

AN
PHOBLACHT
Republican News

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING
POLITICAL WEEKLY

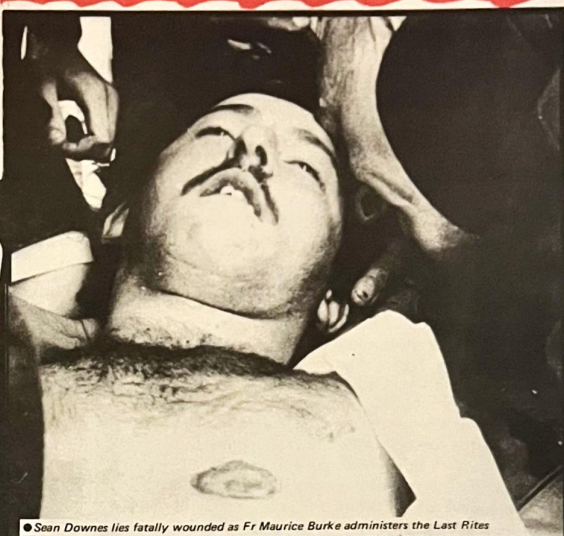


SPECIAL EDITION

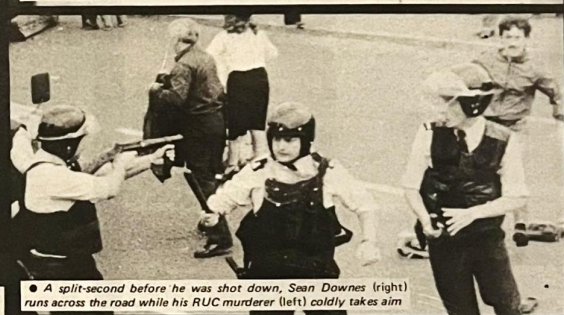
- 24 pages -

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Belfast's Bloody Sunday



● Sean Downes lies fatally wounded as Fr Maurice Burke administers the Last Rites



● A split-second before he was shot down, Sean Downes (right) runs across the road while his RUC murderer (left) coldly takes aim



● Sean Downes (bottom left foreground) collapses headlong into the crowd of terrified onlookers after being shot

OPINION

PLASTIC DEATH

MINIMUM FORCE British-style was witnessed once again on the streets of the six counties last weekend as plastic bullets were fired indiscriminately into a peaceful crowd by the RUC.

One dead and many more injured, victims of a weapon which the Westminster government has deemed unacceptable for use in British cities.

Such reservations have never applied in the colonies, and from the wooden bullets used in Hong Kong in the 1960's to the rubber bullets and plastic bullets used in the six counties throughout the past decade, Britain's contempt for the 'natives' is clearly shown.

But then we are assured that the plastic bullet is only fired in situations where the life of a British soldier or RUC member is endangered. But what danger existed last Sunday other than the danger that the British government and RUC might lose face? None.

False British pride then, prompted the attack, or should we believe, as the RUC apparently do, that the breaking of an exclusion order by Martin Galvin constituted so serious a breakdown of 'law and order' that the death penalty was necessary?

But we shouldn't be surprised at the RUC response, under British political direction. We have witnessed similar scenes, if on a smaller scale, at marches, rallies and funerals for years past, with no outcry from the establishment media.

And that was the RUC's blunder. Rather than confine their assault to nationalist men, women and children, they also hammered journalists.

And had any journalist, other than our own photographer, been struck by a plastic bullet, then the outcry against this lethal weapon would have been deafening.

Plastic and rubber bullets have claimed the lives of Francis Rowntree (11), Tobias Molloy (18), Thomas Friel (21), Stephen Geddis (10), Brian Stewart (13), Michael Donnelly (21), Paul Whitters (15), Julie Livingstone (14), Carol Ann Kelly (12), Henry Duffy (45), Nora McCabe (30), Peter Doherty (40), Peter Magennis (41), Stephen McConomy (11) and Sean Downes (22).

Besides these deaths, countless people young and old have been seriously injured or maimed for life. Most of these deaths and injuries have been caused by blows to the head or heart even though we are assured that plastic bullets can only be fired at a person's legs.

And again independent evidence and studies carried out on those who suffered death or serious injury, have shown that virtually none of the victims were involved in 'rioting'.

Where can the nationalist community turn to for justice? Certainly not Europe where, only last month, the European Commission of Human Rights decided that Britain had no case to answer for the murder of 13-year-old Brian Stewart in 1976.

For all their talk about the need to protect life and all their blatant lies about the need to use plastic bullets in 'riot situations' (and it is interesting to note the attempted justification for shooting Sean Downes), the British have only one objective in sanctioning its use. They want to terrify the nationalist community from taking part in street protests.

But as with every other repressive weapon used by Britain, the plastic bullet has boomeranged, and the huge crowd which turned out for Monday's black flag protest was proof, if any were needed, that the people will never be defeated.

RUC ghouls attack IRA funeral

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

IN A SPIRIT OF DEFIANCE not witnessed on such a scale in Newry for many years, the nationalist people — who have nurtured growing disgust at RUC attempts to disrupt republican funerals recently — turned out in their thousands on Saturday to honour IRA Volunteer Brendan Watters.

On Thursday night, the RUC deliberately hi-jacked the remains of Brendan Watters which were on their way from Craigavon to his home in the Derrybeg estate. They claimed they were 'escorting' the hearse, then detoured it through a loyalist area, avoiding Newry town centre, where a large crowd was waiting.

However, later that night, despite a heavy presence of RUC in the Derrybeg Estate, IRA Volunteers dressed in full military uniform fired three volleys of shots over their comrade's coffin and then melted into the darkness.

In another show of resistance, the Volunteers made a second appearance at the Watters' home in Second Avenue on Saturday morning.

NORAI

The RUC swamped the estate

hours before mourners began to gather and, as three busloads of the Noraid delegation arrived, there were tense scenes as the RUC tried to prevent photographs being taken. When the hearse arrived, the RUC linked arms and pushed forward in an attempt to surround the crowd.

Batons and plastic bullet guns were drawn and loaded and some people received blows to the head.

At this point, on the instructions of Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams, Jim McAllister and other Sinn Féin personnel, mourners linked arms as Volunteer Watters' Tricolour-draped coffin was carried outside. The RUC attempted to break through but were held back by the strength of a people united. The cortege moved forward with hundreds of people forming a human barrier between the coffin and the thick

lines of RUC.

Jeeploads of RUC, clad in full riot gear, preceded the cortege, flanked each side of the mourners and followed in force behind. While they tried, on a number of occasions, to scatter the mourners, their attacks were counteracted by the sheer determination of people not prepared to be intimidated. Nevertheless, several people were badly beaten and trailed into jeeps.

Requiem mass for Volunteer Watters (24) was held in St Brigid's church, The Meadow, and, as the cortege set off for St Mary's cemetery, stewards re-organised the mourners into deep lines, linking arms and spanning the road.

PREPARED

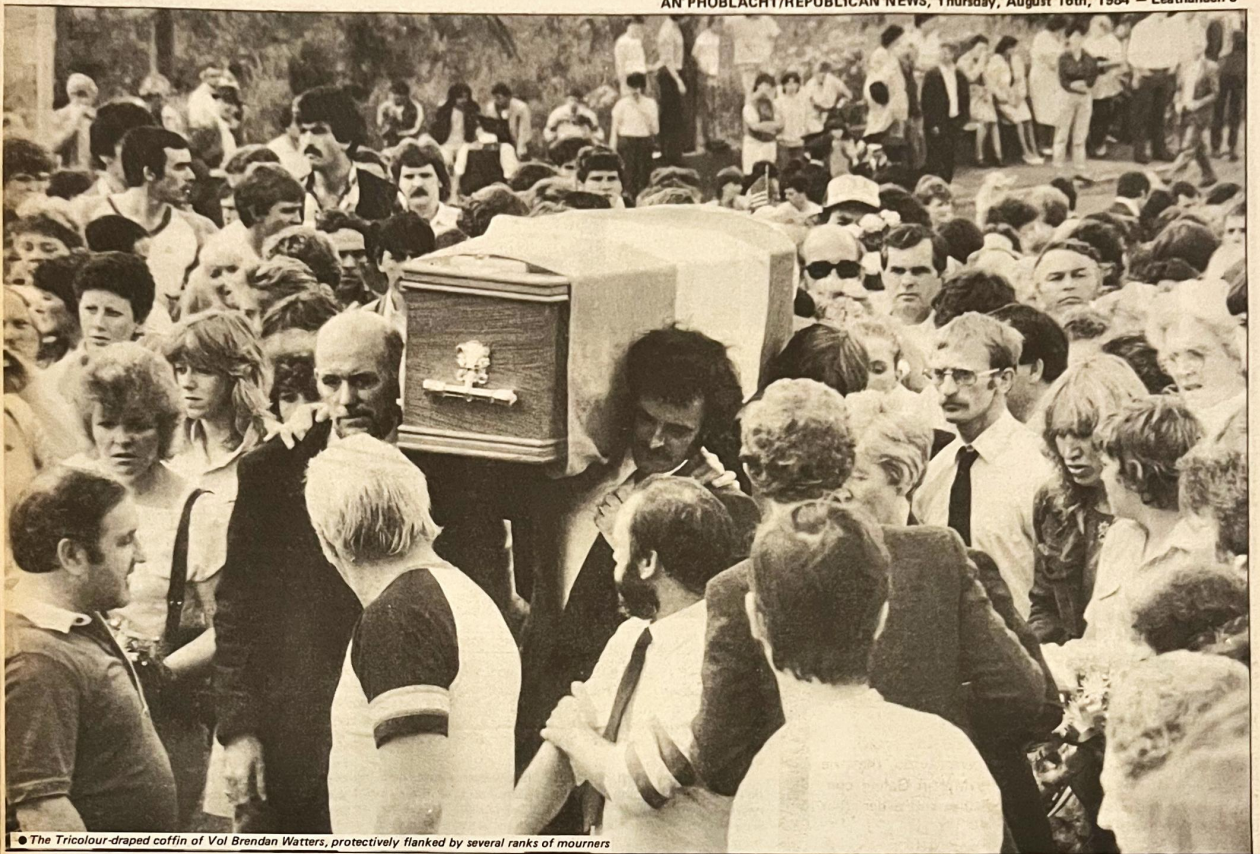
Sensing that the crowd were prepared for whatever the RUC threw at them, this time they kept their distance well in front and behind, totally abandoning any attempt to flank the several thousand strong mourners.

