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SPEAKERS

Mary Helen Merzbacher



00:01

He was not so lucky and rousing Irish prisoners of the Germans as an Irish brigade, they still regarded themselves as British, and they pushed and struck casement. The Germans warned him that Christiansen was under suspicion, but he sent him back to Norway, where he thickened his plot with a British legation offering to your casement had to capture for more money. They reluctantly agreed, and made the mistake of putting the offer in writing. Kaseman thought he could use that offer to discredit the British, but he was badly mistaken. Only about 50 men were recruited for the Irish brigade, and Irish patriots in America tried unsuccessfully to dissuade casement from continuing. In Ireland, a rising was planned for Easter 1916 And the Germans agreed to send 20,000 rifles and ammunition not nearly enough casement thought, and with none of the German officers that the leaders of the revolt were expecting. He felt he must warn them not to proceed, or if he failed to die with them. He sailed ahead of the arms ship in a submarine, it broke down or seem to and they had to go back. The Germans didn't want casement to arrive before the arms. The Voyage when it finally happened, was horrible. The sub went on the surface, and casement was badly seasick. When they arrived. There was no sign of the arms ship nor anyone on shore to meet them. plans had been changed too late for the U boat captain to be told. All he could do was put casement and two others ashore in a tiny dinghy and sail away before dawn, the D of a turned them grounded on a sand bank. By the time they reached the shore banner strand near trolley casement was exhausted and lay in the water unconscious. He was ecstatic, though, home in his beloved Ireland while the others when for Hill casement was found by a passing policeman. The dinghy which the others had failed to sink gave him away, and he was taken into custody. A German train ticket a diary, though not one recording anything sexual, and code were found in his clothing. Before they found out who he was. He asked a priest to send a warning to call off the rising as it happened. The message didn't get through. But the Easter morning parade of volunteers was called off anyway. Hearing of this, the English were taken off guard and English troops were given time off to go to the races. So when the rising did begin on Easter Monday, it was far more successful than it would otherwise have been. 2000 rebels healed up for almost a week in Dublin at any rate, Germany and casement were blamed. Its echoes reverberate over Ireland today. In 1918. Shin fain adopting many of casements, ideas, swept to power set up their own administration, and in 1921 signed a treaty with Britain granting self government in the south. But the leaders of East arising were court martialed and shocked. Within a few days, casement

was sneaked into England and subjected to a show trial at travesty of justice. One reason was that no reputable barrister was willing to defend a traitor in wartime. The other was casements diaries. casement supporters included the Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and pioneer socialists Sidney and Beatrice Webb. Shore wanted to write a speech for casement arguing that those effects were proven. They didn't amount to treason because he was Irish, not English. But the only barrister willing to take the case an Irishman, Alexander Sullivan, who had the eyebrows and jowls of an unusually sad blood hunt, wanted to take another line, a quibble in the definition of treason, which dated from the reign of Edward the third, he had his own fish to fry, a legal argument would improve his chances of admission to the English bar. It was doomed, and Sullivan had to swing his argument around to shores but he did it so badly that he broke down. He'd begun to remind the court of other Irish patriots and came close to implicating the prosecutor, Attorney General F. E. Smith, in statements as presentable as casements. Smith had supported home rule, but now he was a patriotic Ulster Protestant unionist. So he had a grudge against casement he was also a crony of the Chief Judge Lord Redding. Sullivan had to apologize abjectly and shortly withdrew from the case, leaving casement to a junior Sullivan's line of defense did have the advantage that casement couldn't be cross examined, nor the diaries be mentioned in court. Three diaries had been bombed months before it is Belfast lodgings and passed on to the prosecution. Three pages dating from 13 years before were torn out and photographed with entries like



05:12

huge trans Spectre, stiff or soft and thick and long. It is enormous nine,



05:19

yet you enjoy just many partners with plenty of affection. Even ardleigh, Christiane soon who had betrayed him in Europe and now offered to give evidence against him. That kind offer was declined for fear it might reveal British dirty dealings. The diaries weren't mentioned in court. But misleadingly, Fe Smith discussed the harmless diary found on casement as if it were one of the explicit ones that all a jury by now had heard of the outcome was inevitable. casement was convicted of treason, and the death penalty was mandatory. But first casement was asked a lot of you to save yourself why the court should not pass sentence and judgment upon you to die according to law.



