

REPUBLICAN NEWS

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IRELAND UNFREE SHALL NEVER BE AT PEACE

The Troops Out Campaign launched by Belfast Comhairle Ceantair Sinn Féin on Sunday, 8th December, was maintained last Sunday, with after mass meetings at Holy Cross, Ardoyne and St. Theresa's, Glen Road.

We are delighted to see Sinn Féin in Belfast demanding the withdrawal of the foreign army of occupation from Ireland as this is the main plank of Republican News.

We join with Sinn Féin in telling the world that Ireland unfree will never be at peace.

Mrs. Mary McGuigan, Chairman of the Sean McCaughey/James Saunderson Cumann, presided at the meeting at Ardoyne.

Mr. Hughie Hughes said that: "Love Ireland or leave it" was the theme of the campaign organised by Belfast Sinn Féin. "The English people who want peace at any price. Some of the people behind it, are trying to obstruct the struggle for freedom. Sinn Féin and the Republican Leadership want peace, but it must be peace with justice and we won't get this while British troops are on our soil. Internment must be ended immediately and all Republican prisoners must be released. Our prisoners in England must be returned to their families. You, the people have shown a great spirit this last few years. I ask you to maintain that spirit."

Mr. Sean MacEochaidh, Belfast Republican Press Centre said: "A chairde Gael, a mhuinntir Ard Eoin! Last Sunday, Belfast Comhairle Ceantair Sinn Féin, launched a British Troops Out Campaign with a march from the Busby Bee, Andersonstown to Dunville Park. This meeting and similar after mass meetings being held today in other districts are a continuation of that campaign."

"As you all know, it has always been the aim of the Irish Republican Movement to break the English connection and to establish a sovereign, All-Ireland Republic. Republicans in every generation, have been realistic enough to understand that these national aims cannot be realised as long as there is a foreign army of occupation on Irish soil.

and the United Irishmen and they have been here ever since.

"So quite clearly, the main theme of the Sinn Féin campaign is that the foreign army of occupation must withdraw from our shores. Not only do we demand an English military withdrawal, we also demand a political, economic and cultural

withdrawal by the English. Then, and only then, will Irishmen of all denominations, be able to sit down together and decide on the future destiny of the people of Ireland.

"Make no mistake about it; the English Government, their collaborators, and those misguided Irishmen, who call themselves loyalists,

have no respect for mealy-mouths talk, for beggars or crawlers. Irish Republican spokesmen have made it clear on numerous occasions, that there is a place on this island for every Irishman and woman willing to give their allegiance to the Irish nation. But there is no real future in Ireland for anyone, Protestant or Catholic, who wishes to serve a foreign power.

"The unit for voting on Irish national issues, is the people of All-Ireland and not the artificial majority created by the English in this puppet Statelet.

"The puppet Unionist regime collapsed, the puppet Stormont Assembly collapsed and the forthcoming puppet Convention will collapse. Political observers are already saying that there is likely to be a loyalist majority as a result of the imposition of their will on the nationally-minded community. It is this what the loyalists hope for, it is a forlorn hope because the Irish Republican Movement simply will not stand for it.

"The English have been kicked out of other countries and it is our duty to ensure they are kicked out of Ireland. The loyalists make loud, threatening noises because they know they have the backing of English guns and English money. Take this away from them and we will find that many of them will become reasonable and willing to share in the future political framework in the New Ireland.

"Make no mistake about it, the only solution acceptable to the Irish Republican Movement is a solution that includes Irish National Self-Determination. Too many have suffered, too many have died, to accept any less.

"We will not beg, crawl, appease or compromise, now or ever."

Sinn Féin in Belfast will continue their campaign today, (Saturday 21st December), with a rally at the City Hall, at 2 p.m. and tomorrow with after mass meetings at 12.30 p.m. at St. Mathews, St. Johns and St. Michael the Archangel.

A special call has been made by Belfast Republican Press Centre to all the families of Republican prisoners, to ensure that each family is represented at the City Hall Rally by at least one member of each family. The Press Centre believes that these families have a special obligation in this matter.

TEN REASONS FOR THE ENGLISH ARMY OUT CAMPAIGN

1. The English Army has no right whatsoever to be in Ireland. It is here by force of conquest, not by right. The holding down of a subject nation by force of arms is a moral and legal crime. It is a denial of freedom of justice, of peace, and of all those values which make human life worth while. It is the oldest and clearest form of violence, of man's inhumanity to man.

2. The English Army is serving the struggle for national independence. As long as it is here there is no freedom, and no elections held while it is here are free. Without freedom there cannot be prosperity.

3. The English claim it is keeping the peace between two warring factions, Catholics and Protestants. This is a lie. The organised Protestant interest is Orangism, which is a deliberate creation of the English imperialists and serves a colonial purpose, suppressing all struggles for national, democratic and social progress. The English Army supports this interest.

4. The English Army keeps the six county colony in existence. It was brought in in 1969 to rescue the Stormont regime when it failed to suppress the Civil Rights campaign with RUC and B. Special terrorism. It gave the B. Specials a new lease of life as a British Army Regiment, the UDR. Every day it stays it strengthens English and Loyalist control over the six counties.

5. Since the RUC was successfully driven out of nationalist areas the English Army has been England's police force. It is the basis of what is now a military police state, governed by brute force, spies, and computerised intelligence files. It is the instrument of internment, holding of political prisoners, harassment of civilians, torture and brutality. All this is necessary to keep the six county state in existence. Without the English Army it would not be possible.

6. It claims to be preventing a massacre of Catholics by Protestants. This is a lie. It is actively supporting Loyalist murder gangs and carrying out assassinations through its own SAS. It is not the Catholics but the Loyalists who are calling for the retention of the English Army.

7. Events subsequent to the collapse of the Stormont "security forces" in August 1969 showed that the nationalist people of the six counties could defend themselves perfectly well against Loyalist aggression. The English Army is here to see that they will NOT be able to defend themselves. It is carrying out its historic role of arming the Protestants and disarming the Catholics.

8. The English Army's continued presence is polluting civilian life and debasing moral standards in what was an outstandingly crime-free community. Its Kitsonian dirty tricks techniques of counter-insurgency are deliberately destroying the community trust which is necessary for civilised living.

9. England's Army is preventing a realistic settlement between the nationally-minded Irish and those who see their traditional role as holding the country for England. As long as the English Army is here any settlement arrived at would be an unfree one, imposed under duress and would artificially favour the colonialists. Future generations would as before, have to continue the national struggle.

10. If the English Army were forced to withdraw, Irishmen could come together to work out a settlement based on mutual respect and equality, with allegiance only to Ireland, and no second-class citizenship. Freedom is the only basis for lasting peace. The English Army is here to prevent us from being free.

"Ireland unfree shall never be at peace." — P.H. Pearse.

nollaig shona do ar
leighteoirí go leir



LITTLE JOHN

ENGLISH AGENTS

CONOR CRUISE O'BRIEN



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

The Seamus Burns/Charlie Hughes Sinn Fein Cumann, wish all the "Dogs" in Irish English and Scottish Jails, a Merry Christmas.

LOUGHNAN. Greetings till you are home again.

Christmas Greetings and Blessings to all my friends, especially those in Concentration Camps and Jails - Maire Ni Dhaligh (May Daly, Knockane, Fries, Co. Kerry).

The Committee and Members of the McArdrey Cumann, Luton Sinn Fein, send Seasonal Greetings and Good Wishes to the 'Luton 3', and all Irish Political Prisoners at home and abroad.

