



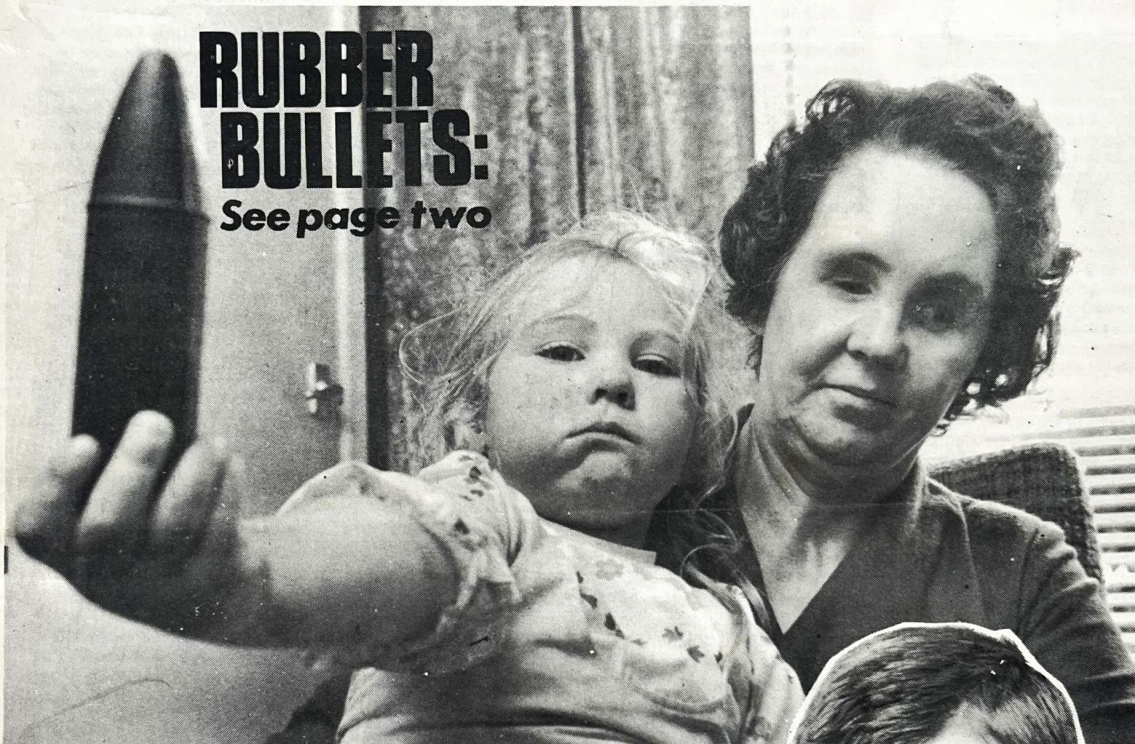
REPUBLICAN NEWS

"VOICE OF REPUBLICAN ULSTER"

Week commencing 20th OCTOBER, 1972

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RUBBER BULLETS:
See page two



NO ELECTIONS!

A Press release from Dail Ceanntair Beal Feirste, Sinn Fein,

After a series of meetings held between the Ard-Comhairle of Sinn Fein and representatives of all the Comhairle Ceanntair and Cumainn in the Six Counties, a decision has been reached that Sinn Fein WILL NOT put forward candidates for the forthcoming Local Government elections.

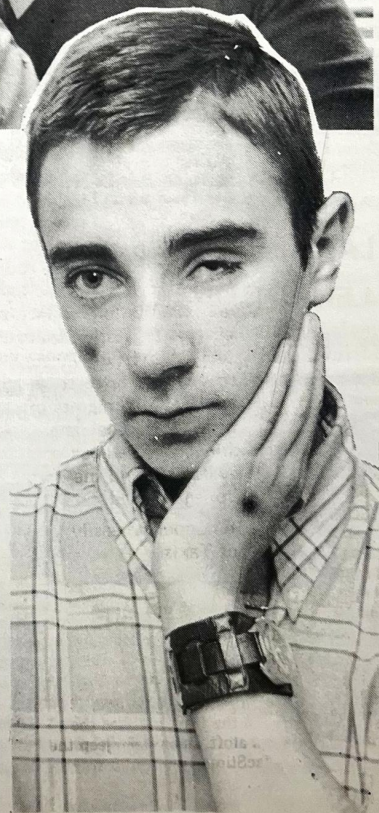
Much thought was given to the fact that these elections were to be held under Proportional Representation but it was decided that to take part in the system which has produced so much misery and destruction would be to dishonour the memory of those who had opposed, totally and completely, that self-same system.

The Local Government bodies, as offered us now by Whitelaw, are, in effect, the proposals offered by the Unionist Party, before its demise in March of this year. Even the Electoral boundaries were decided by a Unionist picked Commission. The very fact that no Unionist politician has refused to accept the recommendations of the Commission is proof enough that they have been re-drawn in the Unionist Party's favour.

Mr. Whitelaw has been asked several times to state plainly whether he intends to lift the ban on Sinn Fein in order to allow members of that organisation to take part in political activities. He has also been asked to make it known whether or not he intends to remove the Oath of Allegiance. Never yet has he deigned to reply, let alone give an answer to these points. Instead, with little more than seven weeks to go, Lord Windlesham has told us that even he does not know whether or not the Oath will be retained. Appalling ignorance or under-handed dealing from the Minister of State? Sinn Fein prefers to think that the latter is the case, especially when taken in conjunction with the veiled threat that anyone standing as a candidate for an illegal organisation would come under the scrutiny of the Director of Public Prosecutions and would, most likely, be a candidate for the Special Courts instead.

