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"THE IRISH REPUBLIC CLAIMS THE ALLEGIANCE OF EVERY IRISHMAN AND IRISHWOMAN"

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THIS
IS
OUR
CREED



NOTHING
LESS!

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POBLACHT NA H EIREANN.

**THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT
OF THE**

**IRISH REPUBLIC
TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.**

IRISHMEN AND IRISHWOMEN: In the name of God and of the dead generations from which she receives her old tradition of nationhood, Ireland, through us, summons her children to her flag and strikes for her freedom.

Having organised and trained her manhood through her secret revolutionary organisation, the Irish Republican Brotherhood, and through her open military organisations, the Irish Volunteers and the Irish Citizen Army, having patiently perfected her discipline, having resolutely waited for the right moment to reveal itself, she now seizes that moment, and, supported by her exiled children in America and by gallant allies in Europe, but relying in the first on her own strength, she strikes in full confidence of victory.

We declare the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland, and to the unfettered control of Irish destinies, to be sovereign and indefeasible. The long usurpation of that right by a foreign people and government has not extinguished the right, nor can it ever be extinguished except by the destruction of the Irish people. In every generation the Irish people have asserted their right to national freedom and sovereignty; six times during the past three hundred years they have asserted it in arms. Standing on that fundamental right and again asserting it in arms in the face of the world, we hereby proclaim the Irish Republic as a Sovereign Independent State, and we pledge our lives and the lives of our comrades-in-arms to the cause of its freedom, of its welfare, and of its exaltation among the nations.

The Irish Republic is entitled to, and hereby claims, the allegiance of every Irishman and Irishwoman. The Republic guarantees religious and civil liberty, equal rights and equal opportunities to all its citizens, and declares its resolve to pursue the happiness and prosperity of the whole nation and of all its parts, cherishing all the children of the nation equally, and oblivious of the differences carefully fostered by an alien government, which have divided a minority from the majority in the past.

Until our arms have brought the opportune moment for the establishment of a permanent National Government, representative of the whole people of Ireland and elected by the suffrages of all her men and women, the Provisional Government, hereby constituted, will administer the civil and military affairs of the Republic in trust for the people.

We place the cause of the Irish Republic under the protection of the Most High God, Whose blessing we invoke upon our arms, and we pray that no one who serves that cause will dishonour it by cowardice, inhumanity, or rapine. In this supreme hour the Irish nation must, by its valour and discipline and by the readiness of its children to sacrifice themselves for the common good, prove itself worthy of the august destiny to which it is called.

Signed on Behalf of the Provisional Government,

THOMAS J. CLARKE,
SEAN Mac DIARMADA, THOMAS MacDONAGH,
P. H. PEARSE, EAMONN CEANNT,
JAMES CONNOLLY, JOSEPH PLUNKETT.

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ALL
IRELAND
REPUBLIC

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SOVEREIGN

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DEMOCRATIC

*

SOCIALIST

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We reject appeasement and compromise

WHO ARE IRELANDS ENEMIES

The 1916 Proclamation of the Republic of Ireland is the primary policy statement of the Republican Movement. It is to the Sovereign Independent Irish Republic proclaimed on 24th April, 1916 that all Republicans owe allegiance and the armed struggle was fought, continues and will continue until "a permanent National Government representative of the whole people of Ireland and elected by the suffrages of all her men and women" has been established.

In 1918 more than ¾ of the Irish people showed by their votes that they gave their allegiance to the Irish Republic and in 1919, Dail Eireann, the only legitimate government of modern Ireland was established. But England dismissed the will of the Irish people expressed democratically through the ballot box and let loose her army and her murderous Black and Tans and the collaboranionist "A," "B," "C" Specials to break the will of the Irish people.

In 1922 Republicans, true to their oath of allegiance, took up arms against the British imposed Free State solution. This struggle still continues and will continue against Sunningdale or any other 'solution' which falls short of the primary overriding demand of the Republican Movement for a 32 County "Sovereign Independent Republic."

At present people are talking of "British rights" in Ireland and the rights of people who say they are British, or Ulstermen but refuse to identify themselves as Irish. The 1916 Proclamation is perfectly clear on this point: "We declare the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland and to the unfettered control of Irish destinies to be sovereign and indefeasible. The long usurpation of that right by a foreign people and government has not extinguished the right nor can it ever be extinguished except by the destruction of the Irish people."

This is as true today as it was 58 years ago. Let no one be fooled. The struggle will go on until the primary aim of the Republican Movement is achieved. All Irishmen whatever

their descent and tradition are guaranteed equal rights and opportunities "cherishing all the children of the nation equally and oblivious of the differences carefully fostered by an alien government, which have divided minority from majority in the past."

The English power in Ireland has always been maintained by dividing Irishmen from Irishmen by promoting one section to subjugate others. In this way, they have in the past used Protestant, "men of property," later Unionist, now "men of peace" and "responsible" people to serve England's interest and to do her dirty work.

At present, England's favoured category are the supporters of Sunningdale. Tomorrow it will be the supporters of some other "solution."

For Irishmen and Irishwomen there is only one safeguard: always remember the friends of England are the enemies of Ireland.

Some people say that Republicans act arbitrarily and illegally. But their legitimacy comes from the justice of the Irish fight for freedom and their faithfulness to the foundation document of the Irish Republic.

Then as now, Republicans are fighting for freedom: "In the name of God and of the dead generations from which she receives her old tradition of nationhood, Ireland. Through us summons her children to her flag and strikes for her freedom."

