

EXTRA

DERRY'S BLOODY SUNDAY
COMMEMORATION
SUPPLEMENT

AN PHOBLACHT

Iml. 4 Uimh. 2 5p

21 Eanáir
1973

SINN FEIN
MARCH

& RALLY
JAN 28th, 3 p.m.
FROM CREGGAN
TO BOGSIDE

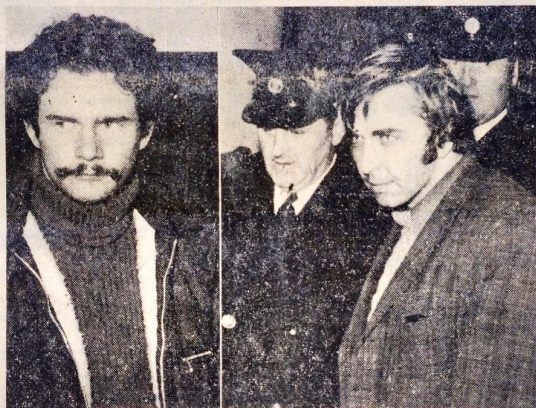
J A I L E D

OUR PRESIDENT



Ruairi O Bradaigh

OUR BOGSIDE DEFENDERS



Martin McGuinness (left), and Joseph McCallion, when they appeared before the Special Criminal Court in Dublin.

OUR EDITOR



Colman O Muimhneachain

Our Rank and File

Arrests — Arrests — Remands — Trials — Jailings — North and South. All in the interest of England and Englands Army of occupation in our Country.

THE MAN IN MONAGHAN

A 24-year-old, Thomas Anthony McNulty of 21 Park Street, was remanded in custody until January 30 by the Special Criminal Court when he appeared on six charges — four under Section 4 of the Explosives Substances Act 1883, and two under Section 21 of the Offences Against the State Act 1939.

THE TWO IN WEXFORD

Joe O'Connell, a native of Co. Clare, Pat O'Neill, Wexford, on remand in Mountjoy.

THE BOY IN DERRY

A 17-year-old Derry youth, Patrick Joseph McGilloway, Westland Street, appeared at a special court and was charged with causing four explosions in 1972

— in January, March, May and July.

He was also charged with having explosive substances with intent to endanger life or cause serious injury to property on these occasions; possession of a Thompson sub-machinegun with intent to commit an indictable offence on one of the occasions and a similar charge relating to a revolver on another of the occasions.

The youth was charged with being a member of the IRA between December 1, 1971 and July 31, 1972, and there were 22 other charges concerning the collecting of certain information about members of the British forces, and a further charge of possessing a list of suggested targets for attack.

When the charges were being read, McGilloway was pulled to his feet by a policeman after he had refused to stand up. There were shouts of protest from more than a dozen young men and women in the court.

THE FIVE IN SLIGO

At time of press, these five, two men and three women are being detained in the Bridewell under the Offences Against the State Act.

New Year's greetings from 'A' Wing, Belfast Prison

The Republican prisoners of "A" Wing, Belfast Prison, take this opportunity of wishing An Phoblacht's readers a Happy New Year and a fervent wish that 1973 will bring about the fruits of victory for the people's struggle for their rightful independence.

We also wish to thank the people of Ireland for their steadfast support during the past year. The enemy has been struck a mortal blow by your continued resistance in the face of military repression and the ever increasing foul assassinations by both the British Army and their so-called "Loyalist" supporters.

Your continued support to the Prisoners' Dependents' Fund, despite many personal hardships, has been a great source of strength to our male.

We have noted with dismay, the repressive legislations, which are a complete betrayal of democracy, being enacted by the British and Dublin governments. We have learned to live with British "democracy" but for our so-called "Second Guarantor" (sic) to ape Heath is a betrayal of all our struggles.

But our dismay is short-lived for we know an arisen people can never be stopped by the laws of traitors.

We have walked the road together towards the "NEW IRELAND". To the brave men and women who died for that ideal, all of us, be we in prison, concentration or military camp, will very soon, write their names in gold.

Finally 1973 is with us. 1972 carried its triumphs and sorrows. Let us all hope that this year, we can all walk the paths of freedom free from slavery and repression. We owe it not only to our dead, but most importantly, to our children of the "New Ireland".

L. McKEE
K. O'KANE
F. McAIRT
G. O'HARE
K. CONWAY
G. O'HARA
J. DAVISON
D. MORLEY
B. MURRAY
M. CULLAN
W. TAYLOR
A. BRADLEY
B. GAMBLE
K. ROONEY
P. DONNELLY
J. MCINTY
C. McCAFFERTY
J. GORMLEY
J. QUINN
JAS. QUINN
K. HENRY
F. LOWRY
C. KEENAN
M. LEONARD
S. DRAIN
N. QUIGLEY
P. McKEIRNAN
M. CONNORS
W. McGUIGAN
J. O'NEILL
K. McCORMICK
P. McPARLAND
B. BOYLE
D. DONALDSON
J. SIBNEY
G. O'NEILL
J. QUIGLEY
P. McVEIGH
L. O'NEILL
J. McCRYSTAL
S. FOX
J. McMULLAN
B. ROONEY
L. LAVEY
J. BRACKEN
J. KELLY
J. LAVELLE
P. SCULLION
B. HOLLAND
J. SURGENOR
W. BRADLEY
B. MCANAN
G. McLAUGHLIN
P. HALE
D. MULLAN
H. DORAN

J. COWAN
K. DELANEY
H. DICKSON
P. MAGEE
K. O'NEILL
H. McCOMB
J. O'DONNELL
D. McDONALD
D. HEANEY
J. McNEILL
J.J. MAGEE
T. McDONNELL
P. GARTLAND
J. WHITE
J. RAFTERS
I. MILNE
B. McLOY
R. DILLON
D. O'NEILL
D. POWER
G. HICKS
J. RICE
L. KANE
H. CLARKE
M. AGNEW
G. MARKS
Q. MALONE
O. CHRISTIE
A. DUNLOP
M. KAVANAGH
P. McMAULEY
G. BRADLEY
H. McCANN
J. McMULLAN
F. McWILLIAM
D. AUSTIN
P. TOHILL
K. DALY
P. COYLE
O. HALFPENNY
P. MITCHELL
R. McALLUM
J. HAUGHEY
R. O'HANLON
A. FIELDS
P. HICKEY
G. BRADY
J. REYNOLDS
G. McCHESNEY
J. STEWART
C. CANAVAN
D. BOYD
P. SERRIDGE
G. McDONNELL
E. CARMICHAEL
S. FRYERS
J. SCULLION
G. CAIRNS
M. FLANAGHAN

J. DEMPSEY
T. DOWNEY
D. THOMPSON
J. JOHNSTON
T. CARROLL
T. MULLIN
J. MONAGHAN
J. HADDOCK
T. McMAHON
T. McKEIRNAN
T. QUIGLEY
T. WHORISKEY
P. CURRAN
G. QUIGG
B. TONER
G. McCRORY
PAT McMAULEY
T. McLAUGHLIN
T. WARD
E. BROWN
T. ROSS
C. McDERMOTT
C. McDONNELL
T. KANE
J. McKEE
J. McKENNA
P. BRANNIFF
J. McMULVENNA
J. CUNNINGHAM
G. HARPER
G. McCRORY
M. O'NEILL
T. SLOAN
M. CUPPLES
J. McCOMB
G. PRIGENT
J. MULHERN
W. CUNNINGHAM
B. McGEOWN
T. McNULTY
J. McMAULEY
K. MURPHY
J. McCULLOUGH
P. BEGLEY
T. McGUICKIAN
K. RICE
W. WHELAN
M. REID
D. McCASHIN
M. HANNA
P. McCULLOUGH
M. MULLAN

M. McCRORY
P. HAMILTON
R. AUSTIN
P.J. O'NEILL
T. DOYLE
D. KELLY
W. HEGARTY
M. FARMER
M.J. MULLAN
G. SMITH
J. O'HARA
R. LAVERY
J. McGUIRK
S. KEARNEY
E. LARKIN
J. McCRORY
R. DARLING
G. RODGERS
P. DAWSON
G. SHORT
P. GILLILAND
G. JONES
D.P. MORRIS
R. MONTGOMERY
S. KIRKPATRICK
J. DEVINE

J. LYNCH
D. LEONARD
J. CANNON
M. McMANUS
T. EWING
R. BRADLEY
W. HUNTER
J. MCCOTTOR
D. CASSIDY
E. HIGGINS
D. HILTON
F. COX
H. GILMORE
T. O'ROURKE
T. WILSON
M. MEEHAN
D. O'CONNOR
M. TAYLOR
G.A. McLAUGHLIN
B. ELLIOT
K. CARSON
K. SULLIVAN
P.J. BRANLEY
M. SMYTH

SUPPORT THE PRISONERS

SEND A SUBSCRIPTION TO:
AN CUMANN CABHRACH,
44 PARNELL SQUARE,
DUBLIN 1.

Elizabeth McKee

THE 19-YEAR-OLD Belfast girl who was served with an interim custody order under the Special Powers Act in Armagh women's jail.

Dark-haired Miss Elizabeth McKee, of Finaghy Road North, who was arrested with eight men and two other women in a raid by troops, can be held for twenty-eight days by which time Commissioners appointed by the Government must hear

her case.

Miss McKee is the first woman in Western Europe to be detained by the State without charge or trial under the new law brought in last November.

"UNJUST POLICY"

The Association for Legal Justice in a statement on her arrest said her detention could provoke violence in minority areas of Belfast.

Protests at Miss McKee's arrest began arriving at the Whitelaw office. One republican source in the city said that if such action was taken anywhere else in the world there would be a wave of protests which would be heard all round the world.

Sources in Belfast said that moves were being made to bring Miss McKee's plight to the attention of the European Convention on Human Rights.

They also said her arrest was a further example of Mr. Whitelaw's continuing and unjust policy of internment, this time breaking new ground by detaining a girl.



Elizabeth McKee

Greetings Also Received From

LONG KESH
MOUNTJOY
PORTLAOISE
CURRAGH
ARMAGH
AND OVERSEAS
BRITISH AND
AMERICAN DUNGEONS

79 Heol Connaught,
Caerdydd,
Cymru.

Annwyl An Phoblacht,

I enclose a copy of a letter sent to Sean Mac Stiofain by the Welsh Political Prisoners Defence Committee. The Committee has asked me to request you to publicise and publish the letter so that Ireland and the Irish people may know that sympathy is extended to their cause and leaders by a growing section in Wales.

