



Strabane youths escape death in.....

DRUNKEN UDR GUN ATTACK

TWO GUN attacks on nationalist youths in Strabane within the space of six days have been condemned by Sinn Féin elected representative Martin McGuinness.

In the first attack, on February 27th, a 19-year-old man narrowly missed death when a uniformed RUC man shot at his car as he travelled over the Camel's Hump Bridge to Lifford. An RUC statement claiming that the youth, who was released without charge, drove through a roadblock narrowly missing an RUC man, has been discounted.

The second attack took place, just six days later, in the early hours of Saturday, March 5th, and involved an out-of-uniform and apparently drunken UDR soldier who, over a period of ten minutes, fired a number of shots at several people.

FIRED

Two of those threatened and fired at were 19-year-old Michael McGarrigle and 20-year-old John McGettigan, both from the Ballycolman estate and unemployed.

At about 12.30am they came out of the Starlight Chinese restaurant in Abercorn Square. Michael McGarrigle tells what happened:

"We were standing outside the restaurant eating our carry-out when this man, in his mid-20s, came out of the restaurant and went over to his car which he opened. He closed the door and sort of staggered over to John and myself, and called out 'Fenian bastard!'

"He pulled a gun out from the waistline of his trousers and cocked it. He ordered me to say that I was 'a Fenian bastard' but I just stood there.

"He had the gun at my head but then lowered it and fired a shot into the ground, a few inches from me."



● Michael McGarrigle (left) and John McGettigan: "He pointed the gun to my head and I thought I was dead. He pointed it back to Michael and said, 'I'm going to blow your head off'."

At this stage, John McGettigan moved towards Michael and the gun man ordered the two of them not to come any further.

"He pointed the gun to my head," said John, "and I thought I was dead. He pointed it back to Michael and said: 'I'm going to blow your head off'."

RICOCCHETS

Michael McGarrigle hit the gunman in the mouth and knocked him to the ground. The youths ran off but had to keep their heads down as the stranger fired five or six shots after them.

"I could hear the ricochets off the wall as we ran up Leaper's Brae," said Michael.

The half-crazed gunman then fired twice upon another young man who had witnessed the incident from Castle Street junction, before going back into the restaurant where he possibly re-loaded the weapon.

Michael McGarrigle and John McGettigan went back towards the restaurant to the phone in the square but the gunman appeared again and fired after them and at Eugene Gilloway, another local man.

An RUC patrol, which arrived

on the scene in a Ford Cortina, saw and probably recognised the gunman. They reversed their car to the top of the street where they remained until a fracas developed when, at the restaurant, a number of local people jumped on the gunman and disarmed him before the RUC intervened and spirited him away.

By now John McGettigan and Michael McGarrigle had separately departed for home. Michael was walking up Patrick Street when he was stopped by an RUC man who dismounted from a landrover and arrested him.

"He said to me: 'You're under arrest, but I don't know why'."

"He put me in the back of the landrover and I was driven round the town a couple of times and was asked what had happened. I told them that a man had been shooting at me and my friends but he made no comment.

"I was then brought to the RUC barracks at Bowling Green where I was told that I was not under arrest. It was during this time that I overheard an RUC woman on the phone asking about a Leslie Hetherington and wanting to speak to whoever in the UDR was in charge of him. An RUC man then closed the glass shutter at the desk and said to me: 'You've heard enough'."

"A uniformed RUC man, the one who had got offside when he saw the gunman in Abercorn Square, then came into the room, put his hand on my shoulder and arrested me on suspicion of assault. He then took my jacket, jumper, trousers and shoes from me and I put on a change of clothes which relatives had sent. I was then locked in a cell until the next morning."

RELEASED

"In the morning I was taken out of my cell and brought to a room where two plainclothes men asked me to make a statement about the UDR man. I told them: 'I shouldn't be here, it was me that was shot at'. I was put back in the cell and at about 12.30pm on Saturday I was released without charge, and without getting my clothes back."

Sinn Féin representative Martin McGuinness said that the incident showed beyond doubt that there were two laws in the North: "One for the Croppies, and privileges and immunity for the loyalists."

"On Tuesday night last, I put a number of questions to the RUC command and was passed from Strabane to Derry to Belfast."

"The UDR man has not been charged, his firearms certificate has not been revoked and he has not been suspended from the UDR. And this is what the British call 'justice'."

Task Force guilt confirmed

BY JACK MADDEN

TWO MEMBERS of the Special Task Force lost their appeals against a conviction for assault when they appeared at Letterkenny Circuit Court last week. Detective-Sergeant Patrick O'Dare and Detective-Garda Frank Clune hoped to reverse an earlier decision of the District Court which had found them guilty of assault against Patrick Gallagher of Dungloe, County Donegal, in Letterkenny garda station in June 1980.

The court heard evidence from Dr James McDaid of Letterkenny that when he visited Patrick Gallagher in the garda station on June 25th 1980 he had found extensive bruising over his body.

"There was," he said, "one major bruise over the left biceps which was black and blue in colour and measured ten inches."

His evidence was supported by another doctor, Patrick Scally, who

added that Gallagher's injuries supported his claims that he had been assaulted.

The court was told that attempts by the gardai to prevent an examination of Gallagher began when they refused permission for a doctor to visit him on the first day. Also refused admittance was Michael Cunningham, solicitor, who, when he was eventually allowed to see his client, could not persuade O'Dare

to leave the room.

REFUSED

The court heard that both accused had refused to co-operate with the original investigation into the allegation of ill-treatment and would not take part in an identification parade. Neither Clune nor O'Dare would give evidence when they appeared on trial in the District Court last September.

Both men took the witness stand this time but their evidence did nothing to reverse the earlier decision which sentenced them to one month's imprisonment, suspended for a year, and fined them £300. Judge David Sheehy said that he could not accept that the gardai did not know what was going on and that there was a "remarkable conflict of evidence" between O'Dare

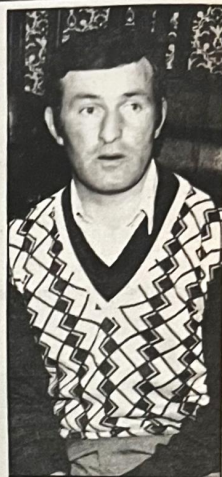
and Clune.

"One cannot get over the inescapable fact that this man was injured in garda custody at a time when these two officers were there and I find it incomprehensible that this condition was not observed by either of them."

WELCOMED

This indictment of the gardai was welcomed by Patrick Gallagher who remembered the previous case in the District Court when Justice Nealon had blamed him for "laying a trap" which the gardai had "fallen into".

"This time, however, the judge listened to the evidence which was no different than the last time and accepted that I was telling the truth and that these guards were lying. His decision was the right one."



● PATRICK GALLAGHER

Stormy reception for royal tour

BY JACK MADDEN

IRISH GROUPS, trade unionists and racial minorities united in a grand alliance last week to oppose the visit to California by the Queen of England. Massive demonstrations throughout the state showed a depth of feeling against British rule in Ireland and clearly embarrassed the royal visitors and their host, Ronald Reagan.

Freak weather conditions, which helped to make the tour a wash-out, proved less worrying than the constant protests which greeted the Queen everywhere she went and particularly in San Francisco.

SECURITY

Issues represented by the protestors combined the British presence in Ireland with American involvement in El Salvador. Massive security screening and pouring rain could not dampen the enthusiasm of between 10,000 and 15,000 demonstrators who turned up at Golden Gate Park for the main protest against the visit.

A counter-banquet for the poor of San Francisco, which was organised by the Irish Republican Committee, served up 3,000 dinners of chips, potato salad and sausages, in contrast to the lavish meal

being provided to the Queen and the elite of Californian society.

Breaching the tight security, Irish Northern Aid member Seamus Gibney, a native of Belfast, managed to gain access to the Queen's official civic reception and, seated a mere 20 feet from her, denounced her as a torturer and called for British withdrawal before being forcibly ejected by security guards.

LESSON

The protests continued in Sacramento and at other stops along the route while the British media, who learned their lesson well in the Malvinas, underplayed the extent of the opposition to the visit. Nor was Ronald Reagan too happy since this is his home state and opposition to his 'Reaganomics' was a strong feature of the protests.

Huge advertisements which appeared in Californian newspapers called for a free Ireland, an end to intervention in El Salvador, a nuclear freeze, jobs and housing, and an end to discrimination.

Recalling the former British imperialism in America and their fight for freedom, the adverts greeted the Queen with the message:

"Queen Elizabeth II, you are as welcome as George III."



● Irish Northern Aid's Seamus Gibney struggles with a security guard following his vociferous denunciation of the Queen of England as a torturer and calling for British withdrawal

Sinn Fein confident in by-election bid

THE by-election campaign in Area 'D' of Omagh District Council — where polling day is March 22nd — is attracting unusual political attention, most of it focussed on the Sinn Fein candidate, Seamas Kerr.

For the first time in more than 50 years, Sinn Fein in the North is following its twenty-six-county policy of challenging for seats on local councils and will enter the council chamber if elected.

The largely nationalist district, lying to the north-east of Omagh town, takes in Gortin, Owenglen, Drumakilly and Carrickmore, and was one of the key areas which secured the election of Danny Morrison in last October's assembly election.

MORRISON

Speaking to constituency work-

ers last week, Morrison said:

"Since our stunning entrance into electoral politics, we have injected fresh hope into the hearts of the people. It is no accident that Britain is quite prepared to allow other parties from Ireland to speak in England but banned Gerry Adams, Martin McGuinness and myself last December.

"The reason for the Sinn Fein ban is quite simple — we represent a real threat to the British occupation of our country and we are the party prepared to tell the English people straight that they have no

right to be in our country, that their forces have to withdraw and that Ireland has to be allowed to decide its own future.

"But not only have we continued to raise the national question. Just as important, from a conscientious republican point of view, we have striven to represent the people in their everyday social and economic struggles over issues such as bad housing, farming grants, unemployment and social security claims.

"Thus, we look forward to the historic by-election for Omagh District Council on March 22nd, which will see returned the first Sinn Fein councillor in the North in over half a century."



● Sinn Fein candidate Seamas Kerr, canvassing in Carrickmore

...War News...War News...War News...

UDR MEN WOUNDED

IN AN attack on Wednesday evening, March 9th, an IRA unit at Castlewellan, County Down, fired on a car carrying three UDR men, a father and two sons. The father and one of the sons was hit but, according to reports, not seriously injured.

RAIL-LINK DISRUPTED

The main Belfast to Dublin rail-link was severed for 16 hours On Monday 7th March after an IRA bomb successfully detonated at the much-bombed Kinasagart Bridge near Meigh in South Armagh. Train passengers had to be ferried by bus between Portadown and Dublin until the line could be reopened.

CLADY AMBUSH

A member of the RUC Reserve was seriously wounded on Friday

Punishment shootings

THE IRA in Belfast and County Tyrone have claimed responsibility for the punishment shootings of two men over the past week, who were both involved in local robberies. Both shootings were carried out on Thursday 3rd March.

In the Twinbrook area of West Belfast, 20-year-old Colin 'Tubby' George was shot in both legs for participating in a series of armed robberies of shops and private houses. He was not shot, as later claimed ludicrously by Fr Faul, for refusing to inform on other local hoods.

Later that evening, in the Fairmount Park area of Dungannon, Tyrone Brigade IRA shot Colm McGuigan in the left leg for his involvement in recent robberies in the town. The shooting followed an earlier warning to people involved in robberies, like McGuigan, who the Tyrone IRA warned would be shot if they continued ignoring warnings to desist from activities directed against the nationalist people (see AP/RN, March 3rd 1983).

4th March in a Tyrone Brigade ambush in the village of Clady, IRA Volunteers fired several shots at RUC members manning a per-

manent vehicle checkpoint close to the Tyrone/Donagall border shortly after 8pm, hitting the RUC man in the shoulder.

