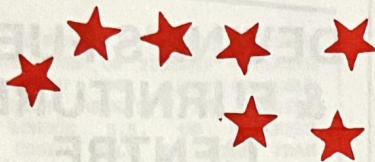


IF YOU DON'T
KNOW
LEARN

saoirse

IF YOU DO
KNOW
TEACH



IRSP
paper
Irish Republican
Socialist Party



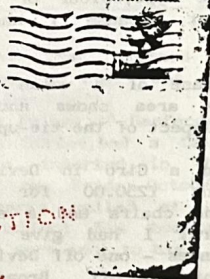
10th November, 1984.

20p. U.S.A. 1\$

'COVERT ACTION' THREAT

PERSONAL

KEVIN MCQUILLAN
% I.R.S.P.
390



WARNING OF POSSIBLE
RETRIBUTIVE ACTION

WE NOTED THAT YOUR REACTION
TO THE IRA ATROCITY AT
BRIGHTON ON 12. OCT. '84
AMOUNTED TO VIRTUAL SUPPORT
FOR THE DIABOLICAL ACT.
CONSEQUENTLY YOU ARE NOW
IN THE POSITION OF A HOSTAGE
AND PERMANENTLY AT RISK
FROM OUR SPECIAL UNITS IN
THE EVENT OF TERRORIST
ACTIVITIES BEING CARRIED OUT
BY THE INLA. THESE SPECIAL
UNITS ARE ORGANISING
INEXPLICABLE ACCIDENTS AND
CARRYING OUT 'MIND-BENDING'
ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE
REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT.
THESE COVERT ACTIVITIES
WILL SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE
WHOLE OF IRELAND WITH A
PROGRESSIVELY RAVAGING
EFFECT UNTIL THE IRA AND
INLA CEASE TO OPERATE.

THE EX-SERVICEMEN OF
CLUB NEMESIS.
3. NOV. '84.



Contents: **ETHIOPIA**
☐ **DHSS RIPP-OFF**
☐ **SINN FEIN AND FHEIS**

THE BIG DHSS RIP-OFF

FOR MANY THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE THE SOCIAL SECURITY HAS BECOME THEIR ONLY MEANS OF SUBSISTENCE. THE CHRONIC LEVEL OF UNEMPLOYMENT NOW MADE WORSE BY THE VICIOUS ANTI-WORKING CLASS POLICIES OF THE THATCHER GOVERNMENT HAS MADE GRINDING POVERTY AN EVERYDAY EXISTENCE. BUT OF COURSE THERE IS ALWAYS THE LOCAL BUDDING CAPITALIST WILLING TO MAKE A FAST FEW QUID OFF THE PEOPLE'S BACK. WEST BELFAST IS NO EXCEPTION TO THIS. THE IRSP HAS BEEN LOOKING INTO THIS WHOLE SYSTEM OF THE TIE-UP BETWEEN LOCAL BUSINESSMEN AND THE DHSS AND WE WILL BE LETTING YOU KNOW WHAT WE FOUND OUT IN THE COMING MONTHS. THE FIRST TIE-UP WE LOOKED AT WAS WITH DEVINE'S FURNITURE AND BEDDING STORE SITUATED IN CONWAY MILL.

Kieran Devine started off selling coal but soon expanded his business into home furniture and equipment. But the amount of business he was doing with DHSS cheques soon led to a flood of complaints.

The case of a woman from the new Gort-na-Mona Estate illustrates this point;

- "I went to the DHSS and made a claim for a new carpet as I was moving into one of those new houses. The DHSS man came out to assess what was needed. Shortly after I put in an estimate to the DHSS for carpet from both Devine's and Broadway. There was about £20-£30 difference in the two estimates and Devine's was the dearest, so you can imagine my surprise when the cheque came out addressed to Devine's - it just didn't seem right you know".

- "I went down with the Giro to Devine's and asked to see some carpet. The carpet I was looking at was priced at £2 per sq.yd. but when he heard that I had a Giro he said 'Oh that'll be £2.20 - it's extra for a Giro'. I objected at this but asked to see the carpet. He showed me three rolls. One was blue, one cream and another blue. That was the only choice there was. He said I had to take one of the three as I had a Giro. In any case the carpet

itself was only industrial carpet. You could get it for £1.25 a sq.yd. down in Smithfield. I had enough of this and told him I wasn't having anything to do with him and demanded the Giro be sent back to the Dole".

- "Just to find out what was going on I went to the Dole office and asked them if I had to take what was in the shop. They said no way. I could spend my money on whatever type of carpet I liked and there was no special limitations as to the type, colour or anything just because I had a Giro".

Another case of a woman from the same area shows another worrying aspect of the tie-up.