Sinn Fein intends to boycott the sham we have had foisted on us and calls on all those who value Freedom and Democracy to join with us in defeating, at the polls, the Whitelaws, the Fitts and the Faulkners.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO)



British Atrocities Exhumed in South Africa

The skeletons of three women and six children who died in British Concentration Camps in South Africa, between 1900 and 1902, were reburied at a public ceremony held recently (on Kruger day). Paul Kruger, was President of the Transvaal when the Boer War broke out in 1899

Present at the ceremony, which recalled a grim period of British brutality, were survivors of the concentration camps in which 26,300 women and children died. The ceremony was held at the site of a former British concentration camp at Uitenhage, in the eastern Cape Province.

An organiser of the ceremony, Professor Marius Swart, said 'it would be fatal if the present generation forgot the past'. Spectators at the ceremony were reminded that of 1,019 people admitted to the Uitenhage camp, only 26 were found when the camp was cleared.

The ceremony started with 80 prisoners of the British - women and children - being off-loaded from cattle trucks, as in the old days, regardless of sun, heat or their sex.

This gave the audience a feeling of what it was like to have been carted about like this after one's farmhouse had been burned and the crops destroyed. During the British reign of terror, they controlled the press in South Africa and the real stories of the inhumanity of their concentration camps never saw the light of day. Dr. Ernst Malherbe, a former rector of the University of Natal, spent part of his childhood in a British concentration camp in South Africa, after his father's farmhouse had been burned down.

.....

LARNE TO LENADOON

(by "ERNE")

God help the weak, God shield the poor,
When mighty Britain is about,
God save the Teagues in threatened homes,
Pro-British prods will burn them out.

Ghetto defence she murder calls,
Gloats with Goliath when David falls,
Britannia's law proves honour wrong,
She wrecks the weak to uphold the strong.

While guarantor Lynch stands idly by,
And lauds the oppressor to the sky!

.....

CONSPIRACY TO MURDER

The east end of Belfast has experienced a week of violence and havoc, equalled only by the devastation of August 1969. Remote Catholics, isolated from help had their homes ransacked and burned by Tartan mobs in a carefully planned and well-organised attack on the area.

St. Anthony's Church on the Woodstock Road was most savagely violated, statues were broken and desecrated. All this while the British Army looked on and did nothing. Shops belonging to Catholics were looted and burned, cars, lorries and buses were hijacked and set alight, and not a move by the security forces against the Tartans.

We have received reports from the residents of the Ballymacarret area about the daily conduct of the military towards the minority community. The soldiers in the area openly sanction the patrols of the UDA, even though these patrols are a potential danger to life in the Short Strand. The UDA have intimidated every business that is Catholic-owned and have openly permitted the Tartan mobs to loot and destroy at will any semblance of Catholic property.

The residents who have been listening in to their radios in the evenings have heard the collusion of the Military and these Orange extremists. Clearly the British Government and its lackeys the British Army are prepared to allow the UDA every leeway even to the unmerciful slaughter of innocent people before drawing the line.

Republicans Harrassed in Co. Limerick

The latest addition to the Free State Forces on temporary duty in the border area of Dundalk is Garda Sgt. Rooney, a native of Mayo, who got out of Connacht to make heel for Republicans.

Based in Askeaton, for the past few years, he can be seen in his red car, Reg. No. ZIU 80 as he harries Sinn Fein collectors. He has the shameful distinction with his deputy, Garda Keavney of Roscommon, of being the only gardai in Co. Limerick to prosecute Easter Lily sellers. Rooney, it would seem, aims for a higher rank in the 'forces' and what better way to gain credit from the Free State Establishment than to be anti-Republican. The time will come with the likes of Rooney and 'Justice' Maguire will have to account to the Irish people for their misdeeds.

RUBBER BULLETS

IT COMPLETELY BLINDED MRS. EMILY GROVES, an Andersonstown housewife as she stood in the front room of her house. It blinded in one eye a young resident of Ballymurphy. Young Thomas Rowntree, age 11, of Lower Clonard area, died after being struck point blank by a rubber bullet. His head had been 'cracked like an eggshell,' said the doctor. 19-year-old Tobias Malone was struck over the heart at point blank range by a rubber bullet and died of cardiac arrest immediately afterwards.

We have shown before in our columns the aftermath when several children were struck by these bullets. Recently in Waterford Street, Belfast, a 12-year old boy was struck above the eye and he required hospitalisation. Only providence saved him. A 6-year old girl in Bombay Street was struck in the stomach by a rubber bullet and began to spit blood almost immediately. She required hospitalisation.

The British Army have been using these bullets very frequently of recent weeks, and not in the manner prescribed by the 'scientist' who invented them (God help him). Rubber bullets travel at an average speed of 90 m.p.h. They are to be fired in riot situations, in the first instance being bounced off a hard surface like a wall or the ground before actually coming in contact with a human being. We know only too well that the British Army here are firing these rounds directly at people thereby causing untold harm. Mrs. Groves would still be able to see today if the bullet that struck her had been fired at a wall first. We have also made the public aware of the ways in which bullets have been 'doctored' the inner portion cut out and substituted with batteries, coins, etc. Young Rowntree met his death in this way.

However, the British Army seem bent on causing as much pain and suffering as possible, especially towards children. We would warn parents to keep a tighter control on their children. Stone-throwing at soldiers is liable to be answered by the firing of rubber bullets. This could be fatal or maiming for a child.

Sympathy

The Editor and Staff of the REPUBLICAN NEWS extend sincere sympathy to the brother, sisters and relatives of John Patrick Mullan, and to the wife and family of Hugh Herron, two fellow Irish men shot dead by British Crown Occupation Forces, at Ardboe, Co. Tyrone, on Monday 16th Oct.

Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for the repose of their souls.

NO ELECTIONS!

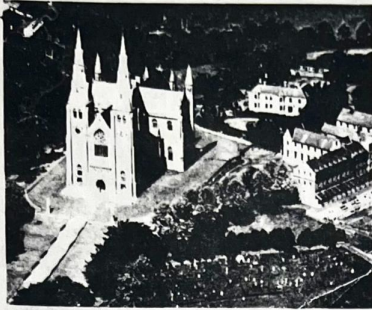
Continued from page one

A VOTE DESTROYED IS A VOTE FOR FREEDOM!!

