

AN

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING  
POLITICAL WEEKLY



# PHOBLACHT

## Republican News

Sraith Nua Imt 6 Uimhir 9

Deardain Marta 1

Thursday 1st March 1984

(Britain 30p) Price 25p

## BRIMSTONE FLOP

— SEE PAGE 7 —



# RED FACES FOR COALITION?

THE COALITION government is facing another early embarrassment over its now official ban on meeting delegations of local elected representatives which include Sinn Fein members — and this time could find itself in a public row with its own party councillors.

A delegation from Galway County Council, including Sinn Fein's Frank Glynn, is seeking to meet Labour Party Environment Minister Liam Kavanagh, who has already refused to meet delegations which included Councillor Michael Nevin of Longford and Councillor Eddie Fullerton of Donegal.

The decision to include the Sinn Fein councillor in the Galway delegation was with the agreement of two Fine Gael junior ministers, who are fellow councillors of Frank Glynn.

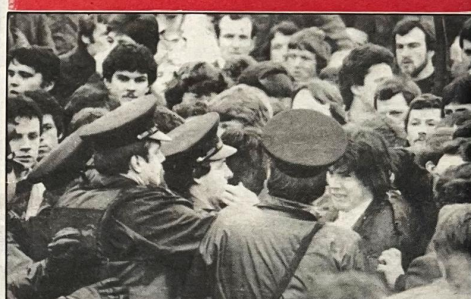
What makes the Galway delegation even more controversial is that two Sinn

Fein councillors hold the balance of power on the council and, in 1979, ended decades of a Fianna Fail stranglehold, allowing the other parties to share the chair.

Glynn himself was elected county council chairperson by the votes of Fine Gael and the one Labour Party member.

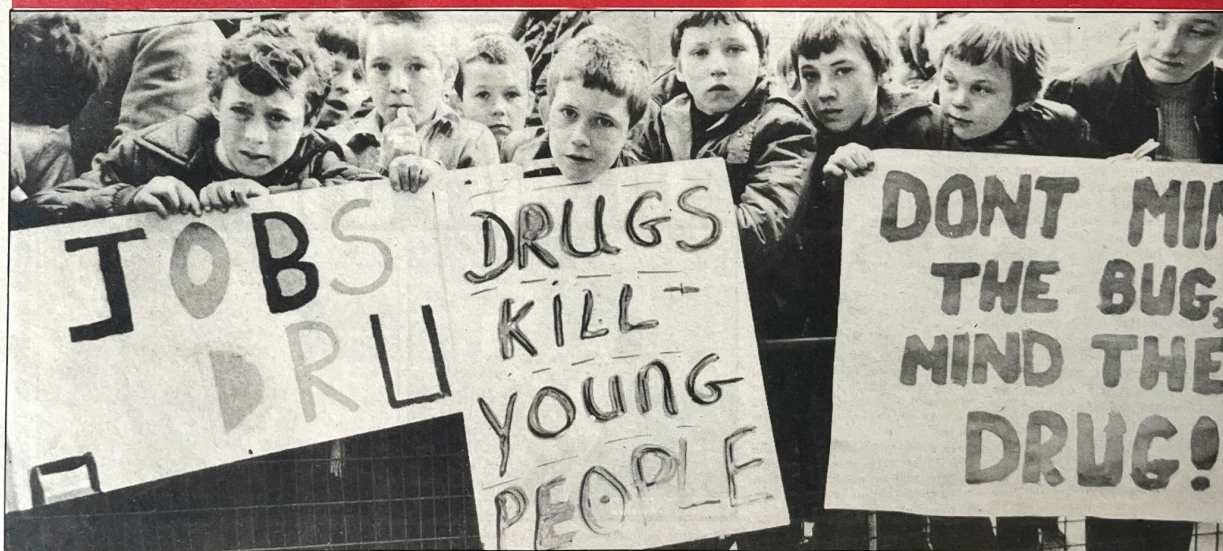
Even more significantly, that one member is the party chairperson Michael D. Higgins, who will now be forced to state where he stands on his party's undemocratic policy.

FULL STORY — PAGE 3



## RUG FAIL TO DISRUPT DUNLOY FUNERAL

CENTRE  
PAGES



# ANTI-DRUG ACTION DEMANDED

SEE  
PAGE  
FOUR



# OPINION

## MARCH 1st

TODAY, Thursday, March 1st, marks the third anniversary of the beginning of the fateful H-Block hunger-strike in 1981, which was to claim the lives of ten republican prisoners.

Three years later, memories of those days and the heroic sacrifices made are as painful as ever. Yet few can fail to realise that the hunger-strikers' own view of their sacrifice — primarily to provide a watershed which would see an arousal of nationalism strong enough to finally drive the British from Ireland — was not a vain one.

It is for the rest of us to ensure that the momentum they created continues to accelerate towards that common goal. And it is fitting to recall Bobby Sands' own words, written in his diary on Sunday, March 1st 1981, that first day of his hunger-strike, and later smuggled out:

*"I believe and stand by the God-given right of the Irish nation to sovereign independence, and the right of any Irish man or woman to assert this right in armed revolution. That is why I am incarcerated, naked and tortured.*

*"Foremost in my tortured mind is the thought that there can never be peace in Ireland until the foreign, oppressive British presence is removed, leaving all the Irish people, as a unit, to control their own affairs and determine their own destinies as a sovereign people, free in mind and body, separate and distinct physically, culturally and economically.*

*"I believe I am but another of those wretched Irish men born of a risen generation with a deeply rooted and unquenchable desire for freedom. I am dying, not just to attempt to end the barbarity of H-Block, or to gain the rightful recognition of a political prisoner, but primarily because what is lost in here is lost for the Republic and those wretched oppressed whom I am deeply proud to know as 'the risen people'."*



● The Moyna house

BY JACK MADDEN

CLAIMS by opposition politicians that the Coalition government has made misleading statements and laid false trails in its attempt to cover up the bugging of a Dublin house frequented by Seamus Mallon of the SDLP have ensured that the reverberations of this scandal will continue to buzz in Leinster House for some time to come, and overflow into the Forum.

On Wednesday of this week, Taoiseach and his Minister for Justice.

Fianna Fail deputy-leader Brian Lenihan added a further dramatic twist to the story when he produced a list in Leinster House giving the names of four gardai and a person believed to belong to a commercial firm who, he claimed, should be interviewed in connection with the bugging. But despite this material confirmation of official involvement, calls for an inquiry were defeated.

Similar attempts to have an independent judicial inquiry into the scandal were also rejected on Tuesday, even though Fianna Fail's Michael Woods outlined what he suggested was either "a saga of incredible incompetence and carelessness... or something more sinister and even more disturbing".

Woods said: "The most likely explanation, given all the information at our disposal, is that the Moyna phone was tapped and this failed to yield the information desired by the

"It was then decided to install a listening device, and this job was bungled mainly because of the meticulous nature of the householder.

"The attempted cover-up failed and the attempted smear failed."

### NOONAN

In his reply, the Coalition Minister for Justice, Michael Noonan, speaking for the first time on the issue, said that the gardai had no evidence of IRA involvement in the affair.

However, he later blamed the IRA in an RTE interview, which suggests that he would prefer that no such allegation should appear on the official records.

Moreover, Noonan, whose strange silence on the issue had strengthened suspicions, considerably watered down earlier Coalition denials of garda involvement.

In Leinster House, he simply said:

"The three men who turned up at the house in North Dublin were

# NIPSA CÁINTE

LE CIAN Mac AOIDH

TÁ ROINNNT náisiúntóir tar éis éirí as a mballaíocht i NIPSA (Northern Ireland Public Service Alliance), ceann des na ceard-chumainn is mó sna seacht chontae d'oibrithe i seirbhís rialtais. Tháirg seo toisc gur bhronn NIPSA £500 ar chiste don UDR. D'fhógair baill eile nach n-íodhadh siad a dtáil go rialta mar agóid in éadan an ghnímh seo.

Tá míchlú ar an UDR as a ngníomhartha barbartha. Tá siad cáinte fiú ag an gCairdinéal Ó Fiaich agus Cathal Ó hEochaidh. I láthair na huairé tá ochtar comhaltá de reimsint seo de chuid Arm Shasana ós comhair na cúlra ar chúis gur dhúnmharadh siad Caitliceach in Ard Macha.

Níor chóir, deir lucht na h-áide, sintiús ar bith a thabhairt don chiste seo. Níor chóir, ach go háirithe toisc nár iarradh cead ó bhailiú uile an cheardchumainn ar dtús.

Ba é san eagrán is déanaí de STAFF, nuachtán NIPSA, a bhfuair bunús na mbail amach faoin chabhair airgid a bhronnadh ar an reimsint míchlúiteach.

De réir tuairisce sa nuachtán sin:

"Tamall maith ó shin chinn comhairle NIPSA ar £25 a bhronnadh ar chiste charthanach an UDR. An mhí seo caite rinne muid machnamh ar achainí eile ón chiste seo... Mar thoradh ar seo chinn muid ar £500 eile a thab-

hairt don chiste... Beidh sé ar chumas an chiste anois, a seacht n-oiread níos mó airgid, a bhronnadh ar bhaintreacha na bhfeair a maraíodh ag sceimhlitheoirí ná mar a bhronnadh i 1982."



# Hogan home raided

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

JUST FOUR DAYS after Volunteer Henry Hogan was laid to rest in Dunloy Cemetery, the Hogans' home, and three other nearby houses, were simultaneously raided by the RUC at 6am on Tuesday morning, February 28th.

With arrogant disregard for the Hogan's bereavement, around two dozen RUC men forced their way into the house, breaking the lock on the front door, and told the family:

"We are in charge here, you do what we tell you."

Margaret Hogan was assaulted by an RUC woman when she tried to open a door and throughout the hour-long raid the family were confined to one room and subject-

ed to verbal abuse from the RUC.

Meanwhile, about 70 RUC men were in the process of raiding the homes of three of Henry Hogan's friends, who had been photographed by the RUC putting up black flags in Dunloy last Wednesday, following the tragic shooting.

Augustine O'Neill, aged eighteen, 21-year-old Seamus Boyle and 19-year-old Malachy McErlane were arrested and taken to Castlereagh

under Section 11 of the EPA (Malachy McErlane being arrested in place of his brother, who was not at home during the raid).

Sinn Féin's North Antrim constituency representative, Pearse McMahon, commented:

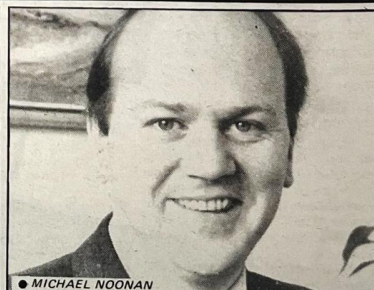
"The persecution of the Hogan family and the selective harassment of Henry Hogan's friends will not go unnoticed by the nationalist people of North Antrim.

"These bully-boy actions by the RUC are intended to crush republican resistance to the immoral British presence but, the opposite is in fact the case. Such repression will inevitably lead to greater resistance."

# BUG TO UNCOVER HORNET'S NEST?



● BRIAN LENIHAN



● MICHAEL NOONAN

not acting with the knowledge or approval of the Minister for Justice, still less at his instigation. Neither were they acting on the say-so of the head of the Garda Síochána."

Noonan was apparently being careful not to exclude the possibility of some 'unofficial' garda in-

volvement. And speaking from a prepared script, he merely asserted that he, as Minister for Justice, had not ordered it, nor had he known anything about it, and that the garda commissioner had not ordered it. But he did not give an opinion of whether he thought the commissioner knew anything about it.

And the speculation on Wednesday night was that Lenihan's list could well lift the lid on a whole hornet's nest of official and unofficial garda bugging and telephone-tapping which more than average the drubbing that Fianna Fail received over Sean Doherty's surveillance activities.



# Galway challenge to Coalition ban

BY JACK MADDEN

IN A MOVE which will seriously embarrass the Dublin government, Galway county councillors, including two Coalition junior ministers, agreed, last Monday to include Sinn Fein County Councillor Frank Glynn in a delegation which will seek a meeting with Coalition Environment Minister Liam Kavanagh.

Less than a week after the Coalition Cabinet imposed a rigid boycott on delegations which include members of Sinn Fein, the Galway decision will particularly incense Kavanagh who, as one of the prime supporters of the boycott policy, has now to show his anti-democratic colours for the third time in recent months.

Neither John Donnellan nor Paul Connaughton, both junior ministers in the Coalition government, raised any objection when Glynn, along with three members of Fine Gael and four members of Fianna Fail, was nominated as a member of the eight-person delegation.

The only Labour Party member on the council, Michael D. Higgins, was absent from the meeting but none of his 11 Fine Gael colleagues on the council voiced any opposition when Glynn was proposed by another Sinn Fein council member, Paddy Ruane, and seconded by Tom Weirby of Fianna Fail.

One Fine Gael councillor, Padraic McCormac, queried what the council would do if Kavanagh refused to meet them, given Glynn's inclusion on the delegation, but, as he pointed out after the meeting, his query was not meant as a criticism of Glynn.

## DELICATE BALANCE

On Galway County Council an amalgamation of members including Fine Gael, independents, Sinn Fein and one Labour member holds a majority of one over Fianna Fail, who have 15 councillors.