"THE IRISH REPUBLIC IS ENTITLED TO AND HEREBY CLAIMS THE ALLEGIANCE OF EVERY IRISHMAN AND IRISHWOMAN"

Like the men of 1916, the present generation of Irishmen and Irishwoman, are asserting "their right to national freedom and sovereignty in arms." They will not lay down these arms until the claim of the people to the "unfettered control of Irish destinies" is a reality.

Ireland must, and Ireland will, assume its rightful place among the free nations of the world.

POLITICAL PROSTITUTES

The Irish Defence Committee in Glasgow have held three successful meetings recently in Scotland. Two meetings were held in Stirling and Glasgow universities and one in Dixon Hall, Glasgow. The theme was the Irish Situation.

The speakers included Eamonn Purdie, (Sinn Fein) and Gerry Lawless, (Anti-Internment League). Matt Montgomery, (I.M.G.) chaired two of the meetings.

Gerry Lawless exposed British repression in the Six Counties and condemned the collaboration policy of the Dublin Government. He congratulated the ordinary people in the North of Ireland for bringing down the British puppet regime at Stormont and lashed the Quisling who are betraying the people in attempting to re-build it which will result in prolonging the agony of the people in the ghetto areas.

Eamonn Purdie was greeted with loud cheers when he referred to the S.D.L.P. as political prostitutes. He called them "collaborators" and claimed that they were perpetuating British rule in Ireland.

THE BOLD JACK McCABE

(By a former member of the Free State Police).

*I'll sing you a song, a song of renown –
A song of a hero, from near Shercock Town,
A song that will echo o'er mountain and glen,
In praise of 'this hero, the greatest of men.*

*His name was McCabe, a bold rebel was he,
As brave as the Fenians or the wild Raparee,
His country he served for a cause proud and pure –
Spent ten years in gaol in Parkhurst and Dartmoor.*

*The English they feared him like a ghost in the dark,
His unbreakable spirit like that of Tom Clarke,
To see a New Ireland unfettered and free,
Was the vision and goal of Jack from Breifne.*

*The Peelers and Specials in the year Sixty Nine,
Raped Belfast and Derry like a herd of mad swine,
Our dark Rosaleen was once more on the rack –
"We must strike for our freedom" said the bold hero Jack.*

*But our hero he died in the midst of the fight –
A striver for Ireland to break England's might,
But the flower that he loved is now in full bloom,
The dawnlight of Freedom shines bright through the gloom.*

THOUGHTS OF A LONG PRISON SERVICE

By Dolores Price

*The sun will still be there to warn us,
The rain to wet us,
The sky will turn from blue to grey
To black despite us,
And we must be content to pass these years,
These long and lonely years away from that.
But how much richer will we be at last,
When all this pain and living
Death has passed?*

*He fought the good fight 'gainst Para and Tan,
Traitors and Staters Jack Lynch and his clan,
Informers like Dooley and Quisling Cosgrave,
The Briton O'Brien and Corish the Knave.*

*But the name of McCabe and the name I.R.A.,
Are marked on the spot where our hero is laid,
They sing of him now from Shannon to Bann,
From Bantry to Belfast and his native Killane.*

Those Maps

WE HAVE all seen it at one time or another. When a British army unit sets up a road block, mounts a search operation or carries out a routine patrol — one item of equipment is essential — the green and orange map.

The map covers the whole of the Belfast giving an up-to-date plan of the city—but it doesn't stop there. Working class areas of the city are coloured either green (for Catholic) or orange (for Protestant areas).

Middle class areas are coloured tan and described as "mixed" areas. Lower Malone, for example, is treated as a "mixed" area. Upper Malone is not even coloured in at all, the supposition being that the fortunate inhabitants of this area are never to experience the attentions of the British Army.

The Fortwilliam area is also uncoloured so perhaps Fortwilliamites are also immune. A strange aspect of the map is the fact that some non residential areas, the Balmoral Industrial Estate for example, are coloured in. This leads to the speculation that the colour of an area is not simply an indication of the religious adherence of the inhabitants. The colour of a district is in fact used as an indication to the British soldiers of how they should behave when carrying out their duties in that particular area. Experience has shown that in the tan coloured mixed areas the British conduct themselves with smarmy courtesy. In the orange coloured working class Protestant areas there is very little courtesy shown but nevertheless the naturally brutal behaviour of the soldiers is restrained by the political policies. In the green coloured working class Catholic areas, anything goes. The policy of intimidation, harassment and bloody murder is implemented with cruel ruthlessness. Secure in the knowledge that the entire propaganda machine of Imperial Britain will back them up, the 'gallant lads' put the boot in traditional style.

WHO ARE WE GOING TO FREE?

In one of their by now common, though none-the-less, arrogant statements the S.D.L.P. have called for an end to "their" Rent and Rates Strike. Since when has the Rent and Rates Strike by the people against internment been the S.D.L.P.'s, to call an end? Even if the Rent and Rates Strike was the property of the S.D.L.P. what justification for its termination exists?

Following closely on the heels of the reintroduction of internment the S.D.L.P., because it was the popular thing to do and to further their own selfish ends and in an attempt to build up their mythical image as a people's party, the S.D.L.P. and their erstwhile fellow travellers N.I.C.R.A. placed a half page advertisement in the Irish News calling on the people to join in the Rents and Rates Strike. The Rent and Rates Strike was already well under way at this juncture. Through this advert stating their stand regarding internment the S.D.L.P. declared that they would support the Rent and Rates Strike until every internee was released.