As the letter states the W.P.P.D.C. was formed in order to protect the rights of those who are in English prisons because of their fight for the rights of Cymru and its people. We are very concerned with John Jenkins and the growing number of Cymdeithas Yr Iaith prisoners.

The Committee is young at present but establishing firm foundations which we hope to consolidate and build upon in the New Year. We will be sending you some literature on the W.P.P.D.C. in the near future.

Thank you — for everything,
Dros Gymru ac Iwerddon,
on behalf of the
W.P.P.D.C.,
(VALMAI ROBERTS).

79 Heol Connaught,
Caerdydd,
Cymru.

Sean Mac Stiofain,
O/C Curragh Military Hospital,
Near Dublin,
Eire.

Annwyl Sean,

I am writing on behalf of the Welsh Political Prisoners Defence Committee to indicate wholehearted solidarity with your courageous, self-sacrificing struggle for the social, economic and cultural well-being of the so-sadly divided Irish Nation. It is a continuing source of inspiration to us.

Perhaps Wales seems a tame, subservient place to the Irish and her people undeserving of freedom but we too have our martyrs. It was to defend their rights that the Welsh Political Prisoners Defence Committee was formed.

The first campaign of the Committee was to force the Home Office to ease the conditions of imprisonment of John Jenkins who had been sentenced in 1969 to 10 years imprisonment for pipeline explosions in Wales and England. John had been refused Welsh newspapers, had been refused certain visitors and kept in solitary confinement. Because of this he undertook a hunger strike. "If I can't live like a man, at least I can die like one". As a direct result of our efforts the authorities have relented somewhat and John was felt able to resume taking food.

Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg (Welsh Language Society) prisoners will be the next to be helped.

The Committee will send a delegation to Derry for the "Bloody Sunday" memorial march. Our fight is, after all, one and the same.

Dros Gymru ac Iwerddon,
on behalf of the Welsh Political
Prisoners Defence Committee,
(VALMAI ROBERTS)

Sean Mac Stiofain

BRITISH AGE'S

A Chars,

Any remnants of credibility which William Whitelaw might once appear to have had are surely in tatters after his "Blame the Silent People" charade in answer to the elusive (elitist?) Murderers. Does the "Supremo" (not much in use nowadays) really expect people of average intelligence to believe that all the Queen's men, and that includes the British Army, U.D.R.; Scotland Yard; R.U.C.; and the ABD (Alpha Beta Delta) British Secret Service (S.A.S.; S.I.S.; M.I.5; M.I.6; C3; A.F.I.; D.N.J.; P.C.P.s and M.R.F.) cannot come to grips with over 150 murderers in an area not much greater than Cornwall? Would Mr. Heath tolerate such slaying in any six shires in England? Of course to use Mr. Whitelaw's own words he may well be more interested in "keeping Republican's heads down" despite the lessons of history.

No Mr. Whitelaw there is a reason, a very good reason, for that Wall of Silence. Nobody but a damn fool would risk giving information to the so-called Task Force when that very Force itself is by no means above suspicion. Why write ones own name down on the Death list. "See no evil, hear no evil" is the line which has been taken and in fairness there is every justification for it as here the seekers and the killers may very well be one. It is strange for instance that several arrests could be made all of a sudden when a united churches' front spoke out. In some cases the alleged crimes were committed almost a year ago. Bad publicity abroad was in the air of course and the Catholic community had stood firm in the teeth of this savagery; they were not going to be intimidated now after suffering over three years of unilateral misuse.

"Pseudo Gangs" have murdered before as William Whitelaw only too well knows in places with a familiar ring as far as British ears are concerned: Kenya, Muscat and Oman, Cyprus, Malaysia, Borneo... The murders then vanished into thin air! One wonders how thin the air is over Thiepval Barracks, Lisburn, how "low-intensity" are the wires, how thick the walls of silence? In short Mr. Whitelaw does Kitson still rule in "Ulster"? It would appear that some professional sadist's hand is at work behind scenes. Concealably too there is much sound political collusion with the "Terror before white paper" technique. We recall Mr. Whitelaw's tongue-in-cheek performance during the "Four Square Laundry" expose and his frantic efforts to have the M.R.F. Murder Gang whitewashed at all cost. After Dublin's well-timed bombings and brutal killings in Cavan and Donegal can any Irishman worthy of that name afford to trust a British Agent?

Diarmaid O'Suilleabhain Guaire,
Co. Louth Garman.

DEMAND RELEASE OF ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS

GOVERNMENT BY PANIC

EVEN at this distance, there is something worrisome about the instant effect of bombs on governmental processes in the Irish Republic. Prime Minister Jack Lynch and his Fianna Fail party had been pushing for tough antiguerrilla laws aimed at the underground Irish Republican Army; among other things they would establish a presumption of guilt, not of innocence, in the case of persons arrested as I.R.A. suspects. Opposition parties had been against the new laws until Friday, when two powerful terrorist bombs exploded in Dublin, killing two persons and injuring more than 70. Resistance to Lynch's bill promptly collapsed; the anti-I.R.A. bill was rushed to enactment within hours of the bombings, although the I.R.A. denied responsibility for them. It was a sad irony that President Eamon De Valera, who helped found the original I.R.A. signed the bill into law.

We are not arguing a case for the I.R.A. The point is that laws based on anger or panic or a sense of overwhelming emergency are likely to be more dangerous than the peril they're meant to combat. When such laws are rushed headlong into effect, the government is no longer in control — the emergency is.

Moreover, there is at least a theoretical possibility that the I.R.A. did not explode these bombs; after all, it has not been shy about admitting previous bombings. If its denials are true, the bombs presumably were set off by persons who wanted to stampede Parliament into passing the anti-I.R.A. bill. In which case they succeeded completely, and the net result is that the bombs, not the government, are in charge of government policy.

The bombings are Ireland's business, not ours. But the dangers of legislating in a panic should not be lost on us, or on any nation.

WELL DONE FRANK —

McManus and Irish Northern Aid keep Lynch "on the run"

FROM a Northern Irish point of view, Mr. Lynch's trip to the U.S.A. was a seven day political disaster.

1. Not a single word of condemnation or disapproval of British policy passed his lips. He said nothing about internment, about torture or brutality, about military harassment or assassinations. He deliberately omitted to inform the American people about his government's case against Britain at Strasburg. He said nothing to embarrass Mr. Heath in any way. He tried to give the impression that he and Mr. Heath would solve the Northern problem. In other words, he tried to give the totally misleading impression that the Northern Irish themselves were the cause of the trouble and that Britain has no hand in it at all.
2. Mr. Lynch offended every major Irish-American organisation, including the American Committee for Ulster Justice, which his government has repeatedly described as the responsible Irish-American group in the U.S.A. The enclosed statements from these organisations speak for themselves.
3. Mr. Lynch's main purpose, apart from getting more jobs for the 26 counties, was to discourage relief for the North. Without producing any evidence, he repeated British propaganda that a large amount of the American contribution was converted into arms. He misled

Americans by asking them to send their contribution to the Irish Red Cross, without informing them that that body has no jurisdiction across the Border. To ask people to send their money to the Red Cross or the Churches directly, is to ignore the way funds are raised for any relief. Neither the Red Cross nor the Churches are seeking funds for relief in Northern Ireland.

His "rent a crowd" allegation on his return is denied by the enclosed statements. All Irish-American groups were party to the demonstrations against him. Not a single Irish-American group met with him or invited him to any function or reception.

His insistence that British troops must remain in the North for some time is in direct contradiction to the Kennedy-Ribicoff resolution and may adversely affect the growing support for the resolution in Washington.

Americans were amazed at Mr. Lynch's double talk. On the one hand, he defended the introduction of oppressive legislation, on the grounds that it was necessary to cope with subversives who were challenging the institutions of the State, and in the same breath he said that investments were safe in the Republic because there was no challenge to the institutions of the State.

Mr. Lynch's impact on American political views is well illustrated by the T.V. reporters who found it necessary to ask me why Mr. Lynch appeared to take the British rather than the Irish position.

A by-product of his visit is the new unity among all Irish-American groups in their opposition to the Lynch-Heath line, and their increased determination to continue to aid distress in the North and to counteract British propaganda in America.

It is greatly deplored that British Government propaganda is not challenged by the Irish government.



Frank McManus Speaking at a Civil Rights Meeting at G.P.O. Dublin.

The Irish diplomatic corps have both the ability and the influence, but they lack the instructions from Dublin to correct the complete distortion of news reaching the American public through British sources.

10. As a result of my discussions with Congressman Rosenthal, chairman of the sub-committee on European Affairs, and with committee member, Congressman Wolfe, arrangements are in hand for the holding of a further Congressional Hearing on Northern Ireland. It is hoped that this will take place before the publication of the White Paper.

EEC - Sick Joke

SINN FEIN PRESS RELEASE

The appointment of Dr. Patrick Hillery as EEC Commissioner with responsibility for Social Affairs will bring no great hope to the people of the nine member countries.

Dr. Hillery's party, Fianna Fail, has been in power in the 26 Counties for 35 of the 50 years since the State was set up. Their record in social affairs has been disastrous.

Since 1922 this state has lost over 1,000,000 people by emigration. Its population is now under 3,000,000. Unemployment has constantly been 6-8% of the working population. There is a complete imbalance in the social structure of the country, with a lop-sided centralised development in the East and a decaying West. Dr. Hillery's own county of Clare is in the neglected West. Due to the high emigration rate the population contains an unusually high proportion of very young and very old people compared to people of earning age.

The system of colonial capitalism was inherited from England in 1922 and as a result 71% of the wealth is now owned by 5% of the people. The social conditions of the old, the widowed and many sections of the working people are appalling. In Dublin and other cities the parents of large families pay huge rents for poor quality living accommodation. Many more live in makeshift houses and caravans. Meanwhile, speculation in building land continues uncontrolled. Truly, the rich get richer and the poor poorer.

In view of his record to date in his own country, the 250,000,000 people of the nine EEC countries can have no reason to rejoice in the appointment of Dr. Hillery to prepare a plan for Social Affairs, and can expect no people - oriented policies from him. The party and the philosophy he represents are based on laissez-faire capitalism. Money comes first with them and people second. Entrusting the Social Affairs of the people of the EEC to such a man is unfortunately a sick joke.

This statement is being circulated to several correspondents in the EEC countries.

* Professor Patrick M. Lyons, Trinity College, Dublin, January 1972, published in the Economic and Social Review.