Leaving the Derrybeg estate, where shops had closed and black flags were flying, the cortege made its way through Newry town, where huge crowds joined the growing procession.

(continued on next page)



• The bigoted RUC viciously assault mourners



● The Tricolour-draped coffin of Vol Brendan Watters, protectively flanked by several ranks of mourners

(continued from previous page)

At the family plot, following a brief ceremony, wreaths were laid on behalf of GHQ Staff Oglagh na hEireann; 3rd Down Command IRA; Sinn Féin ard comhairle; Noraid; friends and family members.

Francie Molloy of Dungannon Sinn Féin chaired the proceedings and, after a decade of the rosary was recited in Irish, a minute's silence was held to

remember Volunteer Watters and all those who had died for Ireland's freedom.

Jim McAllister, Sinn Féin elected representative, delivered a moving oration. In his emotion-evoking South Armagh tones, McAllister outlined the reasons why Volunteer Watters had taken the path he had. He said:

"Brendan Watters did not want to die. The SDLP and the Free State government often

mock at men like Brendan and say it's better to live for Ireland than to die for Ireland. Brendan, as I said, did not want to die, he wanted to live for, and build, a new Ireland fit for the Irish people to inhabit.

"But Brendan knew that while Britain remains in Ireland, there will be neither peace nor progress, and so Brendan knew that he had to fight the British occupation of his country."

To applause from the mourners, McAllister praised the courage of the IRA firing party, who, against the odds, breached the RUC's net and rendered their comrade a final salute. He condemned the RUC's attacks on the funeral procession and then said:

"Newry has lost many sons down the years in the search for freedom, men like Colm Murtagh, Eddie Grant, Oliver

Rowntree, Michael Murphy, Patrick Hughes, Patrick McKeown, Robert Carr, Noel Madden and Brendan Quinn.

"Brendan Watters is the latest to give his life for his ideals. The message to Britain is clear. There will always be someone left, there will always be resistance, political and military. The message to Britain is: 'Get out now, we don't want you, we don't need you.'"

Volunteer Brendan Watters

IRA Volunteer Brendan Watters was killed in a premature explosion which took place shortly after 10.30pm on Wednesday night, August 8th, while nationalist towns and villages throughout the North commemorated the eve of the 13th anniversary of the introduction of internment.

The tragic explosion took place in his sister's house in Barcroft Park, Newry, causing internal damage to the dwelling. Brendan's body was badly mutilated in the blast. His sister and her two children, who were upstairs, were uninjured but 68-year-old Dilwyn Price, who was near the scene, suffered a heart seizure and died.

Volunteer Watters died on his way, by ambulance, to Newry's Daisy Hill Hospital.

Twenty-four-year-old Brendan Watters was the eldest of three children of Edward and Elizabeth Watters. In his teens he had played for the local Wolfe Tone Band and around this period joined Fianna Éireann. His father Edward described him as:

"A good son who loved the discos and motorcycles. You'd never have thought he was a Volunteer, he never talked politics in the house. I'm proud of him and the way his comrades have shown their respects."

Indeed, Brendan Watters' instinctive security-conscious nature never once aroused the RUC's suspicions during the two years he was a Volunteer. He was never ar-



● Three comrades give the final salute over Vol Watters' coffin

rested or even picked up for screening purposes.

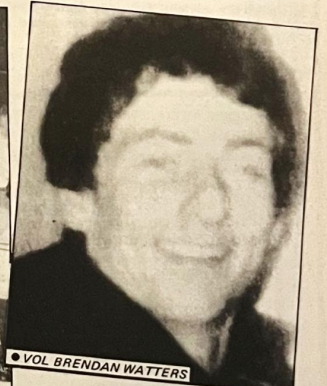
Brendan was well-known and respected in the Newry area and brings to seven the number of IRA Volunteers killed since 1972 during the tense August period.

A comrade of the dead Volunteer told AP/RN:

"Brendan Watters joined the IRA eighteen months ago, and quickly earned the

respect of his comrades for his coolness and efficiency on active service.

"He had a happy-go-lucky nature and a keen sense of humour but there was another side to Brendan's personality, and he took his role as an IRA Volunteer very seriously. He was at all times conscious of the need to protect his own security and that of his comrades, and it came as a great surprise, even to those who were closest to



● VOL BRENDAN WATTERS

him, when news broke of his tragic death.

"Courage and dedication are the two qualities most needed in an IRA Volunteer, and these Brendan possessed in abundance. He was a shining example to nationalist working-class youth not only in Newry but throughout Ireland.

"His sacrifice will inspire his comrades and strengthen our will to continue the struggle against British imperialism until victory is ours, and we are fully sure that his young life has not been given in vain."

Boat jobs to go under?

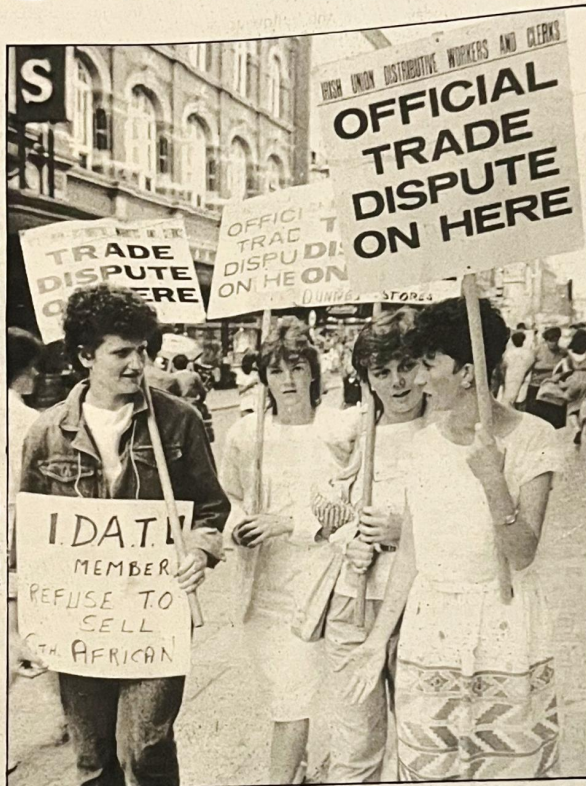
BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

THE biggest boatyard in the twenty-six counties, at Baltimore in Cork, is threatened with closure. The owner of the boatyard, Joe O'Driscoll, who also owns the Carrigaline yard, says that he hasn't any new orders once current work is completed. He has called on Bord Iascaigh Mhara to release money for boatbuilding, but the chairperson of BIM, Fine Gael's Joey Murrin, has said no money is available. There are 45 workers employed at Baltimore and six at Carrigaline.

Castle Brand, the Nenagh cookware firm, went into liquidation on Wednesday, August 8th. The 150 workers held a sit-in at the factory on Wednesday and Thursday. Castle Brand are reported to have incurred losses of a quarter of a million pounds last year.

Labour Court talks are under way to resolve the lock-out at Dublin docks, which has brought traffic in and out of the port almost to a standstill. The 350 workers are claiming a 15 per cent pay rise and had re-imposed a work-to-rule after the breakdown of previous Labour Court talks last week. More than 150 workers were issued with redundancy notices on Friday morning, August 10th, and the company, Dublin Cargo Handling Ltd, have said that dockers who refuse to work normally will be suspended without pay. The union, MPGWU, say that there has been no pay rise since March 1983. A 24-hour picket is to be maintained at the docks over the weekend.