Republican forces fought a tight skillful offensive last week against a background of serious talks to end English misrule and repression in Ireland. On 9th December enemy military posts came under fire at two of the entrances to ARDOYNE. After the random interment of 18 Ardoyne men a fortnight ago, the enemy only left the Alliance Avenue entrance to the area open. This is constantly harried from Loyalist streets which overlook it. When such aggression is taking place the enemy military forces withdraw. In DERRY'S CREGGAN, two enemy foot patrols were fired on.

On 10th December, 110,000 signatures to a declaration opposing internment without trial were presented to the Irish and British governments and to the Secretary of the United Nations on International Human Rights Day. Though many of the signatures were of leading citizens of the world and over

1,500,000 people were represented, Rees took no notice. This is not surprising. His generals have told him that if the British government want to hold Ireland they must keep internment. And it has become clear that the English are determined to concentrate all their military effort on Western Europe. This means having N.A.T.O. bases in Northern Ireland. The whole dreary imperialist story was spelled out in Roy Mason's 'Defence Review'. In case any one missed the fine print about the determination to hold on to occupation of Ireland for strategic reasons Biggs Davison and his echo Ian Paisley underlined them. The English imperialists are also determined to keep on using their rottenest counter-insurgency gangs in Oman where a heroic people have long struggled for liberation. The hypocrisy of a

Labour government making such an imperialist defence policy delighted the Conservatives who gave it complete support. But it was in the end too much for 59 Labour M.P.s who remained true to their principles and commitments in the division on 16th December. The disquieting thing for Wilson, Rees and Mason was that the dissidents were not merely the long scorned leftists but included 5 bright young men, specially selected by Wilson for promotion to Parliamentary secretarieships. So maybe reason may yet force its way through the thick skulls of Wilson's bigoted cabinet.

That night a grenade caused damage to ANDERSONSTOWN R.U.C. fort. In Newtownabbey a building contractor's yard was destroyed by a fire bomb. The following day the Republican forces' control of the border was clearly demonstrated. A sustained attack in which it is believed that two enemy soldiers were wounded was mounted on the fort overlooking the border crossing at MIDDLETOWN. Rifles and sub-machine guns were used in the attack which lasted for 15 minutes. The enemy fired over 1,500 rounds without scoring any hits. The A.S.U. involved withdrew without any loss. On that night in BELFAST, enemy soldiers came under fire in the Malpas and Oldpark areas. was ambushed in Clonard Gardens.

The warning issued to civil servants to cease collaboration with the enemy was given effect on Friday 13th December in Belfast. Bombs exploded simultaneously outside the large homes of three top Stormont civil servants in the Malone, Knock and Stormont areas of the city. Warnings were given and there were no casualties but the 'security forces' mismanaged precautions to secure civilian safety and as usual tried to make people believe there had

been no warning. Such tactics are always a sign of desperation on their part as they realised the hopelessness of trying to give any more protection to big wig collaborators.

Plain clothes security men who were trying to insinuate themselves in the KILLEAVY area, near Forkhill in South Armagh, were ambushed at 10.30 a.m. on Saturday 14th. R.U.C. man David MacNiece was killed and Michael Gibson of the Royal Green Jackets seriously wounded.

When a uniformed foot patrol tried to investigate in the area on Sunday, it was scattered by sustained gunfire. There is neither room, use nor welcome for the invaders in South Armagh.

At Farrancassidy telephone exchange near Belleek, in Co. Fermanagh, the enemy failed to deal with a suspect bomb for a week. On 14th December a bomb and incendiary gutted the Sessanore Post Office in Co. Tyrone. There was a 40 minute warning and no casualties. A 300 lb. proxy bomb in Lisnaskea was partially defused. It caused some damage and considerable disruption. Explosive chemicals were taken from a factory near DUNGANNON on Sunday night 15th. In a raid in which no injury was caused 3/4 ton of potassium nitrate was safely removed and a trailer of acid was seized.

The Price sisters were moved on Dolours' birthday to Durham, a long way from home. Kenneth Birtlingham was re-captured in BIRMINGHAM on 11th December, where he had been carrying on a business as a roofing contractor with the full knowledge of the English police for the past nine months and that is since his 'escape' from Mountjoy. His solicitor said in court: "Littlejohn tells me the police were well aware of what he was doing and well aware of his whereabouts at all times... His opinion is that they know perfectly well he is wanted for what is basically a political offence."

"The instructions of the British government were that the robbery should take place in Eire and appear to be the work of the I.R.A. and cause the Dublin government embarrassment at the activities of the I.R.A. The British Government wanted to be able to prove the I.R.A. were causing aggravation in Eire."

It is most disquieting to know that this self-confessed AGENT PROVOCATEUR was consorting with an Irish girl in Birmingham at the time the enemy were preparing their anti-Irish policies. But the Irish have shown their strength. Peace is now up to the English oppressors and the terms have been re-stated by Daithi O Conail:-

"A staggered withdrawal of all British troops from Northern Ireland. General amnesty for all political prisoners in England, not only for the Catholics but also for our opponents, the

Protestants. A public declaration by London that the Irish people can determine their future in free elections. Otherwise, we will continue our war, with redoubled effort. - (Reuter, U.P.I.)"

Oh Doctor Dear Doctor Oh How We Love You

A statement issued by the Irish Republican Publicity Bureau, in Dublin last Sunday night, said information on the meeting between Republican leaders and 'churchmen at Feakle, Co. Clare, had been supplied to Dublin Castle by the R.U.C. in Belfast. It claimed Assistant Commissioner E. Garvey sought instructions from Mr. Cooney, Dublin Minister for Justice.

It appears that Mr. Corish and Dr. O'Brien were consulted in Cooney's absence and that Mr. Corish advised against raiding the meeting because of the nature of the talks.

The statement said that Cruise O'Brien was adamant that the meeting be raided as quickly as possible and the Republican participants arrested.

The D.P.P. said that Dr. O'Brien had always been opposed to anyone talking to Republicans and added that he criticised the Wilson talks of March, 1972 and a meeting with Whitelaw in July, the same year.

They said Dr. O'Brien's attitude was at variance with the feelings of the vast majority of the Irish people and added that his views were totally destructive in the present climate.

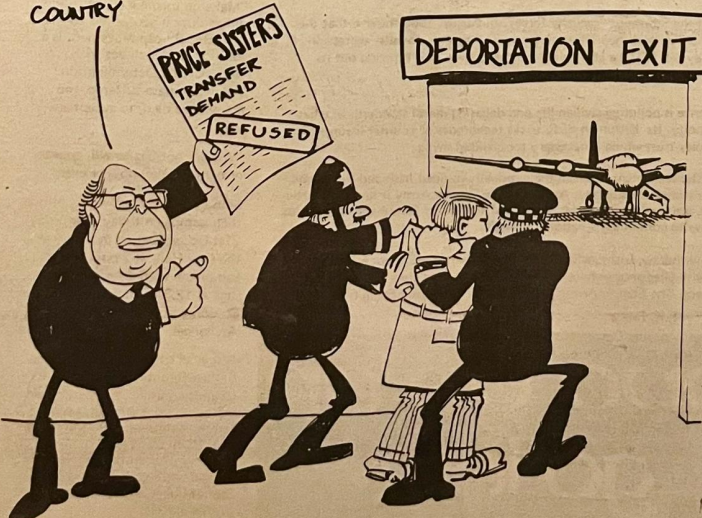
SUPPORT STILL NEEDED

The Annual General Meeting of the Dundalk Branch of An Cumann Cabrach, the Republican Prisoners Dependents Fund was held in Market Street Hall on Sunday 8th December. A very full meeting was given details of the Branch's fund raising activities for the past year through the Treasurer's and Secretary's report.

