

republican news

THE VOICE OF REPUBLICAN ULSTER

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TWO STARK CHOICES

Rory O'Bradaigh, President of Sinn Féin, described this weeks events in the British House of Commons as a "recipe for strife." Most people will agree that the latest move in the game of political chess, being played by Rees and Wilson, is no more than a further delaying tactic. The UUUC bloc, whose plans for an independent "Ulster" have already been formulated, were quick to reiterate their opposition to any form of "power-sharing." Fitt and his SDLP lapdogs grovelled even lower than before when they practically begged the Loyalist leaders to talk to them

The latest charade is certain to increase tension and bitterness to unprecedented heights over the next few months. The London Government, completely devoid of initiative on the Irish problem, have dusted off the same hackneyed clichés in a desperate effort to attach a semblance of respectability to their bungling move. The Free State puppet parliament were as predictable as ever with their "assurances of support" for the Wilson/Rees plan, Cosgrove had issued his statements of approval almost before the Commons debate had ended.

What then does the coming year hold for the people of the occupied area? One prospect that can be discounted is that the Loyalist alliance will succumb to the whimpering of the Antrim Road lick-spittle Fitt and form a Government at Stormont. Rees was adamant that a power-sharing Government is the only form of "administration" acceptable to the Britishers. He ruled out continuing Direct Rule and also discounted rumours that "United Ireland" was part of Britain's long term policy.

This confirms speculation that London would look kindly on a strong Loyalist (pro-imperialist) puppet Parliament functioning without a tangible British presence.

It is certain that London will begin strengthening the Loyalist military machines in the coming months as they await the inevitable collapse of the neo-Convention. We have already seen signs of this in RUC Stations throughout the North. RUC barracks in Belfast have had their perimeter walls reinforced and new "mortar shelters" built in the interior. Rural RUC stations have also undergone this treat-

ment and British army sappers can be seen every day entering and leaving the fortresses.

So, when Rees' Convention tumbles like a pack of cards the scene will be set for the implementation of the Loyalist blueprint — A 6-county Sectarian State. The Republican Movement have spent six years preparing for the eventuality of a British withdrawal, the courageous struggle by Ogligha na h-Eireann has forced the London warlords to the precipice of defeat. Whatever type of administration the Britishers try to leave behind them, and we can be certain that it will be designed to serve the capitalist interest, the Volunteer soldiers of the Irish Republican Army will continue the struggle until the English border goes.

Loyalist Military Being Built Up

No amount of double talk, whether it be in demand of an SDLP/Unionist "coalition or a pseudo-revolutionary "Bill of Rights," will be allowed to cloud the reality of the situation. The Irish people are faced with two stark choices —

(a) A Unionist Parliament with its promise of a decade of discrimination and sectarianism.

(b) A 32 County Socialist, Democratic Republic with the certainty of a prosperous and peaceful future free from the imperialist monster.

Conventions, Assemblies, and other British imposed "solutions" will only prolong the conflict and the suffering. No permanent peace can be found while Britain maintain their unwelcome presence in Ireland.

SAS — NOW YOU SEE THEM- NOW YOU DON'T



The controversy surrounding the whereabouts of the SAS in Armagh continues to grow. The daily express claim that only 20 of the Khaki killers are on the ground in the border country, a Tory MP goes further and says that a mere 11 SAS personnel are deployed in Armagh. Wilson continues to huff and puff and seems uncertain himself of how many of the English assassins are here.

An unholy Trinity, Margaret Thatcher, James Molyneux and Gerry Fitt were invited to 10 Downing Street on Thursday night to discuss the "security situation" with Harold Wilson. It is thought that Fitt will be pressing the English P.M. to ensure that the SAS killers act impartially while in Ireland and direct their criminal operations against both sections of the community.

SAS crime in Ireland prior to the official announcement that they were here include the Dublin bombings, over 100 murders and the kidnapping of several men. The activities of Albert "Ginger" Baker, SAS/UDA member, have been revealed in part by the Sunday World. At least 50 other SAS killers are known to be operative in and around Belfast.

Wilson is unlikely to give any assurance to either Thatcher, Fitt or Molyneux, as he is completely in the dark himself concerning the activities of the SAS. The fact that Wilson did not consult either Labour MP's or the Labour Cabinet prior to his announcement (on the deployment of the SAS) confirm the belief that he is now under the control of the Military Commanders.

He did, however, consult the Tory leadership of his decision and is being branded a political Judas by his pseudo-socialist colleagues.

In last weeks issue a statement was carried from the Clonard Martyrs Sinn Féin Cumann headed: "Hypocrisy Knows No Bounds."

In this statement reference was made to the late Sean McKenna of Newry to the effect that he had been awarded £22,000. The Editor of Repub-

lican News would like to point out that this information is totally incorrect.

Not one penny was received by the late Sean McKenna or his family.

The Editor and Staff of Republican News would like to apologise to the wife and family of Sean McKenna for any inconvenience and/or embarrassment caused by the article.

FRANK STAGG AND GERRY MEALEY ARE DYING. WHERE ARE THE 'MEN OF PEACE' NOW?

A BRAND NEW SOLUTION — 60 YEARS OLD

In mid-December last while British Ministers for State, Hattersly, was openly appealing to the Dublin Government to drop the prison torture cases against Britain at Strasburg, Prime Minister Wilson was making his appeal to American journalists to come to his aid and project the IRA as "brutal terrorists who had nothing remotely in common with the patriots of 60 years ago."

