

AN

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING  
POLITICAL WEEKLY



# PHOBLACHT

## Republican News

Sraith Nua Im! 5 Uimhir 35 Deardain Mean Fomhair 8 Thursday September 8th 1983 (Britain 25p) Price 20p

'Smash the show trials'

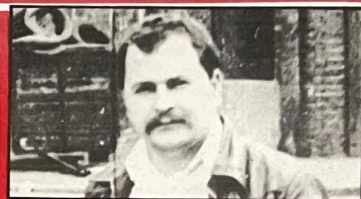
### RALLY

3pm Sunday 12th September

Beechmount Avenue

BELFAST

Called by relatives of informer victims



## New wave of

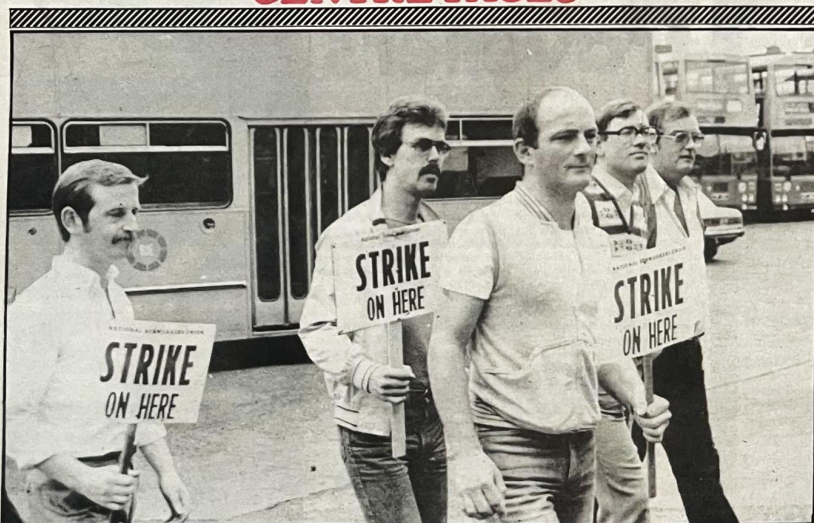
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## arrests

HUGE PROFITS IN  
UNCONTROLLED DUBLIN DRUG TESTS

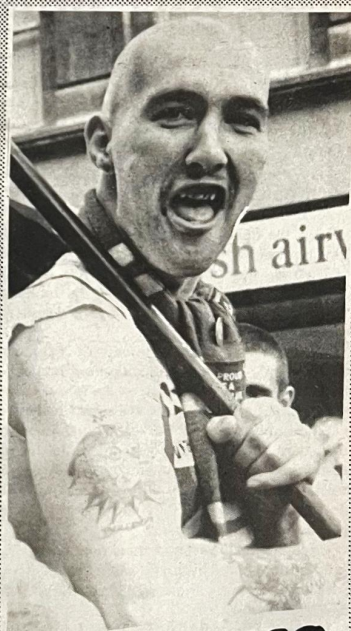
# THE HUMAN GUINEA-PIGS

-CENTRE PAGES-



## Buses stop for fair deal

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## SNIFFING FOR BRITAIN

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BURKE'S  
AT THE BACK

By Kevin Burke



## OPINION

### Hypocritical hosts

VISITING the Free State this week, *en route* to North America, comes the Zimbabwean leader, Robert Mugabe.

This is a man who led a long and bloody armed struggle against the oppressive white regime of Ian Smith to eventual victory both in the guerrilla war and in the electoral contest.

Very much therefore a man who came to power with an Armalite in one hand and a ballot paper in the other.

How then is he greeted by the Free State premier Garret FitzGerald? Does he refuse to talk to this man unless he publicly rejects violence?

What of the Coalition's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Peter Barry? Will he recall his definition of last month in which he declared that anyone who sought to achieve political aims by violent means is obviously a fascist?

Will they greet Robert Mugabe with a public denunciation for daring to free his people by use of the bomb and the bullet? No, of course they will not.

Nor will they explain why in the Irish context they adopt this hypocritical pose and, indeed, take the side of the oppressor against those who struggle for Irish freedom.

The truth is that in pursuing their own selfish advantage, in securing their own class interests, and in the use of repressive measures to do so, there is nothing to choose between the Ian Smiths of yesterday and the Garret FitzGerald and Peter Barrys of today.

### Monthly figures

WITH an almost monotonous inevitability — and receiving little media attention among the diversions of amendment and contrived international crisis — the monthly unemployment figures are published once again.

The official trimmed down statistics reveal 194,000 jobless in the twenty-six counties and another 117,000 without work in the North. That is a total of 311,000 people officially in the dole queues in Ireland — 41,000 more than this time last year.

That is, in human terms, 41,000 personal disasters in 12 months, devastating not only the individuals concerned but their families too. And the real jobless figure could easily be twice the official count.

In addition, many thousands of school-leavers are just about now realising, with sickening despair, that they are facing a life which does not, in the foreseeable future, include the possibility of work or of the benefits which go with it.

So complacent have the establishment politicians become, that they totally ignore these monthly figures now, letting them pass without comment, let alone apology. And they are allowed to get away with this; carefully judged minimal dole hand-outs successfully keeping the lid on what has to be a cauldron of discontent.

Unemployment, even at these high levels, has been successfully structuralised into the capitalist economy and accepted with resignation by those who suffer directly its most vicious consequences.

Without any doubt, the only method of ending unemployment is to change the system of which it is an integral part for a system which allows jobs for all in a planned economy — that system can only exist in the democratic socialist republic for which we strive.

Let no one be fooled into thinking that an explosion of the unemployed into mass rebellion is just around the corner, or even that it is inevitable. That is not so.

What is required is a hard slog to raise consciousness of the inexcusable injustice of joblessness, to convince employed and unemployed alike of the real opportunities that do exist of work for all in the exploitation of Irish resources, and to raise the spirits to a level at which that target will be courageously aimed at.

Real political anger and determination must be substituted for frustration and despair.



British troops and RUC arrive in strength following the Rossville Flats blast

### War News... War News... War News

## Derry booby-trap bomb

FIVE separate active service units of the IRA's Derry Brigade were involved over a number of days in a patiently prepared and executed booby-trap bomb attack at the city's Rossville Flats.

The Crown forces were eventually lured to the scene on Monday this week. Local people had been notified to leave the area.

Ten RUC landrovers and six British army armoured personnel carriers unloaded their crews, cordoning off the flats, and conducted a search throughout the afternoon.

During the investigation of a crate of petrol bombs in the Ardmena section of the flats, a booby-trap bomb, concealed inside, exploded injuring two RUC men, who were taken to Altnagelvin Hospital.

On Monday night, a three-strong IRA active service unit, armed with high velocity weapons, opened fire on an RUC landrover in Derry's Culmore Road and hit the vehicle but claimed no casualties.

**BELFAST INCENDIARIES**  
Several active service units of

IRA's Belfast Brigade successfully breached the security zone of Belfast city centre on Saturday, September 3rd, and placed a number of incendiary devices in commercial premises.

The targets included Pricerite Carpets on the Shore Road, Windsor Carpets on the Donegall Road, Fraser's menswear shop and Millers Camping Equipment in Cornmarket, and Moore's Sports Equipment in Chichester Street.

Damage was caused in Moore's and Fraser's, and in Windsor Carpets fire extensively damaged stock and spread to the roof.

## Task Force travellers

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

A DOCILE workforce and generous tax allowances will be the two major planks used by a group of politicians, businessmen and academics who will be travelling to the United States on September 16th in a bid to lure American firms into investing in the six counties.

The group, which will include SDLP leader John Hume and DUP leader Ian Paisley, has chosen for itself the rather aggressive name of 'Task Force Two', although one suspects the only 'Belgrano' they will sink is £5million in PR operations and costly adverts, paid for by the British government's six-county based Industrial Development Board.

Undeterred by the poor record of American firms in Ireland, from the fly-by-night companies to the firms attracted by the low wages, not to mention con-men like John De Lorean, Task Force Two will attempt to explain to doubting American industrialists how 'the troubles' really have been much exaggerated, and how the six counties are a haven for investors, with all the subsidies, grants, tax-cuts, and workers used to earning less than the rest of Europe.

### EMBARRASSED

John Hume's participation in the trip, announced last August, was in doubt until last Monday as the SDLP, highly embarrassed at the interest caused in the media

by a joint Hume/Paisley trip to the States, had felt obliged to deny Hume's part in the delegation. Hume himself made a few principled noises as to his refusal to take part if 'political capital' was to be made out of the trip — a new leaf for John Hume, it seemed.

However, the SDLP leader was unable to resist this latest junket and managed to convince himself that his political integrity would not be tarnished by a little trade delegation to America. After all, holding three jobs does not mean one is insensitive to the problems of the jobless. And the EEC elections are only eight short months away...

Commenting on the visit of the Task Force to the US, Derry Sinn Féin elected representative Martin McGuinness stated that long and bitter experience shows that the input or withdrawal in industry and investment in the six counties is decided by the profit margins available to multinational interests and certainly not by forlorn pleas from local politicians who indulge in career-enhancing trips abroad.



JOHN HUME



IAN PAISLEY



# New wave of informer arrests

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

SEVEN Belfast men, arrested by the RUC last week, have been charged with a number of offences including killings, possession of firearms and IRA membership on the sole word of William John Skelly, who himself was charged on Friday with the killing of an RUC man during a rocket attack on May 14th 1981 and whom the RUC named on Saturday as their latest informer.

Skelly, who had no fixed abode at the time of his arrest, has a long history of regularly giving himself up to the RUC and claiming to have been involved in incidents. Those claims inevitably proved unfounded after investigation and Skelly has also been receiving psychiatric treatment since his early teens.

On Tuesday in Belfast High Court, during a bail application by one of those named by Skelly, Lord Justice O'Donnell ordered an investigation into his questionable background in order to establish the informer's credibility as a crown witness.

