

AN
PHOBLACHT
Republican News

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IRA block-buster



THE 38 republican prisoners who burst so dramatically out of the notorious Long Kesh H-Blocks last Sunday have proved once again — if such proof were still needed — the impossibility of defeating the republican cause.

How many times now have the British government, media and crown forces begun to crow about being on the verge of a military victory in the North — believing their own inflated psychological propaganda — only to receive a sickening blow to their morale from a dramatic IRA answer?

Have they not learnt their lesson yet?

Two years ago, Margaret Thatcher described the H-Block hunger-strike as 'the IRA playing their last card'. This week she has discovered again that the game is far from over yet, and she is forced to admit that her government is facing its 'greatest prison crisis'.

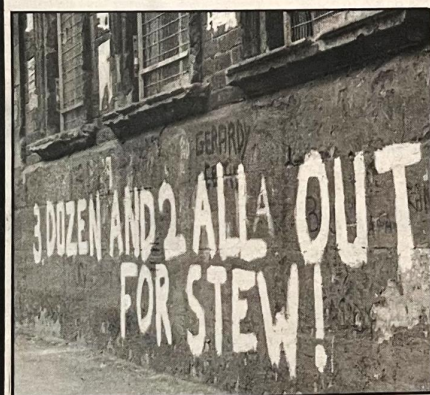
There will be plenty more crises for the British government to face, as long as it chooses to stay in any part of Ireland.

Last Sunday's H-Block break-out was a cause of admiration and jubilation for nationalists and republicans throughout Ireland, who would defy the right of Britain to hold any Irish man or woman in any prison in this country.

How craven then is the contemptible behaviour of Garret FitzGerald in the speed of his collaboration in the efforts to recapture the escaped prisoners. By what right does he squander in this fashion the taxes of Irish people in his unending efforts to gain a pat on the head from London?

Inside or outside of jail, not just when achieving these dramatic heights, republican prisoners, at home and abroad, are heroes to those who believe in Ireland's right to freedom.

**SEE PAGES
3, 7, 8, 9,
10 & 16**



**STOP THE
SHOW TRIALS CONFERENCE**

12 noon Sunday 2nd October
St. Patrick's Hall
Dungannon

...WAR NEWS...WAR NEWS...WAR NEWS...WAR NEWS...

Landmine in South Derry

SHORTLY after 11pm on Wednesday, September 21st, a massive IRA landmine narrowly missed a UDR mobile patrol as it passed along the Knockloughrim Road, near Gulladuff, in South Derry. Three soldiers were slightly injured when the huge bomb exploded.

Hundreds of British troops, UDR and RUC quickly sealed the area off but the six-strong IRA active service unit safely eluded the dragnet.

BLAST-BOMBS

Around the same time as the landmine attack, seven

IRA Volunteers armed with handguns placed three bombs at Dean's Bridge filling station on the Portadown Road in Armagh. The petrol station was totally destroyed and a neighbouring garage was structurally damaged.

Just over one hour later,

around 12.30am, a six-strong IRA active service unit took over Fisher's timber yard on Butter Crane Quay, in Newry, and placed several blast incendiaries. The yard was extensively damaged in the fires which followed the explosions.

IRA RELEASE GILMOUR'S FATHER

BY EAMON TRACEY

PATRICK GILMOUR, the 62-year-old father of RUC paid perjurer Raymond Gilmour, was unexpectedly released by the IRA late on Monday, September 26th, after having been held by them for 10 months.

Fr Piaras O Duill, who played a prominent role in the National Smash H-Block Committee, collected Patrick Gilmour and brought him home. Fr O Duill, who gave an undertaking not to reveal the spot where he picked Gilmour up, explained that he had been making enquiries for some time concerning the 62-year-old Derry man. Last week he was asked if he would be prepared to pick up Mr Gilmour and he agreed.

In August 1982 Raymond Gilmour and his wife, Lorraine, disappeared from their home in Derry. In the following days and weeks dozens of men and women were arrested on the uncorroborated evidence of Gilmour. Over 70 have now been charged.

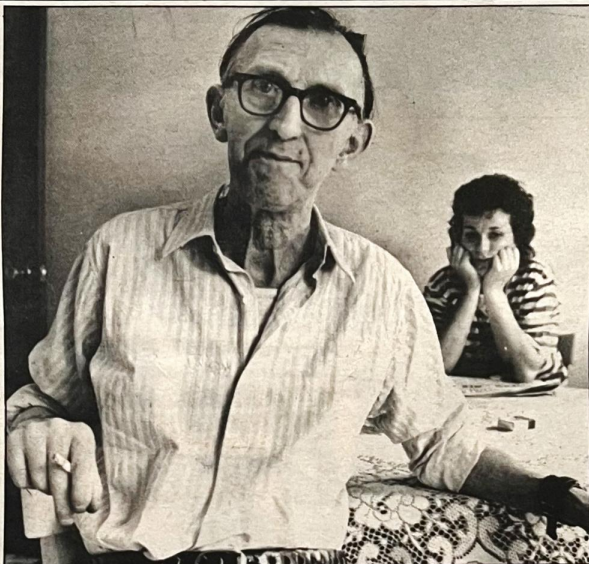
Four months later, in November 1982, Patrick Gilmour was taken from his home by an armed IRA unit. His family were informed that his safety was dependent upon his son. Several months later, in January of this year, a photograph showing Patrick Gilmour holding a daily paper was released to prove that he was still alive and well.

Now, 10 months after taking Mr Gilmour, the IRA have released him. In interviews with journalists on Tuesday, September 27th, Patrick Gilmour made it clear that he had at no time been abused or ill-treated although he had never been left alone.

BRAIN-WASHED

The IRA, in their statement explaining why they had decided to free Gilmour, said:

"It is obvious that his son, Raymond, has been brain-washed beyond compassion for the heart-break and broken homes he is causing in Derry on behalf of the British. It is also obvious that while we could use the arrest of Mr Gilmour as pressure on his son, there was no way we could ultimately hold him responsible for the actions of Raymond."



● Patrick Gilmour with his daughter Dymphna

The IRA criticised the involvement several weeks ago of "the media hungry Fr Faul" and explained that as a result of spurious claims by Faul that Mr Gilmour was dead they had been forced to delay his release.

The IRA also appealed to the relatives of "those victims of the show trials not to take out their understandable anger over Raymond Gilmour on his family."

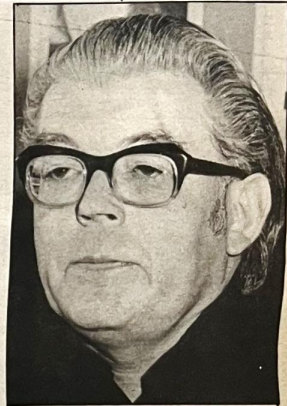
TORMENT

The torment of the relatives of those imprisoned on the perjured word of Ray-

mond Gilmour was underlined again by Martin McGuinness, Sinn Féin elected representative for Derry, who, in supporting the decision by the IRA to release Patrick Gilmour, said:

"We are very conscious of the anguish and grief felt by the relatives of all those imprisoned on the uncorroborated evidence of perjurers. We are equally conscious of the cynical attempts of the British to divide relative from relative. We are determined that Britain's latest tactic will be confronted."

"We believe that the justifiable anger and resentment felt by the entire nationalist



● FR PIARAS O DUILL

community about the use of perjurers should be channelled into a vigorous, representative and mass campaign against the employment of perjurers and the introduction of show trials.

"Britain's purpose is to end nationalist opposition. The RUC and judiciary operate the sham which passes for justice in the six counties. We now call on all those, be they lawyers, churchmen or politicians, who have, by their refusal to analyse truthfully what constitutes British justice, lent credence to British legal abuses, to condemn this immoral and unacceptable practice."

"Their silence can no longer be justified on spurious moral grounds."

"All Britain's previous attempts to destroy Irish resistance have failed. Internment, Castlereagh and the torment of the H-Blocks were defeated by the unified opposition of the Irish people."

"A mass movement to end show trials and paid perjurers must be mobilised immediately and Sinn Féin promises its total support to that movement."

No marks for penny-pinchers

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

PENNY-PINCHING by the Department of Education in Dublin has left Ballymun's new Irish school an easy target for vandals, according to angry parents in the city's most controversial housing estate.

After ten years in temporary accommodation, the Irish-speaking primary school, Scoil an tSeachtar Laoch, finally got the brand new building which had been promised. The school cost £300,000 and is a fitting tribute to the

hard work of the parents, teachers and the children of Ballymun who have promoted the Irish language through their school and their cultural festivals, sport and music, relying solely on their own efforts.

However, the Department

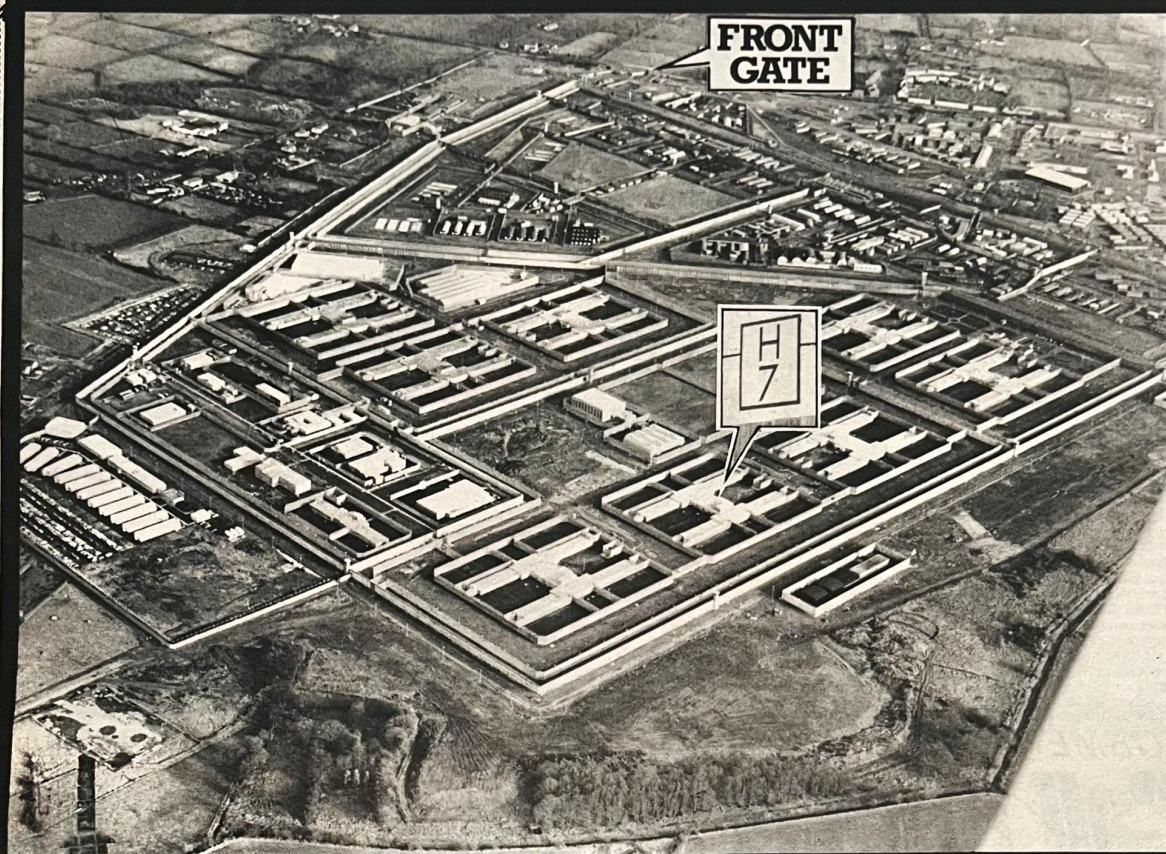
of Education have refused to install an alarm system on railings around the school. The entrance to Scoil an tSeachtar Laoch is an imposing one with high brick pillars flanking a big iron gate, equipped with padlock and chains. But on one side of the gateway is — nothing!

The school perimeter is therefore wide open to anyone, and the distraction to teachers and pupils of people wandering past classroom windows is obvious. However, the main concern of parents and staff is the open invitation to vandals, as the school has no protection.

The parents' committee has suggested that the Department use the Community Youth Training Programme to build the railings but have had no answer.



● The padlocked gate of Ballymun's Irish school is hardly going to keep anyone out if there's no railings to go with it



BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

MEDIA REPORTS, around tea-time on Sunday, of a mass jail-break from the H-Blocks, Long Kesh — widely acclaimed by the British to be the most secure and escape-proof of their prisons — stunned even the most optimistic republican as estimates of between 30 and 50 prisoners were reported to be involved in what must be one of the most dramatic and biggest escapes in recent republican history.

A total of 38 republican prisoners in H7-Block escaped from the prison, using a commandeered meals lorry which delivers meals to the blocks three times a day.

The drama began around 3.30pm just as prisoners in H7 (which contained around 127 republican POWs only) were being escorted back to their separate wings by prison warders following association period which lasts from 2 to 3.30pm.

As *AP/RN* goes to print, the exact sequence of events has yet to be accurately pieced together — the only people capable of doing so being the escapees themselves — but it has been generally accepted that the escape, executed with precision, confidence and efficiency by the prisoners, was well-planned and, to date, a total of 19 prisoners have remained free.

SECURITY

H7-Block is one of three blocks contained in a separate area from the other blocks and includes two football fields and a gymnasium. The block itself is divided into four wings, 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' wings, containing 25 cells in each. The wings are divided by two gridded metal security gates manned by a prison warder and each wing leads to the administration building in the centre.

In turn, each wing is self-contained and linked into an alarm system, as is the administration building.

The entire block, at any given time, has a total of anything between 20 and 25 prison warders on duty. In order to secure the block, and in order to avoid the alarm system being raised prematurely, it appears that prisoners in all four wings, in a pre-arranged and co-ordinated action, over-

H-BLOCK BREAK-OUT

powered prison warders on their way back to the cells.

MEALS LORRY

Around this time, the meals lorry, driven by a prison warder who was accompanied by at least one other, and two YPs (young prisoners) passed through the double security gates of the block and arrived with the evening meal.

It is assumed that at this point several of the prisoners produced guns, dressed in the warders' uniforms, commandeered the lorry, emptied out its food containers and piled into the back.

Another report suggests that in the struggle with prison warders one Screw was shot in the head.

The three-ton food lorry, which is open backed, provided minimum cover for the escapees. The lorry, being coolly driven by the disguised POW, must have blurred its way through at least four sets of double, electronically operated security gates en route to the main gate, almost three quarters of a mile away.

CONFUSION

There is also confusion regarding the

exact route taken, the gate used in the escape and whether the gate was open or closed.

One version is that when the lorry reached the main perimeter gate a prison warder recognised one of the escapees and blocked the gate with his car. Another report is that the main gate was closed when the lorry drew up and the prisoners tried to open it themselves but were spotted by a warder who drove his car between the lorry and the gate to prevent them driving through. In a struggle between the escapees and warders, one of the warders, James Ferris from Donaghadee, was stabbed and later died, and another was shot in the leg.

