

IRSP

HUNGER STRIKE BULLETIN NO.4

LATEST NEWS

The following is a list of weights of the three Armagh women prisoners on their second week of Hunger strike for political status

MARY DOYLE was 8st 12lbs now 8st 11lbs

MAIREAD NUGENT was 9st 2lbs now 8st 6lbs

MAIREAD FARRELL was 8st 1lb now 7st 4lbs

This shows a dramatic loss of weight. In just one week of hunger strike with Mairead Farrell, especially, the loss is distressing at such an early stage in the hunger strike.



MAIREAD NUGENT MAIREAD FARRELL MARY DOYLE

'LIBERTY AND LOVE NEVER DIE'

A Chairde,

We, the protesting prisoners in 'A' Wing Armagh Gaol, at present on the no-wash protest, wish to once again thank you for the unending support you have shown to ourselves and our comrades the blanket-men, seven of whom are rapidly deteriorating on hunger strike in a last attempt to force Britain to give in to our demand for political status - a hunger strike many times postponed due to the intervention of concerned parties who made many brave attempts to bring an end to this deadlock.

Having decided to join this hunger strike with full knowledge and realisation that this will most probably end in death, we call on you, our dearly needed relatives and friends, to raise the cry anew "Political Status for Political Prisoners". We ask you to appeal to all on our behalf in the hope that it may raise one more voice, open one more pair of eyes and ears to the injustice and suffering in our land.

Death rearing its ugly head is indeed something to be avoided, but the foreign forces occupying our beloved Ireland have thrown death in our faces and so we must meet it. Our land has a history of unending persecution, aimed at the Nationalist People. The offensive foreign militancy tries to bring us to our knees, but always they fail. We do not accept their rule in our land, so the war rages and men and women give their lives in this our freedom struggle.

Our part, here in the gaols is but one more extension of the war. Political Prisoners expect no privileges or special treatment while in enemy concentration camps, but we do expect, and are entitled to humanitarian treatment and the recognition rightly due as prisoners of war.

Five demands must be met; the right to wear our own clothes is but one, and this applies to our comrades in H-Block. It is already known that all female prisoners in Ireland, Scotland, Wales and England already wear their own clothes. There are some who have called for the clothes issue to be granted in the hope that the men would call off their hunger strike in that event; this would not be done. The granting of clothes would only bring our comrades to the same level as us in Armagh. It is not enough. Our protest is for five point status and we will accept nothing less.

For four years we have been refusing to work and conform to Britain's criminalisation policy. Therefore we lost all privileges and were locked up twenty three hours a day. Now for the past ten months we have had our endurance stretched to what we would have thought of before as being impossible. However, comradeship and your unflinching support have been gifts to keep us sane. How much more have the men in the Hell-Blocks suffered, should we continue on this course for an unending number of years we would surely suffer from ill-health and some from mental and physical damage. With this in mind our courageous comrades embark on hunger strike in the hope of breaking this deadlock.

The British propaganda machine is now working overtime. So many can be fooled by British lies. Therefore we place our trust in you and all others who have successfully united to let the voice of truth be heard above the lies of the enemy. You have given us courage and strength and with this last attempt and your support, we move forward to victory. WHAT OUR ENEMIES ARE TRYING TO KILL, IS IMMORTAL: LIBERTY AND LOVE NEVER DIE.

Protesting POW's

'A' Wing, Armagh Gaol.

DOIRE eile

Derrys long tradition of peoples theatre has not been found wanting during the present campaign. DOIRE EILE (the other Derry) a local theatre and cultural group, has been putting on regular concerts and performances of the H-block play to build support & raise funds for the very active Hunger Strike Cttee.

THE

The Derry Hunger Strike Cttee. which now produces its own twice weekly Hunger Strike Bulletin, has been organising daily protests in support of the 5 demands. These activities have included marches, meetings and flying pickets on police stations and major roads.

Following the successful industrial action by Derry workers in November and widespread canvassing of support in workplaces, the Cttee. are confident that there will be massive local support for the industrial day of action on Wed.10th Dec.

WOMEN NOT FORGOTTEN

Derry has also been very active in highlighting the plight of Armagh prisoner Pauline McLaughlin, a native of the city, who is critically ill and is being callously mistreated by the prison authorities and the Brit. government.