Wilson had forgotten, or perhaps he hoped others had forgotten, the attempts by his predecessors of 60 years ago to attach that same label of "brutal terrorists" to those on whom he now confers the title of "patriots." Since the summer of 1969 nearly 1400 people had been killed in the six counties, he conveniently "forgot" to inform them that over 70% had been murdered by British "security" forces and blandly stated "that there was no army of oppression there" — an echo of Lloyd George in 1920 stating "the English military and the civil-

ian population." Living memory recalls that "protection," just as living memory recalls Lloyd George's description of the IRA as "a secret gang of assassins dominated by a fanatical hatred of England." The echo is still familiar in Wilson's description last month of the IRA as "a group of killers in the dark, in fanatical pursuit of an ideology."

And can he have forgotten the band of journalists, politicians, men of letters, clergymen, faithfully trooping off to the United States to present Britain's case in the 1920's appealing then as now to the "misguided Irish-American sympathisers" to cut off financial aid from their people at home. True, Lloyd George shed no tears over "the blood-drenched shamrock" — that was quite an original touch from Wilson himself.

CREATED BY LOYALIST TERRORISTS

In August 1971, Andrew

Boyd wrote — "All the experience of the past 50 years prov-

es that Ulster can be stable and the Unionist Party maintained in power only by discrimination against the Catholic minority and repression when they demand equal rights. The Government of Northern Ireland was created in 1920, in the midst of a reign of violence during which nearly 500 people were murdered by gunmen in the streets of Belfast. The terrorists of those days were loyalists whom Winston Churchill, on one occasion in the House of Commons, described as "worse than cannibals."

But just as it had created that cannibalistic monster state, the House of Commons continued to nurture it, to placate it, to guarantee its strength and power. Sixty years on, Harold Wilson indulges the same spurious name — calling — he describes the loyalists as "spongers" and continues to nurture and placate and guarantee its strength and power; Britain is mother-slave to her monstrous offspring.

Militarily at an impasse, politically bankrupt, unable to lure the Republicans into the spiderweb of their Convention, incapable of breaking the spirit of a resistant people, the British Government has reached back again more than 60 years for an old weapon, one that has the two edges of hate and fear, freshly honed by the rising demands of Unionist politicians for more and more troops, more and more 'security action'; by the carefully calculated delay and uncertainty of the British Government's intentions; by the cynical deployments of the UDR into Armagh; the frantic build-up in the British press radio and TV; the bellowing demands of Paisley for 'their own parliament, their own Constitution'; the increasing clamour of Loyalists for 'law and order and stability' and the declaration from the Northern Ireland Office that 'the Provisionals are criminal gangsters who are opposed to the exercise of the democratic process.'

INDISCRIMINATE ACTION AGAINST REPUBLICANS

Andrew Boyd has made clear the price to be paid for (British) law, (Orange) order and (Unionist) stability. As for the 'democratic process' — "democratically elected" — Unionist member John Taylor could declare when he was a Minister of State — "I feel it may be necessary to shoot, even more people in the forthcoming months in Northern Ireland." "Democratically elected" U.D.A. members still stand by their promise of some months "to launch indiscriminate and ruthless action against the enemy and their supporters whether active or passive and that includes all Republicans." "They widened their target by bombing Dublin airport and on the 5th January last the 'democratically elected' radio — "I lay the blame for all the troubles on the leadership of the SDLP who unleashed the Civil Rights mob on to the streets back in 1969 and now cannot get them back into their kennels." It used to be "Croppies lie down," now it is "dogs get back to your kennels."

All very pleasing to Merlyn Rees who insists that "the solution lies with the people — the two communities must come together." It is obvious to all by now, except the most naive, that he is hopeful they will come together at each other's throats.

A brand new solution — only 60 years old!!

BLOODY SUNDAY

REMEMBER BLOODY SUNDAY A Mass-Rally organised by Provisional Sinn Fein will assemble at Speakers Corner Hyde Park at 3.00 p.m. on Sunday, 1st February.

Prominent speakers from Ireland will attend. We invite you to join us.

VICIOUS ASSAULT

A young Andersonstown man had to have hospital treatment following a vicious, and unprovoked, attack by a group of soldiers from the Coldstream Guards regiment who are based in Fort Monagh. The man was stopped by the Britishers at 8.00 p.m. on Tuesday night as he was about to enter the Red Barn Chip Shop on the main Andersonstown Road, he gave his name but when he refused to give further information he was butted in the face by a coloured corporal who was in charge of the section. As he fell he was kicked and punched by the Birts and then taken to Fort Monagh where he was again beaten. One of his arms were twisted up his back so far that the man collapsed from the pain.

In Fort Monagh he was photographed beside the Britisher who had "arrested" him, the soldier taking the photographs told the victim that if he didn't smile he would be beaten up. The man refused and had his hair pulled and his face slapped.

After being interrogated and told he was to be charged with "beating up" two soldiers the man was brought to a small room and introduced to a character who claimed to be a doctor. The "doctor" threatened the man in an effort to get him to sign a form claiming that he hadn't been ill-treated, the man told the "Doctor" that if he wanted to sign the form, which he didn't, he would be unable anyway as his right arm by this time was terribly swollen and discoloured.

The man was finally released and was brought to hospital by relatives where a nurse described his injuries as appalling.

While in hospital an Englishman in plain clothes and carrying a gun in his holster approached the man and told him that he would "look into the matter."

The Queen's Regiment are due to leave shortly after their fourth month tour of duty and are stepping up their harassment in the Andersonstown area.

LETTER

A Chara,

On behalf of Sinn Fein Derry City, I wish to invite you to our fourth Annual Commemoration of Bloody Sunday.

I would be grateful if you could let me know as soon as possible if you are coming as arrangements must be made.

If you decide to come and you want to stay overnight please send me details of the band — i.e. the number of boys and girls etc.

Trusting in an early reply I am,

Yours in Freedom,

TERRY O'NEILL

An Runai.