The Chairman in his statement outlined the aims and objects of the Cumann which is to provide for the dependants of the more than 2,500 Republican Prisoners now confined in Prisons and Concentration Camps throughout Ireland and Britain and he concluded with a strong appeal for more subscribers, collectors and members. Anyone interested may contact the Secretary:-

Mrs. Una Toal,
3 St. Kevin's Terrace,
Newry Road, Dundalk.

IF I COULD HAVE GOT YOU ON A BOMB CHARGE
I WOULDN'T HAVE ALLOWED YOU TO LEAVE THIS
COUNTRY





Scene outside Portlaoise Jail last Sunday, during Sinn Féin Protest demonstration.

CONDITIONS AT PORTLAOISE JAIL

The following statement was issued on 12th December, on behalf of the Republican Prisoners in Portlaoise Jail:

'On Wednesday, 11th December, 1974, a list of demands was presented to the Governor of Portlaoise Jail on behalf of the political prisoners imprisoned there. This list has been the subject of constant negotiation between the authorities and the prisoner's staff, but to no avail.

The paragraphs below are listed our major demands with a brief comment on each.

1. SEGREGATION: This was won after a long hunger strike in Mountjoy Prison during September - October 1973. Since then the authorities have consistently attempted to renege on this issue. At present they have imprisoned here people who have no association or affiliation with the Republican Movement.

2. MEDICAL FACILITIES: These are non-existent in Portlaoise Jail. Even Long Kesh and Magilligan concentration camps have hospital units within their confines. This is the only prison in Ireland that has no hospitalisation facilities whatsoever.

3. DIET: We demand the introduction of a proper, nutritionally sound diet. At least twofifths of the food as presently served ends up in rubbish bins. It is inedible, without variation and poorly presented.

4. PARCELS: We demand the right to receive food parcels. Parcels have been a right of political prisoners and we recognise it as a universal right of all prisoners to receive food parcels. To suggest that they are a security risk is negated by the fact that they were admitted at Halloween.

5. HANDICRAFTS: We demand the right to receive handicraft materials security is once more the excuse forwarded by the authorities for the banning of certain handicraft items and the curtailment of others.

6. PAROLE: The system as operated here is completely unsatisfactory. We believe the authorities are using a physiological weapon by releasing one man on parole and refusing another, though the case history be the same in each case. We will not tolerate our men being played off one against the other.

7. TUCK SHOP: Despite statements to the contrary, no tuck shop exists in Portlaoise Jail. Therefore apart from cigarettes, no items are supplied to us at cost prices as stated by Mr. Cooney.

8. EDUCATION: No facilities exist except our own self-instituted classes.

9. NO CHURCH OR CHAPEL exists within Portlaoise Jail. Indeed what was the chapel is

barred to us and is instead used as a billet by Free State army personnel. (Shades of Cromwell). Thus proper facilities for the practise of religion are being denied. Security is the reason forwarded.'

BUT THEY ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

More than 500 people, many of whom had travelled long distances, assembled outside Portlaoise Prison last Sunday, as part of a protest demonstration organised by Sinn Féin.

A small fire was observed through the window of one of the cells of the prison. It was reported that one of the Republican prisoners had burned a quantity of paper as a signal of encouragement and solidarity with the demonstrators.

A parade was held through the town with banner-carrying protestors from all parts of Ireland chanting slogans. A helicopter flew over the town during the demonstration and a large force of Gardaí surrounded the prison while others diverted all traffic from the town centre.

Mr. Ruairi O Bradaigh, President Sinn Féin, who was the principal speaker, stressed that the Republican movement was seeking peace, but it would have to be peace with justice and honour.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge with thanks £20 received from Mr. Charlie Robinson, Cavan, for Long Kesh Disaster Fund.

A large force of Gardaí and Southern troops, carried out widespread searches of derelict farmhouses in the Monaghan/Armagh border area last Sunday. There were no reports of any arms finds.

IRISH CHURCHES - JOINT PEACE CAMPAIGN

Statement by Sean O Bradaigh, director Publicity Sinn Féin

'The statement issued on 12th December, by the leaders of four Christian Churches in Ireland calls for an end to violence and the establishment of peace. The cause of peace is a noble cause, deserving the support of all the Irish people, North and South.

'When I got an advance copy of the statement and other supporting material two days ago, I contacted the priest who was listed as Dublin press officer for the campaign. I asked him if the condemnation of "every gunman and bomber and all who advocate or indulge in violence" included the British Army in the Six Counties. He told me that the statement was directed primarily at the I.R.A. and loyalist militant groups, and did not include the British Army. He added that it might be construed as covering any illegal act of violence which might be committed by an individual British soldier, but he was certain that it did not refer to the British army.

'Surely an appeal for an end to violence should be directed to all the parties to the conflict. Why is this a one-sided appeal, or should I say condemnation? Why has the daily and nightly violence of the British Army been ignored? Why is there no mention of the violence of Long Kesh Concentration Camp, which has gone on since August 1971? But then Archbishop Simms publicly supported the introduction of internment at that time.

"Because it deals solely with the

symptoms of violence and ignores the causes of it, the Church leaders' statement is superficial and therefore misleading. Those who profess such concern for peace simply indulge in one-sided condemnation and pious platitudes. This is not good enough.

'The Church leaders are intelligent enough to know that no disease is cured by merely treating the symptoms; the most that can achieve is a temporary relief. By ignoring the basic causes of violence in the North of Ireland and by failing to identify them and call for their elimination they show a wanton irresponsibility at this critical time.

'Sinn Féin desires a peace which will last, a true and meaningful peace, not another stop-gap measure like the Treaty of 1921 which the Bishops of the day said was the way to peace in Ireland and which turned out to be the opposite. All members of Sinn Féin are working for a true and lasting peace which must be based on justice. But the Church leaders' statement is unfortunately shallow and deceptive and will not advance the cause of a true peace because it does not seek to find the causes of violence and does not even mention the establishment of justice.

'Once again the Church leaders have shirked their duty to the people and cause they profess to serve. It is a consolation to know that not all the clergy subscribe to this superficiality, which is born of moral cowardice.'

SINN FEIN APPEAL

THE PRISONERS URGENTLY NEED BOOKS

- BOOKS ON IRISH HISTORY
- BOOKS ON IRISH LANGUAGE & CULTURE
- BOOKS ON IRELAND AND IRISH LIFE
- BOOKS ON POLITICS.

Please give generously

- Books you have read
- New paperbacks, especially recent ones.

Bring them to the Eire Nua Bookshop 170 Falls Rd., or send us your name and address and we will collect them.

LONG KESH-CHR

"WE, the undersigned Prisoners in Long Kesh Concentration Camp, reject totally the spurious claim of the SDLP to speak on our behalf.

The SDLP has actively encouraged Ree's continuing Detention Policy by co-operating with the English Government.

"WE repudiate their mock-concern for the P.O.W.s We condemn their collusion with British Ministers.

We ask the People of Ireland to ignore the cynical pleas of these opportunists who have broken all promises, betrayed all pledges.

"WE take this opportunity to extend heart-felt thanks to all those individuals and organisations who so generously contributed to the Long Kesh Disaster Fund.

Your over-whelming support was an inspiration to us all.

"In conclusion, we wish the Irish People a Happy and a Holy Christmas and we are confident that 1975 will see the dawning of a new era of Freedom, Peace, and Justice in Ireland."