ENOUGH SAID

First edition Sunday Press, New Year 1973

Front page heading - HEATH SETS UP MEAT INQUIRY - MEAT ROW GROWS. Second Leader Front page - still on beef - BRITAIN STARTS INQUIRY. Page two - WHITELAW TALKS. "If we could stop murders, a significant reduction in violence would follow". FOUR SQUARE LAUNDRY IN MIND? Page three. OUR PATRIOTIC SONGS SLATED.

Still on page three. LYNCH KEEPS TOUR PLANS HUSH HUSH. Not a word of his achievements. Three front New Year pages lost to Heath - Whitelaw, obviously Lynch's mission a flop - WHY?

Frank McManus with only truth to offer happened to go to America at same time from where things were happening, where Lous Leonard Youngman and McCafferty were murdered right on his own doorstep so to speak in Derrylin and Newtownbutler with only these truths and sincerity. These were Frank McManus' base.

Whereas Jack arrived stuffed with London, Brussels and Munich brainwashing, the only company he knew - that is why he was ignored in America. He never knew what the Northern people suffered. The only time he or his wife ever sympathised with people in the occupied North was with Crown Forces. Whereas the McManus Family has seen everything the same crown forces can throw against the people. And through history from Ballinalee to Derrigall to Boston, the McManus family interwoven with the Mullens fought the real traitors - the British whom Jack is placating today.

Jack be proud to see what you have brought young Irishmen to look like. To see your braves a side handcuffed to Martin McGuinness, the defender of his people, the real guarantor like Colm Keenan, with his life, not empty talk in Leinster House. Martin is the greatest youth leader Ireland ever produced. You Jack, knew all about the taking down of the barricades Martin did all he could humanly do to save life. You, Mr. Lynch, went your merry way to Cork to a by-election. You won that election. You sang Bould Thady Quill that night since the barricades came down and you won your election. Colm Keenan was shot in the back. Five people were gunned down in a pub and you, Mr. Lynch must bear the full responsibility for Danny McDavid, an Irish native you imprisoned him. You exposed him as being a defender of his people. He was shot in the back after being released on the publicity Mr. Lynch gave him. He carried no weapon yet you or your wife did not sympathise with his wife or family.

At the moment, enough said.

Sean O'Dubhthaigh.

Country Should Have Regional Government

IRELAND has a completely wrong system of Government, according to a statement issued by Co. Galway's two Sinn Fein county councillors.

In a protest against Irish entry into the EEC the two councillors, Frank Glynn (Milltown) and Paddy Ruane (Carmmore), held a press conference in Curran's Hotel, Galway. And they claimed that the only way to offset membership of an economic community like the EEC was to introduce regional government in Ireland.

The statement says: "Another attempt is being made to cloud the real source of all Ireland's problems - the failure of

the politicians to govern in the best interests of the people.

"The present system of government is more suitable for a tottering empire than an emerging new nation and must be replaced by a system more suited to our needs.

"We are recommending a new system of local government, but the present Government seems to be more interested in dismantling even the limited form of local government which we have.

"And at the same time the freedom which our forefathers spent 700 years fighting for is being transferred to a bureaucratic establishment in Brussels.

"Instead of this, they should be setting up a federal system of local government in Ireland with regional parliaments and

strong local and district councils".

The statement says that the Sinn Fein councillors had no option but to boycott a tree planting ceremony since the President of their organisation was being held in Mountjoy.

It goes on: "Apparently it is now more important for politicians that they legislate for their own preservation under the most repressive legislation in western Europe than to protect the lives and property of our people in Dublin and along the border of occupied counties.

"Apparently it is more important to pay the Special Branch men to spy for Mother England and on Republicans than on British bomb squads who cross the border into Clones, Belturbet and Pettigo".

START THE BOYCOTT NOW

by a Special Correspondent

FREEDOM of the press, in so far as Independent Newspapers, Ltd., Middle Abbey Street, Dublin, were concerned, died as the old year was staggering to its close.

In a nice tribute to the establishment, finance, business and the new Common Market overseers in Brussels, the editor of the "Irish Independent" decided that, in future, statements by progressive organisations and institutions would not be published, such bodies including Northern Resistance, Civil Rights Association, Association for Legal Justice, Comhairle Uladh, Dail Uladh, Comhairle Chonnacht, Dail Chonnacht, Comhairle Laighean, Dail Laighean, Fianna Eireann, Northern Aid, the Gardiner Place institutions and, of course, the Republican Movement.

Why? Because the editor considers that all such bodies are "fronts for the Provisional I.R.A." against which he declared himself vehemently.

Only a few days before this dramatic announcement to departmental chiefs the "Irish Independent" had announced its "shock" at the rules drawn up by the R.T.E. Authority to guide the radio and television stations in their censorship of news.

R.T.E.'s decision, following pressure from the Dublin Law and Courts Departmental chief, O'Malley, and his sidekick, Collins, of P & T, backed by the lynchpin himself, at least was made openly and publicised fully. The "Independent" decision was announced only to a select few who were enjoined to keep it a secret and certainly not to publish it in any paper.

On many occasions the Dublin newspapers have given to be understood that theirs is the practice of which the press of Britain boasts. It will do no harm, therefore, to quote from an editorial in "The Times", London, February 6, 1852: "We cannot admit that a newspaper's purpose is to share the labours of statesmanship or that it is bound by the same limitations, the same duties, the same liabilities as that of Ministers of the Crown."

"The purpose and duties of the two powers are constantly separate, generally independent, sometimes diametrically opposed."

"To perform its duties with entire independence and, consequently, with the utmost public advantage the press can enter into no close or binding alliances with the statesmen of the day nor can it surrender its permanent interests to the convenience of the ephemeral power of any government."

The editor of the "Irish Independent" is an Englishman, the art critic, Bruce Arnold.

The pocket diary issued by Independent Newspapers to clients and some members of the staff in previous years carried a statement attributed to the founder of the group, William Martin Murphy, to the effect that his newspapers would be independent of party interests (the "extravagance of partisanship" would not be tolerated). Significantly, perhaps, this quotation has been absent from recent issues of the diary.

It is not quite expected that Independent Newspapers should spearhead the submission and humiliation of the press in the 26 Counties. There is the consideration that those members of the Murphy family in control were educated in England; that one of them swore allegiance to the Crown as an officer in the British Army in World War II (even if he did serve only in the kitchen); and that the interests served by this newspaper group are not those of the plain people of Ireland but rather those of a narrow section, that of the leaders of commerce and finance, the bosses of the bourgeoisie.

The interests of the Irish bourgeoisie, very definitely since the Anglo-Irish Free Trade Agreement, are those of the bourgeoisie in Britain. Since entry to the Common Market, the interests of the bourgeoisie in both Ireland and Britain are those of the Continental bourgeoisie.

Any large section of Irish industry, still nominally independent, is tied tightly to British interests (Guinness being a typical example). But most Irish industry has been bought out or eliminated by competition and the role of former members of that industry is as agent for the foreigner.

It is not in the interest of the Continental bourgeoisie that Ireland should become a united country under a socialist government and independent of the western European superstate in the making. Ireland's main role in that superstate is that of a playground with what will remain of its people working as servants.

One might have expected some kick from the Dublin journalists needed to keep Independent Newspapers in production. This may well come, even if it is to consist of a mere gesture, for Dublin journalists at present are in the process of selling themselves and their traditional freedom for a mess of productivity benefits in house agreements. Also, most of them are members of a British-based and dominated trade union not noted for belligerency.

To some extent, readers have a remedy: they do not have to buy censored newspapers; they do not have to buy licences for censored radio and T.V.

The most important lesson in this "blackening" of Republican activities is that the Resistance must produce its own newspapers and magazines, its pamphlets and booklets, and, perhaps, its own, local radio station, even if such a station has to be operated outside of territorial waters so as to remain technically outside the reach of British or Anglo-Irish "law".

An effort must be made to enlist the services of experts and to ensure that members of the Republican Movement and the growing number of sympathisers are kept fully informed and up to date on events.

A clear distinction must be made between "propaganda" and "information". Nothing but the truth, as fully as possible, must be reported: where there be doubt as to accuracy let there be silence.

If we have a mature movement and a mature people we will provide our own information institutions and those which are seen to have failed the people basically, by surrendering to the pressure of commercial interests, will wither.

There is no need for the smashing of printing presses, the waylaying of newspaper lorries or the dynamiting of transmitters. The boycott is far more effective and lasting.

"RODNEY'S" GLORY!
HERALD & INDEPENDENT USE BRITISH ARMY TACTIC
IN PROPAGANDA ATTACK ON PROVISIONALS -
FALSE "BAD" STORY FIRST: FRONT PAGE BANNER HEADLINES
THEN "CORRECTION" NEXT DAY IN SMALL PRINT.
WILLIAM MARTIN MURPHY ("HANG 'EM" 1916) MARCHES ON!

EVENING HERALD MONDAY

Youth and girl slain

BORDER DOUBLE MURDER

By Frank Courell

TWO TEENAGERS, a youth and a girl, were found shot dead on a lonely roadway near the border in Co. Donegal early today.

They were identified as John Costello, 19, from Cootehill, County Cavan, and Miss Mary Donnelly, 18, from Cork city. Both had been shot in the head.

They were believed to have been members of the Provisional I.R.A. who had been recently expelled from the organisation.

EVENING HERALD TUESDAY

COUPLE SHOT DEAD WERE FROM BUNCRANA

The couple shot dead in Co. Donegal were later identified as Oliver Boyce (25) a carpenter of Clonmany, Buncrana, and Breege Porter (24), a factory worker, of Matherinture, Buncrana. The couple were engaged. They had incorrectly been identified earlier as John Costello (19), Cootehill, and Mary Donnelly (18) of Cork city. There is no suggestion that the dead couple had any connection with the Provisional I.R.A.

SUNDAY INDEPENDENT

Sir - I have been instructed by Sean Mac Stiofain, presently in military detention in the Curragh Camp, to reply to the article which appeared in your issue of December 17 under the title, "The Sean Mac Stiofain File" and stated to be "A Report by Alan Jones".

This article is so full of inaccuracies that it cannot be classified as a researched report, and contains so many false, hurtful and damaging references to my client and his family as to indicate that it was written for the purpose of causing him and them the maximum distress and intrusion of their privacy.

BOYCOTT GUTTER PRESS

An Phoblacht

THE REPUBLIC Voice of Irish Republicanism

DERRY'S BLOODY SUNDAY

30th. JAN. 1972.