49 Linsford Drive, Creggan Estate, Derry.

PRIZE - WINNERS

THE CHAIRMAN AND COMMITTEE OF THE DUNDALK BRANCH OF AN CUMANN CABRAC —

Are most grateful to Mrs. Owens — Blackrock — for the very successful Christmas Raffle which she organised for their funds.

PRIZE-WINNERS WERE

- 1st: A HARP — Mrs. Largey, Belfast.
2nd: LEATHER WALLET — Master Nial Hoare, Blackrock.
3rd: BEAUTIFULLY DRESSED DOLL — Mr. John Cregan, Black Rock.

Thanks goes also to all who supported this raffle.

SOLIDARITY

FRANK STAGG/GERRY MEALEY

The Officers and members of the Carty, Crowley, Loughran Sinn Fein Cumann (Dungannon) express their solidarity with their fellow Republicans being tortured in English Jails and demand their repatriation.

BRIT PERJURERS

Members of the Coldstream Guards terrorised the people of Iveagh Drive last Saturday night while arresting a man from the street.

The incident started just before midnight when the Brits stopped a young man and his wife as they left the woman's parents home. The woman's father approached the soldiers who were being abusive to the couple and was struck from behind by one of the Brits.

Crowds gathered as the petro patrol attempted to arrest the man for 'assault' and reinforcements arrived in four Land Rovers and four armoured Pigs.

A near riot developed as the Coldstream Guards waved rubbed bullet guns in people's

faces and threatened to shoot everyone if they didn't leave.

The man, who had been receiving attention from neighbours, volunteered to go with the Britishers rather than risk any of his neighbours being hurt. He was taken to Springfield Barracks and charged with "assault."

The tactic of charging Nationalists with "assault" after beating them up is on the increase and is known to have alarmed members of the legal profession in Belfast. One Civil Liberties group in West Belfast are compiling a dossier on such incidents and medical evidence will almost certainly show that every civilian brought to the courts on "assault" charges concerning British soldiers had been beaten up.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

21st BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to Shane Paul O'Doherty (Derry) Remand, Brixton Prison, London, SW.2.

With love from Treasa, Henry Joy, and Saoirse xxxxxxxx

SUCCESSFUL DEMONSTRATION

The Fergal O'Hanlon/Seamus McCusker Cumann held a demonstration last Saturday (10th) to protest at the refusal of the British Home Secretary to repatriate Irish political prisoners especially Frank Stagg and Gerry Mealey who are nearing the end of their fifth week on hunger strike in English jails.

The British army stopped the car which was carrying the organisers and held them for over a quarter of an hour but despite this the microphone was continually used to announce the protest and much to the annoyance of the Brits the cumann members refused to speak except in gaelic.

As a result of this short detention the protest started a half hour late but we added a quarter of an hour onto the intended protest time and so from half past three until a quarter past four traffic

chaos was caused at the junction of Antrim, New Lodge and Hallidays Roads.

The number of protestors grew as the traffic built up and we believe that we got our message across to a lot of people. We note also, with gladness, that the male population are once again beginning to take part in protests such as these.

We apologise to any of our fellow workers who were unavoidably inconvenienced — especially to those friends who had to be detoured and we and relatives of the late Mrs McCann thank sincerely all those who joined with us in protest. We look forward to increasing support for our protests in the very near future.

Is Mise Le Meas,
FERGAL O'HANLON/
SEAMUS MCCUSKER
Sinn Fein Cumann.



ALJ TAKE FRANK STAGG CASE TO STRASBOURG

The case of Frank Stagg is to be taken up with the European Commission of Human Rights. The Dublin Branch of the Association for Legal Justice has already served notice on the British Government that it plans to do this.

The Association's chairman, Mr. Anthony Walsh, who said there was "very little hope" of Stagg surviving his fast, told why the Association decided to prosecute. He called inhuman and degrading the conditions under which Stagg is being detained and said it was particularly obnoxious that he was being kept in solitary confinement. Said Mr. Walsh: "I am afraid that unless he gets an assurance that he will not be returned to solitary confinement the strike will end in death."

A statement from the Association

said that he is in grave danger of death. It went on: "This is his fourth in two and a half years — and it is evident to all concerned that he is in grave danger of death. Medical opinion available to us concurs with us in our belief that if Stagg continues on hunger strike he cannot survive very much longer."

"The prisoner's hunger strike was not primarily concerned with a demand for a transfer to Northern Ireland, but was in protest "at the inhuman and degrading treatment to which he had been subjected to during his imprisonment in British prisons over the last two and a half years."

The statement added that together with European lawyers the Association for Legal Justice had petitioned the British Home Office on Mr. Stagg's behalf over the Christmas period but so far there had been no reply.

Brutal, Cowardly, Regiment

Soldiers of the Coldstream Guards made a vicious and premeditated attack last Saturday night on patrons leaving a bar on the Springfield road.

Earlier in the evening they had gone into the bar to screen people, and had received some mild aggro from the people having a quiet drink. However, this patrol sent for reinforcements and were lying in wait for the people at closing time.

As a result of the attack many people were injured, several arrested, 3 charged with riotous behaviour. One soldier kept firing rubber bullets at point blank range and one youth received injuries to both groins, making it quite obvious that very serious injury was intended.

This regiment since its arrival here has shown itself to be a most brutal and cowardly one, which is probably the only way in which they can display the perversion for which they have become reknown, not only here but in their own country. This is evidenced by the many articles covered by British newspapers on the 'queer' activities of the Coldstream Guards.

SECTARIANISM ABHORRENT

We have been asked to release the following statement.

The Provisional I.R.A. welcomes the intervention of the President of Sinn Féin in calling publicly on the Feakle clergymen to act in the present situation.

The Irish Republican Army has never initiated sectarian killings, and sectarianism of any kind is abhorrent to the Republican Movement and contrary to its philosophy. We seek to rid Ire-

land of British imperialism and build a New Ireland in which Loyalists and Republicans alike will govern themselves and control the wealth of our country. If the Loyalist elements responsible for over 300 sectarian assassinations in the past four years stop such killing now, then the question of retaliation from what ever source will not arise.