- "I had a Giro in Devine's for about £250.00 for two tables and chairs and a suite of drawers. I had given them two estimates - one off Devine's and another off Broadway. Devine's was the dearest but that was the one the dole accepted. I wasn't even notified that Devine's estimate had been accepted. The next thing I knew the lorry just arrived at my door and started unloading furniture. I objected and said I had no chance to choose and didn't know what I was getting. At this the Devine's man became very abusive and said; 'I'll throw them back in the lorry and give your check back'. He was just playing on the fact I was getting them off the DHSS. It made me feel really like dirt. It was a real con-trick". These are only a sample of the complaints we have got concerning Devine's and in particular in his dealings with the residents of newly-built council houses in the Gort-na-mona and Westrock estates. When "Saoirse" phoned Devine's and asked for a comment on these claims, we got the answer "We totally deny these claims. We play it by the book here".

BLACKLIST.

In yet another case Devine's "blacklisted" a woman because she was a "trouble-maker"

Congratulations & Best Wishes to
AN SEAN MHUILEANN
on the Opening of the New Clubrooms

DEVINE'S FUEL & FURNITURE CENTRE

The Mill, Conway Street. Telephone: 242913

Divansfrom £45
Single Drawer Divans
..... from only £69
Double Drawer Divans
from only £109
L/Chestsfrom £29
Dressing Chests.....from £45
Wardrobesfrom £49
*Lots more in Beds & Bedroom
Furniture
Bedroom & Living Room Carpet
from only £2.00 sq. yd



Comhghairdeas agus dea-guá don
SEAN MHUILEANN

(ie. she complained). "I had a Giro in Devine's for tables and chairs. I got word from the DHSS and rang Devine's. Devine told me on the phone that he wouldn't deal with me and was sending my cheque back to the dole as I was a "trouble-maker". He was effectively denying me my claim".

ABUSE.

The volume of complaints strongly point to situations where there is a systematic abuse of DHSS cheques. We will be investigating these complaints in the near future. Do you know of any incidents like this? If so, we would be glad to hear from you. Ring or call at the IRSP Advice Centre, 392 Falls Road - Tel. 238017.

PEOPLE'S ADVICE CENTRE
PRISONER'S WELFARE DEPT.

392 FALLS ROAD,
BELFAST 12
OPEN MON TO FRI 10 to 4pm
OPEN SAT. FROM 12 to 2pm

SINISTER DEVELOPMENTS

THE SINISTER THREAT RECEIVED BY THE IRSP ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 6TH FROM THE 'EX-SERVICEMEN OF CLUB NEMESIS' AND POSTED IN LONDON S.E. ON NOVEMBER 5TH COULD WELL BE MORE THAN JUST THE WORK OF A CRANK.

The threat talked of "covert activities" which will "spread throughout the whole of Ireland""until the IRA and INLA cease to operate". In the wake of the Brighton bombing, which the letter also referred to, Leon Brittan announced the formation of a new "intelligence unit" to operate against republican organisations in Ireland.

MURDER SQUADS

There is an abundance of well documented evidence of how SAS assassination squads have operated in Ireland, North and South, against anti-imperialist organisations. We are convinced they were involved in the murder of John Turnley, Miriam Daly, Ronnie Bunting and Noel Little, usually acting with or controlling loyalist gangs.

PRESS CONFERENCE

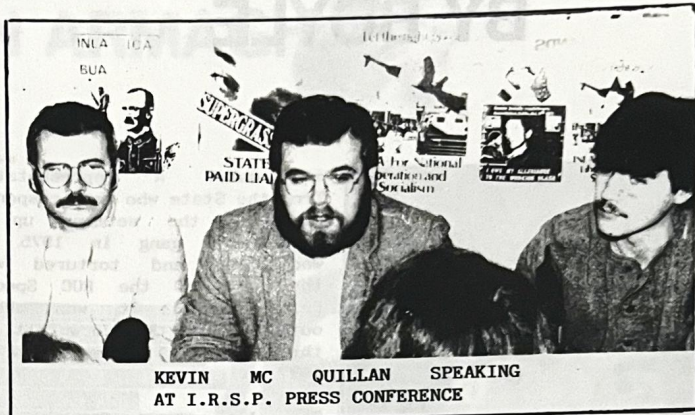
Only last week the IRSP held a press conference to publicise a number of attacks and threats on supporters. At the press conference it was stated that since the Brighton bombing:

*Jimmy McCrystal, a supporter from the Lower Falls, was shot in the groin when he went into the backyard of a house in Farnham Street, in the Lower Ormeau area early on Saturday, October 13. He said the gunman fired from the shadows and he did not see him.

*Two gunmen fired four shots at John Boyd, an ex-prisoner as he entered his home in the Cherry Park area of Twinbrook on Thursday October 25th.

Mr. McQuillan claimed that Mr Boyd kicked the back door of this house in and later collapsed with chest pains and was taken to hospital.

*The following night, the wife of Joe Heaney, a founder member of the IRSP received a phone call at their Turf Lodge home from a man who said: "We have



missed that bastard Boyd, but we won't miss Joe when we come for him".

*Tony Raisey, of Seaford Street, Short Strand, had a false death notice inserted in The Irish News on Friday, October 19th. A hearse called at his home to collect his body, and Mass cards were sent to him.