COMMEMORATION SUPPLEMENT

British Troops Murder 13

MANY OF THE VICTIMS WERE SHOT IN THE BACK



BARNEY McGUIGÁN



GERARD DONAGHY



JOHN YOUNG



MICHAEL KELLY



PATSY DOHERTY



MICHAEL McDAID



WILLIAM NASH



JACK DUDDY



HUGH GILMORE



JIM WRAY



KEVIN McELHINNEY



WILLIAM McKINNEY



GERRY McKINNEY

We stand and salute the 13 who were murdered by British Guns in Derry City — We salute also all who died by British Guns before January 30, 1972 and since that date let us insure that all these sacrifices have not been in vain.

Demand the withdrawal of British Troops from Ireland.



A section of the march on its way from Creggan Estate, Derry.



Confrontation at William Street.

Derry

"After the shooting, which lasted for about 25 minutes in and around the Rossville Flats area of Bogside, the streets had all the appearance of the aftermath of Sharpeville. Where only moments before, thousands of men and women had been milling around, drifting slowly towards a protest meeting to be held at Free Derry Corner, there was only a handful of bleeding bodies, some lying still, others still moving with pain, on the white concrete of the square".

Jan. 30th
1972



IT WAS MASSACRE

EYE WITNESS ACCOUNT

The Times (London) of Tuesday 1 February tried to probe more fully into what exactly had happened in a full page of eye witness accounts.

FR. DENIS BRADLEY

In one of these, Fr. Denis Bradley gave this description:

"It was massacre. I saw no one shooting at troops. If anybody had been, I would have seen it. I saw only the Army shooting. I was administering the last rites to a boy aged about 15 who had been shot by the soldiers in Rossville Street. While I was there I saw three other people who had been shot down in the middle of the street. Two of them have since died, one a young boy. I saw his father try to get him but he was shot down too. The father is still in hospital among the injured.

It was impossible to get out. They were lying behind the barricade. I could only get about 10 yards towards them so I administered the last rites from there.

Then the paratroops arrived. I think there may have been up to 20 of them, and they pushed about 10 of us up against the wall of a courtyard. We couldn't move one way or another. One paratrooper beside me aimed at least eight shots indiscriminately at a group of people who were fleeing. I grabbed him, and shouted: "For God's sake stop!" He just shrugged me off.

Three more young boys were lying in the courtyard off Rossville Street and I tried to get over to them. But the troops pulled me back and hit me with a rifle butt on the arm. They treated me pretty roughly, but they seemed to be a lot rougher on everybody else. I administered the last rites to about four people. There were about seven priests there in all. If I had not been there I would not have believed it".

Mr. Lynch THEN

The Taoiseach (Prime Minister) Mr. Lynch in a statement issued at 9.00 p.m. said that he was "appalled and stunned" by what had happened. He telephoned the British Prime Minister, Mr. Heath.

RECALL OF IRISH AMBASSADOR

In view of Mr. Heath's response to the Taoiseach's call and to show the Irish Government's extreme concern at the disastrous turn taken the Government decided, following a special Cabinet meeting on Monday morning, to recall the Irish Ambassador in London — a step never before taken by an Irish Government.

Visits Then

FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISITS

On Tuesday 1 February, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Hillery, on the instructions of the Government, left for New York to begin a series of visits to other Governments and to the United Nations.

Visits Now

Des O'Malley — Jack Lynch say:—

Don't subscribe to the Irish Northern Aid — the group who did so much for the people of Derry and Ireland.



Marchers seek relief in the Rossville Street area, later the scene of shooting by British Paratroops.



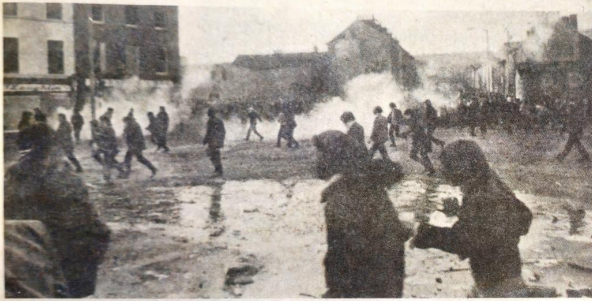
Under heavy fire, a rescue worker tries to reach one of the victims.

Derry

GENERAL FORD: The aggressive action was taken because, quite apart from the march — incidentally, I was watching the march and I saw the steward stop it and indeed try to keep control throughout. Unfortunately, a hooligan element took over and they came down to our positions down here and started to attack the troops, as you say, they attacked them with bricks, stones, various other nasty implements, and including, of course, a couple of canisters of CS gas. This went on for some time and it was obviously necessary to restore law and order.

Jan. 30th
1972

“BLOODY SUNDAY”



The marchers dispersing after salvos of C.S. gas were fired by British troops, here at William Street, Derry. About 20,000 people attended the march.



Fr. Edward Daly attends to one of the victims.

Mr. Lynch NOW

THE BILL'S exceptional powers will allow a Garda officer not below the rank of chief superintendent to indict an accused person. The Bill says that where an officer “believes that the accused was at a material time, a member of an illegal organisation, the statement shall be evidence that he was then such a member”.

A statement, meeting, procession or demonstration shall be deemed to constitute an interference with the course of justice if it is intended, or is of such a character as to be likely, directly or indirectly to influence any court, person or authority concerned with the institution, conduct or defence of any civil or criminal proceedings (including a party or witness) as to whether or how the proceedings should be instituted, conducted, continued or defended, or as to what should be their outcome.

A person who makes any statement, or who organises, holds or takes part in any meeting, procession or demonstration, that is unlawful under this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable:—

- (a) on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding £200 or, at the discretion of the court, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding twelve months or to both such fine and such imprisonment;
- (b) on conviction on indictment, to a fine not exceeding £1,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years or to both such fine and such imprisonment.

“Roll back the portals of silence!
Let your country speak her will.
The Ireland that ever breeds fighting men
will fight for her freedom still.
The spirit of Emmet and Tone and Pearse
is alive and there's work to do.
Roll back the portals of silence! Let your dead men speak for you.”



After three consecutive nights of protests the British Embassy, in Merrion Square, is burnt down by crowds protesting at the “Bloody Sunday” shootings in Derry.

LONG KESH

The immorality of internment

**Internee
beaten up,
says wife**

Nearly three hundred men are still held in the cages of Long Kesh Here, Father Denis Paul discusses

"ARBITRARY imprisonment is criminal; it poisons civilisation; it debases the perpetrators more than the victims and invites against the honour of the Creator" (Vatican II, Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, 27.)

In these solemn words the Catholic Church condemned internment and capricious and unjust judicial and legal systems which imprison people unfairly.

The Catholic community in the Six Counties have a 50-year experience of internment and unjust imprisonment. And the past year of internment – the nineteenth in the history of the North – has provided a good example of the truth of the Church's comment. Is civilisation in the North poisoned? The horror statistics of the last year show that barbarism has made substantial inroads, in the acts of the I.R.A., the British Army, the Special Branch and the U.D.A.

Are the perpetrators of internment debased – Mr. Faulkner, Mr. Whitelaw and the Stormont Ministry of Home Affairs?

You can draw your own conclusion. I have no doubt about mine.

Internment is imprisoning a person without a fair trial or the expectation of a fair trial within a reasonable period of time. A person holds his liberty, his freedom, as a basic human right. The state, in the context of democracy and the present view on the existence of laws of humanity anterior to the state (used by Britain at Nuremberg), cannot interfere with a man's basic right to freedom without showing to the public in open court against the power of skilful lawyers before a manifestly fair and impartial judge (not a political hack or the governing party) that they have evidence that will stand scrupulous examination that a man must be deprived of his liberty.

This evidence must be presented to the citizens of the country by being examined in open court to reassure them that their right to liberty will not also be taken away in arbitrary fashion.

When the rights of one are taken away the rights of all are in peril. And even if a man is found guilty he should have the right of appeal to one of several courts.

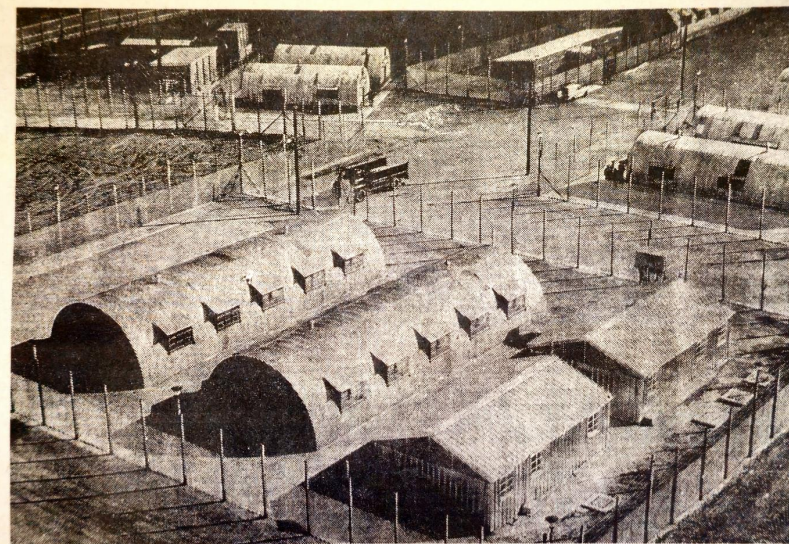
Now, none of this obtains in the history of internment in the North, or to be more correct, in the history of the internment of Catholics in the North – because internment is an instrument that has been used by Stormont and the British Government solely against Catholics.

This is an important point for M. Pompidou and the Common Market countries to note and I have great pleasure in informing them. Will the great Catholic nations of Europe stand by and approve of this continued removal of basic human rights from a Catholic minority by the British Government and a one-sided use of military repression?

In every decade, the '20s, '30s, '40s, '50s, '60s, and '70s, Catholics have suffered internment. The reasons are not really relevant for internment is wrong in itself like abortion so beloved by Mr. Whitelaw's Government.

But many men were put into three, four and five year internment because they taught the Irish language or were keen G.A.A. workers or camogie referees or for professing Republican politics or for standing up for civil rights. But on August 9 last, new and more bitter absurdities were created when the operation of internment was entrusted by Mr. Maudling (where is our teacher gone?) to the British Army. In the Dungannon district a man was lifted because his brother was not at home and that man is still in Long Kesh, and there are many cases of this.

August 9, 1971, and the week



that followed illustrated clearly where the precise immorality of internment lies. It lies in this that it is repugnant to man's nature as a Son of God and indeed to his position as a citizen of a state that he should be in the unfettered control of another man or group of men for them to do with him whatsoever they will.

The Special Powers Act gives that power to the Ministry of Home Affairs, a Ministry which has led many Catholics to consider themselves justified in holding the opinion that it appears to be a conspiracy against the liberty and legal rights of the Catholic population.