Yet another version of the escape is that during the struggle with prison warders the lorry was driven down an interior road running parallel with the Bog Road outside and many of the prisoners escaped through a less frequently used gate at the rear of the prison.

EYE-WITNESS

Eye-witness reports of local people living in the immediate area say this was the case and describe how the prisoners ran in various directions, commandeering whatever transport they could lay their hands on

while others simply made their way on foot across the fields.

Five escapees were recaptured only minutes afterwards, another was shot at as he ran down a nearby road. One escapee, Harry Murray from West Belfast's Lenadoon estate, was shot in the leg during his bid for freedom and several hours later four escapees were discovered in the River Lagan. They had, rather imaginatively, been breathing through reeds under the water, hoping to elude the immediate and intense search operation which followed.

In all, 15 of the escapees were captured by Sunday night.

ROADBLOCKS

Thousands of RUC, UDR and British soldiers were drafted into the immediate Lisburn area as all available crown force personnel were called up and checkpoints were set up on every road. While those on the ground combed fields, outbuildings and hedgerows inch by inch, helicopters scoured the countryside with searchlights.

The search continued throughout darkness on Sunday night and by Monday morning had intensified as RUC divisional commanders ordered all leave to be cancelled as the massive six-county wide operation concentrated on County Down where one of the escapees' vans was discovered abandoned.

Woodlands in the Castlewells Forest Park were thoroughly combed using tracker dogs and helicopter surveillance while homes of republican sympathisers were raided for the elusive escapees.

MONDAY

On Monday afternoon two of the men, Paul Kane from Ardoyne and Brendan Mead from the Falls Road, were discovered by a passing RUC patrol on a deserted road outside Castlewells.

The following day saw the discovery of two others, Hugh Corey from South Derry and Patrick McIntyre from Letterkenny, and gave the highly embarrassed enemy forces a temporary respite from the damage to their pride and morale, which has been so badly affected by this latest IRA 'coup'.

As each day goes by, and the escapees 'go to ground', the cards are stacking in their favour and the odds against recapture become slimmer and slimmer.

MATERNITY CLOSURE FEARS

BY RITA O'HARE

THE FEARED closure of the 14-bed maternity unit in Louth County Hospital at Dundalk is causing major concern to women in the area who are facing long journeys in future to avail of maternity facilities.

At a meeting of Dundalk Urban District Council on September 26th, Sinn Féin Councillor Fra Browne proposed the setting up of a County Louth Retention Committee to fight the closure of the unit.

The maternity unit at the hospital was closed 'temporarily' on Saturday, September 10th, because, it was claimed, they could not get a locum to cover for Dr John Kidney, the county physician, who is on three weeks' holiday.

The unit is supposed to re-open on October 1st, but there are growing fears that this 'temporary closure' is a deliberate run-down of maternity services in Dundalk, which will force women to go to the maternity unit at Lourdes Hospital in Drogheda.

OBSTETRICIAN

Like many of the smaller maternity units around the country, Louth has no consultant obstetrician. The county physician and local GPs have been pressing for the immediate appointment of an obstetrician, but the Department of Health in Dublin has refused to do so, despite the approval of the North Eastern Health Board for the appointment.



● Louth County Hospital, Dundalk: Is its maternity unit being deliberately run down by Coalition Health Minister Barry Desmond?

Indeed, the instruction of the Free State Minister for Health, Barry Desmond, advised by Comhairle na hOspidéal, is that not only should no new appointment be made, but that replacement appointments of retired consultants should be reduced by half.

Like Bantry, Trim, Carlow and other maternity units already closed or threatened with closure, the Dundalk unit is being

affected by the arbitrary decision of Comhairle na hOspidéal that a maternity unit is only justified if there are more than 1,500 births per year. The fact that women have to face long journeys to hospital, that women in an emergency might not make it in time, and that they are isolated from family and friends, does not apparently matter.

Local women, in particular expectant

mothers, have expressed their fears, saying that for women who do not have their own transport there will be the serious problem of getting to Drogheda at all, let alone getting there in time. They point out that in a town the size of Dundalk, with an increasing population, there should be an expansion and improvement in maternity services, not a winding down of them.

PROTESTORS

At a protest outside the Louth County Hospital on Friday, September 9th, women and men protestors carried placards reading "Save Our Baby Unit" and called for the immediate appointment of an obstetrician. The protestors say that the campaign is only beginning.

Dr Hugh Dolan, the Louth county medical officer, and members of the North Eastern Health Board have been told by Barry Desmond that Dundalk was not in the Department of Health's plan for maternity services in the region, and that maternity units in Cavan, Navan and Drogheda would serve the whole North Eastern Health Board area.

This means that women in, for example, the North Monaghan area would have a journey of up to 50 miles to the nearest maternity unit in Cavan Hospital and that women in the Dundalk area would have a journey of nearly 30 miles to Drogheda. The whole northern region of the NEHB's area would be left without this essential service, while maternity units in Navan and Drogheda, only 16 miles apart, are to be expanded.

FORMER CLONDALKIN MILL-WORKERS RENEW CAMPAIGN

Call for ban on paper imports

BY JACK MADDEN

AN EMBARGO may soon be placed on imports of certain types of paper to the twenty-six counties if former employees of Clondalkin Paper Mills succeed in their efforts to persuade other unions affiliated to the Irish Congress of Trade Unions to impose such a ban as part of a new campaign to have the mills re-opened.

John O'Keefe, an FWUI shop steward at the mills, explains that the new campaign by 280 former employees, who are now picketing the Government Stationery Offices at Haddington Road, has been prompted by the renege of firm commitments previously made to the workers by the government:

"It is seven months now since the government met an ICTU delegation and a statement was released saying that they had agreed to implement the settlement which had already been agreed with Albert Reynolds (former Fianna

Faíle minister) last November. This agreement clearly states that the mills would shortly re-open under state ownership."

The workers, who are represented by seven different unions, believe that the assurances given by John Bruton were simply part of a political ploy and point out that the meeting took place the day before the Budget appeared. They are angry too at the Labour Party and, in particular, Dick Spring, its leader. Despite repeated promises to do all in his power, and the assurance that he 'wasn't a man to let the grass grow un-



der his feet', Spring has yet to raise the issue at Cabinet level.

But then again, Bruton, representing the anti-socialism of his party, Fine Gael, seems determined not to bring the mills into state own-

ership. Officials in the Department of Trade and Tourism, who said in March that the government was standing by the agreement, were contradicted in June by Bruton who said that his department was negotiating with private

industry, ruling out state ownership.

Negotiations between the Industrial Development Authority (IDA) and a Canadian firm finished four weeks ago but as yet they have not announced the results, while Bruton continues to 'sit on it'.

A further cause of bitterness with the workers is that they agreed to low terms of redundancy as part of the agreement with Reynolds on the understanding that this would lead to a speedy re-opening of the mills. While the government now imports £23 million worth of paper per year John O'Keefe points out that, in full capacity, Clondalkin can produce £25 million worth of the same paper.

To counter claims made that Irish companies did not

want Irish paper, the workers organised a market research survey and discovered a positive response to Irish paper, great enough to keep Clondalkin busy seven days a week, 52 weeks a year.

While Bruton continues to back-track, the workers are getting increasingly angry. A protest was held at Noonan's Cross in Tallaght seven weeks ago, and the following week they staged a protest in O'Connell Street. The latest protest at the GSO is proving highly effective and John O'Keefe promises further and more serious action in the days ahead if something isn't done to get their jobs back.

Commenting that jail held no fear for the long-suffering Clondalkin workers, John O'Keefe pointed out:

"We know we're breaking the law but we've nowhere left to go."

Dirty deal for Shannon cleaners

BY ANN O'BRIEN

FORTY-FIVE employees of Munster Cleaners, at Shannon Airport, members of the ITGWU, are continuing an unofficial strike which began on Monday, September 12th.

Edward Moroney, the owner of Munster Cleaners, took over the Aer Rianta contract in January. Since then there have been a series of incidents, culminating in the workers' decision to strike. According to the strikers, Moroney has dismissed 25 people, has reneged on agreements on holidays and sick pay, has forced workers to do excessive hours and pays non-union school-leavers £1.50 per hour, 90p below the union rate.

The latest incident which sparked the strike was the dismissal of

five men and final notice given to another.

Officials of the ITGWU have been negotiating on the workers' behalf although the strike is still unofficial. They have succeeded in getting a promise of reinstatement for the dismissed workers.

The union officials are meeting with a delegation from Shannon Sinn Féin, who have been supporting the workers, on Thursday, September 29th, and there are hopes for an early settlement to the dispute.



● SHANNON AIRPORT

MORE CRACKS THAN FACTS

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

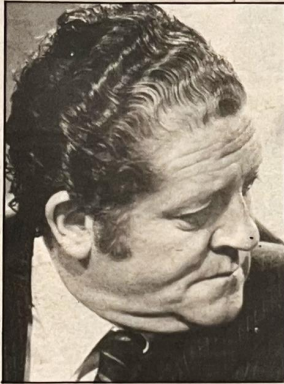
IN SPITE of being boycotted by all unionist parties, the fact-finding delegation sent to the North by the New Ireland Forum at the beginning of the week to sound out 'unionist opinion', was given a bit of unionist crack in Derry on Monday, September 26th, when some DUP demonstrators, unrestrained by an RUC presence, broke a pole over the head of Fianna Fail deputy leader Brian Lenihan.

Earlier on, a meeting arranged for the delegation with some 'Presbyterians from border areas' had to be abandoned, after the Presbyterians pulled out, having realised the link between their visitors and the Forum.

And on Tuesday, September 27th, some members of the moderate unionist Alliance Party who had accepted the invitation to meet the Forum delegation in Belfast were told off by their party leadership, who called the move 'unwise' and stressed Alliance's policy of having nothing to do with this 'nationalist forum'.

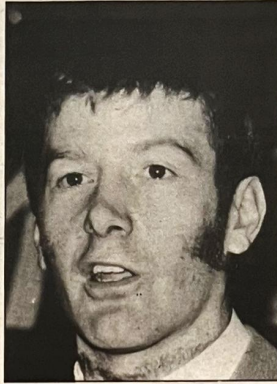
ECONOMISTS

The New Ireland Forum, which shuns any



● BRIAN LENIHAN
had a pole broken over his head

contact with Sinn Fein and its 100,000 Northern voters, resumed its meetings last week after the summer recess, and apart



● GREGORY CAMPBELL
one of the leaders of the DUP mob

from deciding to send a delegation to the North — on what will probably go down as the most unsuccessful fact-finding mission in

Irish history — the Forum also heard reports by some economists on the 'cost of Irish unity'.

The cost of continued partition was not mentioned, with its heavy toll of human suffering, wasted lives and wasted resources. What seems to preoccupy the Forum, or rather the Irish establishment, is the price they would have to pay to lure the unionists into some kind of federation — retaining links with Britain of course.

Apparently that price is too high for the Free State, according to Sir Charles Carter, chairperson of the Northern Ireland Economic Council, whose report to the Forum alleged that Britain should continue to rule the six counties and keep the North's economy afloat, something which, he said, the Free State cannot afford. Carter's report gave Fianna Fail leader Charles Haughey one of many opportunities for some speechifying in the purest tradition of verbal republicanism.

"It is defeatist to argue that both parts of the country are incapable of providing for themselves," he said, adding nervously that Britain would certainly provide "substantial financial assistance" for the New Ireland.

There will be plenty of money available to keep Ireland capitalist, the Fianna Fail leader believes.

NORAIID TORMENTS TASK FORCE

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

THROUGHOUT the Task Force Two 'jobs' tour of America, which included Ian Paisley and John Hume and predictably turned into a fiasco even as a junket, Irish Northern Aid launched a successful series of counter-demonstrations at every venue the delegation visited.

The first demonstration was at Harbour Place in Baltimore on September 18th. The Noraid picket at the venue was visible during the entire session and received wide media coverage. To coincide with the Task Force meetings in Washington on Monday, September 19th, Noraid had a series of meetings with congressional staff members on the issue of visa denials to Sinn Fein members.

New York Congressman Guy Molinari has since called upon the State Department to end its policy of refusing visas to representatives of Sinn Fein, saying:

"To give only one side a chance to present its views in this country amounts to censorship by visa."

On Tuesday, September 20th, there were demonstrations by pro-Irish groups in Toronto, Canada, and on Wednesday in New York crowds assembled in front of the British Consulate to protest against the tour and afterwards marched to the venue of a dinner given for the delegation by the British Industrial Development Board.

On Thursday, September 22nd, there were demonstrations against the tour in Pittsburgh, where the city council issued a formal resolution supporting Irish national freedom and visas for Sinn Fein.

In addition to two demonstrations against Ian Paisley and the Task Force's visit to Chicago, Noraid succeeded in placing 25



● Martin Galvin with members of Noraid during their visit to the occupied six counties last month

people in the audience at the Chicago Council of Foreign Relations' public meeting at the

questions about British army terrorism, sectarianism, discrimination and Sinn Fein, the meeting broke up in confusion.

DEMONSTRATION

On Sunday, September 25th, a demonstration outside the United Nations was addressed by Senator Alphonse d'Amato, Congressman Biaggi and Martin Galvin of Noraid, followed by a march to Madison Square Gardens where the Scots Guards and the Black Watch were appearing.

Martin Galvin, national publicity director of Noraid, has reiterated that Noraid does not object to Paisley's, or any of the other pro-British tour members', visas, but are protesting against their support for British rule in Ireland which enforces a sectarian system by 30,000 British troops, RUC and UDR occupation forces, and against the denial of visas to Sinn Fein members.

Gardai attack CIE picketers

ON WEDNESDAY morning, September 28th, striking CIE engineering operatives were attacked by gardai while on a picket line outside the Alexandra Road Depot in Dublin.

An oil tanker driven by one of CIE's management tried to leave the depot at around 8am. In a scuffle with the picketers the windscreen of the tanker was smashed.

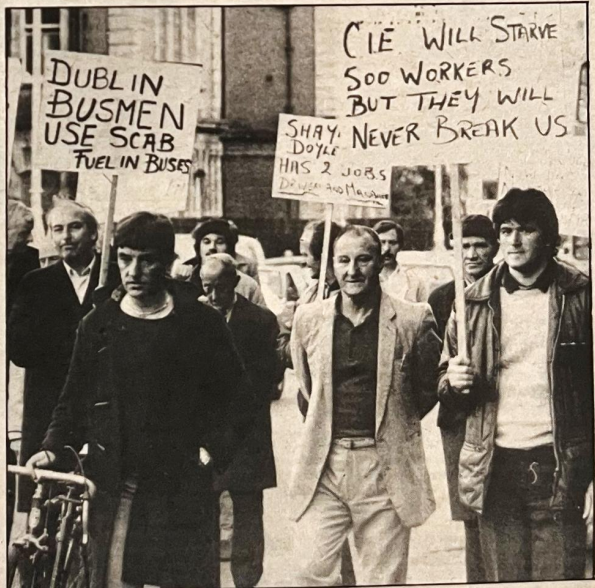
The gardai arrived 15 minutes later and the driver of the tanker picked out a man, Robert Ryan, from among the 80 picketers. He was arrested under the Offences Against the State Act and subsequently charged with

causing malicious damage.