AWomen against Armagh group has been formed in the city and the Hunger Strike Cttee. also runs a creche each afternoon (Mon.-Sat.) to enable more women to take part in marches and pickets.

STUDENTS BANNED

On Wednesday Dec. 3rd over 1,000 students, including representatives from colleges in Dublin and England assembled at Queens University Belfast for a rally in support of the Armagh and H-blocks hunger strikers. Only a matter of hours beforehand H. Atkins had announced that at the request of the R.U.C. he was banning the march which the students had planned to make to the City Hall - despite the fact that the students had filed a route which sought to avoid any confrontation with loyalists.

The significance of the ban, and of the huge force of R.U.C. drafted into Belfast to implement it, was not lost on the students who like the prisoners they support, were only children when the student marches for civil rights in the 60's faced the R.U.C. and the loyalist mobs.

After being addressed by Liz Lagrue (ex Armagh prisoner), an English student representative, a Belfast schoolboy and Maura McCrory (National H-block/Armagh Cttee.) the students attempted to move off towards their intended route down the Ormeau Road, by walking on the pavement - but they were stopped by a double cordon of carbine wielding R.U.C. at the side of the university and after chanting slogans in support of the hunger strikers they eventually dispersed. Although the demonstration was small in comparison with many of the marches and rallies which have taken place in the nationalist areas of Belfast it was precisely because it was taking place outside the gettoes and drawing support from students, whom the Brits find slightly more difficult to portray as being manipulated by 'godfathers of violence' - that the government were embarrassed into banning it. The ban and the large presence of armed R.U.C. was predictably welcomed by the D.U.P. Paisleys sidekick, boy wonder Robinson claimed that the ban was 'an important precedent' and is now demanding bans on other demonstrations in support of the hunger strikers.

LONDON

Following the statement from the Catholic Cardinal Hume that the hungerstrike was another form of violence I.R.S.P. members in London attended at Westminster Cathedral. When the Cardinal's Pastoral Letter was read out they stood up, dressed only in blankets, as a gesture of protest. They were then approached by a priest who threatened to bring the police into the church to arrest them. At this the blanket protesters walked out of the church and were followed by a number of the congregation who were in agreement with their protest. Outside, they distributed literature about the hungerstrike and had a very favourable response from the people they spoke to.

In November the London I.R.S.P. also organised a public meeting in Conway Hall which was addressed by Nora Connolly O'Brien and representatives from Charter 80, Troops Out Movement, A.U.E.W. and Sinn Fein.

Despite the efforts of the Brit government propaganda machine, support for the hunger strikers is growing in their own capital city, as evidenced by the big turnout for the march on Sunday 7th December.

ARMAGH

A detailed account of the political status protest in Armagh Gaol since 1976, is provided in a pamphlet produced by the 'Women Against Imperialism' group. It was originally issued to coincide with the public tribunal which they had organised on the Armagh

issue last April and has now been reprinted in response to a tremendous demand by a very large variety of concerned groups for information.

The pamphlet gives the reasons for the protest in the words of the protesting women themselves. It describes how their situation has deteriorated especially since they were forced on to a 'no wash' protest following attacks by male screws in Feb. 1980.

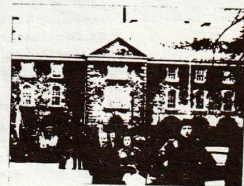
There is also a large section on the medical condition of the women, several of whom have suffered serious illness due to the extreme hardship and criminal malpractice of the notorious Dr. Death Cole the so called prison doctor.

HISTORIC COMPROMISE!

After what he described as a 'historic meeting' with Mrs Thatcher on Monday 8th. December, Charley Haughey announced that Brit and the west Brit Free State civil servants would be making a study of future forms of government which might suit the six counties. He also claimed that some sort of compromise could be reached on the Political Status issue. Compromise is right up Mr. Haugheys street as it would remove any immediate threat to the stability of his own regime. As for the report by the civil servants which isn't due until some time towards the end of next year - that's not likely to pose any radical solutions.

What this summit really means is that Haughey and Thatcher agreed to continue cooperation in suppressing any moves towards a truly independent socialist Ireland.