I have had an opportunity to study the operation of the Special Powers Act and it is a diabolical instrument of repression. Somebody does not like you, suspects you of working against what? The Crown, the Protestant Ascendancy, the Unionist Party, the security of the state. Or, they just do not like you because you bought the wee field that the brother-in-law wanted and this angered the Lodge.

Suspicion, dislike, prejudice or sectarian hatred – any of these is a good enough reason to denounce a man to the Special Branch as a candidate for internment. The Special Branch have the second last word – only Faulkner in 1971, now Whitelaw, could over-rule them.

On the evidence of the last year, well documented evidence with medical reports and clinical photographs, a number – at least 20 members – of the Special Branch are in need of psychiatric treatment and should be hospitalised immediately, and yet they were still going about last week arresting and searching for their former victims like unsatiated vampire, playing a big part in Mr. Whitelaw's Operation Flat Tyre.

Remember the torture, exercises of Balkyinklar by the Military Police of the British Army? The Hooded Treatment, the most sophisticated torture seen in Europe since World War II? The Holywood show starring you know who? He is still there. Remember the electric shocks and amphetamine drugs?

All this was illegally done by those who professed to uphold the law.

This immoral system was operated for eight months by Mr. Faulkner by leave of the British Government, and for four months by Mr. Whitelaw, the British Government himself. We hear arguments that it saves lives, but morality forbids one to use an immoral means (internment) to achieve a good end (saving life); and in fact the operation of internment has caused a vast escalation of violence and loss of life.

The present use of internment

by Mr. Whitelaw is immoral in a peculiarly disgusting way. Men are being held in Long Kesh, men who have been there since August and September last because of outrages committed by I.R.A. men on July 21, 1971.

It is a fundamental dictum of law, fair play and decency that you do not punish one individual for the crimes of another. Mr. Whitelaw then appears to hold the Catholic community guilty for the crimes of the I.R.A., and he is punishing the wives, children, friends and relatives of 300 men in what is a small and tightly knit community.

A better way of totally alienating that community one could not imagine. Or maybe Mr. Whitelaw has the morality of the Tompeppers – meeting one group of urban guerrillas with the methods of another. He has kidnapped three hundred men and is holding them to ransom. The morality of the kidnapper is one that fills decent people with horror – to bargain and huckster with the lives and liberties of men and the anguished feelings of their dear ones.

When Julius Caesar came to Britain, before Mr. Whitelaw's time, the first thing he did was to take hostages; and if the blue painted Brits misbehaved, he doubled the number of hostages. Mr. Whitelaw may have learned his lesson from the year 55 B.C. He is holding three hundred

Catholics as hostages for the good behaviour of the Catholic community.

"Internment will end when violence ends" This is the most vicious cut – the cut of the blackmailer. Internment is wrong, immoral, sectarian, a failure in security terms, a disturber of the community: it should end forthwith.

We do not want violence by bullet or bomb; we condemn them and we appeal to the I.R.A. to stop, if not because these things are immoral then because physical violence makes no political sense at the present time.

Non-violent protest and telling the world and Monsieur Pompidou about the repression of Catholics and internment will have the British begging for a settlement and offering just rights before January 1, 1973, when they have to go into Europe.

Violence, which outrages our Christian conscience can, however, be physical. We condemn both equally as one must condemn one sided military repression and the negligence which has led to multiple assassinations.

One can only say that it is disappointing to record that Mr. Whitelaw, who showed some promise of humanity at the beginning, should have failed to abolish internment and continues to preside over this obscenity and to use it for political purposes.

THE wife of a young Derry internee recently said that her husband had been badly beaten up by prison officers at Long Kesh.

Mrs. Nora Canning, wife of Mr. Cyril Canning, said that on December 19, after he had appeared at a special court in Long Kesh at which he had been accused of shooting at soldiers, her husband was severely beaten and kicked by three prison officers. He was also handcuffed with "handcuffs" that were too small and he was then pulled by the handcuffs along the ground.

"The prison officers threw him into a van and walked up and down on top of him", she added. Mrs. Canning said her husband was kept in the "cooler", a particularly small cell, for 24 hours. He was given another beating there and a prison doctor, who was called, had to insert four stitches in his mouth.

Mrs. Canning said she had received news of the ill-treatment of her husband from Mr. Ivan Cooper, M.P., who had told her that "Gusty" Spence, the U.V.F. leader, had stopped him in the Maze Prison and said, "Cyril Canning has been badly beaten. Something must be done about it."

Mrs. Canning said: "Cyril's beating is the talk of the camp. Apparently nobody has ever been as badly beaten before". Mr. Cooper has confirmed that he had been told by "Gusty" Spence of Mr. Canning's beating.

**MAN KEPT IN
LONG KESH
FOR SMILING**

A "new type of repression" of men held at Long Kesh internment camp, is alleged in a statement from John Starrs Sinn Féin Cumann, Cage 9.

The statement said: "Internees at Long Kesh are no longer being held without trial, instead they experience quasi-justice. British style by appearing in front of a tribunal of enquiry, held in camera without seeing their accusers."

"Some men who appeared in front of this tribunal and were found innocent of any crime have been asked to give an undertaking that they will not be involved in any type of 'terrorist' activity of which they were presumed guilty in the first place. Why, one may ask, does one of the presiding commissioners of these tribunals ask for an undertaking if the man is proven innocent?"

"To highlight the hypocrisy of these tribunals we would like to quote the case of Mr. Frank O'Reilly from St. James Crescent, Belfast. Mr. O'Reilly appeared in front of the tribunal, accused of being a quartermaster in the I.R.A. The evidence against him was two statements signed against him by two I.R.A. 'suspects'. Because of insufficient evidence against him he was subsequently released. On hearing this Mr. O'Reilly could not suppress a smile at the thought of being released after spending over a year in Long Kesh. He then left the tribunal and returned to his cage to collect his belongings for going home."

He was then unexpectedly summoned once again in front of the tribunal to be told he was re-detained because he had a 'smile' on his face leaving the tribunal and also that he kept 'bad company' during his stay in Long Kesh.

"It is unbelievable that even a British commissioner could re-detain a man because he had a smile on his face after hearing of his release. Once again we are able to show just how farcical these new tribunals are."

Donall Mac Amhlaigh

SOLDIERS

LIKE THE MAJORITY of Irishmen who came over here for a living in the post-war boom years I found it hard to imagine why young Britons joined the B.A. voluntarily when there was "rakes of work" about. Not that they were all volunteers in those days by — to coin a phrase — a long shot. National Service was still in being and many a young Irishman who had never entertained any thoughts of a military career found himself suddenly wearing khaki and with his head shorn and shaved to a degree of baldness that only the Hari-Krishna devotees would entertain today. Others, of course, skipped blithely from town to town all over Britain exercising their God-given rights to remain in civvie street for as long as they wished. Of the Irishmen who took the proverbial shilling the majority I would venture to state joined up in Ireland after having made their way from every corner of the 32 counties to Belfast. Dublin, of course was used as a recruiting base with no cries of protest from any papers (Republican ones excepted) that I can recall, other than INNIU. Unemployment, it goes without saying, was the most efficient recruiting agent any army ever had and of the countless thousands of young Irishmen who joined the B.A. only a microscopic fraction can have been motivated by any wish to serve Britannia; indeed (and this goes particularly for Scotland) few armies can have harboured within them such a high proportion of rebels — of men reared in a tradition that was always the enemy of British Imperialism.

I have heard Glaswegian soldiers sing more Irish patriotic republican ballads in one night in an English pub than have been heard in many an Irish town in the course of a year — and this long before Dominic Behan and others made the thing fashionable. Another Irishman who served six years in Germany with the B.A. and who since packed in the Reserve because of the activities of the same army in Northern Ireland, claimed to have met with more awareness of the traditions of Irish Republicanism among young Scotsmen in uniform than ever he had encountered at home in the 'Republic'. And it would be tedious to go on and enumerate even a handful of the ex-B.A. men who turned their experience and training to good account in the War of Independence, and since then.

There is the other side of the coin, too, of course: the shame-making side. Like the praise lavished on young Irishmen for their zeal in "countering terrorism" in places like Cyprus, Aden, and Malaya where this same familiar pattern of insurrection and repression has been performed bloodily. Like the (thankfully small) minority of Irishmen who seem to believe that Britain has some God-given right to order the affairs of other lands and are more than willing to assist in the task as paid killers. Venturing to criticise the Rt. Hon. Reginald Paget, Q.C. (Labour!!!) M.P. last year for some of his more rabid anti-Republican utterances, I received a number of letters from Irishmen who foamed with resentment at the aspersions cast, in the course of the letter, on the squaddies in Northern Ireland. More recently, and much more depressingly, a fellow Kilkennyman whom I met while at home for a brief visit, asked "But can you believe it?" when I mentioned that men

held in Long Kesh still got beaten brutally and that council estate dwellers in Catholic areas lived in fear and dread of the soft tread of the soldiers boots. This man's weakness, though not one which might endear him to the minority in the Six Counties at present, was essentially that of the decent man: he had worked among Englishmen and found it hard to reconcile his experience of them with the behaviour which I imputed to them in the North. His attitude might well be described as a generous one — this reluctance to believe ill of a neighbouring people — but it was dangerously blinkered because we do not have to search very hard to find daily examples of army brutality and hostility towards the minority population in Northern Ireland. But I too have found most Englishmen fair-minded and easy-going and who can deny that a great many of the troops in the North are basically decent young lads whom only lack of employment and opportunity drove them into uniform in the first place. The lavish advertisements urging them to join the Professionals depict sunny beaches and other delights; there is no mention of the night patrols in Catholic ghettos or the harassment of other working class people. These young lads are the "expendable Brits" as the Republican News put it not long since and the Tory Government has no more love for them than the Northern householder whose home they have ransacked so often. We saw some of them in television programmes over the Christmas, the maimed and crippled ones whose active days are over; many of them have not even had the offer of a job from the ruling class in whose interests they received their injuries. Some day (hopefully soon) the working class in Britain and in Ireland will come to realise that they have been duped, will wake up to the



facts of life and begin to serve their own interests and not the interests of monopoly capitalism, imperialism and militarism.

Life in many ways has worsened here in Britain since the time I just spoke of when we Irish workmen would marvel that young lads bothered joining the army when there was no shortage of jobs; the element of choice is not so great now with nigh on a million out of work, and the pay has been "upped" to make the prospect of dying in "Ulster" more acceptable. Nevertheless there are signs that many soldiers have had enough: I spoke with a young paratrooper, a Welshman, on the Holyhead train last month. He had spent one tour of duty in Northern Ireland, imbibing in the course of it such peculiar notions as that Catholic clergymen recruit the young rioters for stone throwing and other diversions and give them absolution *en masse* when the shindig is over. This para was a pleasant young chap though woefully misinformed about the nature of the conflict in the North; on one matter, however, he was crystal-clear and one hundred per cent determined: he was never, never under any circumstances whatever going back to Northern Ireland again.