Among those still being ques-

tioned by the RUC in Castlereagh, and implicated on Skelly's word alone, is Ballymurphy man Robert Lean who in turn has been pronounced by the RUC as having allegedly been adjutant of the IRA's Belfast Brigade and directly responsible for the arrest on Tuesday morning of almost 20 people from the Ballymurphy and Beechmount areas.

## CUSTODY

Lean's wife, Geraldine, and their five children, aged from 14 years to 6 months, were taken from their home by the RUC while the raids were in progress and are now being

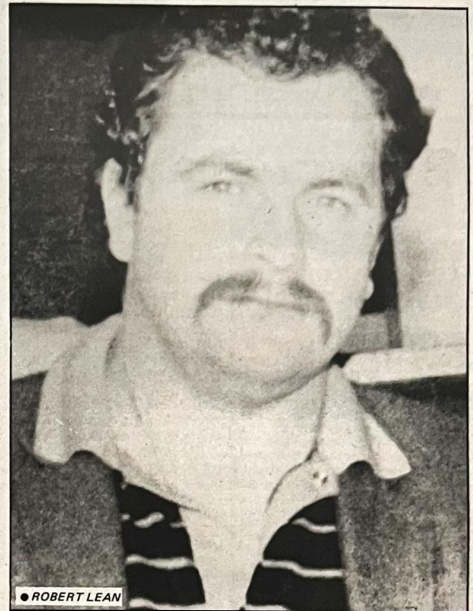
held in so-called 'protective custody', a situation which Mrs Lean's family has hotly disputed.

Only 16 months ago, on May 14th 1982, Robert Lean and five other Ballymurphy men implicated by informer James 'Bimbo' O'Rawe walked free from custody when O'Rawe retracted his statements against them. The six had been accused of conspiracy, possession of firearms and being members of an IRA interrogation unit questioning O'Rawe about giving information to the RUC.

Boasting of the extent of Tuesday's raids, and carefully ensuring that the media was supplied with an imaginative run-down on well-known republicans arrested in the swoops, the RUC later used another scare tactic by announcing that further arrests of up to 60 people would follow shortly in what is clearly seen by the nationalist people as an orchestrated effort by the RUC to create panic and disillusionment.

## DISCREDITED

Gerry Adams, commenting on



● ROBERT LEAN

the arrests, said:

"These boasts, if true, show the total and discredited reliance of the RUC on the use of hired perjurers and show trials.

"The silent collusion of the Catholic Hierarchy and the SDLP is explained by the fact that they

view the RUC strategy as aimed at smashing republicanism and the morale of the militant nationalist people. Their silence also explains why the RUC are able to use such methods which are a further corruption of even their own corrupt laws and judicial system."

# TOKEN CHARGE

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

THE DECISION last week by the six-county Director of Public Prosecutions to charge an Armagh RUC man with the murder of INLA Volunteer Seamus Grew, over nine months after the murder took place, was eagerly welcomed by Fr Denis Faul and violently attacked by OUP deputy-leader Harold McCusker.

Fr Faul noted with satisfaction that such measures would "increase Catholic confidence in the law", while Harold McCusker defended the shoot-to-kill tactics adopted by the RUC, even going as far as advocating capital punishment as a method of crime prevention.

"As a consequence of actions by members of the security forces," he said, "there are people alive in County Armagh who would otherwise have been dead."

McCusker's objections received strong

backing from Craigavon Borough Council, who on Monday, September 5th, called for the charge against the RUC man to be dropped immediately, and went on to say that such a step was "very soul-destroying for the remainder of the force."

## EXPERIENCE

However, the loyalist people of County Armagh need have little fear for the freedom of this paramilitary policeman-cum-judge-cum-executioner. Past experience has shown that when all the fuss has died down, the granting of bail will be followed by the charge being discreetly dropped or, at worst, a lenient suspended sentence handed out.

At a time when they are imprisoning innocent people wholesale with the help of hired perjurers, the RUC need such a token gesture in order to present to international opinion a facade of 'a fair-minded police force'. In the meantime, Northern nationalists will continue to be subjected to dawn swoops, show trials, and more shoot-to-kill tactics.

# Extradition on informer evidence

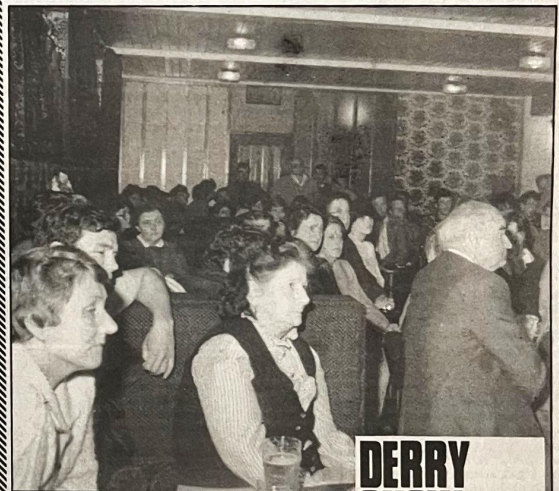
THE APPARENT change in extradition policy in the Free State, signalled by the Dublin Supreme Court in last December's McGlinchey case, and followed last month by a High Court decision to extradite Newry Court-house escapee Philip McMahon (who is at present awaiting an appeal to the Supreme Court), was dramatically extended this week when an initial order was made for the extradition of a Belfast man named by an RUC

informer.

The extradition order, made in Drogheda District Court, was based on the evidence of INLA informer Harry Kirkpatrick and was granted against Hugh Torney.

The order, which is expect-

ed to be appealed to the High Court, and, if necessary, to the Supreme Court, represents a most sinister development in the level of collaboration in the Free State in co-operation with the latest British weapon of oppression,

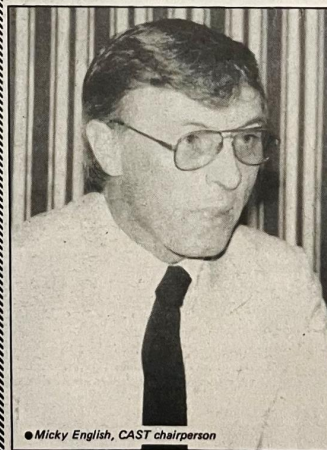


## DERRY SHOW TRIAL CAMPAIGN

A DERRY campaign against the informer show trials was launched at a well-attended meeting at the Bogside Inn on Wednesday, August 31st.

More than 120 relatives of men and women currently being held in Crumlin Road and Armagh jails, on the sole evidence of informers, attended the meeting along with local political activists including Sinn Féin elected representative Martin McGuinness who introduced the proceedings.

The campaign will be known as Citizens Against Show Trials (CAST) and a working committee is currently planning a programme of local activities on the informer issue.



● Micky English, CAST chairperson





## Jobless report

THE REPORT of a unique public inquiry into unemployment, held in West Belfast last March, has been published by the Springhill Community House adult education project.

The conference was remarkable for its aim of giving the jobless the opportunity to speak on their experiences and put forward their own remedies for unemployment.

The document contains a verbatim transcript of evidence given by 30 speakers, the only 'names' among them being Gerry Adams of Sinn Féin and Fr Des Wilson, plus extracts from the floor debate and several later written submissions to the inquiry.

As such, the report reflects a variety of disparate political viewpoints and experiences, which ensures that it is thought-provoking at least, although, frustratingly, very few conclusions were reached.

The 82-page booklet, which costs £1.50 sterling (£1 to the unwaged) plus 40p postage, is available from Springhill Community House, 123 Springhill Avenue, Belfast BT12 7GF.

## RTE picket

FIFTY members and supporters of Na Fianna Éireann picketed RTE's Donnybrook studios in Dublin last Sunday afternoon to protest against Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act.

Ger Condon, a Dublin Sinn Féin community officer, told those present that republicans should withhold their licence fees in protest against the undemocratic ban.

A statement was handed in to the RTE authorities and the picketers successfully blocked all vehicles entering and leaving the studios for a period.

## Pound protest

RESIDENTS of Saggart in County Dublin picketed the County Council offices in O'Donnell Street on Monday, September 5th, in protest at the proposed siting of an animal pound on Boherboy Road.

The residents maintain that the Boherboy Road is already extremely dangerous and it is used by heavy traffic and is very narrow. In fact there has already been a fatal accident near to the proposed entrance. Another objection is that the local school is not far away and people fear that if there was an outbreak of rabies this pound would be used as a rabies centre.

Sinn Féin in Tallaght and Rathcoole, which supports the residents in their protests and has been involved in an earlier petition on the issue, has suggested that while it may be agreed that such a pound is necessary for the South County Dublin area that an alternative site should be found and should be under the complete control of the County Council.

## Women's draw

DUBLIN Sinn Féin Women's Department are holding a fund-raising draw which will take place at the Sinn Féin and theis on November 12th/13th.

The prizes include a shawl and christening robe made in Armagh Prison, an Aran jumper made in Limerick Prison, a purse or wallet made in Portlaoise Prison, a copy of *Unmanageable Revolutionaries* by Margaret Ward, and a handkerchief made in Portlaoise.

Tickets cost 50p each and are available from the Book Bureau, 44 Parnell Square, or 5 Blessington Street, Dublin 1.

# Taxis fight their corner

BY JANE PLUNKETT

WEST BELFAST 'black taxi' drivers this week mounted several protest actions in their fight against the concerted campaign of disruption currently being waged against them by the RUC, the British Department of the Environment (DOE), and Citybus.

Since 1971, the black taxis have provided a vital and cheap service in nationalist West Belfast, at many times when Citybus refused to operate in the area and despite continued harassment by the RUC and the British army, as well as government bodies.

The West Belfast Taxi Association is now the largest employer in the area with 250 drivers and 6 service workshops, each employing several workers.

Some months ago, when a new one-way traffic scheme was introduced at the taxi terminus in Castle Street, just outside the Brit security barriers that encircle Belfast city centre, the RUC claimed that they were not attempting to interfere with the black taxi service.