A fresh attempt, by Dublin's mayor



● Mary Manning (left) and other pickets outside Dunnes Stores, Henry Street, Dublin, where the strike over the sale of South African produce continues

Michael O'Halloran, to end the six-week-old bus dispute failed when the proposals were rejected by the unions involved. Busworkers at CIE's Phibsboro garage went on strike after CIE management refused to pay them for hours lost during union bus checks, which passed only eight buses out of 120 as roadworthy. O'Halloran's 'peace-plan' involved CIE paying money into the Phibsboro depot's sick and retirement fund, which could then be borrowed by busworkers and paid back

by direct deductions from wages.

Mary Manning, the worker at the centre of the dispute at Dunnes Stores, Henry Street, Dublin, where 13 workers are on strike, was knocked down by a van on the picket-line on Tuesday, following the suspension and threatened dismissal of assistants who are refusing to handle South African goods on sale in Dunnes.

Two more shops in the Mirror Mirror chain have closed in Limerick and in Dublin, with the loss of another 30 jobs. Only six of Mirror Mirror's 15 shops are still trading.

Independent Newspapers Ltd are seeking 260 redundancies in a plan to reduce costs. Most of the job losses would be in the production and delivery departments.

Gentex International, Constellation Ltd, and Gentex (1975) Ltd have gone into liquidation. The textile firms, based in Athlone, are a subsidiary of a British company. The 120 workers have been laid off for some time, and there is considerable anger that they have been kept in the dark about the fate of their jobs.

In a recommendation issued on Friday, August 10th, the Labour Court has urged that a pay increase for 4,500 workers in local government craft employment should be linked to pay settlements for similar workers. However, this means a six-month pay pause as a pay rise has been due since last April. The 13 unions involved are to meet to discuss the recommendation, with the likelihood that it will be lifted.

Redundant workers are picketing Joyce's Sweets in Cork in protest at the sudden closure of the factory. The 29 workers arrived for work on August 3rd to find the doors padlocked. They had to find that their company would be wound up at the end of the month, but there was no explanation for the sudden closure.

Former workers at Abbey Manufacturing in Tubbercurry, County Sligo, who were trying to buy machinery from the factory, say that it has been removed and sold to a local businessman. Abbey Manufacturing closed suddenly last May and another factory in the Abbey Group, Tubbercurry Tool and Gauge, has gone into liquidation with the probable loss of 70 jobs.

Abbott Ireland Ltd, a company manufacturing medical supplies in Sligo, are attempting to intimidate workers into accepting revised work practices. The workers, who are mostly women, each received a letter from the company during the holiday break saying:

"We now write to inform you that in light of your response to our proposals you will not report for work until your normal start time on Wednesday, 15th August. At that time the revised work standards will become effective..."

The factory should have re-opened on Monday, August 13th. There were 180 redundancies at Abbott last May, and branch secretary of the ITGWU, Tommy Higgins, who represents the workers, says:

"It seems Abbott want the remaining workers to do the work of the 180 who were let go."

Union members succeeded in preventing the removal of materials from the premises of Thomas McArdle Coach Builders, in Dundalk, this week. The firm went into receivership two years ago, resulting in the loss of 130 jobs. Since then local unions have been fighting to keep the factory open. On Monday, August 13th, shop stewards arrived in time to persuade lorry drivers not to remove material and equipment from the premises.

Bread and butter issues

AT A MEETING in the Kilinarden Community Hall in Tallaght on Friday night, August 10th, representatives from Tallaght tenants associations and unemployed action groups met to discuss the cut in food subsidies.

All local representatives of the various political parties had also been invited to the meeting, which was organised by the Cushlawn Tenants Association, but only John Noonan of Sinn Féin and Mary Harney of Fianna Fáil attended.

There were delegates from Tallaght Sinn Féin, from Cushlawnmore, Dunamore, Knockmore, Brookfield and Fettercairn tenants associations and from the West Tallaght Council which represents six associations. Also at the meeting were representatives from the Tallaght Unemployed Group and the Get Tallaght Working Group.

A nine-person committee was elected, but although Mary Harney was proposed, she declined to sit on the committee. A plan of action was drawn up which included sending a telegram to Garret Fitzgerald demanding his return from his holidays to meet the committee and organising a petition in the West Tallaght area.

Other areas of the city have also set up groups to oppose the cutting of food subsidies, including the Inner City, the Liberties, Rathfarnham, Crumlin and Ballyfermot. There will be a march in protest on Saturday, August 18th, starting from Parnell Square at 2.30pm.



● JOHN NOONAN

WAR NEWS..WAR NEWS..WAR NEWS..WAR NEWS..WAR NEWS

RUC MAN KILLED

THE MID-ULSTER BRIGADE of the IRA claimed responsibility for a large landmine attack in County Tyrone on an RUC patrol last Saturday, August 11th.

A 1,000lb bomb concealed in a culvert on the road between Gortin and Green-castle was detonated by command-wire as an unmarked armoured-plated RUC mobile patrol passed over it. The car was hurled off the road, seriously injuring the occupants. One of them,

who had recently been promoted to the rank of sergeant, died on Sunday of his injuries. The RUC admitted that a second RUC man was critically injured. Local people reported seeing what appeared to be a third body lying in a field and there was a fren-

zy of RUC activity afterwards to trace and arrest any eyewitnesses to the attack, but they made no statement on a third casualty.

In the follow-up search, another squad of RUC men were caught in a second IRA controlled explosion and one received slight injuries from a 100lb bomb.

A second RUC sergeant died on Sunday night, Aug-

ust 12th, from injuries he had received 10 months ago in an IRA attack at the Ulster Polytechnic at Jordanstown on the outskirts of North Belfast. His life-support machine had been switched off.

The RUC sergeant was one of several dozen RUC men attending a lecture for a higher national certificate when a cleverly-concealed bomb detonated, killing two RUC men instantly and injuring over 20 more.

DERRY

On Monday evening, August 13th, around 4.30pm, four IRA Volunteers commandeered a 2,000 gallon propane gas-tanker outside a bakery in William Street

in the Bogside area of Derry city. They placed a package full of rubbish on the tanker and then left it outside the RUC headquarters in Derry at Strand Road.

Dozens of businesses were evacuated in the immediate area around the barracks while Brit bomb experts attempted for four hours to defuse the rubbish. Eventually they succeeded.

In the early hours of Thursday morning, August 9th, Belfast Brigade Volunteers ambushed a Brit army foot-patrol at the junction of the Falls Road and Beechmount Avenue with two blast bombs. It is not known if any Brits were injured.

BY SEAMUS BOYLE

FOUR BRITISH SOLDIERS in an undercover observation post, apparently unaware that they themselves were under observation for several hours, were flushed out by local people in Carrickmore, County Tyrone, last Thursday, August 9th.

The incident happened in the townland of Altinagh, just a few miles from Carrickmore, as the Noraid delegation were due to arrive in the town which had been encircled by RUC checkpoints. Movement has been noticed in a cluster of overgrown gorse and hedge covering a ditch on land belonging to the Grogan family. They phoned for Sinn Fein elected representative for Mid-Ulster, Danny Morrison, who later accompanied several burly men, a number of local men and two Irish-Americans to the scene.

Two soldiers, who were visible from the neck up, were surprised to see so many visitors and when the local men pulled away some of the bushes two others, who were in deep sleep on mattresses, and a considerable amount of equipment was revealed. Morrison challenged them to state under what section of the EPA or PTA they were occupying the land and they all looked dumb-founded.

One soldier officially pulled a notebook out of a plastic pack and asked for names, only to have it summarily snatched from his hand and torn in two. (When examined later it had codes, local car numbers and some pretty unbearable poetry about a soldier asking himself where he was. It also included an emergency radio code if anyone resembling Martin Galvin showed up in the area.)

The soldiers were clearly shocked at the anger and determination of the locals who challenged them to boxing matches before setting fire in several places to the dugout.

HUMILIATION

The soldiers radioed their Omagh headquarters for an emergency withdrawal before their aerial, which had been hidden in a bush, was ripped out by a neighbour of the Grogans who ordered the soldiers' commander not to dare put it in the ground again.

One of two soldiers armed with Arma-

DUG-OUT DRAMA



● Brow-beaten Brits beating a hasty retreat

lites tried to prevent an American from taking photographs of their humiliation, as they agreed to pack up but asked to stay in the field until the helicopter arrived. The camera was given to Danny Morrison who photographed them packing their equipment and a unanimous council of men, women and a dog agreed that they should be given no quarter and ordered

them off the land and onto the White-bridge Road.