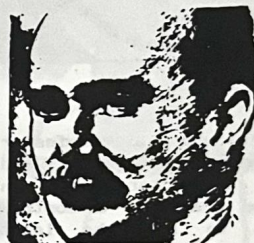
VIGILANCE

We are concerned that British intelligence, with some help or control over loyalist gangs are preparing to launch assassination attempts on both ourselves and Sinn Fein. Gerry Adams acknowledged this at the Sinn Fein Ard Fheis. We would urge all IRSP members and supporters to be especially vigilant over the coming weeks and report ANY threats or suspicious activity to the IRSP Centre, 392 Falls Road, Tel. 238017.

NEXT EDITION

The Saoirse Editorial Board will be devoting its energies over the next few weeks to help bring out a special 10th Anniversary edition of the 'Starry Plough'. As a result the next edition of 'Saoirse' will be delayed.

Irish Republican Socialist Party



Pairti Poblachtach Sóisialach na h-Eireann

I.R.S.P.

The aim of the I.R.S.P. is to establish a 32 County Democratic Socialist Republic with the working class in control of the means of production, distribution and exchange.

THE PROBLEM STATED

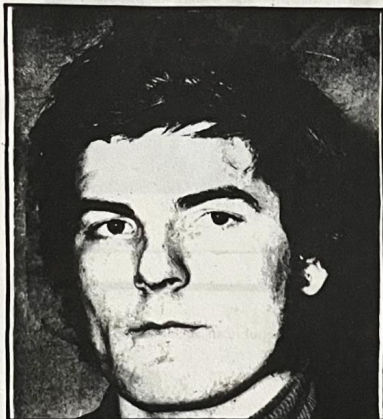
Ireland, North and South, is in a crisis of growing proportions. Despite various British-inspired 'solutions', the nationalist people of the six counties still suffer the results of sectarianism, unemployment and repression in their daily lives. In the South, a massive army of unemployed youth, spiralling prices, increasing redundancies and political corruption show how the domination by multi-national corporations and big capital has sucked the country dry and left massive problems in its wake.

DANGEROUS PROPOSALS

BY BOYLE



Pairti Poblachtach Soisialach na h-Eireann



• Kevin Boyle

NEW BORDER SECURITY.

Two lawyers, one a Professor from Galway University and the other a doctor based in Queens have drawn up a controversial - to say the least - document proposing some very dubious ideas, that if taken seriously would have drastic consequences for the nationalist community. The document has been sent to both the British and Free state Governments who confirm that they are studying it.

The lawyers recommend the overhauling of the RUC...but how many times have we heard that; from the inquiries after the pogroms in 1969 to sir Kenneth Newman in the mid-seventies who talked about getting rid of the bad apples in the force. But many of the worst atrocities have occurred since the jetisoning of the bad apples: the murders of Seamus Grew and Roddy Carroll the murders of 3 Vols. in Lurgan, the attack on the peaceful anti-internment march resulting in the death of Sean Downes.

The lawyers recommend that a Dublin representative sit on the reconstituted police authority in the North. But honestly what difference will

it make? A representative from the State who were responsible for the setting up of the heavy gang in 1975 and who beat and tortured with the best of the RUC Special Branch until it was phased out after the downfall of the Coalition Government in 1977.

The Lawyers recommend joint recruitment and training program but they also rule out a new Police Force. Surely this is a contradiction in terms designed to hoodwink people in accepting what in essence is a New All Ireland Police Force?

BETTER SPENT.

Professor Boyle and Dr. Hadden could have better spent their time drawing up plans for the unifying of the country rather than the Police Force. The people of Ireland would have been better served if they had said something about handing over power to the people instead of handing over people to the powers.

The recommendations of Boyle and Hadden all point to the one thing: An All Ireland Police Force! Hot pursuit for both Gardai and RUC - not that the RUC need that recommendation, they've been doing it for years - a Cross-Border Security Unit although they don't make it clear whom it will comprise ie. Gardai, RUC or both.

Messrs. Boyle and Hadden seem to be saying to the British and Free State Governments, here is the best way to maintain your rule of law - this is the only way to maintain your rule of law.

But how is it a just law; a popular law; if measures like those, if enacted, are needed to maintain it?

ON LOYALISM

WE SAY-loyalism is a reactionary ideology which subverts the interests of the working-class. In no way is it progressive. We oppose any talks or proposals involving devolved government or an independant Ulster. We see the loyalist paramilitaries as neo-fascist death squads, whose purpose is to smash any progressive force and to terrorise the nationalist people.

ON FEDERALISM

WE SAY-a 'federal solution'- be it a 6/26 county variety or a 9-county Ulster one - will serve only to prolong and confuse the struggle and to allow the imperialist powers a fall-back position. It will leave a section of the country open to sectarianism and discrimination.

ON UNEMPLOYMENT

WE SAY-domination of the economy by the multinationals has created a situation where profits, not employment and the common good, is the goal. Human labour is wasted, profits are not re-invested in Ireland to create jobs, and little high-skill jobs and training are forthcoming. We call for a shorter work week in the short term, and, in the long term, nationalisation of our financial and natural resources and large industries for the purpose of full employment. Profits created by Irish workers must be re-invested in Ireland.