We intend to make our plans further known at a series of open meetings throughout the North and will welcome then the opportunity to answer any and all questions relating to our policies.

LIAM O'MUIRI,

Press Officer



THE CHURCH AND MR HEATH

By THOMAS MOLONY.

The growing number of attacks by the Catholic Church in America on the Republican Movement has alarmed many Irish Catholics in the United States. Official Church magazines and diocesan papers are now being used openly to put over the British line. A prime example is the 'Tablet' the diocesan weekly paper in Brooklyn, New York. It carries much of Mr. Whitelaw's press releases, word for word, including his scurrulous attacks on Republicans in the Irish freedom movement. The theme emphasized by all of these publications is the same, namely, that Republicans are terrorists, the British Army is a 'peace-keeping' force, and Mr. Whitelaw is a gentleman and a "Diplomat".

Even the Jesuit order has gotten into the act. America, a Jesuit publication which reaches into millions of American homes, carried a story in its September 2nd issue written by Rev. Joseph Small, S.J. The article was entitled, TAMING ULSTERS POLITICAL TIGERS. Reverend Small claims that he visited Northern Ireland last summer for 'several weeks'. He is also a professor of political science at Loyola University in Chicago, one of the largest Catholic universities in America. Here in substance is what Reverend Small tells his readers.

Republicans are 'extremists' who are overcome with 'viciousness and inhumaneness'. Reverend Small casually and briefly refers to 'discrimination and intimidation' by the majority in the North but never once refers to the Special Powers Act, internment without charge or trial, the suspension of civil rights or the cancellation of free and open local elections. It is as if they did not exist!

Regrettably, America states to its thousands of readers that freedom for the north 'is not feasible at this time because of social and religious bitterness...' as if Ireland's fight for freedom was a religious war. Reverend Small meekly calls for 'social and cultural' changes but fails to call for political reforms and the restoration of civil rights.

White the IRA is roundly condemned as being not 'civilised'

and solely responsible for the deaths on July 21st, a reference to Blood Friday, there are no harsh words from the Jesuit editors of America for the Unionist Party, the British Army, the UVF or the UDA. Nor does the magazine explain that the deaths on Blood Friday were the sole responsibility of the British Army which had at least an hour's warning of all bomb explosions. Why the public was not notified, the British government never bothered to explain. Mr. Whitelaw is roundly praised because 'he moved swiftly to disarm the IRA without turning public opinion again in their favor'. Finally, America calls for a government 'imposed by the British Government'. America's editors obviously disown the rights of the Irish people to an Irish Parliament created by the Irish people. Reverend Small's article could have been written in Stormont Castle or by British Army press officers.

Here are a few choice quotes from the article:

"Tragically, the past 3 years have brought a tribal and religious violence that makes any citizen fearful of yielding any advantage he may feel he has at present. Until the warring exp Until the warring extremists on both sides can be curtailed, there is little hope for a reasonable accommodation".

And later the article states:

"Having imposed direct rule last March, the British are now striving to bring together the opposing political factions of Northern Ireland in order to discuss, and hopefully to agree on, a new government formula at least for the immediate future. During the past four months Mr. Whitelaw has been trying to tame these political tigers and get them into the same ring. With whip and chair he has soft-talked them up on their individual pedestals at the same time he has been striving to neutralise a couple of saber-toothed mavericks, the IRA and the UDA, who do not accept civilised communication but prefer the tools of clandestine and violence".

Many Irish Americans are asking whether the Church has made a deal with the British Government. It has been pointed out that these virulent attacks started about January of 1972 when Mr. Heath agreed to subsidise the Mater Hosp. operated by the Church in Belfast. If a deal has been made, what are its terms? Some American Irish point to Irish history and the traditional opposition of the Church to the Irish freedom movement. They say this is all to be expected. But others claim the Church's vicious attacks appear to be a world wide program put together by the Church in Church controlled papers and magazines throughout the world. They see it all as a world plan and concentrated attack by the Church which they say is unprecedented in Irish history. One New York City Irishman explained his feelings in this way:

"I am mystified by the sudden attack of the Church on the Republican Movement. For years, the Catholic Church said it could not

become political by publicly condemning the Special Powers Act and the suppression of human rights in Northern Ireland. Today it is a different story. We now see the church attacking the Irish freedom movement, at the behest of the British Government. On the other side of the fence, the UDA and the UVF are not attacked by Protestant hierarchy in this fashion. It is clear to thousands of Irish Americans that the Church takes its religion from Rome and its politics from London. Cardinal Conway has soon overlooked those killed by the British Army on Bloody Sunday. The internees apparently don't count any more. Christ promoted social justice. He drove the money changers out of the temple. We hope the Irish at home drive the enemy from Ireland's 'fourth green field'

Those close to the situation in the United States expect the Church's attack on the Republican Movement to continue.....

INNOCENT VICTIM!

The orange Volkswagen failed to stop at a British Army road-block so the driver had to be a terrorist and he was shot dead by troops. This seemed to be the pattern of the incident which took place in Castle Street during the week, claiming the life of a young RUC man, Robert Nicholl. The soldiers must have got the shock of their lives when they realised the mistake they had made. This mistake has been rather habitual since the British Army came here in 1969, but the only difference has been that the previous victims were Catholics or itinerants and their deaths did not really matter much.

The hot line to Lisburn HQ must have exploded when the 'tragic' news reached the ears of the all-mighty Tuzo. How could the bland spokesman explain this death away, which statement would fit! "Gunman was seen to fall." No that would not suit. 'He was shooting at the military.' No that would not suit either. 'He tried to knock down soldiers doing their duty.' Definitely not, that showed disregard for life, that would never do.

Eventually a statement of sorts emerged from the spokesman's hideaway. It concluded... 'As it has now been handed over to the RUC we have no further comment to make!

