**GERARD MURPHY EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE 2015**

On 17/04/2015 09:59, Ger Murphy wrote:

To answer your specific questions.

1.       Why the break-in at Hornibrooks?The IRA say they were looking for a part for a car. The local word is that they had been drinking locally in Ballincollig and needed a car to get home to Kilbrittain and decided to steal Hornibrook’s only to find it was disabled and then broke into the house to get the part.

I suggest in my book that they may have been after Herbert Woods who had been a war hero, boxer and, to judge by his photos, a fairly tough guy. He was also employed by the army in the records office in 1921. His uncle who was married to Matilda Hornibrook, James Woods got a warning in June 1921 about having ‘spies’ under his roof and had to clear out as a result. Of course, this might not mean anything but it happened.

So it could be the first of a series of attacks but then that would push the argument in the direction of ‘spies’ so seeing as everybody ignores that so as to give me no credit for anything I’d say it is best to perhaps let that particular sleeping dog lie.

My gut feeling is that the drinking is probably right. Another reliable local source – who since denies that he ever said it – said his mother was the last person to see the two Hornibrooks alive, that they almost managed to escape and were then shot and that Woods was treated differently, being dragged behind a car until he died. Apparently they then wanted to burn his body in Ellis’s lime quarry near Ballygarvan but were unable to fire up the kiln so he was buried nearby.

You will not get any written confirmation of that of course. The story behind how that came out suggests it’s genuine.

2.       And yes, of course it was sectarian. How could it not be? All the old bullshit being spun by Niall Meehan and his ilk is basically to be able to claim that no Protestants were ever targeted by anybody in the South. That’s why they hammer Hart and myself. Imagine if you’re trying to cajole Protestants into a united Ireland and fellows like me come out with books that say the first thing that happened to Protestants down here is that they were attacked? Which is simple truth, no more, no less. But this will go down like a lead balloon with the Shins and their fellow-travellers. Now the issue in the North, particularly in Belfast was that it was worse, considerably worse. But what happened here was a reflection of it. I presume you’ve read Marcus Tanner’s book. Puts it all in a nutshell really.

On Maloney, I’ve been reading Bill’s book. He confirmed most of my suspicions. A very interesting, complicated character, whatever his motivations.

Best

Ger

**From:** Jeffrey Dudgeon [mailto:jeffreydudgeon@hotmail.com]
**Sent:** 29 March 2015 11:53
**To:** Ger Murphy
**Subject:** Maloney and Dunmanway

Ger
Thanks for your kind remarks about the book. I am quite proud of it myself although few who bought it read it.
It is funny how you and Bill McCormack find Maloney such an interesting character. He certainly seems to have got up the noses of some of the US factions. His marriage, consequent wealth and social connections probably helped.
His MC in 1920 was presumably First World War related and thus does not indicate an official link to London after he arrived in America.
After 1921, Britain lost interest rapidly in matters Irish.
I have a memory of reading something recently on Maloney's support for the Allies in the Second World War but don't recall the details. It would have drawn him apart from McGarrity who obviously backed the Germans but I reckon he wrote the diaries book with good intentions. He did too much research around the family background etc to be other than honest.
Thanks for the unedited version of the Keane review. I did read it on DRB in its edited form but could not say which bits were new to me.
I am a subscriber to the Irish Political Review although I cannot now find the Barry Keane reply to their piece on his book.
Keane is very bad tempered.
There is a review in January's IPR by Brendan Clifford of Borgonovo and Bielenberg. Their remark is quoted, "Three of the nine households where fatalities occurred were occupied by civilians who appeared on a 1921 IRA list of suspected civilian informers".
**What list is this and why do they repeat what appears to be discredited information, or is it a new source?**(I have an electronic copy of that BMH list, kindly provided by the Bureau.)
I was a fellow traveller of BICO/Athol Street for many years and respect them for what they did and wrote although am increasingly critical, except when Clifford reiterates his views on the north: Protestants not part of the Irish Nation etc. He is not ashamed of his work in that area.
I see the group now as a mixture of Cork chauvinists, anglophobes and sentimental Irish militarists. Obviously they are the key organisation marshalling the anti-revisionists.
**Have you read the 45-page Niall Meehan piece in *Field Day Review* ('Examining Peter Hart')?**I have but don't recall it beyond a memory there was little new in it.Reading your full article prompts a number of questions.
**What was the reason for the attack on the Hornibrooks' house?
Could it have been the first murderous attack in a series?**
I would have to disagree on the attribution of revenge to the massacre. Revenge may well have been the motor, assisted by the absence of the IRA officer class in Dublin.
However it was also, and critically, a sectarian event. My reasons for so believing are that the targets were all Protestants, albeit with some inevitable, if mostly tenuous, connection to the authorities.
My reason for pursuing this is due to the repeated and unquestioned imputation of sectarianism to many of the Unionist killings in Belfast. If one was sectarian so is the other. I do believe however that if war occurs it inevitably descends at local level to the cruel and atavistic. Republicans avoid that reality in the blame game as well as the epithet of sectarian.
Best
Jeff