Issued by:
P. O'NEILL, Ruman.

Green Cross

Green Cross is a charitable organisation, solely dependant on public subscriptions.

It's aim is to help alleviate some of the suffering of the families of Political Prisoners.

Did you know there are 1,300 Political Prisoners throughout this country and in England and Scotland? In Belfast alone 704 men and women are incarcerated in jail.

Are you doing enough to help?

If not, contact your local Green Cross '73 Committee. Where none exists — form one.

The Central Committee will give you all the help and assistance you require. Contact us, Tuesday to :Friday, 10.00 a.m. — 4.00 p.m.

Our thanks and gratitude to all who have supported us in the past and a sincere welcome to all our new members.

WOMAN'S NIGHTMARE TRIP

At 10.00 p.m. on Tuesday night an 8½ months pregnant woman was arrested on the Kashmir Road by soldiers of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. One soldier stated that he wanted to search her. At this time she just came out of a chip shop and was carrying a bag of chips. She ignored him and walked on, whereupon the soldier grabbed her by the shoulder. He asked for her name and address and she refused to answer him. This is not peculiar as the particular soldier has stopped her 4 times in the past 2 weeks.

Another soldier stated that if she did not answer 'she would get what she deserved.' The jeeps arrived and a soldier placed his hand on her shoulder and gave the Special Powers Act verse and arrested her. A young boy looking out of his window saw what was going on and came outside. The woman by this time terrified asked the child to go for her husband. Her husband arrived as she was being bundled into an open jeep. He demanded to accompany her stating that she was pregnant. They were driven down Clonard Gardens onto the Springfield Road up Ainsworth Avenue and onto the Shankill Road. People standing on the corners began jeering at them and she was overcome with panic.

They were then taken up, Tennent Street and arrived at Tennent Street RUC Barracks. They were made to sit outside this barracks for 10 minutes

before being taken for another trip on the Shankill, this time down Snuggville Street, down Silvio Street and into Hastings Street barracks. There was brought into Room No. 1 where she was thoroughly searched by a female Brit. She was then interrogated by a British officer and she refused to answer unless they were presented to her in writing. This Brit showed her the questions and she answered them. The Brit told her that her chip could have been a nail bomb so she proceeded to eat it. Then she was taken to Room No. 2 where she was photographed, twice frontview and once sideview holding a board. She was taken to Room No. 3 where she was made to stand on scales while a Sergeant weighed her and questioned her on her medication etc. She asked if she could go to the toilet this was refused, she asked for a drink of water and was ignored. After a time she was taken back into Room No. 1 and put through the same interrogation procedure by the same Brits asking the exact same questions as before.

This woman has suffered a nightmarish experience on Tuesday night. She has been subjected to be stopped and questioned four times in a fortnight by the same British soldier. Her trip to Tennent Street RUC and then Hastings Street has very sinister connotations indeed. In view of the present climate we totally condemn the actions of this soldiers.

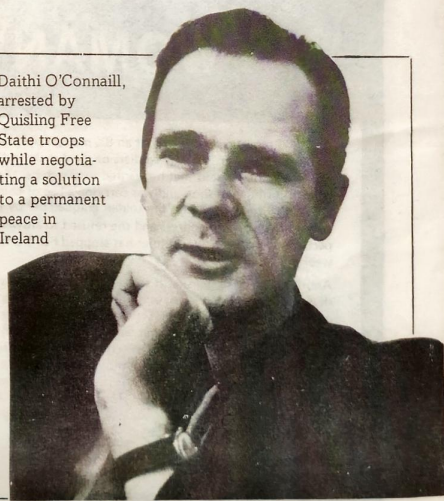
CLONARD MARTYRS SINN FEIN

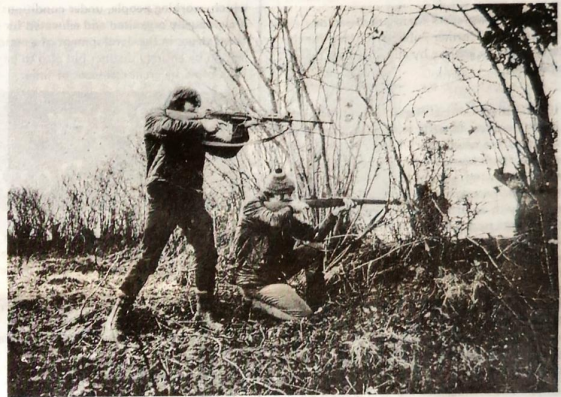
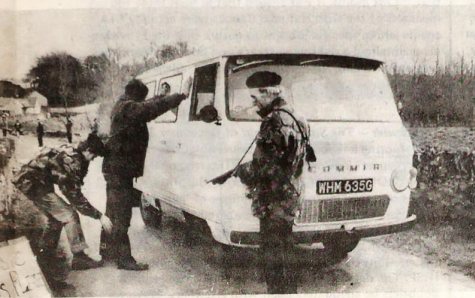


SIX YEARS OF STRUGGLE



Daithi O'Connell,
arrested by
Quisling Free
State troops
while negotia-
ting a solution
to a permanent
peace in
Ireland

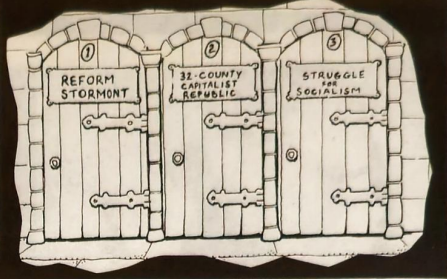




The photographs on this page cover six years of struggle in Ireland. From the women who defied British armour to protest at the jailing of their men . . . to the Fighting Volunteers of South Armagh. We can see once again the thousands who lined the route to watch a Volunteer, killed in action, go to join his martyred comrades who lie in the Republican Plot. While Ireland continues to rear revolutionary sons and daughters her future is assured.