At about 9.30am, two more tankers tried to leave the depot and the picketers sat down on the road to stop them. Three of the gardai then drew their batons and attacked the men. Two men, Joe Sheridan and Brendan Moloney, were arrested, being dragged and kicked on the ground to the squad car. Another man, John McGlynn, intervened to try to restore calm. He was then hit in the face and also arrested.

All four men have appeared in court, the last three charged with assaulting the gardai. John Timmons and John Hickey, spokespersons for the strike committee, condemned the arrests and said that CIE's use of scab labour to drive the oil tankers inevitably led to such confrontations.

The CIE operatives have staged two protest marches and sit-ins on O'Connell Bridge during the week and are determined to continue their actions in support of demands for the restoration of pay differentials in line with increases granted to other CIE workers.



WAITING IN LENADOON

BY JANE PLUNKETT

THE 'LIVERPOOL' housing scheme in the Lenadoon area of West Belfast is one of many areas throughout the North where years of Housing Executive neglect, indifference and failure to carry out repairs, exacerbated recently by budget cut-backs and increasing use of private contractors, are imposing a growing burden of misery on tenants.

The 240 houses on the estate were built hurriedly in 1969, at a time when huge numbers of Belfast nationalists were homeless as a result of loyalist intimidation and burnings-out. At that time, they were expected to last no more than 10 years.

Over 13 years later, many of the houses have deteriorated drastically. Many have completely rotten windowframes, warped cupboards and sink units and cracked walls. In four of the 12 houses in Bunbeg Park, the downstairs floors have sunk, and though the faults were reported to the Housing Executive over six years ago, repair work is only now being planned.

The upper-storey walls of the 'Liverpool' houses are made of cladded wood, and at a meeting with tenants last May, senior Housing Executive officials admitted that 30% of the cladding had defects and that, in the words of one, the houses were "not fit to live in."

Last January, tenants were notified that promised refurbishing schemes due to begin in April, which would have included cavity-wall insulation, bathroom conversions and replacement of windowframes, would be postponed indefinitely due to British government spending cut-backs. A limited scheme



● Eileen Burns stands alongside a rotten windowframe in her Suffolk Road home

to replace windowframes on 26 houses will begin soon but other tenants are still waiting, most without hope.

Jean O'Neill, of Suffolk Road, has waited six years for her work to be done. In July, after the intervention of public health off-

icials, the Housing Executive sent private contractors in to do the work.

They did a botched job on one window-frame but did not return to do the other, and through this rotten timber water and insects penetrated into the O'Neills' living-room. She presumes, however, that this work has been paid for by the Executive.

Mother of four Eileen Burns contacted the Housing Executive when her windows first started to rot. Five years later, with no work done, several were completely decayed. The hall floods every time it rains and one rotten upstairs window is in danger of falling out. The house has a host of other faults.

Eileen is angry that, despite the Executive's neglect, she is still expected to pay £19 a week rent:

"Why should you be paying that amount of rent when they don't do the repairs? And there's lots of things wrong and you're told you're responsible for mending them."

She points out that the central heating put in by the Executive was vital; otherwise, she points out, "the houses would have crumbled down around us."

HIGH WALLS

Like other tenants, she is angry that high walls erected in her area of the estate some time ago were unnecessary, and prevent mothers from minding their playing children. She says:

"The money they spent on these walls which broke up the whole community, that money should have been spent on the inside of the houses. And they even admitted that after."

She, like other tenants, is demanding regular consultation procedures with the Executive.

Sinn Féin's Councillor Alex Maskey, who has condemned the attitude of the Housing Executive towards the people in the 'Liverpool' houses, said:

"Despite repeated protests by the residents, the Housing Executive have failed to carry out even basic repairs to these homes. This is one of the areas directly affected by the cut-backs and I will be making it one of my priorities in the coming weeks."



● West Belfast parents, concerned about their children's safety, have their names taken by the RUC

Campaign for ramps

BY JANE PLUNKETT

TWO HUNDRED angry residents blocked two main thoroughfares in the Lenadoon area of West Belfast last Thursday, September 22nd, and are continuing to mount daily one-hour traffic blockades in support of their campaign to have speed ramps laid on the roads.

Several young children have been knocked down and badly injured on the Suffolk Road and Lenadoon Avenue in recent months.

Last Sunday week, September 18th, 7-year-old Sean McGuigan of Falcarragh Drive was knocked down on the Suffolk Road, sustaining serious head injuries and is now in a semi-coma.

In incidents last June, two young children were knocked down, one of them, 9-year-old Adrian Lee, suffering a broken rib and a head wound requiring 10 stitches.

Local parents are angry that in recent years all the ramps in the area have been removed by the British army, predictably without consultation with local people. The protesters want the ramps replaced, and warning street signs erected, to protect their children.

At a public meeting in the local community centre on Saturday, September 24th, residents decided to continue their campaign and over one hundred people have regularly been involved in this week's daily roadblocking protests. On Thursday, September 29th, a local delegation, accompanied by the Sinn Féin councillor for West Belfast, Alex Maskey, was due to meet the Department of the Environment, although residents were not optimistic about the possible outcome.

Pointing out the authorities' responsibility to the people of Lenadoon, Maskey this week stated:

"Sinn Féin fully supports the demands of the people of Lenadoon and their protests to have ramps laid down. We sympathise with the parents of those children injured and killed in the past."

Traffic hazard diverted

THE PEOPLE of Markievicz and Pearse Houses and the surrounding area, close to Dublin's city centre, have succeeded in stopping a serious traffic hazard to their children after a short protest campaign which included blocking the road during the rush-hour.

Because of major sewage work in Townsend Street, a very busy south-bound route, traffic was diverted through a narrow street near Gloucester Street School. Children from the area attending the school had to cross this street, without a crossing or a traffic warden, something local parents had been asking for even before the diversion.

Because of the increased danger to their children from the now huge volume of traffic, the people of the area blocked the road, making it clear that their protest would continue until their demands were met.

Within two days, a meeting was arranged between Corporation officials and people from the area. Local Sinn

Fein community worker John Crabbe, who had been involved in the protest, advised on the drawing up of a set of demands to be presented to the traffic section of Dublin Corporation, which included the appointment of a traffic warden, traffic lights to be installed and the diversion of heavy vehicles.

These demands have now been met in full, a tribute to the determination of the local people and an indication of what can be achieved by organised, united action by the people themselves.



● Dublin families mount a rush-hour traffic blockade

H-BLOCK BREAK-OUT

Blushes for shaken Brits

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

WITHIN HOURS, the news of the mass escape from Long Kesh by IRA prisoners had frenzied unionist politicians tripping over themselves issuing statements of indignation and condemnation, while the next day the British gutter press competed for the most hysterical headline on the theme 'Killers On The Loose'.

By Sunday night, DUP Assembly members were calling the escape a 'fiasco' — for the Brits, of course — and demanding the immediate resignation of Nicholas Scott, the Minister for Prisons in the colonial administration. This demand was taken up the next day by the British Tory party's extreme right-wing Monday Club, and the *Daily Mail*: "Somebody's head must roll for this!" it screamed.

Paisley even broke the Sabbath to issue a statement asking for an urgent meeting with Brit direct-ruler James Prior, a meeting which he got the next day, after which he and his deputy-leader Peter Robinson announced that there had been at least 12 breaches of security that Sunday afternoon in Long Kesh, and that it must have been an inside job.

There was no way the British could hide their embarrassment at this amazing

escape out of the supposedly 'escape-proof' H-Blocks. Tory Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, in the middle of a trip to Canada, called it "the gravest in our prison history" and promised a "very deep inquiry into everything that happened", while James Prior at a press conference on Monday, September 26th, looked like a finished politician as he fumbled pathetically for explanations:

"When you have a vast number of life prisoners, all

very desperate men, a lot of rotten eggs in one basket, there is always great difficulty in controlling them."

On the same day, Britain's Chief Inspector of Prisons, James Hennessey, flew into Belfast to lead an immediate inquiry into the break-out.

HEADLINES

The glee and jubilation felt in thousands of nationalist homes throughout Ireland at this heroic break for freedom was far from dampened by the sight of those red faces, and the hysterical headlines which provide the customary counterpoint to successful IRA operations only added spice to the event.

"Danger Men On The Loose," screamed Monday's

"Shadow Of The Gunmen," Tuesday's *Mirror* announced dramatically, pointing out that the escape would "remain a success" even if the escapees were all recaptured.

"Top Men Of Terror Free To Kill Again," the *Daily Mail* shrieked, referring to the escapees as the "blood-soaked elite of the Provisional IRA, many of them merciless killers and bombers who now have orders to maim and murder once more."

In Ireland, leader-writers took to hand-wringing and preaching.

"How did it happen?" asked the *Belfast Telegraph*, which seemed to find solace in the fact that "in all Ireland they will find no hiding

place."

"The escapees are not heroes or myth-makers," the *Irish Times* pontificated.

The *Irish News* opted for ambiguity in order to avoid losing too many readers:

"The fatal stabbing of a prison warder will have horrified even those who would acknowledge the escapees' daring."

But the truest comment was to be found in the broad smiles on people's faces in nationalist areas of the six counties, and the graffiti which appeared on the walls were the best headlines which the escapees could hope for.

In a statement on Monday, Sinn Féin said: "Sinn Féin congratulates

the Long Kesh prisoners on their escape from the notorious H-Blocks. In contrast to the media and loyalist hysteria, there is a feeling of jubilation in nationalist and republican areas because people from these areas realise that the British government have no right to imprison anyone in Ireland. And by escaping the political prisoners have humiliated enemy security.

"Establishment hypocrisy is once again obvious on this issue as it is on any issue related to their occupation of this part of Ireland. When British POWs escaped from Nazi prisons like Colditz they were hailed as heroes. Sinn Féin views Irish POWs in the same light."



Free State joins the hunt

BY DAMIEN O'ROURKE

MASSIVE collaboration by Free State gardai and army personnel was put into operation on the border on Sunday, on the direct instructions of Coalition premier Garret FitzGerald and Minister for Justice Michael Noonan, in an effort to recapture any of the H-Block escapees moving south.

All available members of the Garda Special Task Force, backed up by uniformed gardai and Free State soldiers from the 27th, 28th

and 29th Battalions at Dundalk, Finner and Monaghan, were deployed along the border from Sunday evening. Traffic moving southwards was stopped and searched and a number of houses near the border were searched. The operation has been continuing into the week.

Northern direct-ruler James Prior

told a press conference on Monday:

"These men will be on the run, they will be hunted down whether they are in the north of the island or the south of the island, and we shall be doing all we can, in co-operation with the Republic of Ireland, to see that they are recaptured."

EDITORIALS

In Dublin, two out of the three establishment newspapers were quick to back up the official collaboration, which ran totally counter to the popular admiration around the twenty-six counties for the IRA's latest spectacular exploit.

On Monday, the *Irish Times* editorialised 'sadly' over the break-out:

"Are some of them foolish enough to think that they will be more welcome on this side of the border than on the northern side? If so, they will discover their mistake the hard way."

"The escapees are not heroes or myth-makers: they put at risk peace in the community — and destroy peace within themselves."

The *Irish Independent's* editorial on Tuesday proclaimed:

"There is no haven for them here."

EXTRADITION

If any of the escapees are recaptured in the South, they face the prospect of either imprisonment in the Free State or even extradition.

In August this year, the Dublin High Court — ignoring established precedent — ordered the extradition of Philip McMahon, who was one of the 12 republican prisoners who escaped from Newry Courthouse in 1975.

The case is awaiting appeal to the Free State Supreme Court, which has already signalled its wish to re-interpret

IRA activity as 'non-political' and therefore outside the restrictions of the 1965 Extradition Act and Free State Constitution.

Six of the eight IRA prisoners who broke out of Crumlin Road Jail in June 1981 are currently serving 10-year sentences in Portlaoise Jail. They were arrested in the South and charged with the escape under the Criminal Law (Jurisdiction) Act.

The first successful use of that Act was also against an IRA escaped prisoner, Gerry Tuite, who made a dramatic escape from Brixton Prison in London in December 1981. He was arrested in the Free State in the following year and is also serving 10 years in Portlaoise.

STATEMENT

In a statement congratulating the prisoners on their escape, Dublin Sinn Féin commented:

"Despite media attempts to put this escape in the context of causing more violence in our society, it should be seen for what it is — another blow against Britain's continued armed presence in our country — in fact a blow against violence."

"We condemn the twenty-six county government for their unashamed collaboration in sealing the border and their certain intention of extraditing any of the escapees who might cross to the South."

"We view this collaboration as merely doing Britain's dirty work and feel that the Dublin government would reflect public opinion better by using its influence to secure a British withdrawal rather than maintaining their presence in Ireland."



IRA JAIL-BREAKS

BY JACK MADDEN

THERE has been a long tradition of IRA jail-breaks which stretches back over more than six decades.

1981

The one immediately prior to last Sunday's mass break-out from the H-Blocks of Long Kesh displayed similar ingenuity and courage.

On June 10th 1981, eight remand prisoners in Crumlin Road Jail shot their way to freedom and managed to evade arrest or injury despite coming under heavy fire from RUC and British army personnel stationed opposite the jail in Crumlin Road Court-house. Of the eight, six were later arrested and imprisoned in the South while another is facing extradition proceedings in America.

1980

A year earlier, on December 16th 1980, Gerard Tuite managed, with the aid of two non-political prisoners, to escape from the top-security wing of Brixton Prison in England. Described at one time as Britain's 'most wanted man', Tuite was subsequently charged with the escape in a Dublin court and faces further charges relating to IRA activity in Britain.

1977

The Dublin government suffered severe embarrassment in the same Special Court when, on July 15th 1977, four prisoners escaped after explosives blew a hole in the wall. Although three were caught in the vicinity of the court, the fourth, Michael O'Rourke, succeeded in escaping, but is now in jail in America where he is fighting attempts to extradite him.

1976

Magilligan Camp in County Derry has witnessed a number of escapes with varying degrees of success, as in 1976 when two men, one of whom was Denis McFeeley, cut their way through the fence but were later recaptured on the Limavady Road. Even then, McFeeley attempted to escape from the back of the RUC landrover, he was being transported back to jail in. As a result of their escape, both men lost political status.

Unlike earlier phases of the struggle, the Curragh Camp has had few political prisoners in recent years. Among those men who have had occasion to visit it were Eamonn O'Sullivan and Sean McGettigan who were detained in the military hospital. In 1976 both managed to escape captivity on foot. O'Sullivan had been captured in March 1975 when he played a prominent part in an unsuccessful jail-break at Portlaoise, during which one prisoner, Thomas Smith, was shot dead.