ON INFLATION

WE SAY-the 'ripping off' of excessive profits by big business, the lavish life styles of the rich, and the starvation of the internal consumer market mean that working people must foot the bill with higher prices. This is coupled with an unfair tax structure which favours large corporations and leans heavily on the industrial worker.

FORCIBILE STRIP SEARCHING IN ARMAGH JAIL

SUNDAY, 11th NOVEMBER, 1984, MARKS THE 2nd ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DEGRADING PRACTICE OF STRIP SEARCHING IN ARMAGH JAIL. Week in and week out for so-called 'security' reasons, women are forcibly stripped naked before being taken to the remand court (which is just across the street from the Jail). At no time do they come in contact with members of the public and they are escorted there by members of the RUC. On their return they are again subjected to a strip search.

Strip Searching violates not only your personal privacy, but is an attempt to destroy your dignity and self respect.

Women who have their periods, are not exempt - in fact the screws seem to take great delight in humiliating them. One prisoner who refused to take off her pants was forcibly held down by screws, while her pants were ripped off and her sanitary towel thrown on the floor. She was then forced to pick up the sanitary towel and put it back on after the search.

Women who are attending trial, have to go through this humiliating treatment twice a day, for as long as the trial continues, which in the case of the Christopher Black Trial was 8 months.

Medical treatment for the women is virtually non-existent, the doctors prescribe aspirin and Valium for any ailment. Jackie Moore, who was remanded in custody while pregnant was refused a scan and got little or no medical attention during her pregnancy.

STRIP SEARCHING IS A
TOTALLY UNNECESSARY
PRACTICE, CARRIED OUT
IN ARMAGH JAIL AGAINST
REPUBLICAN AND
REPUBLICAN SOCIALIST
POW'S AS A FORM OF
PUNISHMENT.

SHOUT OUT
ABOUT IT!

A Stop The Strip Searches Committee has been formed in Belfast to highlight and protest against the Strip Searching and demand an end to its use. They have embarked on a lobbying campaign and have held several pickets and a torchlight march up the Falls Road. This Saturday there will be a National Picket outside Armagh Womens Prison, to show our solidarity with the Women Prisoners there on this the 2nd Anniversary of Strip Searching.

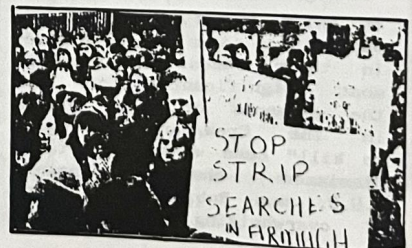
We urge all our supporters and friends to come out and support the Women in Armagh on Saturday, 10th November. Buses leaves Dunville Park at 12.30p.m.

*****VIDEO*VIDEO*VIDEO*VIDEO*****
STRIP SEARCHING-Security or Subjugation?
produced by Derry Film & Video Collective,
36 William Street, Derry Phone (0504) 260128
Hire Charge £15.00.

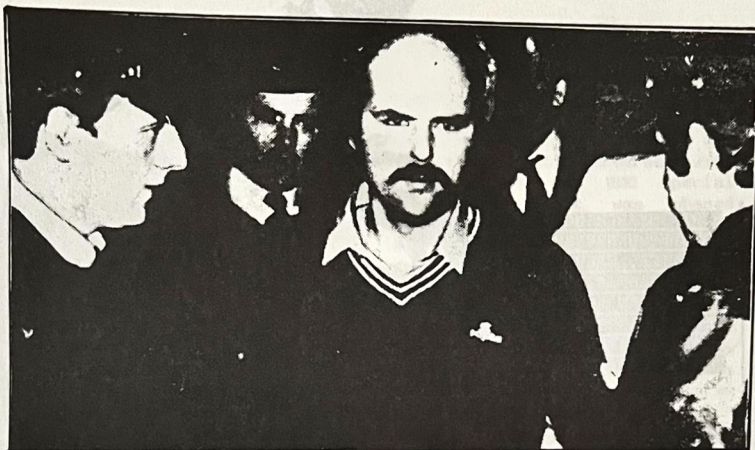


**STOP THE
STRIP-SEARCHES
NOW!**

SUPPORT THE PICKET ON ARMAGH
JAIL, SATURDAY 10TH NOVEMBER.
BUS LEAVES DUNVILLE PARK,
12.30pm.



THE POLITICS OF REPRESSION



MC GLINCHEY EXTRADITION FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES.

THE PAID PERJURY SYSTEM IS COMING UNDER INCREASING PRESSURE INTERNATIONALLY AND AMONGST A WIDE SPECTRUM OF POLITICAL OPINION IN N. IRELAND. THE SYSTEMATIC RECRUITMENT OF PAID PERJURERS BY THE R.U.C. AND THE SUBSEQUENT MASS ARRESTS AND IMPRISONMENTS APPEAR TO HAVE HALTED. THIS IS AS A RESULT OF THE CAMPAIGN WAGED TO DATE BY VARIOUS ANTI-PAID PERJURER GROUPS AND THE WAY THE TRUE NATURE OF THE SYSTEM HAS BEEN EXPOSED TO A WIDE CROSS-SECTION OF PEOPLE. BUT OTHER THINGS HAVE HAPPENED OVER THIS PAST 18 MONTHS OR SO.