An eye-witness account of the incident contradicted the British Army version completely, so now the question looms. Was this policeman murdered by trigger-happy soldiers, what did they mean by 'shoot the driver of the next white car that passes.' How often does this sort of occurrence take place. Is this how their mistakes happen, taking pot luck and shooting innocent people.

The British Army have proved that no one is safe when they are about. Many, many graves at Milltown speak loudly of their tragic "mistakes."

ENGLAND'S SOLUTION TO THE IRISH PROBLEM

Ever since England invaded Ireland over 800 years ago she has given birth to the Irish problem and has since sought to solve it.

From as early as 1800 England has merely indulged in 'solutions' to the Irish problem, without the consent of the Irish people or sometimes getting help from Irish people by politically motivated acts of trickery. In 1800 the Act of Union was introduced. This was the death blow to Ireland's own parliament as henceforth from this date Irish destiny was to be conducted from Westminster. The first organised protest against this 'English solution to Ireland's problem' was Robert Emmet's insurrection of 1803 followed by the young Irelanders 1848 and Fenians 1867. After these failings solutions Queen Victoria tried during the famine years of 1846 to '48 to solve the Irish problem by genocide.

Looking today at the Act of Union it greatly resembles Stormont and the resulting Westminster Direct rule, as in both cases, the Irish people had no say in the governing of their country.

After years of troubled rumblings Gladstone then PM tried to solve the Irish problem with the Home Rule Bill in 1886. This was put before the British parliament. Again Irishmen were being denied the right to solve the Irish problem. The Bill was not passed as it had been bitterly opposed by the Unionists who stated their now famous cry, "Home Rule means Rome Rule". Sectarianism had been brought into Ireland's political arena. Unionists also declared they would defy England even in armed conflict (shades of UDA and Vanguard).

During the years 1900 - 1916 after more unrest, Sinn Fein and the Irish Volunteers were born. In 1916 came the first armed rising since the Fenians against English rule in Ireland. After the 'rising' England set up prison camps to house those who were suspected of seeking freedom for Ireland. (Internment had been introduced). Yet another English solution to the Irish problem. Today England tries these same measures in the form of Long Kesh Concentration Camp.

After the Rising, England's next solution was the Treaty in 1921. Irish delegates were politically threatened into signing the Treaty Lloyd George then PM stated..... 'the signature and recognition of every member of the Irish delegation was necessary or war would follow immediately'. This was English political blackmail being enforced. After the treaty,

boundaries were drawn up. Partition of Ireland had been brought about. This was yet another 'solution' to Ireland's problem devoid of Irish people's consent.

After glancing back of England's past failings to solve the Irish problem, let us now view their present solution. Direct rule has been imposed. The Unionists overlords have been checked with the suspension of Stormont. Operation Motorman has turned the streets and towns of North-East Ireland into massive British army camps. The repressive acts of internment, detention,

imprisonment for one holding certain political beliefs.

To add to this, Mr. Whitelaw in making plans for the all Party talks has re-uttered the ban on advocating politics which are Irish in context. This present solution by England like all her others down the years is destined to flounder on rocky ground.

To conclude this historical analysis of recurring failure by England in trying to solve Ireland's problem, I would state that the only lasting solution lies with the Irish people. When England ceases to occupy any part of Ireland by force and a Democratic Socialist Republic as envisaged by Sinn Fein is established, then and only then will the Irish problem be solved

Statement from Dail Ceanntair Beal Feirste Sinn Fein

Ever since Long Kesh was opened in September 1971 reports have been coming out of constant brutality against the men held there. The first riot, in October 1971, resulted in scores of men being savagely batoned, gassed and attacked by guard-dogs. At various intervals after this raids were made upon the cages during which personal possessions were either stolen or destroyed. The British Army were responsible for most of the punishment handed out at that time although the Camp Commandant must be held finally accountable for all that occurred.

One would have expected that, with the coming of DIRECT RULE, conditions would have improved, but no, Mr. Whitelaw's administration has lived up to England's reputation in Ireland. Cruelty, terror and a complete disregard for the rights of the individual.

In pursuit of those rights, we who have fought for our freedom who intend to continue that fight until England's shameful history in Ireland is brought to a close, ask now of Mr. Whitelaw. Are you aware of the things being done in your name in Long Kesh. You must know that beatings and kickings took place on the way to Hillsborough Courthouse everyone else knew it. Why then did you permit it to continue so long! The intolerable glare of publicity caused this practice to cease, but only in this instance. It has been exchanged for the easier (for your thugs) method of wholesale malevolence.

Weekly almost, we hear of attacks on cages, men literally beaten to their knees, young boys dragged by the hair across concrete floors to be beaten and terrified for the amusement of the uniformed animals whom you are pleased to accept into the service of your country.

Under the much-vaunted British rule-of-law these men are innocent! Whether interned or on remand, they are unconvicted of any crime. They have the right to live and act as human beings and the introduction of special 'Courts' will not change, in any way, the fact that they are still being used as hostages.

Mr. Whitelaw has been asked before through the medium of the press, why despite his continual pleas for political, as opposed to military action, he insists on the harassment of those who are attempting to publicise their beliefs. Does he know, or is it on HIS orders that all political literature is banned in Long Kesh. Within the past few weeks men have gone on hunger-strike in protest against the actions of the Commandant, Truesdale, depriving them of certain items in their food parcels, items which are necessary to augment the foul swill served in the Camp as food. As further punishment this ban has now been extended to cover anything which Truesdale personally disapproves of, including leaflets which were sent to internees. Truesdale has no regard for prison rules and against his decisions there is no appeal. How much longer must men suffer under such a beast before they are completely broken in spirit, or as is much more likely, before someone is killed by his bestial attentions, and a riot is re and a riot is precipitated ending in a slaughter of the inmates of Long Kesh.

SIGNED: Liam O'Muire, Press Officer.