While this delicate balance of power has obviously influenced Fine Gael's decision



● FRANK GLYNN

not to oppose Frank Glynn, there is also, as a number of councillors told him, widespread resentment amongst Fine Gael local elected representatives who believe that the boycott policy against Sinn Fein has been orchestrated by the Labour Party ministers in the Cabinet. As Frank Glynn points out:

*"Many Fine Gael members are unhappy that this boycott was taken without reference to grass-roots reality. They recognise that Labour is reacting to being beaten into fourth place by Christy Burke in the Dublin by-election which followed George Colley's death and they see the boycott policy as a case of the tail wagging the dog."*

## VIOLENCE

Having served as a county councillor since 1967, and as chairperson of the council in 1979, Glynn, along with his Sinn Fein colleague Paddy Ruane, who has been a councillor for 29 years, made his position clear



● PAUL CONNAUGHTON

at the council meeting:

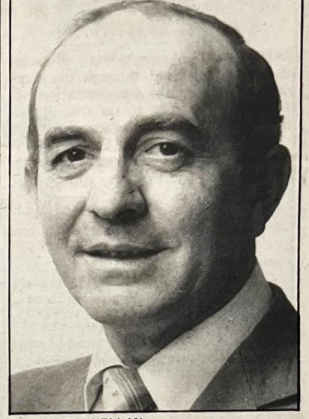
*"I was selected as a member of this council and I have never propagated violence on Galway County Council. I intend to take my place on the deputation."*

If asked to 'publicly dissociate himself from the IRA campaign of violence', as is now demanded if the ban is to be lifted on a councillor, Glynn says that he will refuse to do so:

*"Violence is a word that is being bandied about a lot these days, but to look at violence in the context of the North, without looking at the overall context in which that violence takes place, is totally unfair."*

*"How can a government which talks to the British, who are perpetrators of violence, or welcomes Reagan, who is responsible for violence on a global scale, to Ireland, pretend to be concerned about violence?"*

After serving a one-month jail sentence last year for refusing to pay his television



● JOHN DONNELLAN

licence because of the censorship of Sinn Fein on RTE, Glynn sees the current boycott against Sinn Fein elected representatives as a further attack on freedom:

*"They are dictating who they will tolerate as elected representatives."*

## FIANNA FAIL

Pointing out that since Fianna Fail leader Charles Haughey has stated his opposition to the boycott policy, he would expect Fianna Fail members on the delegation to also withdraw if Kavanagh refuses to meet him, Glynn adds that even Fine Gael members should oppose such a boycott:

*"Only this week I received a letter from a Fine Gael minister asking for a favour from me. They would be playing a dirty game if they refused or were afraid to do publicly what they do in private or maintained contact with me only where it suits them."*

# SINN FEIN CAMPAIGNS BEGIN AFTER 'TECHNICAL HITCH' BACK TO THE BALLOT BOX

BY EAMON TRACY

NOMINATION papers for two Sinn Fein candidates, Sean McKnight and Peter Sherry, who are standing in the two local council by-elections later this month, were handed in on Friday, February 24th, and Monday, February 27th.

In a surprise move to block the Sinn Fein candidate standing in Dungannon, Kieran O'Donnell, who was originally chosen to stand in Urban Area 'D' of Dungannon District Council, was informed on Friday morning, February 24th, that because he had served a prison sentence of more than three months in the previous five years, under the 1972 Local Government Act, he was barred from standing.

Kieran O'Donnell, who had earlier been informed by the chief electoral officer for the North that there were no problems with his candidature, was released in November 1983 after serving nearly 3½ years on an IRA membership charge.

Sinn Fein, after urgent consultations, chose Peter Sherry, aged 29, to replace Kieran O'Donnell, and he lodged his nomination papers later that day.

The SDLP, who have made great efforts to avoid electoral confrontation with Sinn Fein, would not nominate a candidate.

## WITHDREW

Michael McLaughlin, a former

nationalist councillor whose resignation from the council over unionist efforts to refuse him access to expenditure details for the previous local government elections led to the by-election, withdrew his nomination papers on Saturday, leaving the by-election as a straight fight between Sinn Fein and an agreed candidate, David Alexander Murphy.

The by-election takes place on March 22nd and Sinn Fein believes that if the nationalist vote swings in behind Sherry then he can win the seat, in spite of a small loyalist majority. The unionists, however, will be all-out to see that this doesn't happen.

## SHERRY

Peter Sherry is married with two young daughters and lives locally on the Ballygawley Estate in Dungannon.

He was a republican prisoner in the Cages of Long Kesh from November 1974 to May 1978.

More recently, he was held in Crumlin Road on remand for 21 months until October 1983, when Patrick McGurk retracted statements against him.

Since then, he has worked as a full-time voluntary worker in Sinn



● PETER SHERRY  
Dungannon by-election candidate  
Fein's Dungannon office.

## McKNIGHT

Sean McKnight, the Sinn Fein candidate in Area 'F' by-election for Belfast City Council, lodged his nomination papers on Monday morning, February 27th. Six candidates are now fighting for the seat, three unionists, one Workers Party and two nationalists.

The seat, which has an electorate of 16,568 people, covers the Clonard, Falls, Markets, Donegall Road and Cromac areas and is fairly evenly balanced between nationalist and loyalist voters.

Sinn Fein's Joe Austin, chairperson of the regional executive,



● Sean McKnight with Mick Conlon (director of elections), Fra McCann and Frank Gillen (election agent)

has urged the electorate to vote for Sean McKnight, saying:

*"Sean McKnight runs three advice centres and has a proven record of concern for the people of the area and the conditions in which they live, unlike his opponents in*

*the area and the various unionist parties."*

*"Sean has consistently opposed the use of paid perjurers and show trials by the British government in their campaign of repression of the nationalist people."*



# DEMONSTRATION GIVES LIE TO 'VIGILANTE' TAG ANTI-DRUG ACTION DEMANDED

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

THOUSANDS of people from all parts of Dublin marched through the city yesterday in a huge demonstration of their determination to rid their communities of the drug menace.

The residents of St Teresa's Gardens, one of the first areas to organise against the drug pushers, appropriately headed the march, followed by contingents from Chamber Street, Marrowbone Lane, Fatima Mansions, Bridgefoot Street, Crumlin and Tallaght.

In Parnell Square they joined groups from Dominick Street and Hardwicke Street, Ballymun, Ballyfermot, Coolock and Drimnagh.

Four former drug addicts carried a coffin and a skeleton, above which was the slogan: "Heroin caused this. This man tried all in 'vein'."

There were many school-children on the march, and even a party of boy scouts in uniform, as well as old people, teenagers and parents with babes in arms.

The composition of the march was a dramatic answer to the establishment politicians and hysterical establishment media, who have branded the anti-drug committees as 'vigilantes', and a show of unity in the face of the attempts at intimidation when supporters of the committees in St Teresa's Gardens and Hardwicke Street were shot at.

## POLITICIANS

On Tuesday, at a meeting in Leinster House, several politicians demanded that the gardai move against the anti-drug committees, and stamp them out, once again calling the concerned parents 'vigilantes', showing their fear of the people's ability to take action on their own.

At Leinster House, a statement was handed in from the central committee of the Concerned Parents Against Drugs Campaign demanding real action from the government, not empty expressions of concern. The statement said:

*"We who have lived with the problem of drug abuse in the past few years have been treated with contempt and arrogance by governments, their departmental officials, their statutory bodies, and indeed some irresponsible sections of the media..."*

*"We do not want to hear excuses, apologies, political speeches or clichés. We want action! Our lives and the future of our children depend on it!"*

## MEASURES

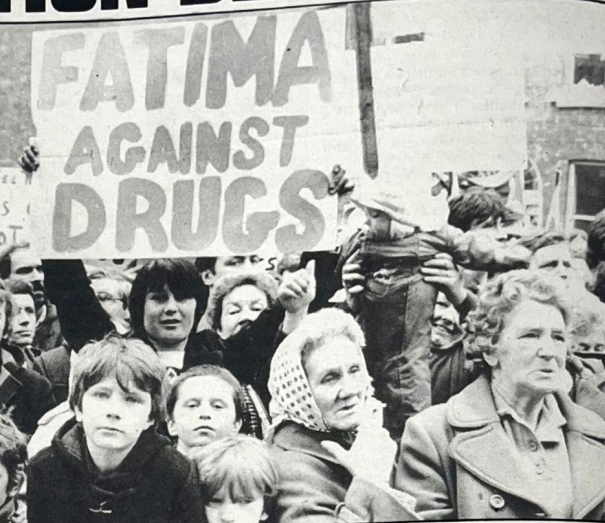
The campaign's demands include strong measures to deal with pushers and the immediate improvement and increase in facilities for their victims, together with drug education in schools and the control of advertisements for any drugs, including alcohol.

Their most important demand however, is that they be listened to, and that they get an immediate response to their demands. A copy of the statement was also left at the Department of Justice.

No one from the committees would speak to the establishment press, and there were bitter and angry criticisms of newspapers and of RTE, especially *Today Tonight*, for their distorted and sensationalist coverage of the campaign's work.

In the areas affected by drugs, the meetings and patrols continue.

Last Wednesday week, February 22nd, a meeting in Fatima Mansions, attended by about a hundred people, agreed that a



● Male and female, young and old, thousands of them took to Dublin's streets on Wednesday to march against the drug menace



● The anti-drugs groups remain united and determined — despite the combined attacks of the establishment media and politicians, and the drug pushers themselves

watch should be kept on flats suspected of being used by pushers, and also that they should take action to stop the flats being used as a race-track for stolen cars.

On Friday night, February 24th, one of the flats in question was visited and the oc-

cupant told to leave; three youths, caught stealing in the flats, were also barred from Fatima. The residents then met again, on Sunday, and arranged to get the pusher's empty flat boarded up to prevent it being used by other pushers or addicts.

# March against rape

BY JANE PLUNKETT

OVER 500 WOMEN, including mothers pushing prams, young girls and pensioners, came together in a torch-light march up West Belfast's Falls Road last Thursday night, February 23rd, in protest against sexual violence.

The successful march was called by an ad-hoc group of women who had decided, at a public meeting the previous Sunday, to begin organising on the issue.

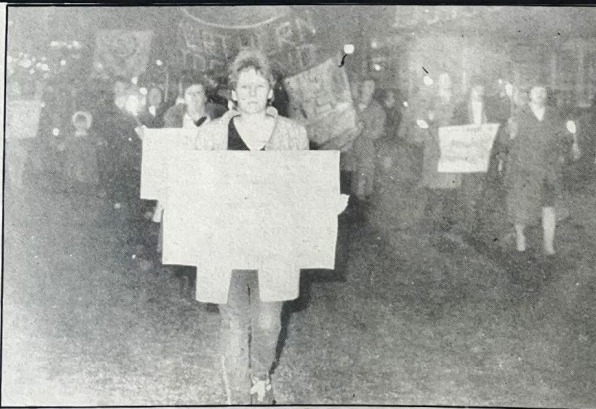
Local women's awareness and anger at the problem has been heightened recently by a spate of brutal sexual attacks in West Belfast, and Thursday's considerable turnout was achieved at only four days' notice.

Promptly at 7.30pm, the marchers, including contingents from several other areas of the city, assembled outside the Falls Women's Centre. As they marched towards the bottom of the Whiterock Road, for a rally, the numerous placards and confidently shouted slogans stressed the right of women and children both to go about their lives free from sexual harassment.

Several times, women briefly paused to rebut sexist jibes passed by some male bystanders, pointing out how these trivialise rape.

## DETERMINATION

The exhilaration and determination of the



● As the placard says, rape is nothing to be laughed about

noisy crowd, despite an underlying seriousness, was noted by many as women, always the backbone of marches up the Falls Road, for once marched to highlight their own specific oppression.

At the short rally which followed, chaired

by Maura Campbell, a worker at the Falls Women's Centre, a speaker from the Rape Crisis Centre pointed out that rape and sexual attacks against women occur daily throughout the country. Explaining the advice and support the centre offers to vic-

tims, she strongly denounced the 'myth' that women 'ask for rape' by the way they dress or by walking alone at night.

This theme was picked up by the next speaker, local mother Ann Murray, who argued that women could expect no help from the RUC and could only rely on themselves. She commented:

*"I'm only an individual and I have no answers. But the women in this area would be a big force to be reckoned with."*

The final speaker, Goretti McDonnell, of the Falls Women's Centre, pointed out the need for women to begin organising "in our own streets and areas". She stressed:

*"It's up to us. Don't sit caged in your own home — get out, show strength, show that we won't be deterred."*

## CAMPAIGN

At a well-attended meeting in the Falls Women's Centre the following Sunday, February 26th, further plans were made to build the campaign locally.

In the past fortnight, the centre has received numerous individual offers of help, and local meetings are being arranged in several areas, including Gort na Mona and St James's.

One group of local parents last week initiated a useful meeting with their school authorities on improving security for their children, a positive move which the meeting felt should be encouraged.

In order to monitor the scale of sexual attacks in West Belfast, the meeting appealed to local women to report all incidents to the Falls Women's Centre, at 170a Falls Road, which offers confidential advice and assistance. The centre's phone number is 238-123.



# UNIONISTS FURIOUS AT RETURN OF 'JOINT POLICE' PLANS. 'Backdoor to halfway house'

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

PROPOSALS put into Garret FitzGerald's mouth by James Prior during the last Free State general election campaign have emerged again this week in accusations from unionist politicians and in further speculation about the 'joint sovereignty/joint security' element, which both FitzGerald and Hume are anxious to include in the forthcoming Forum report.

According to a story published in the *Daily Telegraph* and the *London Times*, which claims to reflect current thinking among British army and RUC strategists, the RUC is to be expanded from its present 8,000 to 12,000 over a number of years, while the UDR would be gradually wound down, because, the report says, it "has never been able to find acceptability" with Northern nationalists. While the RUC officially discounted the figures, it confirmed that it has applied for an immediate increase of 500 officers. No comment was forthcoming from the UDR headquarters.

Unionist reaction was immediate and furious, as always when 'their' regiment is being attacked. Former UDR Major Ken Maginnis, now the Official Unionist MP for Fermanagh/South Tyrone, praised his old regiment and excused the sectarian murders committed by members of the force saying:

"It is understandable that a few of them should feel bitter."

DUP leader Ian Paisley denounced the "campaign of vilification" against the UDR, and noted that, compared to the RUC, the UDR operated roadblocks with "more vigour" — a reference no doubt to UDR roadblocks such as the one at which members of the Miami Showband met their deaths.

The Workers Party, after a meeting with RUC chief John Hermon on Tuesday, issued a statement applauding the report, and calling for a "primacy of the police", and more RUC.

## BACK DOOR

The unionist parties linked the report to the fact that in Westminster last week British direct-repulsed James Prior failed to deny an allegation that the Brits are considering the setting up of a cross-border joint security commission with the Free State. 'Joint security' is seen by unionists as the 'backdoor to joint sovereignty', itself a 'halfway

house to a united Ireland'. The whole issue was met immediately by accusations of 'sell-out' and 'betrayal'.

The DUP — whose leader Ian Paisley donned his clerical hat last Sunday to call on all Free Presbyterians to arm themselves in 'self-defence' — organised a press conference on Tuesday, February 28th, in order to publicly pledge "total and absolute resistance" to the alleged British strategy.

## DROMADD

Such a security commission, however, would do little more than formalise the close collaboration which has existed for many years between the Brits and RUC, and the Free State government and gardai. Nevertheless, such a commission could hardly be justified to the Free State voters if it involved official co-operation with the UDR, especially after the Dromadd episode last month. On the other hand, a winding down of the UDR could be held up to people in the South as an example of the Brits conceding the demands of Northern nationalists.

The idea of a 'joint police force' is, of course, not new and its previous airing caused Garret FitzGerald some embarrassment during his election campaign in November 1982, as James Prior, then on a trip to the US, had disclosed the Fine Gael leader's proposals before they



● Would the RUC replace the UDR entirely as a prelude to a 'joint security commission'?

were even uttered — thus handing the 'scandal' to Fianna Fail on a silver platter.

