulated deValera into doing their bidding, keeping Ireland divided while, maintaining Ireland in an economic state of dependency on England.

The author shows some consideration for Mr. deValera's miserable early years and his weak and often confusing behavior during the Easter Rising. It is when Mr. deValera is imprisoned by the English that he agrees to become their agent in return for his life and the future promise of greatest, according to the author. Mr. Turi raises the question that of all the commandants of the Easter Rising, why is deValera the only one to escape execution. Later after being released he is rearrested but allowed to escape from the Lincoln Gaol under comedic circumstances. After being welcomed back in Ireland as a great hero, the whole escape being staged by the English to enhance deValera's image and thus, elected as the President of the Dail Eireann, he is off to America where he ruins the relationship with the Irish-American leaders, John Devoy and Judge Daniel Coholan of the Friends of Irish Freedom, (FIOF.) At this time in the U.S., the FIOF had such huge support from U.S. government leaders and the people that the 1920 Republican Party was ready to nominate a pro Irish Republic candidate Sen. Borah and include a party platform in support of a Free Irish Republic. Mr. deValera acting against the advice of Devoy and Coholan ruins this opportunity. Mr. deValera then publicly attacks Devoy and Coholan and starts his own organization in America in conflict with the FIOF. When deValera returns to Ireland in 1920, he has ruined all U.S. support for a Free Irish Republic which could have been easily obtained since Great Britain was in America's debt as a result of W.W.I

Mr. Turi then produces his argument on how the 1921 Anglo-Irish Treaty, which was approved by deValera in July of that year in private meetings with Lloyd George, is later repudiated in December by himself when deValera sends Michael Collins and Arthur Griffith to negotiate. Using the slimmest of arguments over "the oath", DeValera launches Ireland into a civil war after it has accomplished something that it had been waiting for over 700 years. Under Griffith and Collins, Ireland stood on the verge of gaining freedom and the possibility of uniting the 6 northern counties but, deValera manages to derail the process and actually facilitate the deaths of Griffith and Collins within 10 days of each other in 1922.

In 1931, England passed the Statute of Westminster which recognized her fellow commonwealth members, which included Ireland, as free and independent nations. As the Taoiseach in 1932, deValera has the opportunity to declare Ireland, a separate and sovereign country which does not happen until 1949, yet fails to act. Now that he is in power, deValera begins a campaign to eliminate his fellow IRA soldiers who he used against the Free State Treaty people during the Civil War years of the 1920s. Next, he begins the Anglo-Irish Trade War from 1932-1938, which placed Ireland in abject poverty. The majority of Ireland's exports and imports were with England, but now England retaliates by placing tariffs on Irish exports which aided English farmers at the expense of Irish farmers. deValera retaliates by placing tariffs on English imports which increased the cost of English goods for Irish consumers. The author states that the economic conditions were so poor that more Irish emigrated during this period than during the Great Hunger of the 1840s.

Mr. deValera immediately before W.W. II, after meetings with Churchill and the British Prime Minister, decides to declare neutrality during W.W. II. All through out the war, deValera will covertly supply the English with secret information regarding Germany yet he will continue to overtly embarrass Ireland in the eyes of the Allies and place Ireland in the position as an ally to Germany and Japan. England reduces coal and food shipments to Ireland during the war because she is neutral. If Ireland had chosen to side with the Allies, she would have received huge influxes of cash and materials from the U.S. which was much needed. There was no doubt that the Allies would win but, Ireland would not sit at the winner's table after the war. Ireland will not receive any financial

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A message From the AOH Division 2 President		Upcoming Events (subject to change)
<p>Dear Brothers and Friends,</p> <p>With the Building Raffle over I would like to thank all those who helped make it another success. To those who won, congratulations, and for those of us who didn't there is always next year. Please sign up for a Friday night to flip some burgers and dogs. Please read the newsletter for upcoming events.</p> <p>In our Motto, Friendship, Unity & Christian Charity</p> <p>Kevin P. Moore</p>		July 9-12 National AOH Biennial Convention - Turning Stone Resorts (Utica NY)
		July 18 Monthly Meeting - Hall: 7 pm. Members encouraged to attend.
		July 22 Orange County Board Quarterly Meeting - Division 2 Hall: 2 pm.
		Sep 9 Irish Breakfast - Hall: 9:00 am - 12:30 pm.
		Sep 15 Orange County Board Family Picnic (Halfway to St. Patrick's Day) - Hall: 1 pm to 6 pm. \$10 p/p, \$25 family.
deValera continued (from page 1)		Visit www.div2aoh.org
<p>assistance from the Marshall Plan after the war. Yet, deValera passed on all of this. However, over 200,000 Irishmen will volunteer to serve in the British armed forces; there will be 30,000 killed in action. Nevertheless, Ireland is seen as giving aid to the enemy. Even today, there is no monument in Ireland recognizing the sacrifice these Irishmen made in the Allied victory over tyranny.</p> <p>Mr. Turi in my opinion raises some very strong arguments in his thesis. He does provide a balanced representation of all of the various historians and biographers who have written about Eamon deValera. The verdict is up to you the reader. No matter where your loyalties may stand, this book is still a great history of Ireland from 1916 to 1950 and for that alone, it is worth reading. Brother Tim has donated the book to the Division 2 library and it may be found there.</p>		
Member News		Feast of Our Lady of Knock
Congratulations and a warm welcome to our newest brothers: Dennis Curran and Chris Sherwood, both of St. Mary's, Washingtonville. Fáilte!		<p>On Sunday August 19th at 9:00 am at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Middletown, LAOH Divisions 4 & 5, and Orange County AOH will host a mass honoring Our Lady of Knock. It was a rainy night on August 21, 1879 when fifteen people witnessed the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph and St. John the Evangelist appear at the south gable of the parish church at Knock, County Mayo. The witnesses watched and prayed for two hours in the pouring rain. There will be a full Irish breakfast after the mass in Pilgrim Hall-\$15 for adults, \$7 for children (6-12), under 5 free. Please see Kevin Cummings for more information. Flyer is posted on the Division Website.</p>
Thank You		
...to John Greehy, Bill Kirnan, Mike Shannon, Kevin Moore, Clem Villa, Dave Sutton, Kevin Cummings and everyone else who helped set up, clean up, prep, cook, serve, run around and help make the building fund raffle a success. We depend heavily on the raffle to help keep Hibernian Hall open and available for our use.		
AOH National Convention		Golfers Wanted For Division 4 Outing
The 2012 AOH National Convention will be held from July 9th to 12th at the Turning Point Resort and Casino in Verona, New York (just west of Utica). This is a great opportunity to attend a national convention close to home. More information on the NYS AOH website (http://www.nyaoh.com/2011/10/21/2012-national-convention/).		Orange County Division 4 will be hosting its 12th annual Patrick E. Cochrane Golf Outing on Friday August 3rd at the Monroe Country Club. 9:00 am shotgun start-\$100 fee includes cart/greens fee, lunch, refreshments, dinner, and gifts. For more information or to sign up please contact Kevin Moore.
In Memoriam		So who is Bertie Ahern anyway?
William "Bill" Bloomer, a founding member of Division 2, passed away on June 18th. Please keep Bill and his family in your prayers. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam (may he rest in peace).		He's a former Taoiseach in Ireland. He was incorrectly listed in the last newsletter as currently serving in that position. The current Taoiseach is Enda Kenny. Thanks for keeping me honest John.