BRITISH ARMY BRUTALITY

WHITEROCK:

Over the past weekend a young man of Whiterock Crescent, Mr. Robert Hall was stabbed in the back by a coloured soldier as he was being transported by Saracen to the Blackmountain. The wounds inflicted had to be stitched by the M.O. at the billet. The British spokesman said: 'the wounds had already been inflicted before he arrived with us and we are not responsible for them.' So there ends the saga of the stabbing of this young man, showing once again that the British have an answer for everything that happens.

BALLYMURPHY:

Over a thousand people took part in a 'paras out' protest in this area. The soldiers at the scene took photos of men, women and children protesting. No doubt to inflict further raids and arrests in the district.

LOWER FALLS:

The Anglian Regiment is attempting to impose another curfew in the area. They have been going around telling the people to stay in doors after 11 p.m. or suffer the consequences if they did not. The various bars in the area have also been threatened with the same thing. Perhaps the Anglians consider their bomb at the Long Bar as an ineffective warning to the people.

ANDERSONSTOWN:

A 16 year old boy, James Boyle of the Glen Road was found shot dead in the 'Flush', Springfield Road. It has come to our attention that a leaflet is circulating in the Leenadoon area, causing severe heartache to this already heartbroken family. The text of the cruel leaflet states that members of the IRA were responsible for this youth's death.

We would point out that we hold the British Army in the area responsible for this boy's death. It is common knowledge the troops had harassed this boy beyond endurance. Shortly before his death they had called to his home enquiring about him. He was last seen alive by a resident of the area who saw him in the company of soldiers at a saracen. He was found some hours later dumped in the Flush shot in the head.

We realise the distress this family is in and we would not wish to add any more heartache, but the British Army are completely to blame for this lad's death.

QUOTATION:

"There are many things more horrible than bloodshed; and slavery is one of them".

ORATION AT GRAVESIDE OF VOLUNTEERS McKINNEY AND DONAGHY

(This oration was delivered in Milltown Cemetery, Belfast, by Eamon Caughey, Chairman of the Belfast Co-ordinating Committee, Sinn Fein):

Fellow mourners, Irishmen and Irishwomen, Ireland once again on this sad but glorious afternoon lays to rest two more soldiers of Oglagh na hEireann; this morning, another was buried.

To the parents and relatives of Staff Officer Patrick Maguire, Volunteer Joseph McKinney and Volunteer John Donaghy, I, on behalf of all branches of the Republican Movement tender to you the parents of these brave warriors, our heartfelt sympathy and condolence on the deaths of your sons.

Like you, we in the Republican Movement will feel the great loss; especially their comrades in arms, who like us in the Movement recognise their lost comrades as shining examples of Irish manhood. They lived and they died so that their people and their country might be freed from the bonds of slavery and British Imperialism.

I say here on this grave, and I hope it echoes throughout the length and breadth of Ireland, their sacrifice like many others of late, which is the ultimate sacrifice for any man or woman to make, shall not, and I emphasise, shall not be in vain.

The Irish People as well as the Irish Nation is at war with England. Staff Officer Maguire and Volunteers McKinney and Donaghy were instilled with a great love for their people and country. Their great sacrifice make us all the more determined to destroy the baneful influence of England and all that it represents in our land. England, you have been the cause of all our sorrow. Today you bring more sorrow to Irish mothers and fathers and to the Irish Nation as a whole. England, I say, if you do not clear out of this country, lock, stock and barrel, you may very well bring more agony, more sorrow to the Irish nation and her people.

And finally, England, I warn you, we in Ireland, every man, woman and child will oppose you and die if necessary, to see our country and our people free of your intervention in our affairs. We will oppose you, not only tomorrow, but for ever so long as you continue to rule us against our will, because 'Ireland unfree will never be at peace.'

I sincerely hope that these are the last funerals of Irishmen and Irishwomen to come to this plot but you know and I know that Irishmen and Irishwomen will fight and die, if necessary, to see their land and people free. Only England's withdrawal can prevent this happening. Therefore, so long as England remains we will continue to resist in whatever way possible, in whatever way we find necessary. It has been said: "Greater love hath no man than to lay down his life for his country and its people." This Staff Officer Maguire and Volunteers McKinney and Donaghy have already done.

Let us take inspiration from them and not let their sacrifices be in vain. May God have mercy on their souls and grant them peace.

YOUR FATHERS ONCE BESIDE US STOOD

by PADRAIG BAN.

For shame the name of Ireland
droops
Our soil is black with foreign
troops,
'And where's the South',
Our country cries,
'Tis for them too my sons now die'.
A time in lime our heroes lay,
But now they rise to say,
With voices bleak with grief,
'Your fathers once beside us
stood,
To back a cause both just and
good'.
'O sons the huns have come again
The streets with Irish bodies lain,
Your father's sons lay slain,
And lie witness to your crime,
In our memory for all time.'

MAY GOD FORGIVE YOU.

NO TRUTH IN THESE RUMOURS

A RUMOUR has been circulating in Belfast recently to the effect that the Drumm family of Andersonstown, intend leaving Belfast shortly to live in a luxury bungalow in the Twenty-Six Counties, provided for them by the Republican Movement. It is suspected that the rumour had its origins in the British Army Black Propaganda Department.

We have been informed by Mrs. Drumm that there is absolutely no truth in the rumour and that she and her family have no intention of leaving Belfast or ceasing their involvement in the struggle for Irish National Freedom.

Extra

COPIES OF THE
REPUBLICAN NEWS MAY BE
OBTAINED FROM
Mr. T. Lyons, 54 Edenmore Ave.,
Raheny, Dublin. Price 5p
in Britain.

QUOTATION:

"Ireland unarmed will attain just as much freedom as it is convenient for England to give her; Ireland armed will attain ultimately just as much freedom as she wants".

(P.H. PEARSE, 1916).