What is not being said is that just as the UDR recruited heavily from the disbanded B-Specials, the RUC would find its natural recruitment grounds among 'wound-down' UDR members.

Both London and Dublin could then go with a will at republican resistance, and if the question of 'security' was settled, the question of sovereignty could, in their calculations, become safely irrelevant again.

## CONSUMPTION

Whilst this joint republican-bashing, dressed up as 'joint sovereignty' by the Forum for twenty-six county consumption, has obvious attractions to the British and Free State governments, it is finding no takers even amongst the more 'moderate' unionists.

An Alliance Party discussion document, released on Monday, February 27th, deals mostly with joint sovereignty, one of the three options considered by the Forum. Joint sovereignty, Alliance



● Prior and FitzGerald have already discussed plans for a joint police force

argues, would not alleviate the fears of loyalists. Nor would the Republican Movement find it acceptable. Alliance continues, not to mention the serious difficulties presented by the divergent attitudes of Dublin and London on defence and NATO, the disparity in wage and income tax levels, and the

problems of dual parliamentary representation.

The Alliance document must come as a bit of a blow to Hume and the Coalition, whose very argument in favour of joint sovereignty was precisely that it would appear as 'negotiable' to the Brits and the unionists.

## 'BUSWORKERS WON'T ACT AS MUCKSPREADERS' — NBU

# War over 'World' story

BY RITA O'HARE

A CIE trade union has delivered a resounding rebuff to the latest blatant example of scurrilous sexism in Ireland's biggest-selling Sunday 'news-paper'.

A front-page story last Sunday, February 26th, in the *Sunday World's* usual 'Sex! Shock! Horror! Scandal!' style, has resulted in the National Busworkers Union putting a ban on the handling of all newspapers from Independent Newspapers Ltd, which owns the *Sunday World*.

The article, headlined *Sexy High Jinks in CIE*, alleged affairs between women conductors and their male colleagues in CIE during work-

ing hours and on CIE premises.

It referred to "attractive bus conductresses" in a "sex-shocker" having relations with married inspectors, and to 'one woman' who was "using her body" to get promotion. As usual, the paper offered not one iota of evidence to support its claim.

After a meeting on Monday, February 27th, between the NBU, the ITGWU and CIE management, a statement was issued on behalf of all three, protesting against the article and declaring that appropriate action would be taken against the *Sunday World*. CIE management, however, are not backing the NBU action in blacking the *Sunday Independent*, *Irish Independent* and the *Evening Herald*.

Michael Sweeney, spokesperson for the National Busworkers Union, says that the ban is on "indefinitely", and Tom Darby, secretary of the NBU said in an interview on RTE on Tuesday that if they could not stop the *Sunday World* 'printing muck' then they were certainly not going to spread it for them. He added that his members would also be urged not to buy the newspapers.

The National Busworkers Union is expressing the disgust and anger of its members at the *Sunday World's* unfounded allegations, which are written merely for the salacious titillation of the journalists who dream them up and those who read them, CIE workers see these press stories as part of the sexual harassment and oppression of women workers in general.



● TOM DARBY



# Victory for student campaign

BY JACK MADDEN

AFTER A THREE-MONTH campaign, students have scored a victory in their battle against the withdrawal of medical cards from young people aged between 18 and 25. And despite attempts by Coalition Health Minister Barry Desmond to detract from this victory, it is clear that the concerted protest campaign, launched by student leaders in USI, forced major concessions from Desmond's cut-back plans.

As protests escalated in recent weeks, with more students being forcibly evicted from their occupation of Desmond's Health Department in Dublin's Customs House, on Friday, February 24th, it became clear that students throughout the twenty-six counties were prepared to support and, if necessary, join their seven imprisoned colleagues in Mountjoy Jail.

Negotiations to resolve the situation were precipitated when the North Western Health Board obtained an injunction prohibiting students from Sligo and Letterkenny Regional Technical Colleges from occupying health board premises in the region. And when Johnny Harte, president of Letterkenny Students Union and a member of the USI executive, threatened to defy this injunction, his father, Fine Gael deputy Paddy Harte, decided that it was time that the dispute was settled.

After visiting the Mountjoy seven, Harte agreed to act as an intermediary between the students and Desmond. There followed a flurry of activity, with Harte toting and froting between Mountjoy and Desmond no less than six times up to midnight on Friday, February 24th.

By Saturday morning these negotiations had progressed to the

point where Desmond phoned imprisoned student leader Joe Duffy twice, confirming that he 'wanted to end all the hassle'.

## LETTER

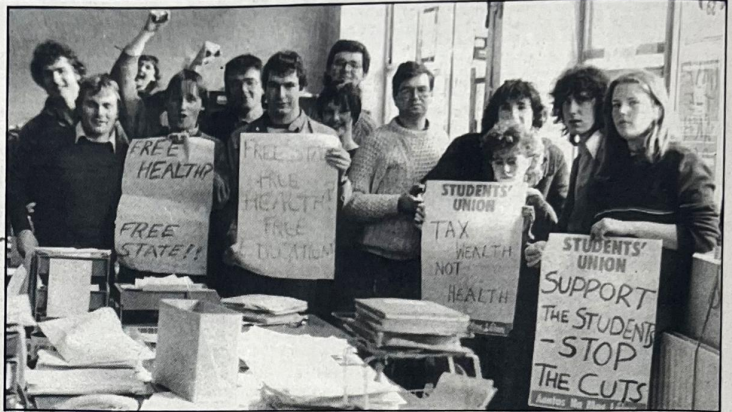
A letter was drafted by the students, outlining their position that the issue would be settled only if students were assessed for medical cards on the same basis as everybody else "using the same criteria as every other applicant, including their family circumstances where applicable".

Further demands that the chief executive officer of the Health Board interpret the conditions of eligibility for medical cards as broadly as possible and that no students lose their medical cards pending a final decision on their claim, were included in this letter which was sent to Desmond, who replied:

"I agree with the interpretation of the position as set out in your letter."

This was a big climb-down on Desmond's part, given that he had previously stated that students would have to re-apply for cards which were automatically withdrawn from them. He had gone even further when, in advertisements published in the press on January 9th, he announced that students were entitled to medical cards "only if their parents have medical card eligibility".

Since Desmond had conceded



● Students occupy the Eastern Health Board offices in Dublin's Thomas Street at the start of their fight-back

their demands, the student protest ended, and later that evening the seven prisoners were released.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

Outlining the achievements of the protest campaign, USI spokesperson Ivan McPhillips said:

"Whereas students had to prove their eligibility for medical cards before this, the onus of proof has now shifted onto the Department of Health.

"Besides removing the threat of automatic disenfranchisement we have won for students the right to retain their medical cards pending reassessment."

"In cases where they are considering withdrawing medical cards from particular students, the health boards must now take into consideration special circumstances where a student may require regular health-

care for a particular illness, and be satisfied that no hardship will be caused.

"Contrary to what Desmond has said since this agreement was reached, we never claimed automatic entitlement to medical cards, and this was pointed out in the letter sent by the imprisoned students to him. What we did demand was that students, like everybody else, be judged for eligibility by the same criteria as apply to other young people, so that if they live away from home then this would be taken into consideration."

## TREATMENT

Speaking of his treatment while in prison, Shane McCarthy who, along with another of the seven jailed students, Finbarr Cullen, is a member of Sinn Féin, said:

"When we were taken to Mount-

joy one Screw who met us saw our Sinn Féin badges and commented: 'The last Sinn Féin student we got in here we hanged.' He then pointed to the Kevin Barry plaque on the wall. And although we were given back our personal belongings on our release, the Sinn Féin badges were missing.

"Besides that, it wasn't too bad. We were in the training unit and all the other prisoners were very supportive. One thing that I noticed was that, as students, we were given all sorts of privileges such as unrestricted visits, while other prisoners were denied such things.

"There was never any question of us giving up because we all knew that the campaign would eventually be won. All of us were prepared to stick it out until that victory had been won."

# Coalisland complaints

BY JANE PLUNKETT

A YOUNG Coalisland couple are living in damp conditions, in a house whose unsafe and exposed electrical wiring threatens the lives of their three young children, because of the Housing Executive's neglect of essential repairs.

The Canal Place home of Lucia and Hugh Hegarty, which is around 35 years old, like other houses in the estate, still has its original electric wiring, and obsolete round-pin sockets. None of the upstairs lights can be used, because the wiring is exposed and frayed. According to 24-year-old Hugh Hegarty:

"There's no wall plugs upstairs either, or in the living-room. The wires are lying bare. The fireplace is hanging off the wall and we can't use the coal fire. In the children's bedrooms the windows are rotten and dampness comes through."

Since the family moved into the house in October 1982, the Housing Executive has failed to do any repairs, despite Hegarty's frequent complaints, and he is convinced that the Executive are intent on punishing the family because they are not technically legal tenants — though they pay use-and-occupation rent of £13 a week.

In fact, even as squatters, the Hegartys are entitled to weather-proofing and some other essential repairs.

## ESSENTIAL

But legal tenants in Canal Place



● Frayed wiring renders the upstairs lights useless

also have complained to local Sinn Féin advice workers of waiting months, without success, for the Executive to carry out essential work.

And, as Hugh Hegarty points out, the Executive failed to mend the badly leaking roof of the family's previous home, in nearby Gortgonis Park, where they were legal tenants. Several rooms were severely damp and after a fruitless five-year wait on the housing transfer list (despite several doctors' letters supporting their claim for rehousing on medical grounds), their intolerable living conditions forced

the couple to reluctantly abandon their legal tenancy and squat.

Now, while the Housing Executive delays, Hugh and Lucia Hegarty are bringing up their three children, the youngest of whom is less than 14 days old, in a house lacking adequate heating and whose electrical wiring is potentially lethal. According to Lucia Hegarty:

"The wee boy is 15 months old and is creeping around the living-room. I'm running backwards and forwards pulling him away from the broken socket, and I've enough on my hands with two other young children."



# KILCORMACK DISGRACE

BY AINE MOORE

JAMES LILLY, a 68-year-old man from the Kilcormack Estate in Enniskillen, is living in conditions that are a severe risk to his health, due to the refusal by the Housing Executive to carry out even minimal repairs or to consider him for a transfer to housing more suitable to his needs.

Five weeks ago, the house, in Foxhill Close, was badly damaged by flooding when water-pipes burst in the attic. There are gaping holes in two of the ceilings and wallpaper is still peeling off the walls.

The dampness in the house has forced James Lilly, for health reasons, to stay with his children, which means moving constantly from house to house.

Kilcormack is one of the severely disadvantaged estates in Enniskillen where the majority of tenants are unemployed. A Sinn Féin spokesperson commented:

"It is unfair of the Executive to deliberately cultivate a situation where tenants in a nearby estate feel that they are 'better' than those in Kilcormack.

"Once a family is housed on this estate it is impossible to obtain a transfer to any other estate. Such an attitude only perpetuates the problems with unemployment and poverty.

"The Executive's inaction means, in effect, that this house will become another unoccupied house in this estate, and then they wonder why there is vandalism and neglect of houses in Kilcormack."



# Prison crisis looming?

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

THE LIKELIHOOD of further attacks and a step-up of harassment against republican prisoners in Portlaoise became a distinct possibility this week when the Prison Officers Association in staffing levels in all jails in the South and in Portlaoise in particular.

In the past, warders have consistently used prisoners as pawns in their battles with the Free State Department of Justice to retain their highly paid overtime benefits, coupled with the low workload due to overstaffing.

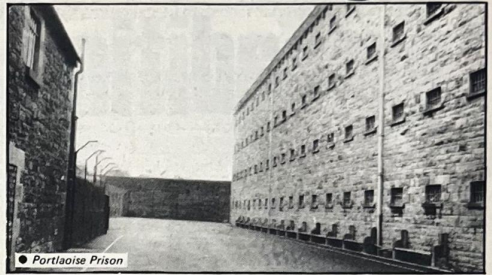
At present, in Portlaoise Prison

there are twice as many warders as there are prisoners, while in other European countries there are always far more prisoners than warders.

The number of warders in the South has risen from 774 in 1977 to 1,576 in 1983. The wages bill for warders in Portlaoise and Limerick prisons alone was £7.5 million in 1982.

Tension has been building up in the prisons, carefully nurtured by the warders for their own ends. Beatings of prisoners, such as the attack on Gerry Tuite in Portlaoise recently, are calculated to create an atmosphere in the prison that will justify more warders and even more overtime.

Last September's major riots in Mountjoy were a direct result of the warders' actions — refusing to unlock prisoners for recreation or exercise, and refusing to supervise visits — which were carried out as part of a dispute with the Department of Justice but whose victims were, inevitably, the prisoners.



● Portlaoise Prison

## GROWING CRITICISM OF SHOW TRIALS

BY JANE PLUNKETT

RE-EMPHASISING the British government's continued determination to use bribed perjurers to secure convictions in the North's colonial courts, the Brit Attorney-General, Sir Michael Havers, on Monday once again attempted to defend the popularly discredited system — but in the face of growing public criticism from British Labour Party MPs, and from the human-rights body Amnesty International.

On Friday, Amnesty revealed that the organisation's secretary-general, Thomas Hammarberg, had raised the issue last year with British direct-ruler James Prior.

An article in the journal of Amnesty's British section (which in the past has been notably reluctant to criticise human rights violations in the British-ruled six counties) admits to 'reservations' about the standard of proof required to obtain convictions in the North's non-jury courts.

Amnesty's objections centre on the unreliability of convicting men and women solely on the uncorroborated word of alleged accomplices, especially, it points out, when the latter have been offered inducements, including immunity from prosecution, in exchange for their evidence.

The long periods, frequently more than

a year, which such individuals spend in RUC custody, Amnesty adds, means "that the police have ample opportunity to unduly influence their testimony".

### LUDICROUS

Amnesty also, in muted fashion, casts doubt on the ludicrous system whereby, according to British law as it operates in the North's Diplock courts, a judge is required to issue himself, in his capacity as both judge and 'jury', with a solemn and legally required warning of the dangers of convicting on uncorroborated evidence from alleged accomplices.

Many of these points were reiterated by Labour MPs in the Westminster Parliament on Monday, among them Martin Flannery who, describing so-called supergrasses as "in general, perjured murderers", termed their



● A public meeting in London last month reflects the growing concern at the use of paid perjurers use "a violation of both natural and legal justice".

Other MPs were reluctant to utter the term 'perjurers' — despite the revelations by numerous individuals who retracted their previously-signed statements that they had been pressurised into signing false allegations by the RUC.

Apparently panicking even at the cautious criticisms of a handful of Labour MPs, Havers resorted to blatant lies. Ignoring the mass of well-documented evidence to the contrary, Havers claimed that, on practically every occasion, alleged informers had

'confessed' and been sentenced by the courts.