REPUBLICAN REPLY TO 'SUNDAY NEWS' DIATRIBE



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The Provisionals appear to have undergone an ideological change and are moving sharply to the right.' This sentence was the opening shot in a scandalous lying attack on the Provisional Republican Movement in the January 4th issue of the *Sunday News*. Several questions are immediately posed:

Why does this notoriously right wing Loyalist rag get so worried that the Provos are apparently moving to the right?

What does Century Newspapers' Managing Director, Captain Bill Henderson, former Publicity Officer for the Unionist Party, hope to achieve by allowing such material to be published?

Why does the so called 'Official Republican Movement' allow one of its members to write such lying anti-working class material in such a newspaper? This article is not an isolated example; there has recently been a whole crop of such propaganda 'proving' a 'right wing swing' by the Provos. This Stickle propaganda offensive has been mounted hand in glove with an offensive by Merlyn Rees who has sought to equate opposition to British rule in Ireland with criminal activity. His current attempts to end political prisoner status are part of this offensive. In this way the British government is planning to isolate the leadership of the Provisionals from its popular nation-wide support and its international support. They are seeking to promote those organisations within the nationalist population which accept British rule, such as the SDLP, and the Stickies, while attempting to root out those who resist their rule, the Provos.

The Brits, and Loyalist mouthpieces like the *Sunday News*, know that if they can hammer home the tag of a 'right wing swing' this would isolate the Provisional Republican Movement internationally. They are attempting to stop the development whereby growing sections of the left are seeing through the anti-Provo smokescreen erected jointly by the Stickies and the Brits during the last six years. Particularly in Britain where growing sections of the Labour Movement are coming out in favour of the withdrawal of British troops such a tag would have embarrassing consequences. Furthermore, such a right wing tag would isolate the Provos from the growing radicalisation of working class youth throughout Ireland. Particularly as the economic crisis bites in the South and unemployment increasingly hits young people.

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THE CRAZY STAGES THEORY

Given this situation let us look at this latest piece of anti-Provo Black propaganda. The method of argument employed by the Stickle author of the *Sunday News* article is firmly within the tradition of hatchet jobs which Stalinists especially reserve for countering revolutionary politics. This method involves generating a sufficient number of lies and red herrings in order to confuse revolutionary attacks on Stalinist reformism with attacks which stem from a reactionary right wing position. In fact the *Sunday News* Stickle bases his accusations that the Provos are swinging to the right on a recent series of leftist articles in *Republican News*. The *Sunday News* states that: 'For several weeks the Provisional weekly *Republican News* - has bitterly attacked the left-wing Official Republican Movement as being communist and 'the tool of the Communist Party of Ireland.' It has also launched vitriolic tirades against Britain's daily Communist paper - the *Morning Star*, which it accused of being pro-British Army and has accused the Communist Party of Ireland of being "Stalinist reformists."'

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Not one of these accusations does our *Sunday News* Stickle even attempt to deny!

In fact a recent series of articles in *Republican News* has successfully set out to show the disastrous reform-

ist results of the so called 'Official Republican Movement' having adopted the Stalinist stages theory of the Communist Party of Ireland. At the same time it was pointed out at length that Stalinism, a corrupt form of communism, was not to be equated with revolutionary Marxism. For those readers who missed the December 6th issue of *Republican News* I will repeat some of the description of 'The Crazy Stages Theory':

'The Soviet Stalinists have worked out a rigid pattern of historical development according to which all repressive capitalist states, such as both parts of Ireland today, sooner or later become liberal democratic regimes. After which, working people, under conditions of democracy, are gradually organised and educated for socialism. These fixed stages in the development of a state are not only said to be entirely distinct but also to be separated from each other by great distances of time.

by Peter
Dowling

This vulgar 'Marxism' has had disastrous results numerous times outside Ireland. Applied to Ireland it maps out three separate stages along the peaceful road to Socialism:

- (1) democratic reform of the Northern six county statelet,
- (2) national unification and independence from Britain,
- (3) 'the struggle for socialism.

It is not permissible to skip stages and therefore it is a gross mistake to make demands designed to achieve stage (2) before stage (1) has been achieved; to achieve the limited objective of democratic reform in the North involves total rejection of the second stage, the national struggle. 'More and more the Stickies have come under the grip of the dogmatic 'Bill of Rights' strategy of the Communist Party, which has led them to play down the national struggle and more and more insist on limiting their policies to reforms within the six county framework.

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Their recent decision that all their local councillors in the North are to start attending council meetings in another decisive step in this direction. How can these people deny being 'Stalinist reformists?' Indeed, on reading the drab pages of the *United Irishman* one often gets the impression that they are proud of being such.

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STALINISTS BACK BRITS AGAINST I.R.A.]

Finally, with respect to these *Republican News* articles and despite the risk of boring regular readers, I will quote the key passage of the 'vitriolic tirade' against the *Morning Star*. The reader can then judge whether this shows a swing to the right by *Republican News* or by the *Morning Star*. The passage refers to the *Morning Star* of November 3rd.

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"Under the headline 'Rees is told he's siding with the Provisionals', Stalinist Assistant Editor Chris Myant complained about 'Merlyn Rees' complacent remarks after several days of widespread violence.' Myant bitterly complained that, 'Despite the military activity of the Provisional IRA, the British Army, always quick off the mark when bombing directed against property by the Provisional IRA is concerned, have allowed the situation to ride on and have studiously avoided intervening.' This is a clear call for intervention by the British army against the IRA. In case the message had not got home

to the Brits, Myant went on to spell out how the troops should deal with the IRA: 'There are many foot patrols in anti-Unionist areas mounted by the British Army, but the road blocks, usual at such times of tension, are noticeable by their absence.'