Women Protest for Political Status in Armagh Gaol



REPORT BY
WOMEN
AGAINST
IMPERIALISM



HUNGER STRIKE HISTORY

ON MONDAY 1ST. DECEMBER, MAIREAD NUGENT, MAIREAD FARRELL AND MARY DOYLE, POLITICAL PRISONERS IN ARMAGH, EMBARKED ON A HUNGER STRIKE, TO THE DEATH, IF NECESSARY, IN THE CONTINUING STRUGGLE FOR A RETURN OF POLITICAL STATUS.

Women are no strangers to this last resort of the down-trodden. From the suffragettes to the Price Sisters women have demonstrated their willingness to die rather than bow the knee to tyranny and it is perhaps precisely because they are women that the history of women hunger strikers in Ireland is so little known.

Women were involved in the nineteen sixteen Rising in a purely secondary role such as nurses, dispatch riders and cooks and only saw military action when the number of men was so reduced that effective action by male volunteers was virtually impossible. After the Rising was put down it was the women who kept the spark of resistance alive until the men were released in June 1917. They formed Prisoners Defence Leagues which were something like our present day Relative Action Committees and P.D.F. They collected food and clothing for prisoners, arranged visits, they organised various events to raise money for prisoners dependants and most important of all they demonstrated on the streets just as the RAC's demonstrated.

During the War of Independence women were once more relegated to a secondary role but as far as political development and courage were concerned they stood shoulder to shoulder and were sometimes ahead of the national liberation movement. Cumann na mBan was the first organization to reject the Treaty and during the ensuing Civil War it was the women who bore the brunt of both the political work and the fighting.

In 1921, four women, Linda Kearns, Eithne Coyle, Eileen Keogh and Mae Burke escaped out over the wall of Mountjoy Jail on Halloween night. The prison authorities were enraged and as a result introduced a regime of the most brutal hardship for the women political prisoners. Things became so unbearable that they were left with only one alternative to their deprivation and degradation - hunger strike. Five women (two of whom were doing life) went on hunger strike but the strike didn't really get off the ground because they were soon ordered off it by Cumann na mBan Headquarters.

Under the new Free State Government things got worse instead of better. Jails were overcrowded, facilities were non-existent, there was no heating, food was deplorable and of all the jails which housed women Kilmainham was probably the worst. In March 1923, the 91 women political prisoners in Kilmainham went on an all out hungerstrike for their basic human rights. Their cells had been stripped of all furniture except a mattress and blankets, screws stole the best of what little food was allotted to them, they could not have visitors nor could they receive or send any letters. Reading contemporary accounts of their plight is like reading letters smuggled out of Armagh and the H-Blocks today. Tyrants never change nor does the determination of the Irish People to resist them.

After seven days the Free State Government was compelled to relent and the women's demands were granted. It was the same old story in Mountjoy and the North Dublin Union. Margaret Buckley, in her book "The Jangle of Keys" describes how Republican women "of good character and no criminal intent were being deprived of common necessities which are accorded to even the most depraved criminals." In all cases the only reason the Government would listen to was the fear of a mass mobilisation of the Irish People behind the hungerstrikers and their demands.

The next major hunger strike involving women was 50 years later.



WOMEN PROTESTING OVER THE TREATMENT OF IRISH PRISONERS IN MOUNTJOY PRISON DUBLIN - APRIL 1920

On November 13th. 1973, Delores and Marian Price went on hungerstrike in Brixton Prison. Along with Hugh Feeney and Gerard Kelly they had been convicted on a conspiracy charge in connection with the London car bombs in March, earlier that year and had been sentenced to thirty years.

The four hungerstrikers demanded that they be transferred to prisons in the six counties where they would be near to their families. Delores was force-fed from November 30th. and Marian from December 1st.

Once more it was the mobilisation of ordinary people on the streets which ensured that their demands were met.

The lesson of history is clear: UNLESS THERE IS A MASS AND SUSTAINED MOBILISATION OF THE IRISH PEOPLE ON THE STREETS MAIREAD NUGENT, MAIREAD FARRELL, MARY DOYLE AND THEIR SEVEN COMRADES IN LONG KESH WILL DIE AT THE HANDS OF OUR BRITISH AND LOYALIST OPPRESSORS.