The IRA and Raymond Gilmour

ON Friday 4th March the Irish Republican Publicity Bureau issued the following statement regarding the IRA's holding of Patrick Gilmour, the father of the Derry paid informer, Raymond Gilmour:

"Following a number of public and private calls to us to release, or clarify the situation regarding, Patrick Gilmour, we can confirm that we intend to continue holding this man to show his son, Raymond, that the cost of collaborating will be personally dear to him.

"Mr Gilmour is being treated well. It is the RUC who are responsible for Patrick Gilmour's predicament. The media should focus on their detention of Raymond Gilmour, and press them to state why they will not allow his sister or family to see and meet with him.



● RAYMOND GILMOUR

"We repeat: Patrick Gilmour will continue to be held and his release is conditional upon the activities of Raymond Gilmour.

"Signed P. O'Neill, "Irish Republican Publicity Bureau, Dublin."

SDLP stunts backfire



● A glum-looking Hume has found that FitzGerald has reservations about his 'Council for a New Ireland'

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

DESPERATION must be setting in among SDLP ranks as John Hume's two propaganda planks — the 'Council for a New Ireland' and the proposed EEC investigation — appear to be slowly sinking in a swamp of squabble and controversy.

Last month, Hume travelled to Dublin to plead with the three main Free State parties in Leinster House to support his Council plan. While Haughey, who probably co-authored the plan with the SDLP leadership, was sympathetic, FitzGerald and his Labour partners were more reserved.

In fact, it was revealed last week, after a meeting between FitzGerald and the Workers' Party, that the Free State premier does not favour the SDLP approach too much as it does not involve the unionists.

And any chance of a 'bipartisan' approach on the North by the Free State parties seems quite remote. After his successful retention of the Fianna Fail leadership, Haughey is hardly likely to co-operate with FitzGerald, especially if it involves watering down his 'verbal republicanism', and antagonising those party members on whose support he relied to remain party leader.

Meanwhile, the proposed EEC inquiry into the North continues to provoke angry reactions from unionist and British politicians. In Strasbourg, unionist Euro-MPs Ian Paisley and John Taylor tabled a resolution on the 'oppressed Protestant minority' in the twenty-six counties (which subsequently failed on Wednesday of this week) in the hope of blocking Hume's resolution.

Back in London, Tory Euro-MPs got a severe dressing down from Thatcher for letting the whole affair develop; indeed, Hume's resolution was not the first of that type.

One week before it was tabled, a nearly identical motion, but much less publicised, also asking for an EEC inquiry into the North, had been put forward by Fine Gael MEP Joe McCartin, with the backing of the Christian Democrats, the political group to which the Tories belong in Strasbourg.

UNDEMOCRATIC

John Hume retaliated ('angrily', according to press reports) by suggesting that the sectarian succession to the British crown and the undemocratic role of Anglican bishops in the House of Lords should also be investigated.

But later, on RTE, he sniggered with the Dublin interviewer about his little play which he described as 'tongue in cheek'.

If Hume can keep his name in the news until the Westminster elections, he'll be happy enough.

PTA renewed as new Act announced

ONLY two weeks after blocking the Greater London Council move to provide finance for monitoring the racist Prevention of Terrorism Act in Britain, Labour Party leader Michael Foot led his parliamentary members through the House of Commons lobby to vote against the Act's renewal — confident of the combined Tory and SDP majority in its favour.

The PTA was renewed on Monday of this week by 217 votes to 129.

The Labour Party decision to vote against the Act which it introduced itself in November 1974, is an obvious, if pathetic, attempt to woo the Irish vote in Britain in a general election which looks certain to take place this year, with Labour, under the leadership of Michael Foot, unable to provide a challenge to the Thatcher government in spite of record unemployment.

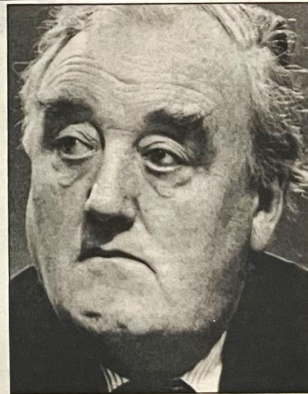
During Monday's debate, the British Home Secretary, William Whitelaw, announced that a new Bill to replace the PTA is to be introduced.

The new Act would have a five-year life-span, and would be based on the report on the PTA recently completed by Lord Jellicoe.

It is not expected to be any less draconian than the present legislation, under which thousands of Irish people have been detained for up to seven days, although only a handful have subsequently been charged with any offence.



● MICHAEL FOOT — cynical ploy to woo the Irish vote



● WILLIAM WHITELAW — threatens new Bill

Bricklayers dispute



AN EFFORT to set up a rival trade union amongst bricklayers in Dublin in opposition to the long-established Ancient Guild of Incorporated Brick and Stonemasons (AGIBS) looks certain to fail, with injunctions against the established union's pickets being refused by the Dublin High Court.

The new, unregistered union, which calls itself the Irish National Union of Bricklayers and Stonemasons, has been formed mainly by sub-contractors, who are obviously more attractive to employers, accepting lower wages, inferior working conditions and hampering employment opportunities for the traditionally unionised members.

A number of building sites in the Dublin area have been successfully picketed by the established union to assert the rights of its members to employment and some sites are still being picketed.

At the same time, the AGIBS is striving to ease any membership problems which may have prevented qualified bricklayers from previously entering the union.

Short-time rejected

WITH the management of Dublin's Irish Film Theatre threatening closure, staff have rejected a proposal that they should go on short-time and work a seven-day fortnight. And indications are that unless the Arts Council steps in the theatre will close.

The IFT's problems can be laid at the door of an inept management. Last year they expanded the IFT to Limerick and lost £10,000 on this badly planned operation. Money was squandered in other ways as well.

The workers reject the attempt to penalise them and see the cut-backs as a threat to all cinema workers.

Tiarnan McBride, chairperson of the IFT, and fellow director Ronnie Saunders, appeared unworried until recently about the decline in attendances and see cut-backs in staff as the easy solution.

The workers intend to stand firm.

New Belfast office

AS PART of their expansion in West Belfast, Sinn Féin have opened new premises in Beechmount Avenue, just off the Falls Road.

The new office will house all departments of West Belfast Sinn Féin except the housing department, headed by Sean Keenan, which will remain in their office at 51-53 Falls Road (telephone 230227).

Padraic Wilson who heads the new social services department will be based in the new Beechmount office as will West Belfast Sinn Féin chairperson, Alex Maskey.

The phone number for the new office is 230390.

Springhill dole conference

BY JANE PLUNKETT

A UNIQUE public inquiry held this week in West Belfast gave some of the North's estimated 150,000 unemployed an opportunity to put on record their experiences of life on the dole, and to put forward their own remedies.

Organised by Springhill Community House, the inquiry took place on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 8th and 9th, fittingly enough next to the security-mesh enclosed Fourth Street dole office, in the old Conway Street mill which now houses several small industrial units and an educational project.

For two days, speakers, young and old, told of frustrating years on the dole, of discrimination by employers and of exploitation on youth training schemes.

"There's just nothing at the end of it, just the burrow," said one YOP trainee.

BLAME

Most speakers laid the blame for West Belfast's unemployment on the British colonial system. Fr Des Wilson of the Springhill Project pointed out that the British government had failed to direct industry into West Belfast, had shifted the development of local small businesses, and "most sinister and disgraceful," he said, "if they couldn't inhibit this development, they sent in the troops" — a reference to the British army's summary seizure of the White Rock Industrial Estate in November 1975 to build Fort Pegasus.

Unfortunately, according to the conference was disappointing, no doubt reflecting the belief of most of West Belfast's unemployed that there can be little change in their situation so long as the North's economy is controlled



● The need to form unemployed action committees and to challenge the system became evident at the Belfast conference

by Britain.

Addressing the conference, Gerry Adams, Sinn Féin elected representative for West Belfast, pointed out that the fight against unemployment must be made part of the struggle against British rule. He said:

"At the end of the day, republicans say 'destroy the state and build a state with values that reflect the values of the ordinary working people'."

"It's no use dealing with the situation if you don't recognise the fact that this country is partitioned, that the people in charge of this country are hostile to us, that the country is corrupt, and that the social struggle, the struggle for employment, has to form some part of the struggle for national independence."

Many speakers expressed disillusionment with small co-operatives which, as one speaker pointed out, can do little for Ballymurphy, where 87% of householders are now unemployed. Des Wilson argued that co-ops would fall to the ground in a "highly ruthless, competitive system."

But one positive idea which won support from many speakers was that of setting up unemployed action committees or unemployed unions. Gerry Adams said:

"I think people have to depend on themselves. People who are unemployed in West Belfast must organise themselves into whatever structure they desire, to learn about what creates the type of society we are living in now and to organise against it."

Residents extract promises

ON MONDAY, March 7th, residents from the Upper Andersonstown estates of Culmore and Rossnareen Flats met with officials from the Housing Executive to raise several issues, including the lack of repairs, the installation of a central heating system, and the deliberate Housing Executive policy of not consulting residents on matters which directly affect them.

Also present at the meeting, which took place in the Tullymore Community Centre, were West Belfast elected representative Gerry Adams and Sean Keenan, Sinn Féin's housing spokesperson.

There was a frank exchange of views between the residents and Executive members, whose

district manager, Kennedy, admitted that in the past they had not had proper consultation but said this situation would be quickly rectified.

COMMITMENT

The residents also succeeded in obtaining an understanding from the Executive that all necessary repairs would be carried out in the area, and on the question of the installation of a central heating system, the Executive declared that because of lack of finance they didn't know exactly when the project would begin but gave a commitment that they would have a commencement date at a future meeting in four weeks time.

Further meetings have been arranged with the Executive and, according to Sean Keenan, similar meetings will take place with residents in Lower Andersonstown.



● Culmore Gardens Flats, Andersonstown

Liberties family evicted



● The Byrne family in their re-occupied flat

THE REJECTION by Dublin Corporation officials of families afflicted by social problems has been typified in the Liberties area of the city this week, where a widow and her six children have been told by the Housing Department that no accommodation will be provided for them.

Mrs Catherine Byrne and her family first squatted in Fatima Mansions in Rialto, and after an eviction order were housed in a flat in the Oliver Bond complex. Complaints were made by neighbours that the family were behaving in an anti-social manner and in response the Corporation evicted the family from their official tenancy, took them off the points system and left them without a home.

Again the family had to squat, in a flat in Cooke Street, off Merchant's Quay. The Corporation refused to take rent from them saying that because their tenancy had been

cancelled they were not entitled to squat.

EVICITION

Last week, after a year of occupying the flat, without paying rent, the family, including a 17-year-old pregnant daughter and a 4-year-old grandchild, suffered eviction and homelessness once again. They spent several nights on the balcony with their furniture, but have now managed to re-occupy the damp two-roomed flat.

When a Sinn Féin community worker from the Liberties Republican Centre approached the housing officer concerned, a Mr Wallace, the repeated answer was that the Byrne family would not be housed because of their behaviour and their rent arrears.

And an angry Mrs Byrne, denied any help from officialdom, commented, as the family moved back into the dismal squat:

"It's hard to believe that after all my life living in Dublin, I still don't have a home."

Armagh attack recalls election slaying

BY DAMIEN O'ROURKE

A 33-YEAR-OLD Armagh man was lying dangerously ill in hospital on Wednesday night of this week having been gunned down in the city earlier in the day in a gun attack which bears a very strong resemblance to one in which another Armagh man, Peter Corrigan, was slain last October.

Kevin Trainor, from the Drumarg estate, who is married with three children, aged four years, three years

and five weeks, was walking along Railway Street, returning from the unemployment exchange, shortly after 11.30am when gunmen opened fire on him, with what was believed to be a sub-machine gun, from a passing car. He was hit five times in the lower part of the body and taken to Craigavon Area Hospital.

The gunmen sped off along Lonsdale Gardens and the car, a dark blue Ford Escort, was later abandoned in a car park at Lonsdale Street.

Kevin Trainor is an active republican locally and had been a Sinn Féin worker in the October assembly elect-

ions, manning a polling-booth at Millford, just outside the city. In the mid-70s he served a term of imprisonment in Long Kesh.