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As a smear tactic the *Sunday News* Stickle backs up his false accusation of a 'right wing swing' with revelations that: "Last month it was alleged that at least three top members of the Irish National Caucus were actually CIA agents whose specific job was to ensure that the Provisionals maintained a right-wing stance and opposed Marxist groups in Ireland.' Immediately one asks: alleged by whom?

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The answer - The *Sunday World* of December 14th who were quoting a report. The next question one asks is; whose report? The answer - 'The International News-letter of Official Sinn Fein.' Surprise! Surprise! Apart from noting the journalistic technique of 'laundering' in action here, it should be remembered that the standards of accuracy of this particular 'newsletter' have become internationally acclaimed since its lying coverage of the attempts by the Stickies to murderously eliminate the IRSP. The details of this particular CIA smear will doubtless be adequately dealt with elsewhere. However the essential response was made by a Provo spokesman in the smae issue of *The Sunday World* referred to above. He pointed out that many divergent opinions are represented on the Caucus and some of them may be very right wing, but that in the event of the Irish people securing a British withdrawal it would be the Irish people who decide their own future, without outside influence.

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IMPERIALIST SPLITS ANGOLA

Our *Sunday News* Stickle concludes by saying that: "Even in its international dealings the Provisional organisation has taken a marked anti-leftist line.' This is a straightforward lie. The only evidence stated to back up this false accusation is that *Republican News* recently condemned the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) freedomfighters because it (sic) was receiving aid from Russia and Cuba.'

Given that the recipient of the aid is actually the MPLA and not *Republican News*, then the article presumably referred to was one published on December 13th entitled 'Imperialism splits Angola.' The central argument of the article was correct. The writer correctly explained that imperialism has succeeded in splitting the liberation movement there. It is well known that the NFLA (National Front for the Liberation of Angola) is pawn of America and that the UNITA (National Union for the total Independence of Angola) group is a pawn of South Africa. However, partly owing to some mischievous gremlins at work in the layout department it appeared that the writer was making the liberal mistake of equating the aid which the Cubans and USSR are giving the anti-imperialist MPLA with the aid given by the South African racists and US imperialists. As Seamus Towney said (in an interview published in the first 1975 issue of the *German Ireland Information*), the Provisional Republican Movement would be very pleased to receive Russian rockets but nobody would dictate to the Movement.

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VERBAL

In conclusion we come to the 'verbal' claim that a member of the Republican Clubs was accused by some Provo of being "a socialist bastard." If this did happen, which I find extremely doubtful, given the parentage of the present politics of the Republican Clubs the meaning of this accusation becomes perfectly clear. Their Stalinism is the illegitimate offspring of revolutionary socialist ideals.

WE RECOGNISE OUR ENEMY

James Connolly

On front page issue of the "Irish Press" 7/1/76, in banner headlines — "Cooney calls for support for R.U.C." and then next day he flies to London — cap in hand — to advise the Northern Secretary, Mr. Rees, that "random" patrols should be stepped up on the Northern side of the Border.

What a shameful submission of treachery and surrender for the nationally minded people in enemy occupied Ireland.

Does Mr. Cooney think that by openly collaborating with the armed forces of the invader he will bring peace and freedom to the people in that occupied portion of our Country?

Do not be fooled by all the fine talk of "a return to the role of law." As long as the British presence remains in our Country there will be only one law — CROPPIES LIE DOWN!

Why is Mr. Cooney's own army standing "idly by" when the people of South Armagh now need protection against England's latest invaders — the notorious SAS regiment.

For 800 years the might of the British Empire has failed to crush the spirit of freedom in the Irish people and there is to be no such word now as surrender in our history — Ireland is one and its destiny is to be free. God ordained it so. As James Connolly said "we mean to be free and in every enemy of tyranny we recognise a brother, in every enemy of freedom we also recognise our enemy though he be as Irish as our hills."

The whole of Ireland for the people of Ireland — their public property to be owned and operated as a national heritage, by the labour of free men in a free country.

That is our ideal and when you ask us what are our methods, we reply — those which lie nearest to our hands.

How far the leadership of the Ex-Socialist Labour Party have followed Connolly's teaching is only too painfully plain for the most ignorant amongst us: to see on this January day but Thou are not conquered yet dear land.

JACK DUNNE

(twice interned without trial or charges)

IN MEMORY OF JOHN GREEN

Upwards of 1,000 people took part in a Commemoration Parade in Lurgan on Sunday, 11th January in Honour of Staff Captain John Francis Green North Armagh Oglagh na h-Eireann who was brutally murdered on 10th January, 1975 in Co. Monaghan.

The parade was headed by a Colour Party of Uniformed members of Na Fianna Eireann. As it made its way to the cemetery the parade stopped for a short time outside the home of the late Terry Brady who died very suddenly recently.

At the Republican plot in St. Colmans Cemetery at total of 24 wreaths were laid in memory of Staff Captain Green.

Mrs. Maire Drumm Vice President of Sinn Féin gave the oration. Referring to recent sectarian murders Mrs. Drumm said that sectarianism was not part of the Republican campaign. She said that it was most unfortunate that ten Protestants had been shot dead, but in answer to England sending in reinforcements of the SAS to Armagh, Mrs. Drumm was loudly applauded when she stated that the SAS like the Black and Tans would be met with the full resources of the Republican Movement and that they would be packed off home to England.

Mrs. Drumm also appealed for support for Frank Stagg and his comrades who were on Hunger Strike in England for their just demands to be repatriated to Ireland.