MASS PICKET ~ ARMAGH PRISON SATURDAY 13th DEC.

INDUSTRIAL ACTION NOW!

As the hungerstrike enters its 7th. week in Long Kesh and 2nd. week in Armagh, humanitarian concern for the plight of the prisoners is matched with a growing anger at the intransigence of the British Government in the face of mass support for the prisoners demands.

Time after time the brits lie of "criminalisation" and "no support" has been thrown back in their teeth. In fact, the hungerstrike has re-united and has mobilised masses of nationalist people on a scale not seen since the early days of the troubles- and this at a time when the British Army felt that they had the Irish sufficiently subdued and demoralised by 10 years of repression to enable them to "mop up" a few remaining trouble makers and hand over "law and order" enforcement to the R.U.C.

An important aspect of the growing unity and militancy of the nationalist people is the work being done to build support for the prisoners demands among trade unionists.

It is no coincidence that the vast majority of men and women in Long Kesh and Armagh are working class.

The Catholic middle class in the North may make nationalist noises like their Fianna Fail counterparts in the south, but, like Charlie Haughey, they are all too willing to compromise, collaborate and negotiate with the forces of repression. This was well illustrated by the secret talks that Catholic middle class representatives had with the R.U.C. in Newcastle.

Only the working class has remained loyal to the principles of real freedom from Imperialist British rule and consequently it has been at the receiving end of the worst forms of discrimination and repression. Now, more than ever, the oppressed people must look, not to these collaborators, but to within their own ranks for leadership.

While the possibility of organising anti-imperialist activity through trade unions is limited by the reality of widespread unemployment it is still an important area which has in the past been neglected.

John Nixon, hunger striker, writes.....

Members and officials of the trade unions, men and women in the tradition of Jim Larkin and James Connolly, I, one of the seven hunger - strikers here in H-Block, write this letter appealing to you through our unifying link of working class origins, to act on our behalf.

I implore you, the trade unionists, in the name of the working class, to use your considerable power to bring this hunger strike to a death-free and successful conclusion.

Act in such a way as to show the Tories that you, the trade unions, stand united in your opposition to repression.

On November 11th. hundreds of Belfast deep sea dockers members of the I.T.G.W.U. walked out and marched to the Belfast office of the I.C.T.U.

On November 12th. tens of thousands of Derry workers brought the city to a standstill. They declared that "we the workers of Derry, members of the I.T.G.W.U., A.T.G.W.U. and N.T.G.W.U. call on the entire leadership of the T.U. movement to unite behind the prisoners demands and to call for an official strike to force the British Government to concede."

MULLAN & MEEHAN APPEALS

Seamus Mullan and Martin Meehan, both of whom were recently on hungerstrike in protest against R.U.C. frameups, are now awaiting the outcome of further legal proceedings in the new year.

A date has been set in early January for Martin Meehan's appeal and Seamus Mullan's case is to go to the House of Lords in England.

PAULINE McLAUGHLIN

At a meeting in Turf Lodge on Thursday 4th. Dec. Pauline's critical condition was graphically described by her friend, Ann Mallan, of Derry, who visits her regularly. Pauline was returned to Armagh Prison a few weeks ago at her own request as she could not bear the way she was being treated by the screws in Musgrave Park Hospital. She said that she would rather die in Armagh than die broken-hearted in Musgrave Park.

Ann described how Pauline, who now weighs only about five stone, is being barely kept alive by being given one or two bags of fluid intravenously each week. She still cannot keep down anything she eats.

Following a visit by Labour Peer (sic) Lord Gifford a few weeks ago Michael Alison said Pauline could not be released until the British Government were convinced she was not faking her illness....if something is not done soon the British Vampires will have the ultimate proof of Pauline being carried out in a coffin.

The meeting supported the idea of circulating a petition and demanding that members of the medical profession use their influence to demand that Pauline be released.

A statement from the Armagh Sub-committee was read out demanding:-

- 1) The release of Pauline to a civilian hospital for adequate medical treatment
- 2) The removal of Dr. Cole from the medical register and his expulsion from the B.M.A.
- 3) An independant medical enquiry into medical conditions in Armagh Prison and the activities of Dr. Cole as Prison doctor.