PETER CORRIGAN

Kevin Trainor was shot only a few hundred yards from where Peter Corrigan, aged 47, was murdered on Monday morning, October 25th, four days after the assembly elections, as he walked to the employment exchange.

Like Trainor, Corrigan, an ex-prisoner, had been active in the Sinn Féin election campaign and had manned a polling-booth on election day.

Peter Corrigan was also shot down with a machine gun from a passing car which was abandoned nearby.

On that occasion, the killing was claimed by the so-called Protestant Action Force.

SHOOTING

Five hours after the attack on Kevin Trainor, in another shooting in Armagh, a 23-year-old Protestant, James Jackson-Hogg, was shot dead as he got into his car to drive home.

There were no early details of a reason for the shooting or if it was connected in any way with the earlier attack in the city.

SAS unearthed in Carrickmore

BY GERRY QUINN

A YOUNG family in Loughmacrory, County Tyrone, has complained of a frightening saga of events involving, they believe, an SAS undercover unit as the latest incident in continuing harassment.

At approximately 2.30pm on Thursday, March 3rd, Barney McAleer, a married man in his early 30s with three young children, stumbled across a heavily camouflaged tent in a field adjacent to his home.

On removing the foliage from the tent, McAleer was challenged by the two occupants who were both wearing black berets bearing what McAleer thought was the SAS inscription 'Who Dares Wins'. Frightened for his life, McAleer ran back to his house less than 100 yards away, where he was joined by Danny Gallagher, a 21-year-old neighbour.

Gallagher immediately ran back to his own house for a camera, and, in spite of warnings from the SAS men that they would shoot, took seven photographs of the undercover unit and the scene.

ARRESTED

Gallagher then returned to the McAleer home where he met up with another local man, Cathal Kelly, and the two drove into Omagh with the camera to get the photographs developed.

However, on reaching the town, they were intercepted by an RUC squad, arrested and taken to Gough Barracks in Armagh.

Before being released the following day, Gallagher protested in vain at the confiscation of his camera.

Commenting afterwards, Barney McAleer, who emphasises his family's non-involvement in political

affairs, said:

"I just wish the Brits would leave me and my family alone. I would like to know why they are spying on me. In the back of my mind I fear that the Brits may be extending their shoot-to-kill plan into Tyrone."

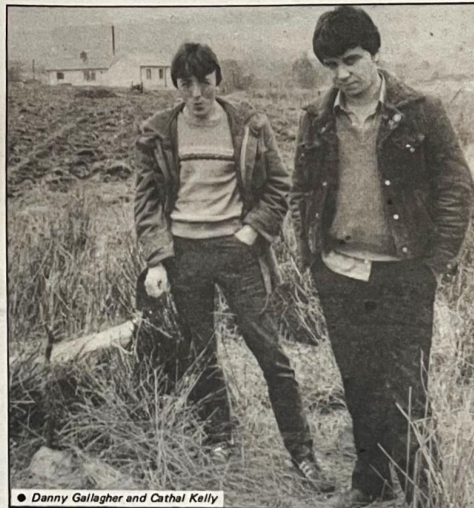
Death threat

AFTER yet another incident in the area, a 19-year-old Carrickmore man has complained to Sinn Féin representative Danny Morrison about being threatened with assassination by the RUC.

Martin Woods, who is unemployed, was arrested by the RUC out of a friend's car in the Main Street of Carrickmore in the early hours of Friday morning, March 4th, as they returned from a party in Pomeroy.

Martin, who once served a sentence for an arson attack during anti-interment demonstrations in 1980, was singled out by the RUC for verbal abuse and then had his arms twisted up his back and was punched and kicked as he was put into the back of the RUC car.

On the way to Omagh RUC Barracks the front-seat passenger persistently questioned him and said he had better co-operate and make a statement or "you'll never reach Omagh." Martin refused to



● Danny Gallagher and Cathal Kelly

talk and the RUC man who was sitting beside him grabbed him by the hair.

STIFFED

"He told me I would be 'stiffed,'" said Martin, "if I didn't talk. At the barracks I was shoved about and the same RUC man, the one in the front of the car, said: 'Come on. Have a dig at me, you bastard. Come on, just you and me.' I ignored him."

On Friday morning he was released without charge and proceeded to make a complaint about being assaulted. The desk sergeant imped-

ed the making of this complaint by informing him that an RUC inspector would visit him at home, which Martin did not want. In actual fact a member of the RUC Complaints Board (Belfast) normally writes to the complainant giving notification of an appointment at the local barracks.

VANDALISED

Danny Morrison has condemned the actions of the RUC which he described as 'typically sectarian'.

"Just last weekend, a UDR man in the Strabane part of Mid-Ulster



● MARTIN WILSON

constituency opened fire on a number of nationalist youths and was not charged or suspended. And only last Monday, March 7th, a UDR patrol vandalised nationalist roads by breaking glass. The UDR patrol was dropped by helicopter at Kelly's Crossroads (between Carrickmore and Loughmacrory) at about 9am and as they made their way towards Golan Crossroads they smashed bottles on the road, in some cases upturning the broken necks which made the roads potentially lethal for motorists.

"All complaints to the RUC are, one suspects, treated with contempt or as a joke, given their own discredited record. Nevertheless, complaints should be lodged publicly via the media or formally just so that they know we are far from cowed or intimidated."

Young mother abused

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

19-YEAR-OLD Lorraine Healy, from Twinbrook on the outskirts of West Belfast, has been the victim of constant abuse and harassment from British soldiers and RUC.

Her latest experience of this occurred on Friday, March 4th, when Lorraine left her flat with her one-year-old son, Jeffrey, for her mother's home in Lenadoon housing estate, travelling by black taxi.

VISIT

Not long after arriving, she decided to visit a friend who lives a short distance up the street from her mother's.

Before she reached her friend's home, however, a large force of British soldiers and RUC, on foot and in military vehicles,

entered the street.

Lorraine was stopped and asked by a British soldier where she was coming from, to which she replied her mother's. He demanded to know where she had been coming from when she got out of the taxi. Although frightened that her movements had so obviously been noted she refused to answer any more questions.

The British soldier continued to ask questions of a personal nature; Lorraine refused to talk. An RUC man came over and said:

"Let her go, sure, she's only a tramp."

The Brit then pushed his face up against young baby Jeffrey and made other foul comments.

Lorraine was held for over an hour on the street before being released.



● LORRAINE HEALY

Divis assault

A 19-YEAR-OLD Divis Flats man was assaulted by the RUC on Tuesday night, March 8th, as he walked towards his home.

Francis Langan was cutting through St Peter's Row at around 10pm when he was stopped by a British army foot patrol, one of whom grabbed him by the arm and demanded his name and date of birth. When Langan refused to give the latter the British soldiers radioed through for transport.

At this stage two RUC men came over and, pointing to Langan, said:

"Take a good look at that bastard, he's been done twice on riotous behaviour charges. He's nothing but a Provie bastard!"

They then dragged Langan into one of the 'links' — a dark annexe between the stairway and rubbish chute — where he was struck on the throat with several karate style chops, kicked, and warned he would be shot if he didn't 'watch it'.

Prisoner chained to hospital bed

BY EAMON TRACY

GERRY ADAMS, Sinn Fein elected representative for West Belfast, has been refused access by the Northern Ireland Office (NIO) to one of his constituents, Joseph 'Jokey' Flynn (25), a prisoner from the H-Blocks who has been in the burns unit of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast, since Wednesday, March 2nd.

Adams had attempted to visit Flynn because, apart from being a personal friend, he had received disturbing reports from his family about the conditions under which he was being treated, as well as the treatment itself.

Jokey Flynn was seriously burned about the face, hands and legs, in January 1980, following a premature explosion on a Belfast-bound train, which killed IRA Volunteer Kevin 'Dee' Delaney and two civilians.

For the next four months he was kept in the serious burns unit of the RVH while skin grafts were applied to parts of his face and he received treatment to his hands.

DENIED CARE

On April 18th 1980, he was taken from the RVH to Castlereagh. He was denied proper medical care as a result of which his fingers contracted and he was unable to move them.

Six months later, he was taken back to the RVH from Crumlin Road Jail where steel pins were inserted in his left hand to keep the hand partially open. Shortly after returning to Crumlin Road Jail, and while having a shower, the pins came out of his fingers. He was taken back to the RVH where, while still handcuffed and without any anaesthetic, the pins were replaced.

In November 1980, Flynn, on the most circumstantial evidence, was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment.

Last week, after more than two years without treatment, Jokey Flynn was taken back to

the RVH to have more skin grafting carried out and also to have his other hand opened. He is being held in a small room in the burns unit.

Medical staff who wish to treat him can only enter the room after the prison officers have opened the door.

MANACLED

Flynn is manacled constantly to the bed by a chain which goes under the bed and is fastened to his two ankles. The staff in the burns unit have complained to the prison officers that the restrictions under which they are being forced to work are affecting the treatment Flynn is receiving.

Gerry Adams attempted to visit Jokey Flynn on Monday, March 7th, and was refused admittance. On Monday night, and again the following day, he contacted the NIO and was eventually put in touch with Allan Paterson, personal secretary to Lord Gower. He was told that he would not be allowed in to visit any prisoners.

In a statement following this conversation



● Flynn's badly burned hands when he entered the Royal Victoria Hospital in October 1980



● JOSEPH FLYNN

Gerry Adams said:

"It is appalling that Jokey Flynn, given his serious condition and the sensitivity of the many skin grafts which he has received, should be manacled to a bed.

"It is also unacceptable that the NIO should impose restrictions which both prevent me from seeing my constituents and seriously affect the quality of medical treatment Jokey Flynn is receiving."

Republican visits prisoners in England

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

OWEN CARRON began his current series of visits to republican prisoners in England on Monday, February 28th, at Gartree Prison in Leicestershire where he spent an hour talking to Sean Kinsella of Clones, County Monaghan, who is serving a life sentence.

"The visiting area is just a small pre-fabricated building, especially for Category 'A' prisoners which all republican prisoners are. There were two doors, one through which I entered and another for the prisoners. A Screw sat in the doorway and supervised the visit.

"The Screws used to sit at the table, but over the years the lads kicked up so many rackets that now they sit at the door.

"At the moment, in Gartree all the republican prisoners are in the punishment block following an incident a few weeks ago concerning the bank-robber and former British agent Kenneth Littlejohn, who was trying to intimidate them with a gang he had formed.

"There was a bit of a clash which resulted in our prisoners now possibly facing assault charges in a special court.

"Sean Kinsella's mother is elderly and he gets a visit from her and his sister about once a year. He said he and the rest of the lads were in good shape and, as far as he was concerned, the struggle was all that mattered to him."

LONG LARTIN

On the Monday afternoon, Carron drove the 60 miles to Long Lartin in Worcestershire where he spoke to Gerry and Robert Cunningham from Strabane, County Tyrone, who are both serving 20 years.

"Gerry was very vocal and was extremely interested in political developments in Sinn Fein, expressing his delight at the assembly election results. He was also asking about the Westminster elections. Gerry has been trying to draw the attention of any EEC investigation on the North to the repatriation of Irish prisoners."

Last week, the Cunninghams' mother and other members of the family were arrested at the airport under the PTA and held for half an hour.

Carron also spoke to Martin Brady from Belfast, serving a life sentence. He was one of those arrested with the Price sisters in 1973, and although four of that group were later transferred to prisons in the North, the five others were refused repatriation.

Rising tension in Portlaoise

BY DAMIEN O'ROURKE

A REPUBLICAN remand prisoner, John Gallagher of Ballyshannon, County Donegal, used the dock of the Special Court last Friday to publicise continuing assaults and degrading treatment in Portlaoise Prison, where a number of prisoners are still in the punishment cells in solitary confinement after being beaten during a jail search in early February.

Gallagher, who was remanded in custody until March 25th on charges of possessing firearms in Donegal last August, made a statement in the court last Friday before being led away.