Already, however, the previous Thursday, February 23rd, Labour's spokesperson on the North, Peter Archer, had announced his intention of challenging Havers on the sensitive issue of the short sentences meted out to convicted 'supergrasses' in return for their court evidence. Archer's concern stems from reports that perjurer Harry Kirkpatrick, who has been sentenced to several life sentences for self-confessed killings, has told relatives that he will spend only four years in an English jail once the trial of 38 people charged on his evidence has taken place.

## BRIMSTONE FLOP

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

THE DUP's attempt to capitalise on the name-change of Derry City Council seems to be heading for failure, if the small numbers who turned up to protest outside Stormont on Saturday, February 25th, are anything to go by. According to press reports, between 2,000 and 4,000 turned up for the march and rally organised by the Orange Order group, the Apprentice Boys of Derry.

The organisers of the protest, who had foolishly announced they were expecting at least 15,000 participants, had to cover up the flop by claiming a 10,000 turn-out, figures which were belied by pictures shown in the TV reports of the event.

The poor attendance did not stop DUP leader Ian Paisley from launching into one of his fire-and-brimstone political speeches, the sort which will no doubt become more and more frequent as the June election deadline comes closer.

"No capitulation to Ulster's enemies!" he cried. "No surrender!" — looking every bit like the Paisley puppet of the *Spitting Images* TV programme (UTV, Sunday, February 26th).

### PLANNED

More protests have been planned, however, involving the DUP, the Orange Order and the loyalist paramilitary UDA, a combination which has never augured well for Northern nationalists. If loyalist leaders cannot manage to whip their traditional supporters into line for some sort of credible street campaign, they might decide to resort to their preferred tactics of random sectarian

assassinations. This has been the typical loyalist reaction whenever the nationalist community seemed to be making some political gain, and it will be so for as long as the six-county state is in existence.

The Official Unionist Party has, so far, kept a lower profile in the council name-change campaign. Although many OUP members were present at the Stormont protest, they attended as members of the Orange Order, and the Rev Martin

Smyth, Official Unionist MP for South Belfast, conducted a religious service on the steps of Stormont, before Paisley's harangue.

However, the OUP is reluctant to appear too closely linked with organisations like the UDA, especially at a time when the British government seems engaged in a cosmetic exercise of putting a few loyalists behind bars in an attempt to make its 'perjurer' tactics more palatable.

### PROBLEMS

The Official Unionists have problems of their own, as they are trying to get their act together before the June EEC poll. Three of their Assembly members broke the party's boycott of the Stormont Assembly last week, and it was announced that two more OUP Assem-



● The Apprentice Boys of Derry — not 'Londonderry' — march against the Derry City Council name-change

bly members are about to do likewise. Party leader James Molyneux announced on Monday, February 27th, that the three dissidents had been suspended, a frantic attempt to prevent further breaking of party ranks.

The OUP got themselves on a boycott hook in the aftermath of

the Darkley killings last year. They are now finding it an increasingly difficult position to hold, as the rival DUP manages to come out every week with militant statements on 'Protestant self-defence' and border roadblocks, and seems to have taken the initiative in the Derry City Council issue.

## Milford presentation

FIVE HUNDRED people attended a presentation dance in Milford, County Donegal, for republican prisoners recently released from English prisons.

Ann and Eileen Gillespie, and Raymond McLaughlin were presented with harps made in Portlaoise. The presentations were made by Sinn Féin County Councillor Eddie Fullerton.

The attendance was also addressed by Sinn Féin's elected representative in Mid-Ulster, Danny Morrison.



● Ray McLaughlin



● Ann and Eileen Gillespie



# Dundalk rally against extradition

BY JACK MADDEN

**ONLY BY CREATING** a climate of public opinion against repressive measures will the introduction of extradition by establishment politicians be halted, Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams MP told a Dundalk anti-extradition rally last Saturday.

Over 1,100 people, led by bands from Cullyhanna, Newry, Castlewellan and Bellaghy, paraded through Dundalk to a meeting chaired by Dundalk Sinn Féin Councillor Fra Browne and addressed by Gerry Adams, Jim McAllister, Sinn Féin elected representative in Armagh, and Peter Burns of Crossmaglen, whose son Brendan is one of those facing the threat of extradition.

In a short address, Peter Burns called on all Irish people to resist attempts to extradite his son from Dundalk to the six counties, a call repeated by Fra Browne, who added:

"We here today salute Brendan Burns and will back him to the hilt. Our message to all politicians in the twenty-six counties is that neither Brendan Burns nor any other Irish person will be extradited!"

## ALIEN REGIME

Commenting that the meeting represented people from all of the border counties, Jim McAllister added:

*"We must ensure that nobody is ever sent back across that border to an alien regime, an alien government which the constitution of this so-called republic in the twenty-six countries claims not to recognise."*

"Yesterday, in Dunloy, County Antrim, two young Irish men were buried because they had the courage and saw the necessity of fighting the British army, the RUC and the British government in all its forms.

"What less can we do for them than to back the people who are in prison or who are on the run here and who the threat of extradition hangs over? All I ask is that you support every move that is made to oppose extradition and support every move against collaboration in any shape or form."

A message of solidarity, sent to the meeting by Matt Merrigan, general secretary of the Amalgamated Transport & General Workers Union, was read by Fra Browne, who then introduced Gerry Adams.

## EXILES

Before outlining his points against extradition, Adams said that, given the influx of Northern exiles to the town, Dundalk was an appropriate venue for an anti-extradition rally. Commenting that the presence of garda Task Force members at the rally underlined their role in attempting to intimidate and isolate republicans, he added that republicans should respond by isolating them.

Drawing a parallel between the gradual introduction of extradition and the introduction of the Criminal Justice Bill in Leinster House, Adams stressed that such measures could only be produced by a government which had abandoned normal legal standards because public opinion allowed it to do so. He said:

*"It is an internationally recognised fact that people are not extradited on charges relating to any political activity. Governments throughout the world maintain that as part of their*

and this isn't republican propaganda. This force was found guilty of torture. We have a totally discredited judicial system based upon a system of Orange judges without juries.

"We also have, in Dublin, a government which every so often protests at British border-blocks or at the visit of, what Danny Morrison described as, the 'Duke of Hazard' to Drom-add Barracks.

*"Despite their verbal protestations, this government is going to hand over to that same regime, that same discredited RUC force, those same discredited torture centres, and that same discredited judicial system, people whose only crime is to have been born ten miles from this spot.*

"It is all part of the ongoing collaboration which is created, not just because of the interests which the Dublin government shares with the British government, but because of the whole pro-British ethos which is alive and well and living in Leinster House."

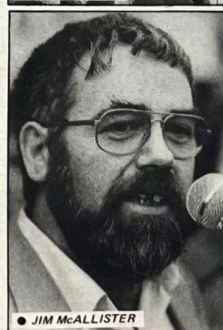
*"Fianna Fail, who go for votes on the basis of their position on the national question are as responsible for this as Fine*

Gael or the so-called Labour Party."

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE BILL

The easy passage of the Criminal Justice Bill through the Leinster House, Adams added, further evidence "that the Dublin government will only do what it believes public opinion will permit it to do and it will introduce extradition if it believes it can get away with it. The only way to prevent this is to create a climate of public opinion where the establishment politicians know that they won't get away with introducing these Acts, that they will realise that the exposure of the collaborationist policies, of the wholehearted pro-British ethos will hurt them at election-time". He continued:

"And that is our job, to go from protest meetings like this back to tenants' associations, back to trade union branches, back to your work-places - if you're lucky enough to be working - back to wherever you can to raise this issue of the ongoing sell-out by a government in Leinster House which pretends to be an Irish government. If we do that, then we will prevent extradition."



## Extradition ruling awaited

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

JUDGEMENT was reserved in the Dublin Supreme Court last Thursday, February 23rd, in the case in which Phil McMahon is challenging an extradition order granted in the High Court last August. The RUC are seeking his extradition on a charge of escaping from Newry Courthouse whilst awaiting trial in March 1975.

The deciding grounds for McMahon's appeal appear likely to be that four other people who escaped at the same time have already successfully challenged extradition orders in the Dublin High Court, in 1975 and 1976.

Patrick McEntee SC, for McMahon, said that the Free State government had not opposed the appeal against the extradition orders in the previous cases. His submission was that the rejection of Phil McMahon's appeal was oppressive and that it was unequal treatment of his case.

"If he had been picked up with the other four who escaped with him," said McEntee, "and if he had been similarly dealt with at the same time as the others, the case would long have been disposed of."

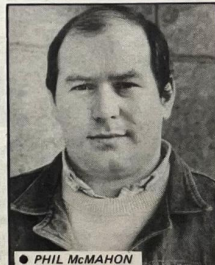
There is some optimism now that judgement in this case will be in McMahon's favour, but there was no indication from the court when the judgement will be given, whether it will be days, weeks or months.

It is also likely that there will be distinctions drawn in the judgement that will affect future extradition cases, such as were given in the McGlinchey case, which will define narrowly what Free State courts see as 'political offences'.

## STAGES

Meanwhile, three other men are at various stages in the extradition process in the Free State courts. Seamus Shannon is appealing an extradition order, on a charge of allegedly killing former Stormont speaker Sir Norman Stronge and his RUC son, to the Supreme Court.

Hugh Torney is appealing an order to the High Court, an extradition order that charges him on the sole word of paid perjurer Harry Kirkpatrick. And



Brendan Burns, arrested recently on an RUC extradition warrant charging him with the deaths of five British soldiers in a landmine explosion, is also appealing an order granted by a district court.

LONG BEFORE hundreds of hundreds of landrovers moved to Dunloy, to mark the disruption of the Henry Hogan Tuesday night, Hundreds of rounding area a of Volunteer H first.

As mourners pay their respects, they pushed their way into the house. Scuffle stewards attempt to keep them from doing so.

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During the 19th century, the stewards gathered the bones to a new grave to prevent the old one from being encroached upon by the growing yard from above. Hogan's family and other priests present to witness the remains in the old RUC left its precincts.





Funeral of Declan Martin



Henry Hogan's remains are borne to the church

# DUNLOY VOLUNTEERS AID TO REST

BY EAMON TRACY

BEFORE dawn on Friday, February 24th, hundreds of heavily-armed RUC personnel in armoured cars moved into the small North Antrim town of Dunloy, to make preparations for the attempted disruption of the funerals of the two IRA Volunteers, Henry Hogan and Declan Martin, who were killed on the previous night, February 21st.

Hundreds of mourners later assembled — from the surrounding areas and from throughout the North — at the home of the Volunteer Henry Hogan, whose funeral was to take place on Saturday night, February 25th.

Mourners went inside to pay their respects, RUC men moved in to surround their way close in around the house. Scuffles broke out as the RUC attempted to prevent the funeral from taking place.

The house was restored by Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams, who was present at the funeral.

At the funeral for a dead Volunteer, we will bury him with dignity, we will bury him with pride, and we will not be intimidated by the RUC.

Minutes later, the RUC moved back to the house attempting to force their way in, but under the direction of Sinn Féin elected representatives Adams, Danny Morrison and Canon, linked arms and formed a three-deep human shield around the house, gradually clearing the RUC away.

Henry Hogan's remains were then taken from his home and carried along the main road to St Joseph's church.

Hundreds of stewards and mourners pressed in around the coffin, to prevent any RUC attempt to seize the coffin. The Francis Hughes RUC men marched to the front of the house.

The Requiem Mass, which was held in the church, was prevented by RUC men who moved in to surround the church. The family informed the two men that they would be in the church until the funeral.

This message was transmitted to the RUC by Sinn Féin's Derry elected representative, Martin McGuinness, and, after some initial resistance, the RUC withdrew and the coffin was carried to the nearby grave.

Pearse McMahon, Sinn Féin's North Antrim representative, asked for the various wreaths, from the family, the IRA, Sinn Féin and friends to be laid and then introduced Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams MP. He said:

"Dunloy has been a relatively quiet area of this part of the occupied six counties, a part of the historic county of Antrim. The county of Roddy McCorley, of Henry Joy McCracken, of Roger Casement, and now of Henry Hogan and Declan Martin."

"I would like to commend the courage and steadfastness of the families of these dead Volunteers and to give to them, on your behalf and on behalf of republican Ireland, our condolences."

"These two young men, only 20 years old and 18 years old, were respectively aged six and four at the commencement of this phase of the republican struggle."

"The army to which they belonged has been condemned as gangster, criminal and terrorist, not only by those we see clearly as part of the British establishment, but also by those who represent the so-called constitutional nationalist element."

"There is no such thing as constitutional nationalism because



A fleet of RUC landrovers stands menacingly alongside St Joseph's

Irish nationalism can never advance with British constitutionality. And those who have argued that case by their failure to recognise this fundamental truth bear some responsibility for the tragedy of Dunloy. Their refusal to confront the issue of the long British connection means that unselfish young men like Volunteer Hogan are left with no other choice but to resort to armed struggle."

"We salute Volunteer Hogan, we salute his courage and we claim him and his comrade as Irish freedom fighters."

"Gathered here in this lonely graveyard, we might well wonder what kind of people can gloat over death. The Paisleys, the Priors, those in the establishment are small-minded salaried politicians who support the use of terrorism in partition and the British presence. They are parasites and, in spite of some obvious differences, they are united in denying the Irish people our right to freedom and, in using whatever methods necessary, con-

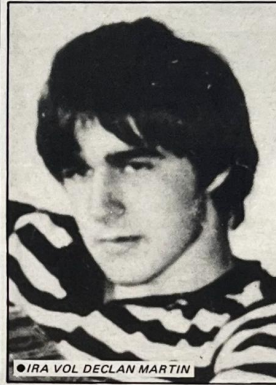
tinue that denial.

"They are also wrong, and because they are wrong they don't understand."

"We came here this morning to pay homage to a freedom fighter. The representatives of the British government were all around us; they were heavily armed, they were in their vehicles, they had their 'paddy-wagons' handy, all to prevent us burying that young man."

"And we came from the Hogan house to this graveyard, an army, an army without weapons, an army which linked arms, which was patient, which advanced slowly, and as we advanced the RUC fell back. And so, with the struggle for Irish freedom, with patience, with intelligence, and with unity, we will advance and with that advance the sacrifices of Volunteers like Henry Hogan and Declan Martin will be seen not to have been in vain."

About an hour after Henry Hogan's funeral, the remains of Volunteer Declan Martin were taken from his home to St Jos-



IRA VOL DECLAN MARTIN



IRA VOL HENRY HOGAN



Sinn Féin's Martin McGuinness tells an RUC inspector that the RUC must leave the church so that the Hogan family may bury their son in peace

eph's. His family had asked the Republican Movement that the funeral be an entirely family affair.

