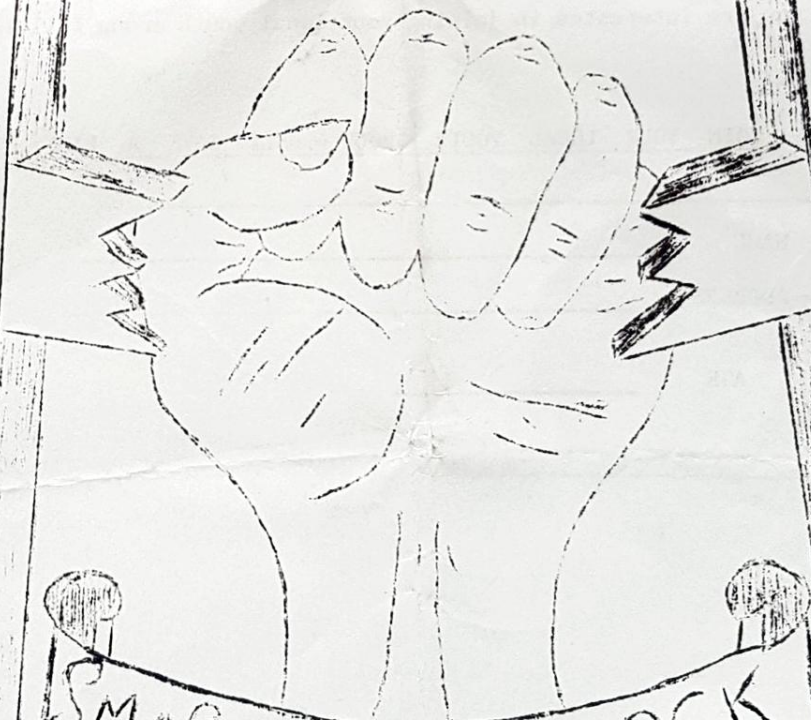
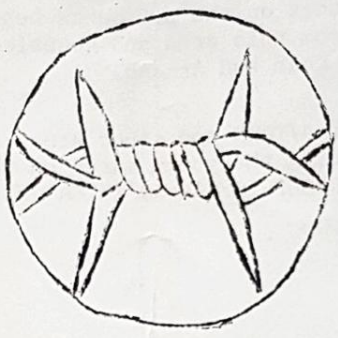


Schools
ORGANISE
UNITE
DEMONSTRATE



SMASH - H - BLOCK
ARMAGH

On behalf of the Belfast Youth against H-Block and Armagh Committee,
I thank you all for attending all meetings and marches on behalf of
the P.O.Ws.

I believe it is significant that young people from many parts of
Belfast should come together to discuss how we can intervene in support
of the hunger-strikers.

The power that young people can generate if their efforts are galvanised
in pursuit of a common objective has already brought reluctant governments,
much stronger than the present British government, to heel.

If we organise our talents constructively we can be such a force. The
job before us is not an easy one and is made more difficult by our youthful
years especially when dealing with the older generation. But whatever the
obstacles, we have to overcome them and forge ahead for victory for the
prisoners sake.

We must also see the present task as not only helping the political
prisoners but helping ourselves.

We live in a society suppressed by an army which uses all the obvious
techniques of war.. As young people, we are regarded as potential resistance
fighters. For this reason we more than any section of the people suffer
the indignities of these war mongers. We more than anyone else are held in
the streets while our names are put through to a computer which might or
might not let us go on. We more than anyone else end up in the barracks
and forts dotted around our areas, which we are told are there to protect us

~~What kind of protection is it that drags us off to be brutalised in
interrogation centres? What kind of protection is that leaves a young girl
on her way to Communion on an evening dead at the road side wasted by the
bullets from our protectors guns. What kind of protection is it that
smashes the skulls of young people with plastic bullets. Its the kind
of protection that we can well do with out.~~

Its against these injustices which have landed hundreds of young people
in prison that we must organise and protest against. Because there is
one sure thing our elected representatives and other opinion makers will
not do a damn thing for us. Indeed it is an indictment of them that we are
here at all, many of us have not left school. By right we should be out
enjoying the youthful pleasures of life instead we are confronted with
organising to defend ourselves.

If those people in high office think that by their silence or condemnation
they are helping the Hunger Strikers then they are sadly mistaken. Our
history shows that generation after generation a harvest of young people
have been ready to stand up and be counted for their country's sake. For
this history we young people are proud.

The conclude this week is a week for listening and for educating ourselves
so that we are forearmed with the necessary knowledge to make our contribution
to the Hunger Strike vital. We are todays youth we don't want to be
tomorrow's Prisoners.