Mrs. Drumm in conclusion said that the Republican Movement would not stand idly by if Merlyn Rees tried to abolish Political Status which was so dearly fought for by our Prisoners of War and that the Republican Movement would fight every inch to have it retained.

Is mise, P.R.O.
North Armagh C.C. Sinn Féin

SUPPORT GREEN CROSS

being affected by this destruction.

We advise those responsible (some of their names have been given to the Republican Movement) to cease this type of anti-social activity.

STATEMENT FROM
THE THOMAS HARTE
CUMANN SINN FEIN,
LURGAN.

Britain Are Politically Bankrupt

One would have thought that the decision by Britain to saturate South Armagh with more troops including the S.A.S. Regiment, was prompted solely by the recent assassinations.

This was at least the initial impression forwarded by Mr. Wilson, an impression permitted to last long in the public mind. It is obvious to all by now that the British "dirty tricks" units are in fact being deployed in a last desperate effort to break the spirit of the resistant people of South Armagh, or, as it has been plainly spelt out 'to defeat the Provisional I.R.A. once and for all.' The media in general have categorically stated this.

Military at an impasse, politically bankrupt, unable to lure Republicans into the spiderweb of her Convention, Britain has clearly manifested herself as the Mother-Slave to her monstrous offspring. Just

as she had created the sectarian Monster State sixty years ago, the House of Commons continues to nurture it, to placate it, to guarantee it strength and power.

The carefully calculated delay and uncertainty of the British government's intentions; the cynical deployment of the sectarian U.D.R. into South Armagh and the follow-through by S.A.S. units; the frantic build-up in the British press, radio and TV; the bellowing demands of Mr. Paisley for "their own Parliament, their own Constitution," but most indicative of all, the fact that the S.A.S. is directly controlled by the British government, all these are ominous portents of that no political solution is to emanate from Britain. They tragically manifest that sixty years have not changed Britain and that her policy in Ireland still lies in the hands of the Loyalists.

PADRAIG O MURCHU,
Runai, I.R.I.S.

BRIT GUNS KILL IRISH SONS

A Chara,
British Ministers of State Stan Orme has embarked on a tour of the United States in a fruitless attempt by the British Imperialists to stem the much appreciated funds coming for the relief of suffering in this country. His nefarious slogan was, "send funds not guns," and while he was there he saw fit to launch a vicious onslaught on the sections of the People's Freedom Fighters.

By the use of sophistries, subterfuges and fraudulent fabrications he tried to convince the American people that in all the murders committed in the six counties American weapons were used. Let us hope that the citizens of the United States were not taken in by this propagandist of the British War Machine.

Is it not a fact that most of the Catholics assassinated in the six counties have been killed by British Army Sterling Sub Machine Guns? Also included in the loyalist arsenal are other weapons of British Army origin like the Browning Pistol — "stolen" perhaps from their friends in the U.D.R.

One such murderer, Albert Baker, convicted of some of the most horrific killings, has admitted being issued with Brit munitions.

It is also common knowledge that over the years there has been a steady flow of explosives from loyalists in Scotland. This fact has received little or no public

ity from the media, and has proceeded unhindered by the British government. This is but another example of Mr. Orme's blatant hypocrisy. He slams American aid for the oppressed minority while he turns a blind eye to his own country's moral and financial support for Catholic assassinations.

Is Mise Le Meas
HECTOR & MICKY

BROADSHEET

The Bloody Sunday Commemoration Committee have published a broadsheet as part of the build up to their February 1st demonstration in London.

The broadsheet, part of which was printed in Republican News several weeks ago, can be obtained by writing to the following address:

The Organiser,
Bloody Sunday Commemoration Committee,
102, Drummond Street,
London NW1.

They will cost 5p per copy plus postage (4p for orders of over 20).

VANDALISM IN LURGAN

It has come to our notice recently about empty houses in Brown Street, Lurgan which have been severely vandalised to such an extent that houses close by which are occupied are

SON OF IRELAND

STAFF CAPT. JOHN GREEN
Armagh Oglagh na h-Eireann.

The Officers and members of the John Green Cumann, Ballymacnab, remember with pride one of Ireland's bravest sons.

"Let his epitaph be written. . ."

GOLDEN WEDDING

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Duffy, Drumbeg North, Craigavon, on their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

From son Francis (Long Kesh) Sean (Long Kesh).

Smyth Cumann, Craigavon.

HARD FACTS BEHIND THAT LURGAN MARCH



A Chairde,

The recent march in the town of Lurgan to protest against sectarian killings brought together many shades of political opinion and, as such, I suppose, it was a good idea! Sectarianism has divided the people of Lurgan for far too long. But the suggestion, 'to march', seemed to come only on Tuesday after ten protestant people were killed in South Armagh - that sequence of events throws some doubt on the aims and sincerity of the organisers and at least some of the participants. It must also pose the question: how much longer can the Nationalist people of Lurgan be gulled by astute Loyalist manipulators - this time, posing as Trade Union representatives? One cannot, and would not, deny the right of workers to march for their beliefs but without doubt, a march on Monday to protest about the murders at Ballydougan and Whitecross, in which five Catholics died at the hands of loyalist gunmen, would (a) have had no support whatever from the loyalist working class, many of whom refused to protest on Friday when they discovered that it might be a joint protest, (b) not have been allowed past the top of Edward Street by these friendly police on duty. But because it was Friday morning and police and politicians, seeing the demonstration as an opportunity to coo the Nationalist people into a false sense of friendship while once again giving the loyalists the freedom of the town centre, allowed the demonstration to proceed. The Nationalist people of Lurgan walked the streets of Lurgan with the same loyalist workers, many of whom (1) intimidated Catholics out of their homes in the Mourneview and Hospital estates while the friendly R.U.C. stood idly by, (2) expelled Catholics from their jobs and victimised others and finally fingered a few for the Lurgan loyalist assassination squad (3) refused to protest at the death of thirteen Civil Rights demonstrators on Bloody Sunday while insisting that pay be stopped and 'D' notices served on all those who did, (d) closed factories and received full pay for a similar demonstration after the Bloody Friday killings. (5) Left your homes without heat or electricity and with very little food, cars without petrol and yourselves without work during the U.W.C. strike, called to ensure permanent inequality among working class people in Lurgan and throughout the North.