The four ashen-faced soldiers, burdened like mules, stumbled down the hill and waded through a thick patch of undrained, swampy land and climbed over a fence onto the road. This was 20 minutes after they had put in their emergency call and they were obviously disa-

appointed in their colleagues, of whom there was no sign.

About ten minutes later, a helicopter flew over the hill and landed in a field. The four were air-lifted out and about twelve new soldiers replaced them. They approached the local people and demanded the camera, which was passed around like a rugby ball until it disappeared. A British officer asked where he was and was given the name of a townland about four miles away. He called the RUC for reinforcements to be sent there.

ARREST

With not enough men to control the dispersing locals, the Brit officer asked the landowner and Morrison to give him details of what had happened but they were bored and decided to go home. He warned Morrison that he was identified as the photographer and would arrest him if he tried to leave the scene. He then arrested him but couldn't quote under what section of the law the arrest was taking place, mumbling something about official secrets.

Meanwhile, the RUC were enjoying the scenery four miles away and groups of Irish-Americans, with more cameras, were arriving in Altinagh in cars.

A large number of RUC men eventually came to the area and Inspector Blair from Carrickmore Barracks asked to parley with Morrison and Sinn Fein Councillor Seamus Kerr. He called for them to be sensible and for the film to be handed over and promised that when it was processed they could have returned any family shots.

It was no deal. He said he would be forced to search the houses in the area and he had a good idea who had smuggled the film away. He was told, and agreed, that it would be like looking for a needle in a haystack. (And little did he know that that's where it was.)

Blair unarrested Morrison and again requested the film and, realising he was getting nowhere, he declared:

"No doubt you will put it to good use, but I don't care, it's his men" (pointing at the British army officer) "who look like fools, not mine."

The twelve soldiers then ran up the road and got into the helicopter which had returned, and the RUC drove off to Carrickmore to concentrate on their own particular form of harassment.



● The Brits felt the little house-warming party got a bit out of hand



● Somewhat behind schedule, Brit reinforcements arrive by helicopter to rescue their beleaguered colleagues

Bonfires of resistance

BY JANE PLUNKETT

RIOTS FLARED in nationalist areas across the six counties during the past week, at first, following the usual RUC/British army provocation at internment commemoration bonfires on August 9th, generally sporadic in most areas. But in the wake of Sunday's horrific events, the rioting became a spontaneous outburst of frustration and nationalists' profound anger.

That the rioting was not more severe was evidently due neither to any demoralisation nor to fear (though hundreds of plastic bullets were fired), but instead was the product both of general nationalist determination to keep world attention focussed on Sunday's brutal RUC operation and also of the powerful reminder they provided (virtually coinciding with the 15th anniversary of the Battle of the Bogside) of the reasons for the past years' resurgence of armed struggle by the IRA.

BONFIRES

On Wednesday night last, August 8th, across the North many thousands of men, women and children gathered at bonfires to mark the 13th anniversary of internment.

In Belfast as elsewhere, the RUC and British army, which throughout the day had maintained a particularly heavy presence of saracens and armoured jeeps, as usual surged into quiet nationalist areas and eventually provoked a predictable resistance from the nationalist youth.

In West Belfast, the armed crown forces were taken on by youths who threw stones, bricks and petrol-bombs. New Barnsley RUC Barracks was attacked and there were attacks in other areas of the city including Unity Flats, the Oldpark and Ormeau Road.

On the Glen Road, a bus was commandeered and looted. A car stolen by joyriders struck and injured



an RUC man, whose colleagues reacted by firing several shots into the vehicle.

PLASTIC BULLETS

More than 60 people were arrested. The RUC and British army, according to their official underestimates, fired more than 200 plastic bullets in the city.

Among the casualties, one person was detained in hospital with serious head injuries and 20-year-old Short Strand youth Alex McCann suffered a broken rib and serious internal injuries (which required surgery) when he was struck by a plastic bullet fired from a slow-moving jeep, while he was walking home from a peaceful bonfire. Only hours earlier, RUC men had threatened from a jeep to 'get' him. He is still in hospital.

During concerted rioting in Derry

that night, which lasted until dawn, crowds of youths attacked the RUC. Hundreds of petrol-bombs were thrown and seven vehicles were commandeered, including an Ulsterbus and a tow vehicle sent to retrieve it, which was set on fire. The RUC fired scores of plastic bullets and four people were arrested, including a member of the visiting Noraid delegation.

The RUC also came under attack by youths in several areas of Newry.

DOWNPATRICK MARCH

In Downpatrick last Thursday night, August 9th, a crowd of 200 people marched to commemorate the anniversary of internment, led by both a Sinn Féin colour party and the local McGorrian/Rice/McAnulty Band. Sinn Féin Belfast City Councillor, Sean McKnight, gave the

oration.

In the days that followed there were several sporadic incidents. One particularly inventive commandeering occurred in Newry at teatime on Thursday, when masked youths stopped a quarry lorry on the Omear Road and ordered the driver to tip his load of stones into the middle of the road, which remained blocked for many hours.

ANGER

Following Sunday afternoon's events, the mood became grim.

That night, groups of youths in many areas of West Belfast launched stone and petrol-bomb attacks on the RUC, who fired scores of plastic bullets and boasted of several 'hits'.

On Monday, at least 15 vehicles were commandeered in Belfast between 7am and 11pm, most of them in the west of the city, as youths

vented their anti-RUC anger against commercial property. Eight vehicles were destroyed by fire, including four buses.

On Monday afternoon in Derry's Bogside, masked youths commandeered and burnt an Ulsterbus and post office van. Later that night in the Waterside area, the RUC came under petrol-bomb attack.

On Tuesday, buses, lorries and vans were burnt in Belfast and Derry.

In the Townsend Street area of Strabane that night, the RUC fired plastic bullets when they came under petrol-bomb attack while inspecting a blazing car.

In Lurgan, a force of heavily-armed RUC seized a Union Jack and Ulster flag placed on top of August 8th bonfires, mounting a petty stand for loyalty.

Castlereagh torture

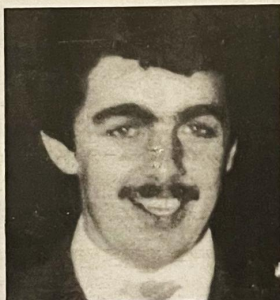
A 23-YEAR-OLD married man from Creggan Heights, Derry, Paul Carnana, has been tortured while under interrogation in Castlereagh and has had plastic bags placed over his head.

Paul Carnana was arrested on Saturday, August 11th, under a seven-day Section 12 order and taken to Castlereagh Interrogation Centre in Belfast.

On Monday, August 13th, Carnana's solicitor eventually saw him, and was informed by his client that he had to be taken to Dundonald Hospital as a result of injuries to his back sustained when his RUC interrogators beat him to the floor and jumped repeatedly on his back.

Carnana was wearing a surgical collar when his solicitor talked to him on Monday. He also told his solicitor that throughout the interrogations he was being slapped, spat on and degraded. On several occasions, black plastic bags were placed over his head.

Martin McGuinness, Sinn Féin elected representative for Derry, condemned

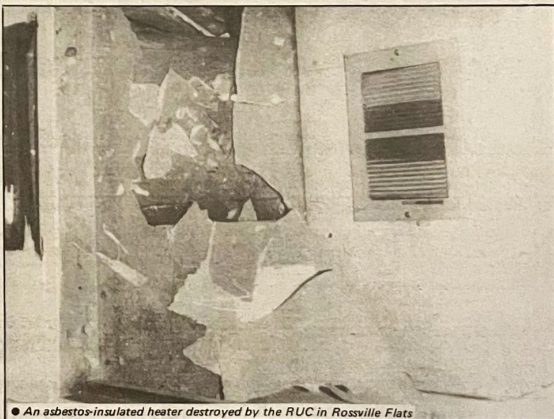


● PAUL CARNANA

the torture of the young Derry man and said:

"Following the brutal events of last Sunday, no-one should have any doubts that Paul Carnana is indeed being tortured by the RUC. This sectarian force stands condemned before the world and its acceptability as an alleged 'impartial police force' is in tatters.

"Paul Carnana must be released immediately."



● An asbestos-insulated heater destroyed by the RUC in Rossville Flats

Rossville raids

IN THE EARLY HOURS of Friday morning, about 200 British troops and RUC personnel descended on Rossville Flats in Derry's Bogside.

About 70 flats were and asbestos insulation raided. Front doors were sheets kicked down, posing a major health hazard to the residents; in all, damage was caused am-

ounting to tens of thousands of pounds.

Mrs Martha Conaghan, a flats resident, said that her 6-month-old twins and her five-year-old grandson were subjected to body-searches by RUC men.

NORRAID DELEGATION IN NORTH *An unforgettable experience*

BY JACK MADDEN

AS THE TOUR by 130 Americans through the six counties ended on Tuesday this week, the events of Belfast's Bloody Sunday were fresh in the minds of the delegates, two of whom had been injured when struck by plastic bullets.