From: Ger.Murphy@itcarlow.ie
To: jeffreydudgeon@hotmail.com
Subject: RE: Casement and Maloney
Date: Mon, 23 Mar 2015 10:23:28 +0000

Hi Jeff,

Let me first say thanks. I spent a most enjoyable weekend reading your material. Apart from the fact that it has indeed saved me from a lot of trouble, being a Casement neophyte, more or less, I loved the generous tone of the chapters and all the cultural and historical information that I picked up. That Galloper Smith had a copy of Ulysses for instance and all kinds of other wonderful details. Most historical writings are too dry and narrow and, dare I say it ‘uncultured’ – you need only look at the stuff coming out down here now. I had read Reid’s book and found it hard going.

And I’d say you are probably right in your assessment of Devoy’s comments – that they refer to the German diaries. The context would suggest that that is the case. But you saved me there too since I was not aware that these diaries had been published in the States in 1921-22, so they are exactly contemporaneous with the letters.

The substantive issue for me is Maloney who I find a very interesting and dodgy character, a sort of Niall Meehan of his day, whom Devoy and Diarmuid Lynch were convinced was a British spy. He got a Military Cross in 1920, even though he had been writing seditious pamphlets in the US for years. It is hard to believe the British establishment were not aware of his connections with McGarrity et al. I think the 1936 book was an attempt to muddy the waters and that Maloney was even then working for Br ‘I’. I think it was a case of ‘put out the word that the diaries were forgeries and get all the silly Paddies to fight amongst themselves,’ that sort of thing. And of course ‘the lads’ take the bait and off we go. That’s just my feeling, of course. But something smells bad about Maloney right from the start.

On Dunmanway matters, the ‘Dunmanway Auxiliary Diary’ contains no name of anyone murdered in April 1922, nor anyone related to them for that matter. I have it here somewhere and I can send it onto you if you like. Likewise the list of 189 so-called ‘spies’ in the Military Archives has re-appeared, having mysteriously vanished since Peter Hart saw it in the mid-1990s. (I suspect Bielenberg found it in Hart’s papers and returned a copy to the MA, and if he did, good luck to him.) But this must not contain any relevant names either since if it did, Bielenberg would have used it himself. And clearly Meda Ryan has nothing either.

I’ve largely dropped out from the debate since I’ve come to the conclusion that you can’t deal with nutcases. Like in the case of the forgeries they’re not going to believe black and white evidence anyway. The shooting of Collins is another area where the cranks wade in in big numbers – and they’re not for persuading. Sometimes I get a kick out of shredding their arguments but life is too short. I get a smile out of Barry Keane though, referring to my review of his book as ‘crass’ etc. If he only saw what I had originally written but Maurice took out, he’d have a cataleptic fit. It would leave him without a leg to stand on. If I can find it, I’ll sent it on to you.

Gotta go,

All the best for now,

Ger

**From:** Jeffrey Dudgeon [mailto:jeffreydudgeon@hotmail.com]
**Sent:** 22 March 2015 23:24
**To:** Ger Murphy
**Subject:** RE: Casement and Maloney

Gerard
I have looked at those two Devoy letters. The handwritten one may not be original but a manuscript copy.
I was never sure as to why different people took different sides in the civil war and the run-up so don't quite follow the views expressed in the letters. Dr Maloney, I had not realised, was so important in all their minds.
McGarrity I believe would have let no man control him. He was very close to McCartan, partly because they both came from Carrickmore and of course both an ultra.
However I think the mention of Casement's diary relates to the publication of his German diary (1914-16) by Dr Charles Curry in 1922 (see below from my bibliography).
That text was also serialised in the American magazine, *The Nation*, in many parts from late 1921 into 1922.
There was absolutely nothing sexual in it.
I can send you a (long) version of it that I transcribed. It starts in the US in 1914
Michael Francis Doyle was something of a liar and possibly a fraudster. He was given $5,000 by Devoy to bring to England for Casement's defence. He said he passed the cheque to Casement but nothing ever turned up in the hands of George Gavan Duffy, his solicitor. Nobody seems to have noticed although Duffy complained bitterly that there was no money from America for him or Sjt Sullivan (who charged £500). [found later that he had paid the money over mostly]
Best
Jeff

**Dr Charles CURRY *Sir Roger Casement’s Diaries – His Mission in Germany and the Findlay Affair***, Arche, Munich 1922. These diaries commence in 1914 and cover much of his time in Germany. They were not private diaries and were edited by a close American friend who was the custodian of Casement’s German papers. Curry omitted much that was critical of Germany or America including discussion of the German atrocities in Belgium in 1914. The full text is in NLI manuscript files 1689 and 1690.