1975

Although the escape planned for Portlaoise that March failed, elsewhere the same month there was a successful escape when 12 prisoners broke free from Newry Courthouse. Ironically, the prisoners were being tried for

previous attempted escapes. Two of the men were quickly recaptured but the remainder got away.

Magilligan Camp also lost a few prisoners in 1975, including Tyrone man Martin Monaghan whose resemblance to a teacher in the camp prompted prisoners to take over a class and dress Monaghan in the teacher's clothes. Without any bother, he then walked to freedom, as did Derry man Patrick O'Hagan and Toomebridge man Malachy McCann who hid in a laundry basket and when this was brought to the laundry both escaped through a window and left the camp.

1974

In November 1974 a mass break-out from Long Kesh by 33 prisoners using a tunnel witnessed the death of Hugh Coney who was shot dead by British soldiers concealed in a secret observation post. As the prisoners had to escape on foot, all were captured within hours.

Other individual escapes in 1974 included that of Owen Coogan in July. Following the pattern of a previously successful escape, he left the prison camp in a refuse lorry. When he was 'dropped off' he stripped to his running shorts and sneakers, pretending to be a jogger. Unfortunately, his performance did not convince a British army patrol and he was recaptured.

Belfast man William 'Blue' Kelly had more luck when, with the help of two comrades, he cut his way out of Long Kesh. As they finished their task, on a miserable night, a British patrol arrived on the scene. They failed to notice Kelly as they re-arrested his two comrades and he managed to get away.

The most successful break-out of 1974 was, without doubt, the August 18th mass escape from Portlaoise. A total of 19 prisoners got quickly away through a hole blown in the wall. For days the guards searched high and low, occasionally announcing that arrests were imminent as they looked in the wrong places.

1973

Nor were republican prisoners idle in 1973, which witnessed yet more escapes from Long Kesh, including separate escapes by Brendan Hughes in December and John Francis Greene in September. Hughes, who later led republican prisoners in the 1980 hunger-strike, made use of the refuse truck and was, along with several tons of rubbish, dumped in a tip-head at Dromara, County Down, and from there returned safely to Belfast.

Greene, on the other hand, used a visit by his brother Gerard, a priest, to change garb and leave as his brother had come in. Nobody recognised that he was not the same priest until some time later when Gerard was found tied up within a compound. John Greene was later assassinated by SAS men who crossed into



● The 'juggernaut' armoured lorry which was used in the unsuccessful Portlaoise jail-break attempt in March 1975.

County Monaghan to kill him.

In Dublin, on October 31st 1973, a carefully planned and daring rescue led to the release of three republican prisoners from Mountjoy Jail in one of the most celebrated escapes of all time. A hijacked helicopter was used to land in the recreation yard of Mountjoy to collect J.B. O'Hagan, Seamus Twomey and Kevin Mallon. Other prisoners cheered as the three were airlifted to freedom and one Screw was heard to shout, "Shut the gates!"

Earlier, in September 1973, another prisoner, Eamonn Campbell, was dressed only in pyjamas when he broke away from his captors in the Royal Victoria Hospital, West Belfast, where he had been sent for treatment. He was forced to jump through a plate-glass window to make his escape but his plans almost ended in disaster

when a passing motorist gave him a lift and, presuming he was sick, drove back into the RVH before being told that this was not quite what Campbell had intended. All ended well and yet another prisoner was whisked away to freedom.

The late Jim Bryson of Belfast was one man who could not stomach imprisonment as was shown in February 1973 when he escaped from captivity in Crumlin Road Courthouse. His four guards were somewhat at a loss when Bryson produced a revolver and, after forcing one of them to strip, escaped through a window dressed as a Screw.

Escape was easier for Francis McGuigan, a prisoner in Long Kesh, when, also in February, he availed of something more than spiritual comfort when a group of clerics visited the camp. After putting on a dog-collar

and pious air, he walked with the group to freedom.

Renovation work often provides a ready means of escape as Daniel Keenan, a prisoner in Magilligan, found out. He simply lay in a skip which workmen in the camp were using and left with them.

1972

Besides the escape of James Brown, who was being held under guard at Lagan Valley Hospital, 1972 witnessed one of the hardest and most daring escapes when the 'Magnificent Seven' captured the headlines with their escape from the prison ship *Maidstone*. Covered in grease, the men, including Jim Bryson, swam through icy waters, having to avoid the barbed wire surrounding the ship, until they reached the shore. There, after hijacking a bus,

● Tommy Gore (in of whom did not survive) was headed by area and later killed.

1972
There was a following in County Derry in December 1971 when 900 men in the area. Perhaps to see the three prisoners, Mr. 'Dutch' O'Sullivan and Cann made their way under a machine in the yard and then, in darkness and through the walls of the walls.

A month after remembered the 'Crumlin' escape. The prisoners, dressed in short a freedom. The first escape in the course of the old Belfast 'Fitz' escape. Four men who were guarding the prison ship *Maidstone* later to take

CAKS dition



man (now imprisoned in the H-Blocks), Jim Bryson, Thomas 'Tucker' Kane and Tommy 'Todler' Tolan (all active service), pictured following the Maidstone prison ship escape in 1972

for the Markets
of West Belfast.

1971

serious overcrowding in the H-Block Road Jail in 1971, with more than 100 in the building. This congestion was the cause of the escape of Martin Meehan, John McKeown and Hugh McNeill. They hid in a hole in the exercise yard, under cover of a thick fog, climbing over the wall.

Earlier, in an escape from the H-Block Road Jail, 11 prisoners, including 18-year-old Gerry McQuinn, were rescued by clearing the prison and escaping in cars.

Back to the IRA Volunteer of the current phase of the struggle, when 18-year-old Gerry McQuinn was rescued by clearing the prison and escaping in cars.

ful 1975 escape from Newry Courthouse and beat an extradition charge in the Free State, but is at present awaiting trial in Portlaoise following an incident at the Roundwood, County Wicklow, home of Galen Weston.

1962

Early in 1962 there was an escape from Limerick Jail when Richard Behal, of Kilkenny, was rescued by comrades who broke into the jail and sawed through the bars of his cell. The escape was helped by the celebrations elsewhere in the jail where the prison governor was throwing a party on his daughter's 21st birthday.

1960

Two years earlier, in the course of the Border Campaign, Dan Donnelly was the only prisoner who managed to break out of Crumlin Road Jail, but in the South, in the same period, escapes quickly followed each other.

1958

1958 was the year when the Curragh was last used as an internment camp. That year saw

three escapes, the first by three prisoners who climbed through a window in the camp hospital and got away. Unfortunately, they had no means of transport or contacts on the outside and after a few days and nights tramping to Dublin and sleeping in ditches, all were recaptured.

The current president and a vice-president of Sinn Féin, Ruairi O Bradaigh and Daithi O Conaill, proved luckier when, under cover of a football match and covered with a camouflaged grass blanket, they broke out of the Curragh on September 27th 1958.

Later that same year, a total of 26 men participated in a mass break-out from the Curragh which was quickly discovered. As the men clanked at fences to escape, bullets and tear gas were fired at them, wounding a number of prisoners. Despite this, most of the men got away through a gap held by Frank Driver and Charlie Murphy.

1943

In 1943 there were two major jail-breaks, one from Crumlin Road and the other from Derry Jail. Rather than attempting to penetrate the walls, the Crumlin Road escapees decided to go up through the roof and from there

across to the wall and freedom, using darkness as cover. The plan succeeded and the escape of four prisoners — Jimmy Steele, Hugh McAteer, Pat Donnelly and Ned Maguire — proved a much-needed boost for the IRA at the time.

On March 21st 1943, no less than 21 men escaped from Derry Jail after digging a tunnel. Although dirt from the tunnel was flushed down toilets and plumbers were frequently called to clear blockages, the prison authorities did not realise what was happening and the escape went ahead. A lorry used to take the men across the border was, however, intercepted by Free State Special Branchmen who promptly arrested most of the men, who did not have time to escape, and then interned them in the Curragh.

1925

Free State repression of republicans in the 1920s led to imprisonment and, inevitably, escapes as in 1925 when six IRA men, three disguised as gardai and the others as prisoners, bluffed their way into Mountjoy Jail and helped 19 prisoners to escape, including Sean Russell, Michael Carolan, Jim Killeen and David Fitzgerald.

1923

In this year three republican prisoners, Micky Price, Sean MacBride and Daithi O Donoghue managed to escape from an ambulance which was taking them from Mountjoy to Kilmainham Jail.

1922

One year earlier, in July 1922, there had been a massive break-out from Dundalk Jail when over 100 republican prisoners escaped through a hole which had been blown in the wall. Although 50 were recaptured, the remainder included nine republicans who had been arrested the night previously following a bombing in the town.

Other escapes in the Civil War period included those by Michael Kilroy who broke free from custody in Athlone and Tom Barry who got away from Gormanstown Camp, while in November 1922 seven escaped from custody on Spike Island and in the same month another seven escaped

from Mountjoy.

Linda Kearns MacWhinney, one of the few republican women ever to escape from custody, broke free from Mountjoy in November 1922.

Assistance from within prisons was often forthcoming and prisoners have been known to accept help from warders or, as in the case of the Kilmainham jail-break on February 13th, 1920, even from a British soldier. It was such assistance which led to the escape by Ernie O'Malley, Simon Donnelly and Frank Teeling.

A month later, Matt Fitzpatrick was rescued while under heavy guard in Monaghan infirmary. In the course of this rescue the arsenal of the Monaghan Brigade was considerably helped when the rescuers disarmed the military guard, taking with them eight rifles, a .45 revolver, ammunition and bandoliers.

1921

In 1921 there were a number of big escapes, one in September from the Curragh, which involved 50 men, and another from Kilworth Military Camp, between Fermoy and Mitchelstown, when between 35 and 40 prisoners escaped. In both instances tunnels were used.

Sligo Jail was the scene of a number of carefully executed break-outs in this period, as on June 29th 1921 when three men escaped. A month earlier, two men, Jim Molloy and Michael Dockery, escaped from Boyle, and a month before that, three men, Sean MacSwiney, Tom Malone and Con Twomey, were rescued by boat from Spike Island.

1920

In 1920, Sligo Volunteers were quick to come to the rescue of Brigadier Frank Carty and actually battered down the gates of Sligo Jail to get him out. Carty again escaped from jail a year later while held in Derry, but was not so fortunate in an escape attempt in the following few months when comrades were unsuccessful in attempts to release him from a prison van in Glasgow.

1919

Besides the rescue of Sean

Hogan from a train at Knocklong railway station, in which an RIC man was killed, and the Pyrrhic victory in the rescue from Limerick Jail of Bobby Byrnes (he died hours afterwards from wounds he received), the year 1919 saw a number of exceptional jail-breaks from Dublin's Mountjoy, Strangeways in Manchester, England, and Lincoln Jail, also in England.

The Mountjoy break on March 29th was intended to release only 12 prisoners but in the event 20 managed to scale the wall before the alarm was raised. These included Padraic Fleming, who had for months resisted criminalisation in Portlaoise Jail by refusing to wear clothes, repeated hunger-strikes and a campaign of continuous resistance which straitjackets could not stop.

The Lincoln escape on February 3rd 1919, which secured the release of Eamonn de Valera, Sean McGarry and Sean Milroy, and the escape from Strangeways in October that year of five prisoners, including Piaras Beaslai and Austin Stack, showed a high degree of organisation even in hostile territory, with immigrant Irish help readily forthcoming.

Individual escapes in this period included that by Robert Barton, a member of the First Dail, from Mountjoy in March 1919, and the brilliantly orchestrated rescue of armaments expert Donnchada MacNeilus by his comrades in the Cork Brigade IRA in November 1919.

1918

Which brings us, finally, back to the first republican jail-break of this century when, in 1918, without any outside assistance, Joe McGrath, George Geraghty, Barnely Mellows and Frank Shouldice escaped from Usk Jail in Wales by posing as American tourists after they left the prison — the first in a long line of escapes down to last Sunday's H-Block break-out.

All bear witness to the spirit of freedom which has been represented in this and in succeeding generations of Irish political prisoners who have been imprisoned for their part in the struggle for national liberation.



After discovering the cars used in the escape, British soldiers forlornly search for the Crumlin Road escapees who blasted their way to freedom in June 1981

NINETEEN of the original 38 prisoners who broke out of H7-Block on Sunday afternoon were still successfully evading recapture on Wednesday evening. They were:-

● **Kevin Barry Artt**, aged 24, from the Cavehill area of North Belfast, was recently sentenced to life imprisonment on the word of RUC perjurer Christopher Black, who alleged he was involved in the killing of Long Kesh Assistant Governor Albert Miles in 1978.

● **Paul Brennan**, aged 30, from Ballymurphy, is a former internee and witnessed the burning of Long Kesh in October 1974. He had already served 5 years of a 16-year sentence at the time of his escape.

● **Seamus Campbell**, aged 26, from Coalisland, County Tyrone, was sentenced by Justice Murray to 14 years' imprisonment in 1981 when the RUC produced a composed verbal statement, supposed to be Campbell's, admitting to possession of explosives and IRA membership. Campbell had been regularly arrested and beaten in Gough and Omagh Barracks, being burned with cigarettes in November 1977. On his arrest in June 1980 he was again beaten but refused to sign a statement or even speak to his interrogators. Justice Murray, however, congratulated the RUC for securing a 'verbal' statement and recommended promotion for the detective involved.

● **James Pius Clarke**, aged 27, and a native of Old Town, Letterkenny, County Donegal, was sentenced to 18 years' imprisonment in May 1979.

● **Seamus Clarke**, aged 27, from Ardoyne, North Belfast, sentenced to life imprisonment by Lord Chief Justice Lowry in 1976. Before that, Seamus had been the North's youngest internee at the age of 16. He spent three years interned. Two of his brothers, Gerard and Terry, are presently in H1 and H3-Blocks.

● **Gerard Fryers**, aged 24, from the Turf Lodge area of Belfast, was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment in January 1983 by Justice Jones who acted on mainly circumstantial evidence when convicting him on sniping and kidnapping charges.

● **Dermott Finucane**, aged 22, is married with one child and comes from Lenadon, West Belfast. Dermott was sentenced to 18 years' imprisonment last year on charges of possession of firearms with intent.

● **Kieran Fleming**, aged 23, from Derry's Waterside area, was arrested at the age of 18 along with four others and charged with the killing of RUC woman Linda Bagley in May 1976. The judge in sentencing them said that he knew none of them had fired the fatal shot but was convinced that they must have had something to do with it. Kieran was imprisoned 'at the Secretary of State's pleasure'.

● **Anthony Kelly**, aged 22, from Derry's Bogside area, was arrested in May 1979 and sentenced in October that year 'at the Secretary of State's pleasure' for allegedly killing an RUC Reservist. Anthony was arrested shortly after having served six months in Millisle on a charge of being a member of Na Fianna Eireann.