06:06

My Lord Chief Justice, I must say at once that I protest against the jurisdiction of this court and my case on this charge, and the argument are now going to read as addressed not to this court, but to my own countrymen.



06:19

casements enemies predictably despise the speech, Smith swapped out, but his remaining lawyer noted that it held the attention of the entire court from first to last on a stiflingly hot June day. And one commentator Wilfred Blount thought it the finest document in patriotic

history. Many people that thought that George Bernard Shaw had written it, but let us survive, in which casement disagreed with many of Shaw's arguments.



06:47

The government of Ireland by England rests on restraint and not on law. And since it demands no love, it can evoke no loyalty. If I did wrong and making that appeal to Irishman to join with me in an effort to fight for Ireland, it is by Irishman, and by them alone, I can rightfully be judged. We are told that if Irishmen go by the 1000 to die, not to Ireland, but for Flanders for Belgium, or a rocky trench on the heights of Gallipoli, they are winning self government for Ireland. But if they dare to lay down their lives on their native soil, then they are traitors to their country. If loyalty be something less than love, and more than law, that we have had enough of such loyalty for Ireland or Irishman, self government is our right, a thing born in us at birth, a thing no more to be doled out to us or withheld from us by another people than the right to life itself, than the right to feel the sun or smell the flowers or to love our kind.



07:56

Our kind. Doesn't your heart go out to a man who could say that, from the dock of the Old Bailey, with the judge about to sentence him to death, and knowing that the diaries were being circulated. One of the judges had a facial tic that looked like a ghastly laugh as the death sentence was delivered. There was an appeal, which incredibly included a legal argument about whether a mark on the original act of 1351 in Arcadic French was a punctuation mark, or just a crack in the parchment. But since it was the same argument just before it was hopeless, there remains the hope of a reprieve by the Home Secretary or an appeal to the House of Lords, but that required the consent of the Attorney General and he was f e Smith. The date fixed for execution lift only two weeks for a reprieve campaign, but messages began pouring in from Ireland from the Congo from the Amazon from the USA. much important support collapsed though, when supporters saw the diaries. The villain here is the Legal Adviser to the home office urn Lee Blackwell, who had a malignant hatred of casement. He arranged for Prince of the diaries to be shown to anyone who might have agitated for casements reprieve, including King George the fifth, who said of another gay man, I thought men like that shot themselves. The news of the World newspaper wrong as usual, said that nobody who saw them whatever it mentioned casements name again without loathing and contempt. It was Blackwell who suggested to cabinet that the diaries be used to smudge casements reputation after his execution, and so prevent him from becoming a martyr. We now know that two of that cabinet were Hams Sikhs who will themselves one liter fled from scandal into exile. The other committed suicide is the character repeats brutal.



10:02

The Archbishop says you must first express sorrow of any scandal you may have caused by your acts public and private. I do not. Then you know that tomorrow you will die in mortal sin. Cardinal burn is trying to make me betray my soul. May the Lord have mercy upon you. Amen.



10:23

But it was remembered that as a child casement had been baptized a Catholic, and he only had to make a general confession to be absolved. So on August the third 1916 Roger Casement his knighthood stripped from him, went to the gallows, as the priest said,

10:42

he feared not death. He marched to the scaffold with the dignity of a prince,

10:49

and the hangman said

10:51

he was the bravest man it fell to my unhappy lot to execute.

10:57

When the prison Bill told to an answer his death, some people outside cheered Division. He was buried according to custom in Pentonville Prison grounds.

11:08

No Karen shaped mound on a high Windy Hill with Irish are the heroes hearts and folds as a burning grave at Pentonville the broken hearts of Ireland homes.

11:22

And it wasn't until 1965 that his remains were returned to Glasnevin Cemetery, near Dublin. And what did he achieve? In the Congo probably more than he knew. His report prevented much of the exploitation that took place in adjacent countries in the Amazon not a great deal. Slavery was found there as late as 1940 forced labor as late as 1970. Ireland is still rather United nor free, though much of the credit for what freedom she has is casements. Nor can he be said to have struck a blow for gay liberation. Yet this man who lived and died for others this Roger David casement was a gay man we can be proud

12:08

of. And I'm made to free my country man on the long live panels.