Not only is internment not ended but it has been extended to include women and children. What have the S.D.L.P. to say to these victims of an unjust judicial system.

John Hume has gone on record as saying that the road now lay open for a just and peaceful solution to our problems. This statement was forwarded as a reason for the termination of the Rent and Rates Strike. What has changed? The people, who the S.D.L.P. claim to represent, are still suffering from the jackboot of British diplomacy Harassment, persecution, brutality, arrest and internment without just reason and murder at the hands of the Crown Forces are still very much our lot.

On the setting up of the Stormont Executive, Gerry Fitt, leader of the S.D.L.P. when pinned down to an answer to the attitude of the S.D.L.P. to the Rent and Rates Strike replied that "Everything is different now and our attitude to the Rent and Rates Strike must be reviewed." The only difference since the Rent and Rates Strike was embarked on is that the S.D.L.P. has gained the power and position they have so eagerly betrayed the people in order to gain.

Coming back to the massive advertisement of the S.D.L.P. another point made by them was that no arrears of Rent and Rates would ever be paid back. Contained in this point is the answer to the anxiety of the S.D.L.P. to have the Rent and Rates Campaign ended. The S.D.L.P. now find themselves in the embarrassing position where it will be the responsibility of one of their party, Paddy Devlin, will have the responsibility of deducting from the money of those in receipt of social benefits. Such a task would not be in keeping with the alleged socialist ideals of the S.D.L.P. but one could not be faulted for reasoning that such a betrayal would present no difficulty to the S.D.L.P. who have betrayed every ideal and principle which they have so far professed to uphold.

Absolutely no reason therefore exists to call a halt to the Rent and Rates Strike, protest as the S.D.L.P. may. In conclusion and as a reminder to the S.D.L.P. as to the reason for the Rent and Rates Strike we will use one of the slogans of the P.H.R.C. and Sinn Féin.

"WHO ARE WE GOING TO FREE EVERY LAST INTERNEE"

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND LABOUR PARTY

RENT and RATES STRIKE

The Unionist Government has fallen into a TRAP — laid for them by the Civil Disobedience Campaign.

They are collecting rent and rates from Social Welfare Benefits. They are no longer a Government — just a DEBT COLLECTING AGENCY. This is a victory for the rent and rates strike. They are using hundreds of civil servants and spending thousands of pounds just to collect rent and rates.

WHAT WE MUST DO

1. We must continue the rent and rates strike. Why should we go to the trouble of paying our rent and rates in the normal way when we can put Stormont to the trouble of collecting them? In this way we show that we have withdrawn our consent from the Stormont system of government.
2. Make sure that everybody is getting ALL the benefits they are entitled to.
3. If Family Allowance books are recalled they should be sent in — otherwise a person's Family Allowance may be cancelled.
4. Ratepayers in each area should publicly declare that they will not pay their rates until internment has ended.

DEDUCTIONS BEING MADE

1. If you are unemployed and are receiving unemployment benefit ONLY, your rent will be deducted plus up to £1.50 for arrears.
2. If you are unemployed and are receiving supplementary benefit your rent will be deducted plus up to £1.50 for arrears.
3. If you are unemployed and are receiving Earnings Related Supplement half of what you receive for this will be deducted up to a maximum of £3.50.
4. Your rent will be deducted from your Family Allowance plus up to £2 per week from arrears. This should affect employed people only.

REMEMBER. The rent and rates strike is the way we can ALL fight the Stormont regime.

The Campaign will not end until all the internees have been released.

IRISH NEWS, LTD.

Why must our people suffer?

*A rifle cracks, a shot rings out,
And people run and scream and shout,
O Christ why must it be so,
Is there no other way to show
That we will not be slaves and kneel and bow
To Imperialism, then and now?
Why must our people suffer for the sins of other men,
Who sit in fancy houses — laughing, then
They see we're winning, we will be the victors,
We will share the glory, the will be our slaves,
They will beg for help, they will beg our pardon,
And bow and kneel before us,
But we must fight for this, with gun and pen
And everything we can,
It was, is, will be hard,
But think of the result, don't falter now
Or fall by the wayside,
Onward to victory, this will be the year.*

WAKEN UP



...of
hope and glory

I WENT ON A VISIT to Dublin recently, just to see the place again. There were no noticeable changes, at least not that I could see, with the time I had left over from dodging the traffic. I will never get used to traffic like that! There were a few Northerners outside the GPO organising a petition on behalf of the Winchester Eight. I stopped to watch them in action and also to see the sort of reception they received from the Dublin shoppers.

I was surprised at the number who readily signed the petition but I'm afraid I was more than sickened by the vast numbers who walked on as if the lives of Irishmen and Irishwomen were, to them, totally unimportant! Priests, Brothers, Nuns, men, women, boys and girls walked past the little group, as if they didn't exist. Mind you it was hard to miss or ignore that group. They had placards, as well as that, they were most vociferous in trying to attract the attention of the Dubliners.

It left me wondering. Does the average Dubliner really give a damn about his people in the North? Does the average Dubliner accept the stance taken by the Coalition Government in the Free State? If they do then there is something radically wrong with the Press media down there. It was as if the North did not exist, or as one barman put it to me over a pint, "when are yez all goin' to get a bit of sense up there?" It isn't necessary to tell you what my reply was! I suppose it is like the Kileen woman said: "What yez want to do is to put yer fut down with a heavy hand."