JUDICIARY.

The extradition farce of Dominic McGlinchey and then of Seamus Shannon has exposed the way the judiciary both north and south are being used for blatantly political purposes. In the case of McGlinchey the Preliminary Inquiry indicated that the R.U.C. HAVE NO EVIDENCE on which to try him and the whole issue seems set to explode in their faces. But perhaps most significantly of all the comments by Judge Gibson in the Grew/Carroll "shoot to kill" case where he totally dismissed charges against R.U.C. man Robinson in spite of overwhelming evidence and

where his "well done" comment caused a furore among nationalist politicians and opinion North and South. It displayed in stark reality the corrupt and sectarian nature of the judiciary here. And of course the show trials have been going on with Lord Lowry finding Mc Grady's evidence 'bizarre and incredible' yet seeing that 'ring of truth' with which to sentence people. In the Quigley case Judge Hutton handed out savage life sentences on the uncorroborated evidence of the perjurer.

R.U.C., U.D.R.

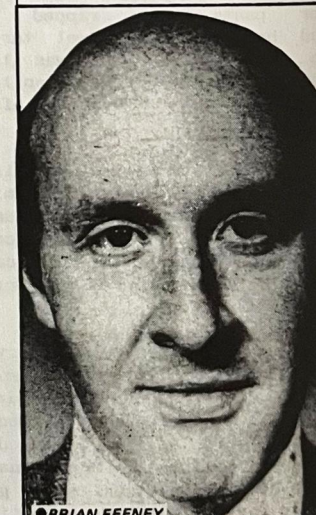
Allied sections of the repression machine have also been coming under heavy criticism. The R.U.C. 'shoot to kill' squads and the whole coverup that went with it have been exposed as a result of the charging (but subsequent acquittal) of R.U.C. men. The killing of Sean Downes on live t.v. has shown to the world how little the R.U.C. has changed from the days of the B-men in 1969. Over this period too we have seen how the U.D.R. acted as a cover for Loyalist death squads, but again the courts total refusal to convict an R.U.C. or U.D.R. man of killing a civilian while in uniform.



Garret FitzGerald
CRAWLING TO THATCHER.



JOHN HUME
FOR AN INTERNAL SOLUTION.



BRIAN FEENEY
S.D.L.P. OPPOSITION.

FIGHT BACK NEEDED

NO JUSTICE.

In short then we have a series of exposures of the totally repressive nature of the Northern State, for the Northern Nationalists, the common thread among them the lack of justice or hope of justice for Nationalists. But there is also a developing political backdrop to these issues.

FORUM.

The Fitzgerald-Thatcher Anglo-Irish summit will be an exercise in how much Fitzgerald, as a representative of the Irish capitalist class, can crawl to Thatcher. The Forum report, which displays clearly the pathetic inability of the Irish ruling class to stand up to Imperialism will be used by Thatcher as an attempt to squeeze yet more collaboration from Fitzgerald. Already there seems a serious split looming in the SDLP. Hume and Fitzgerald seem committed to an internal solution, possibly along the lines of that recently floated by ex-Civil Rights activist now turned Government flunkie, Kevin Boyle. This calls for a 'recognition' of the reality of the six counties, a Bill of Rights, repeal of the Flags and Emblems

Act and elections to a new Stormont (no doubt with SDLP co-operation). But such a position has found opposition within the SDLP. Seamus Mallon in particular was vociferous in his opposition to the 'dolly mixture' approach of the Forum. Brian Feeney, as Belfast SDLP man, has floated the idea (at once criticised by Hume) of withdrawing from the Councils and more co-operation with Sinn Fein. The Mallon-Feeney axis has the support of Haughey eager to get any ammunition to fire at a weak Fitzgerald led Government in the 26 Counties. It would be very dangerous indeed if, in return for purely cosmetic changes, the Hume SDLP, backed by Fitzgerald, went for an internal solution. The result would be that Thatcher would be



PAID PERJURY FARCE

able to use the excuse of the co-operation of the SDLP for more repression like we have been getting over the past eighteen months, but with some more refinements. Will we see the RUC legally crossing the border? Extradition on request? Undercover death squads operating at will on both sides of the border? It is necessary NOW to build opposition to any internal settlement. It is necessary NOW to expose the repressive nature of Britain's role in Ireland and not allow the SDLP to slither through to a new Stormont pact with the Brits.



RUC-GARDAI REPRESSION?

PUBLIC MEETING

JUSTICE AND REPRESSION

Speakers: Bernadette McAliskey, Socialist Lawyers, IRSP and others.

NO INTERNAL SOLUTION!
NO RETURN TO STORMONT!

Organised by IRSP
Conway Street Mill, Sunday
18th November, 2.30pm.