(This Christmas Message from the Political Hostages was signed by 821 men in Long Kesh—Editor).



Cage 6

J. Deeney, J. McMenamy, C. Moore, E. Lafferty, J. McLaughlin, S. McLaughlin, J. Docherty, T. O'Donnell, P. Mullin, B. Doherty, P. Mullin, B. Doherty, P. McNutt, D. Kyle, T. Tyan, C. Docherty, J. McAleer, R. Houston, S. McGarigle, J. McGarigle, S. Tracey, C. McAllister, E. Docherty, B. Agnew, P. Corrigan, S. Mellon, J. J. McGirl, G. Flanagan, M. McKeanna, J. Moran, P. Donnelly, E. Donnelly, P. Browne, G. McGuigan, M. McGuigan, J. Donnelly, W. Bradley, G. Kane, F. Kane, G. Ewing, J. O'Neill, P. Stewart, M. Meehan, J. Conway, M. Gilvary, L. Martin, K. Docherty, B. Walsh, M. McNally, J. Fergusson, T. McKee, T. Collins, T. Kane, S. Connolly, H. Smyth, P. Burns, J. Kelly, S. Guinness, M. Smyth, M. McCullagh, T. Murphy, P. McKinney, J. Morgan, J. Roe, N. Rooney, S. Fitzsimmons, G. Burt, J. O'Neill, F. Taylor, M. O'Rawe, M. Mooney, T. Enright, T. Reilly, D. Hilling, F. O'Regan, E. Rooney, N. Maguire, I. Bell, P. Lunny, J. Rafferty, G. McDonnell, T. Keenan, G. Maguire, C. McHugh, H. McCabe, V. Lavery, T. Rea, P. McMahon, J. McMenamin, M. Law, S. Fitzsimmons, J. Maguire, F. Boswell, S. McDermott, L. Shannon, F. Rafferty, B. McConnell, D. Glenholmes, J. O'Donnell, T. McGrory, J. Thompson, J. McCann, H. Fitzsimmons, J. Bradley, S. Hogg, J. Murray, A. Maskey, J. Brown, T. McIvor, B. Kelly, O. Kelly, S. Hickey, J. O'Neill, J. Devine, B. Davidson, T. Davidson, J. Davidson, F. Scapattucci, T. Pinky, S. McGrady, P. McCullagh, G. Rodgers, B. Weir, T. McReynolds, P. McGucken, F. O'Brien.



Cage 7

F. Maguire, M. McKervoy, T. McKinney, S. McClenaghan, M. McClenaghan, B. McKeanna, M. O'Kane, K. Teir, J. Travers, T. Bradley, T. Donnelly, S. Clarke, S. Graham, J. Murray, S. Rice, B. Storey, R. McAuley, T. Saunders, B. Saunders, T. Morelli, S. Keenan, J. Hayes, P. Kelly, T. Kelly, J. Kelly, J. McKinney, F. Collins, H. Murray, J. Mulholland, J. Ritchie, T. McArdle, L. Benson, J. Benson, D. Mackey, F. Herron, A. Bradley, T. McAllister, J. Thomas,

H. Magee, G. Burns, G. Crockwell, L. Maskey, A. McCann, G. Lynch, P. O'Neill, P. McManus, F. Campbell, G. Bradley, F. McCullough, P. McCullough, J. Slane, F. Slane, J. Valley, M. Fox, F. Gillen, G. Gillen, J. Gill, K. Hanaway, B. Fox, J. Huddleson, M. Burns, F. Valley, F. Morrison, G. Conlon, E. Duffy, O. Farrell, P. Fox, D. O'Connor, F. Donnelly, S. Burns, P. McAreavey, M. Barrett, H. Barrett, S. Irvine, P. Mulholland, B. Tohill, T. Fusco, G. McLroy, J. Campbell, M. Walsh, H. O'Rawe, J. McAuley, G. Rice, R. McKeown,

E. Trainor, L. Kerr, T. Harkin, L. Griffin, D. McCrory, J. Deery, M. McGilloway, M. McBrearty, S. Mellon, L. McColgan, M. Gallagher, J. Kavanagh, R. Finlay, S. O'Docherty, B. Duffy, J. O'Carroll, S. Fitzsimmons, P. Healy, P. Livingstone, M. Livingstone, L. McKinley, B. Docherty, T. Magill, R. Storey, P. McCullough, S. Tully, S. Finucane, B. Cousins, P. Cousins, P. Groves, J. Green, N. O'Hara, J. Gibson, J. Pickering, J. Ramsey, P. McArdle, H. Hanley, M. Edwards, S. McAloon.



Cage 13

M. Cullen, S. Storey, E. McClafferty, J. Serridge, B. Whyte, B. Docherty, G. Branigan, L. Kane, J. Thompson, J. McCann, D. Hilton, A. Robinson, N. Sheridan, M. Brennan, R. Whelan, E. McDonald, S. Shortt, S. Rooney, K. Sturgeon, G. Dempsey, B. McCaffrey, G. McLaughlin, R. McAuley, C. McCurtain, P. Nolan, J. Gray, R. Lavery, S. Austin.



Cage 16

G. Marks, G. Fitzgerald, T. Downey, B. Lennón, J. Haughey, D. Knox, L. Marley, F. Lowry, P. McVeigh, B. Curran, S. Bonner, J. McStravick, J. Crosse, D. Power, S. Rooney, A. O'Kane, B. Boyle, H. McCombe, S. Montgomery, T. Stewart, J. McKenney, J. Rice, G. McDonald, H. Fitzsimmons, J. McCrystal, M. Flanagan, M. Devine, M. Flynn, J. Duncan, H. Clarke, P. McGinn, A. Beattie, P. McKinney, D. Murray, D. Conlon, P. Hickey, J. Lynch, N. Daly, P. Dillon, F. Shortt, L. Holden, P. Kerr, J. McComb, J. Donnelly, J. Dempsey, M. Finegan, J. J. Reynolds, D. Wilson, M. Agnew, D. Leonard.

B. Creagan, O. Malone, M. Cupples, P. Gartland, J. Dines, T. McMahon, T. Brady, P. McVeigh, M. Corey, E. Carmichael, G. Pridgent, G. Duffy, L. Fennell, P. Kane, M. Boyle, J. Cunningham, W. McGuigan, O. Christie, J. Haddock, J. Mulhern, B. Meehan, M. Feron, J. Scullion, D. Morley, J. Quigley, B. McKeown, W. Cunningham.



Cage 17

J. Alsopp, P. MacMahon, A. Gibson, B. Donnelly, C. Crostan, M. Gorman, T. McKeirnan, G. Maguire, S. Gibson, P. Graham, K. Delaney, J. Creighton, J. Lynch, G. G. Smyth, M. Treanor, R. Gallagher, J. Finnegan, J. Robinson, G. Smyth, C. Kanavan, M. Hanna, T. Ward, G. O'Neill, F. Black, J. McLoughlin, S. Coleman, K. Carson, S. Creaney, S. Magee, D. Billings, J. Cannon, P. Braniff, B. Braniff, J. O'Neill, G. Bradley, J. McVicker, M. McManus, T. Connor, B. Hughes, E. Brophy, A. Crowe, M. McCarry, J. McMullan, D. Lennon, J. J. Rooney, P. Molloy, T. Clarke, J. Barnes, E. Fanning, G. Burns, T. McDonnell, M. Campbell, S. Walsh, D. Donaldson, J. Ward, M. Walker, J. Gibney, M. O'Donnell, G. White, D. Devenney, T. Loudon, B. Sands, B. Craig, P. Donnelly, G. Rooney, G. Brophy.