He said:

"I wish to make a protest about the treatment we are receiving at Portlaoise. Prisoners are being strip-searched both coming to and going from the court and at no time do we leave the custody of the prison officers and gardai."

Several of his comrades, he said, had been forcefully bent over and others had been hung up by their ankles.

BODY-SEARCHES

The situation in Portlaoise has been deteriorating in the last two months with numerous complaints of petty harassment, but the major cause of increased tension within the jail has been the introduction of body-searches of remand prisoners going to and from court.

Previously, prisoners had been required to strip to their underclothes only, but over the past two weeks the prison authorities have introduced full strip-searches and internal probes of the anal passage.

Anyone who objects is forcibly stripped and one prisoner, Martin Doherty of Ballymun, was hung up by his ankles for the internal search before a court appearance last week.

PAROLE

And in another example of petty-minded vindictiveness at the jail, another republican prisoner was told that he was to be allowed out on parole to see his sick father, and then, minutes before he was due to leave, was told it had been rescinded.

Tommy McMahon of County Monaghan, was told on Friday evening, February 25th, that his application for parole, in order to visit his 72-year-old father, who



● TOMMY McMAHON

has been hospitalised for most of the past month, suffering from

congestive cardiac failure, had been granted.

The same evening, McMahon's wife, Rose, was told to arrange to collect her husband from Portlaoise the following morning. Later that night, gardai from Carrickmacross called to the home of Tommy McMahon's brother, Brendan, and informed him that the parole decision had been reversed. Rose McMahon was not officially informed of the change.

Tommy McMahon himself was informed of the cancellation of his parole at 10am on Saturday morning as he was preparing to leave Portlaoise Prison.

APPEAL

McMahon has been in prison since August 1979 and was convicted in November of that year for the execution of Lord Mountbatten at Mullaghmore, County Sligo. His co-accused, Francis McGirl, was found not guilty of the charge. Both men had been in gardai custody for three hours before Mountbatten was killed.

McMahon's appeal against this conviction is due to begin on Monday, March 21st, in Dublin after a long delay caused by the failure of his original solicitor to lodge the appeal, as instructed, within the specified period.

IN HIS... is able... Irish r... He Phob... he dis...



● SEAN KIN...



● PAUL HO...

Owen... holmes fro... on what... the strong... Prison, to... from Hull... key and E... for interv... investigati... 'Lie-do...

Republican MP visits prisoners in England



IN HIS capacity as a Westminster MP, Owen Carron, of Fermanagh/South Tyrone, is able to make visits to the various high-security prisons in England in which Irish republican prisoners are held. He is presently on his third tour of the prisons and this week spoke to An Phoblacht/Republican News reporter Maeve Armstrong about some of the matters he discussed with those he visited.

afterwards, an example of the petty nature of the prison regime against republican prisoners.

"Stephen talked at length about Mick Murray who has been in the punishment block now for over five years on the blanket, refusing to wear prison gear. He will not speak to, or co-operate in any way with, the Screws.

"Mick is serving 12 years and, according to Stephen who sees him when he is in the block, he just wants to do his 'bird'. He isn't interested in repatriation and is determined to fight the system."

Martin Coughlan, another republican prisoner in Hull, did feel however that not enough was being done to highlight the special plight of republican prisoners in Britain.

"I discussed with him the position of Whitelaw and the NIO which indicates that republican prisoners in Britain will be used as political hostages as long as the war goes on and bombs go off in England and that at the moment the Republican Movement would be interested in building a campaign aimed at exposing British hypocrisy on the right to be transferred to a prison near their relatives, which they have denied republican prisoners."

CONDITIONS

Also at Hull, Owen Carron met Paul Holmes, Ronnie McCartney and Con McFadden. The latter has recently arrived from Wormwood Scrubs where for more than a year now a dispute between the Prison Officers' Association and the Home Office has led to terrible conditions with all prisoners locked-up all day with no work and recreation.

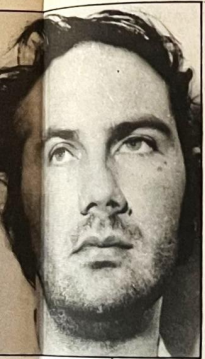
Before his transfer, Con McFadden had been 12 days on hunger-strike protesting about the conditions.

On Wednesday, a planned visit to Leicester Prison, to visit Brian Keenan and Brendan Dowd, was cancelled as they were receiving visits from relatives. Owen Carron therefore took the opportunity to travel up to Styal Prison in Cheshire to see Ann and Eileen Gillespie.

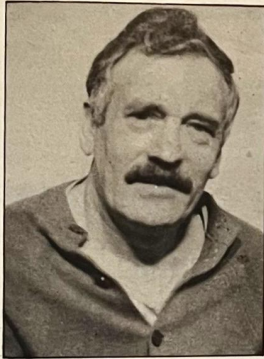
Both sisters spent nearly eight years in Durham Prison under extremely harsh conditions, yet throughout all those years, says Carron, "hardly a word has been heard about them."

"They are both looking forward to getting out this August and are well-informed and interested in the situation outside. They were very concerned about the strip-searching of the prisoners in Armagh and asked me to bring a message of solidarity from them to their republican sisters to coincide with International Women's Day and the picket outside the jail."

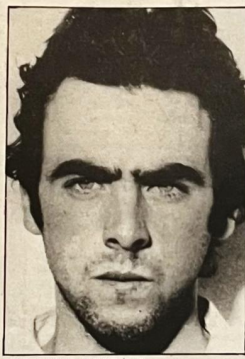
Owen Carron is due to continue his tour of English prisons on March 14th and is also hoping to arrange a meeting with relatives of the prisoners.



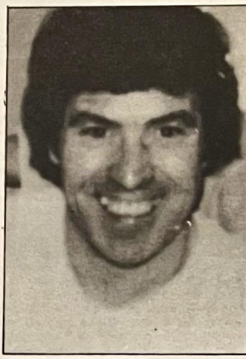
● PAUL HOLMES



● DICKIE GLENHOLMES



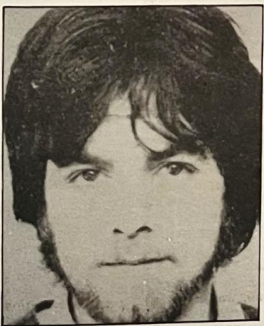
● STEPHEN NORDONE



● MARTIN COUGHLAN



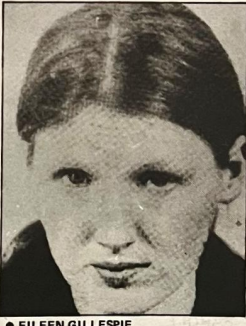
● PAUL HOLMES



● RONNIE MCCARTNEY



● ANN GILLESPIE



● EILEEN GILLESPIE

furniture is removed from the punishment cells leaving only a mattress on the floor to lie on.

"Dickie talked about the overall prison situation for republican prisoners and said he felt there should be someone appointed in charge of the republican prisoners in order to determine the republican line and a structure established to co-ordinate between the prisoners

and enable them to build up a proper line of communication between prisoners and the outside."

Owen Carron also briefly met Gerry Young from Belfast, being restricted by the time available. Gerry was refused permission by the Home Office to attend the funeral of his father, who died on February 25th, even though he is due to be released shortly.

The following day, Tuesday, March 1st, Owen Carron travelled several hundred miles to Hull Prison and spoke to Stephen Nordone from Dundalk, who is currently in the punishment block on 56 days 'lie-down' for refusing to be strip-searched before he went on a visit to his girlfriend.

Stephen eventually got his visit but he was sent to the punishment block

Má a poist... Mála poist.

Internment by remand

Dear Editor,

Shortly before the notorious Christopher Black case began in the Belfast High Court it was stated that many people on remand could well have to wait for a further 18 months before their trials would begin.

This means in effect that a large number of remand prisoners will have completed three years in prison which will be equivalent to a six-year sentence.

What disturbed me about this announcement was that it provoked neither comment nor complaint from the legal profession, civil rights groups or churches of any denomination.

The system of remand, as practised here in the British-ruled six counties, is undoubtedly without equal in any of the so-called Western democracies.

When one considers that many of the accused are being held on evidence which is, to say the least, of an extremely dubious nature then the system is even more unjust and cruel than it appears on the surface.

An even more unacceptable feature of the remand system is that many of the 'legal interlopers' have the charges against them dropped only after they have spent anything up to 18 months or more in prison.

Many of these people emerge from prison to return to broken homes, emotionally disturbed families, and no job prospects — if they had any in the first place. They are simply released without one word of apology or one penny of compensation for all they have endured.

In the Free State, the Director of Public Prosecutions must produce the Book of Evidence within a specified time, usually six to eight weeks, and bail is more readily available except for very serious charges.

In Scotland, if the prosecution is unable to proceed with the case at the end of 90 days then the accused is automatically entitled to bail (capital or serious charges excepted).

In France, when someone is arrested both the prosecution and defence must present their cases before an examining magistrate within a few days of the arrest.

The magistrate, after hearing both sides and having studied the evidence, then has the power to decide: (1) Whether there is a case to answer; and (2) Whether it is a custodial offence or if the accused could be remanded on bail.

Perhaps any of these procedures, if they were introduced into the Northern system, would be welcomed, but the problem remains of how to pressurise

A Chara,

Following the recent visit to Belfast by Ken Livingstone and Steve and Cathy Bundred, and their promise to build support in Britain for a British withdrawal from Ireland, many of us felt that at last there may be an opportunity for building a broad-based anti-imperialist movement in Britain.

However, having read the latest editions of *Right to Life*, *Right to Life*, *Troops Out* and *The Next Step*, which represent the three major Irish support groups outside of Sinn Féin, the prospects of a broad front seem much dimmer.

On March 12th, the Irish Solidarity Committee, along with the RCG, have organised a national demonstration in London.

On May 7th, the Troops Out Movement are organising a national demonstration under the slogan of 'Voices for Withdrawal'.

The following day, May 8th, the Irish Freedom Movement and the RCP, together with Sinn Féin (Britain), are mounting a national commemoration of the second anniversary of the death of the ten hunger-strikers.

This division among the various support groups only serves to help our enemies.

Indeed, one is tempted to ask

CALL TO UNITE



It's time for solidarity groups in Britain to bury their differences and unite behind the three demands

just how genuine are these people? It must be disheartening for Irish POWs in English jails, who have played a major role in promoting a united Irish solidarity movement, to see their efforts come to nothing.

Surely if these groups are genuine in their support then they can at least unite behind the following demands:

- (1) A complete British withdrawal from Ireland.
- (2) Self-determination for all

the Irish people.

(3) Repatriation of Irish POWs from English jails.

These simple demands don't cut across any of the groups' individual ideologies and can therefore form the basis of a strong and united Irish solidarity movement.

Michael Doherty, PRO, St James's Martyrs Sinn Féin cumann, Belfast.

be any aspect of the struggle for Irish freedom from 1169 to the present day.

Application forms can be had from the Fianna and office at 44 Parnell Square, Dublin, or Jim Monaghan, 57 Arnold Grove, Glenageary, County Dublin (telephone Dublin 855189). The closing date is three weeks from today, Thursday, March 31st.

The more young people who take part in this competition the greater the tribute will be to a brave soldier of the Irish republic and his comrade hunger-strikers.

Tony Barry, Oifigeach Oideachais, Na Fianna Éireann, Dublin.

Release Nicky Kelly!

A Chara,

The Irish Civil Rights Association regards as a national disgrace the continued imprisonment of Nicky Kelly nearly three years after the acquittal on appeal of his two co-accused.

In view of his conviction by a non-jury Special Court on no evidence except a statement obtained amidst substantial allegations of ill-treatment, the fact that others have admitted to the deed, and that Amnesty International have expressed concern on several occasions, we think it strange that the Minister for Justice, in replying to recent questions in Láiniste House, requires new information to justify this man's release. Psychiatrists' reports on his suffering over the years would appear to give sufficient medical grounds alone.