STOP THE SEARCHES

Fundraising Social in the

ANDERSONSTOWN SOCIAL CLUB

SAT. 10th NOVEMBER 1984

Music by DULTA

8 till 12

Adm. £1

IRISH NEWS, RESIDENTS REPLY

A Chara,

A fortnight ago the IRISH NATIONAL LIBERATION ARMY carried out a punishment shooting in Ligoniel. The man who was punished "a Mr. Martin Hamilton" deserved it. This family of have terrorised the Ligoniel area for more than 13 years. There have been hatchet attacks on a pensioners bungalow, with the woman nearly dying of a heart attack last year in Ligoniel, a hold up at an Off-Licence with a hatchet, and an attack on two teenagers on Bonfire night last August. Among other serious things. Many Ligoniel residents have went down to the Sinn Fein Advice Centre to complain. but they were fobbed off with, "we will look into it". "We will send somebody up". A lot of us here in Ligoniel, we can't give you our names in case this letter is opened on the way to you, were enraged when we read the letter in last Tuesday mornings Irish News about the statement about Mrs. sons who she said were good wee boys. They have this area terrorised and more power to the elbow of the INLA for sorting these hood bastards out. We have written a letter to the Irish News supporting the punishment and the INLA, but we don't suppose it will be published by a capitalist mouthpiece like the Irish News. So IRSP pass this on to the INLA, we thank you for helping the Ligoniel people. Keep on sorting these hoodlums out in Ligoniel when your security of your men make it possible. Keep it up, we the Republican residents of Ligoniel salute you. You have more friends in Ligoniel than you think. You can use our statement in your newspaper if you want. If you can afford it post one to every house in Ligoniel and let the people judge for themselves.

Grateful Ligoniel Residents

THE IRISH NEWS EDITORIAL TRIES
TO MAKE A POINT

BRIT LOOK-OUT IN MOYARD

Page 4

The Irish News

Pro Fide et Patria

Tele. 747170 DONEGALL STREET BELFAST Phone 222226

Tuesday, October 30, 1984

Ferial Day

Double-think

THE Irish Republican Socialist Party yesterday displayed a ridiculous piece of double-think.

They complained of a plot by "British Intelligence" to kill some of their members and claimed that ill-defined loyalist elements were being used for the dirty work.

If such a plot exists, we wholeheartedly condemn it as we do all violence from whatever source. But not so the IRSP.

After a Belfast youth was shot by the INLA, an act of attempted murder according to the police, the IRSP simply told the boy's mother that he had been punished for anti-social activity. No condemnation, no appeals for such violence to stop.

This lack of consistency when it comes to violence is the reason that such groups will never succeed in attracting the support of the mass of the people.

We say it again: violence is wrong, whether it comes from the INLA, RUC, UVF, IRA or British army. There can be no compromise on that.

STOP PRESS***STOP PRESS***STOP

As we go to press a motion opposing the "Supergrass system" was narrowly passed after a heated debate in the Stormont Assembly. The motion which was proposed by the DUP stated "that a criminal case in which the chief crown witness has been granted immunity, or some substantial inducement to give evidence, the practice of the court should be not to convict unless that evidence is corroborated by other evidence implicating the accused" This was strongly opposed by the OUP's Bob Mc Cartney, and fr the Alliance Party Paul Maguire

The motion was passed by 20 to 13.

The Ronnie Bunting Cumann IRSP has been in recent weeks receiving reports from local residents in the Moyard area of the fear of danger to their families lives through the using by the Brits of No.54 Moyard Parade, a derelict house as a look-out post.

The Cumann Housing Spokesperson said, "This is once again proof of collaboration between the Northern Ireland Housing Executive and the forces of occupation. Proof of this has been seen in many areas of West Belfast where the British Army dictate to the N.I.H.E. on the design and development of new housing estates. This same dictate undoubtedly led to the death of a young child from the Gortnamonagh Estate recently when because of the design of the Estate, an entrance led directly onto the busy Monagh-by-Pass where the child was knocked down and died as a result of his injuries".

The Ronnie Bunting Cumann IRSP call on the N.I.H.E. to immediately insure that the vermin now occupying No.54 Moyard Parade vacate the premises immediately to alleviate fears of the residents.

There has also been reports in recent weeks of an increase of break-ins of local residents' houses and of an increase of anti-social behaviour in the New Barnsley/Moyard Area. The people of West Belfast have enough to suffer with harassment from the RUC and British Army without having to suffer these acts of anti-social behaviour perpetrated by local youth who are known to the people of the area.

The Ronnie Bunting Cumann IRSP calls on those responsible for these acts of anti-social behaviour in the New Barnsley/Moyard areas to cease their actions forthwith.

WOMEN—

THE CHIEF

BREAD WINNERS

I am going to talk about the plight of women in capitalist society. I prefer to start by relating my own personal experience of their suffering. Even though I was but nineteen when I found myself in jail, I hope that this does not restrict me in any way. When I was five years of age, Britain and N. Ireland were going through an industrial boom. The average family could afford a car, they were buying homes and home comforts. This was the picture of working families in Britain and Ireland except up the Falls and West of the Bann. At this time I remember my mother used to take me and my three sisters and two brothers on a walk to Lifford. We would have a nice unobstructed walk by border checkpoints as is now the case. But however one couldn't say the purpose of this walk was nice. The least one could say is that it was an indictment of the sectarian regime in Stormont.