Cage 18

C. Keenan, D. Thompson, K. Trainor, A. McGuinness, P. O'Hare, M. Mallon, C. Hoban, S. Stewart, J. Johnston, K. Sullivan, A. Bradley, M. Lenihan, P. Farrell, H. Hehir, F. Fitzsimmons, F. Cox, B. Elliott, D. Drumm, M. O'Neill, J. MacNeil, T. McLaughlin, G. McChesney, T. Sloan, B. Mack, H. Clarke, K. Henry, A. Bell, M. Fox, J. Henry, F. Lavery, J. Byrne, G. Brady, B. Magee, M. Doran, A. Rooney, K. Rooney, P. Stewart, P. Mulvanna, D. McCashin, J. Burns, S. Drain, T. Prendergast, J. Mulvanna, G. O'Hare, T. McNulty, H. Doran, J. McGivern, T. McCandless, R. O'Hanlon, E. Larkin, J. Mallon, J. Surgeon, P. McAuley, P. Gilliland, C. Mawhinney, P. MacMenamin, D. McGrath, R. McCallum, J. Rafter, M. Kelly, B. Davison, J. Noonan, S. Darragh, H. O'Hara, L. Morgan, J. G. McLaughlin, W. Kelly, W. Daly, S. Maguire, R. Haughey,

CHRISTMAS '74

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J. Cunningham, W. McGuigan,
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eow, W. Cunningham.

Cage 17

bson, B. Donnelly, C. Crostan,
Maguire, S. Gibson, P. Graham,
nch, G. G. Smyth, M. Treanor,
obinson, G. Smyth, C. Kanavan,
F. Black, J. McLoughlin, S. Coleman,
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oy, J. McKiver, M. McManus, T. Connor,
e, J. McCarr, J. McMullan, D. Lennon,
rke, J. Barnes, E. Fanning, G. Burns,
W. D. Donaldson, J. Ward,
nnell, G. White, D. Devenney, T. Loudon,
G. Rooney, G. Brophy.

Cage 18

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L. J. Johnston, K. Sullivan,
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K, H. Clarke, K. Henry, A. Bell,
Byrne, G. Brady, B. Magee, M. Doran,
rt, P. Mulvenna, D. McCashin,
rt, J. Mulvenna, G. O'Hare, T. McNulty,
ndless, R. O'Hanlon, E. Larkin,
ley, P. Gilliland, C. Mawhinney,
McCallum, J. Rafter, M. Kelly,
gh, H. O'Hara, L. Morgan,
J. Maguire, R. Haughey,

D. McCrory, N. P. Sillery, J. Docherty, A. McKeirnan, L. Cassin,
M. Duffy, T. Smyth, D. Saunders,



Cage 20

P. P. Magee, N. P. Quigley, S. Keenan, T. Ross, J. A. Quinn, A. Lundy,
M. Kavanagh, F. P. Duffy, D. McDonald, P. Shannon, J. Molloy,
F. J. Duffy, S. Fryers, J. O. Quinn, D. McCann, T. J. Kelly,
B. J. McKee, F. J. McAuley, O. Halfpenny, J. O'Hara, P. Kavanagh,
B. H. Caldwell, D. Machin, J. G. O'Rawe, J. McKeown, C. Magill,
F. Quigley, J. McGarry, F. Burns, F. Mackey, E. Maguire, D. O'Brien,
S. Kelly, D. Smyth, B. McDermott, F. J. Coyle, M. Mulgrew,
G. Hicks, S. Fox, P. Hennessey, S. Millar, B. Gamble, M. McNaney,
B. Campbell, J. Torbitt, D. Heaney, D. Keenan, O. Creaney.

J. Simpson, M. Walsh, D. O'Neill, M. Trainor, M. McMullan,
T. Quigley, P. McDaid, P. Coyle, J. McCambridge, E. Browne,
A. Arnold, J. A. Boyd, T. Scullion, G. Fox, D. G. Boyd, P. Toal,
B. G. Valley, T. Cunningham, F. McIlvenna, P. Smyth, C. McAuley,
S. Seaton, K. Magee, A. P. Burns, S. Kerr, S. Overend, L. McCurry,
P. Girvan, P. J. Mulholland, F. Hamilton, B. Holland, A. Campbell,
T. Corr, A. McAreavey, P. Fagan.



Cage 22

B. Toal, H. McAlece, P. Foley, K. Flood, P. Brennan, A. McCool,
R. McCartney, W. McGuinness, P. McKeanna, W. Campbell,
S. Keenan, B. Ward, G. McCartney, K. McErlain, M. Doyle,
F. Notarantonio, S. McKeanna, J. Deery, S. Drain, M. Bradley,
J. McEvoy, L. Lynch, P. O'Hara, J. C. Curran, C. McSheffrey,
G. McCallion, E. Lynch, S. McCool, T. Devine, T. Rush, J. Deery,
W. Kennedy, H. Thompson, P. Carlin, G. Cunningham, J. Gallagher,
D. Boldrick, P. McColgan, K. McColgan, B. Taylor, C. Deery, B.
McHugh, S. O'Neill, K. Diver, T. Howell, E. McManus, P. McCabe,
G. Shannon, S. Hughes, G. Adams, S. Drumm, J. Monaghan,
P. Magee, R. Livingstone, J. Gilmour, N. Cunningham, J. Walsh,
H. Gallagher, A. Murphy, M. Dougan, T. Duncan, T. Powell,
T. Ramsey, P. McClure, P. O'Neill, P. Adams, O. Coogan, B. Morgan,
R. McGurgan, B. Holmes, J. P. McAuley, M. Forgive, S. O'Hagan,
K. Coney, B. Darragh, R. Davison, J. Kyle, E. McCallion, D. Collins,
B. McFadden, M. Kelly, F. Cahill, J. Duffy, G. Moyné, J. Clarke,
D. Campbell, G. Murray, J. Docherty, R. Fryers, E. Dobbins, H. Brady,
R. Campbell, J. Mooney, F. Reid, G. Butler, S. Moore, F. O'Neill,
B. Gibson, J. Lundy, M. McKee, H. Hall, J. Kelly, M. McCann,
P. Gillen, H. Tolan, K. Quigley, J. Moran, T. Tolan, P. Hartley,
J. Auld, O. Coogan, J. Clarke, M. Bradley, L. Stitt, B. Reid, P. Bartley,
A. O'Neill.