The ICRA calls on the Minister to release Nicky Kelly immediately.

Elisabeth Murphy, Irish Civil Rights Association, Howth, County Dublin.

A Chara,

The following motion was passed recently at a meeting of the Carrick-on-Suir Council of Trade Unions:

To Mr Michael Noonan, Minister for Justice, Office of the Minister & Secretariat, 72 St Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.

Because of the serious doubts existing in the conviction of Nicky Kelly for complicity in the Sallins Mail Train Robbery of 1976 this Council calls on you to release him under an order vested in you under Article 13.6 of Bunreacht na hÉireann.

Edward O'Doherty, Honorary Secretary, 62 Marian Avenue, Carrick-on-Suir, County Tipperary.

Death of Eddie Dynes

A 37-YEAR-OLD County Armagh republican, Eddie Dynes, was tragically killed in a road traffic accident on Tuesday, March 1st, near his home at Darkley, near Keady.

He leaves a wife, Mary, and six children, Edward (12), Dominic (11), Patrick (10), Mary (9), Graeme (4), and Clara (1½).

Eddie Dynes was interned for a period in 1971-72 and shortly after his release developed kidney failure, resulting in an operation for the removal of one kidney and the partial removal of another.

A member of the local John Green Sinn Féin cumann, Eddie was a dedicated republican and in recent years worked hard during the H-Block hunger-strikes and in the Cavan/Monaghan election campaigns of Kieran Doherty and Seamus McElwain and the Armagh assembly election in which Jim McAllister was elected.

In death notices from the IRA's North Armagh Brigade he was described as a Volunteer in its 2nd Battalion.

He will be sadly missed by his family, his comrades and his many friends.

Death of Paddy Dollard

MANY republicans were saddened last week to learn of the sudden death of Paddy Dollard of Kilkenny.

Paddy, who was only 47 years old, joined the Republican Movement in the mid-50s and had served the organisation both in Ireland and England.

He was twice imprisoned in Portlaoise, the last time being a sentence of six years. He taught Irish classes in the jail and many prisoners owe their fluency in the language to Paddy.

There was a large and representative turn-out at his funeral on Saturday, March 5th. The cortege, led to the graveside by a lone piper, was flanked by a guard of honour of local republicans.

The oration was given by Richard Behal, and other comrades of Paddy Dollard in attendance included Daithí O'Connell, Kevin Mallon, Eddie Lawlor, Seamus McGarrigle and Paddy Ryan, as well as former prisoners from Portlaoise. There were representatives also from Conradh na Gaeilge, Kilkenny Corporation and local community associations.

The Republican Movement has expressed its deepest sympathy to Mrs Dollard and family.



Belfast High Court the British into changing the system.

Would the legal representatives be prepared to withdraw from the courts or would the prisoners take a calculated risk and dismiss their counsel?

Furthermore, think of the effect if the prisoners refused to be present during their 'trial': a non-jury court with no prisoners or legal representatives.

It would clearly show our contempt for Britain's much-valued legal system.

I know some people must be thinking that it's easy for someone not in prison to put forward what seem like brave-brained proposals but as prisoners' evidence is so regularly rejected their hope of freedom is very slim indeed.

If there are more positive proposals from anyone then, please, let us hear them now not 18 months later!

L. Wilson, Belfast.

Labour Youth

A Chara,

Sinn Féin welcomes the support from the National Secretary of Labour Youth contained in the *Tallaght Echo*, of the week ending 25th February, in our call for a Job Centre for Tallaght. However, there are a few points that need explaining.

How can Labour Youth call for young people to join them when they are part of a party now in coalition with Fine Gael?

This Leinster House government has done nothing to cure unemployment or to relieve poverty. Labour Chief Whip Mervyn Taylor is quoted as saying that the budget was "actually calculated to dampen down employment" but would still vote for it.

The Coalition's latest act is to jail trade union members whose only 'crime' is to try to retain their jobs by peaceful protest.

We would ask Labour Youth to put the pressure on their senior members to bring an end to those draconian laws and change the system that brings them about.

Sinn Féin will continue to press for a Job Centre along with the policies contained in our local government election manifesto of 1979.

Our mobile advice centre will

be available at Fettercairn on the 19th and 26th March, and in Rathcoole on April 2nd.

Peter Cunningham, PRO, Wolfe Tone Sinn Féin cumann, 36 Old Bawn Avenue, Tallaght, County Dublin.



Bobby Sands essay

A Chara,

The Education Department of Na Fianna Éireann (Republican Youth Movement) calls on all its members and supporters between the ages of 13 and 16 to support the Bobby Sands Memorial School Essay Competition.

The subject of the essay can



Tá na tógáilte lán tástá oispiéil a thógaint ach níl siad sásta go mbeadh oibrithe de chuid na Sairbhíse Poiblí ag obair iontu

Cén fáth ná deirneann eagrais na bhfostóir go neamhbhalbh? Nach féidir leo é a rá go díreach? Ach níl siad sásta a leithéid a rá mar ní bheadh mórán trua ag an bpobal dá ráite. An dtabharfaid eisteacht dos na ráitis seo a leanas. "Cuir na hoibrithe

GEARRADH SIAR

LE TOMÁS Ó SE

GACH LÁ anois tá dream éigin ag iarraidh an Seirbhíse Poiblí a ghearradh siar. Sna sé chontae tá an polasaí sin faoi lán tseol fág pholasaithe Thatcher. Anois tá an glaoch imithe suas ag iarraidh go dtarlódh an rud céanna sna sé chontae fíchead.

Tá eagrais na bhfostóirí chun tosaigh sa ghlaoch seo. Deir siad gur gé gearradh siar ach níl siad sásta a rá go díreach éan áit gur chóir an gearradh a dhéanamh.

Bhí sampla maith againn de seo le déanaí leis na fógraí a chuir an Construction Industry Federation sna nuachtáin. Mhór siad gearradh siar ar an Seirbhíse Poiblí.

Is dóigh liom go bhfuil sé mar pholasaf

ag na fostóirí, oibrithe uile na Seirbhíse Poiblí a chur ós chomhair an phobail mar naimhde gan aghaidh. Tá Rialtas na sé chontae fíchead ag glacadh páirt sa pholasaf seo.

Tá an Rialtas sin tar éis a shocrú go mbeidh orthu cáinfhaisnéis speisialta a thógaint isteach má bhionn ardú páigh ag teastáil ó oibrithe na seirbhíse poiblí. Is féidir leis an Rialtas ansin an mhéar a dhírú i dtreo na hoibrithe sin agus an míleán a chur orthu. Seifit is ea é seo chun gur féidir oibrithe na Seirbhíse Poiblí a ionasf, agus deighilt a oscailt eatartha agus oibrithe eile.

Ach cé hiaid oibrithe na Seirbhíse Poiblí? Bhuel ina measc tá oibrithe de ghach saghas agus cuireann siad cuid mhaith de riachtanais na beatha ar fáil. Cé mbéimís gan uisce, gan leictreachas, gan scoileanna, gan na seirbhíse uile atá ann ar mhaithe an phobail?

siúil. Bata agus bóthar do bhanaltraí. Dún na hoifigí dole."

Laistiar den ghlaoch ag iarraidh gearradh siar sna Seirbhíse Poiblí sin atá i gceist. Ní dóigh liom go dtabharfaidh aon oibrí tacaíocht dhé leithéid.

BURKE'S AT THE BACK

By Kevin Burke

THE SAGA of the 2nd Light-Fingered Infantry's tour of South Armagh early last year came to its inevitable conclusion at the Crown Court in Downpatrick this week.

Thirteen Brits pleaded guilty to 16 burglaries in the area during their period of occupation. Goods stolen included car radios, tools and accessories, cameras, boots and (the only excusable theft by the British nickers) — underpants.

Taking a very severe view of the offences, the judge fined them an average of £50 each.

Five of their colleagues were cleared of the charges. They had stood guard outside one of the garages which was robbed but said they thought the others had climbed through the window "as part of an intelligence gathering operation."

Later they realised that goods had been stolen but did not report the matter.

One of them, Lance-Corporal Kevin Hill, told the court:

"Life would have been quite miserable in the army being called a 'grass'."

★ ★ ★

Members of the British army's Cheshire Regiment were in low spirits at a checkpoint at Alnaughish near Cappagh in County Tyrone on Sunday night, March 6th.

According to locals, they looked as they had been out all the previous night as well and were miserable passing one cigarette round between six of them as they harassed motorists on their way home and threatened to shoot the occupants of some of the cars they stopped.

Unfortunately their half-hearted bravado was spoilt somewhat when one of them shot himself in the foot.

So demoralised were his comrades that they stood around and ignored him as they waited for nearly an hour for a helicopter to come and pick them up.

★ ★ ★

The inquest on 21-year-old Armagh man Tony Harker, who was shot dead by the UDR in the city more than a year ago, was adjourned for the seventh time last week.

At the previous hearing, the coroner had requested a representative from the DPP's office to appear and explain the reason for the delay. But the court merely received a letter

Nickers don't grass

saying that the RUC report on the incident is receiving 'urgent consideration'.

The inquest is to be reconvened for the eighth time on March 25th.

Tony Harker was shot dead in the early hours of Sunday, January 24th, outside a supermarket complex in Irish Street, after many months of harassment and death threats from both the UDR and RUC.

★ ★ ★

When UDR soldier Garrith Catherwood of Maghera called on his girlfriend last month, her father abruptly informed him that he was not going to get near his daughter.

So Catherwood, in a fit of pique, went back to his car, took out his service revolver, put it in his mouth, and blew his brains out.

★ ★ ★

Where will you find GLC councillor Steve Bundred, Dublin trade unionist Phil Flynn, Derry elected representative Martin McGuinn-

ess, republican prisoner Brian Keenan, British-media-on-Ireland expert Liz Curtis... and John Lennon?

The answer (of course!) is in the latest edition of *IRIS — the republican magazine*.

All make a contribution to the March issue which is just out.

(The John Lennon part comes in the form of a reproduction of his song 'Sunday Bloody Sunday' in the poetry section of the magazine.)

And if you want to be even better informed than reading *An Phoblacht/Republican News* can make you (is such a thing possible?) you should make sure of getting your copy without delay.

Rates are as follows (all rates are in sterling):

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MEDIA FREEDOM DEMANDED

BY PAUL ROONEY

A STEP FORWARD in the campaign against censorship took place at a meeting in the ATGWU Hall, Dublin, on Tuesday, March 8th, when a packed hall adopted a Charter for the Freedom of the Press and Broadcasting. The charter seeks the abolition of Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act, the removal of all laws, legal practices and procedures that inhibit freedom of the press and broadcasting, and demands the public's right to information, especially in the area of public bodies and centres of power.

The meeting, the second to be held this year, was called to nominate a working committee — to replace the caretaker committee elected — and to adopt the charter with any amendments proposed from the floor.

SECTION 31

The meeting, which was chaired by Des Bonass of the ATGWU, heard contributions from Vincent Browne, the political journalist, and Sean MacBride. Bonass outlined the purpose of the meeting, explaining that from the very outset the campaign centred on Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act, and that a number of prominent individuals have lent their names in support.

Bonass explained that it had become clear that although Section 31 played a very important role in the area of censorship, there were other laws and restrictions which inhibited freedom of expression, such as laws on libel, contempt,

the Offences Against the State Act, among others. It was thus felt that the campaign had to be broadened out into these areas in order to obtain the maximum impact.

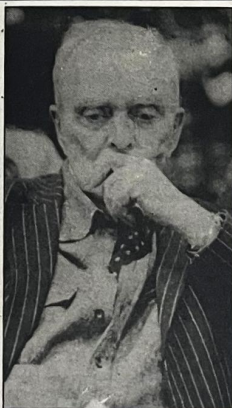
NO FREE PRESS

Vincent Browne during his contribution declared that there is "not a free press or media in Ireland" and went on to outline in detail many of the restrictions and the depth of secrecy maintained on subjects that are of public interest.