12:22

This series was written and produced by Hugh young,

12:25

it was presented by Barry Empson.

12:37

Thanks for tuning into this way out the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. This week, Cindy Friedman marks like a mono Bob Salzburg show flowers and Barry Empson and Hugh young contributed program material. Thanks also to Mike Alkalete and Keith Clark, Blackberry performed some of the music you heard and Kim Wilson composed and performed our theme music.

12:59

This way out is brought to you each week by a staff of community volunteers and is sustained by financial support from the community. satellite distribution in some operational expenses had been underwritten by generous grants from the Paul Rapoport Foundation and the funding exchange

13:15

audio cassettes of this way our programs are available by mail individually or by subscription. Write to us for more information.

13:22

We'd also love to hear from you with any comments, suggestions or questions you might have. Or just to let us know you're listening right to this way out post office box 38327 Los Angeles, California 90038. This way out is produced by Lucia Japan Greg Gordon and we thank you for listening on WR UW Cleveland W MPG Gorham and K FAI Minneapolis St. Paul among others and for supporting this local community radio station.

13:51

Stay tuned.

13:54

To hear the sounds of the waves brush up against the sand where he has written both of your names with a heart around if you were looking at the sky burning red with the sunset, quickly a ~~and driven on alongside of you until after for red light. Suddenly the car is surrounded their circle~~

car drives up alongside of you you stop for red light. Suddenly the car is surrounded they circle your blanket coming in closer bottles are thrown out of car windows the sound of glass breaking baseball bats against metal hand grabs your hair glass at your feet in your face in your eyes, a fist across your face again and again. I quit tell them tell the



14:31

homeowner homophobia can kill. Education is the only lasting weapon against bigotry. Which is why as a lesbian and gay public awareness project wanted you to hear and think about this message. For more information write us at Post Office Box 65603 Los Angeles, California 9006.



Mary Helen Merzbacher 14:55

Okay, we're back and we're having a great time here tonight. We hope you're having good time where you're at. We hope that it's safe time and that it's a sober time. I just got a request that I'm afraid we have to program our music in advance and I want to let Mike and Chris know that we're thinking about him. And we're, we're, we're gonna get to do their request or something close to their request very shortly. Our last, our last song was Romanovsky and Philex. With when heterosexism strikes. We're going to do some community information. We want to keep you informed about what's going on in town. So grab your pencil and paper. Diane and I have this all worked out and it's going to work like clockwork. You bet. Diane,



15:46

and the first part of community news we're going to talk about here is of course your stars go. We're going to start with Aries this scope. Thank you, Joe.



15:56

I appreciate that. Sorry.



15:58

Here we go Aries. With Mars in the 12th house, you tend to leave the well known for an uncharted course with a lover. You experience an urge to sow Wild Oats no matter how many times you've done it before. Let experience and judgment be your guides. The weekend's moon occurs in your third house leaving you thinking of early memories. Monday evening you defend a friend's integrity, gaining respect from all involved. On Thursday, calm down pressure makes you lose your temper easily. Mess



Mary Helen Merzbacher 16:27

day. Thursday's Thursdays and you



16:32

I have some other information for you about Aries. I do indeed about Aries and other many things. There's going to be a birthday party at Juliet's for everyone born in the month of April that is going to be Tuesday the 14th And by the way, if my ex lovers listening, whose birthday is Tuesday, April 14 Happy Birthday then darlin. It's an April birthday party. 903 Richmond. They have a lot of things happening in April. Let's see that Juliet, one of the Juliet's plays one of the requirements for getting Diane tonight was to mention my place of employment and I love it. Thank you love you, buddy. Okay, let's see one of the many things happening Juliet's is Nancy Ford happening every Thursday night. And it is a hoot. Let me tell you, Nancy Ford has music and comedy and improv and audience participation. It's a lot of fun, great show. Let's see. There's also some more things happening. There's a benefit, called hams from hams. I first cannot understand that myself. It is part of that Royal Sovereign Imperial quarter the single star thing that they're doing food baskets for PW A's. And it's for Easter, it's April 4, and to benefit at Juliet's by those guys. Also, April 12 is the first official unofficial and national lesbian Day party and potluck. God only knows what that is going to mean or be but I'm sure it will be a grand time for all like I said on the 14th because that April birthday party now you Ares is just hop right on in there. They're gonna have an Easter party Easter, the 19th Easter bonnet contest, a parade and an Easter egg hunt. I can't wait to see that. Also, Juliet is having their first annual entry in the Houston Lesbian Gay Pride Week. I'm really excited about that. It will be spectacular. I'm sure there's a party fundraiser for that event Friday the 24th. So, if you're looking for something to do Juliet's place, fundraiser for Gay Pride Week, that's the 24th There's also a gay pride committee meeting on the 26th at 330. So that's kind of April Juliet's