It would seem to me as if Cosgrave and the cohorts are badly in need of a refresher course on Irish politics, just as are the SDLP. The people I talked to are up in arms at the mistakes the SDLP have made and are making.

Still, it was a change to go down and see how the other half were doing, though it was even better to get back home. There is a reality about the North that isn't to be found in Dublin, the reality of a Nation trying to assert itself and find a proper way of life for all its people, not the misty dunlopilowed-way of life that exists in the State.

No, Dublin is alright for passing through. A lot of people need awakening, need telling the truth, need nurtured once again on the set-up here in the North, as well as what they are allowing to happen to them down here. Anyway the petition was well over the 3,000 mark when I had to leave, I didn't have to leave, I just left. Can you blame me?

JOSEPH CUNNINGHAM SINN FEIN
CUMANN, NEWTOWNABBEY

British Army responsible?

"Recently another attempt was made to murder Catholic youths going to their place of work in Newtownabbey. This is the second such attack in less than a fortnight, it is remarkable that

these attacks can be mounted and the murderers escape with such apparent ease in an area heavily patrolled and close to the RUC Station.

"We believe these attacks are planned and carried out by British agents, namely the SAS or someone in their employ, the reason to foment sectarian strife and to increase the restraint already felt by the people of our community for those whose religions differ. We appeal to the people of Newtownabbey to join together both Catholic and Protestant, Republican and Loyalist, to expose these murderers and bring them to justice before our community breaks up completely.

INTERNMENT

Anyone reading the headlines and the editorials in the papers might be forgiven for a certain feeling of optimism about the situation in our country. According to the papers, the British leopard has changed its spots since the days of mass murder in Derry. Now the British want only peace and progress. They have formed an executive and are forming a council of Ireland. Surely, after all that we have endured, the least that can come of the present negotiations is an end of military repression and internment?

Perhaps the best indication of what sort of solution the British are offering us lies in the present level of internment, despite the recent highly publicised token releases. At the height of internment, the British had over 1,000 men behind bars without charge or trial. How many are held now? The answer is a shocking one, nearly 600 men between the ages of 16 and 60 are held without trial. And internment has been extended! It is now being used against twelve women in Armagh Jail and six boys of school age in the Long Kesh concentration camp.

These figures do not give us the total

number of political hostages. Over the past years the British have increasingly turned to the courts for an alternative to internment. Socialists and Republicans have appeared before courts headed by biased unionist judges backed by picked juries. They have been automatically sentenced to long terms in jail on the "evidence" of the Special Branch and the military.

Often the charges themselves are ridiculous — in one case a young man was held on remand for six months on a charge of the attempted murder of eight soldiers at the same time.

POLITICAL PRISONERS

By this method the British have jailed over 1,500 political prisoners. They admit that these are political hostages by granting them political status in jail. We can clearly see the Ireland of the new executive taking shape. Two years after the introduction of internment, the British hold over two thousand Irish political hostages.

What are the chances of wholesale releases if the British set up a Council of Ireland? The evidence available does not point in

that direction. After the formation of the Executive and just before he left, Whitelaw said that releases would depend on the "security situation" — the same thing that he has been saying for the past two years. Pym, on his arrival, has made a token release just as Whitelaw did in his early days of office, but it was an empty gesture, a pathetic attempt to gain support. And neither the British nor the S.D.L.P. have made any reference to the fate of the sentenced political prisoners.

The British are mounting a massive propaganda campaign to convince us that internment no longer exists. The attention of the press is focused on the fake executive, Long Kesh is now called the Maze Prison. The sentenced political prisoners are forgotten. People like the Winchester Eight suffer the tortures of slow starvation and of barbaric force-feeding as the British try to abolish the status of political prisoners.

We cannot afford to forget the hostages. The British are building more concentration camps now, but they can be beaten back by mass demonstration. Support P.H.R.C. demonstrations — you could be next!

Evaluating SDLP "Leadership"

BY JAMES McNELLIS



The sudden reversal of S.D.L.P. policy in its open alliance with Brian Faulkner requires an appraisal of S.D.L.P. words and actions. Only in this way can the Irish public evaluate the sincerity, or the lack of sincerity of Gerry Fitt and his S.D.L.P. associates. Here are a few quotes of Brian Faulkner the S.D.L.P. might prefer to forget.

THE IRISH NEWS

"I have said before and I repeat today - the Orange Order is the backbone of Ulster." Quoted in the Irish News, July 13th, 1960.

On the issue of internment, Brian Faulkner said:-

"When I speak of evidence (against the Internees) it is not the same evidence that could stand up in a court of law." (Irish Times, October 23rd, 1971).

S.D.L.P. members, once the hunted, are now the hunters, having joined the same oppressive foreign government the same members criticised so many times in the past. It would appear that 3,100 pounds a year has silenced S.D.L.P. "leadership." Ivan Cooper was quoted in the Irish Times of January 31st, 1972 as follows:-

"I want to state emphatically that the army were not fired on by anyone at this stage." (Bloody Sunday) "It was completely premeditated murder... I could see from where I was lying people being selectively shot down by the army."

Less than 2 years later, Mr. Cooper joined the same government which set the British army on the people of the Bogside to commit what he called "premeditated murder." Mr. Cooper represents

the new leadership of the "New Ireland" which the S.D.L.P. is now trying to sell to the general public.

Let us not overlook John Hume. The Belfast Newsletter quoted John Hume on March 4th, 1972 as follows:-

"If you negotiate with the I.R.A. what you are, in fact, doing is you are justifying the use of violence for political objectives."