**W. J. McCORMACK** *Roger Casement in Death or Haunting the Free State*2002formerly titled*Ghosting: Roger Casement and the Great Forgery Theory of 1936*, on Dr Maloney’s book by the Professor of Literary History at Goldsmiths College, London : UCD Press writes “Forensic tests commissioned in 2001 by Professor Mc Cormack on the so-called 'black diaries' of Roger Casement have confirmed beyond all reasonable doubt that they were indeed written by Casement, and not forged by British intelligence, either in part or wholly. How then did the idea take hold that the diaries had been forged? Roger Casement in Death provides a fascinating answer. The story is centred on W. J. Maloney, whose 1936 book, The Forged Casement Diaries, brought the topic to the attention of the Irish public. Mc Cormack raises questions about intelligence work, archival engineering, IRA unofficial action, and Nazi propaganda. He reveals an Irish-American campaign to influence the domestic politics of the Irish Free State, and sheds new light on such figures as Eamon de Valera and W.B. Yeats, as well as on a cast of colourful bit players. W.J. Mc Cormack was Professor of Literary History, Goldsmiths College, University of London, until his retirement in the summer of 2002. He now lives in the Irish countryside.”

From: Ger.Murphy@itcarlow.ie
To: jeffreydudgeon@hotmail.com
Subject: RE: Casement and Maloney
Date: Fri, 20 Mar 2015 13:20:30 +0000

Dear Jeff,

Thanks very much for all that. I think you have saved me a lot of leg work – not to mention the possibility of my making an awful fool of myself. I’ll dig out Devoy’s two letters and email them on to you when I find them.

As for the Irish Political Review: Wretched garbage. I only read it when I have to – or when I need to respond to some slur or other. Life is too short.

I’ll give you a longer response when I have read your material over the weekend.

Best wishes,

Ger

**From:** Jeffrey Dudgeon [mailto:jeffreydudgeon@hotmail.com]
**Sent:** 20 March 2015 00:56
**To:** Ger Murphy
**Subject:** Casement and Maloney

Gerard
Very nice to hear from you.
Dunmanway seems to have gone off the boil although I have been busy with other matters in the last year, as you know (see attached News Letter article about pact). I become a real councillor on 1 April after being a shadow since last May.
We still haven't got to the bottom of the so-called list of Dunmanway informers that features so often, especially in Wikipedia. I've just sent you separately my last thoughts on the matter (relating to Meda Ryan mostly) which I have to reread every time I feel the need to intervene.
Where Casement matters are involved I don't normally need to refresh my memory.
I presume you have read Bill McCormick's whole book on WJ Maloney which I tend to think was somewhat unnecessary, if enjoyable.
Interesting to hear of those Devoy letters saying Maloney was passed the diaries by McGarrity and then leaked them. I have not heard of those letters before. (Have you copies?)
Devoy was the only person of that era who actively disrespected Casement. His reasons were sound but his facts often weren't.
He blamed Casement correctly for trying to get the Rising called off and for dissing the Germans.
He blamed the British knowing about the Easter Rising on the Americans. However they did not tell them before the Rising as they only got to know about it after the 18 April raid on the New York offices of the German agent von Igel (see below and my Tralee paper on the Rising and British Intelligence).
The British actually knew from deciphering cables.
Devoy and McGarrity did not get on by 1916.
Michael Francis Doyle was also unreliable, especially about money, but I would not have thought he ever said the diaries came out of America as he would have denied they existed.
Basil Thomson was also a liar. He stole the typed copies of the diaries which were passed to Singleton-Gates and published in 1959 less the lurid 1911 one. I published that first.
Casement never had an apartment. He hired rooms as and when needed in London. However he did leave his belongings in the care of various landlords. It was one such, Mr Germain of 50 Ebury Street, who brought the diaries in to Scotland Yard after Casement's capture on 25 April 1916 (see attached Authenticity chapter from my book).
I hope when you read all this you will have been saved a lot of time at Kew.
Do you get to read the 'Irish Political Review' (Athol Books)? I fight with them as anti-revisionists (and one-time friends) frequently.
Best wishes
Jeff.