WHY DID IT TAKE SO LONG?

Nevertheless your courage to march must not be forgotten - only why did it take you so long? Look at the list of your own people who have died at the hands of loyalist assassination squads very near to your own homes and then ask yourselves where were you?

JACK McCABE (12th July 1972)

Catholic, murdered in his own pub in Portadown.

FELIX HUGHES (15th July, 1972):

Kidnapped, tortured and brutally murdered on his way home through a loyalist area in Portadown.

EAMON McMAHON (26th August, 1972):

Fished from the River Bann, battered and bruised beyond recognition.

PATRICK CONNOLLY (4th October, 1972):

Killed by a loyalist grenade, thrown into his home in Portadown.

JOSEPH WEIR (18th January, 1973):

Shot dead in a car park in Portadown.

DENIS GORMAN (25th August, 1973):

Found dying from a blow in Obins Street Portadown.

ANTHONY DUFFY (27th October, 1974):

Another victim of the Portadown Romper-room torture squad.

JAMES BREEN (19th February, 1975):

Opened his front door to Loyalist gunmen in Lurgan.

DOROTHY TRAINOR (1st April 1975):

A forty-five year old housewife shot dead (her husband seriously wounded) by loyalist gunmen while walking home through Portadown park.

MARTIN McVEIGH (3rd April 1975):

Father of unborn baby gunned down by loyalists while cycling home from his work at the Metal Box factory in Portadown.

JOHN M. FEENEY, JOSEPH TOMAN, BRENDAN

O'HARA (27th April, 1975):

Murdered by loyalist gunmen while they were enjoying a quiet drink and game of darts in a Bleary club near Lurgan.

JOSEPH TOLAND (1st August 1975):

Died in a hail of loyalist bullets in a Bingo Bus ambush at Gifford near Lurgan.

JAMES MARKS (7th January, 1976):

Catholic driver of minibus dies as a result of gunshot wounds received in loyalist ambush.

JAMES GRIFFIN (29th October, 1975):

Catholic youth shot dead in his own home on the fringe area of loyalist territory.

RONALD TRAINOR (14th December 1975):

Second member of this family to die - house bombed while Catholic youth watches T.V.

JOSEPH O'DOWD, BARRY O'DOWD, DECLAN

O'DOWD (4th January, 1976):

Loyalist gunmen burst into family reunion at Ballydougan near Lurgan killing three men and seriously wounding another.

Not a bad record you must admit for the Loyalist assassination squads living and operating in the greater Craigavon area, not to mention their successes in the Loughgall district or their murder attempts on (a) two Roman Catholic priests living the Portadown area, (b), on members of the Lurgan Celtic Supporters Club, (c) on Catholic families living in the Edward Street area by a four-hundred pound no-warning bomb and others living in Morrow's Terrace, Gifford, by petrol bombs and in Cranny Terrace, Bleary by a machinegun attack, (d) on Catholic people from the Shankill area drawn from their homes by a Saturday afternoon hail of stones and greeted with a burst of machine gun fire from the Wakehurst estate, (e) on customers in Kane's Public House, Ballinry by a no-warning bomb and others in the Criterion Bar by a bomb and bullet attack. (f) on a Catholic man by a cowardly gun-attack at North Street/William Street junction, (g) on a local politician and his workers by placing a booby-trap device under his car at Waring Street (h) on a petrol-pump attendant in Edward Street by an anti-personnel blast-bomb (i) on a Catholic scouting enthusiast greeted by a loyalist gun gang while answering a knock on his door in a predominantly loyalist area (j) on a country girl in an early morning kidnapping as she journeyed to work in the U.K.O. These are just a few of the more serious attacks by loyalists, there are many more including the blatant sectarian bombings and burnings of Catholic church and school property in the Portadown/Craigavon area.

SAD INDICTMENT

The 'friendly police,' whom you encountered on your way through Lurgan town have done nothing to prevent these crimes and very little to apprehend those responsible. Don't you think that it is a sad indictment of this same police force when the mother of one of the murder victims, herself, had to find evidence to connect loyalists with the murder of her son and; that the overt acceptance by the police and public prosecutor of a plea of manslaughter has ensured that those responsible for a murder committed in 1972 are now long free. Did your march against sectarianism include a protest against a sectarian police force or did it contain a resolution of support for the R.U.C. - this might be an acid test for the purity of the motives which inspired the organisers:

WHY I WASN'T WITH YOU

If you walked from any of the factories on the Portadown Road did you know that you passed the spot where Eamon McMahon was last seen alive; the spot where Anthony Duffy was picked up to be tortured and murdered; the church where Jim Breen arranged your wedding dresses as you posed for photographs; the petrol pumps which almost became headstones; the street where that young boy, Jim Griffin, lost his life; the bombed-out houses of Edward Street; the Celtic Supporters Club which might have been a massive grave for those football fans; Shankill corner where your sons were battered by the Reserve Police known of Edward Street beyond which no Civil Rights march could ever go; or William Street/North Street corner which hold memories for many of your children as the spot where Tartans and police battered them - a spot which nearly meant death for a Catholic father; and then on to Windsor Avenue where some of you have never shopped on Saturday afternoon for years because of "Tartan control." The journey would have had these and many other memories for me - I wasn't with you.

Is mile le meas,

ANTON O TUATHIE
as Lurgan.