The hundreds of mourners, who had earlier walked with the Hogan family, then joined with the Volunteer Martin's family on the short walk to the church, where he was buried in the same cemetery as his comrade-in-arms, Henry Hogan.





● GERRY ADAMS



● Part of last Sunday's Dublin EEC election meeting

# ELECTORAL STRATEGY

AT AN EEC election meeting in Dublin last Sunday, February 26th, attended by 300 Sinn Féin members, Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams MP gave an analysis of the background to Sinn Féin's electoral strategy and its decision to fight the forthcoming EEC elections on a thirty-two county basis. We print below extracts from his address.

FOR A NUMBER of years after 1969, and through various phases of agitation from civil rights to the anti-internment protests, there was a widespread popular base for the republican struggle.

This phase wasn't part of a very clear-cut strategy, as far as republicans were concerned, partly because it occurred after the Movement split and partly because it had mushroomed out of all recognition in August 1969.

Even by September 1969 the Movement had vastly increased its strength but it was without a clear-cut strategy because people weren't educated into the Republican Movement, they were simply absorbed into it.

That was the basis of the fast-moving situation where, within three years, Stormont collapsed, from a position five years previously where it couldn't possibly have collapsed.

The enemy learned, far more quickly than we ever did, how to cope with that ongoing situation. What the British wanted to do, and what they still want to do, was to maintain control of that part of Ireland so that they could have an influence over all of Ireland.

Having made a number of very fundamental mistakes early on, they very quickly started to direct their attention towards a counter-insurgency scenario. This meant reforming the state insofar as it was reformable. It meant collaboration on a creeping scale with the Leinster House politicians and with the Free State forces.

## REPRESSIVE

Besides making a number of mistakes, republicans suffered circumstances and conditions which were absolutely and unimaginably repressive. These, plus the lack of clear perception by republicans, meant that four or five years after 1969 the Movement's base was starting to become narrow.

People hadn't imagined that it would take four years, never mind 15 years, and people had their whole lives turned upside-down by the repression. Furthermore, they hadn't got a very clear idea of what they were after, and there was also the emergence, as in any struggle, of those who would represent native establishment interests.

The emergence of that in the North was simply the emergence of the SDLP which was prepared to accept the reforms and was prepared to work within the framework of British constitutionality.

By 1973 the struggle was, more or less, between the IRA and the British. Sinn Féin, while it was a strong organisation, wasn't a political organisation and was always seen as a second cousin to the IRA, and a very poor cousin at that.

It was a protest organisation, capable, in moments of emotionalism, of mobilising for a short period of time a very large section of the people, but it didn't have the organ-

isation capable of keeping those people or a sizeable section of them.

Following Bloody Sunday, we had thousands of people heading towards us, but six months later we were back to ourselves again. By and large this was because we suffered the lack of a clearly perceived and wide-ranging strategy or policy to cope with the difficulties facing us.

## COLLABORATION

As part of the Dublin government's efforts to isolate republicans, there was an increase in political collaboration, as at Sunningdale and Darlington, where, in an attempt to appease nationalist opinion, they made strong nationalist noises, thus disguising as meaningful what were basically sell-outs.

We had, from our end, the emergence of spectator politics, where a person who couldn't join the fight or was worn out after a period in prison, couldn't really do very much and became basically a spectator.

Sinn Féin became even more of a poor second cousin to the IRA because of the emergence in the North of strategies like plastic bullets, which forced people off the streets, and because the effect of marching up and down streets for six or seven years made people feel useless.

## TRUCE

In 1975 the IRA became involved in a truce and while this truce, like the earlier truce of 1972, was okay initially — and I would have nothing but respect for those who were involved in it in its initial stages — the duration of the truce was, as things turned out, a mistake.

Once the IRA was removed from the scene, and because there were no other manifestations of the struggle, it meant that the British were able to confuse republicans.

We had people believing that the British government was about to leave. After the first three or four months it was clear that, far from leaving, what they were doing in the absence of armed struggle was increasing their counter-insurgency in a more sophisticated form.

Thus we had 'normalisation', 'criminalisation' and the 'primacy of the RUC'. There was an attempt to project the six counties as a normal state, with money being poured into the area. From this policy emerged John De Lorean and the leisure centres in West Belfast and Derry.

As regards criminalisation, everybody in prison at that time will remember the announcement of 50% remission, the H-Blocks were being built for ordinary prisoners and some people were brought home from England.

But none of these things seemed important, because if, as people believed, the British were going it wouldn't be 50% remission but total remission, and it wouldn't be H-Blocks for ordinary prisoners because there would be no British prisoners. And while the British army units were being pulled back they were being replaced by the RUC, who were to be used more and more.

This period confused 99% of the republican base and is, in my view, the one period in the last 15 years when republicans were almost beaten, almost shattered.

In the six counties, the disillusionment and confusion was at a maximum.

## REVIEWS

Towards the end of that period, republican leaders sat down and conducted a number of major reviews of the whole situation, not only to establish what had happened, because that was fairly clear, but to analyse what to do about it.

This review took between three and four months, after which a number of basic decisions were taken: that we had to get back to and update our republicanism and that we had to establish a basic ideological unity so that the mistakes which were made in 1969 wouldn't happen again.

The simple definition of what we were after was this: unless we can agree on where we're going, we're never going to agree on how to get there.

It was also agreed that the republican base had to be broadened and that the community support which had previously existed had to be won back, that spectator politics had to cease and we had to build a party which would develop on the basis of a thirty-two county strategy.

Around the time of Jimmy Drumm's speech at Bodentown, when he told republicans that the British were not getting out, there was a return of confidence amongst republicans that the struggle wasn't over.

At the same time, as we have been told by IRA spokespersons in numerous interviews since, the IRA had also carried out a review and re-organisation and were able to rebuild strength and confidence.

## INTERVENTIONS

With ongoing discussions as to how these ideas could best be developed politically, someone suggested electoral interventions. There had been earlier discussions, back in 1971-72, about exactly the same thing, and after further lengthy discussion, around 1978-79, it was decided simply and in principle that there would be a positive attitude towards an electoral strategy by Sinn Féin.

Nobody had actually worked this strategy out, only that it was within the broad framework that an ideologically sound and united Republican Movement could use the electoral system to achieve its political objectives.

By sheer coincidence, it was the policy of 'criminalisation', coming to its fruition in the frustration of the prisoners, our inability to correct these conditions, and the eventual hunger-strikes, that accelerated this process.

In contesting the election which followed Frank Maguire's untimely death in Fermanagh, republicans were responding to an earlier decision to have a positive attitude towards electoral interventions, and it was not, as so-called experts on republicanism projected, part of a grand plan by whizz-kids who had somehow sat back and organised both the hunger-strikes and Frank Maguire's death.

As the hunger-strikes simply accelerated the process of electoral intervention, so too did Bobby Sands' victory in Fermanagh/South Tyrone prove a major watershed, in that it made it easier to argue for an electoral strategy within republican ranks.

Within the twenty-six counties, the June 1981 general election, with the intervention of H-Block/Armagh prisoners, resulted in two prisoners holding the balance of power in a hung parliament, and with republican supporters controlling the situation as Haughey and FitzGerald danced jigs.

There was a second electoral intervention in the Free State but, in the absence of the hunger-strike, it was a mistake, in that you can get away with an electoral intervention without the work, without having built up a party machine and without having good policies, only if the issue is right.

Without such an issue, people other than republicans quite understandably reverted to voting for what could be termed as some sort of stability.

## STRATEGY

With that example, we can see the difference between electoral intervention and electoral strategy. When conditions are right, electoral interventions will work, but, if you are going to develop and attempt to build a party machine properly and be involved in electoral politics, you need something else.

These developments persuaded the leadership of Sinn Féin to tighten down, not just an electoral intervention strategy, but an electoral politics strategy.

There followed the Assembly and Westminster elections, and the achievements in these affected not only the Movement but have caused external reverberations in the six counties, the Free State and Britain, which has caused continuous crises since then.

With the electoral strategy we wanted to build an electoral machine, do away with spectator politics, and bring about a situation where Sinn Féin would be every bit as relevant as the IRA. We wanted to build an opposition and alternative to the SDLP and show up the contradictions within the six-county state.

Although a whole lot of work still needs to be done, we have, to some extent, achieved these objectives.

## EEC ELECTIONS

Mindful of the decision to broaden the struggle politically on a thirty-two county basis, it was decided to contest local government elections in a cohesive fashion, and at the last Ard-Fheis it was agreed that we contest the forthcoming EEC elections.

If we were to develop our support in the twenty-six counties to even 50% of our support in the six counties the squeal that is coming out of Leinster House at the moment will become hysterical.

As in the North, so too in the South, our objectives must be to bring out the contradictions within the state and, by broadening, updating and making our republicanism relevant, we must show that the people have rights, not just to a free Ireland, but to education, employment and homes as well.

In fighting the EEC elections on a thirty-two county basis, on an anti-EEC and anti-imperialist platform, we must bring out at least the republican vote and leave ourselves in a position which has developed, even if only slightly, from what it was before the election. And next year, in the local government elections, we can develop even further.

Everybody should leave this meeting with one short-term objective: to go into the June election with the maximum effort so that we come out of it, regardless of votes, with a better organisation and a wider organisation.



BY SEAN HALPENNY

THE UNITED STATES military build-up continues unabated in Honduras, as the Reagan administration endeavours to undermine the revolutionary government of Nicaragua and seeks ways to shore up the tottering regime in El Salvador.

With a minimum of a thousand troops on Honduran soil, the US has also built military installations, including air bases and radar stations, at half a dozen strategic locations, with proposals to build a further three air bases and a permanent US base at Puerto Cortes, on the Atlantic coast.

These military bases and installations have been built during what the US administration has termed 'joint Honduran-US manoeuvres' or 'Big Pine One and Two'. 'Big Pine Three' is scheduled to begin next May and will include a new manoeuvre along the Honduras-El Salvador frontier which will include troops from El Salvador.

The inclusion of Salvadoran troops is an indication of US disquiet at the declining fortunes of the present El Salvador regime. Indeed, the Honduran military leader, General Alvarez, declared, after 'Big Pine Two', that if the military situation in El Salvador 'deteriorated' further, Honduran troops could be used to back up the Salvadoran regime.

### DESERTIONS

While El Salvador's revolutionary forces, led by the FMLN, have been on the offensive since the beginning of the year, consolidating further territorial gains, the Salvadoran army is falling apart, with frequent reports of mass desertions.

So serious is this problem that the right-wing military overlords have instituted enforced conscription, driving into villages

and rounding up males as young as 15, even though conscription can only be legally imposed on those between 18 and 25.

So alarmed is the Reagan administration that it has proposed a military aid package of 312 million dollars above the 65 million dollars already approved by Congress.

In an attempt to influence the forthcoming El Salvadoran presidential elections, on March 25th, the US government has given its backing to two of the three main contenders, Napoleon Duarte (Christian Democrats) and Francisco Guerrero (National Conciliation). The US simply can't afford to see the third main contender, Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, of the overtly fascist Arena party, elected as this would destroy the image of a reformed El Salvador which the US is desperate to project internationally.

Both the FMLN and the FDR have called for an active boycott of the elections, which are, in any case, only being staged for international consumption.

### NICARAGUA

In Nicaragua the Sandinista forces have recently defeated offensives by the counter-revolutionary ('Contra') Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), operating from Honduras, and the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE). FDN leader Edgar Chamorro, admitting defeat, now says he has "abandoned plans to seize control of Nicaraguan territory" while many of the ARDE troops, led by Eden Pastora, have given themselves up to the Costa Rican authorities as 'refugees'.



● Salvadorean rebels demonstrate their defiance in the capital, San Salvador

Although the defeat of both these Contra armies has given a breathing space to the beleaguered Sandinistas, the increase of US forces in neighbouring Honduras and the increased belligerency of the Honduran army heralds further dangers for the revolutionary government.

### DEBACLE

After the major set-back of the Lebanese debacle, the US will be even more anxious to avoid any set-backs in its Central American strategy. As the Reagan-inspired

military manoeuvres escalate with a vengeance, US Democratic Senator Jim Sasser was prompted to comment while on a recent visit to Honduras:

"There seems to be a process taking place here in Honduras of preparation of a military infrastructure that, in my judgement, goes far beyond what's needed to carry out the military exercises... There is very real evidence that our military is building airfields and other infrastructures to support a very large and permanent US military contingency in Honduras."

## Noraid defies Reagan envoy

BY SILE FOX

HARASSEMNT of Irish-Americans who support the Republican Movement, and active encouragement of American business to invest in the low-wage economy of the six counties, such is the two-pronged policy of the Reagan government in the North of Ireland, as explained last week by Charles Price, the US Ambassador to Britain, on a visit to Belfast.

The two-day schedule, which started on Thursday February 23rd, with a briefing by British direct-ruler James Prior, a separate intelligence briefing, and talks with the SDLP and the three unionist parties, took the ambassador to the Flax Trust in Ardoyne, a project headed by local priest Fr Kavanagh. The Trust includes a British government funded youth training scheme, and is supported by an American fund-raising body called 'Americans for Irish Reconciliation through

Economic Development'.

Later, the ambassador announced to a gathering of local businessmen that his government was committed to encouraging private investment in the six counties, even if it meant "a loss of jobs for the US", he unconvincedly added. What the ambassador did not say, of course, is that most of the American firms which have invested here did so either because they could not get the necessary bank loans in the United States or because they



● CHARLES PRICE

were attracted by the tax exemption offered by the British government, combined with the lowest wages in Northern Europe and weak trade union organisation.

### SHORTS

Pressed on the question of the Shorts contract, the ambassador hinted that the £50 million deal from the US air force would come to Shorts after all. Significantly, on the day before the ambassador's arrival in Belfast, a meeting had taken place between Shorts management and the principals of several

Catholic schools, at which Shorts outlined its planned 'affirmative action policy', as recommended by the Fair Employment Agency last year to combat the firm's chronic discrimination against nationalists.

The timing of the meeting, hardly a coincidence, suggests that some window-dressing will take place in Shorts Aircraft Company, at least until the American deal is made official.

Apart from encouraging American 'fly-by-night' companies into settling in the six counties, apart from funding sectarian firms, the

US government would also prevent organisations like Noraid from sending money to Ireland, the ambassador promised.

"Tens of millions of dollars have been confiscated in the narcotics area, and we're working to do the same thing with terrorist money", the ambassador declared, in a scurrilous attempt to criminalise Noraid.

However, if anything, this will make Irish-Americans more determined to support the freedom struggle in Ireland, as Martin Galvin, spokesperson for Noraid, outlined:

"Irish-Americans will continue to help families of Irish prisoners with cash and give moral support to the IRA's fight in Northern Ireland."