Mary Helen Merzbacher 18:50

stop by visit say hello, tell him you heard about it to hurt heard about us heard about the bar and the good times there from after hours. We've got some information here. I'm specially specially moved by the Texas hairdressers and Cosmetology Association presents the diamond safari 92 Saturday, April 4 at 8pm in the Astrodome ballroom of the Sheraton Hotel, Dinner Music and the safari hunt for one half carat diamond ring will be had that evening. Donations are \$65 a person donations and they prove the proceeds go for the proceeds go for a worthy cause they go for the Omega house and the THCA scholarship fund. So you can pick up tickets at omega house or the Astrodome box office. And you can contact somebody at omega house at 5237110 or you can contact Astrodome box office 79999955. Five another thing is that the AIDS mastery weekend is offering workshops to teenagers and interested children as well as HIV positive individuals and caregivers. These are educational and supportive and empowering to find out more you can call the AIDS Foundation Houston 6236796 We're gonna talk we have we've had some people on here from smile before and and I want to give you this information that they're putting together some stuff here sexual minority youth assistance League of Houston, which is smile offers emotional educational support to gay lesbian, bisexual and uncertain young adults from 16 to 22. And a clean chemical free atmosphere. They meet Saturday 46 at the intercare hospitals 77601 Fannin and you can get ahold of them by calling five two O D. E in me, you know, Wayman, no. Q patrol, that's it. That was I knew there was something real important out there. What show we're listening to. This is the after our program, the continuing tradition. 90.1 KPFT, Houston. And we have Keith on the line if we can get to Keith. Keith, are you there? Keith, are you there? All right, how'd it go this evening? Oh, we're doing good here. I've got a friend of yours here said she says she wants to say hello, Diane.



21:35

Diane. How are you doing? I'm doing great. How are you? Are you a radio personality? The Right? Oh, I don't know. I suppose so. I had you on the radio earlier when you were talking. But I had to cut it off because a CB the mobile phone and the radio gone. It was just too much. So I had to cut you off. But I'm sure thank you. Thank you. Thank



21:58

you very much. No, I wanted I wanted to ask a lot about qubits or a little bit about Cubitron. Specifically, because I know that with working with all you guys, I know that a Friday night tends to be a little bit more active than Saturday night. Is that true? Are you still finding that to be true?



22:16

Generally, it's been pretty slow denied. We've we've observed, you know, some vehicles with some straight guys in it that probably don't belong in the neighborhood. But so far, they haven't 90 thing. But yeah, it seems to be holding true weekend after weekend that Friday night tends to be the most the most active, of course, you know, the last two Saturday nights we've had rain also so that that may have something to do with it. We don't, we noticed that there's a sort of a decrease in activity in general, in the neighborhood, when when it's rainy, and when it's been wet outside and stuff. So that may have something to account for it. But in general, I think that's true.



22:55

Well, let me ask you to I wanted to know, what can you tell the listeners about our postcard program? Do you happen to have one of those handy? Or do you can you tell them about it?



23:05

I know that one handy, but I can basically tell you what it says.