Mr. Hume apparently does not see any violence in the British government's policy of Internment, operations of the S.A.S. or the political assassination of about 200 Irish Catholics by U.D.A. and S.A.S. operatives who are given the freedom of the streets of Belfast by the R.U.C. and the British Army. Hundreds of John Hume's constituents have been interned and their children made political

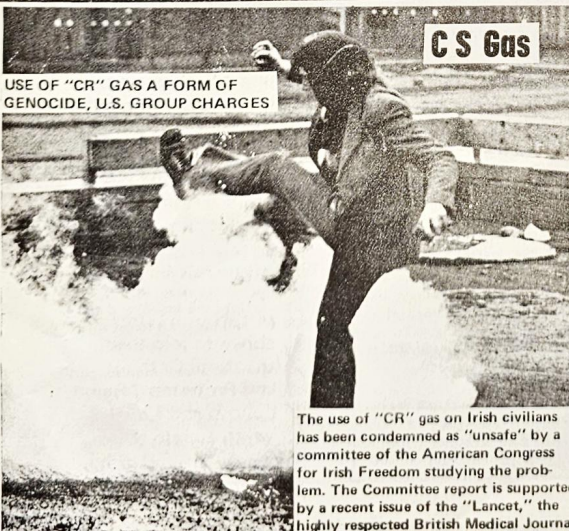
orphans, separated by the wire of Long Kesh. Despite this, John Hume sees no violence in the political pogroms of the government he has recently joined.

The life of the S.D.L.P. as a political entity is bound to be brief when its "leaders" engage in such opportunism. Just before his death, Patrick Pearse wrote:-

"The leaders of Ireland have always left the people at the critical moment; have sometimes sold them."

THOSE WHO FAIL

Those who fail to learn the lessons of history are doomed to repeat its tragedies. History is repeating itself in Northern Ireland today. Once again, the people have been sold out. The past is prologue.



The use of "CR" gas on Irish civilians has been condemned as "unsafe" by a committee of the American Congress for Irish Freedom studying the problem. The Committee report is supported by a recent issue of the "Lancet," the highly respected British Medical Journal.

In its November 24th issue, the Lancet, a publication of a British medical group more than 150 years old, attacked the British government's approval of the use of the new "CR" gas in Northern Ireland, describing it as untested and unsafe. The medical group denies the accuracy of the government's statement that the use of the gas is "no cause for concern."

In a recent press statement, Mr. Craig Moore, National Secretary of the American Congress for Irish Freedom stated in Indianapolis:

"We are pleased that British medical leaders have at last attacked the government on this issue. The Lancet report cites the fact that the government's alleged test papers have been withheld from medical experts and have never been published. The report states that the gas causes a rise in blood pressure as well as pressure within the eyes. ("Intraocular pressure").

"It is significant that the government's testing was not long term and was limited to youthful army recruits. There was no testing on the elderly, children

or young people. At least one member of the government's testing team stated "It seems premature to authorise the use of "CR" (as reprinted in the Sunday Times on November 11th, 1973). The Lancet report stated "We agree" with this conclusion. The use of the gas under these circumstances was a political decision by Mr. Heath made in total defiance of medical experts. Jews were gassed by Hitler and it would appear Irishmen are to meet a similar fate in Ulster. We are dismayed by the silence of the British political parties in this sordid situation. These practices are a form of genocide by the British Government. Under the guise of "riot control," Irish civilians are now being exposed to gas warfare in clear violation of the Geneva Convention and international treaties."

Mr. Moore stated the committee report of the American Congress for Irish Freedom was made after a study in conjunction with medical experts in the United States. The American Congress for Irish Freedom is an Irish American organisation with branches in several American cities.

YOUR LETTERS PAGE

MICHAEL WATTERS SINN FEIN
CUMANN, JONESBORO, DROMINTIEE

HARASSMENT

A Chara,

We have received reports from local people in the Dromintiee area concerning British Occupation Forces who are giving continuous annoyance to the residents of the area, especially the old age pensioners and local farmers who suffer most.

One particular farmer told some of our members that while feeding cattle in his shed the British Army tried to land the helicopter in his yard which is very small causing the animals to rampage and as a result he luckily escaped being battered to death by them.

Old people also have suffered from these outrageous actions by the occupation forces while they are kept in fright by helicopters flying low over their homes day and night. Members of this Cumann strongly condemn these actions and call for a withdrawal of the British Occupation Forces not only from here but all of the North.

Mise le meas,
P.R.O.

BRUTALITY IN LONG KESH

Once again, we must bring public attention to the brutality and degrading treatment meted out to us on yet another British Army raid.

As is usual, we were awakened by screaming, baton wielding soldiers at 6.00 a.m. The orders were given that no man would move an eyelid. To those of us who have endured many such raids the order indicated what was to come. Tommy Gorman, Seamus Kelly and Kieran Devine were unfortunate enough to be seen glancing at each other and were dragged out of their beds and beaten into the rainswept compound in their underwear and forced to lie in mucky water.

Their special treatment lasted about a half an hour after which they were badly bruised and shaken. Twenty other men were also batoned in the canteen hut. Until now the prison doctor has refused to examine the injured men even though the beatings were witnessed by the deputy governor.

On returning to our huts after three and a half hours we were greeted by a scene of destruction, with all personal belongings strewn and walked into the floor; many of our clothes were forced into the toilets and many more were ripped into shreds. All this again being witnessed by the prison officers.

Now that the S.D.L.P. wish to share power with a regime that controls those British Army terrorists, in our view they must also share responsibility.