Browne laid emphasis on the activities of the Gardaí where they are virtually a law unto themselves and place every obstacle in the way of investigative journalism.

On Section 31, Browne stated: "This act places great restrictions on freedom of information and creates a cultural environment in RTE and encourages self-censorship."

He pointed out that Section 31,



© Sean MacBride in a pensive mood at last Tuesday's meeting

coupled with other laws and acts, such as the Official Secrets Act, creates a sit-

uation amongst the media where there is "no persistent or burning sense of inquiry."

EUROPEAN COURT

Sean MacBride endorsed Browne's comments and suggested that the new committee should have the power to elect sub-committees to tackle specific laws, because of the broadness of the demands.

MacBride also suggested that the committee should prepare a comprehensive case to be brought before the European Court.

INTERFERENCE

Brian Higgins, an RTE producer, commenting on his own experiences, said that there is "considerable interference in programmes on RTE."

On media coverage of the six counties, Higgins said: "There is no desire to get to the root of the problem."

He also stated that RTE staff had repeatedly called for the repeal of Section 31 and that Sinn Féin public representatives should be allowed air-time.

The meeting ended with the charter being adopted, and on a show of hands it was decided that the ten-member caretaker committee should form the core of the working committee with the power to co-opt where necessary.

WHAT'S ON

SEACHTAIN NA GAELIGE

FESTIVAL

Featuring concerts, discos, seminars, céilidhe, music sessions, poetry, etc.

Friday 11th March to

Sunday 20th March

DUBLIN

Details from Seachtain na Gaeilge

6 Harcourt Street, Dublin

(telephone 757401)

(See preview on Page 10)

FUND-RAISING SOCIAL

(in aid of the Liberties

Republican Centre)

Featuring local musicians

8pm Friday 11th March

The No. 5 Club

5 Blessington Street

DUBLIN

Admission £1

Strictly no admission after 10.30pm

RELEASE NICKY KELLY

PICKET

2.30 to 4pm every Saturday

GPO

DUBLIN

SINN FEIN FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FILM SHOW

Two important films on the struggle in El Salvador:

'El Salvador — the decision to win'

(in-depth study of the FMLN in operation in the liberated zone of Morazan)

El Salvador: another Vietnam

(American policy in Central America)

9pm Saturday 12th March

The No. 5 Club

5 Blessington Street

DUBLIN

Admission £1

PARLE/CREAMHE/HOGAN

COMMEMORATION

(60th anniversary)

Sunday 13th March

10.30am march from

2.30pm march from

Barry's memorial

WEXFORD

Organised by the

National Graves Association

NORTH LEINSTER SINN FEIN

EDUCATION SEMINAR

(Louth, Meath, Longford,

Westmeath & Midlands)

'The Role of Officers in Sinn Féin'

11am Sunday 13th March

The Fairways Hotel

DUNDALK

County Louth

All comhairle ceantair & cumainn

officers to attend

CLONARD MARTYRS

ANNUAL COMMEMORATION

2pm Sunday 13th March

Milltown Cemetery

BELFAST

Assemble at cemetery gates

CAVAN/MONAGHAN SINN FEIN

AGRICULTURAL SEMINAR

2pm Sunday 13th March

The White Horse Hotel

COOTEHILL

County Cavan

Speaker: Joe Gallagher

All welcome

VOL TOM SMITH

COMMEMORATION MASS

11.30am Thursday 17th March

Berkeley Road Church

Phibsborough

DUBLIN

TRADITIONAL &

BALLAD SESSION

Featuring Pucan &

guest artists

Thursday 17th March

Cassidy's Lounge

COLLON

County Louth

Admission £1

BUFFET & SOCIAL

Featuring The Jolly Beggarman

Thursday 17th March

The Cross Roads Inn

MILLTOWN

County Cavan

Admission £3

Bar extension

Guest speaker

Organised by Sinn Féin

TV & RADIO

Pupils, peasants and cleaners

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

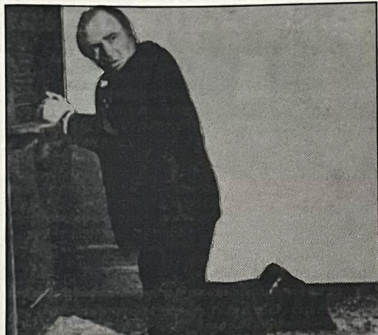
TWO FILMS on BBC in the last week had the same theme, but very different atmospheres and treatments.

On BBC2 on Saturday afternoon, the 1956 British film 'It's Great to Be Young' had a 'school days' theme and starred a young John Mills and an even younger Richard O'Sullivan and Jeremy Spenser.

The story was of two teachers, one popular and 'with it' and the other an old-fashioned disciplinarian.

The children rebel in support of the suspended popular music master John Mills, who is too responsible to encourage them in their anti-authority foolishness and all ends happily with both teachers compromising on the kids' rights and the kids carrying them off shoulder-high.

The film is typical of its time. The school is middle class, the children happy and talented, the teachers have the kids' interests at heart and they mould them



James Mason is brought to his knees in 'Child's Play' by a scheming, younger master after his job

into happy middle-class 'responsible' citizens.

MOULDING

The school in Monday's film,

'Child's Play', is also middle class, a Catholic boarding school in America. But the treatment of school life is very different and the moulding of young

minds is of a different kind.

James Mason is a strict Latin teacher resisting retirement. A younger master, who is very popular with the boys, wants his job and sets about driving him out of the school. The older master's complaints of obscene telephone calls and lewd magazines being sent to him are ignored or dismissed as paranoia — except by one new teacher.

He realises that the influence of the popular master over the boys is far from wholesome. The battle between the two teachers is portrayed as the battle between good and evil, and in this unusual film, evil wins.

Whether trivialised or over-dramatised, both films are a reminder of the powerful effect of educators on young minds — and, of course, those who control those educators.

INDIA

Channel 4's Sunday programmes started off with an epic 2½ hour Indian film, 'Mother India'.

This film was also made in

the '50s and is described as 'the favourite Indian movie of all time'. It is like an Indian 'Gone With the Wind', only the heroine, Radha, is a peasant woman scraping a living from a few acres of land which is heavily mortgaged to the local money-lenders.

Radha's husband cannot stand up to the poverty and hopelessness and leaves her with two small sons to care for.

The village is ravaged by floods that leave the land under water and, in one of the best scenes in the film, Radha sings to the departing villagers not to abandon the land, to keep faith with the earth as it is their only hope.

She turns the tide of emigration and after years of back-breaking work, the land yields enough crops for them to live on — if the money-lender did not demand his cut.

To a Western audience, this film may seem heavy-handed in parts and the male actors in particular are much into facial contortions to show anger and fear, joy and love. But this type of mime-acting is part of Indian culture and should be seen as such.

In spite of the very stylised treatment of the sets and themes in the film, it does show clearly how the lives of the Indian peasants are controlled by religious fears and superstitions, and how nature and the seasons affect

every aspect of their lives.

And there are very many parallels with circumstances much closer to home for those who want to see them.

CLEANING

RTE's 'Today Tonight' programme, on Monday, investigated the operations of the big contract cleaning firms in Dublin which clean hospitals, offices, factories and indeed RTE itself.

They use mainly part-time women workers who are not in a union and who work for very little.

Padraig Ni Mhurchu of the Irish Women Workers' Union talked about the bad working conditions and low rates of pay for these women and about the efforts to unionise them.

Many of the workers are married with children and have husbands on the dole, so they are open to intimidation about loss of the work and threats to report them to the social welfare office.

When the 'Today Tonight' team attempted to film the cleaners in their own studios, they were refused permission to do so by the company, Contract Cleaners, and the women were told not to talk to them.

The question is, will the trade unionists who made the programme ignore what they found going on under their very noses now that they have exposed it, or will they do something more about it?

Seachtain na Gaeilge

BY MÁIRE DE BARRA

SEACHTAIN na Gaeilge — a festival of concerts, discos, seminars, céilidhe, music sessions and poetry readings — begins in Dublin on Friday of this week, March 11th, and continues for ten days.

Organised annually by the Dublin regional committee of Conradh na Gaeilge, the festival was revived in 1977 and has since been growing in popularity.

The principal aim of the events is to encourage the use of Irish among people who do not normally speak it due to lack of opportunity.

Seachtain na Gaeilge begins on Friday with a benefit concert, at the Teachers' Club in Parnell Square, for the Shaws Road all-Irish school in Belfast. Artists include Paddy Glackin, Noel Hill, the Sackville String Band and Dai Gais, and while it sounds promising it is very doubtful whether it will raise anything near the £2,000 which

last year's Moving Hearts gig brought in for the same cause.

On Saturday, March 12th, there is a céilí at the same venue and on Sunday evening there is music and poetry in Toner's of Baginbun Street.

The centenary of the death of Karl Marx is not forgotten by Michael O'Riordan, Cormac Ó Gráda and Desmond Fennell, who debate 'Marx agus an Marxas' under the refereeing of Prolinsias MacAonghusa at the Shelbourne Hotel on Monday evening; admission is free.

There are many more events throughout the rest of the week.

MAGAZINE

A new Irish language magazine, *An Rud*, was launched at

FESTIVAL

a reception last week to announce the programme of Seachtain na Gaeilge. The magazine is a mixture of features, satirical and political articles, titbits and cartoons.

In it we learn of RTE's plans for an Irish language programme for children to begin next autumn after an absence of such a programme for more than two years.

It is a sad reflection on RTE's language policy that when Liam Ó Murchú was moved from the post of controller of Irish language programmes five years ago, the vacancy was never filled.

A philosophical article entitled 'Tríghrá' (patriotism) by Gabriel Rosenstock would have been best left buried in the arch-



Gabriel Rosenstock and Michael Davitt, co-editors of *An Rud*, and Clárán Ó Feinneadha, organiser of Seachtain na Gaeilge

ive of University College Cork where he delivered it recently as a talk to the Philosophical Society.

It concentrates on loving our enemies and forgiving all wrongs, ignoring the reality of

imperialism, repression and social and economic injustice.

However, *An Rud* has already sold over 1,000 copies and co-editors Michael Davitt and Gabriel Rosenstock hope that sales will increase with fut-

ure editions.

It is a sale throughout Dublin or may be obtained along with all other information about Seachtain na Gaeilge from 6 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2 (telephone 757401).

A parable of today

BY JACK MADDEN

'MOONLIGHTING', a new low-budget film, is a clever allegory of the modern history of Poland. The film was conceived and produced in a matter of weeks after martial law was declared in Poland in December 1981. The simple plot, four Polish workers sent to England to renovate a house for their boss belies a subtle exposé of Polish helplessness in the face of Soviet pressure on the one hand and the cultural imperialism offered by the West on the other.

This dilemma is brilliantly portrayed by Jeremy Irons who as Nowak, the foreman, is a representation of the Polish government.

He is told by the boss (the Soviet government) that he is being given the leadership because of his intellectual superiority. His command of languages enables him to relate to the workers under his command and to foreigners, but it emerges that this is no real advantage at all.

Of the foreigners he admits: "I can speak the language... but I don't know what they mean." And of the workers: "I chose these men because they were

stupid, I thought I could control them, but I can't." Recognising this he wonders: "Why then was I really chosen to lead?"

The truth is that he is the fall-guy or puppet who is left to take the vilification of his fellow countrymen for implementing a policy not of his choosing. As such he deserves condemnation. His superiority complex in his dealings with the workers, his increasingly dictatorial relationship with them, and his dishonesty, make us despise him.

DUPED

But while the film does not excuse this behaviour it shows

FILM

that Nowak was duped. His superiority existed only because his boss allowed it to exist. The tight budget and pressure of time to complete the job were not of his choosing but were dictated to him by the boss.

At one stage, when things are going badly, he exclaims: "It's not true that I never finish a job in time, that I always fail."

The claim that the Polish government was unable to manage the economy has been made both in the USSR and the West. Poland itself is represented in the film by Anna, the local Caitlin Ni Houlihan, with whom he is totally infatuated.