23:08

Can you tell them? What we've been doing has been



23:11

has been focusing its attention on on gay bashing primarily. And I mean, if we're driving around, and we happen to see some kind of criminal activity, like burglarizing a vehicle on a site that may not be gay related, then of course, we'll report that to HPD. But, but our focus has

been on on gay bashing. And as a part of our program, what we've been what we've been doing is, if we observe vehicles in the neighborhood with, with street kids in them that don't belong here, they're just aimlessly driving about. We take down the license number and the make description of the vehicle. And we log it in a data bank, we've accumulated several 100 license plate numbers this way, and we review it every month. And invariably there are certain license plates reappear on a fairly consistent basis. So what we've been doing is with those license numbers, we've been



24:23

we've been getting going downtown and getting the registration off of the license plate and sending postcards to the address to which the cars registered. Usually, you know, our suspicion is this mom and dad. And the postcard basically says that the vehicle was seen in the Montrose that there is an incidence of gay bashing and hate crimes there and that the license number has been forwarded to federal, state and local police agencies for it Pre into their data bank. And then if we have a description of what the vehicle was doing, for instance, if if we have a description that the vehicle was yelling, sad or queer or something, add members of the patrol or pedestrians, then we write that on the bottom of the cloud. And we sent out, I don't know how many of those we sent out, I guess, maybe 10 to 15. And we have, we've tried to keep a log, or keep a monitor, after we send a card on a particular vehicle, whether the vehicles is seen and we haven't seen some of these, you know, most of these vehicles again. So I think that's been really effective. Because I think a lot of times the car goes to mom and dad that's in the cars, right? District Two, and they get JR and Sally in the kitchen the next morning and say, you know, I got this card from these people and they know where we live in what are you doing driving around Montrose. So actually, one part of our program that I think has been really effective, and, and we're gonna continue that.



26:05

Have you seen much violence against women? Specifically, I'm asking, you know, have you seen any violence against women or been able to stop any particular incidents from occurring? I know that there was one incident that I remember that wasn't directly involving women. But the night that Axl Rose had that we had that protest against guns and roses, I think the next night, there was a car that he literally told the people in his concert that it was okay to go out and bash homosexuals and go beat up a queer tonight for him. And then later on, didn't you come across a congressman.



26:42

Thursday night, I remember. And we, someone had observed, someone had observed a vehicle, and had reported that the vehicle was discharging a firearm, and we spotted the vehicle. And then we lost the vehicle. And we found it again. And we lost it again. And finally our foot patrol. Found it again. We rodeo rodeo did HPD they stopped it and there were three men, it was an El Camino, there were three males in it. And there were two stolen loaded handguns and two baseball bats in the car. So I think it's pretty clear what they were out to do. You know, I guess the hand guns, they could have robbed somebody. But with the baseball bats, it was clear that

they were not here to bash and they were arrested. i We haven't followed up on what happened to him after that, but but they were in possession of firearms. So so they were charged with that, I'm sure.



27:42

Are you ever afraid when you're out there? I mean, is it pretty scary? I know that.



27:47

We've got we've been doing this since Thanksgiving. And you know, we've been doing it and we're we don't we don't run people down in terms of being confrontational. We, you know, we stay at a safe distance. If we're to, you know, whether someone is armed. Then we, we call HPD. As a general rule, we have at least two mobile units, usually three, and there are full patrol. And our full Patrol has a minimum of five people. And it's the first I think one of the first weekend we started doing this. The front patrol was going down Westheimer and people are two carloads of people, in fact, on two different occasions within five minutes of each other through beer bottles and beer cans, but that's really the closest call that we've had. So, you know, I don't really think about it to my childhood. I suppose there's always a danger. But, you know, it's not something that I know that. That bothers me too much.



28:57

Yeah, I know that when we were handing out flyers for a National Coming Out Day, October 11. We were out in front of Pacific street bars and think there were three or four of us. We're all you know, fairly young, fairly, you know, I guess, unassuming looking. We're standing around at front handing out flyers and a car, a limousine and a car full of teenagers, little teeny bopper, teenagers came out. And they started shouting things at us from the car. They were shouting queers and fags and stuff like that. And one guy asked a male friend of mine if he was a guy or girl, he's very obviously a man asked him if he was a guy or girl and asked me if I was a fag. And I proceeded to tell him no, I wasn't. That's right. I was a duck and darn proud of it. Thank you. But we realized at that point that that is harassment and that is against the law. And we did call the police on the vehicle. And we had excellent cooperation with the police department. We had not one but two cars arrived almost immediately. And they were very generally true. And we've had, they're very nice to us and they took care of the problem immediately.