Last week, however, Citybus summarily announced that as from last Monday, September 5th, their Falls Road services would start from Castle Street, even though no provision had been made for the taxis. The drivers are also concerned that the new no-parking double yellow lines will provide the RUC with unlimited opportunities for petty harassment of the taxi service.

On Monday, the WBTA staged a one-day protest strike and, that morning, a massive blockade of black taxis prevented buses from using the new Castle Street bus stop.

### PATROLS

Throughout the campaign, the DOE has presented the opening



● The black taxi blockade of Castle Street

of the road to buses as part of a plan to return the city centre to 'normality', whereas, predictably, there has been no let-up in the blanket searching of all shoppers entering the city centre, or any decrease in the constant heavy UDR and RUC patrols.

This British-orchestrated propaganda campaign was continued on Tuesday afternoon when representatives of WBTA left talks with the DOE to discover a bus, incredibly containing Citybus chief executive

Werner Heubeck as a passenger, preparing to stage a media stunt journey from Castle Street.

Heubeck's presence was seen as an attempt to pre-empt the taxi drivers' discussions of DOE proposals for a six-month trial scheme and angry drivers blockaded the bus, which eventually withdrew.

At a meeting afterwards, the drivers rejected the DOE proposals and agreed to continue to use their traditional pick-up point in Castle Street, though they are allowing buses to drive up the road.

While the meeting was in progress, the reduced fleet of around 60 WBTA taxis provided a free service in nationalist West Belfast.

### LIMITED

On Wednesday, the taxi drivers won a limited victory when the controversial bus stop was removed, though the no-parking lines remain. The same day, Citybus began picking up passengers for the Falls inside the security gates, where previously no buses had been allowed to pick up passengers.

# Buses stop for fair deal

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY



● NBU pickets at Dublin's Summerhill garage

A 24-HOUR strike by the National Busworkers' Union halted all bus services in Dublin on Wednesday, September 7th. The strike also stopped bus services in Cork, Limerick and Galway and train services, particularly the suburban trains in Dublin, were affected.

The one-day strike was called by the NBU in support of a pay claim lodged last December for a 20% rise based on the Consumer Price Index.

The recent Labour Court award, recommending a 9% increase over 15 months, with a six-month pay pause, was rejected by both the NBU and the Congress-affiliated CIE unions. Tom Darby, general secretary of the NBU, said that they would be prepared to settle for the terms of the public service pay agreement conceded two months ago by the Coalition government.

It agreed an 8% wage rise in two phases, with no pay pause, plus £7.50 per week for lower paid workers. This, applied to the bus-workers, would be an effective 16% rise.

### WORKFORCE

The NBU represents about half of CIE's workforce, but the other CIE unions instructed their members not to pass pickets placed on garages. The instruction, which only applied to the road passenger section, greatly intensified the effect of the strike.

A spokesperson for the NBU pointed out that they had twice postponed strike action when promised another hearing at the Labour Court, but the decision to go ahead was unavoidable if attention was to be drawn to their demands and further strike action may be taken.



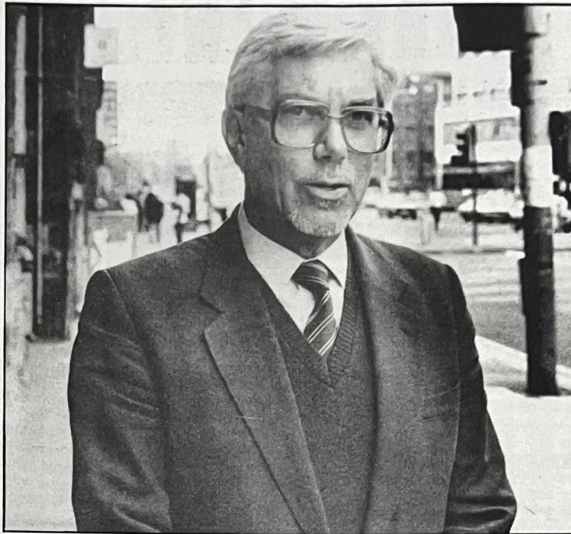
# EEC ENVOY HAS STRONG NATO CONNECTIONS

## HUME'S DAMP SQUIB

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

THE VISIT of an envoy from the EEC parliament to the North, in response to a much publicised 'initiative' by SDLP leader John Hume, turned out to be a damp squib as the 'fact-finding' tour failed to include either republican or mainstream unionist involvement.

Danish Euro MP Niels Haagerup refused to meet Sinn Féin during his four-day visit to the North, from September 3rd to 7th.



● Niels Haagerup — hardly noted for his concern for human rights

His refusal to meet with, in his own words, "people who favour the overthrow of constitutional arrangements by violent means",

destroyed the last shreds of credibility the EEC inquiry into the six counties ever had — if indeed it had any.

Haagerup obviously had not selected whom he was going to meet on the basis of credibility or support, since he had talks with the SDLP, Alliance and even the IIP. The Official Unionists and DUP boycotted his visit, predictably accusing him of "meddling in British affairs", while British civil servants at Stormont met Haagerup for a "briefing on social and economic matters."

The EEC envoy's trip is the result of a 'Committee of Inquiry into Northern Ireland' set up in September 1982. John Hume claimed the whole thing as a personal victory at the time — election time, as it happened. However, Hume's electoral balloon soon burst when it was learnt that the inquiry, far from highlighting the political contradictions of the six-county state, would have to confine itself to social and economic issues.

### MILITARY STRATEGY

To top it all, a member of the Danish Liberal Party, known for his work with NATO, was appointed as rapporteur.

Niels Haagerup, who has never been known for his interest in social and economic matters, or even his concern for human rights, has worked as Public Information Officer for NATO from 1958 to 1962, has published articles defending NATO military strategy, and is a member of the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

During the 1981 hunger-strike, while prisoners were dying in Long Kesh, his sole contribution to a brief debate in Strasbourg was to denounce the "terrorism of the IRA".

The British government, it seems, has little to fear from the report Haagerup will compile for the European parliament.

## Anger after Divis accidents

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

EIGHTY-THREE-YEAR-OLD pensioner Julia Armstrong sustained a deep gash to her head and two black eyes when she tripped over floorcovering swollen by dampness in her Divis Flats home last Thursday morning, September 1st.

Mrs Armstrong, who has lived alone in the notorious Divis complex since they were built some 16 years ago, was on her way from the bedroom to the toilet when she tripped on oilcloth, swollen and cracked with dampness originating from flats underneath in Whitehall Walk. Her head hit the concrete floor and from 2am until 11am she lay in a pool of blood, suffering from cold

and shock.

Her daughter, Mrs Marie Graham, who lives close by, discovered her distraught mother and relatives quickly summoned an ambulance. Mrs Armstrong's head injury was unable to be stitched because of the delicate transparent nature of her skin and she was placed under observation for 24 hours.

Both Mrs Armstrong and her daughter

live in Whitehall, one of two sections of Divis due for demolition this year and they are impatiently waiting to be moved into new homes. But, in the meantime, Mrs Armstrong, who has made numerous complaints to the Housing Executive about the dampness in her flat, faces each day with the prospect of a similar accident occurring, thanks to the inhumane neglect of the Housing Executive.

### OVERFLOWING

Just days after this incident, a 28-year-old girl, from Pound Walk, fell into an exposed overflowing drain while she was playing.



● MRS JULIA ARMSTRONG

Little Jacqueline McCann was with her elder brother, Edward, when she lost her balance and was almost completely submerged in the one-foot deep drain which is uncovered and regularly fills up with water from a nearby broken pipe.

Fortunately, a local woman passing at the time pulled the child out and brought her to her home. Her mother,



● JACQUELINE McCANN

Mrs Ellen McCann, said that she had reported the drain to the Executive on a number of occasions as it is situated so close to her home. She said:

"Jacqueline's shoes were all muck and slime yet I see young children daily playing around that place filling up bottles from the water and drinking it. They could get dysentery or anything."

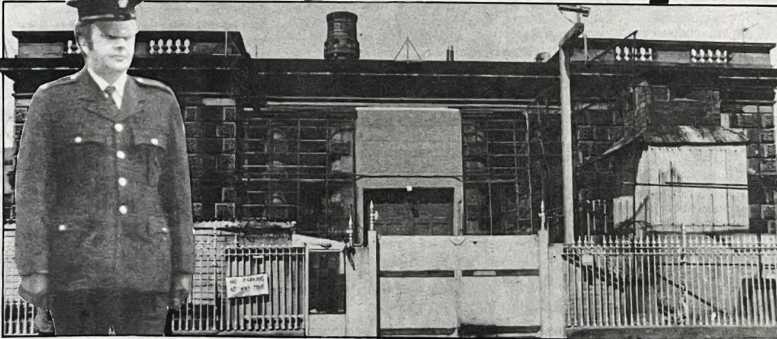
## Precarious pause in prisons

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

THE DISPUTE in the North's prisons came to a precarious end on Monday when the 2,500 prison warders returned to work after a week's strike.

The Prison Officers' Association has agreed to discuss terms of reference for arbitration with the NIO in their claim for travelling expenses when working overtime. The chances of mutual agreement are considered to be bleak and the return to work is seen as only a temporary respite for hundreds of prisoners and their relatives who have been unjustly victimised during the last week.

The tension in the strike-affected prisons, which had quickly mounted as the RUC moved in to replace warders, flared mid-week in Crumlin Road Prison when 10 of 40 prisoners in 'B' Wing, protesting about loss of visits, exercises and parcels, were attacked and injured. Later, a group of loyalist prisoners



### Lost visits can be claimed

VISITS lost during last week's prison warders' strike will be compensated for by extra visits which can be taken on Mondays, Tuesdays or Thursdays over the four weeks beginning September 5th.