He can't help thinking that the real reason he was given this job as leader was because the boss had designs on Anna. By the time he finally accepts this explanation it is too late and Anna has been lost.



Tensions begin to rise amongst Nowak, the foreman (second from left), and his countrymen as they celebrate Christmas in consumerist and inhospitable England

The workers, meanwhile, come to distrust him and while they accepted the hardships imposed on them, they would not accept dishonesty. Eventually they unite in opposition to bad leadership, as Solidarity united against the Polish government, and show their ability to run things on their own.

It is only when this internal revolution has begun that they discover that Poland is no longer free to choose her own destiny and that the leadership they

overthrow was only a facade.

DIATRIBE

If all this leads you to conclude that 'Moonlighting' is simply an anti-Soviet diatribe then you would be mistaken, for another relationship develops between Nowak and consumerism or, I should say, Poland and the West.

The workers when they arrive in England discover the dishonesty, vandalism, pornography and racism which are part

and parcel of the West.

"It happens all the time," claims the check-out girl in a supermarket after a shoplifter is caught. A telephone kiosk is smashed by young boys, sex is sold from shop windows and the natives show their contempt for the Poles.

All that the West has to offer is consumerism, for those who can afford it, and vice.

'Moonlighting' is not anti-socialist but it is an excellent parable on freedom and power.

Silent confusion

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

MUCH ADO about very little will be the verdict of many nationalist viewers after watching Channel 4's documentary, 'Ireland — The Silent Voices', on Monday, March 7th. When Channel 4 had announced its screening, it had triggered predictable reactions among right-wing Tories who objected to extracts of IRA interviews being shown, even at the late hour of 11pm.

In the event, the documentary, heralded as a courageous attempt at self-criticism by the British media over their coverage of Ireland, proved rather disappointing. While it correctly argued that British television treats the war in Ireland in the same way as cinema does — by concentrating on violence, blood, and individuals caught up in events they do not fully understand — 'Silent Voices' completely missed the point that the only violence that is ever covered by television is republican 'violence', conveniently labelled 'terrorism'.

GUERRILLAS

Interesting extracts of Finnish and Italian television programmes were shown, pointing to the fact that the same people who are depicted as 'mindless terrorists' by the British media are called 'guerrillas' or 'patriots' in other countries.

However, IBA official Tony Fleck was allowed to utter a lengthy explanation of the IBA's 'code of conduct' and to justify the banning of several programmes, like the 1981 documentary showing the coffin of hunger-striker Patsy O'Hara flanked by a guard of honour; the guard of honour "had been placed there for propaganda purposes," he declared.

IBA official Jeremy Isaacs then ex-

A REVIEW OF CHANNEL 4'S 'IRELAND — THE SILENT VOICES'



● The guard of honour given to Patsy O'Hara, a fitting military tribute by its comrades, was used as a pretext to ban a 1981 documentary on the hunger-striker.

plained how the problem came from the fact that only Catholic grievances were covered by the media, while the loyalist viewpoint was misrepresented! So there was no current interview with a republican spokesperson, but there followed an interview with UDA spokesperson John McMichael, complaining that the UDA was being shown by the media as a violent organisation, which was quite unfair, he said, as the UDA had "a thousand other faces." However, this subtle analysis of media distortion had obviously escaped Andy Tyrre, another UDA spokesperson, who admitted that the television had given the UDA plenty of opportunities to project themselves.

By that stage, it had become clear that 'Silent Voices' was at best politic-

ally confused, at worst quite dishonest.

DISHONESTY

Many viewers will probably opt for dishonesty when they see Channel 4's choice of programmes on Ireland to be shown in the coming weeks.

In spite of protestations made by last Monday's documentary that television coverage should be more political and allow points of view other than those of the British government to be heard, Channel 4 has chosen to show 'Maeve', 'Lament for Art O'Leary', and 'Writing On The Wall', three films which are only loosely connected to the present political situation, and which will confuse rather than enlighten an already apathetic British public.

REMEMORANCE

CROSSAN, Gerard; JOHNSTON, John; LEWIS, Tony; MCCANN, Tom. (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vois Gerard Crossan, John Johnston, Tony Lewis and Tom McCann, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who died while on active service duty as a result of a premature explosion on March 9th 1972. Throid siad agus fuil siad b'ár son na saoirse. Codall go dúin i chomradh. Always remembered by their friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

CROSSAN, Gerard; JOHNSTON, John; LEWIS, Tony; MCCANN, Tom. (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vois Gerard Crossan, Sean Johnston, Tony Lewis and Tom McCann, who died on active service on March 9th 1972. Remembered always by Maureen Blanchard, N. Hampshire, USA.

CROSSAN, Gerard; JOHNSTON, John; LEWIS, Tony; MCCANN, Tom. (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our friends, Vois Gerard Crossan, John Johnston, Tony Lewis and Tom McCann, who died on March 9th 1972. They were unselfish in choosing the road that brought death. A socialist republic will be the only fitting monument to their memory. Always remembered by 'Flash' McVeigh (Portlaoise) and by Sean Murray (H-Block).

HUGHES, Charlie. (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Charlie Hughes, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was shot dead by renegade Irishmen on March 8th 1971. Thug sé a raibh agus ag troid ar son saoirse muintir na hÉireann. Never forgotten by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

HUGHES, Charlie. (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Charlie Hughes, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was murdered by renegade Irishmen on March 8th 1971. Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for him. Always remembered by the Lower Falls Commemoration Committee, Belfast.

HUGHES, Charlie. (12th Anniversary). The Catholic Hughie Finn cumann Rathmines / Ranelagh / Harold's Cross, Dublin, remember with pride Vol Charlie Hughes, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was murdered by counter-revolutionaries on March 8th 1971.

KEENAN, Colm; MCGILLAN, Eugene. (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vois Colm Keenan and Eugene McGillan, Derry Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who were killed on active service on March 14th 1972. I maeac na nGael na nGama. Never forgotten by their comrades in the Derry Brigade.

KEENAN, Colm; MCGILLAN, Eugene. (11th Anniversary). Derry Sinn Féin remember with pride Vois Colm Keenan and Eugene McGillan, Derry Brigade, Óg-

laigh na hÉireann, who died on active service on March 14th 1972. Fuair siad b'ár son saoirse muintir na hÉireann. Ní dhéan dearmad orthu. KEENAN, Colm; MCGILLAN, Eugene. (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vois Colm Keenan and Eugene McGillan, who gave their lives for Irish freedom on March 14th 1972. Always remembered by the McKeeney family.

LEWIS, Tony. (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our son, Vol Tony Lewis, Coy., 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on March 9th 1972. 'At A Seannamh' way for him. We are thinking of you on this sad day and thinking of the past, picturing you in our minds and the way we saw you last, you were taken from us suddenly and left hearts full of pain, but although you are gone from us, in our hearts you will remain. To the world you were one, to us you were the world. Always remembered by his loving mother and father.

LEWIS, Tony. (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Tony Lewis, Coy., 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on March 9th 1972. We will be proud of one so kind and true, our world fell apart completely, the day that we lost you. Always remembered and never forgotten by his loving sister Pauline and Gary; brothers Ray, Gary, Colin and Tony; and sister Teresa and Kevin.

LEWIS, Tony. (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Tony Lewis, Coy., 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on March 9th 1972. Always remembered by his loving aunt Mary and family.

LEWIS, Tony. (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Tony Lewis, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on March 9th 1972. Always remembered by his loving mother and family.

McKEARNEY, Sean; MARTIN, Eugene. (9th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Sean McKearney and Eugene Martin, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who died as a result of a premature explosion on March 13th 1974. Fuair siad b'ár son saoirse. Always remembered by their friends and comrades in the Republican Movement, County Tyrone.

THE CLONARD/COLIN Sinn Féin cumann remember with pride Danny O'Neill, Liam Hannaway, Albert Kavanagh, Gerard Crossan, Tom McCann, John Johnston, Tom McCann, Sean O'Riordan, Gerard McAuley, Peter Blake, Tom McGoldrick, Dorothy Masculine, Maura Meehan, and Martin McKenna.

W.PATHY

DOLART. Ba mhian le Gluaiseacht na nPhoblacht a chur in iúl do chliann agus muintir Phádraig Dolart a d'éag ar na málaibh. Le linn na sheula anseo rinne sé clon dúin ar son leas agus dui chun cinne na Gaeltige agus táim do mdr faoi chomhaoin. Cúimhnear ar a chineáltas agus a fíocht go brách. Leaba i maeac na nGael ar Nearth go raibh ag a nam usall.

DYNES. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of our late comrade, Eddie, who died as a result of a car accident on March 1st. We will continue the fight you fought so well. Eddie. From his comrades in the 2nd Battalion, North Armagh Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann.

DYNES. The Monaghan Sinn Féin comhairle ceantair deeply regret the tragic death of Vol Eddie on March 1st. I maeac laochra na nGael go raibh sé.

DYNES. Sincere sympathy is expressed to the family of the late Vol Eddie. Dynes who died tragically on March 1st. Go ndéana Dia trócaire d'anam. From the John Green Sinn Féin cumann, Castleblayney, County Monaghan.

DYNES. Deepest sympathy is expressed to the wife and family of Vol Eddie.

Dynes who died tragically in a car accident at Keady on March 1st. From his friends in Castleblayney.

DYNES. We deeply regret the death of Vol Eddie Dynes and extend our sympathy to his wife and children. 'No king nor saint could be so proud as he whose flag becomes his shroud.' From Eugene McNamee and Brian Cunningham. YOUNG. The Sinn Féin POW Dept., and An Cumann Cabhrach (BPOC) extend their deepest sympathy to Gerry Young, son of our comrade, Gerry Young (Long-Latin), and family, on the death of his father, Nathaniel. YOUNG. The republican POWs (England) extend their deepest sympathy and condolences are extended to Gerry Young (and family) on the death of his father, Nathaniel. We extend our heartfelt condolences.

YOUNG. My most heartfelt sympathy is extended to my comrade, Gerry Young (Long-Latin), and family, on the death of his father. From Ronnie McCartney (Hull).

YOUNG. Deepest sympathy and condolences are extended to Gerry Young (and family) on the death of his father, Nathaniel. From Eddie, Rosie and family, Birmingham.

YOUNG. Deepest sympathy is extended to Gerry Young and family on the death of his father, Nathaniel. May mercy on his soul. From Una, Sally and Rita Caughey, Birmingham.

Birthday memories

BURNS, Sean. Birthday memories of our dear friend, Sean Burns, who was murdered by the RUC on November 11th 1982, and who would have been 22 on March 8th. Remembered always and sadly missed by the Toman family and Collette.

GREETINGS

CRAWFORD, Geraldine. (Armagh). Happy birthday, Geraldine. Best wishes from Martin and Isobel.

CRAWFORD, Geraldine. (Armagh). Best wishes on your birthday. Love from Amelia and kids; and also the Livingstone family.

CRAWFORD, Geraldine. (Armagh). Best wishes on your birthday on March 10th, Geraldine. How is the 'mooning'? Hope you are still following those instructions. Bottoms up! Love from 'your Moo'. Best wishes also from the 'Gas man', and from Mrs Gillan and family and Brian. (H-Block).

CRAWFORD, Geraldine. (Armagh). Happy birthday, Geraldine. Best wishes from the Moore family. Gerry. Greetings also from Bill Ned and Gerry. Love and best wishes to the dolls! Love and best wishes.

CRAWFORD, Geraldine. (Armagh). Best wishes on your birthday, Geraldine. Lots of love from Kate and Martin Finucane. Also love from Gerry. (H-Block).

MCCLUSKEY, John. (Hull). All our very best wishes on your birthday, John. Regards from Mary, Raymond and young Patrick.

MCCLUSKEY, John. (Hull). Birthday greetings and all the best. John. From the Sinn Féin POW Dept., Dublin.