Cage 23

S. O'Hara, S. Mullan, J. Moyné, J. Carlin, M. McCafferty, F. Ross,
J. Rafferty, E. McErlain, S. McCrory, T. Kirby, B. Callaghan,
B. McAreavey, F. O'Hagan, G. Harte, E. McCann, J. Mooney,
S. O'Neill, D. O'Hagan, T. Donaghy, S. Convery, M. Donnelly,
A. McAllinden, S. Collins, H. McNamee, K. Donnelly, N. McCluskey,
J. Foster, S. Holden, P. Holden, M. McWilliams, C. McWilliams,
S. Heath, D. Austin, B. Mallon, F. Cahill, B. Kelly, B. McAuley,
S. Bateson, J. Park, F. Johnston, J. Parker, P. McCabe, J. Wilson,
F. Strong, F. Stone, R. Hughes, F. McCorry, E. McCaughy,
B. Devine, H. Nugent, P. Martin, D. O'Neill, P. Fitzsimmons,
W. McAllister, B. McBride, S. Scott, W. Johnston, T. Taylor,
P. Henderson, P. Perry, A. Hanna, E. Brennan, E. Collins, B. Maguire,
F. Finnegan, F. Donnelly, H. McCafferty, M. Devlin, G. McGurk,
C. McGurk, J. Barr, G. Dornan, F. O'Connor, H. Austin, D. Browne,
G. McKeanna, B. McCartney, T. Laverty, G. McGloughlin, O. Rea,
B. McLroy, J. McCrackard, E. Caughey, T. Toner, P. McCann,
K. Campbell, N. McCluskey, D. Kelly, S. O'Kane, M. McLvor, F. Brolly,

CAGE 22

M. McNulty, F. O'Neill, J. Oakley, S. Breslin, J. McQuillan, P. Rice, F.
Rice, F. McCann, B. Shannon, B. Morgan, F. McGreavey, J. Walsh, J.
Corr, J. Walsh, A. Hughes, T. Kelly, R. Lavery, S. Thompson, R. Quinn,
T. Molloy, S. Henry, H. McCarron, T. Murphy, D. Derby, F. Hughes,
J. Barrett, M. Mullan, G. Ferron, F. Dorris, S. Dorris, H. Wilkinson,
G. Rowntree.



Students to picket for withdrawal of troops

EUROPEAN students plan to picket a number of British embassies on the Continent next year as part of a "solidarity campaign" to back British students' demands for a withdrawal of troops from Northern Ireland. A meeting in Bonn of students leaders from 20 countries pledged this weekend to organise meetings and petitions while some European universities agreed to adopt internees in Northern Ireland.

Mr. Steve Parry, national secretary of the British National Union of Students, appealed to European student unions to support the end of internment in Northern Ireland, the repeal of the Special Powers legislation in Northern Ireland and Britain and the introduction of a bill of civil rights for Northern Ireland.

A number of student leaders promised to support a day of solidarity in February next year to coincide with a student rally in Belfast, the picketing of the Home

Office and the Foreign Office in London and student meetings on the Irish situation in British universities and polytechnics.

Mr. Parry said that Britain's Northern Ireland policy was not only against the interests of the people there but against the interests of people in the rest of the U.K. He said that religion was used to divide and weaken people in Northern Ireland and that there was still discrimination in housing and education on sectarian grounds.

Mr. Hugh Bayley, N.U.S. vice-president, praised what he called "progressive trade unionists" for breaking the social contract and its wage restraint policy. He said that the "economic crisis of capitalism" was causing widespread cuts in spending on higher education and the social services in Britain and other European countries.

West German students called on their Government to accept a 10% reduction in armaments and to create a nuclear-free zone in Europe.

West German students also want British troops and NATO troops withdrawn from Germany.

The countries represented included all the Scandinavian nations, East and West Germany, France, Portugal, Greece, Yugoslavia, Rumania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, the Soviet Union, Hungary and Switzerland. There were observers from Chile and African and Asian students organisations.

NEXT WEEK

REPUBLICAN NEWS WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED ON SATURDAY, 28th DECEMBER.

OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE PUBLISHED ON SATURDAY, 4th JANUARY, 1976.

Irish National Caucus

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Irish National Caucus is the result of years of discussion culminating in a request by various Irish American organizations to represent their interest generally and to lobby specifically for freedom for all Ireland. The Irish National Caucus' function is to act as a unified vehicle to pursue, on behalf of Irish American organizations, matters pertinent to areas of general and specific import to residents of the United States of Irish heritage.

The Caucus was officially endorsed by the leadership of thirty Irish American organizations in New York City on September 28, 1974. We intend to ignite our elected representatives to bring moral pressure upon Britain to withdraw from Ireland while she still retains a shred of honor in her governmental fibre. We are a voice to be heard, whose influence as a block has not been fully implemented. We will influence elections, and no politician will take the millions of Irish voters for granted, especially those who trade on an Irish name but are mute on the Irish National Question.

We will establish Irish Freedom as an American moral issue through every possible legal avenue at our disposal. Neutrality is the alleged posture of the U.S. in regard to the war in Ireland, yet at every turn the U.S. government has aided Britain. The State Department has adopted her handouts as policy; the Treasury Department and FBI have abusively harassed Irish Americans without valid cause. The American military trained British troops bound for Belfast. We intend to see the United States remains neutral and affords equal time to Irish views.

Americans have been recipients of only one version on the "Irish Issue." We intend to present a Nationalist point of view in the interest of basic justice and to be an advocate challenging British bulletins that contort issues to serve their own purposes. We are offering ourselves as an information outlet to the media, a lobbying force at Congress, and, as spokesmen for a concerted effort on behalf of Irish America, to apprise the American people of the situation in Occupied Ireland from an Irish Nationalist point of view.

Britain considers American public opinion crucial in its policy-making for Ireland, and a passive America inundated with British information bulletins serves only its self-centered opinion. For the entire period of conflict in Occupied Ireland, only a British offering of Irish affairs has been portrayed in American media. Americans must be brought to realize that the cancer in Ireland is the British presence and only a termination of the festering disease will bring peace with justice.

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British Army Out of Ireland

Rally at Belfast City Hall

Saturday 21st December
at 2-00pm

ORGANISED BY BELFAST COMHAIRLE
CEANNTAIR SINN FEIN

**Every Family With A Prisoner
Should Be Represented By At
Least One Member At This Rally**

Cooney on teachers

RECENTLY from a privileged platform Free State Minister for Justice Mr. Cooney saw it to malign the Irish teaching profession in a calculatedly vague and cowardly fashion, acting at once as judge, jury and hangman. Mr. Cooney contends that "certain teachers" use the classroom to recruit, under well-known Home Office propaganda tags such as "men of violence," "gunmen," "subversives," not to mention "Crisp O'Brien's famous 'little I.R.A. men'."

Does Paddy Cooney really believe that Irish parents are so divorced from the education of their children as to have to wait for him as spokesmen? Does the Minister think we are "worthy of darkest Africa" and only just that? Is he fatuous enough to believe that there exists no parent-teacher relationship, that Irish parents are not aware of what is sacredly done in loco parentis?

No, Mr. Cooney, your attack was seen for what it really was — a pathetic form of McCarthyism, innuendo and vague accusations, being in the main your witch-hunting tools.

Mr. Cooney knows that State Departments keep files and the Department of Education is no exception. Let him, therefore, as a man of "law and order," produce book and verse, not behind closed doors, but in a sworn public inquiry. Let us have case and instance of alleged abuses not in Fine Gael cubby-holes, but right in the eye of the mass-media. This would help to set the record straight.

It is very easy to accuse, it is easier still and more sinister to accuse a group of people

without specification. Mud thrown may well stick, doing in this case serious damage to the morale and integrity of a very seminal and basic profession. What if the legal profession suffered a like attack; what if its members were accused of aiding and abetting their clients in the evasion of income tax, in failing to prosecute without fear or favour certain Crown agents out to sabotage, and by espionage and treason bring down the institutions of the State?

What if a law chamber be used for receiving, holding and transferring revolvers to criminal alien agents? Mr. Cooney should think again and take a sober look at his next compulsive monthly ranting. He might be man enough to practise what he preaches and make an "act of reparation". He might even head with Mrs. Cosgrave's blessing for Lough Derg.

Dearmaid O Sulleabhain,
Guairé,
Co. Loch Garman.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS AND SOLIDARITY

The Staff of Republican News wish to be associated with the Irish Republican movement, in sending Christmas Greetings and a pledge of solidarity to all Irish Republican prisoners, at home and abroad.