"They can shoot me, hang me or burn me in the bloody stake, mate, but that's one place I'm never going to see again", said he.

Which resolution I could only applaud.

LEAS — LEAS — LEAS — LEAS — LEAS — LEAS

Dílis

Tá an baol ina bhfaill an náisiún seo againne ag éirí níos soiléire in aghaidh an lae. Tá na "húdarais" ag dul i bpáirt le naimhde an náisiúin sin stad gan staonadh ó thosaigh an iarracht chun saoirse agus cearta a bhaint amach in oirthuaisceart na tíre os cionn trí bliana ó shin anois. Fíú sular thosaigh náisiúntóirí an oirthuaisceir ar iad féin a chosaint, bhí "húdarais" an deirscir ag cabhrú le naimhde na tíre chun muintir na tíre a chur i gcarcair. Tá ag gearú ar fhíoch an héachtas sin ar son Arm na Breataine ó shin i leith. Fadhb is ea an leatrom seo a chaitheamh a réiteach má tá i ndán don tír is don tsibhialtacht seo againne bheith beo in aon chor san aimsir atá romhainn. Tá an cúl le cine tugtha go bhfuil iontu ach lucht fhíll, gíollaí na nGall, na daoine seo atá ag comh-obriú leis an bhfórsa is barbatha in aghaidh Gael a leag cos riamh ar iithir na hÉireann, na daoine seo nach leor leo an feall sin ach atá socraithe ar "obliteration" (focal dá geuid sin) a imirt ar phobal náisiúin na tíre. Sin é atá gailta acu, is léir go bhfuil cloí lena bhfocal acu. Ach maidir le pobal náisiúin na tíre, le Gaeil na tíre, leis na hoidhrí ar na mílte bliain de shibhialtacht na hÉireann, tá fadhb le réiteach acu sin. Tá a ndúshlán tugtha. "Obliteration" an focal. Ar dhaoine misniúla. Ar dhaoine dáiríre. Ar sprid na ndaoine. Ar a sibhialtacht is a cultúr. Ar a dteanga. Ar anam na hÉireann. Cé air a bhfuil amhras faoin droch-aigne, faoin droch-intinn atá ag an lucht fhíll chun aon ní a raibh luach nó fiúntas riamh ag baint leis ag Gaeltacht, chun aon ní dá geuid féin a bhí againn a tharrtháil ón gcéasadh leis na cianta. Tá an dúshlán tugtha. Tugtha do dhaoine bochta nach bhfuil uathu, is nach raibh riamh uathu, ach a saol a chaitheamh ar a geonlár is ar an nós ba rogha leo féin. Caitheamh pobal náisiúin an tuaiscirt a bhfuil faoi chos anois ar shíl nach mbeidh faill acu ar éirí aníos go deo. Caitheamh pobal náisiúin an deirscir, atá i mbéir i gcaradha leo, a scrios. Iad a thabhairt ar lámh do lucht céasadóireachta, d'Arm na Breataine, do bhúinn sin na

dea-cháile riamh anall. Is iad a chéasadh is a léasadh i bpríosún abhús. Focail as córas díli na himpireachta atá mar leithscéal do na beartais seo. Is gaird go mbeidh a thuilleadh á gcamadh as a riocht le smaoine claoilóbareach chun an huille marfach a bhuailadh ar na náisiúntóirí. Is gaird go mbeidh na Seoiníní á steadh síd isteach os comhair breis claochoisr. Agus praghas na saoirse? Fealladh ar do mhuintir féin is a mhaitiomh go poiblí gur fealladóir is ea thú.

Cén sórt fianaise a bheidh riachtanach? A chruthú go bhfuil an dearg-ghráin agat ar an náisiúin, ar an tsaoirse, ar anam do chine féin. Nach bhfuil aon bhá, ach an naimhdeas, agat do do mhuintir féin atá ag fulaingt. Cén tsíle eile a chruthófaí a mbeadh ag teastáil ó gíollaí na nGall? Is feasach

cén chiall atá acu sin le "treascarthacht". Tá ciall an fhocail sin (a shamhail i mBéarla ar a mbeola siúd, ar ndoigh) ag druidim níos cofaraí in aghaidh an lae do gach rud a bhain leis an saol is an tsaothúilacht seo againne. Is cinnte go mbainfeid feidhm ghangaideach as "díthe" nua chun daoine a bhfuil meon náisiúnach acu a bhuailadh. Ní baol do gíollaí na nGall bheith os comhair cóirte. Ní baol do naimhde na mbochtán. Ní baol do lucht fhíll is lucht magaidh. Ní baol do naimhde na teanga. Is baol do Ghaeil. Ach cé go bhfuilcúis buartha athuair againn, ná bíodh ceann faoi nó náire orainn:

"Being Irish means they're guilty.
So we're guilty one an' all".

FOIRM

Beidh LEAS le fáil tré Shintús. £10 buan sintús. £2 ballraíocht bliana.

Seol Chugam led thoil cóip de LEAS

Istigh leo seo tá £ mar shintús.

Ainm

Seoladh

Seol an fhoirm seo maille le P.O. nó Seic chuig:

Domhnall Ó Lúbhlaí, Bainisteoir Leas, 250 Cuar Bóthar., Theas,
Baile Átha Cliath 8

More Local Government

SINN FEIN wants more local government. Power to the councils and communities. Put the communities in power. Power to the provinces and parishes! Power to the people's councils! A democracy of people's councils. Decentralise decision-making! Bureaucratic monopoly is not democracy. District government, county government, regional government, Vote Sinn Fein. The New Ireland is local democracy — People's not bureaucrats' power.

The present system of government in the Dublin State is the most centralised in Western Europe. It is the result of a process of bureaucratic centralisation which began in the 19th century and which was taken over, and carried further, by the Dublin State after 1922.

Today "local government" authorities in the 26 Counties are merely local agencies for housing, roads and some other minor matters. They operate under close control by a department which is wrongly called the Department of Local Government and would more properly be called the Department of Housing, Roads and Pathing Safety or the Auxiliary Board of Works. The "local authorities" are merely the local agencies of this Department in these fields; even at that, they are more tightly controlled from the centre than local authorities with much wider competence in the other West European countries. Apart from housing, roads, etc., all other aspects of government activity are conducted from the centre without real local responsibility or power in the counties or urban centres.

The Vocational Education Committees and the County Committees of Agriculture are not part of the "local authority" structure. The so-called "local authorities" help to establish them, but they operate directly under the Departments of Education and Agriculture, respectively (not under county councils) and are frequently overruled. Similarly, the Regional Health Boards are frequently overruled, and decisions contrary to their wishes are enforced by the department of Health.

But there is another side to this coin of progressive centralisation. The concentration of the civil administrative power in the central bureaucracy has made the bureaucracy, not the Dail or the Government, the real government of the state, not answerable to the people and unchangeable by elections. The Dail merely gives a gloss of legitimacy to this bureaucratic dictatorship. The Ministers merely act as front-men for senior civil "servants". Even the speeches they make have been written for them by their bureaucratic masters. In short, the centralising process has subverted democracy at local level and at the centre, and therefore in the State as a whole.

Sinn Fein opposes this undemocratic system. It wishes to counter and undo this subversion. It aims to build a New Ireland of self-governing communities, at district, regional and provincial levels.

Sinn Fein Councillors aim to establish elected district councils in each county electoral area, in the Gaeltacht districts, and in the cities of Dublin and Cork. These district councils will have district offices which will handle all minor administrative matters: primary schools, licences, pensions, grants or various kinds, social assistance, planning permissions, vocational guidance, etc. Moreover, they will bring the whole range of public administration within easy reach of each individual citizen by serving as channels to higher administrative levels. Sinn Fein encourages the formation of community councils and wishes to see them represented, as of right, on the district councils.

Sinn Fein supports the Irish Local Government Officials' Union in their demand for widening the range of local government and giving local communities general control of their own affairs. It agrees with the Study Group of the Institute of Public Administration that new government structures along these lines would further economic development in backward regions and constitute, in themselves, a "programme for development".

Those who argue that Ireland is too small a country for "more local government" show their ignorance of local government structures in Western Europe, including those countries with which we will be competing in the E.E.C. In Switzerland, which is less than half the size of the island of Ireland, there is one local authority for every 5 square miles (Switzerland is the fourth richest country in the world).

In West Germany, which is five times the size of Ireland, there is one local authority for every 4 square miles. Not only have our "local authorities" a much narrower range of competence than those of any

other West European country, but there are far fewer of them in proportion to population. As of now, the 26 Counties have, on average, one "local authority" per 25,000 inhabitants; the government (i.e. the Department of Local Government) proposes to reduce this number still further. But France has one local authority per 1,300 inhabitants; Switzerland one per 1,800; Germany, one per 2,400 inhabitants. The nearest to the Irish situation is to be found in Scandinavia where in Denmark, there is one local authority per 5,000 people; in Norway, one per 9,000.

In local government, as in everything else, the Dublin State suffers from Megalomania — a characteristic illness of men who feel small. In France a primary school must remain open while there are ten pupils attending it!

Even with the reforms which Sinn Fein advocates, we would still be far from having the density of local government that obtains throughout Western Europe.



Sinn Fein believes that due to the very uneven size of counties, and the considerable number of very small counties, the county unit is unsuitable as the second tier of local government. Sinn Fein would group the district authorities in self-governing regions under four provincial parliaments. Each region would comprise a major part of a province. Dublin and Cork urban areas would each have a regional administration of its own. These regional governments would deal with all the affairs of government which affects the ordinary citizen, and no citizen, in his individual capacity, would need to deal with any higher organ of government. The regional administrations would control post-primary education in the regions and draw up curricula suited to the regions' special needs.

Sinn Fein wants regional governments, not regional "advisory bodies" (mere talking shops) or regional boards which have no deciding power. Sinn Fein opposes a "regionalisation" which takes power away from more local organs of government. It envisages regional governments, with annual budgets drawn from provincial taxation and central funds, which will devolve decision — making powers to the local district councils.

More local government, along the lines indicated, is the principal aim of Sinn Fein candidates for county, urban and county borough councils. But within the existing system, while it remains unreformed, they have immediate aims which will be announced in detail later.