Sean McKenna

The latest reports on the conditions of the seven H Block hunger strikers confirm the tragic news that Sean McKenna is going blind. A few days ago on a visit from his mother he couldn't get out of bed to visit her he was so weak. Even more tragically he didn't recognise his own mother, due to a temporary spasm of blindness. As the vital organs deteriorate this will lead to total blindness.

It is an indication of Sean's determination that to attain his and his comrades just demands he is prepared to lose his sight. This brand of heroism is an example of all oppressed people's struggling throughout the world.

Tommy McKearney and Leo Green are also reported to be very weak after 46 days on hunger strike. All the prisoners are rubbing cream on their limbs, to prevent the bones from breaking the skin texture and protruding out—an extremely painful possibility. PLEASE HELP THE PRISONERS ATTAIN THEIR RIGHTS. The time for talking to the Brits is over....must Sean McKenna go blind before you act?



Brendan Hughes



Sean McKenna



Raymond McCartney



Tommy McKearney



Tom McFeeley



John Nixon



Leo Green

The 7 men on hunger strike in Long Kesh were moved last week from H-block 3 to the prison hospital. In a letter smuggled out of the prison just before the move their weights were given as.....

Sean McKenna 7st. 3lb. (originally 9½st.)

Tommy McKearney 7st. 4lb.

Leo Green 7st. 11 lb.

Brendan Hughes 8st. 4lb.

Raymond McCartney 8st. 6lb.

Tom McFeeley 8st. 8lb. (originally 11½st.)

John Nixon 8st. 11 lb. (originally 10st. 11 lb.)

A Chairde,

Its very quiet here in the wing at the minute, very quiet. I suppose all the lads are trying to get a bit of sleep while they can. Sleep is easier to come by during the day in here as it gets very cold at night. It would make things a whole lot easier if we had clothes instead of being naked.

Its unusually quiet here today though. There's not a sound. Maybe they're all doing just what I am doing, looking at the walls and thinking. You wouldn't believe what the walls in this cell look like - covered in human waste they are, from top to bottom. The whole place stinks. The cell is very small as well, much too small for two people, although at the minute, it doesn't seem to be bothering my mate too much for I think he has managed to fall asleep. It beats me how he does it on that bed of his. Well, its not exactly a bed, its a length of foam lying on the floor. You'd need to see it to believe it. Its filthy and damp too and takes a wee bit of getting used to. But then, I suppose we've had plenty of practice over this last four years.

We haven't had a bit of exercise in that time either as they keep us locked up in the cells for twenty four hours a day. The last time I was permitted to use the exercise yard was December 1976

To make matters worse, they've put a heavy metal covering on our windows and it seems to me to be more for keeping the daylight out than keeping us in. There are forty eight of us in this small wing in twenty four cells and as all are in the same condition you can just imagine the smell. All told there are a few hundred of us between the four H-Blocks and I've seen boys of 16 and 17 age rapidly under these terrible conditions.

The British say we are criminals for fighting against them in our own country. We, of course, disagree and that is the reason why we are here. We demand recognition as political prisoners but the British refuse to grant it and so we're forced to protest. We've tried everything to end it but the British refused to listen to us, to our people and even the head of the Catholic Church in Ireland, Cardinal O'Fiaich. He and bishop Dury tried months of talks but to no avail, the Brits wouldn't budge. On hearing of the collapse of the talks we resorted to our final weapon, hunger strike. Now seven of my comrades are suffering this agony to end this inhumanity. Maybe thats why its so quiet here today. Everybody is doing exactly what I am doing....Thinking of them

Is mise le meas.

A Chairde,

It was only through coming into prison and joining the protest for political status that I came to know three of the men presently on the hunger strike - Tom McFeeley, Sean McKenna and John Nixon. All three of them joined the protest at an early stage, at a time when no one, with the exception of our immediate families, really knew what was going on inside these H-Blocks of the Kesh.

The protest was a lot different then - in those days of 1976/1977, than it is now. We were simply refusing to wear prison garb and do prison work because we were prisoners of an alien system against which we struggled; and prisoners of a framework of injustices and blatant wrongs that we endeavoured to break down and rectify. We were just ordinary working class Irish people motivated politically by the ideals of freedom, justice and equality, not just for ourselves, but for the entire Irish People regardless of religion or creed.