Relatives must have passes with them when claiming lost visits, but in situations where passes have not been received, or have been mislaid, it is advisable to phone Long Kesh first and give the date of the lost visit and the day on which it will be taken.

made their way onto the roof to protest.

Throughout the first 36 hours of the RUC presence in

the H-Blocks, the prisoners were locked up continuously and denied slop-out facilities. Afterwards they were locked up from 4pm onwards each day. Prisoners had to resort to pouring urine and excrement out of windows, an action reminiscent of the no-wash protest.

In Armagh women's pris-

on, 12 republican prisoners who have not taken a prison meal in four weeks were joined in their protest by remand prisoners on Thursday, September 1st. Arrangements for serving food were abruptly changed by the prison administration to victimise the republican prisoners and the protest now involves the maj-

ority of republicans in the jail.

There has been a marked increase in the number of warders in the jail with every prisoner now being escorted about the prison, even to the degrading extent of accompanying the women to the toilet. Warders have also been instructed by the prison governor, Thomas Murtagh, to write down detailed accounts of conversations among the prisoners.

The women report that Murtagh has implied further disciplinary action will be taken against them if they do not comply with what they call his 'whims' and fear that "already restricted food parcels may in future be totally denied to all involved."

Speaking of the 'paranoia' of the Armagh authorities, Sinn Féin Mid-Ulster representative Danny Morrison said that Murtagh "has once again shown that he is maintaining a course of deliberate provocation and escalation of tension in Armagh."



# THE HUMAN GUINEA-PIGS

AT A TIME of recession in many industries in recent years, there has been a boom in one sector of the drugs industry which has received scant attention — drug-testing on humans. And while people cry out against the use of animals in tests and the anti-vivisection lobby grows louder, nobody is shouting for the rights of human guinea-pigs or cares that they may be exploited.

These are people who offer their services to science, however, not in the cause of furthering scientific knowledge but in the interests of survival. They are the poor

and the unemployed of Dublin and elsewhere who are cynically exploited by drug companies who insist that they are volunteers, while they are, in reality, unwilling victims of the poverty trap.

Meanwhile, the companies themselves continue to garner huge profits. *John Madden* has been examining

Meanwhile, the companies and their victims continue to garner huge profits. AP/RN reporter Jack Madden has been examining the role of the clinical research, the exploitation of the 'guinea-pigs', and the lack of legal safeguards which leave them with no protection other than the vague 'ethical standards' of those who control the clinics.

**"Medical progress is based on research which ultimately must rest in part on experimentation involving human subjects"**  
— *Declaration of Helsinki*

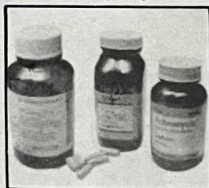
## - Declaration of Helsinki

**PUBLIC DEMAND** for instant medical cures to every problem and the profitability of satisfying and increasing this demand has led to the growth of a massive, highly competitive, and worldwide drugs-based industry. In Ireland alone more than a hundred companies (most of them subsidiaries of foreign multinationals) produce an ever-increasing range of medical and cosmetic products.

Allied to this tragedy is the vital area of independent research, since most countries demand official and scientific approval of new product before it can be marketed. Exhaustive tests, which are used by the drug companies to excuse the rising cost of products, are not always good enough and there are numerous instances of particular drugs having disastrous effects after use, as with the thalidomide drug 'Softenan' which led to numerous cases of deformed children in England in the '60s or, more recently, the drug Oenanthate which had unfortunate results barred by the Drugs Advisory Board in the twenty-six countries but which resulted in deaths and perforated stomachs elsewhere.

Disasters such as these and subsequent court proceedings involving huge compensation claims had their effect. A number of governments tightened their control over the whole area of testing and marketing and the companies decided that because of the new stringent regulations in their own countries, especially America, to have tests carried out elsewhere.

The Free State proved perfect



## RECRUITS

Not that medical tests are new in Ireland. Irish hospitals, both North and South, will regularly test drugs on patients, with their permission. University faculties also carry out tests as in University College Dublin, where the head of the Pathology Department, Dr McLaughlin, recruits students (at a price) for tests. Family doctors will carry out tests also and promote a particular drug at the behest of a company, a practice frowned upon as being unethical.

Common to all of these, however, is the fact that they are tests of drugs already on the market and their aim is generally to test the breakdown of drugs in the human system or occasionally as a desperate attempt to save a patient where no alternative exists.

The growth area is in the testing of new commercially produced drugs on human guinea-pigs.

Despite the obvious dangers to the subjects of such tests, there are no statutory restraints in the twenty-six counties. The companies which own and run these testing centres recruit unemployed people or students as 'volunteers' but there are no legal safeguards to protect their interests.

A spokesperson for the Drugs Advisory Board explains that whereas companies are obliged to submit details of proposed tests, they are not obliged to implement the recommendations made by the Board:

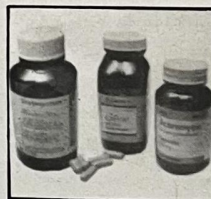
*"You can't compel them to act if they don't want to. All you can do is urge them to comply."*

According to Dr Seamus Ryan, secretary-general of the Irish Medical Association, the conduct of clinical tests "depends on the ethical responsibility of those in charge."

## CLINICAL TRIALS

There is a confusing grey area in clinical trials on human guinea-pigs, however. Nobody seems clear on the exact relationship between medical ethics and the business interests of such companies. While huge profits are made by companies such as the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology the 'guinea pigs' are poorly rewarded.

Nor are the 'guinea-pigs' paid as such. Rather they are given what are called 'expenses'. Coming

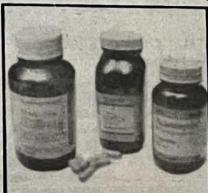


from the most deprived sector of society, it is not to advance the cause of medical knowledge that they go to the clinic but simply to try and earn a few bob.

Medical opinion that should 'volunteers' be paid a wage rather than given expenses the danger exists of money overriding 'informed consent', is no consolation to the 'volunteers' themselves who rather see themselves as doing a distasteful job for badly needed money.

The dangers inherent in clinical trials are readily admitted in the Declaration of Helsinki and the additional risks posed by the absence of legal control makes 'volunteers' very vulnerable. Neither the 'ethical and practical committee' nor the new legislation, promised earlier this year by Free State Health Minister Barry Desmond, have materialised. Dr Seamus Ryan says that the Irish Medical Association was unaware that any such plans were discussed, and he dismissed Desmond's promise as "the good intentions of a new minister which are quickly forgotten."

Without such a committee, which Dr Ryan believes is needed, and until "ethical principles are kept quite apart from business interests", human 'guinea-pigs' shall continue to be the extremely vulnerable victims of this lucrative business operation.



# Too doped to

**DESPITE** claims that the side-effects of clinical  
been 'no more serious than nausea and slight head-  
number of former 'volunteers' confirmed that  
suffered more serious effects. Amongst these  
'guinea-pig' who described how a test he had un-  
1981 affected him.

**What attracted me to the St James's drug-tests was a shortage of cash and the thought of easy money.**

There were six of us and we were given forms to sign to say we were volunteers. We were told that no one had ever died of this drug but there was no guarantee one of us wouldn't be the first.

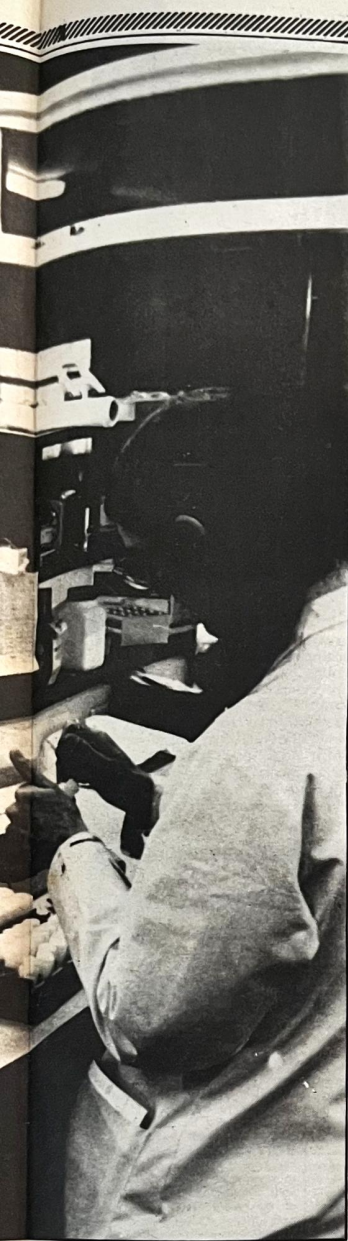
I don't remember what the drug was called but it was something similar in effect to valium.

and the test was to  
effects of a new coun

We were fed the counter-agent at a time, and when the counter-agent wore into a deep sleep last hours. We were even with the counter-agent to fall asleep again later, this time for 10

After waking placid, agreeing was asked of us, er how drugs such





# AN INSTITUTE OF COMMERCIAL SUCCESS

THE INSTITUTE of Clinical Pharmacology Limited (ICP) was founded as a medical research centre by a number of people interested in research and a 'non-profit making trust' of the Swiss multinational drug company Hoffman La Roche.

Based in the grounds of St James's Hospital in Dublin, it is today the foremost research centre in Ireland, having severed its connection with Hoffman La Roche. Dr Austin Darraugh, majority shareholder and chairman of the company, has, in recent years, been joined by two new directors: Dr Ian Brick, who is now managing director, and John Murphy, who is financial controller (and, incidentally, also a director of the Irish Nationwide Building Society).

Besides the injection of a one million pound Industrial Development Authority grant, a large measure of this commercial success can be attributed to Dr Darraugh who is thought to be foremost in this field in Europe. Besides his interests in ICP, he runs a highly expensive private clinic and has regularly featured on both radio and television as a medical expert.

Unlike Darraugh, who is popular with staff, Dr Brick is generally disliked. Besides being responsible for 'canvassing' the various drug companies, both here and abroad, for work, he is identified as being responsible for many of the complaints of both staff and 'guinea-pigs'.