P.R.O.,
Republican Detainees,
Cage 6, Long Kesh.

JOE CUNNINGHAM SINN FEIN
CUMANN, NEWTOWNABBEY

BRUTAL SLAYING

A Chara,

The people of Newtownabbey have once again witnessed the brutal slaying of two workmen making a living.

This is the latest two, of a long list of slayings and attempted murders by petrol bombings, perpetrated on the minority in this area. What outrages people most is the different handling of affairs by the so called security forces. If this slaying had happened in a predominately Catholic area, it would have been followed up by sealing of the entire area, and a house to house search, as is an everyday occurrence in minority areas.

Unfortunately this did not happen in the Ratiffren Estate, even when the murder gang seemed to have taken refuge in this area. This can only lead us to conclude that the British Army, no doubt guided by our non sectarian R.U.C. decided that the para-military murder gangs are to be given a free hand.

P.R.O.

GET THE PRICE SISTERS HOME!

A Chara,

We are all by now familiar with the routine torture of the Price sisters, Hugh Feeney and Gerald Kelly. Each morning at 10 a.m. these young Irishmen and women go through an ordeal which causes them extreme physical and physiological pain. That ordeal is the disgusting and barbaric torture of force-feeding. This practice has been shown at numerous demonstrations and has been well described by the news media, everyone is aware of its effects.

The reason these four young people are tortured in such a manner is not because they made basic and just demands for political status and a return to their own country but because the Tory Government sees this as a chance to gain political capital and to build up their shattered ego in the face of defeat in Ireland.

Where have the representatives of the people being hiding while the British Government blatantly ignored the Geneva convention of Human Rights to which, ironically enough, Britain is a signatory. Why the silence from Messrs Faulkner and Fitt, has the S.D.L.P. lost its loud mouth? Why the silence from the Government of the Free State and the British Opposition could it be they are embarrassed by Ted's actions on the world's political stage? It is as ever the man in the street who has rallied to a basic humanitarian cause. We thank all those who have participated in demanding the return of all political prisoners in England. However, we would call for further and more strenuous protest from all of the people. We also challenge the S.D.L.P. and the afore-mentioned Silent Ones to add their voices to the protest.

This is not a political platform, we do not seek political capital. This is a plea from the heart on humanitarian grounds for the return of the Price sisters and all political prisoners in English jails.

Send them home.

Is mise le meas,

P.R.O.,
O'Rawe, Starrs, Fitzsimmons, Nolan,
Sinn Fein Cumann,
Cage 17, Long Kesh.

MR. DESMOND BOAL

Dear Sir,

The following statement was issued by Comhairle Chonnacht:-

"Comhairle Chonnacht wishes to place on record its welcome for the recent proposal of Mr. Desmond Boal for a Federal Irish Parliament together with a Provincial Parliament as a solution to the Northern problem.

As this proposal is the nearest in line to that advocated by the four Provincial Comhairli we in Comhairle Chonnacht hope that it will receive the earnest consideration it deserves from the Irish people North and South as we believe it contains within it seeds of a just and lasting peace for the whole people of Ireland."

I would be grateful if you would kindly publish the above statements in your paper as soon as convenient.

Yours faithfully,

L. P. NOONE,
New St.,
Ballaghaderreen,
Co. Roscommon.

IRA AND UVF

Dear Sir,

In exchange for an I.R.A. decision to cease attacks on off-duty U.D.R. men, the U.V.F. has called on Loyalist paramilitary organisations not to kill Catholic civilians. I welcome this conciliatory move and compliment both sides on making it.

However, the U.V.F. statement, which followed the I.R.A. decision, seems to require, in turn, an I.R.A. answer. The U.V.F. said: "We do not believe that the killing of any Ulsterman, U.D.R. or not, can be justified as legitimate."

Clearly the I.R.A. does not accept this standpoint. I believe it owes it to itself and its supporters to explain to what degree, and on what grounds, it disagrees.

At present the I.R.A. seems to regard it as legitimate to kill the following categories of Ulstermen: U.D.R. men on duty, part-time and full-time R.U.C. men, R.U.C. Special Branch, Ulster members of English Army undercover squads, spies and traitors.

What I am suggesting is a statement from the I.R.A. explaining:-

1. Why it is legitimate to kill these categories of Ulstermen;
2. How such killings help to increase support among Loyalists for Desmond Boal's proposal; to unite Ulstermen around the demand for a federal, independent Ireland, and to increase the political influence of the Republican Movement - so that it, rather than other forces, can shape the post-war situation.

Yours truly,

DESMOND FENNELL,
Maoinis,
Carna,
Iarchonnacht.

British Trade Unionists asked to back hunger strikers

The Deputy Chief Whip of the Labour Party on the Greater London Council Councillor Paddy O'Connor, urged supporters of the Irish struggle in Britain to "lash the Labour Party" during the British General Election campaign. He told a public meeting organised by the Irish Political Hostage Campaign, in London's Conway Hall last Thursday night that every Labour candidate should be asked to state a position on the hunger strikers, and on the Irish struggle. Speaking with some emotion Councillor O'Connor told the meeting that he had been on hunger strike in Mountjoy jail, Dublin in 192 and that for 800 years civil liberties in Ireland had been nil.

A similar theme was taken up by journalist Eamonn McCann, who said that the Irish political prisoners should be made an issue in the election campaign.