Members of "Eire Nua" from New Jersey and Malden Unit Irish Northern Aid demonstrating against British ship QE2, Boston, Mass., on November 2nd, 1974 (Note British flag being dragged on ground, being burned).
Right: Marie Deeney, Ellie Blanco, Mary Fitzpatrick, Mary Rafferty, members of Malden Unit Irish Northern Aid demonstrating against British QE2, at Boston.



IRISH REPUBLICAN PRISONERS WELFARE COMMITTEE LONG KESH DISASTER FUND

The above Committee wish to notify the public in Ireland and England that the fund is now closed. The fire at the Camp left men and boys without shelter, heat, clothes, food or sanitation. Knowing that the people were behind them the Committee launched the Disaster Fund to alleviate the inhuman conditions these prisoners were left to suffer.

The prisoners had to build hovels with parts of their burnt-out huts, with corrugated iron sheets and heavy stones as shelters and plastic sheets as flooring and bedding with the further discomfort of being unable to stand upright. There was no food at all for the first five days. When it did appear it was of the most primitive kind - a plate of cold stew. Nothing warm, not to mention hot was available until almost three weeks after the disaster.

Conditions were made much worse by lack of water to wash, for as would be expected after such a large fire, the prisoners were black with smoke but washing was impossible. No improvement in these conditions occurred for over three weeks and having to sleep in filthy conditions of clothes and body almost drove the prisoners to despair. To add to their misery, sanitation was nil and it was necessary to find a secluded spot for the necessities, thus heaping a health hazard on top of everything else.

Most prisoners had injuries of one kind or another (broken bones were not counted as an injury requiring hospitalisation) and there was the further agony of relatives outside the prison, who could not obtain information of what was happening, who had been seriously injured and who was in hospital.

Words could never portray the horrible conditions endured but the swift response of the generous public soon enabled the Committee to lighten the burden somewhat and it was the knowledge of the help flowing in which gave them courage and lifted the despair from their hearts.

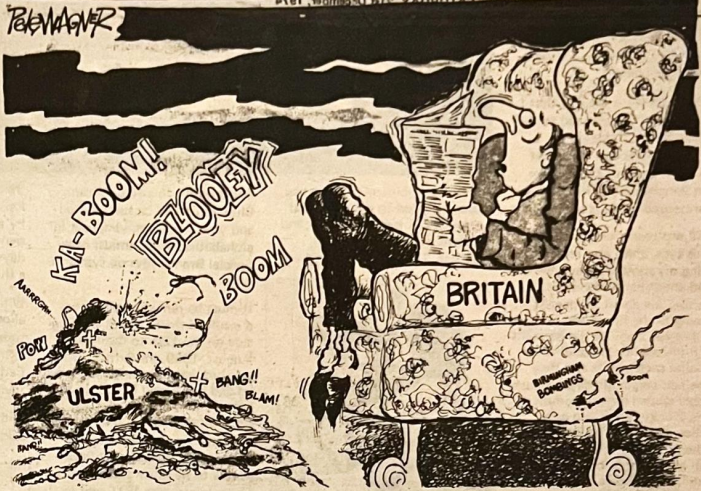
Considering that the people have been subscribing generously to various aid funds over the years, the Committee feel that, over £16,000 received for the special Disaster Fund was a fantastic effort. To date, the prisoners have been supplied with 1,000 sweaters, 1,000 pairs of boots, 400 trousers, 180,000 cigarettes, 1,000 worth of toiletries, i.e. shaving cream, soap, tooth brushes, toothpaste, shaving brushes, facecloths, razors, razorblades and electric hair clippers. Also 160 dozen sets of inside clothes, 180 dozen pairs of socks, pullovers and warm hats. At present the Committee are committed to supplying tools for leather and wood work to each cage.

The above is a rough idea of how the funds were disbursed. We repeat that the Fund is now closed and a list of final subscriptions will be published shortly. The prisoners send to you the public their undying gratitude and as their only means of expressing it will have three Masses offered for their benefactors over the Christmas period.

The Committee urges the public to continue to support their parent body - GREEN CROSS 73 which has suffered more than a little during the Disaster Appeal.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

Irish Republican Prisoners Welfare Committee.



'I SAY! What's going on back there?'

Cultural 'army' to aid Irish Language campaign plan

IRISH SPEAKERS in Waterford city and various parts of County Waterford, have established a national organisation to preserve the Irish language, and to ensure that appropriate steps are taken to have it retained as a qualification for entry into the Civil Service, and, according to the secretary, Donnchadh O Maidin, of Green Street, Tramore, a student of Waterford Regional Technical College, to ensure it is not treated as a second language.

Mr. Madden said that the movement, which they had entitled "Arm Athbeochanta na Gaeilge" which translated means "The Irish Revival Army," sets out to formulate a consistent policy towards the Irish language generally throughout the country, and devise a consistent policy to be considered at a symposium in Ring Irish College, Co. Waterford, in February.

He stated that he has circularised all Irish organisations throughout the country to send delegates so that "a cultural army could be set up to fight for the Irish language and heritage."

Recalled

He recalled that a meeting attended by 50 delegates from various parts of Waterford City and County was held in Dungarvan recently, and it was decided, in the light of the Coalition's "hostility to Irish," to establish this particular national movement.

A seven member committee has been empowered to plan a positive campaign of action and seek the support of cultural

organisations and individuals favourably disposed to the Irish Language and its place as the official language of the nation.

It will also aim to ensure that it was not treated as a second class language, and would hold its official position for either entry to the Civil Service or other bodies and to ensure that more respect was shown towards it throughout the entire country.

He said that Irish speakers resented the implication in the Minister's attitude - that Irish was being treated as a second-class language when he decided that it would be no longer necessary as a qualification for entry into the Civil Service.

Support

Mr. Madden said that Irish teachers in Waterford, like Seamus O Cleigh, Nicolas McGrath, principal of Ring Primary School, and Mr. Charles Curran, former chairman of Waterford Co. Council as well as a former chairman of the GAA, Padraig O Fainin, in Waterford, and several others in the City and County, had offered their full support to the movement.

Ramelton Sinn Fein Cumann

At a meeting in Ramelton a new Sinn Fein cumann was formed.

Mr. P. Doherty, Carrigart, chaired the meeting, and Mr. Anthony Daly, Ballyshannon Town Commissioner and chairman of the Donegal Sinn Fein Comhairle Ceannair spoke about the principles and policies of Sinn Fein and what he thought the many activities of the cumann should be.

It was decided to elect an officer board. Mr. D. Gallagher was elected chairman; Mr. J. Bonner, vice-chairman; Mr. Joe Gallagher, secretary; and Messrs. J. McNamee and Dennis Gallagher, joint treasurers.

The officer board and members decided to call the cumann the James McDade Sinn Fein (Kevin St.) Cumann, in honour of Vol. J. McDade who was killed in action in Coventry.

Mr. Daly congratulated them on the formation of the new cumann. He stressed that a great part of their activities should go into the selling of the Republican Movement's paper "An Poblaicht" and into the raising of funds for prisoners' dependants. He said that as Sinn Fein was denied access to radio and television and to some extent to the Press that the only way open to Republicans was through the columns of "An Poblaicht".

Price girls transferred to new jail

Dolours and Marion Price were transferred from Brixton prison last Sunday morning to the women's wing of top-security Durham jail.

The move was announced by the Home Office last night in a brief statement given in answer to questions.

The Home Office said: "We can confirm that the Price sisters were transferred to Durham prison to-day."