But Sunday was simply the culmination of a tour which, from the moment it reached the border at Killeen, near Newry, a week earlier, had been kept under close surveillance and harassed by hundreds of RUC and British army personnel.

Indeed, these disruptive tactics must have cost the British hundreds of thousands of pounds as they employed armed escorts, search parties, helicopters and sealed off the town of Carrickmore, County Tyrone, for two days, all in a useless attempt to intimidate the visitors and capture Martin Galvin.

Clearly believing that Galvin would make an appearance in Carrickmore when the delegation arrived there on Thursday, August 9th, the RUC Special Patrol Group followed the buses as they travelled from Derry. Dozens of heavily-armed RUC personnel then stopped the buses at Mountjoy and searched them before allowing the tour to continue.

Carrickmore was patrolled and cordoned off since the previous day, but when, after a tour of the area, delegates joined locals at a function they found that not even such a major security operation could deter the IRA. Four armed Volunteers mounted the plat-



● Norraid members march up Belfast's Falls Road to mark the 13th anniversary of the introduction of internment

form and one of these read a statement from the Mid-Ulster Brigade IRA, pledging that the war against Britain would continue.

After a short stop in Coalisland, County Tyrone, on Fri-

day, where they were addressed by Owen Carron, Sinn Féin elected representative for Fermanagh/South Tyrone, the delegates continued to South Armagh. Here the RUC and British army were noticeably

absent.

But on Saturday, August 11th, they reappeared in force at the funeral of IRA Volunteer Brendan Watters in Newry, which the delegation attended. Although visibly shocked by

the RUC attack on the funeral cortege, the Americans showed their strength by linking arms with local mourners as they protected the coffin on its way to the church.

(continued on next page)

Troops Out view strengthened

BY PAUL CONWAY

ON SATURDAY MORNING, August 11th, a 140-strong Troops Out Movement delegation picketed British army forts and British army/RUC barracks in West Belfast as part of their campaign for British withdrawal.

On their way to the picket assembly point at Dunville Park, many delegates were stopped, delayed and verbally abused by RUC patrols.

Followed closely throughout by RUC vehicles, the delegation marched to Springfield Road Barracks, then to Fort Pegasus on the Whitecock Road, through Turf Lodge to Fort Jericho, and finally, past Ballymurphy, to Fort Henry Taggart on the edge of the loyalist Springmartin estate.

All along the route the marchers received an enthusiastic welcome from the local people, who were delighted to hear the chants and slogans, especially coming from British people.

DETAINED

Returning to the Lower Falls area, one member of the deleg-

ation's organising committee was detained by the RUC in Conway Street. Joe Keenan, the Sinn Féin organiser for West Belfast who had accompanied the march, attempted to intercede and was immediately arrested by the RUC under Section 12 of the Prevention of Terrorism Act. He was held in RUC custody until 9pm on Sunday, when he was released without charge.

Over the weekend, the delegates attended a number of workshops on a wide range of subjects — trade unions, social issues, culture, prisoners, repression and women — where they met not only Sinn Féin activists but also social and community workers, members of the Stop the Show-trials Committee, relatives of POWs in English jails and ex-POWs from Armagh and Long Kesh.

The delegation, the fifth organised by TOM, consisted of 14 members of the National Union of Miners, other trade unionists, the unemployed and TOM members from Leeds, Sheffield, Merseyside, Birmingham, Tyneside, London, Cardiff and Swansea.

WELCOME

On their arrival on Friday afternoon, the delegates were billeted in homes in every nationalist area in Belfast where they were made very welcome. In the evenings they enjoyed the 'crack' at the many social functions, music sessions and ceilidhs they attended.

The highlight of the weekend for many of the visitors was the honour of leading the 13th commemoration of internment march, and when the rally began the first speaker was Ian Juniper, of Nottingham Trades Council, on behalf of TOM.

He said:

"What we have seen over this weekend is a stark reality which is suppressed by the British media. Anyone just looking around

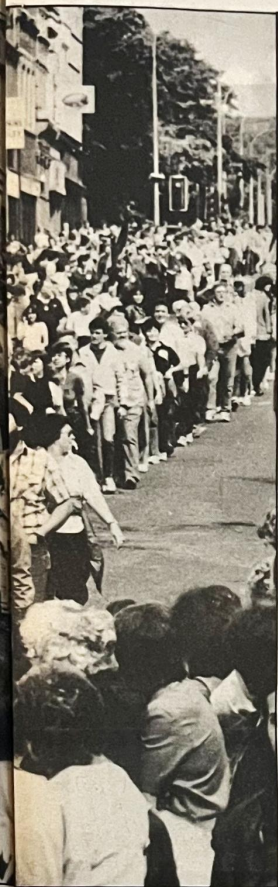


● Troops Out Movement members are briefed on their arrival in Belfast

West Belfast could only be certified insane if they described it as normality — yet this is what the British media puts over day

and night.

"According to the British media, the only fly in the ointment of this picture of so-called



(continued from previous page)

Returning to Belfast that evening, the tour entered its tragic, if informative, conclusion with the internment anniversary parade through the city on Sunday, the murderous RUC attack and,

finally, the defiance of the thousands of people who joined the black-flag march on Monday evening.

While some of the delegates had to return to America on Tuesday, others travelled to Dublin to picket the British Embassy. Others had stayed in Belfast for the funeral of Sean Downes and these were joined by a group who travelled to Dublin but returned North later on Tuesday evening.

Amongst those visitors I spoke to, all applauded the warmth of the people they met and their united determination to resist British oppression.

Eileen Downing from New Jersey, whose husband is a retired New York policeman, had travelled with the tour "to see for myself" the conditions endured by the nationalist community in the six counties. Her interest in the six counties began during the 1981 H-Block hunger-strike and in the face of opposition from many of her relatives in the Free State.

But after a friend had written to Fr Burke (a central figure in this year's tour) for information on Ireland, Eileen Downing had committed herself to the cause of Ireland. Each week since the hunger-strike she has travelled with her daughter, Aine, and other New Jersey Noraid members, the 45 miles to New York to picket the British Consulate.

Commenting that the tour has made her "determined to work much harder" when she returns to America, Eileen Downing said:

"What amazed me was the presence of British soldiers and RUC all over the place. I don't think that Hitler's Germany could compare to the police-state I saw here.

"The people were so gracious to us and treated us with the utmost kindness. I admire the way they can cope in such a terrible police-state where all they have to look forward to is their sons and daughters going to jail.

"I think that other Americans, if they saw what we saw, would be extremely sympathetic to



Galvin in Derry

NORaid publicity director Martin Galvin defied the British government's exclusion order last Thursday, August 9th, when he arrived in Derry and gave an exclusive interview to the Derry Journal.

In the interview, carried on the front page of the Friday morning paper, he said that he did not recognise the right of the British government to ban him from any part of Ireland.

During his visit, Martin Galvin met Sinn Féin elected representative Martin McGuinness and visited a memorial erected at the spot where Volunteer Eamonn 'Bronco' Bradley was shot dead by the British army in 1982.

Galvin told the Derry Journal: "If the people of the North can show such courage against 30,000 British armed terrorists here then the least I can do is come and show my solidarity."

the nationalist people here in Ireland."

'SENSATIONAL'

Another American visitor, Joe Salmon from Arizona, had never been in Ireland before the tour. He described his experience as 'sensational', adding that he would always remember the funeral of Brendan Watters. He said:

"I was at the Watters home when the RUC started the scuffle. Someone passed the word that the people should link arms. And with no other instructions they did this, formed lines automatically, and moved for-

ward. I won't forget that discipline."

Many of those who joined this year's tour had been on a similar tour in 1983. Amongst these was Regina Quinn Morris whose home city, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is also the home of the plastic bullet. Although production of the bullet has been stopped due to pressure from Noraid, the British government has been able to buy existing stocks of the lethal weapon. Regina Quinn Morris said:

"People back home still think that plastic bullets are some kind of toy, but I am bringing back

a few to show them the truth."

Pointing out that she had returned on this year's tour "to see if conditions had changed since last year", she said:

"The Brits are still here, but the people are growing stronger. I was really impressed by the size of the crowd which came out for the black-flag march. They had dignity and they wouldn't be told what to do, or not to do, by the British."

Not all of those who joined this year's tour were members of Noraid. Nor were they all of Irish ancestry. In fact, they came as observers or as members of a wide range of Irish support organisations.

BLACK AMERICAN

The only black American with the delegation, Joe Yancy from St Louis, Missouri, is not a member of Noraid but is a sympathiser. He said:

"In America there is a lot of racism and I found that some people with the tour treated me much better in Belfast than they would do in America.

"Noraid in St Louis haven't gone out of their way to encourage non-Irish to join but when we go back we intend to have meetings and see how the group would react to taking a black in.