At that time basic foods were cheaper across the border hence the purpose of a woman and six children making this trip to buy such things as bread and potatoes.



Why I mention this is because on our walk we would pass a very lucrative part of the town where the rich lived and my mother in later years told me I used to point to one house in particular and say "Mummy when I grow up we are going to own that house and not need for anything". It is right that people have hope for the future, especially from their children. But that's in later years. But when there is no hope until you have sons and daughters who are old enough to work. Then there is something terribly wrong with the form of government of which there was and still is.

My mother like other women in our town worked in the local Flax Mill until it took its toll on them and their health. And what did the capitalist Mill owner do in gratitude to those women who gave not only their labour but their health? Not a thing did they do for them. That's how they treated workers then and that's how they treat workers today. But with the spirit of workers united it's not what they will be doing tomorrow.

The bourgeois nationalist system of education if it has taught the working-class anything, it has taught us how wrong they are. We find ourselves today in a state of bigotry and hatred, it's there all around us, and no matter what one thinks there is a certain amount bred into us by our schooling. But I am not saying that the War of Liberation going on at present is sectarian as I am not talking specifically of this issue and as it would take a whole book to explain why it's not sectarian, I will leave it for the present. No, I'm talking about intolerance among working people toward each other and especially

of a sad manifestation of this, namely our attitude towards women in our society.

Working-class women of Ireland have borne the brunt of all our battles, should it be in industry or more seriously again, in the treatment they get while prisoners of the occupying forces. Something else they have been suffering is violence. It's bad enough coming from the State but when it is coming from working men then that is more than enough warning that something is wrong. And to see what is wrong takes us back again to the pseudo-nationalist education system and the intervention of churches into our schools.

Catholic Education

On the Catholic side, a child goes to school and right away is in a single sex school. Young males are encouraged to look upon young girls as domestic slaves. Young people go through their school life without any contact with young people of the opposite sex except in the form of teachers. Quite often these teachers will be the only people of the opposite sex some children will know apart from their own families. And when these children eventually get married and violence enters these marriages, doctors and social workers etc. look to social deprivation and although to some extent it contributes to such violence it is in no way the sole cause. No, the cause can be laid at the door of the educational system, which goes all out to hinder any contact between male and female in young formative years.

Eamonn McCallion
H Block 1

EITHOPIA —

WHO IS TO BLAME?

ONLY A FEW WEEKS AGO THOUSANDS OF ETHIOPIANS WERE DYING QUIETLY IN TOTAL OBSCURITY. THOSE WHO KNEW ABOUT THE EXTENT OF THE FAMINE WHICH HAS BEEN BUILDING OVER A NUMBER OF YEARS NOW, WERE TOTALLY UNITED IN THEIR INDIFFERENCE. THOSE WHO DID KNOW WERE THE WEALTHY COUNTRIES OF THE WEST AND ALL THE MAJOR CHURCHES.

TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE.

Today we see a sickening stampede of personalities and Governments offering paltry sums - much too little and far too late. The British gutter press have jumped on the bandwagon too, they will even use human misery in an effort to increase their circulation and put one over on each other. Basil Hume has followed in the footsteps of Millionaire newspaper magnate Robert Maxwell, again his concern and that of all the major churches is a little late to say the least.

Voluntary agencies and the Ethiopian Government have been appealing for help for a number of years now. They had warned of a major disaster and if help had have been given then, thousands of lives could have been saved. If it were not for the television accounts of the extent of the human misery, there is no doubt that the aid announced by so called concerned governments would not have been forthcoming.

POLITICAL REASONS.

Every day of every year in many parts of the world, many are dying of starvation. This is not because there is not enough food in the world to feed them, on the contrary the world is more than capable of producing enough food so that no-one need go hungry. The reasons for people starving and going hungry in the world today are POLITICAL. The rich

Capitalist countries of the world (USA & EUROPE) produce most of the food. They have always used aid and food as a weapon. They have deliberately withheld aid from countries which would not bow to their wishes. The Capitalist countries of the West depend on keeping underdeveloped countries in a state of poverty. In this way they become totally economically dependant on the Capitalists. To this end they are prepared to install and support any corrupt regime as can be seen in Central America and the Phillipines. Kept weak and dependant they become a cheap source of raw materials and a market for finished products from the West.

OBSCENE.

The most obscene practice of Capitalism in a hungry world is the practise of dumping food. In the USA alone every year millions of tons of food is destroyed. The reason for this is to keep prices stable and to keep profits high. In the EEC there are butter mountains, beef mountains and grain mountains, stock piled again in order to maintain stable prices. In a caring world these surpluses would be used to alleviate world hunger. In a capitalist world of greed and profit no-one gives a damn about the hungry because the very system of capitalism ensures that the capitalist class in the West only grows wealthy at the expense of the underdeveloped countries. It is hypocritical in the extreme for Western capitalist countries to cry crocodile tears at the massive human suffering in Ethiopia

- it is they who have caused it and until the system of distribution and production of wealth has been radically altered, famines such as that in Ethiopia will continue to happen.