Cyril Cusack, the well-known Irish actor, said the demand that the prisoners should be returned to serve their sentences in jails in the North of Ireland was 'on all levels a reasonable one.' They were in prison because of the long chain of cause and effect which had strangled Anglo-Irish relations, and the constant rejection of the valid national aspirations of the Irish people.

Irish International, and Charlton Athletic soccer-player Eamonn Dunphy said that he was grateful for the chance to express support for the political prisoners. He believed that there was no such category as 'political prisoners' under English law - that was a pity because he could think of a home for a number of political criminals.

Brian Rose-Smith of the Haldane Society (a group of left-wing lawyers)

said about the legal repression in the North of Ireland, and the encroachment of civil liberties in Britain. Referring to the trials of picketing building workers at Shrewsbury he said: "The confrontation between the miners and the Tories differs only slightly from the confrontation between the oppressed minority in the North of Ireland and the state - it is the difference between Winchester and Shrewsbury."

Dr. Dominic Costa - a trainee psychiatrist - told the meeting that the remarks of two Tory M.P.s, who had visited the hunger strikers had been inaccurate, and had also been misreported. Contrary to press reports the prisoners were being held down by thugs while being forced, the Price sisters had lost weight seriously, and the campaign on their behalf should draw the lesson, and not rely on M.P.s. and the press to get their demands.

The meeting passed a resolution supporting the call made by the Irish Transport and General Workers Union to the British T.U.C., for the British Labour movement to back the demands of the political prisoners.

BOB PURDIE

letters

Should be addressed to
the Editor, Eire Nua Bookshop
170a Falls Road, Belfast.

By Sean Mac Eochaidh

cold feet

Collaboration between the British Government and the Quislings in Leinster House and Stormont continues because the Irish people are allowing it to continue. There is no use in us putting all the blame on the Quislings if we are prepared to sit back and let them get away with it.

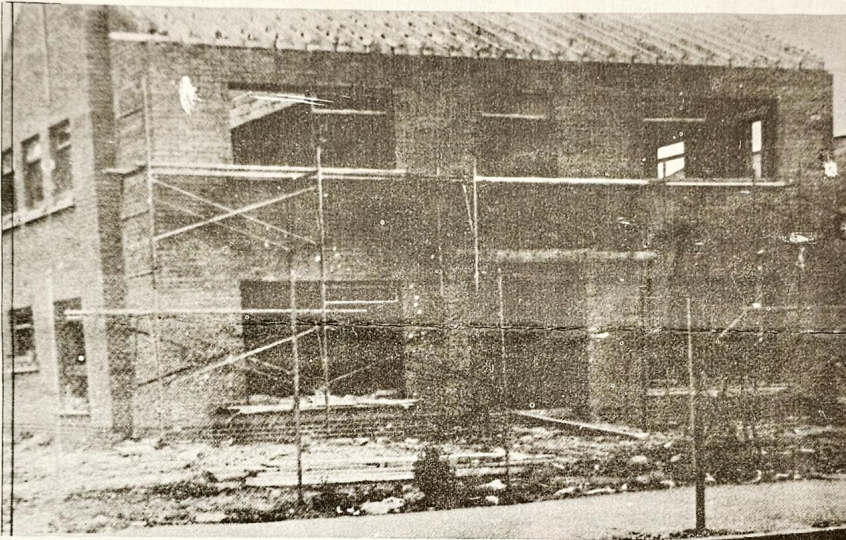
Cruise O'Brien is going to destroy our National Culture and use Radio Televis Collaboration to destroy it if the Irish people act like mice. In the name of God and our dead generations, have we lost our Irish manhood and our Irish nationality altogether?

Some of us attended a private meeting in Cavan town last Sunday night. One man at the meeting thought that some people, including some in the Irish Republican Movement in that area were getting cold feet. We share his fears, but we believe that the rot is not confined to one small part of Ireland.

Let us face it. There are a lot of gutless, spineless, yellow, crawling compromisers in Ireland today. Lacking in manhood, lacking in honesty, lacking in principle and lacking in moral courage. Lies and dishonesty abound all over Ireland.

Let us in future, call a spade a spade. In future, this will be the editorial policy of this paper. We do not know how long we will be allowed to do this but we will do it for as long as we are able.

From now on the kid gloves are off!



NOT FIT FOR PIGSTY

"Over a period of three years, the people of Tates Row, McDowell's Row and Catherines Row, have lived in houses that can only be described as hovels," state the Joe Cunningham Sinn Fein Cumann, which covers the Newtownabbey area near Belfast.

The Cumann say that many letters have been published in the local press about the bad housing conditions but that nobody seems interested.

"The hovels stink with sewerage and suffer from dampness and dangerous electric wiring. The local authorities have been notified on numerous occasions but to no avail. Little wonder the people in this area have decided on the need for a change of system and control," the statement adds.



1. New house being built for clergy in Greencastle.

2. Working class people's hovels in Greencastle. The occupants supply the cash, part of which is used to build expensive houses for the clergy.

(Pics courtesy of Joe Cunningham Sinn Fein Cumann).



Birmingham Comhairle Ceanntair, Sinn Fein

Comprising the following Cumainn:

SOUTH & O'HANLON (Selly Oak), FITZSIMONS & McILHONE (Small Heath)
PEARSE & McDAID, (Ladywood), BARNES & McCORMAC (Erdington),
ANN PARKER & MICHAEL McVERRY (Sparkhill), FATHER MURPHY
(Nottingham), SEAN BERGIN (Leicester),

Wish to publicly display their support and solidarity with the Winchester Eight especially Dolours and Marion Price, Hugh Feeney and Gerry Kelly, now in their 100th day of Hunger strike and Force-feeding.
We demand that the British Government immediately transfer them to their native land. "If they do not win this fight, at least they will have deserved to win it. But win it they will though they may win it in death" (P. H. Pearse).
Repatriate the Winchester Eight.