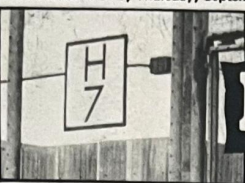
● **Gerry Kelly**, aged 30, from Belfast and a well-known republican, was sentenced at Winchester Crown Court in November 1973 with seven others, including the Price sisters, for placing bombs at the Old Bailey and Great Scotland Yard in London. Gerry was transferred to Long Kesh along with Hugh Feeney — and the Price sisters to Armagh — in 1976 following a gruelling hunger-strike protest.

Gerry has made two previous escape attempts, one from the Cages which was foiled and resulted in him losing political status. He was moved to the H-Blocks where last year he made another escape attempt from Musgrave Park Hospital where he was receiving treatment for a collapsed lung. Unfortunately, a nurse spotted him and raised the alarm.

● **Anthony McAllister**, aged 25, from New Barnsey, Belfast, originally came from Rathcoole but his family were forced to evacuate their home because of loyalist intimidation. Anthony was sentenced to life in 1979 and was involved in the 'no wash' protest in the H-Blocks, being force-washed and beaten by screws.

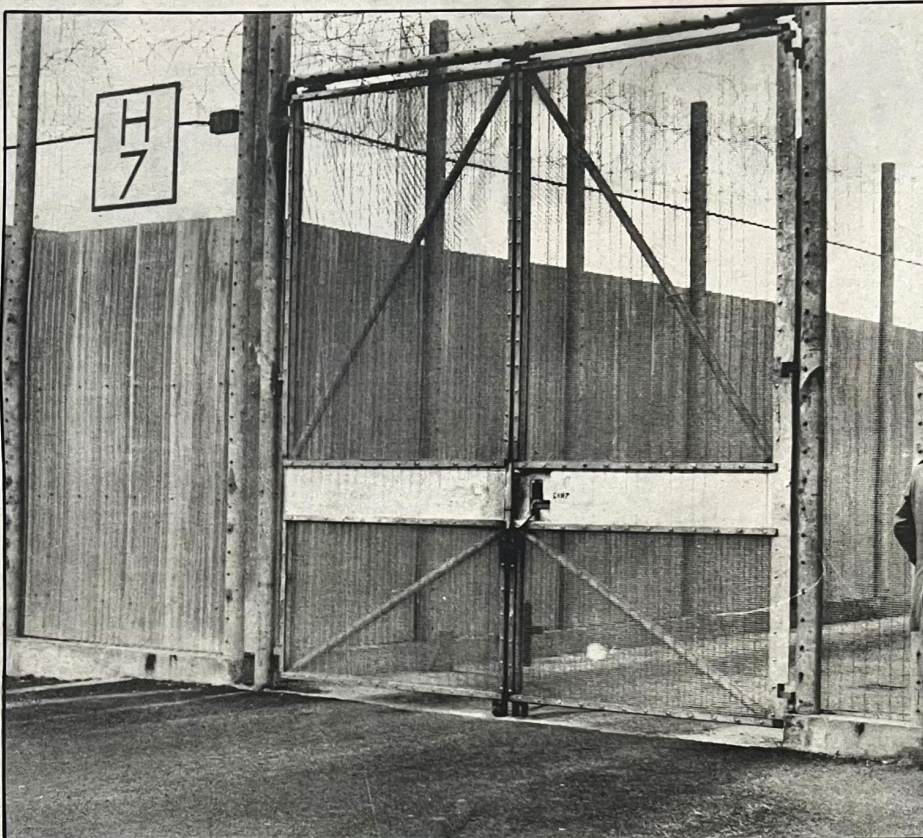
● **Gerard McDonnell**, aged 32, from Belfast's Falls Road, was sentenced in March 1978 to 16 years' imprisonment, for possession of bomb-making materials.

● **Seamus McElwaine**, aged 22, from Knockascullion, Scotstown, County Monaghan, was sentenced to life imprisonment last year on charges of



H-BLOCK BREAK-OUT

38 from the H-Blocks



killing a UDR man and an RUC Reservist two years previously. Seamus stood as a Sinn Féin candidate in the February 1982 Free State election for the Cavan/Monaghan area, securing almost 4,000 first preference votes.

● **Brendan McFarlane**, aged 31, from Ardoyne, North Belfast, was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1976 for allegedly taking part in a pub bombing on the Shankill Road. Brendan made a daring escape attempt from the Cages of Long Kesh in 1979 when he disguised himself as a prison officer but was unfortunately discovered along with two others, Larry Marley and Pat McGeown. Shortly before the second hunger-strike in Long Kesh in March 1981, Brendan replaced Bobby Sands as O/C of the republican POWs in the H-Blocks.

● **Padraic McKeeney**, aged 29, from Moy, County Tyrone, was arrested in August 1980 and sentenced to 14 years' imprisonment in 1981 for possession of a sten gun which was discovered 800 yards away from where he was stopped. Padraic was sentenced on another trumped up charge in 1975, receiving 7 years' imprisonment and was released in 1977.

● **Dermot McNally**, aged 26, from Lurgan, North Armagh, was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1977 for causing explosions.

● **Robert Russell**, aged 25, from Ballymurphy, West Belfast, was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment for the alleged attempted killing of an RUC superintendent in 1978.

He was interned in 1974 when he was 16 years old. A few months after his release, Robert was arrested in February 1976 and charged with another killing, but was released that November when the charges were dropped.

Robert appealed his latest sentence and a re-trial was directed at the appeal but crown witnesses, absent at the initial trial, conveniently showed up at the re-trial to make sure that his sentence would stick at all costs.

● **Terence Kirby**, aged 27, from Andersonstown, West Belfast, was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1978. Terry was interned on his 17th birthday for two years. He was a close friend of hunger-strikers Bobby Sands and Kieran Doherty.

● **James Smith**, aged 38, from Ardoyne, North Belfast, was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment in 1978 on a charge of the attempted killing of a prison officer.

SHORT FREEDOM

Four of the 38 prisoners evaded immediate recapture, but enjoyed only a short spell of freedom.

On Monday afternoon, September 26th, Paul Kane and Brendan Mead were spotted by an RUC patrol on a deserted road outside Castlewelling, County Down, and were recaptured.

● **Paul Kane**, aged 28, from Ardoyne, North Belfast, was sentenced to 18 years last month in the Christopher Black perjury trial for an alleged attempted killing and possession.

● **Brendan Mead**, aged 25, from West Belfast's Falls Road, was sentenced

to life imprisonment in 1980 for the killing of a UDR soldier at the regiment's Belfast headquarters.

And as an inch by inch search using helicopters and thousands of RUC and UDR personnel continued on Tuesday and concentrated in County Down after Mead and Kane's arrest, the RUC surrounded a farmhouse on the Laitrim Road, three miles outside Castlewelling. A local priest, Fr Jim Mooney, asked to negotiate with the escapees inside, Hugh Corey, from Moneymore, South Derry, and Patrick McIntyre, a native of Letterkenny, County Donegal.

The farmhouse was surrounded for several hours but shortly before 6pm Fr Mooney approached and spoke to them. Presently they emerged holding their hands above their heads and bringing the total of those recaptured to 19.

● **Hugh Corey**, aged 27, who was a comrade of the late hunger-striker Francis Hughes, was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1977 for the killing of a UDR soldier.

● **Patrick McIntyre**, aged 25, was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment for attempting to kill a UDR soldier.

IMMEDIATE RECAPTURE

Fifteen of the escaping prisoners were unlucky enough to be recaptured almost immediately after the break-out, very close to Long Kesh. They were:-

● **James Burns**, aged 34, from Lenadon, West Belfast. Jailed for a minimum of 30 years.

● **Denis Cummings**, aged 31, from

Stewartstown, County Tyrone. Sentenced to life imprisonment.

● **James Donnelly**, aged 21, from Ardoyne. Sentenced to 15 years on the testimony of Christopher Black.

● **William Gorman**, aged 24, from Belfast. Sentenced in 1980 to detention 'at the Secretary of State's pleasure' on a charge of shooting dead an RUC man, six years previously, at the age of 14.

● **Peter Hamilton**, aged 29, from Ardoyne. Jailed for life in 1976.

● **Robert Kerr**, aged 27, from Antrim Road, Belfast. Jailed for life in 1979.

● **James McCann**, aged 27, from Andersonstown, West Belfast. Sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment in 1977.

● **Sean McGlinchey**, aged 27, from Bellaghy, County Derry. Jailed for life in 1974.

● **Martin McManus**, aged 27, from Movard, Belfast. Sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment in 1979.

● **Henry Murray**, aged 35, from Lenadon, West Belfast. Jailed for life in 1979. He was shot in the leg on Sunday, before recapture.

● **Marcus Murray**, aged 22, from Lisnaskea, County Fermanagh. Sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment.

● **Edward O'Connor**, aged 24, Jailed for life.

● **James Roberts**, aged 24, from Belfast. Detained 'at the Secretary of State's pleasure'.

● **Joseph Sinnott**, aged 30, from Belfast. Sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment in 1981.

● **Robert Storey**, aged 27, from Belfast. Sentenced to 18 years' imprisonment.

Another death in garda custody

BY JACK MADDEN

CALLS for a top-level inquiry have followed the death of yet another young man while in garda custody, but, despite claims from the man's wife that she was given a number of different versions of her husband's death by the gardai, it is once again feared that no action will be taken.

Martin Beattie, aged 27, was arrested by gardai in Dundalk, on Sunday night, September 11th, following disturbances outside a pub in the town and brought to the local barracks. Early on Monday morning he was found hanging in his cell, having apparently used his own shirt to strangle himself. Unconscious, he was rushed to the nearby Louth County Hospital, where he later died.

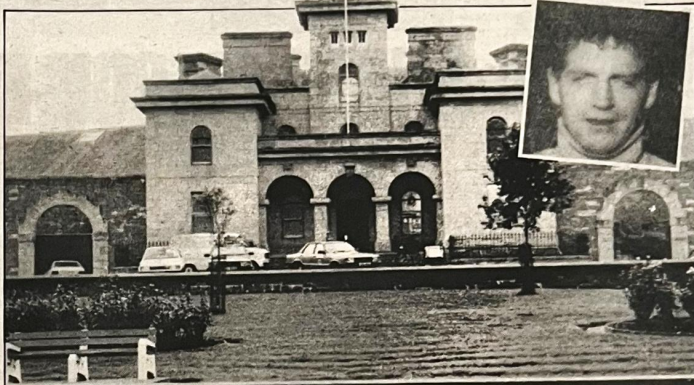
There has been serious local disquiet echoed by Beattie's wife and family that the suicide, if such it was, followed a severe beating. Suspicion is heightened following a court case in recent months when a man serving in the Free State army claimed that he had

suffered an intense beating in the same barracks. His girlfriend and other friends testified that they had stood outside the barracks on this occasion and heard the beating.

Beattie, a native of Clones, is the third Monaghan man to die in custody in the past 18 months including one man, named Peter Matthews, from Carrickmacross, who died while in custody in Shercrook Barracks, and Michael Lynagh of Monaghan town who died in Mountjoy Jail. Following an internal garda investigation into the Matthews death, one garda is expected to appear on a charge relating to the death.

ASSAULT

Meanwhile, in Bailieboro Court, County Cavan, Garda Thomas Carroll was charged and convicted of



● Dundalk Garda Barracks where Martin Beattie (inset) was found hanging on Monday, September 12th

assaulting and causing actual bodily harm to Michael O'Reilly, from Leitric, in a local public house and later in Bailieboro Barracks on April 22nd last.

The court heard that Carroll

had insulted and then assaulted O'Reilly in the toilets of the public house. Later, when O'Reilly visited the garda barracks to make a complaint, Carroll came in and struck him again, splitting his lip

to the extent that Reilly had to have four stitches.

'Regrettably' fining Carroll £20, Justice Tormey admitted that the prosecution case against Carroll had been proved.

ELDERLY COUPLE TERRORISED

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

A HEAVILY-ARMED undercover SAS-type unit, operating in the border area of South Armagh and believed by local people to be members of the UDR, surrounded an isolated cottage belonging to an elderly couple last Thursday evening, September 22nd, ordered them outdoors and forced them to stand in the pouring rain for half an hour while they searched their home.

The frightening ordeal began for 78-year-old Helena and 77-year-old Patrick O'Hanlon at approximately 6pm when an estimated 30 members of the crown forces, dressed in blue boiler-suits and armed with sub-machine guns, took up firing positions in the fields adjacent to

the O'Hanlons' cottage.

The elderly couple, who have been receiving medical supervision for several years now, live alone in their isolated cottage, situated several hundred yards down a country lane off the Clontigora Road near Killeen.

The couple's first indication of the undercover squad's presence came when Helena O'Hanlon heard the sound of glass smashing in one of the bedrooms. She went outside to investigate and was confronted by several men, some of them lying on their stomachs in the field in front of the cottage, who ordered her to stand beside a stack of coal. Patrick was then ordered outside while they began searching the cottage room by room.

He explained:

"They kept pointing the guns at me and the missus and kept us standing in the teeming rain without a coat or anything."

ACCENT

Mrs O'Hanlon recalled:

"They spoke in whispers and the one who ordered us out had a Northern accent. They didn't want us to hear them talking. What they wanted of two dying old people like us I just don't know."

One of them, according to Mrs O'Hanlon, demanded to know who else lived in the house.

"I told him no one did but he wouldn't believe me and they started to search and wouldn't even let us go around with them. It took them nearly half an hour, they made us stand beside the coal and we were soaked to the skin."



● Helena and Patrick O'Hanlon outside their cottage

The couple's daughter, Mary Cunnane, arrived the following day to find her parents in a highly nervous and excitable condition.

"They told me they thought at one stage they were going to be shot. They could have very easily because this place is so isolated. They wouldn't have been found until the following day and no one would ever know what had happen-

ed to them or who did it," she said.

Jim McAllister, Sinn Féin elected representative for Armagh described the squad's activities as "a cowardly and debased exhibition of intimidation and harassment of two harmless elderly people. This couple were terrorised and threatened even though their vulnerability and helplessness must have been quite obvious."

Death threat in Forkhill

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

COUNTY ARMAGH man Michael McCoy, aged 25, a poultry farmer from the Tievecom Road, Forkhill, was threatened with being shot dead by a member of a British army foot patrol last Thursday afternoon, September 22nd, the latest incident in several which have followed his release from prison two years ago.

Michael was sentenced to five years' imprisonment for the alleged kidnapping of British SAS Captain Robert Nairac but since his release, just over two years ago, he has been continuously threatened, both directly and indirectly.

Brits have questioned local people about McCoy's movements and warned them to be careful about being seen with him, and shortly after his release a Brit patrol in Forkhill pulled him into a Protestant churchyard, hit him with the butt of a rifle and threatened his life.

Several regiments in the Forkhill area have vowed to 'get revenge' on McCoy before their tour ended.

In the latest incident, a British soldier levelled his SLR at McCoy and threatened to kill him, he recalls:

"His eyes were full of hate. I thought he was going to do it."

Mrs Annie McCoy, his mother, heard the fracas outside but when she asked what was going on he was told:

"Fuck off, you Irish bitch!"

"He went on like that for about ten minutes," said Mrs McCoy.