"There are similarities in the oppressor, as in the oppressed, the world over. That needs to be recognised and a coalition built to fight oppression."

Joe Yancy's interest in Ireland grew from slide-shows he had watched in St Louis, but, he added:

"No matter how much people tell you, you have to see it for yourself.

"It is hard to pin-point the highlight of the tour but you could not ignore the warmth of the people, their sense of community and of organisation at grass-roots. This is not a single event but was found everywhere we went.

"The resilience of the people was also very impressive. You'd stay with families who had lost two sons but their resilience doesn't die and nor does their sense of humour."



● Troops Out delegates at Fort Pegasus during their march around British army barracks

normality are the 'godfathers manipulating through terror'. "That is why it is so important to break down this media

mythology by giving people in Wales, Scotland and England the chance to see for themselves what reality is.

But the connections go deeper than just media coverage between what is happening in your country and what is happening

in what are supposed to be our coalfields. The use of repression by the police against the striking miners... is directly culled

from the repression that has been systematically used against the nationalist people for the past 15 years."



Peaceful demonstration

BY EAMON TRACY

BELFAST'S BLOODY SUNDAY



AN unusually heavy RUC and Brit presence in side-streets off Belfast's Falls Road, in and around Dunville Park, the assembly point for the 13th internment anniversary march, last Sunday, was the talking point for many marchers as they began to gather, as was speculation about Martin Galvin's expected appearance.

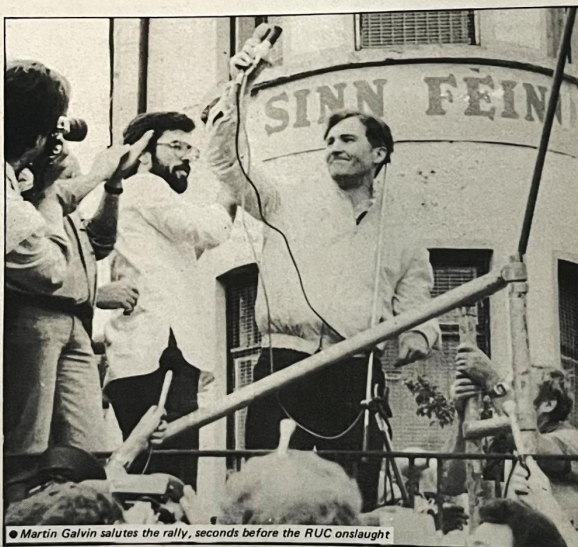
Spirits were high as several thousand people — women, men, youths and young children — wandered among the assembling groups of overseas delegations, or went over to listen to the large number of bands standing in Waterford Street, each competing with the other to produce the loudest tune.

Dozens of banners demanding 'Troops out now', 'No more paid perjurers' and 'Stop the Show-trials', as well as Sinn Féin and Noraid banners were scattered along the road.

Tom Hartley, Sinn Féin's Northern organiser, always at home in this type of situation and with a megaphone firmly glued to his hand, marshalled the dozens of stewards and forced a semblance of order out of a somewhat chaotic situation.

A South Derry band, resplendent in military khaki, took their place at the head of the march, followed by the Troops Out delegation carrying several banners announcing the theme of the march — Stop the Show-trials. The Noraid Delegation followed a short distance behind and then came Sinn Féin members and supporters from North and South of the border. The bands, of which there were over a dozen, were carefully slotted into place as the march moved off after the playing of the National Anthem.

The marchers moved up the Falls Road and past side-streets which in many cases contained dozens of RUC and British troops with armoured landrovers and saracens. Four RUC landrovers moved immediately ahead of the marchers and stewards quickly formed several lines between the head of the march and the RUC.



● Martin Galvin salutes the rally, seconds before the RUC onslaught

As the march reached Connolly House it was immediately evident that there was an unprecedented RUC and British army presence. Dozens of landrovers were parked along the road and as the marchers settled down in front of the platform, which was in the grounds of Connolly House, the RUC moved their vehicles forward, blocking off both ends of the road, effectively surrounding the crowd in a ring of steel.

Several young people threw stones at the RUC from the top of the shopping complex facing Connolly House, as well as from the Busby Bee, and the RUC immediately replied with plastic bullets causing panic among the crowd.

Sinn Féin stewards, under directions from the platform, moved forward, removed the young people, stopped the stoning and quickly calmed the crowd, while Gerry Adams confronted an RUC inspector demanding that he stop his men firing plastic bullets.

Denis Donaldson, a member of the Belfast Sinn Féin executive, chaired the meeting and asked the crowd to sit down and for the stewards to stand around the perimeter of the meeting to create a barrier between those sitting and the RUC.

He introduced Chris McAuley of Sinn Féin POW Department who read a brief statement of solidarity from republican

prisoners throughout Ireland and Britain and, to loud applause, Donaldson called Gerry Adams, Sinn Féin president, to the platform.

As Adams commenced his speech, RUC men, already on the roofs of the shops opposite, began stock-piling plastic bullet rounds.

MOOD

Adams remarks quickly caught the mood of the crowd as he good-humouredly ensured that everyone understood that the Brit/RUC provocation was to be steadfastly ignored. He said:

"We have hundreds of heavily-armoured RUC men and British soldiers. We have a perfectly peaceful, passive demonstration of people sitting down and we have the press here.

"Now if we act in a disciplined fashion the RUC and British soldiers will be forced before the cameras of the world's press to expose themselves."

This remark brought considerable laughter from the crowd, prompting Adams to add:

"Now I don't mean that in any other sense."

He continued:

"What we want to do today, regardless of what happens, is to obey the stewards, is not to throw stones, is to use our bodies because that's all we have, that's what we'll use and to stay as a disciplined crowd."

To laughter and applause, Adams began the awaited introduction of Martin Galvin, asking:

"Wouldn't it be a terrible disappointment if Martin Galvin didn't turn up?"

And then he added:

"Now to the RUC and to the British soldiers and those in charge, if you want to kill men, women and children, this is your opportunity, because we are not moving. I would like to welcome Martin Galvin of Irish Northern Aid."

But even as Galvin appeared on the platform and acknowledged the rapturous welcome, the RUC had launched their murderous assault....



UNPROVOKED ONSLAUGHT

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

"WE have hundreds of heavily-armed RUC men and British soldiers, we have a perfectly peaceful demonstration of people sitting down." These were the words of Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams — this was the scene on Sunday outside Connolly House, Sinn Féin's Belfast headquarters.

A mass of people, young, old, men, women and children, quietly sitting on the road and pavements, listening and laughing at Adams' intermittent jokes — completely boxed in on all sides by scores of RUC landrovers and British army Saracens.

As he spoke, often re-emphasising the peaceful nature of the demonstration, no-one, not him, not the world's press around the platform, and certainly not the thousands who had co-operated with his instructions and posed no opposition to the RUC, could have anticipated the brutal and unprovoked onslaught which was to follow.

In his lead-up to welcoming Noraid publicity director Martin Galvin, Adams, to deafening applause, almost cued in the RUC, saying:

"To the RUC and to the British soldiers and those in charge, if you want to kill men, women and children, this is your opportunity because we are not moving."

As Galvin leapt forward onto the platform, the wild cheers turned sharply to screams of alarm as scores of plastic bullets blasted into the crowd. RUC landrovers, positioned at the entrance to Riverdale and at the Busy Bee, simultaneously ploughed forward, hitting several people unable to rise quickly enough to their feet. Others were trapped under the landrovers like 18-year-old Paula Byrne from Dublin, her leg and foot pinned down:

"I couldn't crawl out as there were people on top of me. An RUC man screamed at me to get out of the way and, as he did, kept kicking me in the stomach and leg. The driver kept sounding the horn. Only for a man who crawled across the top of others and pulled my leg out, I'd have been killed. A girl

beside me was shot in the leg by a plastic bullet. It was just crazy, everyone was hysterical, including me."

Amid the frightening noise of plastic bullets being discharged and smoke filling the air, Adams vainly appealed for calm again and again, shouting to people: *"Keep down! Down! Down!"*

PANIC

In the panic and confusion of that first minute, Martin Galvin, the man James Prior ordered the RUC to kill for, was ushered away by people in the crowd, safely eluding the RUC's frantic attempts to capture him.

As Adams continued to appeal for calm, an RUC inspector snatched the microphone from his hand and ordered two RUC men to smash the speaking equipment.

The order for the attack, AP/RN has established, was given by an RUC man perched on top of the single-storey roof-top of shops directly opposite Connolly House.

According to several eyewitnesses whose accounts all tally on this point, he issued instructions by radio to the RUC at Riverdale and at the Busy Bee. As these landrovers moved in, firing plastic bullets, he himself loaded his baton gun, fired, re-loaded and fired again and again into the crowds of people below, some crawling on their stomachs, others heaped on top of each other in fear.