He is thought to have introduced a one-year contract system for staff and has, on occasions, refused to renew the contracts of individual nurses and phlebotomists. Attempts by staff to introduce a trade union into ICP were frustrated, both through lack of unity and the fear that management would take retaliatory action. Without a union the nursing staff are subjected to constant pressures of work and the company has remained understaffed.

## DOLE QUEUES

'Volunteers' are recruited by word of mouth and invariably come from the 'dole queues' at Werburgh Street or Gardiner Street or from the colleges where students are often without any source of income. ICP recruits male 'volunteers' although, occasionally, tests are conducted on females elsewhere. For some, a visit to

Besides being confined within the unit for days on end, many 'volunteers' spend long stretches in bed in wards which are constantly humid. When not in bed, 'volunteers' amuse themselves watching television or playing cards.

Up to 16 'volunteers' can be accommodated at any one time and they can, after a medical examination, undergo tests of either antibiotics, anti-depressants, cardiovascular drugs and other controversial drugs such as Interferon. Besides refraining from alcohol and, in some tests, tobacco, 'volunteers' can often undergo exhaustive tests requiring up to 18 blood samples per day or nasogastric tests where a tube is put up through the nose and down through the throat and into the stomach to test acidity.

As well as the obvious discomfort of tests such as these, the frequency of blood-tests on people with sunken veins is very painful and it can take a number of attempts to successfully draw blood. People who have undergone such tests have sometimes been accused of 'shooting' heroin by drug squad detectives.

Before undergoing such tests 'volunteers' sign a consent form and are told in advance the type of test which will be carried out and the likely effects. Having been made aware of the risks, which are often compared to being 'no greater than crossing a road', 'volunteers' are deemed to have given 'informed consent'. Such advice or information is regarded as a mere formality by the 'volunteers', all of whom ignore the clause in the contract which allows them to donate their 'expenses' to the charity of their choice.

Despite the fact that volun-

teers are motivated by thoughts of badly needed money rather than social conscience, Darraugh refuses to recognise or accept this:

"This is not payment for a job of work, there is no contractual relationship."

## PROFITABLE

If it is not a 'job of work' for the 'volunteers' it is certainly a highly profitable business for Dr Darraugh and his associates.

All three are directors of a network of other similar companies including Biofactors Ltd, Biodata Ltd, Key Factors Ltd, Key Pharmaceuticals Ltd, and White Cross Clinic Ltd. In March last, the authorised share capital of ICP was increased from one hundred thousand pounds to one million pounds and reserves of profits of £149,800 were capitalised and distributed as shares among the existing three shareholders. Darraugh received 112,350 of these.

Plans for new premises elsewhere in Rialto have already been drawn up and it seems that the St James's Hospital is anxious to get rid of the 'clinic' because it obstructs their own development plans. It is believed that the position of Dr Michael Buckley, who is attached to the hospital as ethical controller, was the result of a trade-off between St James's and ICP as a condition of their tenancy.

While ICP expands and grows increasingly wealthy, the 'volunteers' it uses do not share in this expansion. Although subjected to dangerous work they remain poorly rewarded while management perpetuates the lie that this is not a business but a scientific study.

## to disagree

clinical tests have night headaches', and that they had these was one had undergone in

people manageable, whether in mental hospitals, prisons or in the outside world. We were too doped up to express anger at having been given what I believe was an overdose.

Five days and the tests were over, but for another three weeks I suffered from loss of memory, especially of the recent past. I would arrange to meet people and shortly afterwards would forget details such as where or when we were to meet. It was really bad at first but gradually it got better.

All in all, it was a terrible experience. I hadn't realised that I was going to be given such a massive dose of drugs, nor that it would affect me for three weeks.

For my five-day test I collected only £90. I felt it was worth about £600. I'd never do it again.

was to discover the counter-agent. and the 'valium' and went at the same in the effects of the wide off we fell sleep lasting up to 20 hours. I eventually revived again some hours for 10 hours. we were all very ing to do whatever is. I appreciated lat-such as this make

## "With particular reference"

THE OBJECTS of the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology Limited, as set out in its memorandum of association, include the following:

"The carrying out of contract and grant-supported research in the fields of nutrition and metabolism and health with particular reference to the facts and problems appertaining to and effects of drugs, antibiotics, acids, alkalis, pharmaceutical, medicinal and chemical preparations,

articles and compounds (whether of animal, vegetable or mineral origin) odours, liquids, foods, cosmetics, perfumes, pigments, oleaginous and vaporous substances and the effects of nutritional or metabolic status on pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, bioavailability and bioequivalence.

"The advancement in the knowledge of matters relating to Bell's electromagnetic radiation, ecology and environment and the pharmacological effect of drugs, cosmetics and food additives."



# CHILE CRISIS HOTS UP



BY SEAN HALPENNY

A NATIONAL day of protest has been declared in Chile, to take place on Sunday next, September 11th, the tenth anniversary of the Pinochet coup which overthrew the democratically elected government of President Allende and imposed a fascist dictatorship on Chile.

In recent months, growing opposition to the Pinochet regime has led to five major demonstrations, the last on August 11th when Pinochet sent 18,000 members of the state forces onto the streets of working-class districts. At the end of the day, 2,500 protestors had been arrested, 26 killed and hundreds injured.

When Pinochet seized power in 1973 with the support of the middle-class, British and US capital flowed into the country, taking advantage of the 'new order'.

became the 'economic miracle' of Latin America. Problems began for Pinochet when the US and Britain began to experience their own economic problems.

As foreign loans were called in, unemployment soared to 30%. Two major banks closed down and a further five were brought under state control. Even the intervention by the International Monetary Fund, which provided an 882 million dollar financial package, could not stem the collapse.

## RESTORATION

Now the middle-classes have joined forces with a number of right-wing trade unions and Eduardo Diaz, ex-president of the Industrial Employees Union and himself a fascist, to oppose Pinochet and call for a 'restoration of democracy'.

Although leadership of the opposition is controlled by the middle-class, there exists growing clandestine organisations amongst the working-class who

continue to bear the brunt of the repression.

Prior to the coup of 1973, the middle-classes were instrumental in destroying the Allende government, using every thing in their power short of force. There began a campaign of 'civil disobedience' and 'constitutional guerrilla warfare'. It was these tactics which forced the 'final showdown' between the middle and working-classes and which paved the way for the Allende coup.

Despite their change of direction,

it is extremely unlikely that the middle-class will, in the event of Pinochet being overthrown, make life any better for the working-class they now lead.

Although the workers are being asked to stand in the front line in the struggle to overthrow Pinochet, and that struggle may lead to civil war, there are many who feel that the change of leadership now envisaged does not necessarily mean a change of policy. As yet, however, that feeling has not been manifested in any strong and truly revolutionary movement.



## Poleglass

A Chara,

The recent sectarian outburst by DUP man Ivan Davis over the Poleglass rent arrears situation is further evidence, if any was needed, of the discriminatory attitude which Lisburn Council has towards the entire Poleglass development.

Since the estate's inception, the unionists on Lisburn Council have ranted and raved and put forward every excuse possible to halt the building of the estate, whilst at the same time dodging the real issue of their concern: the possibility of an increased nationalist representation on Lisburn Council. As a result of their actions, at least half the proposed work was shelved and they were able to extort a promise from Housing Minister Ray Carter that all work would cease if rent and rate arrears accumulated.

This deal stands unprecedented, making the Poleglass development the only one with such a condition of contract hanging over it. The nationalist people of West Belfast, however, will see right through this arrears charade and see it for what it really is, just a further manifestation of unionist sectarianism, designed to prevent badly needed houses being built for the Catholics of West Belfast.

The housing needs of nationalist West Belfast are considerable, given four generations of neglect and discrimination. Present housing policy cannot hope to meet these urgent needs. Poleglass is therefore of crucial importance for the future development of West Belfast and loyalist opposition must not be permitted to harm the nationalist community.

In conclusion, Sinn Féin demands that the present planned development for 2,000 homes be completed as soon as possible and we further demand that the original Poleglass scheme, produced in the 1970s and which envisaged 4,000 homes, be reintroduced.

Joe Leathan,  
PRO,  
Lagan Valley Sinn Féin.

## mála poist

### Fr FAUL

A Chara,

This past week has been a very trying one for us, all being convicted on the evidence of the informer Christopher Black, not due to the conditions inside the Blocks (because of Screws on strike), but due to our inability to respond to the despicable attacks on us, our relatives and Sinn Féin by Fr Faul. We now take the opportunity to set the record straight.

Fr Faul has no mandate to speak on our behalf. He has caused untold damage to the unfolding campaign to secure an end to the show trials and our release by his unfounded and ignorant attacks on the integrity of our relatives and the sincerity of Sinn Féin's involvement in this campaign.

We welcome Sinn Féin's involvement, as we welcome any sincere involvement on our behalf.

Fr Faul knows only too well our viewpoint and that of our relatives and for him to come out



● Fr Faul — the British must be more than pleased at his antics

with snide remarks about us being manipulated is deceitful in the extreme. If Fr Faul should need any further clarification of our views he has only to call into the Blocks and he will soon find how bitterly resented his divisive, deceitful and damaging utterances are felt.

What has always mystified us over here was the ready use of our paper, *AP/RN*, made of these RUC photos. I would have thought that *AP/RN* would be the last paper to publish these photos of captured republicans.

If *AP/RN* wants to carry an article about a republican prisoner or to supplement one of its stories with a photograph of the prisoner, then they should, we believe, contact the family or friends of this prisoner and



● LIAM BAKER

they are reporting. This has always been the ploy of the es-

ALL letters should be addressed to: The Editor, *An Phoblacht / Republican News*, 51/53 Falls Road, Belfast, or 44 Parnell Square, Dublin. Letters should be written as clearly as possible, preferably on one side of paper only. Names and addresses should always be included, even when not for publication.