### PARADE

Meanwhile, New Yorkers of Irish extraction prepare to celebrate St Patrick's Day with the traditional parade. This year's honorary grand marshal is Irish man Michael O'Rourke, presently in jail in New York and appealing against a deportation order to the Free State. The choice of O'Rourke, which has enraged the American, British and Free State governments as much as that of Michael Flannery last year, shows how underterred Irish-Americans are by the threats of the Reagan administration.

THE PRESIDENT of the 80,000-strong Ancient Order of Hibernians in the United States has pledged the support of his organisation for the struggle to free Ireland from British rule.

Speaking at a function in Belfast on Monday night, February 27th, in honour of the ten H-Block hunger-strike martyrs, AOH president Joseph Roche said:

"At the time of the hunger-strike, Irish-Americans felt the frustration and grief of the people of Ireland. We were with you then, and we are with you now.

"We, in America, know that there can be no peace in Ireland until the British go.

"The hunger-strikers suffered and endured pain so that others may not suffer. We pledge that they did not die in vain. The death of

these brave Irish men is the surety that Ireland will rise up to its full stature."

### CONVENTION

Joseph Roche presented the families of the hunger-strikers with memorial plaques with his organisation, in keeping with a decision taken by the AOH at its national convention held in Texas last year.

A presentation was made in return to Mr Roche and his wife of a clock and a purse, both made in Long Kesh, as an acknowledgement by the prisoners of the AOH gesture.

Accepting the gifts, Roche said: "I am honoured to accept these gifts from those young men in prison, whom we greatly admire, and I want them to know that the AOH is committed to a united and free Ireland. We will never give up the fight."

## Pledge of support



● Families of the H-Block hunger-strikers with Joseph Roche





● BISHOP CASEY

## Great news from Casey?

A Chara,  
I was very interested to hear Bishop Eamon Casey speak on RTE about the plight of Fr O'Brien and his co-accused in the Philippines. He said:

"They won't get a fair trial and they are in a position where they could be hanged for a crime with which they have been framed."

Well, if this is the Hierarchy's view on law and justice, does this mean that the bishops of Ireland will be carrying this message to Margaret Thatcher and telling her that the people of Ireland are steadfast behind the men, women and children that the British government are shooting dead on the streets of Ireland, and the men and women who are being framed by paid perjurers and imprisoned every day in the Diplock courts in the North?

This is great news for the people of Ireland.  
Vincent McKenna,  
Kieran Doherty Park,  
Monaghan.

## Provocation

A Chara,  
Within the past month, the so-called forces of law and order have deliberately destroyed the gable wall of a house in the nationalist Kilmillick Estate by throwing paint over a relatively new wall mural. They were spotted by people who were returning home in the early hours of the morning.

Harassment of the nationalist youth has grown rapidly in recent weeks, as has the harassment of local Sinn Féin members. In the last month, at least ten members of the Burns/Toman Sinn Féin cumann have been arrested and held in Gough Barracks. All have been interrogated about local Sinn Féin activities, and one member was threatened with death if he didn't give the answers the RUC wanted. It is believed that the harassment and the destruction of the mural are part of a deliberate plan to provoke local youth into reacting, so that the RUC can again get a chance to use their guns to claim the lives of yet more nationalists.

We call on local youth to beware of what is happening and not to give the RUC the opportunity of seeing yet another coffin being carried out of a nationalist estate.

Eddy Sealey,  
Burns/Toman cumann,  
Lurgan.



● New UDR or old B Special?

## Through the cat's eyes...

A Chara,  
Sunday last was February 26th, five months since the Great

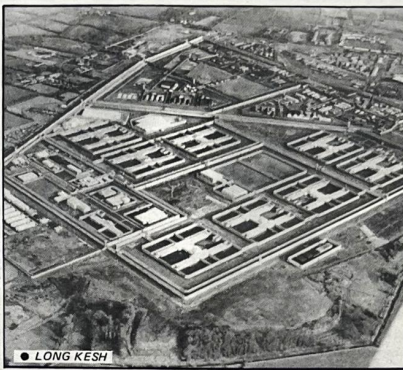
# mála poist

# LONG KESH LANGUAGE

A Chara,  
In a blatant attempt to crush our native language, the Northern Ireland Office, aided by the prison authorities, have placed a total restriction on Irish literature and usage of the Irish language here in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh.

We are denied the right to write letters in Irish, not to much as a phrase or a greeting. In fact, we are not even permitted to use our Irish names. Also, the admission of all newspapers, magazines, novels and, more recently, Christmas cards etc., has been halted simply because they contain 'Irish'.

The Irish language is in constant use among republican POWs here in the H-Blocks and since educational facilities were made available to us we have entered into the literary side of our language also. Last year there were 86 men who participated in 'O' and 'A' Level examinations. All but two men successfully achieved pass certificates. A further 75 of their respective Fíinne tests and again all 75 passed with ease (these examinations have



● LONG KESH

since been stopped).  
Could this increased interest in our national language be the real reason behind the upsurge of suppressive administration in Long Kesh? Does the prison regime fear that we, in regaining our cultural identity, could jeopardise their farcical administrative laws?

Recently, six other Gaeligeoirí (Irish speakers) and I, wrote to the Secretary of State, on orders of the prison governor, requesting permission to write to the Registrar General. We wished to

return our names to their original Irish forms. However, the reply we received, on February 14th 1984, refused us permission to contact the Registrar General. I would like to quote an extract from that reply:

"English is the language in which official business, including that relating to prisons and prisoners, is conducted in Northern Ireland. While that remains the case, the department would not be prepared to allow prisoners to change to an Irish form of their names."

Was George Orwell so wrong in his predictions for 1984? Big Brother is alive and operating in the North of Ireland!

Our language is continually suppressed, not only in Long Kesh but throughout our land. Their campaign cannot be permitted to succeed. We must resist all attempts to smash our identity through our language.

I call on all Irish people and Irish organisations to speak out on our behalf against these infringements of our rights. Help us to maintain our national identity.

Seoirse Ó Muircheartaigh,  
H7, Ceis Fada.

treavor area who had hoped to stay within the community.

There are many more young couples living in cramped flats, with in-laws, and in mobile homes. This is a totally unacceptable state of affairs which should not be allowed to continue.

We would point out that there are enough building sites around the village which would be suitable for development as an estate. It is a sad fact that the Housing Executive has sold off prime building land to private developers — land which could have been used to house all those still on the housing waiting list.

Most of the occupants of the private housing estates about Rostrevor are strangers to the area, not that they are unwelcome, but they are here at the expense of the working-class couples who have had to move out of their own village.

We think that public money would be better spent on housing in the area, rather than on fancy parks and caravan sites.

It is also time that the Executive carried out the repairs and upgrading of the houses in St Jude's. It is now five years since the residents of this estate were promised new kitchens, and hopefully the Executive will honour those promises this year.

Last summer, Sinn Féin carried out a survey of the houses in Cloughmore Park, and approached the Housing Executive. Kilkel about the many repairs which needed to be carried out. Some of these repairs have been done but many more seem to have been put 'on the long finger'. Hopefully, the rest of the complaints will be dealt with when the new porches are being built.

Marsile Rica Bhasan,  
Martin/Lennon cumann,  
Rostrevor,  
County Down.

## An cuardach scatháin

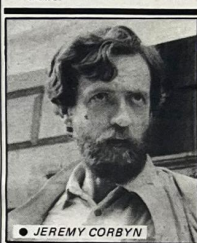
A Chara,  
Is dócha gur fígh sibh rud éigin faoi cuardach scatháin a rinne na báirdirí sa champa seo an tsaothain seo caite. Léigh mé alt boag bíodach a chomh dena nuachtán Dúmhach nácht seo a leanas cóna

ar an uif a cuireadh mé thar an scatháin.  
Bhí mé i mo shuí i mo chille in Oíche Aoine seo caite nuair a oscailfadh an doras. D'órdáigh an báirdirí dom dul chuig an bhialain. Nuair a bhain mé an áit sin amach bhí dream mór bárdach ann ag fanacht liom.  
D'órdáigh a gceannfort dom m'fadaí a bhaint díom le go ndéanfaid siad cuardach coirp orm. Tar éis dom m'fadaí a bhaint díom, thug sé árdú eile dom dul thar an scatháin agus mo chosa a chomhad.

Dhúthaigh mé glan dó é sin a dhéanamh agus an chéad rud eile a mhóthaigh mé ím ceathrar dena coimheádúirí sa mhullach orm. Rug siad greim daingean orm agus d'iompar siad mé thar an scatháin. Le linn dóibh mé a thógáil scréadhaigh an príomh oifigeach mo thóin le sinéir. Go bhíodas dom thárla an rud ceannann céanna do achann phoblacháin sa champa ach go fóill níor chuir sé árdú eile dom thar an scatháin seo. Cad tuise an cúisna mó?

Dó d'éirídh a leithéid de fhogha ar an taobh amuigh chuirfí cúis in éadan na bhfeir a rinne é. Ach mar a dúirt mé níor chuala mé fós droch-fhogha in éadan na sinéirí istigh ansao. Labhraigh amach. Chan ansao amháin atá an cuardach seo a dhéanamh ach in Ard Macha fosta.

Aodh Ó Ruanaidh,  
H2-Bloc,  
Campa Mhic Ghiollaáin,  
Doire.



● JEREMY CORBYN

## Not NUPE

Dear Editor,  
I understand that your paper (January 19th) reported that I met with NUPE members in the North on January 14th and 15th.

Whilst I would like to have had meetings with members no such meetings took place. I would be grateful if this could be corrected.

Jeremy Corbyn MP,  
129 Seven Sisters Road,  
London N7 7QG.

## Dundalk customs

A Chara,  
The Worthington/Watters Sinn Féin cumann, County Louth, fully support the people of Newry Road, Dundalk, in their efforts to have the Free State customs station moved to Carrickarnon.

The Newry Road post has been the scene of a number of serious accidents, some of them fatal.

Olivia Ní Chionnaitha,  
Worthington/Watters cumann,  
County Louth.



● The anti-drugs campaign sprang up because of the danger to youth

## Crime and punishment

Dear Editor,

We wish to strongly object to G. Perlin's letter (LPRN, February 16th) asking why no action has been taken against the drug pushers of Ballymun by the Republican Movement.

We suggest that G. Perlin has another look at the original article (Ballymun takes on the pushers, January 26th), before he makes any comments about political organisations being involved in the anti-drugs campaign.

We are a community of concerned people and we shall always be so. The anti-drugs campaign sprang up from within the various communities because of the dangers posed by the drug pushers to local children and youth.

If G. Perlin had read previous articles on the campaign then he would have had a better understanding of it.

Eddie Greene,  
PRO,  
Dolphin House  
Anti-Drugs Campaign,  
Dublin.

A Chara,

Like 'Belfast republican' (AP/RN, February 16th), I also hope that the IRA's policy change on the 'hoods' will be seriously reconsidered.

For too long, the hoods have had it all their own way. The loyalist RUC are unwilling to curb the activities of these anti-social thugs because they can be used for low-level intelligence gathering

in return for immunity from prosecution.

Over the past year, there has been a marked increase in serious crime, such as muggings, robberies, rape, breaking and entering, joy-riding etc. It is time the kid-gloves were taken off and the problem of the hoods removed.

However, the IRA cannot be expected to deal with the hoods alone. It is up to everyone to get up off their backsides and tackle this problem once and for all and drive these anti-social thugs from our midst.

Do the people not realise that we have enough to contend with from the armed forces of occupation?

Jimmy Loughran,  
Belfast.

## Reverse trend

A Chara,  
The John Martin/Danny Lennon Sinn Féin cumann, Rostrevor, call on the Housing Executive to act immediately with regard to providing adequate housing for the people of Rostrevor, to reverse the present trend of private housing estates being built, and to repair and modernise the older estates in the village.

The most important demand, and the most urgent, is the need for more houses.

In the past few weeks no less than ten married couples have been forced to move away from the village because of the lack of accommodation. None of these people moved through choice, but through necessity, and all were locals of the Ros-



# BURKE'S AT THE BACK By Kevin Burke

## Well-earned promotion

A DUBLIN jury (a body of 12 men and women occasionally seen in law courts) has awarded £8,600 damages to a Longford man who was beaten up by a Garda Michael Fleming in the town in July 1981.

The victim, Gerard Masterson, suffered a fractured jaw-bone, a fractured cheek-bone and a broken nose, as well as other injuries.

Garda Fleming has since been promoted to sergeant and is no doubt looking forward to operating the new Criminal Justice Bill, which provides the gardai with 'much-needed extra powers'.

★★★

Following the resolution passed by the British Liberal Party's annual conference in September of last year calling for eventual Irish unity — to the horror of the party leadership — a joint Liberal/SDP commission has been set up in an attempt to reverse this policy.

The composition of the committee has not yet been announced, but my informant (if I dare use the word) reports that the Liberal leader, David Steel, has packed it with pro-unionists.

Among them are included Denis Loretto, a former Alliance Party member of Belfast City Council; Paddy Ashdown, Liberal MP for Yeovil, who is a former member of the SAS team, the Special Boat Service, and served with the British army in Ardoynne; Richard Moore, who works for EEC rapporteur Neils Haagerup, is extremely pro-Union and once stood as a Liberal candidate in Antrim to make the point; and Stephen Ross MP and Michael Steed, both of whom have shown their pro-Union colours on many occasions.

Significantly, there is to be no representative of the Young Liberals, who are most strongly in favour of British withdrawal.

Commission members on the SDP side will include Keith Kyle, the broadcaster, and former MP Paul Rose, both of whom have displayed a more 'liberal' attitude to Ireland.

But the commission is likely to be chaired by Lord Donaldson of the SDP, who, before his defection from the Labour Party, was a junior minister to Roy Mason at Stormont.

★★★

An illuminating demonstration of SDLP advice work was given to a small crowd which gathered outside a flat in Rathen Avenue, Cookstown, which was being raided by the RUC last Friday afternoon.

With the two brothers who live in the flat — Brendan and Terence Neeson — being arrested by the RUC the previous day and taken to Gough Barracks, the flat was empty and the second RUC raiding party broke the window and lock of the front door to gain entry.

The Neesons' mother, Cora, was verbally abused by the RUC, who threatened her with

arrest if she attempted to enter the flat to monitor their activities.

Amongst the crowd who gathered was one Peter Cassidy, a local SDLP member. The brothers' aunt, Brigid Neeson, is an SDLP councillor in Cookstown and several local women approached Cassidy for advice, asking that he and the councillor intervene on behalf of Cora Neeson, who was very distressed by this time.