'EEC's Grain Mountain Could Feed Ethiopia Famine Victims For Five Years'



GRAPPLING WITH POPULISM



THE SINN FEIN ARD FHEIS SHOWS HOW THE NEW POST '81 DIRECTION IN SINN FEIN IS GRAPPLING WITH SOME OF THE CONTRADICTIONS AND PROBLEMS THROWN UP BY WHAT GERRY ADAMS HIMSELF RECENTLY DESCRIBED AS "REPUBLICAN POPULISM"

Adams' key-note speech is a good reflection of where Sinn Féin now see themselves and the direction the Northern based leadership sees the movement taking in the years ahead. Sinn Féin are still annoyed at their exclusion from the forum report which they see as an attempt by the establishment parties to present an alternative to the policies of Sinn Féin, certainly there was an element of this but it was much more as well. The Forum was a united response by the Irish ruling class; a clear statement of intent of their relationship to British Imperialism—i.e. one of dependence. Its starting point was one of compromise and collaboration. It could be little else because this reflects the reality of the role of the Irish ruling class, tied by numerous economic and political strings to the interests of international capitalism, for the Irish working class the Forum held

no possibility of progress at all. Yet Sinn Féin's continued annoyance at being excluded could possibly be explained by another section of Adams'

speech in which he said that following a declaration of a date for British withdrawal "it is a matter of business-like negotiations between representatives of all the Irish parties and this includes those who represent Loyalist voters....". The amount of possibilities this throws up are enormous and one is forced to ask the question when does anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist struggle become replaced by business-like negotiations? Under what circumstances and with what British Government? these are issues that need to be clarified.

PARTITION OR COUNTER-REVOLUTION

The attitude that Partition and the existence of the 6 County State was the sole aspect of the national struggle came across very clearly; that it was the block to a "restoration of Irish Democracy". The facts are that the British inspired counter-revolution in 1922/23 created not one but two states, each of which were controlled by and dependent on Imperialism. The idea that in "partition" they, so to

speak, only gave us half our country obscures the class nature of the states which were created. It is not, as Adams' says, "60 years of partition, of neo-colonial status that has conditioned the Dublin establishment that it is not within their grasp to tackle the British Government" but the way the Irish capitalist class has consciously tied in their interests with international capitalism and Britain as the policeman of those interests, which makes it impossible for them to confront imperialism. It is not a matter of conditioning, but of class interest. This may sound like quibbling over minor points but it serves to reflect that Sinn Féin has not adopted the revolutionary marxist approach of James Connolly and while they undoubtedly represent the major radical force in Irish politics, they also carry within them the possibilities of various political paths because of their view of the political system in Ireland is influenced by so many diverse trends.

PROBLEMS AHEAD.

Some of those diverse trends were represented in the debates on women and abstentionism. An attempt to discuss the question of abortion was ruled out of order. Women in Ireland represent a doubly oppressed section and the heavy ideological pressure by the Catholic Church has made abortion a 'taboo' subject and one which will have to be tackled if the suffocating influence of the Catholic Church is to be challenged. Registering as a political party and entering the Dail also raised traditionalist hackles.

We, in the I.R.S.P. have neither the organisation or the resources to mount a credible electoral intervention in Dail elections but we do see the tactical advantage of doing so. We would urge them to think again on this important issue.

EVICTIION

Generally all legal tenants, both Private and Public, have the following rights:

1. The right to at least 4 weeks notice;
2. The right to freedom from undue harassment from the Landlord;
3. The right to claim a Rent Allowance or Rebate;
4. The right to "due process", ie. the proper legal procedure must be used to carry out an eviction;
5. You are entitled to know the name and address of either your Landlord or your Landlord's Agent;
6. A basic statement of your rights as a tenant.



EMERGENCY HOUSING

There are certain circumstances under which N.I.H.E. have to treat a case for re-housing as an emergency case: (A1). These include cases of actual intimidation or real fear of intimidation, cases where homes have been destroyed (by fire or explosion, for example) or cases where people are in real danger and there is a serious risk to their life. People in all of the above circumstances are entitled to be Emergency or A1 status for re-housing.

If you become an A1 case you do not have completely free choice as to where you may live; the N.I.H.E. can restrict the areas where accommodation is offered. The N.I.H.E. have to make only two reasonable offers. If both offers are refused by you, you can then be transferred to the ordinary housing list, losing your Emergency status.

If you have any housing problems, contact the IRSP office - 392 Falls Road, Tel. 238017.

Until
all are free,
we are all
imprisoned



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It is definitely illegal for a landlord to try to force out a legal tenant by, for example, changing the locks or using physical force. If he does this you have a right to substantial damages. If you are illegally evicted and physical force is used to evict you, you may have grounds for an action against the landlord for assault.

All tenants should read their tenancy agreement carefully. Apart from the few rights outlined above, tenants are in large part at the mercy of their tenancy agreement and should therefore check this over carefully.



JOIN THE IRSP.

Name

Address

Send to: 392, Falls Road, Belfast - or -
34, Upper Gardiner Street, Dublin.