News

The Editor and staff of Republican News wish to thank all our readers who contribute articles, news items, poems, etc., from time to time. We wish to say a special word of thanks to our regular contributors; without whose valued co-operation it would be difficult for us to publish our paper on a weekly basis. Please continue to send in all your written contributions. We would like to give our readers one full page at least for letters to the Editor but we can't do this without your help. So come on now, let's have your views and send them to Mr. Tom Lyons, 54 Edenmore Ave., Raheny, Dublin or any member of the Belfast Republican Press Centre.

★★★★★★★★★★★★

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

(We publish below a letter by JAMES HEANEY who is very active in the USA countering British and Unionist propaganda).

New York Times,
Broadway and 41st Street,
New York, USA.

Dear Sir,

The answer to Northern Irish problems lie in the end of 'separate education in religiously separated schools', according to M.V. Little in his letter published on October 4th.

Would Mr. Little also suggest the end of segregation in public employment and public housing and would he also favor civil rights for Irish Catholics and an end to the internment of Irish Catholics without charge or trial? Hardly! Mr. Little is one of those Unionist who favor segregation in all areas, but pays lip service to an end to segregation in the Irish schools system. It would hardly help to send Irish Catholic children to a non-segregated school (assuming Catholic education constitutes a segregated system) only to send them out to a society which is strictly segregated by government decree and governmental practices. Segregation by the British government in Northern Ireland is official British policy. Under it, Catholics are forced to live in segregated ghetto areas. They are also relegated to employment on the lowest economic level. Administrative jobs are verboten. This is a system of segregation in employment which the government has practiced for years.

Mr. Little's letter outlines the Unionist point of view that the Catholic Church is responsible for all the difficulties in Northern Ireland. Mr. Little's silence on such problems as the Special Powers Act, internment of Catholics without charge or trial and the suspension of all civil rights by a decree issued by the Minister for Home Affairs is a clear indication that Mr. Little supports the policy of political suppression by the government in London. The trouble in Ulster is a political problem, not a religious problem. It goes out of alien rule of Irishmen from the English City of London. The Irish simply want their country back. In 1776 we Americans felt the same way. The British called Washington a terrorist in 1772. We, Americans, finally had our Yorktown, the Irish still await theirs.

The parochial school system in the United States has not created bigotry or religious dissension. The same parochial school system in Northern Ireland has not created bigotry or a segregated society. The British Government has created those conditions.

Respectfully yours,
JAMES HEANEY.

Statements about Beatings while in RUC station

Cage 6, Long Kesh Concentration Camp.

A Chara—Brian Ward and myself were arrested at Durrow Pk., on Friday, September 22nd, we were arrested by the Scots Guards and taken to Victoria RUC Station, Strand Road, in Derry.

The Scots Guards themselves did not harm us in any way but while we were at Victoria Station we got a very bad beating. The RUC themselves kept their hands clean except to let the British soldiers into our cells early on Saturday morning. Here is a statement from both of us describing exactly what took place:—

CHARLIE MCSHEFFREY:

At 3.55 a.m., I was awakened by three British soldiers entering my cell. I was told to stand against the wall.

They then left and after about five minutes I heard screaming and shouting coming from the cell next door. This went on from time to time for about 75 minutes. I knew I was going to be next. The soldiers entered my cell and one asked me my name. When I told him he said I was the one they wanted. I was made to stand in the corner with my hands on my head. A soldier then hit me under the heart with his fist. I fell to the floor. He then put his hands around my neck and nearly choked me. I thought I was going to pass out.

"I was then dragged to another corner by the neck and all three soldiers started to kick me and punch me. After about 15 minutes I was made to stand in the corner with a blanket over my head. I was made to stand like that for about one hour. All the time I could hardly breathe because of a pain in my chest.

"The next day I asked to see my own doctor but it wasn't until my wife came to see me at 7 p.m. and I asked her to get me a doctor in front of an inspector. I then got to see my own doctor who sent me to hospital for an x-ray."

BRIAN WARD:

"At approximately 4 a.m. on Saturday, 23rd September, I was awakened by three British soldiers entering my cell. They told me to stand up and, speaking with broad Scotch accents, asked me my name. I told them and they said I was the one they wanted. They then proceeded to punch me about the body and when I fell to the ground they started to kick me about the ribs, shoulder and legs.

I was then made to stand up and one soldier put both his hands around my neck and started to choke me. While he was doing this the other two held my arms so I couldn't get free. I eventually fell to the ground spitting blood and half conscious.

"They then left me saying they would be back and if I didn't give them information I would get the same again. All this took about 20 minutes. They kept their word and returned to my cell another three times. On the 2nd and 3rd visits I received the same treatment as mentioned above. On the last time I was made to stand up and a blanket was put over my head. I then got one terrible knee in the privates. I fell to the ground and I was then made to stand with the blanket over my head and told that if I moved that I would be sorry.

"After about half an hour a voice told me to go and lie down. When I removed the blanket I noticed this person as the Scottish soldier who was in charge of the party that arrested me. He told me that his cousin had been blown up in Crossmaglen by us bastards and he asked me if I would like him to send S.S. back into me. 'He's an animal', he said, 'and can do a lot more.' They never returned and I lay down with my body feeling like a punch bag after Cassius Clay had been finished with me."

Sinne le meas,

Charlie McSheffrey and Brian Ward.

Warning from Strabane

The Command of Oglagh na hEireann, that covers North Tyrone, in a recent statement claimed responsibility for all the explosions in the Strabane area for the week ending — October 12.

They stated that one of their volunteers had given approximately 20 minutes prior warning about the explosion at the local urban council offices in Railway Street on Monday night. The British Security Forces falsely stated that they received no warning.

The statement added: "We hereby give fair warning that any person who knowingly obstructs or tries to hinder volunteers of Oglagh na hEireann on active service will be shot without hesitation. We have no intention of showing mercy to enemies of the Republic."

Derry Remand prisoners

Derry Comhairle Ceanntair bh Sinn Fein, in a statement issued on Thursday, October 12th, said they deplored the denial by the British Government that remand prisoners were on hunger strike at Long Kesh Concentration Camp.