Another Brit, presumably in command of the patrol, cynically told Mrs McCoy that she would have to "excuse his actions" as he was "only a young-



● MICHAEL MCCOY

bloated soldier" and laughed the whole incident off. However, McCoy adds:

"That soldier was serious. He meant business. My mother was just trembling in the road. I told the Brit in charge that it was no laughing matter, that I could be shot dead by them any time. They've done it before."

For the record, Michael McCoy reported the incident to the RUC who assured him they would be out directly to investigate the incident but, typically, days after the event, he is still awaiting their call.

Brit brick KOs youth

BY EAMON TRACEY

A 16-YEAR-OLD Turf Lodge youth was knocked unconscious on Friday, September 23rd, when he was hit in the face by a brick thrown from a speeding British army vehicle.

Shortly after 9.15pm, Paul Booth of Norglen Parade left the People's Garage on the Upper Springfield Road, where he and a friend, 16-year-old Thomas Scullion of Ardmonagh Gardens, had just bought cigarettes. They had decided to go to a local chip shop and buy some chips.

As they were about to cross the road, close the the spot where "Kido" Reilly was gunned down by a British soldier just over a month ago, Scullion noticed two Brit jeeps coming from the direction of the nearby Fort Jericho. He recalls:

"We had got to the end of the garage drive, I saw the Brits coming and said

so to Paul. Then I saw one of the Brits raise his hand and I shouted, 'Duck!' and dropped my head and covered my face with my jacket. I heard a thump, turned round and Paul was lying on the ground. The Brits drove on down towards the Whitecross Road."

Scullion dropped down beside his friend who remained unconscious for several minutes.

Scullion says:

"When I lifted him I noticed he had been hit in the face and his eye was bleeding badly."

Paul Booth was taken to hospital where he was kept in overnight.



● PAUL BOOTH



Electoral registration

A Chara,
Following the Westminster elections, and after referring to the electoral register for Lagan Valley, it is apparent that many people who are entitled to have a vote have not, as yet, claimed that right.

In order to maximise the nationalist vote it is essential that those people not already on the electoral roll should ensure that their names are entered into it at the earliest opportunity.

The electoral office is at present in the process of canvassing all homes with registration forms and we in Sinn Féin would urge all households to complete and return these forms.

Anyone in any doubt as to the registration procedure should contact their local Sinn Féin advice centre where information and additional registration forms will be freely available.

Residents in the Twinbrook/Poleglass areas can contact their own advice centre at the times listed below.

Monday to Thursday, 11am to 4pm, Thornhill Shops; Fridays, 11am to 4pm, Poleglass shops.

Richard McAuley,
Lagan Valley Sinn Féin.
Tel. 616548

Political vacuum

A Chara,
Being a regular reader of your newspaper, I would like to say how delighted I am to see over the past number of years your excellent articles on the industrial position and lately the position of the small farmer in both the occupied North-east and the Free State.

What is needed today in the thirty-two counties of Ireland is a strong socialist movement. The

mála poist

A NEW LESSON EVERY DAY

A Chara,

Ever since the huge Japanese owned Asahi textile plant was established at Killala, County Mayo, a number of years ago, it has had what Irish business journals called a 'troubled industrial relations history'.

This of course meant that the workers at Asahi were fighting for their right to a proper living wage and a working environment which respected the dignity of working people. It meant that workers in Mayo were not prepared to lie down and be exploited by the Japanese multinational, nor were they prepared to become like the suppressed industrial zombies which the business world so lauds as a positive feature of Japanese industry.

In their struggles the workers met with opposition not only from the company but also from the trade union leadership and notably from the leadership of the largest trade union in the plant, the ITGWU. Amazingly, the local branch secretary of the ITGWU, David Mullis, is a prominent member of the so-called Workers' Party.

Mullis' continual suppression of the workers' aspirations gave rise to splits and tensions on the union side. In time this reached such serious proportions that Mullis' failure to 'control' his members' caused the company as much concern as the basic demands themselves. Something had to be done. Mullis and Honan, who is the Asahi personnel director, were at one on this. The plot was hatched. If it worked it would put Mullis back in control of the workforce and the whole show back on the



rails of compromising deals.

In tandem with the present 'wage round', Honan put forward a vicious anti-worker 'rationalisation plan'. All the evidence suggests that the Workers' Party trade union official had prior knowledge of the plan, endorsed the general strategy and knew also that the plan had a little 'give' in it which would allow him some sham of negotiating credibility.

The 'deal' was put to the union members and rejected out of hand. Mullis advised acceptance, stating that he had it on good authority that the company would close and everyone would lose their jobs if it was not accepted.

Following rejection of the 'rationalisation plan' the company did of course announce its pre-

planned closure. Mullis was able to say, 'Didn't I tell you so?'

All sorts of outside pressures descended on the unfortunate workers, mainly generated by local glibmen interests. The entire combination of circumstances was re-established for the moment the sham of Mullis' credibility and the militant leadership in the workforce were defeated on the second vote. The plan went through, the Workers' Party were back in control for the time being, and the company will laugh its way through the next few years.

The success of the whole anti-worker manoeuvre was decadently celebrated in Galway some weeks later, when Mullis, Lawless of the Asahi craft union, and Honan from the company were joined by officers from the

Employers' Federation and officials from the Labour Court for as big a smoked salmon feast and binge as was seen in those parts for many a year.

And who says that workers aren't really up against it? It is expected that profit-hungry multinationals are against us, that the petty bourgeois Federated Union of Employers will aid them, that the Labour Court establishment is the arm of an anti-worker state — but who would have expected the Workers' Party, and particularly their officials in the ITGWU, to be in the thick of it with them?

Well you learn a new lesson every day. Let us workers not forget this one.

Asahi worker,
Killala,
County Mayo.

twenty-six counties, when the Free State government thinks nothing of placing Special Branch cars outside every Sinn Féin meeting place and Fianna slua meeting. If even a fraction of the money, equipment and personnel that are used to harass Irish republicans was devoted instead to tackling the drugs problem, then that at least would be a more honest approach and a more realistic response to the heroin epidemic.

Tony Barry,
PRO,
Na Fianna Éireann,
44 Parnell Square,
Dublin 1.

Boots and fists

A Chara,

The Michael Larkin Sinn Féin cumann wish to protest in the strongest possible terms at harassment of republicans in the Birr area.

During the weekend of September 17th/18th, two members of the Garda Special Task Force assaulted a former member of Sinn Féin on Main Street, Birr, with batons, boots and fists at midnight. He was dragged into a car and brought to Birr Barracks and charged with assault on a Task Force member that night.

We state we will not be intimidated or diverted from our path of working through an open political party to achieve an end to oppression and to build a democratic socialist republic.

Sean O Cearbhaill,
PRO,
Michael Larkin Sinn Féin cumann,
Birr,
County Offaly.

Shannon developments

A Chara,

At a recent meeting between Sinn Féin and the Shannon Development Corporation a number of local problems were discussed with the following results.

Shannon Development have informed Sinn Féin that work on the installation of fireplaces will begin in October.

Some 220 homes were affected regarding back-boilers/central heating and Sinn Féin organised a petition on this issue. It is hoped that finance left over from the installation of fireplaces will be allocated to this important facility.

After representations by Sinn Féin, Shannon Development have agreed to review their present system of house maintenance.

A Sinn Féin proposal to establish permanent rubbish skips in the area has been accepted and will appear in due course.

PRO,
Shannon Sinn Féin,
County Clare.

Lalor, "Ireland her own and all therein from the sod to the sky."
Brendan Paisley,
London NW10.

Half-hearted gestures

A Chara,

The Free State government's proposals to deal with drug abuse, announced last week, identifies that a problem does indeed exist, waffles on about setting up more committees, sponsoring a degree course in the study of drug abuse, and other half-hearted gestures. But it refuses point-blank to allocate the extra



● Heroin-sniffer's kit.

money that is needed to even begin to combat the symptoms of the crisis, let alone to tackle the underlying causes.

Dozens of young people are dying every year of heroin addiction. Up to now, there hasn't

even been any treatment accommodation for drug-abusers under the age of 16. The few treatment facilities that do exist are hopelessly undersized. The Garda drug squad consists of only 45 men and women to cover the entire

BAD NEWS FOR IRISH SPEAKERS

RTE's DECISION to remove *An Nuacht*, the nightly Irish language news bulletin, from its main television channel, has been strongly attacked by Conradh na Gaeilge which has described the downgrading as being "indicative of the hostility to Irish among certain sections of RTE's management."

In a statement on Monday this week, Conradh na Gaeilge said: "This relegation of *An Nuacht* to RTE2 is unwarranted. RTE is well aware of the strong views of Irish speakers on this issue, as attempts were made before to transfer *An Nuacht* from RTE1 to RTE2. That

no doubt explains why RTE acted with stealth on this occasion.

"They did not consult any representative organisation of Irish speakers before announcing their decision.

"By putting *An Nuacht* on RTE2 its potential audience has been cut drastically. Many Gaeltacht areas are

unable to receive RTE2 and will, therefore, be deprived of their news service. This action by RTE, and its earlier decision to remove the one and only daily bulletin of Irish language news headlines on RTE Radio 2, shows RTE's contempt for its statutory obligation to the Irish language.

"Conradh na Gaeilge calls on RTE to immediately put *An Nuacht* back on RTE1 and to broadcast it at a fixed time each night during the main viewing hours."



BURKE'S AT THE BACK

By Kevin Burke

RUC in garda HQ?

THERE HAS BEEN no flicker of interest in the twenty-six county media so far concerning a report in a Belfast newspaper on Monday this week that not only are the RUC and Gardai working in the closest cross-border harmony but that they have actually swapped members to work in each other's headquarters.

According to the Belfast *Newsletter*, at least three RUC men are working in the Garda headquarters in Dublin's Phoenix Park, and, as the other side of the top secret arrangement, a team of Gardai are working in the RUC headquarters at Knock in East Belfast. Both groups are attached to the intelligence sections of the opposite force.

The RUC men in Dublin are, the *Newsletter* says, based in an office on the first floor of the headquarters building.

The latest development is, it says, a product of the 'improving co-operation' which has been boosted even further than before, since the appointment of Michael Noonan as Coalition Minister for Justice by Garret Fitzgerald.

★ ★ ★

Meanwhile, the RUC have been gaining a bit more coverage following the suspension from duty of four of their members at Andersonstown Barracks.

The West Belfast RUC base, which has scarcely recovered from being rocked by an IRA bomb blast in June, has been rocked again — this time by a sex scandal.

The four RUC men are supposed to have been indulging in homosexual practices in the barracks over a year ago, in the presence of a woman constable who has now reported the matter, having resigned from the force.

Bad enough, you may think, but what of the incredible excuse offered by an RUC spokesperson? He told the press that the whole thing had been "blown-up out of all proportion."

"The officers concerned were discussing the Kincora Boys Home sex investigation and started horsing around, and matters just went too far," he is reported as explaining.

★ ★ ★

In the spirit of cross-border co-operation perhaps, a sex scandal is also causing ripples in the Dublin Gardai.

A Dublin Special Branchman has been suspended following an investigation into the running of a massage parlour he owned with his wife on the North Circular Road.

Other Gardai, who had kept the place under surveillance for some time, raided the premises, questioned staff and customers and removed video equipment.

I have always said that it doesn't pay to rub these Gardai up the wrong way.

★ ★ ★

Those who have always believed that the Gardai are basically a bunch of thickies, must have been reinforced in their view this week with the arrest, under the Offences Against the State Act, of Rory Buckley, the pro-amendment campaigner and member of SPUC.

The use of this anti-republican legislation against 'respectable' members of society (in connection with a leaked government document on abortion) has, for once, directed the anger of right-wingers in Fine Gael against the Gardai, just as the 'wishy-washy liberal' members of the party were voicing suitable concern over the new powers for the Gardai in the proposed Criminal Law Bill, soon to be introduced in Leinster House when the dossiers return from the long summer holidays.

The ensuing debates should be interesting.

★ ★ ★

Channel 4 television was strangely topical in its choice of film on Sunday night, following



● According to the Belfast *Newsletter*, the RUC have now moved a team into Garda headquarters in Dublin to facilitate the exchange of intelligence and new ideas on peace-keeping methods.

the meals-on-wheels incident at Long Kesh earlier in the day.

The film was entitled *Strange Cargo* and told the story of eight prisoners who escaped from Devil's Island.

★ ★ ★

Saturday this week, October 1st, marks the 12th anniversary of the first use of Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act to ban republicans from RTE.

In many minds the inception of the ban is associated with one Conor Cruise O'Brien, but, in fact, like so many anti-republican innovations, the honour goes to Flannia Fail, whose Minister for Posts and Telegraphs at the time was Gerry Collins.

Collins instructed RTE not to broadcast "matter that could be calculated to promote the aims and activities of any organisation which engages in, promotes, encourages or advocates the attaining of any particular objective by violent means."

This was later made rather more specific after confused RTE personnel had pointed out that not only did this ban republicans, but was so vague that it could be interpreted as also banning recruiting advertisements for the Free

State army.

★ ★ ★

A court in Belfast was told last week of a man who had expressed remorse and guilt and had genuinely seen the error of his ways.

"He has genuinely embraced Christianity and we are dealing with a completely different human being from the person who committed this outrage," counsel said.

But the person in question was not the born-again paid perjurer Kevin McGrady, but an East Belfast man named McMullan, who was charged, along with two others, with raping a woman in October last year.

Like McGrady, McMullan threw in the 'born-again' card, which is supposed to so impress the Orange judiciary. In his case it did not work and he got seven years.

★ ★ ★

Given the vicious record of the Catholic Church in England towards Ireland, it is not entirely surprising that the current issue of the British Catholic monthly *The Tablet* has come out strongly in favour of the use of paid perjurers in the North.

But in view of the role of one Judas Iscariot in Christian history, *The Tablet's* attitude is just a bit hard to swallow.