Fr Faul has laid down conditions for his support against the hired perjurers and in doing so is using us as hostages.

If Fr Faul was truly interested in our plight, he would spend his time attacking the corrupt system responsible for the injustice inflicted upon us instead of engaging in attacks upon Sinn Féin. Fr Faul is playing into the hands of the British authorities who must be more than pleased at his antics.

Finally, it is our relatives and ourselves who are suffering at the hands of this informer system. It is our relatives and those genuinely concerned about us and our relatives who will put forward our viewpoint — not Fr Faul.

T. McKinney, P. Teer, T. McMahon, P. O'Neill, K. Mulgrew, G. Loughlin, P. Kane, J. Donnelly, K. Donnelly, D. Breslin, T. McAllister, S. Graham, T. Prendergast, P. Markey, M. Pierce, A. Barnes,

H-Blocks,  
Long Kesh.

try to obtain a proper photo. If none is available, then the article should be carried without any photo, especially without those 'doctored' RUC photos.

Liam Baker,  
Gartree Prison,  
England.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Point taken; but we have made strenuous efforts from time to time to get suitable photographs of republican prisoners. However, in a number of cases their families do not have any recent ones or, understandably, refuse to part (even temporarily) with one which they do have. I am not sure whether the above photograph of the letter-writer was taken in or out of custody, but he looks a credit to anyone!

## Nicky Kelly

A Chara,

Nicky Kelly has not been receiving proper medical attention in Portlaoise Prison despite assurances by the Free State Minister for Justice, Michael Noonan.

Six weeks ago a statement from the Release Nicky Kelly Committee complained that Nicky Kelly was suffering from poor sight and ear trouble. Since his return to Portlaoise in June, after he ended his fast protesting his innocence of the Salins mail train robbery, no specialist has been sent in by the state to examine his eyesight. His eyesight appears to be the cause of the severe headaches which he is suffering from at present.

This disgraceful situation is being brought to the attention of the lawyers who are in charge of the case pending with the European Commission of Human Rights.

Caolite Breatnach,  
PRO,  
Release Nicky Kelly  
Committee,  
11 Grange Terrace,  
Blackrock,  
County Dublin.

## Shoneens

A Chara,

Having watched the Rose of Tralee festival on television last week, I was very disappointed, in fact embittered.

All through it was foreign except a little Irish thrown in for good measure to hide the foreign 'entertainment'. It seems to me that most of our people are brainwashed to the idea that our glorious Irish heritage and culture are old-fashioned. Nevertheless we still have brave people to counteract that foreign element and always had.

Shoneens should be ashamed of themselves but they are more to be pitied as they are only showing up their ignorance.

Sean Shaw.

## If the photo fits

A Eagarthoir,

On behalf of the republican POWs in Gartree, I wish to endorse one of the observations made in the excellent letter 'Black Motives', written from Long Kesh (*AP/RN*, August 25th).

One of the points made concerned the use of different types of photographs by the media to support whatever slant they wish to put on the story

establishment gutter press as a subtle (and often not so subtle) piece of black propaganda (excuse the pun) against those whom they consider dangerous or subversive.

What has always mystified us over here was the ready use of our paper, *AP/RN*, made of these RUC photos. I would have thought that *AP/RN* would be the last paper to publish these photos of captured republicans.

If *AP/RN* wants to carry an article about a republican prisoner or to supplement one of its stories with a photograph of the prisoner, then they should, we believe, contact the family or friends of this prisoner and



# BURKE'S AT THE BACK

By Kevin Burke

THE SEASIDE town of Kilkeel in County Down was disturbed in the early hours of Sunday morning last, September 4th, by a trio of plainclothes Brits, all in an advanced state of intoxication.

The three began a loud argument at a chip van outside the Northern Bank in Greencastle Street, and then two of them produced pistols, one firing a shot which narrowly missed a passer-by.

They then indulged in a series of cowboy antics, mainly involving spinning their weapons around their fingers and the like.

An RUC landrover arrived on the scene and attempted to question them, but the Brits, with drunken bravado, pulled out passes which they waved in the air. Two more drunken Brits arrived in a Bedford van, claiming that the local UDR barracks had notified them to pick their comrades up.

None of this impressed the RUC who bore all five away, together with the van — first to Kilkeel Barracks and then to Newcastle RUC Barracks for sobering up and release.

Whether the nervous townsfolk of Kilkeel hear more of the incident remains to be seen.

☆☆☆

When not out terrorising the local population, the Brits often turn on their weaker colleagues for sadistic amusement.

Such was Paul Gledhill, a Brit in the Catering Corps on tour last year with the Duke of Wellington's Regiment at Bessbrook Barracks in South Armagh.

He told a court-martial, trying two NCOs this week, that he had taken an overdose of drugs due to the treatment meted out to him by his comrades who had nicknamed him 'Glady'.

On one occasion he was dragged into an office where masking tape was wrapped round his private parts and then ripped off again.

On another he had his trousers and underpants removed and was assaulted.

Gledhill, who had a nervous breakdown and was in hospital, told the court-martial:

"While I was in hospital, if anybody from the army had come and tried to take me back I would have jumped out of the nearest window."

☆☆☆

And a Brit at Palace Barracks, Hollywood, has been charged with the wounding of a fellow Brit.

Robert Wylie appeared in a Belfast court accused that on August 19th he unlawfully and maliciously wounded Charles Anderson with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

☆☆☆

In court too was UDR soldier Nigel Hartness of Magheramason who was fined £50 for disorderly behaviour by Derry Magistrates Court on Monday this week.

A 'grossly intoxicated' Hartness went into Waterside RUC Barracks last November to complain that six out-of-uniform RUC men had assaulted him in a bar.

He received little sympathy and cursed and swore until he was arrested, yet another bad apple successfully dealt with, although his UDR career will not be affected as only a fine was imposed.

No doubt he will have learnt his lesson and concentrate his drunken wrath exclusively on defenceless civilians in the future.

☆☆☆

Those unmoved by the hypocritical ravings of Ronald Reagan about the shooting down of the South Korean aircraft — and even the right-wing British press are now suggesting that the civilians aboard were being cynically used as cover for a spying mission by the United States government — might be interested in a new book about to be published by Mercier Press.

The book, entitled *Tragedy at Tuskar Rock* and written by *Irish Press* journalist Dermot Walsh, examines the biggest disaster in Irish civil aviation, when, in March 1968, 61 people died in an Aer Lingus Viscount which crashed off the Wexford coast.

Assembling all the available facts and data,

# Midnight Cowboys



## SNIFFING FOR BRITAIN

ABOUT 200 National Front marchers paraded past Belfast's City Hall (barred to nationalist protestors), last Saturday, assuring apparently unmoved shoppers that there was no black in the Union Jack and that the

UUV, contrary to popular rumour, are 'OK'. Led by long-time Nazi Martin Webster, the marchers, most of whom appeared to be bald and from Birmingham, included this attractive group of cider-drinking glue-sniffers.

as well as the long list of unanswered questions, the author suggests that the cause of the crash could have been a British missile being tested at the time.

In view of the more recent sinkings of the Irish trawler *Sharelga* and the French trawler *Cité d'Aleth* — which highlighted the secret British military activity off the Irish coast — the book makes convincing reading.

☆☆☆

Incidentally, a book, first published here by Mercier Press, entitled *One Day in My Life*, by Bobby Sands, is now selling well in Australia where it has recently become available.

The Perth-based newspaper *Daily News*, which recommends it as "a book with explosive potential", says:

"Sands comes through as a man of sensitivity and perception, but above all as a figure of courage and unwavering commitment to republican ideals."

☆☆☆

The murderous, but legal, UDA's leader, Andy Tyrrie, and South Belfast commander John McMichael, who in 1979 was apparently allowed to wander around Belfast with a pistol in his shoulder-holster, but is now being charged with the same, are back on the streets.

After a short spell in custody on the charge, Tyrrie, who lives in Drumadown Drive in Dundonald, and McMichael, who resides in Lisburn's Banberry Street, were freed last Friday on bail of £100 each.

☆☆☆

The level of concern felt by Fr Denis Faul for the victims of informers — about which he has been mouthing much in recent days — can be gauged from a letter from him in Monday's *Irish Times*.

Without the least compunction, the Dunganon denouncer proclaims that the primary reason for his walk-out from the relatives conference last week was to listen to the Dublin/Cork match on the radio.

☆☆☆

Fund-raising took on a new dimension in the County Fermanagh village of Donagh last weekend at a barbecue organised by Sinn Féin.

After an evening of over-indulgence, a dispute arose about who was to get the last remaining cocktail sausage. No agreement could be reached, so, in the end, the culinary delight was put up for auction.

Bidding was both enthusiastic and serious until the diminutive banger eventually went to the hungriest bidder at a price of £25. You could hardly get rasher than that.