My three comrades fitted exactly into this mould and they shaped their lives in order to achieve it even should it mean an untimely death or long years of imprisonment.

As 1977 turned into 1978, I realised that although their aims and objectives were the same each had an entirely different character. Tom McFeeley is a Republican of the old stock, he is unflinching in his stand for Irish freedom and uncompromising in his ideals. He has a strong love for his country, its cause is his cause and he lives only to serve it and it alone. Sean McKenna is motivated by the same love, yet it goes much further and has a wider scope. Sean is of the opinion that not only must we strive for the liberation of the Irish People but also for the liberation of all the oppressed peoples of the world. He is a thinker and always takes a serious view of everything before giving an opinion. Sean also leaves a deep and lasting impression on all those he comes into contact with. John Nixon is a lighthearted character who always manages to raise a laugh in any situation, he also has a fanatical interest in the Gaelic language and uses it at every opportunity and his knowledge of traditional song and verse would be envied by anyone. Behind the jovial image, though, John has a serious side, for he too is driven by the same love for his country and his fellow countrymen as are the other two. All three are but young men who have watched in vain as, firstly, the British Government ignored their protest of non-cooperation, secondly, their protest of no wash/no stop out and thirdly, the attempts of the National H-Block Committee and of Cardinal O'Fiaich's talks to bring a peaceful end to our suffering.

Now they are faced with an agonizing death, their only means, their final alternative to bring an end to this inhumanity. Two weeks ago we all watched in silence as the three of them were taken from this wing in H-Block 5 to join their other comrades on hungerstrike in H-Block 3.

I'm sure everyone else's thoughts were exactly the same as my own.....would we ever see Tom McFeeley, Sean McKenna and John Nixon again?

Brendan H-Block 5.

HUNGER STRIKE DIARY

Hunger Strike Diary.

Wednesday 12.11.80.

Belfast Torchlight march to Beechmount Leisure centre 5,000 attended.

EX Prisoners took over New Lodge Flats, until duration of Hunger Strike.

Thursday 13.11.80. Tyrone Torchlight march. Lenadon Torchlight march..

Monday 1.12.80. Turf Lodge picketed Fort Jericho. Cars sounded horns. Four men from Turf Lodge climbed to the top of the Albert clock in High street, in the city centre of Belfast. When they reached the top they hoisted a 30/40 foot long banner in support of the H Block hunger strike. After they had been on top of the clock for about 2 1/2 of an hour an R.U.C. man climbed up and arrested them. They are being charged with breach of the peace and disorderly behaviour. This is just another attempt by the R.U.C. to intimidate protesters off the streets..

A picket on Armagh Jail 300 attended. 7 buses were held by the R.U.C. Slogans were shouted in support of the demands. 1 speaker.

A picket was held outside Fort Jericho at the corner of Springfield RD. Members of the Turf Lodge Hunger Strike committee and members of the youth movement took part. Went off without incident..

December 2nd 1980. Day 37 Tyrone; Mass Rosary throughout the City.

Torchlight Lower Falls 250 attended. Andersontown Barracks picketed. 300 attended.

Lurgan. Torchlight through Kilwilkee Estate. headed by 7 men wearing blankets and 3 women wearing blankets. 2 speakers. 2,500 attended. Ended peacefully.

Twinbrook; Torchlight through Glenoland and Cloona. 250. John Cousins house was not a 'Target' for marchers but once again he showed how much of a collaborator he is by having a large contingent of R.U.C. and Army round his house.

Two Ex. Prisoners have started a 48 hour Hunger Strike from Tuesday the 2nd of December. They are taking water and nothing else. They are wearing only a blanket to show their solidarity with the Blanketmen and the Hunger Strikers in support of the five demands.

Wednesday 3rd December 1980. Belfast; Students march Over 1,000 attended. There was immense harassment from R.U.C. and U.D.A. supporters. After the march a young girl was beaten by the R.U.C. in Cromac Street.

She was kicked to the ground and had to be taken to hospital and was detained for over three hours. She received injuries to head and internal injuries. A torchlight march was held in the New Lodge a rosary was said afterwards. Over 1,000 attended.