Dolours (23), and Marian (20), were moved in the strictest secrecy from Brixton at about 9 a.m.

Durham with its recently-completed women's wing, is considered more suitable accommodation.

The move was planned early in the summer after it had been announced that a wing at Durham was to be converted for women.

The move of women prisoners in the top security category to Durham should have taken place three months ago but the conversion work was delayed and there were problems of finding women prison officers for duty in a prison with in prison."

Cornwall gets own currency

Cornwall is to have its own bank notes - in old pounds, shillings and pence - because the Cornish Stannary Parliament does not recognise decimal coinage.

A Cornish firm was already printing the promissory notes, he told a press conference at St. Austell. They will not carry a picture of the Queen and the promise to pay is written on the front in Cornish with an English translation on the back.



British troops run for cover from stone-throwing youths during one of the North's many disturbances.

My six-year-old son asked me just the other day "Was there always war and soldiers, daddy, in the olden days?"

Quite apart from the fact that I laughed when he referred to the 'olden days' it suddenly occurred to me that this child had never seen his street other than patrolled by British soldiers in armoured vehicles and on foot.

1969 was really a long time ago in his eyes, and I also remember asking my mother when I was a child about her 'olden days.' She told me about B-Specials coming to the house and taking her brother away to the barracks for interrogation. I could never visualise such events and they remained enigmatic days of dark, cobble-stoned streets, Tommy-guns, Rocky Burns and gun-battles. In a way I sadistically wished for their return so that I - in my childish imagination - could play the part of one-of-the-boys.

Well, those days came but not in my adolescence. However, before they approached I remember the tragic preamble of peaceful demonstrations becoming the massacre of peaceful demonstrators. No need to recall the long, sad saga of the Civil Rights campaign but one incident of police brutality sticks in my memory like a landmark on an ugly landscape.

I remember a man selling copies of the United Irishman (a few years before the split) in Castle Street, Belfast. In those days I was afraid to stand within yards of him in case I became classed a political suspect. An R.U.C. jeep pulled up beside him, the jeep jumped out, beat him over the head and he passively resisted. One of them must have done something terrible on him for he lost his temper and fought back at the four constables. They dragged the coat of his back and ripped his shirt in pieces in the struggle. A grown man ex-

pressing a political opinion had been stripped to the waist and assaulted in front of myself and dozens of others in central Belfast. The blood poured from



his head as they threw him into the jeep and drove off.

So if you wanted to be a Republican in '66 you suffered for it.

For drinking in a Republican Club you could be summonsed and your name would appear in alphabetical order amidst other Special Branch files on sympathisers.

It must be remembered that as a result of the Battle of the Bogside on the 12th to the 15th August, 1969, the British Army was brought in to relieve a defeated and exhausted R.U.C. In the meantime to prevent R.U.C. re-inforcements being sent from Belfast, token barricades were set up along the Falls by the people to tie down these men. The soldiers were NOT sent in to protect Catholics for by the time they positioned themselves along the so-called peace-line, the Catholics were entrenched behind firm barricades and were already on the way to completing their defence. These barricades were later removed by the Catholics themselves who were conned into accepting nominal political reforms which were of expedient value to the British government. The presence of the troops was not justified to world opinion and the government merely temporised on the enacting of the reforms.

British soldiers were used to prop up a decaying Stormont. The August violence changed history because it made the British occupation not just political and economic but physical.

The Irish Republican Army matured once again, became rejuvenated and jettisoned its reformist crew - subsequently the NLF.

The British Government argued

that the Catholics (via Bishop Philbin) had called for protection by the soldiers. Who with foresight (or hindsight of the 'olden days') would have called for such a thing!

Within five weeks British soldiers allowed Catholic Coates Street to be burned down by loyalist extremists. This reinforced the Catholic's decision to provide their own protection.

Within four months the British soldiers began raiding Catholic

There was no call for Britain to be there in the first place. In fact she was merely protecting her coveted property in Ireland and was there to support by force a regime which had proved itself medieval and which she had initially helped to create.

War was declared on the I.R.A. by Reginald Maudling, British Home Secretary in March 1971.

The Irish Republican Army from a position of strength, and mandated from the support of overwhelming sections of the oppressed community embarked on a war of liberation. Just as there was no question of accepting reforms then, nor is there any question of accepting reforms now. The issues were clear, a British withdrawal from Ireland, and in the political arena the democratic vote of all Ireland to decide Ireland's future.

The future of Ireland is in our hands. War is weary and we have to be sure that the support we gave in 1971, which was part of a mandate, has not conveniently become so qualified as to disappear, so that today through war-weariness we are prepared to accept diluted reforms which will bring an ephemeral peace, for the sacrifice of a little more support and patience which will bring a final peace.

I do not want my six-year-old grandson saying to my son in another twenty years time, "Was there always war and soldiers, daddy, in the olden days?"

Let us make the answer: NO SON, THEY LEFT IN 1975!

BY

PETER ARNLIS

districts and inside ten months they had committed their first murders and had curfewed a whole Catholic quarter in West Belfast.

Within twenty four months British soldiers had begun interning their first thousand Catholics. A blind person could see that this 'protection' of Catholics was more a subjugation of Catholic claims to citizenship; but interpreted more widely and driven by the efforts of the Irish Republican Army, people began to see that the issues had deeper political and national undertones.

PEACE WITH JUSTICE IN IRELAND FREEDOM TO ALL MEN

JUSTICE

CHRISTMAS GREETING TO THE

MEN, WOMEN, BOYS AND GIRLS
IN THE JAILS AND
CONCENTRATIONS CAMPS
OF ENGLAND AND HER
COLLABORATORS

Best Wishes and a FREE New Year!

SAOIRSE

PEACE WITH JUSTICE

A British Withdrawal

A New Ireland negotiated by the Irish people themselves

A general amnesty for all political prisoners

FROM SINN FEIN BELFAST:

O'CARROLL/TIERNEY CUMANN, A'TOWN
TERRY McDERMOTT CUMANN, GRANSHA
McCRACKEN/SCULLION CUMANN, UNITY FLATS
SEAN McCAUGHEY/JIM SAUNDERS CUMANN,
ARDOYNE, HALL/PETTIGREW CUMANN,
A'TOWN, SEAN MCCARTNEY CUMANN, LADY-
BROOK & RIVERDALE, FERGAL O'HANLON
CUMANN, NEW LODGE, TOM WILLIAMS/
BERNARD FOX CUMANN, NEWINGTON,
LIAM McPARLAND CUMANN, BALLYMURPHY,
MARTIN FORSYTHE CUMANN, TURF LODGE,
MARTIN/TRACEY CUMANN, BALLYMACARRET,
BURNS/HUGHES CUMANN, LOWER FALLS,
QUIGLEY/McAREAVEY CUMANN, DIVIS FLATS,
EMMET/LIGGET CUMANN, ST. JAMES, PATRICK
CAMPBELL CUMANN, WHITEROCK, O'CALLAGHAN
KAVANAGH CUMANN, BEECHMOUNT, GERARD
MAULEY CUMANN, POOLE/COLIN, DE BLACA
LEWIS/McCANN CUMANN, CLONARD, CATHAL
BRUGHA CUMANN, A'TOWN, JOE CUNNINGHAM
CUMANN, NEWTOWNABBEY, TONY HENDERSON
CUMANN, LENADDON, LEO O'HANLON,
CUMANN, DOWNPATRICK

SUPPORT THESE DEMANDS FOR A JUST AND LASTING PEACE