REVISION

TRANSLATE

- 1 - C's bhfuil an scian?
- 2 - Níl sé sa chúipín.
- 3 - C's tá ag rith agus ag gáire?
- 4 - C's tá ag obair sa ghairdín?
- 5 - An bhfuil sé ar an mbus?
- 6 - Níl an bhó ar an bhféar.
- 7 - C's tá ar an ngeata?
- 8 - Tá blas ar an mbainne.
- 9 - Tá an fear ar an mbórd.

- 1 - Where is the cup?
- 2 - Where is the dish?
- 3 - Who is eating?
- 4 - Who is drinking and laughing?
- 5 - The goat is on the street.

PRONUNCIATION: The pronunciation given in brackets is as near as possible to the sound.

CH is sounded as in LOCH ERNE. D and T before A, O and U are thick, spoken with the tongue pressed against the upper front teeth. DH and GH are like a G far back in the throat — almost a gurgle.

- 6 - The story is on the paper.
- 7 - The tea is not on the table.
- 8 - The boy is hungry.
- 9 - Who is working on the gate?
- 10 - John is coming on the bus.

ANSWERS

- 1 - Where is the knife?
- 2 - It is not in the cup.

- 3 - Who is running and laughing?
- 4 - Who is working in the garden?
- 5 - Is he on the bus?
- 6 - The cow is not on the grass.
- 7 - Who is on the gate?
- 8 - There is a taste on the milk.
- 9 - The man is on the table.
- 10 - Where is the tree?

- 1 - C's bhfuil an cúipín?
- 2 - C's bhfuil an mías?
- 3 - C's tá ag rith?
- 4 - C's tá ag obair sa ghairdín?
- 5 - Tá an gáibear ar an mbus.
- 6 - Tá an scial ar an bhféar.
- 7 - Níl an tae ar an mbórd.
- 8 - Tá ocras ar an mbuachaill.
- 9 - C's tá ag obair ar an ngeata?
- 10 - Tá Seán ag teacht ar an mbus.

REMEMBERING THE PAST

A rebel against injustice

BY PETER O'ROURKE

JAMES Fintan Lalor, revolutionary and social campaigner, was through his writings and teachings, destined to be a major influence on future generations of Irishmen and women.

Born at Tenaill, Abbeyfeick, County Laois, in 1807, he suffered from chronic ill-health throughout his life as a result of a congenital spinal disease.

In 1846, at the height of the Famine, Lalor travelled the country and was appalled at the misery and poverty of the peasants. While Irish people died of starvation, food, such as grain and cattle, was being exported daily out of the country by the landlords.

Lalor immediately began a detailed analysis of the land problem. His view was that only those who worked on the land could own it, expressed in *The Nation* during 1847, attracted the attention of the more militant Young Irishmen.

These included John Mitchell, who, convinced that a revolution was necessary and that Lalor had the key to it, started his own newspaper, the *United Irishman*, advocating armed insurrection to achieve an Irish republic which would

destroy landlordism and secure the land for the people.

Following the suppression of Mitchell's paper and his transportation to Van Diemen's Land, John Martin and Fintan Lalor founded the *Irish Felon*. But after only five issues it too was suppressed.

RIISING

After the 1848 Rising, Lalor was arrested and held without charge in Dublin's Newgate Jail. His health broke down and when he was released months later, he was a dying man.

Nevertheless, he tried to organise another rising for 1849 and was again arrested. In December of that year, two months after being released again, he died, aged 42.

Of Lalor, James Connolly later wrote:

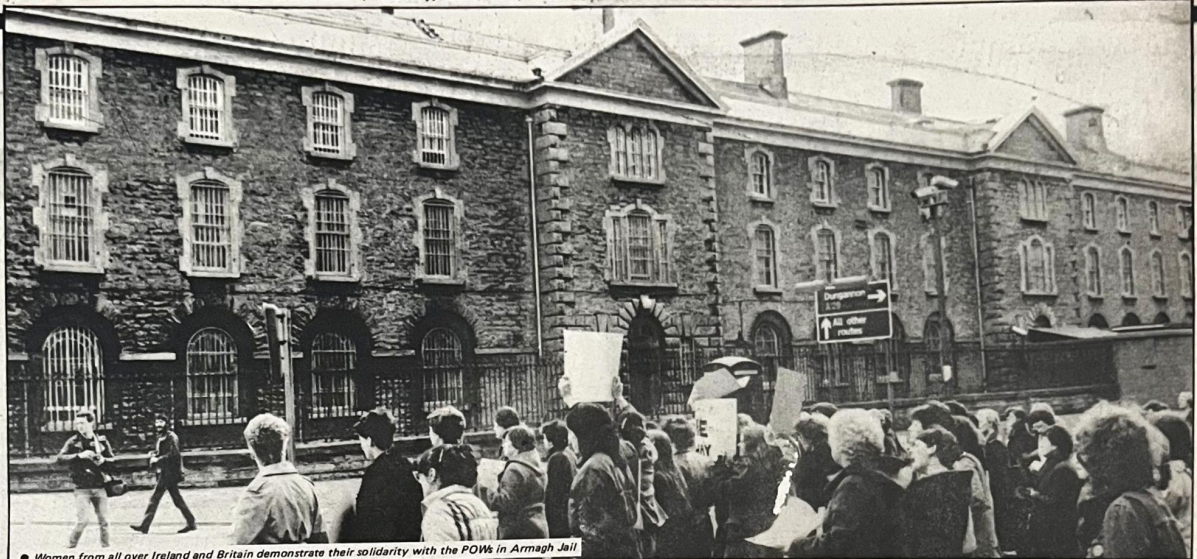
"He died as he lived, a revolutionist and a rebel against all forms of political



● JAMES FINTAN LALOR and social injustices.

"In his writings, as we study them today, we find principles of action and society which have within them not only the best plan of campaign for a country seeking its freedom through insurrection against a dominant nation, but also the seeds of the more perfect social peace of the future."

James Fintan Lalor was born on March 10th 1807.



● Women from all over Ireland and Britain demonstrate their solidarity with the POWs in Armagh Jail

Women's Day events

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

OVER a hundred delegates from various feminist organisations and Irish solidarity groups converged on Belfast at the weekend to take part in a series of activities organised by Sinn Féin's Department of Women's Affairs to celebrate International Women's Day and which culminated in a picket outside Armagh Jail on Sunday in an impressive display of support for the republican women prisoners there.

The delegation arrived on Friday night and Saturday morning from the thirty-two counties and England and included a six-woman delegation from the Greenham Common anti-nuclear peace camp.

Beechmount's Pass 'n' Grove Community Centre was the venue for Saturday afternoon's events which included a photographic exhibition focussing on areas affecting women in Ireland such as the current bill to amend the Free State constitution; education; housing; the welfare state; women in prison; the welfare state; and individual character portraits of outstanding republican women such as Maire Comerford, who died recently after a lifetime of dedication to the republican struggle.

DISCRIMINATION

There were several video films also, showing the decay in Divis Flats and Moyard, and dealing with discrimination and sexism, and women affected by unemployment and racism in Britain.

Rosie Lawlor of Sinn Féin's housing department briefly outlined the atrocious housing conditions in Belfast and introduced Margaret Keenan from Moyard and Kathleen Thibodeau from Turf Lodge. They spoke of the barriers they had encountered while dealing with the Housing Executive and government, ranging from bureaucratic fumbling to deliberate obstruction, but throughout the discussion they emphasised the importance of women being involved in their campaigns.

Rosie Lawlor told the visitors that they would see for themselves the poverty and bad housing in the nationalist areas they would see on their way to billets, and should talk to the people they met on the streets and who they would be staying with in order to go back to Britain with a clearer and undistorted view of life in the six counties.

That night, a function was held in the Crescent Community Centre in the St James's area with entertainment provided by the Eileen Depo Irish Dancers and traditional songs and music supplied by several women artists.

A warm reception was given from the



● A vocal and enthusiastic picket shows the depth of feeling among the women

body of the hall when two statements were read out by women from Sinn Féin's Department of Women's Affairs, one of which welcomed the delegation and one from the leadership of the Republican Movement which called for:

"More Irish women to follow the leadership given to them by republican women, whether in Armagh, Sinn Féin or the armed struggle, and to take on themselves equal responsibility in the building of a new Ireland."

ARMAGH JAIL

Outside Armagh women's jail, the following day, around 300 supporters formed up for the short walk to Barrack Hill.

RUC roadblocks outside Armagh city delayed buses for up to 15 minutes and the town centre itself was heavily cordoned off by a large force of RUC backed up by landrovers and Alsatian dogs. But everyone was in loud voice with chants and songs of support for the republican prisoners.

Banners were carried from Sinn Féin cumann and the British delegation, and placards bearing the names of the republican women prisoners were joined by others reading 'End strip-searching now!'

Roars of support erupted from the crowd every few minutes in response to a cloth flown by the women inside from one of the cells, an act of defiance on their part to the prison regime which has been inflicting a series of harsh punishments on the women, especially since the ending of the no-work protest, with 23-hour lock-up and withdraw-

al of privileges on the flimsiest of excuses.

The picketers sat down in the roadway as messages of solidarity were read from around the world.

Among those who sent messages were: Women in Palestine; Women's Council of SWAPO; Women's Solidarity Campaign; Moss Side Labour Party; Anti-H-Block/Armagh Committee, Frankfurt; Irish Northern Aid, Chicago; Women's Commission, Canadian Party of Labour; Women Against Imperialism, San Francisco; Bristol Working Class Women's Group; Indian Workers' Association; Polish Women in Britain; Mauritius Women's Movement; London Armagh Co-ordinating Group; and from Ann and Eileen Gillespie, republican POWs imprisoned in Styal Prison, Cheshire, England.

OUR TASK

Rix Pye spoke on behalf of the London Armagh Co-ordinating Group and deplored the appalling conditions in Armagh and the strip-searching of the republican prisoners. And she added:

"Our task must be to force the British people to see, hear and understand what you in Ireland tell us and what we see with our own eyes. Coming over here is an experience that can only make us resolve stronger to force the Brits out."

She reminded the crowd that the women in Armagh were being remembered on International Women's Day around the world.

Owen Carron, MP for Fermanagh/South Tyrone, read a brief statement on behalf of

the five Sinn Féin elected representatives.

Gerard Fusco, recently released from the H-Blocks of Long Kesh, voiced the support of his comrades for the women in Armagh:

"Struggling for a democratic socialist republic, a republic where all men and women are treated equally and where the age-old infliction of second-class citizenship on women is replaced by understanding and full comradeship."

POWs STATEMENT

Catrina Pettigrew, released from Armagh Jail on December 20th of last year, read out a statement from the women prisoners.

The prisoners outlined the degrading method of strip-searching asking that:

"Our sisters, on this International Women's Day, highlight our present plight — in particular exposing the practice of strip-searches as a deliberate attack on women's dignity and self-respect."

They also extended solidarity greetings "throughout the world from Palestine to El Salvador, Ghana to Iran. We women rejoice on this day, whether it be on the streets, behind prison bars or secretly in our hearts. No woman should feel alone for our womanhood unites us all across the universe."

They went on to reiterate their commitment to the struggle for national liberation and the equally important role of women inherent in that struggle:

"In a new Ireland, we want to eradicate all forms of oppression, racist or sexist and every woman has a part to play."

PROUD HISTORY

The final speaker of the afternoon was Martha McClelland from Derry, on behalf of Sinn Féin's Department of Women's Affairs, who reflected on the proud history behind International Women's Day and its roots in women's long fight for jobs, the vote and equality around the world.

She emphasised the need for Irish women in particular, and the Republican Movement in general, to realise the enormous contribution and gains made to the struggle by women's participation, urging women to put their energies and resources fully behind the fight for national liberation:

"Women must recognise that women's rights cannot co-exist with British rule in Ireland. We have our task set ahead of us. As republicans, we call on more women to follow the lead of the women in Armagh Jail, to join the struggle. Also, as republicans, we say we are going to provide the support within the community and the social structures to make sure this happens."

"We have our banners — 'No woman's liberation without national liberation, no national liberation without women's liberation' — let's go back to our streets and get more women to help us and prove the point."