Friday 14.11.80. Day 19. Torchlight through several areas of west Belfast ended Dunville Park 200.

All S. Armagh, Armagh City Lurgan had 48hr H/S starting Fri. 6pm ended at Kerry/Armagh match Lurgan Sunday 16.11.80.

BELFAST. Occupied British Airways Wellington Place.

Ormeau Rd. H/S Committee handed out leaflets to motorists and blocked the road for 15mins 100 attended..and 40 delegates from Queens police moved in. Letter was handed into U.T.V. complaining about lack of coverage on H Block issue.

Torchlight on Springfield area 150 attended, rosary said afterwards.

Torchlight in Markets 150 attended..

Saturday 15.11.80. Day 20. Monaghan Torchlight through town.

Mayfield Leisure Centre. Lord Mayor attended opening of Arts exhibition 50 picketed speech was given to Mayor.

6 Co. Barrack picketed. Springfield 100, over 100 at Queens St.

Public meetings. Omagh Enniskillen Dunloy 5,000.

Sunday 16.11.80. DAY 21. Coalisland March. 1,500 College of Business studies-- support 5 demands Lurgan match-Approx 200 protestors went onto field at 1 1/2 time protestors were lead by men dressed in blankets they formed a H in centre of field rest were around field perimeter with placards. Posters were warmly greeted by the crowd. Speakers were Leo Greens sister, mother of 2 blanketmen. Approx 10,000 leaflets distributed..

Monday 17.11.80 Day 22. Divis L/Falls t/light

Tuesday 18.11.80. Day 23. New Lodge torchlight 1,000..

S/Strand T/Light. Several hundred.

Wednesday 19.11.80. Day 24. A Castlewella Moy march.-5,000

THURSDAY 20.11.80. DAY 25. Blackwatertown March and rally 1,000 7 speakers.

T/Light-Lenadon-100 attended.

Riverdale T/Light 200

Lower A/Town T/Light 350

Ardoyne T/Light

Strabane T/Light 400.

Friday 21.11.80. Day 26.

S. ARMAGH a car cavalcade round area for support of H/Strikers.

A/Town leisure centre, picketed by supporters.

T.V. cameras filmed supporters

SATURDAY 22.11.80. Day 27 Dublin lobby Leinster House.

Saturday 23.11.80. Day 28. Armagh March and rally Lavery 4,000.

Turf Lodge T/Light 800.

Springfield T/Light 200

Cushendall march 1,000

Monday 24.11.80. Day 29. Turf Lodge picketed at Fort Jericho 100 youth had banner. Rosary said aft afterwards.

TUESDAY 28.11.80. Day 30. T/Light Rosnareen Ave Shaws Rd. 500

Twinbrook march through Glengoland and Cloona estate.

Wednesday 26.11.80. Day 31. Lough Mc Crorry Co. Tyrone 3,000 protesters paraded thru' village in support of 5 demands. Procession was totally silent, drum beat rhythm for marchers. Speakers

Mrs Mc Mullan (mother of blanketman) Father Mc Sean, of smash H Block committee also local speakers. Peaceful.

New Lodge March and Rally 800 speaker Shirley Devlin. Nation wide cameras filmed march.

Newry T/Light 1,500 2 speakers.

Turf Lodge 6 Ex Prisoners were arrested while erecting a H Block sign on the flats at Ardmonagh.

Thursday 28.11.80. Day 32. Tyrone. Work stoppages throughout the country 2-3000. Dungiven 800 Coalisland 800. Omagh 1000. Cookstown 300.

Schools also out. 5 Arrested and charged with assault when R.U.C. attacked at Omagh..

Friday 28.11.80. Day 33. Pomeroy T/Light 1,200 Turf Lodge Ex Prisoners held token H/Strike for 36 hrs. Picket at Monagh round about 2,500.

HUNGER STRIKE FIGHTING FUND

DONATIONS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED FOR OUR HUNGER STRIKE FIGHTING FUND IN ORDER TO PRODUCE POSTERS AND LEAFLETS TO COUNTER BRITISH PROPAGANDA AND ORGANISE SUPPORT FOR THE HUNGER STRIKERS.

DONATIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO..... HUNGER STRIKE FIGHTING FUND

392, FALLS ROAD

BELFAST 12