WHAT'S ON

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

BALLAD SESSION
Featuring Latch
Saturday 1st October
Cassidy's Lounge
COLLON
County Louth
Taille £1
Organised by Sinn Fein

PRISON PICKET
(6th anniversary of Sean O Connail)
1pm Sunday 2nd October
Parkhurst Prison
NEWPORT
Isle of Wight
England
Organised by Sinn Fein

THOMAS ASHE COMMEMORATION
3pm Sunday 2nd October
Hunters Moon
ASHBOURNE
County Meath
Organised by Sinn Fein

**DUBLIN SINN FEIN
COMMUNITY WORKERS MEETING**
7.30pm Monday 3rd October
5 Blessington Street
DUBLIN
All community officers to attend

**DUBLIN SINN FEIN
WOMEN'S AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**
8pm Wednesday 5th October
5 Blessington Street
DUBLIN
Meetings will be held fortnightly
All Sinn Fein women welcome

**LOCH GARMAN SINN FEIN
CHAIRMAN CEANTAIR MEETING**
9pm Thursday 6th October
Murphy Floods Hotel
ENNISCORTHY
County Wexford
All delegates to attend

**PRISONERS DEPENDANTS FUND
IRISH SOCIAL NIGHT**
Featuring John Byrne
& £200 prize draw
9pm Thursday 6th October
Upstairs Lounge
Dixon's Bar
Bridge Street
DUNDALK
County Louth

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

**RELEASE NICKY KELLY
ALL-NIGHT VIGIL, FAST & PICKET**
Friday 7th October &
2pm Saturday 8th October
Portlaoise Prison
PORTLAOISE
County Laois

DISCO NIGHT
8.30pm Friday 7th October
The Ashley Arms
Shopping Centre
DUNDALK
County Louth
Taille £5 (includes turkey & ham salad)
Admission by ticket only

HOUSING PROTEST MARCH
1pm Saturday 8th October
Assemble at junction of Falls Road
& Whitbread Road
for march to City Hall
BELFAST
Organised by the West Belfast
Tenants Action Committee
Everyone welcome

**VOLS DERMOT CROWLEY &
TONY AHERNE COMMEMORATION**
Memorial stone to be unveiled
3pm Saturday 8th October
Connolly Hall
CORK CITY
Oration: Owen Carron
All Munster cumann to attend
with banners
COMMEMORATIVE SOCIAL
9pm Saturday 8th October
Metropole Hotel
CORK CITY
Taille £5

REVIEW PAGE

TV

Shades of difference

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

THERE WERE interesting glimpses on television last week of what equality means to different people. A film on Friday on BBC2 was a familiar Apache versus white settler yarn, with a good white man on one side and a good Indian on the other preventing a massacre. However, the good Indian, near the end of the film, finds that his collaboration with the white settlers does not entitle him to their equality.

In *The Half Breed*, Charlie Wolf, the half-breed in question, comes into town after doing his good deeds and fancies a drink and also "the girl". But Indians can't drink whiskey and she is a white girl — and the heroine, Charlie goes back to the Apaches, a very disillusioned man.

APARTHEID

BBC 2's *News Review* on Sundays at 6.05pm is a round-up of the week's news which highlights stories that perhaps did not get much media attention.

One of the items which were given prominence was the annual rally of the Zulu tribe in

South Africa who have refused to accept the Pretoria government's definition of their rights, or rather the lack of rights.

For the first time the rally was multi-racial, and the Zulu chief spoke to an audience of black, white and coloured South Africans, who were all there in open defiance of the apartheid laws.

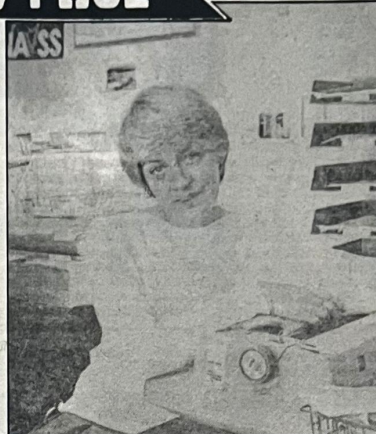
The second item on *News Review* was the filmed report of a coach-load of black people, including 15 London councillors, going to France on a day-trip. This was not a shopping or sightseeing trip but a protest at the French immigration officials' harassment of black British citizens going to France on holiday.

day. Several instances of black holidaymakers and day-trippers being stopped, and in some cases refused entry into France because they were black, have occurred recently, apparently because the French authorities refused to believe they were British citizens, in spite of them holding British passports.

This determined coach-load were let through without any difficulty, in fact the French officials could not get them through quickly enough — perhaps something to do with the large numbers of accompanying reporters, cameramen and attendant publicity?

STATISTICS

In *Crime — The Shocking Truth*, on BBC 2 on Sunday, Professor Laurie Taylor and Ludovic Kennedy presented statistics and research to show that media presentation of crime and criminals has often little to do with the reality of the situation.



● The claim that media presentation of crime and its causes often bears little resemblance to reality is backed up by Helen Reeves of the National Association of Victims Support Schemes

The scare stories of muggings and violent crime that we are used to seeing in today's newspapers are nothing new, as Laurie Taylor showed on the

programme, pointing to headlines in newspapers dating back to the 1920s and before. The level of reporting and media attention, because sensational

stories sell newspapers, usually depends on who the victim is, which gives a distorted view of crime to the public.

Helen Reeves of the National Association of Victims Support Schemes says that the media reports only the appallingly violent attacks against elderly women and children, with the result that "women over 61 are the most frightened and, contrary to the popular myth, are the least likely to actually experience attack, while young men, who are the least frightened because they are aware of the dangers, are more likely than anyone else to be victims of attack."

"Criminals" are invariably identified as working-class layabouts, and the alleged causes of crime are described as careless parents, greed and laziness — poverty and social conditions are rarely mentioned.

Ludicrous "scientific" studies from Victorian days which claimed the "criminals" had smaller brains, flatter noses, hairier bodies and curly toes were featured to show how the pillars of society of those days tried to absolve the social ills of poverty and dreadful living conditions from any blame for robbery, burglary or mugging by attempting to prove that "criminals" were genetically different from normal and "good" people.

Pure escapism

BY JOE McVEIGH

YOU MIGHT have noticed, if you're hanging around Dublin, that the Theatre Festival has started, and, as usual, some of the best events are taking place on the Fringe. Take the Maze Republican Players, for example, a group dedicated to active street performances for many years now. This year they have been working away extra hard behind closed doors on their new blockbuster *Breakaway* and it stole all the headlines when it premiered at the Maze itself last Sunday.

Eye-witness accounts all describe how the audience went wild after the performance in an attempt to mob the actors, dozens of whom had to be whisked away in cars and vans to secret destinations for their own safety, leaving disappointed hysterical fans combing the area around the theatre for souvenirs.

TOUR

The company is now embarking on a nationwide tour, but

dates and venues are being kept quiet to prevent a repeat of the stampede outside the foyer at the Maze.

Instead of re-staging the original epic, a series of one-man shows is planned in the form of a narrative of the action. Plenty of wit is promised, and it is said that the narrative carries an underlying political message.

The shows will take place in quiet pubs and basements to select audiences throughout Ire-

OVER THE TOP

land — members and guests only. Watch your local for details.

EXCITED

So what exactly is in the show that has the fans so excited?

A bit of everything it seems — action, intrigue, surprise, and, of course, a happy ending.

The plot is highly unlikely: a group of prisoners dress up in prison warders' uniforms and make their way to the main gate of the prison in a hijacked foot lorry before escaping on foot and by various means of transport. Yet it all hangs together very well, thanks to the very convincing costumes (full marks to the designer) and the quality and power of the acting.

Call it pure escapism if you like. I reckon it's the break that Irish street-theatre's been looking for. See it if you can.



● Emotional scenes followed the Maze Republican Players' 'Breakaway' — hardly a dry eye in the house

Ainmneacha

LE DOÑAL MACRAITH

BHUAIL mé isteach le déanaí go dtí an siopa poblachtach i gCearnóg Pharnell i mBaile Átha Cliath. Gheall mé chomh nuair a chonaic mé an líon mór leabhair i nGaeilge atá sa siopa. Ní hamháin sin ach tá díol maith orthu chomh maith.

Thit mo shúil ar leabhar *An Sliointeoir Gaeilge agus an tAinmneoir*. Muiris Ó Droighneáin, M.A., nach maireann a chuir an leabhar seo le chéile agus tá sé thar a bheith úsáideach.

Is minic daoine ag cur ceiste orm cad é an leagan ceart dá n-ainmneacha i nGaeilge agus seo an leabhar is Gáidí da dtáinig mé trasa air le fada an

lái. Tá an liosta sliointe ann an-chuimsitheach. Tá breis is sé mhíle sloinne ar fad ann. Chomh maith le sin tá beagnach míle ainmneacha fear is ban tugtha sa leabhar. Chuirfeadh sé fonn ort d'ainm a athrú a bheith ag fáachtaint tríd an leabhar seo. Tá cuid des na hainmneacha go hiontach ar fad. Mar shampla dá mbeadh Thaddeus Wyndham

LEABHAR

mar ainm ort i mBéarla 's an leagan Gaeilge ar sin na Tadhg Ó Maoilghaoithe. Agus dá mba Yvonne Kingsley tu 'sé bheadh mar aistriúcháin air sin ná Aoihbéann Chínisealach.

ÚSÁIDEACH

Leabhar é seo a bheith an-úsáideach ag múinteoirí agus daoine a bhíonn ag soláthar ainmneacha imreoirí peile i nGaeilge mar atá rianachadh do fóirne a bhíonn ag imirt faoi choimreann an Chumann Luthchleas Gael.

Cé go ndéir an t-údar gur "sop in áit na scuibe is ea An Sliointeoir Gaeilge, mar tá géarghéile le hathéagrán de Sliointe Gaeilge is Gail nó le heagrán nua den *Guide to Irish Surnames* ina mbeadh na leaganacha



● Sula thosfóin cluiche luachais Ghaeil, caithfidh imirtheoirí a nainmneacha Gaeilge a thabhairt

Gaeilge ar na sliointe go léir san Irish Families Series ag an Dr. Eamonn MacGhiolla Iasachta, is fíor a rá gur obair fáchtach is ea é. Is cinnte gur leor an leabhar seo d'fhormhór an phobail. Dhá phunt a luach agus is

cinnte go mbeidh díol mór air. Is féidir é d'fháil ón siopa thuasluaite.

Caithfidh mé a rá go bhfuil réimse leathan de leabhair ar fáil. Tá leor mór de leabhair

do pháistí ann agus deardadh chomh deas orthu a chloídh tú in áit ar bith. Tá leabhair do dhaoine fásta ann chomh maith. Is mór is fiú tacaíocht a thabhairt don iarracht seo ar son na teangan.

Turas cheoil thar saile

LE MAINCHÍN Ó RAIN

IS FADA atáimid imithe anois ón uair go mbíodh céilithe cistine é reachtáil go forleathan ar fud na tíre. Ach léiríonn sé neart an cheoil atá againn go bhfuil sé beo bríomhar san aois nua seo. Láireofar é seo arís an teachtáin seo sa Fhrainc.

Tá scata ceoltóirí agus rinc-eoirí traidisiúnta ó Chomhaltais Ceoltóirí Éireann ag dul go dtí an t-Éirinn (Déardaoin 29iú) chun taispeántais cheoil agus rince a chur i láthair dos na

Fraincigh. Baill de chuid Craobh Chaisleil Múmhaín den gComhaltais a bheith ar an turas.

Beidh siad ag dísánuimh cheoil i bPáras ar dtús agus caithfidh siad tré lá cois Saine. Ansin rach-

aith siad chuig Dom Pierre, baile i lár na Fraince. Beidh an grúpa ag glacadh páirt i bhFéile cheoil traidisiúnta sa bhaile sin. Craobh den Chomhaltais atá bunaithe sa Fhrainc atá i mbun na féile anuill.

Taispeánann an teagmháil chultúrtha seo neart an cheoil traidisiúnta. Is amhlaidh gur mar seo atá an scéal de bharr na hoibre a d'eindeadh le fada an la ag baili an Chomhaltais.



Cork Volunteers to be honoured

TWO IRA Volunteers from Cork, who died on active service in the North 10 years ago, are to be honoured on Saturday, October 8th, when a memorial stone will be unveiled after a parade through the city.

Volunteer Tony Ahern died in County Fermanagh in May 1973 and in June that year Volunteer Dermot Crowley was killed in County Tyrone, along with two local men, Volunteers Sean Loughran and Patrick Carthy.

Both Tony Ahern and Dermot Crowley were 18 years old when they died; they had grown up in the same housing estate in Cork, gone to the same school, and played hurling and football and cycled in the same clubs.

The oration at the Cork ceremony will be given by the Sinn Féin elected representative for Fermanagh and South Tyrone, Owen Carron. A contingent



IRA VOL TONY AHERN

from that area is also expected to attend as well as republicans and supporters from all over Munster.



IRA VOL DERMOT CROWLEY

The parade will assemble at Connolly Hall, in Cork, at 3pm on Saturday, October 8th.

REMEMBERING THE PAST A FORGOTTEN PATRIOT

BY PETER O'Rourke

ONE of the little-known figures deeply involved in the revival of Irish nationalism at the beginning of this century was William Rooney. Born in Dublin in 1873, his interest in the cause of Irish freedom brought him into contact with Arthur Griffith, who was later to become the founder of Sinn Féin.

March 1899, Rooney and Griffith founded a weekly newspaper called *The United Irishman*, after John Mitchell's revolutionary paper of 1847. Rooney was a member of the IRB and the paper reflected its aims of separation from England.

Rooney, like Pearse and MacSwiney later, held that nations are saved from defeat and destruction, not by the crowd, but by the faithful few. He

wrote: "History has never been made by the millions. The few who sacrificed themselves did all that the world is proud of. The single seed eventually fills the cornfield, the silent, earnest thinker moves the mass..."

Rooney played a leading part in organising the centenary celebrations of the 1798 Rising.

"In a dozen books covering the 1898

period," wrote Brian O'Higgins in 1956, "you will look in vain for the name of William Rooney, although he did more work than any 10 men. It was his desire and custom to work quietly, diligently, unobtrusively, to do what had to be done and let who wished have the credit; to finish whatever task fell to him and then slip quietly away..."

Despite his very poor health Rooney travelled long distances, addressing meetings, and wrote himself out by his exertions. Aged 27, Rooney died suddenly in May 1901. While his inspiration was part of the momentum towards 1916, today he is all but forgotten.

William Rooney was born on September 29th 1873.

Do we not put the spoons there?
Nár chuir mé na bróga ar an mbuachaill?
— Did not I put the shoes on the boy?
Ar chuir tú na fuinneoga sa tigh fós?
— Did you put the windows in the house yet?
Ar chuir Maire na spúnógas faoin bhláta?
— Did Mary put the spoons under the plate?
Ar gcuirim an cat amach? — Do we put the cat out?

PHRASES

1—An gcuirim sé isteach or? (un gcuirim shay istech or?) — Does it annoy you?
2—Chuir sé de é (chuir shay dah ay) — He put it over him (an illness).
3—Tá sé ag cur fola (thaw shay uk kur fola) — It is bleeding.
4—Bhí sé ag cur saea (vaw shay uk kur shay) — It was freezing.

Wednesday 7pm, Sinn Féin Advice Centre (Bullring)

Wednesday 7pm, (under 18s) Ballymurphy Tenants Association

Thursday 7pm, New Barnsley Social Club

Sunday 4pm, Sinn Féin Advice Centre (Bullring)

Na hArdán Duibhse (Divis Flats)

Tuesday 7.30pm, Sinn Féin Advice Centre

Chlain Ard/Colin/Pool

Thursday 7pm, Sinn Féin Advice Centre (Savoyopol Street)

Baile Andaran (Andersonstown)

Saturday 1 to 3pm, Felons' Club

Sunday 4pm, Tullymore Community Centre

Wednesday 8 to 9pm (three classes) Andersonstown Social Club

Ar na bArd (Beachmount)

Monday, Sinn Féin Advice Centre

St James's

Contact Peadar Campbell, St James's Crescent

Unity Flats

Thursday 7.30pm, Trinity Community Centre

For any enquiries, contact Eamonn Ó hArdhalla, 9.30am to 5pm, at 230227.