Sean MacSeain, an Andersonstown News staff member, was standing near the back of

the crowd at the St Agnes' church side and within the ring of RUC men. He recalls:

"When Galvin appeared an RUC officer on top of a land-rover signalled to the RUC men behind us to move in. As the landrovers roared in we moved nearer to the shops facing Connolly House and lay down. The RUC continued to fire on us as we lay down. It was like being in front of a firing squad..."

"Every time a person moved a plastic bullet was fired. Some of the RUC men broke towards Connolly House while others continued to fire round them."

"I had noticed a man in his 40's getting batoned on the head when the push started. He had fallen immediately and other RUC men walked over his body. When we thought there was a lull, some of us rushed over to him and carried him to a house on the left-hand side of St Agnes's."

UNMERCIFULLY

Plastic bullets continued to be fired unmercifully into the crowd, young children were screaming hysterically, many of them being hit and injured as their parents vainly tried to protect them.

Seven-year-old Francis Kennedy was with his father, attending the demonstration. They were both sitting in the road, listening to the speeches when, Mr Kennedy explains:

"All hell broke loose. All I heard was the roar of armoured RUC jeeps and the bangs of what seemed like hundreds of plastic bullets being fired and people screaming in panic."

"Francis and I were pinned down and couldn't move because of the crowds and when the RUC reached us they were hitting out at everyone with batons and plastic bullet guns. Francis was terrified and screaming. I tried to cover him as much as possible but couldn't stop an RUC man from hitting him on the head with his baton. I'll never forget the look of hate

(continued on next page)

BELFAST'S BLOODY SUNDAY



● ANGELA DOHERTY

Saved by accordion

ANGELA DOHERTY (16), from Glasgow, narrowly escaped death when the force of impact of a plastic bullet, aimed at chest level, hit the accordion she was carrying, causing it to buckle and cave in.

A member of the John 'Bap' Kelly Accordion Band, Angela was among the crowd sitting in front of

Connolly House when the RUC attack began.

"Everyone stood up and was running away, I heard a bullet being fired and it hit my accordion. I just dropped it and ran. The crowd was panicking, everyone trying to save themselves and their children. I felt myself caught up in the panic and the sensation that I was being crushed, the next instant I was in someone's arms, being carried to safety."



(continued from previous page)
on that peeler's face."

Francis received a gash on the head and had a number of stitches inserted later in hospital.

Batonning their way through a carpet of people lying terrified and defenceless on the ground, many of whom cried out for their mothers, for God, for anyone to help them, the RUC reached Connolly House.

Members of the press, positioned at the front of Connolly House directly underneath the platform, found that their erstwhile safe, professional status on this occasion accounted for nothing in the eyes of the RUC. Several were crushed up against the wall and plastic bullets were fired into the shocked core of journalists, irrespective of who they were or what they represented.

One of the bullets fired by an RUC man from the direction of the Busy Bee, struck AP/RN photographer Larry O'Hara behind the right ear, sending him

reeling forward off the wall on top of several people. It could have been any member of the press.

Despite his serious injury, Larry continued to take photographs but eventually had to stop when his vision blurred.

Other cameramen and reporters, like Eamonn Malley of Downtown Radio, were physically dragged away to make room for advancing landrovers as the assault began on Connolly House.

Brendan Murphy of the *Irish News*, who was in the grounds of Connolly House, had a lens confiscated and free-lancer Gerry Casey's film suffered the same fate as the RUC tried to prevent them recording their brutal actions.

POINT-BLANK RANGE

Within the first few minutes of the RUC's attack, countless people had already been badly injured by plastic bullets fired at close range and often at

point-blank range, not over their heads, nor aimed at their legs, but deliberately at their bodies and around the head. It was then, just as the RUC reached the gates of Connolly House, that 22-year-old Sean Downes, a married man with a baby daughter, was fatally killed by a plastic bullet which hit him squarely over the heart. As people rushed to give him the kiss of life and frantically massaged his chest, Sean lay motionless, his eyes half open. But they still kept firing, hatred on their faces, death in their hearts.

Over the gates they clambered, others firing plastics at the windows of Connolly House, glass shattering, children and women screaming inside.

Twinbrook woman Lucy Murray was with her 10-year-old daughter Sharon, one of the dozen women and 18 children who had taken refuge from the mayhem outside. As the RUC crashed through the gate with a landrover and charged inside, she recalls:

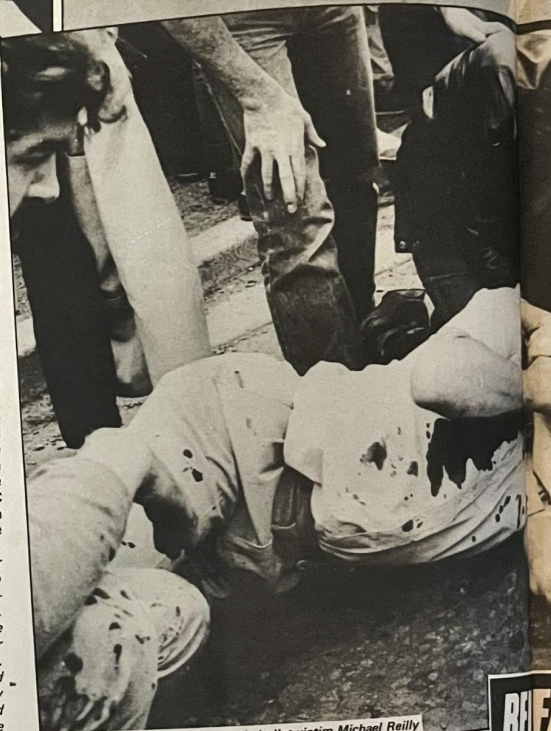
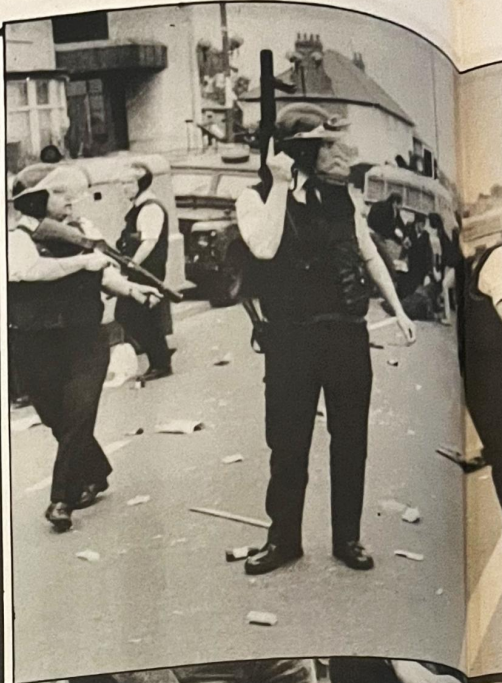
"We all lay down on the floor with the children and tried to take cover under a table, everyone was crying and screaming. They burst into the room like madmen and they trampled over us, shouting at us to get out. We said we weren't as we'd only get killed and at that they dragged one woman, who had three or four children, outside screaming."

"I was next, they wrenched me from Sharon, who was hysterical, and threw me into the landrover, punching me."

Mrs Murray was one of several people put into landrovers, beaten and then thrown out onto the roadway.

Upstairs in Connolly House, Danny Morrison and a handful of other people, including a young boy and four-months-pregnant Chrissie McAuley, barricaded themselves into the front room with tables, lockers and chairs.

Mrs McAuley recalls: *"They banged and kicked the door which gave in a minute. The young boy was pleading for his wee life and all I could think of was them opening up with plastics in such a small room. I think I went numb and as they came in with the baton*



● Friends render first-aid to plastic-bullet victim Michael Reilly

Squeal of pain

KIERAN MURPHY, aged 12, from Ardoyne, was at Sunday's march with his father, Michael Murphy. When the RUC attacked the rally, Kieran and his father were sitting down, like thousands of others. Michael Murphy recalls:

"They opened up with plastic bullet guns and batons. We all crouched down to protect our heads and pandemonium broke out. I heard my son squeal out in pain but, in the ensuing panic, I was separated from him. I searched around, asking everyone did they see where my son went. Then someone told me a young lad had been taken to hospital in a car."

"As soon as I could I made my way to the Royal Victoria Hospital where I found out my son had been hit by a plastic bullet on the right arm, just below the shoulder. One of the nurses in the hospital said if he had been hit about six inches higher he would most likely have been killed."

"I can honestly state that at no time was my son rioting as he was by my side until we were separated in the panic."



● KIERAN MURPHY

guns I screamed that I was expecting a baby. They ordered us downstairs, arresting Danny Morrison, claiming we had opened up on them first."

INJURED

As the RUC ransacked Connolly House, vainly searching for Galvin, a fleet of ambulances began ferrying away the scores of injured and shocked while many others, too frightened of being charged if they went to hospital, were treated in nearby houses.

At the Busy Bee, waves of plastic bullets were fired scattering people in all directions.