## WHAT'S ON

**SINN FEIN**  
**NATIONAL WOMEN'S SEMINAR**  
The role of women in building a socialist republic  
'Have men a role in women's liberation?'  
'Sexism'  
12 noon to 6pm Saturday 10th September  
5 Blessington Street  
DUBLIN  
Open to men & women — crèche provided  
Enquiries: phone Dublin 747611  
Organised by the Department of Women's Affairs

**TRAVELLERS RIGHTS PROTEST**  
2.30pm Saturday 10th September  
County Council Offices  
Upper O'Connell Street  
DUBLIN

**UNVEILING OF PLAQUE TO THE HUNGER-STRIKERS**  
7pm Saturday 10th September  
NENAGH  
County Tipperary  
Speaker: Michael Flannery, Noraid, USA  
Organised by the North Tipperary Republican Memorial Committee

**LIAM LYNCH COMMEMORATION**  
60th ANNIVERSARY  
2.30pm Sunday 11th September  
Parade assemblies at the Memorial  
GOATENBRIDGE  
County Tipperary  
Speakers: Michael Flannery, Noraid, & Ruairi O Braidgha, Sinn Féin

**LIAM LYNCH COMMEMORATION CEILI**  
Featuring The Galtee Mountain Boy & Newcastle Set Dancers  
Sunday 11th September  
Galtee Hotel  
CAHIR  
County Tipperary  
Licensed bar & supper

**RELATIVES FOR JUSTICE**  
PICKET  
10.30am Monday 12th September  
Crumlin Road Courthouse  
BELFAST  
Everyone welcome

**BOXING TOURNAMENT 'OLD CROCKS NIGHT'**  
9pm Monday 12th September  
Crescent Community Centre  
St James's  
BELFAST  
Organised by Sinn Féin  
Taillie £1

**BALLAD SESSION**  
8.30pm Thursday 15th September  
Ballsbridge Inn  
Merriem Road  
DUBLIN  
Taillie £1  
Organised by Dublin South East Sinn Féin

**BUFFET & DANCE**  
Featuring The Tokens  
Thursday 15th September  
Shannon Knights Inn  
SHANNON  
County Clare  
Bar extension  
Taillie £3  
Organised by Sinn Féin

**ROGER CASEMENT COMMEMORATION**  
2pm Saturday 17th September  
Marine Road  
DUN LAOGHAIRE  
March to Sandycove (Casement's birthplace)  
Speaker: Daithi O Conaill  
All Dublin Sinn Féin comrades to attend with banners

**SINN FEIN DUBLIN No. 7 AREA ELECTION CONVENTION**  
(Inchicore/Ballyfermot/Drimnagh)  
8pm Friday 30th September  
Ballyfermot Community Centre  
Ballyfermot Road  
(Opposite Gala Cinema)  
DUBLIN

**COMMEMORATION PICKET**  
(6th Anniversary of Sean O Conaill)  
1pm Saturday 1st October  
Parkhurst Prison  
NEWPORT  
Isle of Wight  
England  
Organised by Sinn Féin

**BALLAD SESSION**  
Featuring Róisín Dubh & guests  
9pm Thursday 6th October  
The No. 5 Club  
5 Blessington Street  
DUBLIN  
Taillie £1.50  
Organised by Ballymun Sinn Féin



# REVIEW PAGE

TV

## Facing the facts

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

THE CRITERIA for winning the Rose of Tralee title is pretty clear after last week's two-part coverage of the competition on RTE1 on Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

The Glasgow Rose, during her interview, told Gay Byrne that she was unemployed. This unique distinction from the other competitors amused the audience greatly, and the laughter increased when she said that before her present unemployed state she had worked in a biscuit factory for seven years. You are not, apparently, Rose-like enough if you are an unemployed factory worker.

The Manchester Rose spoiled her chance of winning when she said she was taking the British government to court for the polio-vaccine damage to her two young brothers, one of whom died as a result. Prospective

Roses must not be involved in any conflict with authority. Political Roses not wanted.

It was obvious who the favourite was after that. She has a job, never worked in a factory, and there isn't a hint of a political thought about her. She thinks it's a wonderful and "rather a courageous thing" to be "one girl among 300 men". The new Rose of Tralee is a cop.

### ALCOHOLISM

The documentary on RTE1 on Monday was a perfectly timed follow up to the festivals, fleadhanna and summer schools of the last month. *Dying for a Drink* was a Radharc/RTE



● Doireann Ní Bhriain — back next Monday with 'Women Talking'

drama-documentary on alcoholism.

The effects of alcohol abuse were dramatised through the

holics themselves but also families, friends and the whole of society.

The number of hospital beds taken up by alcoholics, the time of doctors, social workers and the resources of the whole health service, all seriously affected by alcoholism, were examined in this disturbing programme.

What was not examined or commented on is the enormous revenue that the Free State government gets from alcohol, and the profits made by the manufacturers. It did not mention either the fact that attractive advertisements for drink are on every hoarding in the country and also frequently on television.

Alcohol abuse is far more prevalent in Ireland than drug abuse and the cost, both in mental suffering and financial loss, far more widespread, if not as dramatic. But the moguls of the drink industry are not regarded as 'pushers' but as respectable pillars of society, so much so that when Jack Lynch resigned as Free State premier he took a job on the board of Irish Distillers.

There is far more to dying for a drink than this programme

was prepared to face up to.

### NEW SERIES

RTE1 brings back *Women Talking* on Monday, September 12th, at 9.20pm. Just over a year ago, this six-part series, presented by Doireann Ní Bhriain and produced by Nuala O'Faolain, topped the Tam ratings.

The last series was made wherever the RTE Outside Broadcast Unit happened to be that week. There was no set, no props and the women who appeared on the programmes were not paid. They talked about themselves, their childhood, marriage, money and everything that affects the lives of ordinary women. The success of the series was due largely to Doireann Ní Bhriain's ability to put women who had never appeared on TV before, or indeed spoken in public, at their ease.

This year, *Women Talking* will be made wherever *Trom agus Eadrom* is broadcasting from. One programme will be about nuns and convent life, another will deal with bereavement and there will be another on the subject of women's relations to each other, called *Women on Women*. Don't miss it.

## A strange fascination

BY EDDIE STACK

I'M GOING to say it right up here in the first paragraph: *Merry Christmas, Mr Lawrence* is the best film to be shown in Ireland so far this year.

Media-watchers, and other poor souls starved of a good film in this the International Year of the Crap Film, may well find the above an unlikely statement in the light of a curious documentary which appeared on our TV screens earlier this April. In it the author of the novel on which *Merry Christmas, Mr Lawrence* is based, the 900-year-old Laurens Van Der Post, trailed like a limo, with a faithful dog around 10 Downing Street after the Iron Maiden, cooling admirably at the family photos of her 24 children, gurgling toothlessly at how she met her husband, Dennis, at a Conservative Party meeting, and inquiring endlessly when she would be writing her autobiography, *British Industry — Why It Isn't There Anymore*.

All in all, it was a documentary only suitable for those with the strongest stomachs — for men and women with an unquenchable will to live through all that life can throw at them. Yet sometime in his life this same Mr Van Der Post put pen to paper to write *The Seed and*

### FILM

*the Sower*, a violent and moving story about the strength of the human spirit in the face of inhuman tyranny, a novel in particular about the clash of two cultures, one of which glorifies death, the other which is prepared to inflict it but prefers to avoid it. The battleground is a prisoner of war camp in Java, lorded over by the Japanese to whom surrender is a disgrace and suicide an art form. In effect, they have forsaken their lives to the Emperor and can only despise those prisoners who crawl day by wretched day to save their lives from extinction.

### CEREMONIAL

The POW camp contains the Mr Lawrence from which the film takes its title. Mr Lawrence has no stomach for the brutal reality of the Japanese, devoting his time to becoming the lubricating oil between East and West, pleading for reason as yet another Oriental is 'permitted' to take the honourable way out

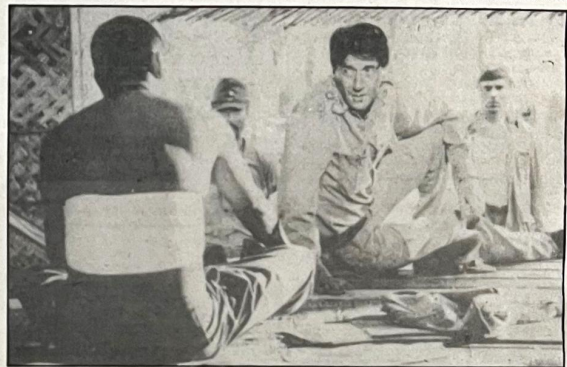
and rearrange the contents of his stomach with the aid of the ceremonial dagger. Anything for a quiet life is the motto of our boy, Mr Lawrence.

Imagine his chagrin when a new prisoner enters the camp, Jacques Celliers, a strange and indestructibly charismatic figure that quickly mesmerises the Japanese camp commander, a Captain Yonoi, who recognises in Celliers all that he himself would like to be. Celliers is no rational Westerner out to save his hide. In fact, he courts destruction, inciting the other prisoners to rebellion and scorning the clearly infatuated Yonoi who wants to make his life so easy for him.

At the end of the day the drama is played out to increasing destruction and the film's finale, where a brutal Japanese guard is reconciled with the man who was his lowly prisoner, is the most moving piece of cinema this year.

Some things must be said about *Merry Christmas, Mr Lawrence*.

It has a Japanese director who earned the eternal wrath of the international film community for his sub-porno movie *Empire of the Senses*. In *Lawrence*, Oshima makes his fellow Japan-



● Lawrence (Tom Conti) intercedes with Hara (Takashi) on behalf of a fellow POW

ese perform in such a way that, if handled by a Western director, would be called blatant racism. Oshima was a man on the left in Japanese politics but was amazed at the many agreements he had, in a television interview, with the famous and very right-wing Japanese author Yukio Mishima. After the interview, Yukio rearranged his stomach with the aid of the ceremonial dagger.

### STRANGE EFFECT

Secondly, Jacques Celliers is played by the very famous Mr

David Bowie. This makes for the strange effect of the viewer never taking his eyes off Celliers, even when the character is doing nothing in particular. This, and the fact that the movie has some very prominent and well-crafted rock music in its score, gives the viewer an unsettled and confused feeling. Sometimes you feel the actors are just making up their lines as they go along, they trip over some words quite strangely. It's all very odd indeed.

But this oddness heightens its fascination and gives the

authentic feeling to the pent-up anger and terror felt between captor and captive. It is a film ultimately about the power of the human spirit, about positively acting to change the odds. It is a film about the collision of two seemingly unmergable cultures, yet concluding we are all really on the same side.

I'll admit there's a touch of the art-house about *Merry Christmas, Mr Lawrence*, but I still recommend that you temporarily drop your Armalite and your ballot box and see this picture.