Cassidy, however, clearly terrified at the prospect of exchanging verbal blows with the RUC, decided to postpone till another day the SDLP's challenge to Sinn Féin. After more than once telling the women to 'F... off!', Cassidy added:

"Away to hell and vote for whoever you like!"

★★★

Paisley's DUP has brought out its own newspaper, like the SDLP's *Social Democrat*, courtesy of the EEC's large election contribution to party coffers.

The DUP's four-page effort, entitled *The Voice of Ulster*, has something else in common with the SDLP's effort — there is a condemnation of Sinn Féin at least three times on every page.

Paisley's paper goes just that bit further, however, calling for the arrest of Gerry Adams and congratulating the SAS for shooting down two unarmed republicans in County Tyrone at the end of last year.

There is more such vitriol, but they do man-

age to squeeze in an article condemning the practice of hare-coursing as 'legalised barbarity'.

★★★

The 'Brits Out!' movement is reported to be growing rapidly — in Evens i Troms in Northern Norway.

Several local councils have passed resolutions calling for the expulsion of the 3,500 Brits who are at present in Norway on NATO exercises.

Among the exercises causing the opposition, and reported prominently in the local press, was one carried out by 25 Royal Marines, who went on a drunken rampage in the above-mentioned town.

They attacked several locals in a disco, smashed furniture, windows and anything else they could get their hands on. Similar manoeuvres have taken place in other Norwegian towns during the British visit, which lasts until April.

★★★

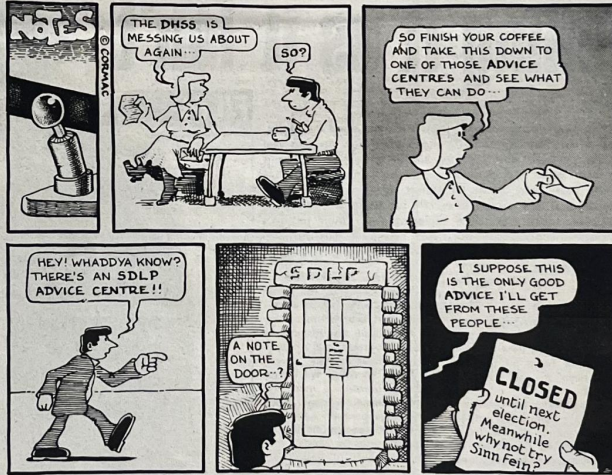
One full-time RUC Reservist took himself off the duty roster on Wednesday night, February 22nd, with a well-placed bullet from his service-issue revolver into his shoulder.

The 'accidental discharge' took place in Omagh RUC Barracks.

★★★

An unnamed 33-year-old RUC man, with an address given as Strand Road RUC Barracks in Derry, appeared in court in the city on Monday of this week charged with rape.

He is due to appear in court again on March 26th.



## BELFAST FÁINNÍ

IRISH LANGUAGE enthusiasts who were awarded 41 silver and 12 gold 'Fáinní' were told at a Sinn Féin presentation céil last Saturday that their achievement showed the increased interest in Irish culture.

At the céil, which was attended by over 250 people, four republicans recently released from Long Kesh received the gold Fáinní.

Twenty-six women were among those who were awarded the Irish speakers' badge, while 11 of the Fáinní went to Sinn Féin members.



● The presentation ceremony in the Martin Forsythe Club, Turf Lodge

## WHAT'S ON

### WOMEN IN CUBA PUBLIC MEETING

Speakers from the  
Federation of Cuban Women  
2.30pm Saturday 3rd March  
Women Workers Union  
48 Fleet Street  
DUBLIN  
Everyone welcome

### MUNSTER EEC CONVENTION TO SELECT CANDIDATE

2.30pm Sunday 4th March  
Dobbin's Hotel  
TIPPERARY  
All members of the Republican  
Movement in Munster to attend

### BALLAD & FOLK NIGHT

8pm Every Sunday  
The Eccles Lounge  
Dorset Street  
DUBLIN  
Taillé E1  
Organised by Sinn Féin

### BINGO SESSION

8.30pm Every Wednesday  
Memorial Hall  
GULLADUFF  
South Derry

### TRADITIONAL IRISH NIGHT

8.30pm Friday 9th March  
Chieftain Lounge  
Park Street  
MONAGHAN  
Taillé E1  
Organised by  
Feile Oriel Committee

### MARCH AGAINST THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE BILL

2.30pm Saturday 10th March  
Parnell Square  
DUBLIN  
Speakers include Bernadette McAliskey

### DONEGAL SINN FEIN COMHAIRE CEANTAIR MEETING

2.30pm Sunday 11th March  
Jackson's Hotel  
BALLYBOFEY  
County Donegal

### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY EVENTS

MARCH AGAINST  
SEXUAL HARASSMENT  
7.30pm Thursday 8th March  
Dunville Park  
BELFAST

### OICHE ARNEAL

Friday 9th March  
PDF Club  
Andersonstown  
BELFAST

### CONFERENCE

Noon to 5pm Saturday 10th March  
New Whitecourt Community Centre  
BELFAST

### SOCIAL

Saturday 10th March  
Martin Forsythe Club  
Turf Lodge  
BELFAST

### ARMAGH PRISON PICKET

Sunday 11th March  
Everyone welcome

### BUSES FOR ARMAGH PICKET

Belfast: leave Dunville Park at 1pm.  
Tickets from Falls Women's Centre (E2).  
Dublin: leave 5 Blessington Street at  
11am. Book early from 308783/726932  
(E6 waged, E5 unwaged).  
Fermanagh: bookings from 26854.

### ST PATRICK'S NIGHT SOCIAL

Music by Peter & Pat  
8pm Saturday 17th March  
Chieftain Lounge  
Park Street  
MONAGHAN  
Organised by Sinn Féin

### TOMAS MacCARTAIN COMMEMORATION

12 noon Monday 19th March  
Thomas Davis Street  
CORK  
Prominent speakers  
Organised by  
Cork Republican Comrades







# REMEMBERING THE PAST An Gaelic Language Journalist

AN PHOBLAUGHT/REPUBLICAN NEWS, Thursday, March 1st, 1984 - Lethanach 15

BY PETER O'ROURKE

**JOHN DOHERTY, one of the early 19th century trade union leaders, was born in Buncrana, County Donegal, in 1799.**

Between 1814 and 1817, he worked as a cotton-spinner in Larne. From there, he emigrated to Manchester, where he soon became involved in the cotton-spinners' underground union. With Francis Place, the secretary of the cotton-spinners' union, he campaigned for repeal of the Combination Acts, which outlawed trade unions. Both held radically different views of the future of the unions. Place thought repeal would take the militancy out of the trade unions, while Doherty thought that the trade unions had a great future and would become nationwide, involving themselves in every trade and industry.

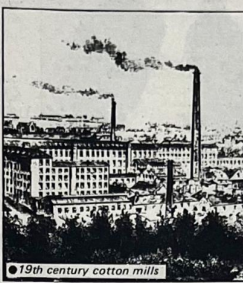
In 1824, the laws were repealed. Five years later, Doherty organised a conference of Irish, Scottish and English cotton-workers. From this conference was formed the Grand General Union of Cotton Spinners of Great Britain and Ire-

land. Having formed a union which crossed national boundaries, he laid plans to form a federation of unions. In 1830 this plan became a reality with the foundation of the National Association for the Protection of Labour (NAPL) — the first trade union congress.

The following year, he left the NAPL and turned his attention to the newly-formed Society for the Promotion of National Regeneration — a movement to establish a shorter working day in factories.

## WORKING DAY

The campaign to reduce the long working day, often up to 14 hours long, began on March 1st 1834, 150 years ago this week. Doherty advised all factory-workers to do no more than an eight-hour day. The Society got little support, mainly because it was in touch with very small number of workers, but also because of the fact that none of the factories in those days had clocks — workers found it difficult to know when the eight hours were up. Although Doherty continued to work for factory reform, it was not until 1847 that the ten-hour



19th century cotton mills

day legislation was passed. Doherty was the first in a long line of Irish emigrants who played a leading role in the building of the British labour movement. His aim, in the words of James Connolly, was "to organise the working-class and to teach them to act on their own initiative".

- 6 — The brown horse was coming from the mountain.
- 7 — The young man is going to Australia.
- 8 — Give me the blue bag.
- 9 — Don't give me the red thread.
- 10 — Give him the black book.

## ANSWERS — 2

- 1 — T's dearthair agus deiríur aige.
- 2 — Tugann m'uncal míleáin dom.
- 3 — Cé hé an fear ad?
- 4 — T's an madra crosta ansin.
- 5 — Cé hé an fear deas le Cúit?
- 6 — T's an cáilín beag ag dul go dtí an bospáil.
- 7 — T's mé ag dul amach go dtí an bospáil.
- 8 — Tabhair dom an cnaipe buí.
- 9 — N'á tabhair dom a t-airgead sin.
- 10 — N'á tabhair dom an bosca sin.

## ANSWERS — 3

- 1 — He is a strange type.
- 2 — Have a bit of sense.
- 3 — Right to the last breath.
- 4 — Don't give them an inch.

## ANSWERS — 4

- 1 — Is mór an buille é.
- 2 — Tabhair dom do lámh.
- 3 — Caifín ón mbáile mór.

## Irish Lesson

68

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

## TRANSLATE — 1

- 1 — Tá infón ag Úna.
- 2 — An bhfuil dearthair ag Eoin?
- 3 — Thug d'aiféin ól d'ó.
- 4 — Tabhair dó an ceann buí.
- 5 — Bhí an garda tanaí ar an mbóthar.
- 6 — Bhí an capall donn ag teacht ón dliabh.
- 7 — Tá an fear óg ag imeacht go dtí an Astráil.
- 8 — Tabhair dom an míla gorm.
- 9 — N'á tabhair dom an saith dearg.
- 10 — Tabhair dó an leabhar dubh.

## TRANSLATE — 2

- 1 — He has a brother and a sister.
- 2 — My uncle gives me sweets.
- 3 — Who is the tall man?
- 4 — The cross dog is there.
- 5 — Where the nice man with Kate?
- 6 — The little girl is going to the hospital.

- 7 — I'm going out to the hut.
- 8 — Give me the yellow button.
- 9 — Don't give him that money.
- 10 — Don't give me that box.

## TRANSLATE — 3

- 1 — Is ait an mac é.
- 2 — Bíodh píosa céille agat.
- 3 — Go dtí an ól deiríth.
- 4 — N'á tabhair ólach dóilbh.

## TRANSLATE — 4

- 1 — It is a big blow.
- 2 — Give me your hand.
- 3 — A town girl.

## ANSWERS — 1

- 1 — Una has a daughter.
- 2 — Has Owen a brother?
- 3 — Your aunt gave him an apple.
- 4 — Give him the yellow one.
- 5 — The thin guard was on the road.

# Coiste Cuimhneachán na nOgchaithe REPUBLICAN CO-MEMORATION COMMITTEE

Applications for speakers at Easter commemorations should be made as soon as possible to:  
An Rúnai,  
Coiste Cuimhneachán na nOgchaithe,  
44 Ceannóg Pharnell,  
BACÍ.

## EASTER LIES

Easter Lies available from:  
Mrs P. King,  
29 All Saints Park,  
Raheny,  
Dublin 5.  
Price: £12.50 per 1,000

Honour Ireland's dead — wear an Easter Lily

## SYMPATHY

**BYRNE.** South Sinn Féin comhairle ceantar extends deepest sympathy to the family of the late Andrew Byrne, Louisa, County Louth, who died recently.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** In proud and loving memory of my brother Vol Henry Hogan and his comrade Vol Declan Martin, who were killed in action by British thugs. You and your brave comrades took them on with great courage and determination and you will be remembered for never showing fear of the foreign occupation forces. Gone but never to be forgotten by his loving sister Rosie, Brian and nephew Prolinsias.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** South Derry Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, extends deepest sympathy to the families and friends of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. "If they aren't to destroy the desire for freedom, they won't break you. They won't break me because the desire for freedom and the freedom of the Irish people, is in my heart." — Bobby Sands.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** South Derry Sinn Féin Women's Department extends sincere sympathy to the families of IRA Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. "They may kill the revolutionary, but never the revolution." The Connolly/Hughes/McElwee Sinn Féin cumann, Bellaghy, South Derry, extends deepest sympathy to the families of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. Fear síad náis ar troid ar son saoirse mhuintir na hÉireann. Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for them.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** The McCusker/McMullan Sinn Féin cumann, Swatragh, South Derry, extends sympathy to the families of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. "They shall be spoken of among their people and generations shall remember them and call them blessed."

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** South Derry Sinn Féin comhairle ceantar extends deepest sympathy to the families of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. Ar ais dhé go raibh a-nanamacha.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** The Republican Society, Kevin Street, College, Dublin, extends deepest sympathy to the families and friends of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin, who were murdered by crown forces in Dúnlopy, North Antrim, on February 21st.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** The Casement/Highstreet Sinn Féin cumann, Maghera, South Derry, extends deepest sympathy to the families of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for them.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** The Seamus Steele Sinn Féin cumann, Newbridge, South Derry, extends sympathy to the families of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. "They may kill the revolutionary, but never the revolution."

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** The Sheridan/Lee/Bateson Sinn Féin cumann, Ballymaguig, an South Derry, extends deepest sympathy to the families of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. Fear síad náis ar troid ar son saoirse mhuintir na hÉireann. Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for them.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** Confederates are extended to the families and friends of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin, who were killed in action on February 21st. "They may kill the revolutionary, but never the revolution." Always remembered by North Antrim Sinn Féin. Doherty is extended to the families of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. Oglagh na hÉireann, who were killed in action on February 21st. "Ireland unarméd would attain just as much freedom as it was convenient for England to give her." — Patrick Pearse. Always remembered by the James Connolly/Joe McDonnell/Kieran Doherty Sinn Féin cumann, Ballymena, County Antrim.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** Deepest sympathy is extended to the families of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. Oglagh na hÉireann, who were murdered by SAS terrorists on February 21st. "Lay them away on the hillside, along with the brave and the bold, inscribe their names on the roll of fame, in letters of purest gold." Always remembered by Ballymena young republicans.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** Deepest sympathy is extended to the families of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. West Ulster, who were killed in action against an SAS terror-gang on February 21st. "The dear dead, lively is Irish earth, among their own they rest, and the same land that gave them birth, has taken them to her breast. Always remembered by the Roger Casement Independent Flute Band, Ballymena.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** The Terence MacSwiney Sinn Féin cumann, West Ulster, extends deepest sympathy to the families and friends of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. Fear síad náis ar troid ar son saoirse mhuintir na hÉireann. Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for them.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** Deepest sympathy is extended to the families and friends of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. Oglagh na hÉireann, who were killed in action on February 21st. "They may kill the revolutionary, but never the revolution." Always remembered by their imprisoned comrades Malachy Carey, Sean Boyle, Danny Clarke, and Paddy Cremlan (H3, Magilligan).