The issue of whether the British government’s circulation of copies of diary pages, particularly to Americans, prevented a reprieve, a view which is now conventional wisdom, gets mention. An article by Elizabeth Jaeger is referenced[1][1] which is quite convincing in that her researches prove the diaries hardly surfaced in the public debates in the US over a reprieve. However they did get significant circulation in Washington society by means of a “photographic facsimile & transcript.”

She writes,[2][2] “The most recent books on Casement do not concern themselves with the U.S. government’s perceptions of Casement. The works by Jeffrey Dudgeon, W.J. McCormack, Angus Mitchell, and Séamas Ó Síocháin focus on Casement’s diaries, his trial, and/or his humanitarian work without exploring U.S. involvement.” However I don’t think she read my text on the diaries and Woodrow Wilson, where I argued it was Casement’s documented links to German-inspired and assisted bombings in America that were the strongest reason for Wilson’s inaction and silence in the face of a Senate appeal seeking White House support for a reprieve.

And it was certainly not what Manus O’Riordan asserted in the *Irish Political Review* when he wrote that “President Wilson’s raw-nerve of pure-and-simple Ulster Presbyterian homophobia had been touched in July 1916.”[3][3] Seeing Wilson as an Orange homophobe is not just anachronistic but unpolitical, which is not to say he had not been influenced by Asquith who, as he noted in a contemporary journal entry, had told him “of the unmentionable Casement diary, which shows a degree of perversion and depravity without parallel in modern times.”

The reality is that on 18 April 1916, just before Casement landed in Kerry, the American Secret Service raided the New York offices of Wolf von Igel, a German diplomat masquerading as an advertising executive, and gathered up a cache of documents on sabotage operations in the U.S., that implicated Casement and von Papen amongst many others.[4][4]

I wrote in 2002, “The seized documents were erroneously thought by John Devoy to be the reason for Casement’s capture on Good Friday in Kerry. In fact his arrest was a matter of chance as the British had not warned the RIC in Tralee of his imminent arrival. Whether decrypts of Berlin’s January 1915 message to von Papen in Washington specifically naming Casement as someone suggesting people “suitable for sabotage in the United States” reached Wilson matters not. He knew enough by April 1916 to be assured Casement = von Papen = US sabotage and thus was someone he was not going to be seeking a reprieve for.”

In the upshot, President Wilson told his Irish secretary in July 1916, somewhat obscurely, “It would be inexcusable to touch this,” adding “It would involve serious international embarrassment.”

From: Ger.Murphy@itcarlow.ie
To: jeffreydudgeon@hotmail.com
Subject: Casement
Date: Thu, 19 Mar 2015 11:39:49 +0000

Hi Jeff,

Ger (Gerard) Murphy here, author of ‘The Year of Disappearances’ which over the last few years you have been kind enough to support. And my sincere thanks for that.

Sorry for dropping this in on you; you’ve probably better things to be thinking about now than obscure historical inquiries.

I’m doing some digging on W.J. Maloney, the guy who wrote the book that claimed that the Casement diaries were forgeries and I came across two letters from John Devoy which state that it was Maloney who leaked the diaries in the first place – after allegedly getting them from McGarrity. Apparently Casement’s lawyer, Doyle, wrote a letter to one of the American papers to that effect. In other words, the diaries came from the States, probably sometime between Nov 1914 and the Casement trial.

Now, from the literature, vast and all as it is, the only evidence I can find that the diaries were taken by Scotland Yard in its raid on Casement’s apartment in London come from Basil Thomson and they’ve wholly contradictory.

I suppose my question is a simple one. Did you ever come across any suggestion that the diaries may have come from McGarrity via Maloney (which implies that the latter was indeed an spy)? And/or is there any independent confirmation that the diaries were taken from Ebury Street?

I’ll be over in Kew after Easter anyway so I might get an answer to the latter question there. I just thought I might save myself a lot of trucking by asking someone who knows the subject first.

Best regards and good luck with your new political career.

Ger

[1][1] Elizabeth Jaeger*, Roger Casement: How Effective Was the British Government’s Smear Campaign Exposing the Homosexual “Black Diaries”,* Eire-Ireland p. 89 n. 7, Winter 2011

[2][2] Ibid n. 66

[3][3]Manus O’Riordan, *Irish Political Review*, *Larkin and the German sabotage,* October and December 2011; Dudgeon response IPR March 2012.

[4][4] See *New York Times* news article of 23 September 1917, <http://query.nytimes.com/mem/archive-free/pdf?res=9502E6D9103AE433A25750C2A96F9C946696D6CF>