"We would point out to the Derry public that all the Derry men in the Camp are on hunger strike," the statement said.

The Comhairle Ceanntair said it also noted with a wry smile that the British Army had claimed that they did not have enough soldiers to prevent the desecration of St. Anthony's Church in Belfast by Orange hordes, yet the Army was able to raid Clonard monastery the previous night, an operation which involved 200 men.

"Here in Derry," the statement added, "they are able to send out 20 soldiers to shadow two military red caps who stroll through the Bogside at lunch-time in an attempt to get friendly with the 'natives.' We are glad to note that the 'natives' treat them with the contempt they deserve."

Oglaigh na hEireann

We have been asked to publish the following statement by the 1st Batt Belfast Brigade, Oglaigh na h-Eireann

3rd October

ASU fired 15 rounds at Casement Park at 9 p.m. 15 rounds were fired at British soldiers on duty at front gate. One definite hit was made; fire was returned but ASU returned safe.

5th October

ASU fired 12 rounds into open backed Saracen. This was in Dunmisk Park. Two definite hits were made. Fire was returned but ASU suffered no casualties.

8th October

ASU opened fire at Casement Park. 15 rounds were fired, but as ASU retreated up Creeve Walk, two jeeps came behind them. The ASU engaged them making two definite hits. In a heavy return fire, one volunteer was slightly grazed and although his weapon was lost, he and his comrades returned safely.

8th October

ASU fired 15 rounds at Casement Park at 9 p.m. 15 rounds were fired at British soldiers on duty at the front gate. One definite hit was made; fire was eventually returned, but the ASU returned safe.

9th October

IRA sniper engaged British Army on Andersonstown Road at 3 p.m. He fired 9 shots; no return fire; one hit claimed, safe return of ASU

ASU engaged Silver City fort and BA mobile patrol on Andersonstown Road at 9.30 p.m. 34 rounds were fired at each target and BA returned the fire. One hit was claimed by ASU who returned safely. The BA raided 10 homes in a follow-up search, but found nothing.

13th October

IRA sniper fired a single shot at British soldier who was on roof of St. Genevieve's Shool, wounding him on the arm. Sniper returned to base safely.

15th October

ASU fired at 4.30 p.m. on a Saracen with open doors. One definite hit; 6 shots were fired, none were returned. ASU returned safe.

Memoriam

In proud memory of our friend, MARTIN FORSYTHE, Section Leader, 1st Batt., Belfast Brigade, Oglaigh na h-Eireann, who died for Ireland on 24th October, 1971.

INSERTED BY HIS FRIENDS, Tom and Anne Brennan, Dublin.

PADDY MAGUIRE (R.I.P)

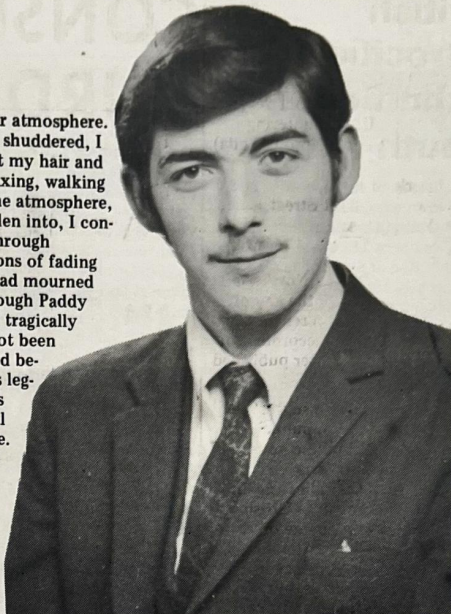
It was a few minutes past seven on an October Thursday evening when I walked into St. Paul's Chapel. The back of the church, which was empty was in darkness and I went up to the crypt and stared at his coffin laden with wreaths and many mass cars.

PATRICK PENDLETON,
DIED 10th OCTOBER, 1972
R.I.P.

I sank into the past when I shared part of the struggle with him. He involved himself so much that his every thought was a continual and beautiful dream about the aims of 1916. In his own way he was deeply religious and his predominant concern was for the welfare of all Irishpeople. I left the confused and sad arrangements of his burial and passed through the thin streams of light into and out of the darkness to the back of the dimlit church. I passed the numerous rows of long oak seats and then for a sudden two seconds I felt in

a peculiar atmosphere. My head shuddered, I tugged at my hair and then relaxing, walking out of the atmosphere, I had fallen into, I continued through the ribbons of fading light. I had mourned him. Though Paddy had died tragically he has not been destroyed because his legacy is his immortal influence.

DANNY



PRESS RELEASE FROM CRUMLIN ROAD PRISON

Press Release

With the gaining of political status for the Republican prisoners of "A" Wing Crumlin Road Jail a massive re-organisation of Sinn Fein took place. Before political status there was only one Cumann with about 40 members. Now we have no less than 6 Cumainn with an average membership of 24. The Cumainn were formed on an area basis with 4 inside the city boundary and two covering the rest of the Province. Here is a breakdown of the Cumainn and their names:

Terry McDermott/Martin Forsyth covering the 1st Batt. area.
Danny McAreavey/Jimmy Quigley covering the 2nd Batt. area.
Two Cumainn were formed for the 3rd Batt. area.

No. 1 Cumann covering the New Lodge/Ardoyne/Old Park/Newington was called the Rory O'Connor/David McAuley/Louis Scullion.
No. 2 Cumann covering the Ballymacarret/Markets area was called Tony Nolan/Joseph Fitzsimmons.
Colm Keenan/Eugene McGillen Cumann was formed for the areas covering Antrim/Derry/Tyrone/Donegal.

Sean Coughy Cumann was formed for the areas covering Armagh/Down/Fermanagh/Louth.

A Comhairle Ceantair was formed with the following officers board:
Chairman: Proinsias Mac Art.
Education Officer: Tony Fields.
Sec./Tres.: John Quinn.
PRO. Gerry O'Hare.