## As you were

BY BRIAN MARTIN

IT'S A VERY rare situation for a Cork hurling team to be on the losing side in two consecutive All-Ireland finals, and it's obviously a galling one for their supporters. It's all the more galling because, while they would admit that Kilkenny were the better side on the day, Cork had the winning of this game within their grasp.

In the first half, playing into a swirling wind that ruled out any possibility of a 'classic', Cork sensibly stuck to a traditional ground hurling style and were often highly impressive. Kilkenny were never allowed to build up the kind of lead they wanted and even Liam Fennelly's goal eight minutes from the break left a mere six points between them when it came.

### INABILITY

The second half, however, was to witness an amazing inability by Cork to turn wind advantage to account.

It might be suggested that Richie Power's goal straight on resumption knocked the heart out of them, but that would be

### SPORT

to ignore Tomas Mulcahy's superbly struck reply four minutes later and which should have set things up nicely.

Cork quite simply failed to get their act together and the surge when it did come was too late. In any event, the appalling number of wides they shot served to nail their coffin.

### DEFENCE

One has to also mention the Kilkenny defence. Always the strongest part of the side, on Sunday they were as 'intimidating' as ever.

Joe Hennessy was in tower-



● Dermot McCurtin gets down to business but Christy Heffernan and Kilkenny eventually come out on top

ing form and alongside him Ger Henderson gave another demonstration of why he is perhaps the finest defender in the game. Behind them was a solid full-back line.

The other reasons for Kil-

kenny's success were Frank Cummins at midfield and the brilliant Billy Fitzpatrick, whose marksmanship, considering the conditions, was at times miraculous (that's without mentioning his general play). He'll hard-

ly ever play a better match in a game and amber shirt.

Cork's outstanding individual performances were from Donald O'Grady at full-back and John Buckley, who was the driving force behind that late surge.

Kevin Hennessy also had a fine game.

So it's a case of 'as you were' in a year which has seen the other side steal the show. Could that have been envisaged even a mere 18 years ago?







# Brit dog set on child

A 14-YEAR-OLD Cullyhanna girl was attacked and bitten by an Alsatian dog, on the orders of his British army dog-handler, during a raid on her family's farm last Wednesday week, August 31st.

At around 10.30am that morning, Owen Murphy, his sister Margaret and her daughter Roisin arrived at their farm in the South Armagh townland of Dorsey McDonald. There they found the padlock and barrel of the gate broken and scores of British soldiers (who had been helicoptered in during the early hours of the morning) swarming about the yard and surrounding fields, intent on raiding the old farmhouse.

Owen Murphy firmly refused to allow the British army either to break into the building or to search it unless the RUC was called, and Margaret Murphy told them she would return home to fetch the keys.

With Roisin following, she walked back down the narrow lane lined with British soldiers. As Margaret passed a very large Alsatian dog, she asked if it would bite and was told: "No. Only the ones he doesn't like."

At these words, the British army dog-handler deliberately set the dog on her daughter, who had been staring curiously at the huge animal. Roisin recalls:

"When mummy was passing he held the dog up tight with the collar and chain. Then when I was passing he let the collar go and with the back of his hand he pushed him and the dog just came flying out at me."

ar and chain. Then when I was passing he let the collar go and with the back of his hand he pushed him and the dog just came flying out at me."

## LAUGHED

While nearby soldiers grinned and laughed, the dog bit the top of Roisin's right thigh, fortunately not deeply, before being pulled off the crying child by his handler.

Although none of the raiders inquired about the girl's injuries, one animal-loving Brit, displaying his army's characteristic contempt for the human victims of their intimidatory tactics, later attempted, unsuccessfully, to persuade an upset Margaret Murphy not to report the incident to the RUC, on the grounds that the dog would have to be put down.

The British army spent the afternoon thoroughly searching the house and surrounding land, smashing floorboards in the process, but, as is generally the case in such raids, found nothing.

Roisin, who twice needed doctor's treatment following the attack, suffered vomiting, nightmares and a kidney disorder for several days as a result of delayed shock, and missed the start of the new school term.



● Owen Murphy with his niece Roisin and sister Margaret



## An Bhreatain cáinte sa Gheineív

LE SEÁN Ó BRAONÁIN

AG DEIREADH mí Lúna, tús mí Meán Fomhair ins an Gheineív, tugadh ceist úsáid na bpiléir phlaisteacha i dtuaisceart na hÉireann ag Fo-Chomisiún Um Chearta Daoine na Náisiúin Aontaithe.

Eagraíocht na muinteoirí in éadan éagdrach (organisation of concerned teachers) a d'éagraigh an taidhleoireacht i gcomhairle leis an Ath. Reamonn Ó Muirí. Bhí Pat Canavan ón eagraíocht, Desmond Whitters, athair Paul Whitters buachaill cúig bliana deag d'aois a maraíodh i nDoire i 1981 le piléir phlaisteach agus an t-Ath Ó Muirí i lárthír ins an Gheineív. Is fríd an Conradh Idirnáisiúnta Um Chearta Daoine a rinn-eadh an taidhleoireacht.

Tá sé bhall is fiche sa Fo-Chomisiún ó thiortha éagsúla agus ó ghach ceann des na blocanna éagsúla. Chuaigh an tseoir-eacht Éireannach thart orthu uilig a míniú dóibh faoin lot agus faoin dúnmharú a bhí déanta ag Arm na Breataine agus an RUC i dtuaisceart na hÉireann le piléir phlaisteacha. Fuair siad eisteacht mháith.

## MARFACH

Ansin ins an tadhail foirmeála scríofa a léadh amach tugadh faoi dhroch iompar an stáit i gceithre thír: an tSile, an Phólainn, an Iarain agus tuaisceart na hÉireann.

I gcás tuaisceart na hÉireann, i measc aifán rudaí eile, duradh go ndearna arm Sís Aontaithe Mheiriceá teisteanas ar na piléir phlaisteacha seo, agus gur tháinig siad ar an mbarúil go raibh siad marfach. Bhí an t-eolas sin go léir ag Rialtas na Breataine sular thosaigh siad á n-úsáid.

Mharairigh na piléir ruibéir, a bhí in úsáid ó 1970 go 1975, triúr. Mharairigh na piléir phlaisteacha a tugadh isteach i 1975 aon duine deag, agus seisear páist ina measc.

## CLOIGNE

D'úsáid Arm na Breataine agus an RUC iad in amanna nuair nach raibh círléibeacha ar bith ann. D'úsáid siad iad ag amanna eile taobh istigh d'fhoirgnimh nuair nach dtiocfadh leis na daoine éaló. D'úsáid siad iad in éadan páistí, ó chúpla siad in amanna agus dhírigh siad ar chloigne na ndaoine go minic.

Luadh aifán dreamanna a d'iarr go gcoiscfá iad, Párlaimint na hEorpa ina measc, agus sa deireadh n'iarradh ar an Fo-Chomisiún brú a dhéanamh le cosc a fháil curtha orthu.

## 'MINIMUM FORCE' —BRIT-STYLE

BY JANE PLUNKETT

A MONTH after West Belfast man Joseph Campbell was hit at almost point-blank range by two RUC plastic bullets, his gaping leg-wound provides gruesome testimony to the destructive power of these Brit-styled 'minimum force' weapons, used indiscriminately by the crown forces against Northern nationalists.

The bullets which the RUC fired at Campbell in the early hours of August 9th tore two deep holes in his right leg. After initial outpatient treatment, Campbell, by now unable to walk, was admitted to the Royal Victoria Hospital on August 18th and doctors cut away dead tissue to leave a single hole in his flesh that is five inches long and two inches deep.

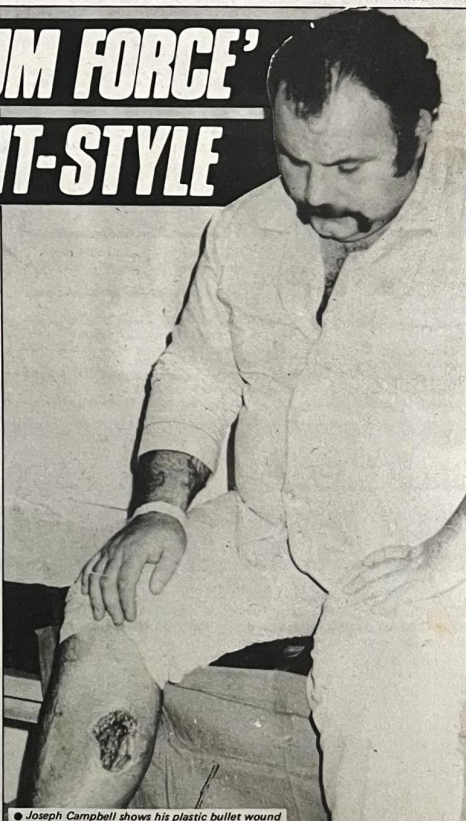
Campbell will need skin grafts and operations to straighten his leg muscle before the long-term damage to his leg is known.

Campbell, an unemployed single man, was one of the many innocent victims of RUC aggression in West Belfast during the 12th anniversary of internment. Earlier that night, he had spent several hours with neighbours at a peaceful internment bonfire on the Moyard estate where he lives.

## FRIENDS

On hearing that rioting was going on close to the Henry Taggart RUC/British army fort on the near-by Springfield Road, Campbell and a friend, Margaret Keenan, decided to call up to friends who live beside the fort to invite them and their two young children to stay in Moyard that night.

By the time they reached the Springfield Road, the rioters had



● Joseph Campbell shows his plastic bullet wound

been dispersed by plastic bullets. But as the couple turned the corner an RUC landrover stopped beside them and several RUC men jumped out and started firing plastic bullets from a distance of six feet.

One bullet knocked Campbell's hat off but fortunately missed his

head. The next two, which struck his leg, brought the bulky man to the ground. Joseph recalls:

"There were people standing at their doors and the RUC were shooting after them and threatening them. I wasn't rioting — I was 22 stone then. In my opinion, they were just out for anybody."