ARDOYNE IS WELL RID OF THEM

Two former British paratroopers who served in the Ardoyne area, Belfast, have been charged and sentenced by an English court for burglary and bodily assault.

Stephen Holland, who left the Second Battalion in November, 1973, was jailed for nine months. He had nine previous convictions.

John Doolin (24), was fined £50. Both men came from Farnborough, Hants.

British Students Want Occupation Troops out of Ireland

The General Meeting of the Student's Union in Kent passed overwhelmingly a motion to be debated at the Liverpool Conference of the National Union of Students, calling for the withdrawal of British troops from Ireland. The students also demanded the general release of all Irish Political Prisoners and condemned the Sunningdale Agreement.

Meanwhile in Canterbury, the Students Union have passed a resolution at the University of Kent, calling on the N.U.S. to support the Winchester Eight.

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182 Brompton Park, Belfast.

HE COULD BE PROVOKED

Mr. Paddy O'Connor, former mayor of Camden, has called for the release of the Winchester Eight.

He told a London meeting of the Political Hostages Release Campaign: "I don't want to go around planting bombs, but I am sure that if I were living under the conditions that people are living under in Northern Ireland, I would be out shooting and bombing."

NO PEACE FOR DAD'S ARMY

Students at the University of East Anglia harried a senior R.A.F. officer who had come to interview potential recruits to the armed forces. As the interviews were hurriedly transferred to another building demonstrators chanted: "Troops Out of Ireland - Internees Out of Jail," and "No campus recruitment for Armed Forces."

Following the success of this demonstration, which was organised by the International Marxist Group, and supported by the Student Union, there are plans to protest again when a team from the British Ministry of Defence will interview women for jobs in the independent intelligence section of the Ministry.

IRISH POLITICAL HOSTAGES COMMITTEE

The campaign for the granting of political status to — and the repatriation of — all Irish victims of British imperialism, continued with a protest co-ordinated by the I.P.H.C., recently.

From Friday night, a 40 hour hunger strike was mounted outside Brixton prison by the **WOMEN OF IRELAND** - an action group within the **WOMENS' LIBERATION MOVEMENT**. The conclusion of the hunger-strike was marked by the arrival of a protest march from Clapham common. A meeting was then held outside the prison.

Addressing the meeting, a spokeswoman for the **WOMEN ON IRELAND**, expressed solidarity for the hunger-strikers in British jails, especially the Price sisters. The spokeswoman, who asked that the movement should be mentioned rather than individuals, compared the situation with that of the suffragettes in the early part of this century. She asked where was the voice of liberalism that was so strident when the suffragettes were hunger-striking for basic rights. It did not seem to concern the self-professed liberals now that it was Irish women being tortured in British prisons.

The meeting was then addressed by a prominent member of the Republican Movement in Britain. He pointed out that whereas on earlier pickets, the prisoners on the fringes of the building were vociferous in their support, the same could not be said now. Presumably the reports of this support had rankled with the authorities, who had moved their pawns into the outer cells. Addressing these prisoners, he asked them to consider their positions. While they were doing their four month stretch for petty theft, there were young girls doing life PLUS for their political beliefs. He also asked them to remember his words when they were offered remission in return for their services in Ireland as latter-day Black and Tans.

Troops Out Movement Conference

FROM ROSEMARY SULLIVAN IN
LONDON

Saturday May 4th was chosen as the provisional date for a conference on repression and the role of British troops in Ireland by the Troops Out Movement at a recent meeting in Warwick.

40 delegates from T.O.M. groups and supporters, in London, Birmingham, Nottingham, Manchester, Oxford and other areas met to discuss the future of the troops out campaign. Following a general discussion on the role of individual groups, plans were laid for the co-ordination of this role, a week-end school for sympathisers, the conference on the role of the Army, publication of a paper to be called TOM-TOM, plus a

monthly bulletin for members, and an anti-recruitment campaign in schools.

The May conference, to be held in London, will be preceded by a campaign to secure signatures on a petition calling on the Labour Movement to break with bi-partisanship, and demand the withdrawal of all British troops from Ireland.

A campaign is to be conducted by TOM to secure sponsorships for the conference from such organisations as trade union branches, women's groups, black groups, squatters, community organisations, Labour parties, LYPS branches and political groups.

Further details about the conference can be obtained from:

Alistair Renwick, 28 Lamas Park Road, Ealing, LONDON, W.5.

PICKET AT GARTREE

Over 220 supporters of the Irish Political Hostages Campaign picketed for two hours outside Gartree Prison, where Hugh Feeney is held, to protest against the force-feeding of Hugh and his comrades Dolours and Marion Price and Gerry Kelly. The protestors came to the prison in Market Harborough from London, Birmingham, Coventry and other areas in five coaches and a dozen motor cars.

Speakers at the meeting which followed the picket included George Lynch, Sinn Fein and Chris Maguire, I.P.H.C.



These photographs were taken at a recent picket held outside Gartree jail where Hugh Feeney one of the four hunger strikers is held.

Those taking part were protesting against the torture of force-feeding and in support of the hunger strikers demand to be granted political status and transferred to jails in Ireland.

Sinn Fein, Birmingham, was well represented at the protest.