The Comhairle Ceantair instructed all Cumainn to begin an immediate programme of the study of "Eire Nua" and encouraged the membership to involve themselves fully in the politics of Sinn Fein. A

new prison newspaper is to be started immediately with the editorship alternating between the the Cumainn. The Cumainn will also be taking an interest in the problems of their respective areas, and wherever there is a local Republican newspaper they hope (difficulties permitting) to contribute articles.

Members have also promised to make contributions to the Prisoners Dependants Fund by way of handicrafts. They are fully aware of the heavy demands on the finances of the P.D.F. and are grateful for the assistance their families have received.

A message will be sent to this year's Convention of Sinn Fein expressing their full support for the leadership and guidance given over the past few years.

At a time when true Republicans are suffering incarceration in prisons throughout Ireland and England we note with anger the latest tactics of traitor Jack Lynch in trying to drive Sinn Fein out of existence and we congratulate our Southern comrades for continuing to operate despite the apparent difficulties and dangers. We hope Lynch hears of our efforts and is fully aware that even from the prison cell he or the British Government will never silence the true voice of Republicanism.

Yours etc.,
Gerry O'Hare,
P.R.O. Belfast Prison Comhairle Ceantair.

Editorial Note: We were pleased to receive this statement from the Republican prisoners in Belfast Prison and hope that it will be the forerunner of many others.

Clare Republican Remembered

A decade of the Rosary was recited in Gaelic for the repose of the soul of MICHAEL NEVILLE, a native of Lisdoonvarna, who gave his life for Ireland in Dublin in September 1922. Mr. Michael White, of Ennis, Secretary of Clare Comhairle Ceantair led the assembly in the prayers prior to a Sinn Fein Public meeting held at the Square, Lisdoonvarna, recently.

Michael Neville was a member of Oglaigh na h-Eireann in Clare before going to Dublin where he became IO for K. Company, 1st Batt. of the Dublin Brigade, during the war of Independence. He took the Republican side in the Civil War and his mutilated body was found in Killester Cemetery a week after he was taken prisoner by Free State forces. He is buried in the Republican Plot in Kilmoon Cemetery, a few miles outside Lisdoonvarna.

Mr. Sean Minter of Fanore, presided at the meeting. Mr. Martin White, of Lisdoonvarna, paid a glowing tribute to the late Michael Neville's manly qualities.

Mr. Matty Finucane, Chairman of Clare Comhairle Ceantair, outlined Sinn Fein Policy and said that the only solution to Ireland's problems lay in the Sinn Fein plan for regional Government under an Ireland Central Republican Parliament.

CUT IT OUT!!

We would be glad if our readers in Ireland and abroad would send us newspaper cuttings dealing with any matters likely to be of interest to Irish Republicans.



★★★★★★★★

AGAIN the past weekend has seen death and wounding by roaming gangs of assassins in Belfast. In the Woodstock Road, the body of young Terence Maguire, of Norfolk Gardens was found half-clotched in an alleyway. He had been shot in the head. In the Tates Avenue area, at the scene of the previous shooting, two men died after the assassins had entered an off-licence where the two men worked. They died in a hail of bullets, two men dead, and one seriously wounded. The dead men were Thomas Marron of Andersonstown and Leo Duffy of London Street. In the Upper Springfield Road area, young Raymond McGovern, aged 20, was gunned down in his own home. On the Antrim Road a young couple were attacked by armed men in a car and an attempt was made to drag them into a waiting car.

All these people were shot solely because they were easily accessible. They were isolated and more easily 'got at.' The situation which exists in the Six Counties today is one of mass murder of Catholic people. People who live in fringe areas are more susceptible to these roving gangs of murderers. The British army, as has been shown clearly in East Belfast care little about these murders and indeed may in their own way have contributed to them.

To those people who lived and work in isolated areas no further warning should be necessary. The utmost caution should be exercised. Suspicion of everyone, every car should be the priority. These murderers are taking a heavy toll of innocent young lives. Mr. W. Craig, as we all know, has made it clear that this is the policy of the militant loyalist—to murder—90 Catholics have been liquidated to date; to pillage, scores of Catholic pubs have been blown up, without warning, scores of shops have been ransacked and churches have been burned and desecrated. This has all taken place under the "vigilant eye" of the RUC and the British army.

It seems unlikely in view of the present collusion between the British and the UDA that this wave of killing will stop. It is clear that the British Army are afraid to move against the extreme Unionists because of their superior strength so we would ask of all our people wherever they may be to be wary and on their guard at all times, day or night.

WARNING TO ALL AREAS

A young couple who live in the Whiterock area hailed a taxi. They were on their way to Castle Street. The taxi driver instead of driving straight down the Falls Road (the most logical route) attempted to drive down the Donegall Road. The young man in great presence of mind suddenly became aware of the danger and acted. He pushed something into the back of the driver and made him stop. They got out and the taxi made off at top speed down the Donegall Road.

This type of incident can happen so easily, and can often be fatal. Be wary of Taxis.

INTO HISTORY IN THE CLONARD AREA

The behaviour of the Green Jackets in this area brought us back in history to the days when the British spiked the heads of the Críppies and carried them aloft. In an open jeep the soldiers had the 'head' of Sean MacStiophain on a 20 foot pole, wishful thinking no doubt

TO BE OR NOT TO BE . . .

Willie says 'there will be'; Billy says 'there won't be'. The coming local elections in the North on December 6th have been the focal point of much controversy in the past week. William Whitelaw has given December 6th as the date for these elections to take place. It is really immaterial to the Nationalist people whether they ever take place or not, but not so for the loyalist, as Billy Hull, the Vanguard organisation, the UDA, and the UVF have pointed, for they are determined to prevent them, BY WHATEVER MEANS POSSIBLE! And so the Whitelaw Regime crows down once again under the last of bigots' whip. Of one thing we can all be certain, Willie Whitelaw will be made to tow the Orange line and there will be no elections on 6th December, irrespective of what he says.