South Galway

At a meeting of South Galway Comhairle Ceantair Sinn Fein, a resolution was passed condemning the arrest of Ruairi O Bradaigh, president of Sinn Fein, by the 26-County authorities, and his retrial in a no-jury special court, on charges of which he had already been acquitted.

The meeting also called for the immediate release of Sean Mac Stiofain, and all political prisoners.

Local Elections Belfast Office Planned

SINN FEIN (Kevin Street) plans to put hundreds of candidates forward for local elections in every area of the 26 Counties, the organisation's Director of Publicity, Mr. Sean O'Bradaigh, told a press conference in Dublin.

Asked about the organisation's abstention policy in relation to general election, Mr. O Bradaigh said that if a general election were to be announced for the 26 Counties this year, they would announce their intentions.

He agreed that an Ardfeis would have to be held and that a two-thirds majority vote of delegates present would be necessary before the abstention from Parliament policy could be altered.

"Perhaps", he said, "Mr. Lynch is doing us a service in the sense that his policy of picking up prominent members of Sinn Fein and bringing them before the Special Criminal Court and having them imprisoned could help us in the selection of candidates for a general election."

"Don't forget that Republican prisoner candidates have always been popular. I do not think that Deputy L'Estrange or Deputy Cooney would be too happy if my brother, Ruairi, was to oppose them in the Longford/Westmeath constituency in an election".

DUE TO EXPIRE

He revealed that his organisation is planning to open an office in Belfast over the week-end, defying the ban in the North on Republican activities.

Mr. O Bradaigh said that the closure orders served on the organisation in respect of its headquarters in Kevin Street and its other premises in Blessington Street, Dublin, were due to expire today or tomorrow. However, the Government could renew the closure order for another three months.

They planned to hold a vigil outside their Kevin Street headquarters from 9 o'clock tonight and to continue it throughout tomorrow. Also tomorrow, they would try to enter their headquarters, and if they were prevented from doing so by the gardai, they would hold a meeting in the street outside the premises.

Sinn Fein (Kevin Street) would demand normal access by its spokesmen to RTE programmes and the release of many members of the organisation who had been jailed on political charges under the Offences Against the State Act, including their president Mr. Ruairi O Bradaigh, and the editor of An Phoblacht, Mr. Colman O Muimhneachain.

Mr. Paddy Duffy, a member of the Ard Comhairle, said they were getting so many new members into the organisation that they were finding it difficult to handle them. That was why, he suggested, the Government was so determined to take action against them. He estimated they now had about 400 cumann in the 32 Counties.



SEÁN Ó BRADAIGH
DIRECTOR
OF
PUBLICITY

CHALLENGE TO FITT

SINN FEIN Challenges Mr. Gerry Fitt to repeat before a public audience in Belfast his outrageous statement on R.T.E. on Tuesday January 2, that responsibility for sectarian killings rests with the I.R.A. Not alone is Mr. Fitt's statement a defamation of the character of the many young I.R.A. soldiers who died protecting the people of Belfast, but it is a gross distortion of the truth. It is convenient now for Mr. Fitt to ignore the many occasions when he pleaded with Republicans in Belfast to protect him and his family and to row in with R.T.E.'s vicious propaganda campaign against the Republican Movement.

It is necessary to recall that the present spate of sectarian killings began in June last when British army patrols in civilian clothes shot a number of people. At least four members of the Catholic Ex-Servicemen's Association were killed by those patrols and, despite guarantees given in the House of Commons, the patrols still operate both in Belfast and rural areas.

The special Task Force set up by Mr. Whitelaw, should begin by rooting out the professional killers in the British army and R.U.C. Special Branch. These men were trained by Brigadier Frank Kitson who obtained his experience in Kenya, Cyprus and Aden. It is lamentable that Mr. Gerry Fitt has remained silent on the activities of these killer squads, who have been responsible for the deaths of a number of his own constituents.

The sectarian killings rose at an alarming rate during the July Trade. Unionist extremists, following the lead given by the British army, availed of the opportunity to terrorise the Catholic community. Vigilante groups set up by various bodies, including the Catholic Ex-Servicemen's Association, were swept aside during 'Operation Motorman' there by leaving Catholic areas wide open to sectarian murder squads.

It is ironic now to recall Mr. Lynch's statement in Leinster House in May 1970 "that if the minority felt itself threatened by Unionist extremists, then it was the duty and responsibility of the forces of law and order to protect them". His own forces of "law and order" have not alone failed to protect the citizens of this state, but have proved themselves adept at hounding and jailing the very men who are held in high esteem for defending the beleaguered people of the North.

Kevin Street Closed Again

OFFENCES AGAINST THE STATE ACT, 1939,
Section 25.

I, John S. Fleming, an officer of the Garda Síochána holding the rank of chief superintendent, being satisfied that those parts of the building 2A Lower Kevin Street, Dublin which are specified in the Schedule hereto have been and are being used for the purposes of an unlawful organisation within the meaning of the Offences Against the State Act, 1939, HEREBY ORDER pursuant to Section 25 of the said Offences Against the State Act, 1939 that the said parts of the said building be closed for the period of three months from the date of this Order.

SCHEDULE

Those parts of the building 2A Lower Kevin Street, Dublin which consist of the second and third floors thereof.

Dated this 6th day of October, 1972.

Signed: John Fleming.
Chief Superintendent, Garda Síochána.

Another notice dated 5th January, 1973, signed by John S. Fleming extended the closing orders for three more months.

Ard Comhairle Resolution

RESOLUTION PASSED AT PUBLIC ARD-COMHAIRLE MEETING:
CLOSING OF OFFICES

WE, the Ard-Comhairle of Sinn Féin, protest against the further closing under the Offences Against the State Act of our Head Office in Dublin. We believe that this and other actions against Sinn Féin are being done by the Fianna Fáil Government at the behest of the British government.

Despite the closing of our Head Office in October 1972, the arrest of many of our members, including our President and Vice-President, and the denial of access by our spokesmen to R.T.E., our organisation has gone from strength to strength.

Mr. Lynch and Mr. O'Malley think that by depriving us of access to our offices they will put us out of business. They are mistaken. No measures that may be taken against us will crush our Movement. On the contrary, such measures serve to expose Fianna Fáil as collaborators with England; they emphasise the denial of civil and political rights in the 26 Counties; they help the recruitment of new members; and they spur all our members to greater efforts.

Despite all the terror that the British have unleashed in the Six Counties, our beleaguered people there have not been beaten. Their courage and determination to be free are an example to the whole world. We, the elected representatives of the whole membership of Sinn Féin, a national organisation, pledge ourselves to show an equal degree of determination and to build a massive political movement throughout the length and breadth of Ireland in spite of the attacks made on us by the small, mean men in Leinster House.

We call on all the Irish people to assist us in this task, to help us sweep away corrupt politics and to build the New Ireland in which all will have equal rights and in which Special Powers and Offences Against the State will be no more.

NEW LEADER FOR SINN FEIN

Maura Drumm Elected Acting President



Joe Clarke (92 years) with Maura Drumm at the 1972 Ard Fheis. Joe sends thanks to all the thousands of people who sent Birthday Cards and greeting letters on his 92nd Birthday — An Phoblacht wishes Maura Drumm every success in her role in Sinn Féin.

CIVIL RIGHTS

With reference to the report appearing in your issue of 5th instant, quoting a circular from the Sinn Féin Organisation to its members calling for their support for I.C.R.A., but advising that while no members of the Official Sinn Féin Organisation should be excluded from membership, none should be invited to join or be supported for office. The newly elected Officer Board have authorised me to make the following observations:—

- (1) No person is excluded from membership of I.C.R.A. on the grounds of his or her political allegiance or lack of political affiliation.
- (2) All elections to office in the organisation shall be on the basis of free and open majority vote.
- (3) The constitution of the Association and its procedural rules are being drafted at present, and will be submitted with the draft Code of Citizen Rights (which will set forth our aims) to a General Meeting of all paid up members, to be adopted by majority vote, subject to such amendments as the membership shall decide.

While we welcome criticism, we would point out that our organisation is still in its early formative stage and would-be critics are asked to refrain from attributing motives or objectives to the Organisation until these are in fact published, when they will be open to full public debate.

Ciaran Mac an Aili
Chairman
14 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.

BIRMINGHAM S.F. PROTEST

Members of the "Birmingham Sinn Féin" took over the Bennetts Hill Office of Aer Lingus and pasted banners on the plate glass windows.

Airline staff left the building as the 20 strong group burst in, padlocking the main doors behind them.

The banners demanded the release of Sean Mac Stiofain and Rory O'Brady held, in Irish prisons.

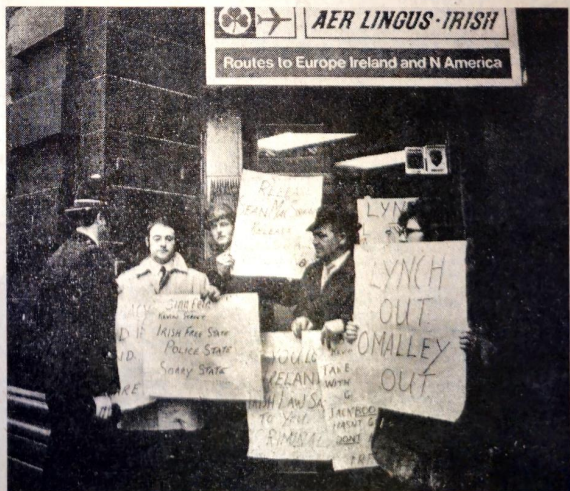
The slogans included "Lynch Law" and "Ireland we love you".

Police moved in and dispersed crowds of city centre shoppers in Bennetts Hill and nearby New Street.

As police guarded the front of the office building, senior officers entered through a rear door and had talks with the leaders of the demonstration.

A communique was passed out between the padlocked glass doors stating:

"The purpose of the taking over of the Aer Lingus office is to demonstrate against the action of the Lynch Government in arresting the president of the Sinn Féin — Mr. Rory O'Brady".



Placard-bearers in front of the locked doors to the Aer Lingus office in B.

An Phoblacht

IMLEABHAIR 4. UIMHIR 2.

Jailing Of Sinn Fein President

THE jailing of Mr. Ruairi O Bradaigh, Sinn Fein president, has wide implications for the citizens of this State. No member of the community is now safe from the institutionalised violence of the Fianna Fail government, who are determined to smash political opposition in the same manner as the late Faulkner regime in the Six Counties. Faulkner's actions brought death, bloodshed and misery to the people of the North and it is apparent now that Lynch and his government are determined to bring about a similar situation here.