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**BURNS, James.** (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Jim 'Skipper' Burns, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, IRA, who was murdered on February 23rd 1981. "In every generation we have renewed the struggle and so it shall be unto the end, when England thinks she has tramped out our battle in blood. Some brave man rises and rallies us again. When England thinks she has purchased us with a bribe, some good man redeems us with a sacrifice. Whenever England goes on her mission to the Empire, we are there to strike at her." — Padraig Pearse. Always remembered by Bernadette and Kate Reid, USA.

**DYNE, Eddie.** (1st Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Eddie Dyne, Oglagh na hÉireann, North Armagh, who died in a car crash on March 1st 1983. I measc laochra na nGael go raibh a-nam. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in North Armagh.

**DYNE, Eddie.** (1st Anniversary). In loving memory of Eddie, whose sudden death has wounded us all. We miss him dearly and pray for him daily. Always remembered by his heartbroken wife Mary and children.

**DYNE, Eddie.** (1st Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Eddie Dyne, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died in a car accident at Keady, County Armagh. No less a loss to the republic than those who so bravely faced the enemy. Eddie played his part and today, united with his fallen comrades, is remembered and sadly missed by true republicans. From his friends in the John Francis Green Sinn Féin cumann, Castletown, County Monaghan.

**DYNE, Eddie.** (1st Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Eddie Dyne, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died in a car accident on March 1st 1983. Go ndána Dia tóiscle ar a-nam óif. Sadly missed by his friends and comrades in Keady, County Armagh, and Castletown, County Monaghan.

**KAVANAGH, Albert.** (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Albert Kavanagh, Belfast Brigade, who died on March 4th 1972. "The duty of every revolutionary is to make the revolution."

**McLAUGHLIN, Robert.** (12th Anniversary). In proud memory of Vol Robert McLaughlin, Lifford, County Donegal, who died on March 2nd 1972. "As well as to believe, one must also serve." Always remembered by his friends and comrades in Portlaoise Jail.

**MURPHY, Long John.** (Portlaoise). Now who's gonna eat my stew? Hurry back — your wine's waiting for you. All my love. From M. and J. O'Leary.

**SUGRUE, Peter.** (Portlaoise). Wishing you very happy birthday wishes. Love from Brenda, John, and the boys.

**SUGRUE, Peter.** (Portlaoise). With love on your birthday, Peter. Thinking of you always. Love from M. and J. O'Leary.

**SUGRUE, Peter.** (Portlaoise). Love on your 23rd birthday, Peter. Keep your word, you're a hero. O'Learys and Eddie, Jackie and Joanne.

**SUGRUE, Peter.** (Portlaoise). Prison was a dividing line, but it was not heard, we are with you all the way. Our twenty-third. Love from Norman, Christine, and the boys.

**SUGRUE, Peter.** (Portlaoise). You'll never walk the road alone, at the end of the road, you're a hero at twenty-three. All my love from Maria.

**SUGRUE, Peter.** (Portlaoise). Happy birthday, Pete. Carry on the fight. Our day will come. From Teresa, Johnnie, Mike and Pa, Pat, Joe, Maureen and family — and Brendan, Carol and the boys.

**FARELL, Mairead.** (Armagh). Birthday greetings to you, Mairead, for March 3rd. I think of you because of your deceased brother, Johnny Gaffney, of Ballinamore, County Leitrim. When I was a kid in the Flanna, he directed me on the road to who the enemy were. From James Dooner, Florida, USA.

**GORMAN, Margaret.** Love and best wishes on your birthday, Margaret. From Daddy (Portlaoise).

**HEAPES, Jackie.** Happy birthday and lots of love, Jackie. From Daddy (Portlaoise).

**McPEAKE, Sean.** (H-Block). Birthday greetings to you, Sean. The next one will be spent in freedom. God bless, Sean. From M. and J. O'Leary.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** Deepest sympathy is extended to the families and friends of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. From Pearse McMahon.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** Deepest sympathy is extended to the families and friends of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. Thus said a raibh a-nam ar son. From the McMahon family, Loughlough, County Donegal.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** Sincere sympathy is extended to the families and friends of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin, who gave their lives so gallantly fighting against British tyranny. "No words need speak, their memory shouts forth, 'Erin go bráth!'" Go cuimhne a-nanamacha i measc laochra na nGael. From the McElwee family.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** Deepest sympathy is extended to the families and friends of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin, who were killed on active service on February 21st. From the Roger Casement Sinn Féin cumann, Loughlough.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** Sincere sympathy is extended to the families and friends of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. From Republican Youth, Loughlough.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** Deepest sympathy is extended to the families and friends of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. "While Ireland holds these graves, Ireland unfree shall never be at peace." From County Antrim National Graves Association.

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** The Thomas McElwee Sinn Féin cumann, Greenlough, County Derry, extends deepest sympathy to the families of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. "Ní floscáin sa saois."

**HOGAN, MARTIN.** The Fergal O'Hanlon Sinn Féin cumann, Lavey, South Derry, extends deepest sympathy to the families and friends of Vols Henry Hogan and Declan Martin. "The duty of every revolutionary is to make the revolution."

Oglagh na hÉireann, who died on active service on March 4th 1972. Thus said a raibh a-nam ar son saoirse. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

**KAVANAGH, Albert.** (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Albert Kavanagh, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on March 4th 1972. RIP. Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for him. We feel so proud of you for the title that you bear as Vol. Oglagh na hÉireann. Cause could one have asked for more? His memory lives on amongst those who continue to fight for freedom. Always remembered by his parents, brothers, sisters and large family circle.

**KAVANAGH, Albert.** (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Albert Kavanagh, who was killed on active service on March 4th 1972. "The duty of every revolutionary is to make the revolution."

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# RUC thugs in Cookstown

BY JANE PLUNKETT

A YOUNG Cookstown woman was viciously, and repeatedly, assaulted by RUC personnel on Thursday last, February 23rd, as she attempted to monitor a raid on her brother's home.

In recent weeks, RUC harassment in Cookstown has intensified, following the introduction of an RUC Divisional Mobile Support Unit into the town, and this particular incident was one of a series of vindictive RUC attacks on local

nationalists and their homes within the space of three days.

At around 5pm on Thursday last, 20-year-old Janet Casey returned to her brother Kevin's Greenvale Drive home to see him being 'lifted' and a large force of RUC



Janet Casey holds her bruised side

raiding the house.

Several of these abusively attempted to prevent her entering. In the hallway, when she insisted

on her right to monitor their activities, an RUC man brutally rammed the butt of his rifle into Janet Casey's stomach, causing extensive bruising.

Inside the house, Janet Casey firmly rejected the RUC's demands that she stay under room-arrest, despite constant intimidation and threats.

## ASSAULTED

During the next hour, as she followed the RUC round the house, protesting at their destructive activities, the young woman was repeatedly assaulted. She recalled:

"Inside, the RUC man who hit me first started pushing me around with the gun. Then the sergeant hit me a crack with his fist. Then

they put me against a door and another one held a gun to my throat and threatened to shoot me. I lost count of how many times I was hit after five or six times."

Several days afterwards, Janet Casey's side and throat were still bruised and sore from the beating.

The RUC finally left at around 6.30 that night, arresting two of Kevin Casey's friends who had been confined to the house throughout this time.

The house was left thoroughly ransacked by the RUC, who had broken the lock on a shed door and spat on a framed picture of the ten dead H-Block hunger-strikers. A cigarette butt had been stubbed out on a picture of Bobby Sands.

# RUC storm Short Strand centre

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

IN AN SAS-type raid, about 30 RUC men, armed with Ingram and Uzi sub-machine guns and carrying sledge-hammers and axes, caused damage estimated at over £1,000, to the Mac Airt Community Centre in the nationalist Short Strand area of East Belfast on Sunday, February 26th.

Dressed in civilian clothes and accompanied by a few uniformed men from the local Mountpottinger Barracks, the RUC arrived in six Cortina cars and a landrover and stormed into the building at about 5.30pm.

A bowling tournament was going

on in the main hall, attended mainly by elderly people, who were forced at gunpoint to stand with their hands above their heads.

Gerry Gibney, secretary of St Matthew's Tenants Association and manager of the centre, told the RUC that he had the keys and would open the doors for them to avoid damage but, already intent on wrecking as much damage as possible, they deliberately broke down doors with sledge-hammers and seriously damaged a central-heating storage tank, destroying £300 of fuel.

Cupboards containing educational books and equipment were smashed open with axes, and Gerry Gibney was marched outside, a Magnum revolver at his back, to inspect rubbish outside the kitchen.

## NO EXPLANATION

In spite of a complaint to Mountpottinger Barracks by Will-



Community work RUCstyle

iam Ward, chairperson of the tenants' association, no explanation for the raid was forthcoming.

"It was an organised attack on the community centre like the raid on the flats in Lenadoon last week," said Gerry Gibney. "We see it as not only an attack on the community centre but an attack on the whole community."

The Mac Airt Centre provides important amenities to the people of the Short Strand, including hot meals for old age pensioners, a mother and toddler group, sporting facilities and activities for unemployed youth.

# Cappagh incursions

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG & JANE PLUNKETT

FOR MORE than three weeks, the nationalist Cappagh area of County Tyrone has been subjected to a massive and continuous incursion by the UDR and British army, who have systematically harassed local adults and schoolchildren, vandalised farmers' property and terrorised livestock.

Sinn Féin has received complaints from more than ten local farmers, who have witnessed crown forces cutting their wire fences in broad daylight, arrogantly ignoring nearby gaps. Disused dwellings have been broken into and, at night, British army helicopters regularly chase cows around the fields. At least one cow has lost her calf through this sadistic entertainment, and angry farmers fear more losses as calving gets underway.

During recent weeks, local people complain, the UDR and British soldiers have regularly harassed young children coming off school buses, attempting to extract information about their families.

Stop-and-search operations, particularly directed against local youth, have

been stepped up, and people travelling to and from their work have been subjected to verbal and physical abuse at roadblocks.

One Wednesday, February 22nd, a 35-year-old local man, a builder, was detained for over an hour by the UDR while on his way to a neighbour's funeral in Galbally. The man was roughly searched, put against his car, struck several times around the body and photographed by the UDR before being finally released, having missed the funeral.

Within one 10-day period, the sectarian UDR has used these tactics to disrupt the funerals of four local nationalists, thus further provoking local anger.

## RANSACKED

And in Dromore, County Tyrone, last Thursday, February 23rd, the Church Street home of 57-year-old Thomas McGrade was raided and badly ransacked by members of the RUC. The RUC also verbally abused and terrorised the McGrades' young children for over an hour while their father was arrested and taken to Omagh RUC Barracks. There, he was questioned for approximately 12 hours before being released without charge.

# Moyard shooting

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

A 22-YEAR-OLD man from Moyard Crescent, in West Belfast, was shot in the neck by a trigger-happy British soldier after a patrol stopped the man returning home in the early hours of last Thursday morning, February 23rd.

Harry McGreevy, a married man with a three-year-old son, was walking home from the New Barnsley Social Club where he had been having a few drinks, when he was apprehended and bullied by a Brit who insisted he answered his numerous questions. Some local people who witnessed the incident described the soldier — who began shouting abuse at McGreevy — as being 'very arrogant'.

At this point it appears that a scuffle developed and another Brit fired a single shot which grazed McGreevy's neck, apparently ricocheted and hit the Brit. Witnesses totally refute allegations by a Brit spokesperson who claimed that Harry McGreevy had tried to take the soldier's rifle off him, as every member of the nationalist community is well aware that Brit SLR rifles are strapped onto soldiers' wrists to avoid such a situation.

Meanwhile, Harry McGreevy, who was hospitalised for six days, underwent two operations to remove fragments of the bullet from his neck, which required nine stitches.

Corrigan, both of whom were on their way to sign on at the dole, gives Gerard Anderson adequate grounds for his fears.

Last Friday, February 24th, Anderson asked a supervisor at his dole office if he could avail of flexible signing-on days and thus avoid the risk of being set-up, but his



HARRY MCGREEVY

Gerry Adams MP strongly criticised the actions of the Brits involved which was, he said, a reflection of their hatred for the nationalist community as a whole.

reasonable request was met with unconcern. Anderson said:

"He told me that something would have to happen to me first before I could have flexible days and when I asked if that meant I had to get myself shot dead in the process, he just shrugged his shoulders."

# Bellaghy harassment

BY JANE PLUNKETT

A 17-YEAR-OLD South Derry youth was arrested on Tuesday, this week and detained in Gough Barracks by the RUC, who are apparently waging a continuing campaign of intimidation against the youthful members of a local nationalist band.

On Saturday, February 18th, a vehicle carrying members of the Bellaghy-based Brendan Convery Memorial Band

home from a fund-raising engagement was stopped by a large force of RUC on the outskirts of Coalisland, County Tyrone.

For the next 2½ hours the members of the band, some of them only eight years old, were held at the roadside and subjected to continual verbal abuse.

Despite severe, wintry weather, the RUC refused to allow the children back onto the bus during their long ordeal, even temporarily, to bring out their coats. Several of the younger children became distressed as RUC personnel

physically abused band members, prodding several with their plastic-bullet guns.

One of those assaulted was 17-year-old Damien Convery, of Bellaghy, who was warned that he would be detained, in the near future, in Gough Barracks.

Ten days later, at about 5.30 on Tuesday morning, February 28th, three carloads of RUC personnel arrived at the Convery family's home to carry out their threat. Damien Convery was taken to Gough Barracks, Armagh, where he was detained under Section 11 of the EPA.

# Dole death threat

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

A MAN from the Short Strand area of East Belfast, who was released from Crumlin Road Jail after 11 months on remand, believes his life is in danger after death threats were made to him in Castle-reagh Interrogation Centre.

The threats, dating back to 1982, were made during half a dozen arrests of 20-year-old Gerard Anderson, who was held each time for the full seven-day period under Section 12.

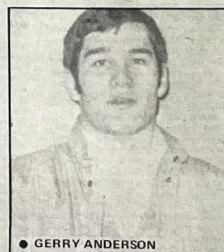
The RUC threatened that they

would arrange for him 'to be done' coming out of the dole office in Corporation Street in the city centre. Two months later, Anderson was picked up by the UDR going to the dole and taken to Castlereagh, where the threats were made again.

He was charged and received a two-year suspended sentence for 'possession', last February 22nd, when he was released.

## INVOLVEMENT

The involvement of members of the UDR in this sectarian Protestant Action Force, which claimed responsibility for the deaths of North



GERRY ANDERSON

Belfast man Joseph Craven last December and Armagh man Peter