Classes organised by Conradh na Gaeilge, etc

Poleglass (Cloon House)

Tuesday, bun rang agus dara rang

Wednesday, dara rang

Saturday 10 to 11.30am, children/youth class

Clonard GAC (Springfield Crescent)

Tuesday 7.30pm, bun rang agus dara rang

Lenadon (Glen Community Centre)

Thursday 8pm

Irish Lesson

An gcuirim? (un gcuirim) — Do I put?

An gcuirim tú, sé, sí, ar (err chuir thoo, shay, shoo) — Do you, does he, she put?

Nach gcuirimid? (noch gcuiriméid) — Do we not put?

Nach gcuirim sibh, siad? (noch gcuirim shiv, sheuid) — Do you, they not put?

Ar chuir mé, tú, sé, sí (err chuir may, thoo, shay, shoo) — Did I, you, he, she put?

Ar chuireamar (err chuirmur) — Did we put?

As the pronunciation given in brackets is as near as possible to the sound.
CH is sounded as in LOCHERNE.
D and T before A, O and U are thick, spoken with the tongue pressed against the upper front teeth.
DH and GH are like a G far back in the throat and as a G.

Ar chuir sibh, siad? (err chuir shiv, sheuid) — Did you, they put?

Nár chuir sé (Nor chuir shay) — Did he not put?

Na bréga (nuh brogue-eh) — The shoes

Na capallí (na kopil) — The horses

Na fuinneoga (nuh fwinyog-uh) — The windows

Na spúnógas (nuh spoonoo-guh) — The spoons

An gcuirim sé na capallí sa pháirc sin?

— Does he put the horses in that field?

Nach gcuirimid na spúnógas sin?

— Do we not put the spoons there?

Conradh na Gaeilge, an Scoil Ghaeilge, Coistí na Sárdeinteacha, Roinn an Chultúir de Shinn Féin agus na scrútháir mGinteoirí Gaeilge.

"Irrainimid ar Ghaeilge" (lathar) Bhéal Feirste uilig taege le chéile ar an Choiste mhór amháin le iontráil na bliana seo chuagain don Ghóir na nGaeil a eagraí. M'abroinn na daoine uilig a bhfuil meas acu ar ar bFeinidh, ach Éireannach le chéile taegeach prómhthuais na bliana seo chuagain go Bhéal Feirste."

Tá an-chuid ranganna eagraithe i mbéal Feirste mar is soláir ón liosta thíos. Tá an Ghaeilge ag dul ó neart go neart sa cathair. Is éabar inspióirde dinn go léir a bhfuil déanta acu.

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Remembering

BRYSON, Jim. (10th Anniversary), in proud and loving memory of Vol Jim Bryson, Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na hÉireann, who died on active service on September 22nd 1973. Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for him. Sadly missed and always remembered by his friends and family (Crumlin Road), Rita and family.

McDERMOTT, Terence. (12th Anniversary), in proud and loving memory of Vol Terence McDermott, Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na hÉireann, who died while on active service on October 2nd 1971. Thug sé a raibh aige go troid ar son saoirse muintir na hÉireann. Never forgotten by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

O'CONNELL, Seán. (6th Anniversary), in proud and loving memory of Seán O'Connell who died in Southampton Hospital, England, on October 1st 1977. Codáil go clúin a chomráir, n' d'fheallair dearmad ort. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Republican Movement.

O'CONNELL, Seán. (6th Anniversary), in proud memory of Seán O'Connell, Sinn Féin, who died in Southampton Moorland Hospital on October 1st 1977, as a result of medical neglect in Parkhurst Prison Hospital from where he had been moved only a matter of hours earlier. A true friend, committed to Irish republicanism, in prison he remained a steady, reliable comrade. Always remembered by his friends in the Republican Movement (Britain).

QUIGLEY, Jimmy. (11th Anniversary), in proud and loving memory of Vol Jimmy Quigley, Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na hÉireann, who died on active service on September 29th 1972. In measc taobhair na nGaeil go raibh a anam. Never forgotten by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

QUIGLEY, Jimmy. (11th Anniversary), in proud and loving memory of our brother IRA Vol Jimmy Quigley who gave his life on September 29th 1972. RIP. Sacred heart of Jesus, have mercy on his soul. Always remembered by his mother, brothers Christopher, Francis, Thomas, Gerard, Marcus, Brian and sister Mary.

O'COIGLIGH, Seamus. (11th Anniversary), in proud and loving memory of Vol Seamus O'Coigligh, 2nd Battalion, Ogligh na hÉireann, who died on active service on September 29th 1972. "I believe and stand by the God-given right of the Irish nation to sovereign independence, and the right of any Irishman or woman to assist in the right in armed revolution" — Bobby Sands. Always remembered by the McCabe family, Sinn Féin cumann, Ballymun, Dublin.

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REILLY, Jim. (3rd Anniversary), in proud and loving memory of our dear friend Jim who died in hospital on September 26th 1980. Always remembered by Val and Gerry.

REILLY, Jim. (3rd Anniversary), in proud and loving memory of our comrade and friend Jim Reilly who died on September 26th 1980. Ceann adana troilte ar anam. Always remembered by the Connolly/Keegan Sinn Féin cumann, Ballymun, Dublin.

REILLY, Jim. (3rd Anniversary), in fond memory of our dear friend Jim Reilly who died in hospital on September 26th 1980. Always remembered by Pat, Mal and Michael Holden, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, England.

SYMPATHY

TEANOR. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Seamus 'Jimmy Yank' Teanor who died in Luton on September 15th. May Eirann's sod rest lightly upon him. From his friends Hugh

and Marie McCague, Mullacknock, Monaghan.

TEANOR. The Sinn Féin Distribution Sub-committee, Monaghan, extends sincere sympathy to the family and friends of Seamus 'Jimmy Yank' Teanor who died in Luton on September 15th. A Muirne na nGaeil, deán idir gúir ar shon.

GREETINGS

CRAWFORD, Geraldine. (Armagh). Solidarity greetings to Geraldine. From Colm, Evelyn, Allin and Declan O'Donnell, Dublin.

DONNELLY, Vincent. (Norwich). Faoi dhéirdeas d'ag dhéanach. From Colm, Evelyn, Allin and Declan O'Donnell, Dublin.

ELLIS, Dessie. (Portlaoise). MURRAY, Mick. (Hull). SHANNON, Brendan. (H-Block). Best wishes on your special day. You are always in our thoughts and prayers. Lots of love from Róisín and family, Oregon, USA. xxx

McALLISTER, David. (H-Block). Lots of love and best wishes on your birthday, David, on October 2nd. Thinking and praying for you and your comrades always. UTP. Love from mum.

McALLISTER, David. (H-Block). Love and best wishes on your birthday, David. We are always thinking of you. God bless. From aunt Mary, uncle George and the family.

McCANN, Hugh. Have a great birthday celebration at home with Kathleen, Denis, Ruairi, Róisín and other loved ones. Wish we were there! Love from Róisín and family, Oregon, USA. xxx

STEWART, Sean. (Portlaoise). Happy birthday, Sean. Tíocfaidh ar ía. From mother, father and all the Stewart family.

STEWART, Sean. (Portlaoise). Happy birthday, Stewart. They have you in their keeping but we have you in our hearts. From granny McArdle and all the McArdle family.

STEWART, Sean. (Portlaoise). Happy birthday and best wishes, 'Deerhunter'. Love from Treasa, xxx

STEWART, Sean. (Portlaoise). Happy birthday and best wishes, Stewart. If you put the door at 3am this week we won't wrinkle too much. From Ursula, Alden, Angela, Jim, Tricia and John.

STEWART, Sean. (Portlaoise). Happy birthday to the 'Fonz No. 2'. We'll have a drink of wine on your behalf. From Róisín, Mick and the 'Blue Nun'.

STEWART, Sean. (Portlaoise). Wishing you a very happy birthday and all the best wishes, Sean. From Christy, Ann, Gerald, Bernadette, Mrs. Shanahan and all at 49 and Kieran, Tony, Joe Bass, 'Skin' and Richie.

STEWART, Sean. (Portlaoise). Happy birthday, Sean. Keep taking the tablets. From Sandra, Patricia, all the family and 'Gerry Fitt'.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

McCLUSKEY, The McCluskey family, Roslea, County Fermanagh, wish to thank the POWs in Gortree, especially John, and Helen and Nuala, in England for all the wreaths and kind messages sent to the family after the unexpected death of our dear father. May he rest in peace.

Draw results

Ballyfermoil/Inchicore Sinn Féin draw results: £100: Tony Nolan, Kevin McKay; £50: Arthur O'Brien, Kevin McKay; £25: Kevin McGri, Dungen. £10: Margaret, c/o Greg Jones; W. McCarthy, c/o M. O'Neill; Paul Bergen; Mrs McKay, c/o Kevin McKay; Paddy McCann, Ballyfermoil. £5: Colm Duffy, c/o Simon; Stephen, c/o Ursula Quinn; P. Vaughan, Bluebell; John Doyle, Bridge Street, 08; Katherine Foley, Ballyfermoil. Shannon Sinn Féin Draw No. 7: £25: No. 58; £10: No. 27; £5: No. 17. Draw No. 8: £25: No. 57; £10: No. 41; £5: No. 25.

Thanks

AN CUMANN CABRACH gratefully acknowledges the donation of £40 from the Martin Devitt Sinn Féin cumann, Miltown Malbay, County Clare.

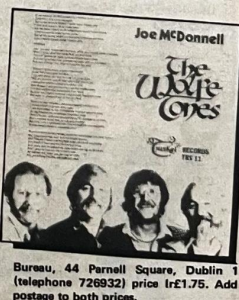
A tribute to Joe McDonnell

A TRIBUTE to martyred H-Block hunger-striker Joe McDonnell has been recorded by the famous ballad group The Wolfe Tones.

The chorus of the song, which is entitled simply Joe McDonnell, runs:

And you dare to call me a terrorist, while you look down your gun.
When I think of all the deeds that you have done:
You plundered many nations, divided many lands;
You terrorised their peoples, you ruled with an iron hand,
And you brought this reign of terror to my land.

Joe McDonnell, the other side of which is Irish Eyes, is available from Republican Publications, 2a Monagh Crescent, Turf Lodge, Belfast (telephone 620768), price Stg£1.50; or the Book



Bureau, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1 (telephone 726932) price Ir£1.75, add postage to both prices.

Gaeilgeoiri guala ar ghualann leis na cimi

BHAIN Coiste Iarthar Bhéal Feirste de Ghóir na nGaeil dhá duais mhóra i gcomórtas clúiteach Ghóir na nGaeil a bhíos ann gach bliain, leis na bailte agus na ceantreacha is mo a chuireann an Ghaeilge chun cinn, a ainmá.

Bhain Iarthar Bhéal Feirste an duais eile £200 ag dul leis don Iontráil Nua le Fearr, agus an dara hÉit (£200 ag dul leis seo fosta) don dara ceantar is fearr le níos mó ná 25,000 duine.

Dúirt fear jabhartha an choiste logánta, Pádraig Ó Donnchú: "Is mór an onóir le Coiste Iarthar Bhéal Feirste gur bhronn Góir na nGaeil dhá duais mhóra orthu i gcomórtas na bliana seo. Ba mhaith linn a rá arís go poiblí fíach, gur mhór an n-dáiríre a gcuir na gGaeilgeoiri na bliana seo chuagain go Bhéal Feirste."

Tá an-chuid ranganna eagraithe i mbéal Feirste mar is soláir ón liosta thíos. Tá an Ghaeilge ag dul ó neart go neart sa cathair. Is éabar inspióirde dinn go léir a bhfuil déanta acu.

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Na ranganna

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Europe's most secure prison?

THE H-BLOCKS at Long Kesh were built as an integral part of the British government's criminalisation policy in the mid-70s. Their construction was part of a long-term political policy aimed at the destruction of the republican struggle.

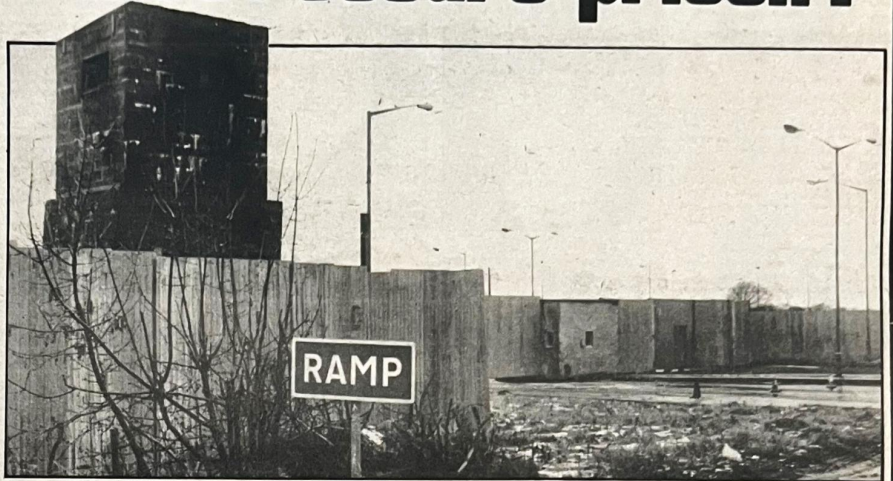
It was believed by the Brits that the H-Blocks would provide a new prison system which, by isolating prisoners into secure groups of 25 cells, would give the authorities greater control. It was also felt that this new system would allow for the careful monitoring of prisoners and thus prevent incidents such as last weekend's from ever occurring.

Long Kesh was hailed, until last weekend that is, as the most secure prison in Europe.

The eight H-Blocks, construction of which commenced in 1974 and took a further six years to complete, are effectively prisons within a prison. Their distinctive 'H' shape gives them their name.

Each H-Block is surrounded by its own wall. The four legs of each 'H' is a wing containing 25 cells, an association/canteen room and a washroom. The centre piece is the administrative area known as the 'circle'. All wings are totally isolated from each other by several heavy grilles and the administrative area is itself isolated by more grilles.

Each H-Block is separated from the others and Long Kesh itself is divided into separate sections by a 20-foot high reinforced wall.



Movement through the sections is only possible via electrically-controlled heavy steel gates.

The ratio of prison warders in the Blocks is considerably higher than in the Cages or Crumlin Road Prison. In, for example, the Special Category Cages of Long Kesh, at

any one time six prison warders are responsible for 78 men, whereas in H7, where last Sunday's dramatic escape occurred, 127 men were held by at least 21 warders and generally more. Cell searches in the Blocks are a regular feature as are body searches, and movement is tightly controlled and ex-

remely difficult.

Watch towers are placed at strategic points within the camp as well as on the perimeter wall. These are manned by British soldiers who supplement the 1,000 prison warders at the prison, and are based close to the jail.

