ASSASSINATION OF SIR HENRY WILSON
Michael Collins
Arthur Griffith
Liam Lynch as Chief-of-Staff of the IRA reaction to the Treaty

Ireland in Dec 1922
The End of the Civil War
By early 1923 republican resistance was beginning to collapse. Demoralisation, lack of popular support, and the persistence of the National Army unravelled the IRA organisation.

Anti-Treaty forces under Oscar Traynor continued the struggle from positions in central Dublin. Most of the anti-Treaty positions fell on 2 July leaving only 14 buildings in O’Connell Street under the command of Cathal Brugha. On 5 July, after heavy shelling by NA forces, Brugha ordered his garrison to surrender. That evening Brugha emerged from the burning building, but when called on to surrender, he refused and was fatally wounded.

On 11 July, a Council of War was appointed and Michael Collins became Commander-in-Chief of the National Army.

In late August 1922, the anti-Treaty IRA abandoned conventional tactics and reverted to guerrilla warfare. In the same month, Commander-in-Chief of the National Army, Michael Collins, was killed in an anti-Treaty IRA ambush at Béal na Blá in his native County Cork.

In late September 1922 the 3rd Dáil brought in an Emergency Powers Act authorising the Dáil to declare a national emergency and to make provision for the security of the State.

On 30 November, IRA chief-of-staff Liam Lynch ordered a policy of reprisals which included shooting on sight TDs who had voted for emergency legislation. When Seán Hales TD was assassinated in Dublin on 7 December 1922, the Dáil responded by ordering the executions of prominent republican prisoners, Rory O’Connor, Richard Barrett, Liam Mellows and Joe McKelvey in Mountjoy Gaol.

The End of the Civil War

PHASE 1: THE BATTLE OF DUBLIN, 26 JUNE – 5 JULY 1922
Anti-Treaty forces under Oscar Traynor continued the struggle from positions in central Dublin. Most of the anti-Treaty positions fell on 2 July leaving only 14 buildings in O’Connell Street under the command of Cathal Brugha. On 5 July, after heavy shelling by NA forces, Brugha ordered his garrison to surrender. That evening Brugha emerged from the burning building, but when called on to surrender, he refused and was fatally wounded.

On 11 July, a Council of War was appointed and Michael Collins became Commander-in-Chief of the National Army.

In late August 1922, the anti-Treaty IRA abandoned conventional tactics and reverted to guerrilla warfare. In the same month, Commander-in-Chief of the National Army, Michael Collins, was killed in an anti-Treaty IRA ambush at Béal na Blá in his native County Cork.

In late September 1922 the 3rd Dáil brought in an Emergency Powers Act authorising the Dáil to declare a national emergency and to make provision for the security of the State.

On 30 November, IRA chief-of-staff Liam Lynch ordered a policy of reprisals which included shooting on sight TDs who had voted for emergency legislation. When Seán Hales TD was assassinated in Dublin on 7 December 1922, the Dáil responded by ordering the executions of prominent republican prisoners, Rory O’Connor, Richard Barrett, Liam Mellows and Joe McKelvey in Mountjoy Gaol.

THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT

CABINET MEMBERS

ACTING IN THE NAME OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT & THE 2nd DÁIL

2nd DÁIL

GOVERNMENT & THE CABINET MEMBERS

W .T. Cosgrave:
Minister for Local Government
Kevin O’Higgins
Minister for Economic Affairs
Eamonn Duggan
Minister for Local Government
George Gavan Duffy
Minister for Defence
Michael Collins:
Minister for Foreign Affairs
George Gavan Duffy
Minister for Home Affairs
Eamon de Valera
Minister for Economic Affairs
William Cosgrave
Minister for Local Government

I P R O V I S I O N A L  G O V E R N M E N T

THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT

THE NATIONAL ARMY (NA)

Those members of the army who supported the Treaty were dressed in new green uniforms and known as the National Army (NA) while the anti-Treaty IRA became known as the ‘Irregulars’.

SINN FEIN ARD FEIS

According to the Treaty, the 26 county Irish Free State would be governed by a parliament decided by a general election. At the Sinn Fein convention in February 1922, de Valera and Griffith agreed to postpone the election for 3 months to give voters time to consider both the Treaty and the constitution. Collins hoped to use the time to win over the anti-Treaty IRA.

On 14 April 1922, Rory O’Connor led a group of hardline anti-Treaty IRA men into the Four Courts in defiance of the authority of the Provisional Government. In an attempt to avoid civil war, Collins took an immediate action against the Four Courts garrison.

On 14 April 1922. Rory O’Connor led a group of hardline anti-Treaty IRA men into the Four Courts in defiance of the authority of the Provisional Government. In an attempt to avoid civil war, Collins took an immediate action against the Four Courts garrison.