Violence was employed to pass the Act under which Mr. O Bradaigh was convicted. Nothing has been heard since of the people who planted the bombs in Dublin, without which Fianna Fail would not have remained in office. It is no coincidence that the Special Branch have failed to shed any light on the perpetrators of the Dublin bombing while yet proving themselves adept at securing convictions of political opponents of the Fianna Fail government. This cynical manipulation of the police force is the surest guarantee of destroying public faith in the Garda Síochána as an impartial force. The Gardaí are fast acquiring the image of the hated R.U.C., the implications of which should not be underestimated.

It is deplorable that members of the legal profession allow themselves to be instruments for implementing "bad law" which is at variance with the basic tenets of justice. It is no defence for the gentlemen of the bench to plead that they must enforce the law as they find it. Purveyors of pornography and narcotics cannot plead innocence because they do not produce the stuff; the harm they do to the recipients of the evil material is no less damaging than the injury suffered by the recipients of "bad law" no matter what gloss is put on it. Sinn Fein trusts that some members of the legal profession who have a regard for justice will dissociate themselves from the corrupt practices of law enforcement.

A concerted campaign is now being waged by the Dublin and Belfast regimes to neutralise opposition to the forthcoming British White Paper. As the British forces continue their harassment of the nationally minded people culminating to-day in the murder of a seventy-year old woman, the Lynch government goes all out to smash Sinn Fein. Lynch's future depends on the success of the White Paper and he will use all the forces at his disposal to ensure its adoption. Maintaining the status quo, North and South, is vital if Fianna Fail is to continue as a political force in this country. Mr. Heath has obviously informed Mr. Lynch as regards the contents of the White Paper and he has secured Fianna Fail's co-operation for imposing it.

The struggle to defeat British imperialism and its off-spring, Fianna Fail fascism is now entering a decisive stage. Sinn Fein appeals to all Irish people to join in this battle either through their own organisations or by joining the Republican Movement. Peoples resistance defeated Faulkner in the North; it too will bring Lynch and his corrupt administration to their senses and send them the way Faulkner and his gang have gone.

SECTARIAN KILLINGS

I.R.P.B. STATEMENT

THE Irish Republican Army welcomes the U.D.A. statement on sectarian killings. We trust that the warning issued to sectarian murderers is not mere hot air but is an indication that positive action will be taken against those who have damaged irretrievably the image of the loyalist community. The U.D.A. would do well to crack down on elements within its own ranks who have indulged in sectarian outrages, particularly over the last month.

The I.R.A. appreciates that British Army harassment will be employed to hinder the U.D.A. in ridding the community of sectarian killers. It must never be forgotten that British troops in civilian clothes initiated the campaign of assassinations, but the monster created by Brigadier Frank Kitson is now an acute embarrassment to the London Government. Nonetheless, there are elements in the Whitelaw regime who fully condone the murder of civilians, be they Protestant or Catholic, and Loyalists and Republicans alike have a duty as Irishmen to find and eliminate these killers of the S.A.S.

We hope that last Tuesday's offer of the Leadership of the Movement to meet U.D.A. representatives will be accepted. Much can be accomplished by leaders of the two communities getting together and devising ways and means to stamp out sectarianism for all time. Failure to do so can only benefit the British regime and prolong its rule to the detriment of all the people of Ireland.

P.O'Neill,
Rural.

THE SPEECH GIVEN by the Free State Minister for Justice, Mr. O'Malley, to the Limerick Prison Officers' Association on Friday, 5th January, deserves comment.

As now seems to be 26 Co. Government policy, Mr. O'Malley commenced on a thinly disguised warning to the news media to refrain from giving publicity to prison injustices and prisoner's protests. Yet another attempt at censorship, which is rapidly becoming part and parcel of present day Ireland.

Mr. O'Malley went on to reveal the "progressive" prison system he has in mind for the future. Phases such as "structural work", "large programme of prison buildings reconstruction and improvements" cropped up every few minutes in his speech. One is not left in any doubt that the 26 Co. Government cares not one damn about prisoners as human beings, but sees them as mere statistics, increasing in numbers yearly, to be caged in by reconstructed, bigger and newer concrete and iron pens! That is progressiveness?

At the time of the "Mountjoy Protest" in April 1972, Mr. O'Malley pointed the finger at the protesters accusing them of impeding and actually putting full stop to the process of rehabilitating prisoners. Embarrassingly for Mr. O'Malley, the chaplain at the prison averred that there was no chance of rehabilitating prisoners in Mountjoy due to the prison system, then and still in operation. Of course the priest was soon transferred!

It is a heartless system which tends to dehumanise and institutionalise its victims. One example of its effects is the case of a young man in his twenties who, although serving a prison sentence, was charged with a second "crime", and he prayed that he would be sentenced on the second charge before his current prison sentence was terminated SO THAT HE WOULD NOT HAVE TO FACE THE WORLD OUTSIDE! There are other similar cases. Is this progressiveness?

As for Mr. O'Malley's laudatory phrases re the qualities

demanded of the prison officers — leadership, patience, courage and dedication — he need but substitute obedience. In a system where individuals in high staff positions are unable or unwilling to use their own initiative in many matters; where the real control of the prisoners lies not within the hands of the prison staff but in the laps of the twin gods of "Prison Regulations" (many ridiculously archaic) and the Civil Service, and in a system where human beings are statistics to be locked up, counted, exercised, counted, locked up again, counted, exercised again, counted, interminably, the prison officer himself becomes a victim of the system, trained to obey, obey, obey. He dares not rock the boat of life regulated by the duo of prison rules and the civil servant — the threat of transfer (even though he has a wife, family and house in Dublin) hangs invisibly but uncomfortably near him. And so he becomes a mere goaler, trained to toe the line by a mixture of fear and self preservation.

We know that there are prisoners here, who, because of the system within and the attitude of the public without, will return time and time again within these barred walls, in time to become institutionalised individuals. Likewise we know that this need not happen, if the proper steps are taken in the future.

Shortly after this statement was drawn up non-violent protests by non-political prisoners in Mountjoy demanding human rights denied them in the prison system took place.

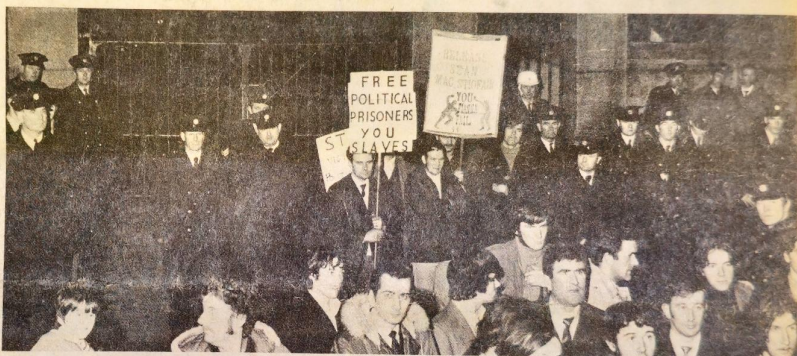
We would ask Mr. O'Malley why if his prison system so just and social, the above mentioned protests took place?

Issued by:

Mountjoy Cumann of Sinn Fein,
2A Lr. Kevin Street,
Dublin.

Signed by:

Colman O Muimhneachain,
P.R.O.



I.R.A. ROCKETS "CAUSING HAVOC"

DERRY LEADER INTERVIEWED

THE NEW Commander of the Derry Provisionals said that the use of rocket launchers was causing havoc — both mental and physical — to British troops in the North. In his first newspaper interview, he said that the I.R.A. had always stated they could escalate their military campaign at will.

The rockets had proved this, he maintained. "The rocket attacks are causing havoc in the ranks of the British army. We have inflicted more casualties — both physical and mental — than the British army are prepared to admit. A high-powered rocket hitting a Saracen armoured car does more than just cause concussion to its occupants".

Had the Provisionals, as the British army claimed, been badly affected by loss of men and weapons since Operation Motorman last July, when the former no-go areas were occupied?

"The British said they were going into areas like the Bogside and Creggan to 'liberate' them", he said. "But it is a fact that since Motorman we have inflicted severe casualties, operating under difficult conditions, than before. Furthermore, you can see that many soldiers, including the paratroopers, are trying to buy themselves out of the army. This is proof of the inroads we are making on them and the effectiveness of our campaign."

"We have always known — and many people in the Derry area know it too — that more soldiers are shot than are admitted by the army. People have seen soldiers lying wounded on the ground and yet the incidents go unreported by the army for propaganda reasons".

He added that the Derry Provisionals' method of operation have changed since Motorman. They were now fighting a purely guerrilla war on their own terms.

The Provisionals' military policy had always been widely known — in its general terms — and was being effectively carried out. But because of the intense military campaign over the past few years, the political action which was also going on had tended to become clouded by the military campaign.

But the work that the political wing have been making all along would soon be seen to be bearing fruit.

Referring to the shooting of a U.D.R. private in Derry

recently, and the fact that several hours after that, five men in a bar in the Waterside area were shot dead by two armed men, he asked, if he felt that the Provisionals' action in shooting the U.D.R. man had contributed towards the deaths of the five civilians.

LEGITIMATE

His reply was that the U.D.R. are regarded as legitimate targets. They are, in fact, British soldiers.

It is a fact that membership of the U.D.A. the U.D.R., and even the U.V.F. is acceptable to loyalists. This dual or triple membership can be seen in the various arms raids on U.D.R. armories which are carried out in collusion with the U.D.A. There is no doubt about this.

"At no time in Derry have we engaged in sectarian warfare. But I want to point out that it is our duty now to ensure that the activities of extreme loyalist groups do not go unchecked. Assassination of innocent people in Derry will not be tolerated".

Referring to a spate of robberies in the city recently, he added that the people responsible had been warned several times, I.R.A. intelligence officers now had the names of most of the people involved in these robberies and he warned that in future action would be taken against robbers without first issuing a public warning.

He said that although some people had implied that the Republican Movement was responsible for some of the robberies, it was a fact that British soldiers recently appeared in court in Derry on burglary and theft charges.

"We can deal with our criminals, the British obviously cannot deal with theirs. Who is going to protect the people of Derry from the so-called protectors of law and order?"

Asked what the Republican Movement's attitude to the forthcoming British White Paper on the North would be, he said that Britain in the past had proven herself unable and unwilling to set about solving Irish affairs by granting unity willingly. There was no reason to expect anything different from the White Paper. Liberty would only come from a military campaign.

He believed that the people of Derry would reject the White Paper as forcibly as they had rejected the former whitewashed reports of Widgery on Bloody Sunday and her reports biased towards British the British Army.