30:06

There's a couple of us that are in queue patrol now that were involved in a similar organization about 15 years ago called Montrose patrol. And my experience with Montrose patrol logos many years ago was that we got a minimal cooperation from HPD. In fact, I think HPA HPD did everything that they could think of, to, to impede our efforts. It's completely the opposite now. HPD, in particular, the sergeant in charge of the storefront on Westheimer, has been over backwards to, to, to assist us in any way they can HPD has provided us with, with a CB radios for the cars. And so they've really, really been helpful. The response time has been really good. And as we do we get we get a little bit better about reporting stuff. I mean, we don't we don't

report something unless we're fairly sure about it. And that, you know, it's some kind of serious criminal activity. I guess. It was about a month ago, maybe we observed a guy that was running with a purse, a guy running with a person Montrose is not necessarily an unusual. But we decided we filing for a bed, and we did and, and there happened to be an off duty constable that was monitoring us on our channel. And he started following into and he eventually stopped the guy turned out the guy had just committed aggravated robbery, he typed in the perfect gunpoint from a woman. And he still had the gun on him. And so he was arrested and HPD there's not only HPD out here, but there's cameras, off duty constable this working out here. You might have seen his vehicle, it looks like an HPD vehicle, but it's but it's wide. And it says Montrose crime patrol or something on it and, and he's been really helpful. So our relationship with HPD has been really good. I and I'm really proud of that. And and I think some of the officers are a little bit uncomfortable with the name Q Patrol, because they have connotations as to what the letter T stands for. But I suspect with a little bit of sensitivity training, they'll get over that.



32:33

Right, right. Well, listen, can you tell our listeners what they can do to volunteer or where to donate money if they can't, you know, actively participate?



32:45

There's an ad in fact, and and this week, so voice I think about further information. If you want further information, you can you can call me and our if you want to volunteer, you need to call me because I do all the scheduling. And my home telephone number is 5245110. And if I'm not there, you can just leave a message and and I'll get back with you. In general, me if I could just sort of give you an overview of what what are our hours on everything. We work Friday nights and Saturday nights. We started about 1045 but queers are never on time. So we stay standard. We tell people 1030 to hopefully get them there by 11 o'clock. And that still doesn't work. But we try to hit the streets at 11 o'clock. We meet at the at the HPD storefront I think the address there is 801 Westheimer it's right across from where he lives used to be right next door to the plant to the plant. The plant shop, they're on Westheimer in Grant and if it's your first time out, there'll be a lot of other people we generally have 12 to 14 people show up for each night so there's a lot of people there we we before we start our pretrial we frisky each other to make sure that no one's carrying weapons because we don't we don't permit anyone to carry weapons on them. And if it's your first time and we give you an information sheet and get you to fill out a form that's a release of liability and you're ready to go issue issue your very tasteful and very tasteful t shirt. It's getting to be quite in demand around here. So black T shirt was written on the front of it and so those have been very popular in and it looks really good people I think the response has been really good to the fact that people know who we are now. You know when when you see hands of people roaming around, you're a little bit suspicious of them. And now the worldwide Q Patrol T shirts. It's clear who we are. And so we're getting some really good response. Again, we do this every Friday night and every Saturday night. And basically the areas that we're patrolling now is, is I guess what you'd call a bar area bounded by Westheimer and Montrose down to and then back up to Taft. So, and we stay out until about at least 215 or 230. And let everybody you know, leave the bars and get to their cars and stuff. And sometimes if it's real slow, we cut out early. Or if the weather is really really bad, we cut out early but generally we stay out till about 230.

M

Mary Helen Merzbacher 35:54

Okay, this is Jewel again, I wanted to tell you, we really appreciate you calling us tonight connecting with us. We want to do this more often we want to do we want to do it. Actually, we want to do it every week and connect with you and let people know you're out there. We appreciate what you're doing, what you're doing for our community and what you're doing for KPFT Well, I

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36:15

appreciate you having us on the show. It's it's good to know that there's you know, sometimes sometimes we weren't with everybody everybody knows that we're out here or not. But I appreciate you letting us talk on the show and, and we'll we'll be in touch with you next week.

M

Mary Helen Merzbacher 36:32

Okay, thanks a lot. Bye bye. Okay, we're gonna go to rock me baby, the Washington sister and this is for you, Mike and Chris. You