Ann Zell, a steward with the Troops Out delegation, said:

"The RUC jeeps just started making sweeps around the complex, letting off plastic bullets whenever they came past."

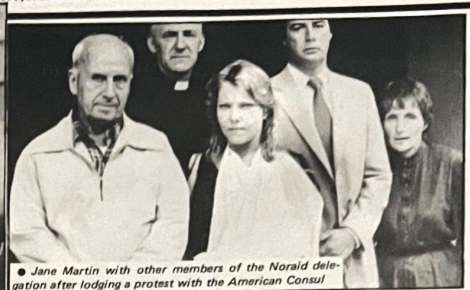
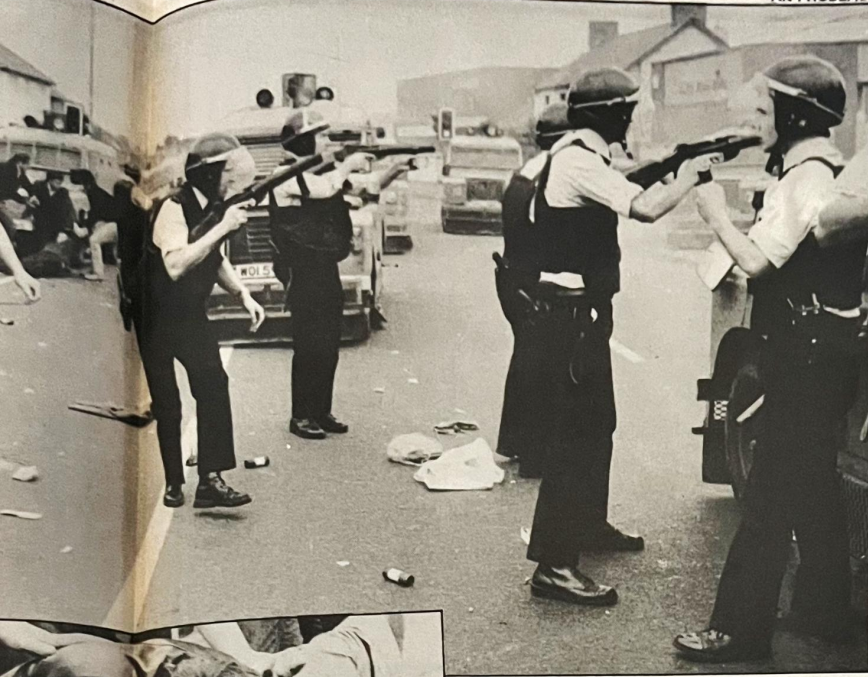
Tanya, a 6th-former from Port Talbot, Wales, recalls:

"People had broken arms, one was shot in the leg. Then I went into the New Horizon Bookshop because I felt a bit safer inside. As I was going in there was a rush of people into the bookshop. People were just terrified. They were coming from everywhere, coming into the bookshop. I got crushed in the bookshop. There were just shots going everywhere."

Young children, separated from their parents in the confusion, were crying for their mums and daddys and plastic bullets kept whizzing by them and over their heads. Abandoned coats, shoes and prams lay strewn on the roadway, bloodstains soaking into the tarmac, all a testament to the awful and unjustified carnage which had taken place.

BRIEF
BLO
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Journalists
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these
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Prior
RUC
plain



● Jane Martin with other members of the Noraid delegation after lodging a protest with the American Consul

A fractured hand

NEW YORKER, Jean Martin, aged 25, a member of the Noraid delegation, suffered a fractured hand when she was struck by a plastic bullet.

Jean was sitting down in the crowd close to the shops opposite Connolly House when the attack began.

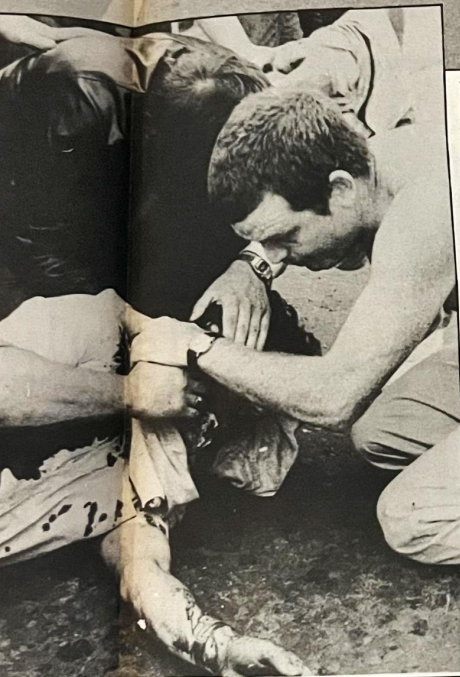
"The RUC started rolling the jeeps into the crowd and some people were hit by them. Everybody got up to run and they started firing bullets.

"We were all crouched down on the ground behind a low wall. There were some people sitting on top of us. I saw an RUC man on top of the roof shooting down into us. Stew-

ards were trying to put their bodies over people to protect them. I was crouched down and a bullet bounced down beside me and bounced up into my hand. A man beside me was shot on the head. His blood was on my jacket and all over my trousers. "I got up and I tried to walk down the street and they started shooting again so I just had to sit back down again. Finally, two people picked me up and walked me to a house.

"It was an incredible scene, it was hard to believe, I've seen nothing like it before and I hope never to see it again either."

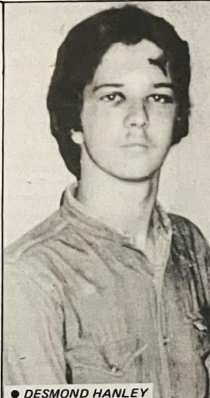
Jean Martin was later taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital where the fracture was set in plaster.



Covered in blood

DESMOND HANLEY, aged 21, of Andersonstown, narrowly escaped death when he was struck on the left temple by a plastic bullet, while crouching on the ground. The wound required a number of stitches. Such was the impact of the blow that two days later, when Hanley spoke to AP/RN, his head was still numb and he was experiencing difficulty breathing through his nose. When the RUC attack began, Hanley was near the single-storey shops directly opposite Connolly House.

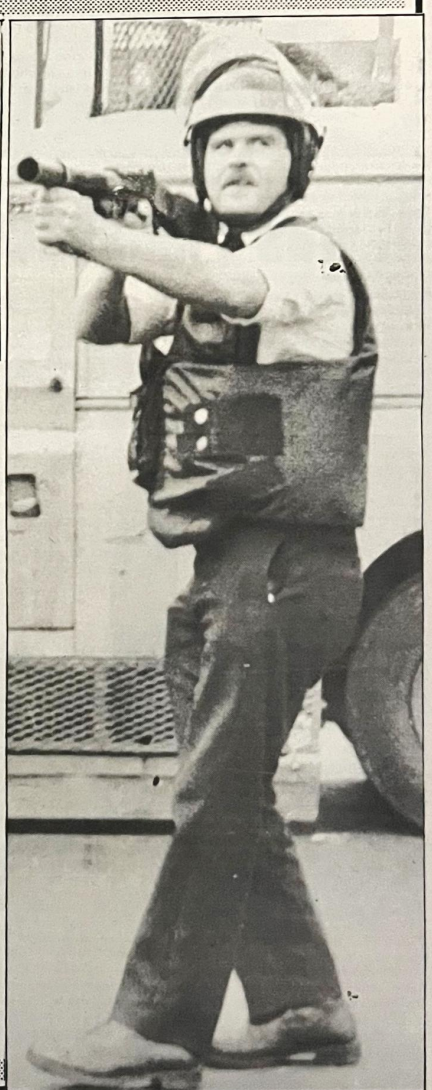
"We were all sitting on the road near the footpath. The RUC moved in and nobody could move. The RUC on top of the shops started opening up on the crowd too, and just kept firing. An American woman was crying and I was trying to calm her down. I looked up at the top of the shops, which hung over the pavement, and I saw an RUC man pointing a gun at me. He was maybe 10 to 15 yards away. Just in a split second I started to duck but it was too late. I just kept my head down, we all stayed there. I looked up again and he loaded again and he fired again at me but he missed and somebody else got hit behind me. I heard the scream but we were all crushed tight. I couldn't turn round to see who it was.



● DESMOND HANLEY

"People were saying 'let's get up and move' but everybody wanted to stay together. Men, women and children were in hysterics. It was wild, they were just shooting people like rabbits."

Eventually, covered in blood, Desmond Hanley was helped by others to escape up the Andersonstown Road. A passing car pulled up and rushed him to hospital.



BELFAST'S BLOODY SUNDAY



Journalists, irrespective of the interpretation they will put on events later, witnessed these scenes with their own eyes and have verified that there was no provocation mounted by the crowd. It was nearly a full half hour before a few token stones and one petrol bomb were thrown and a car was burnt out. As for the RUC's actions, these came from direct political orders sanctioned by James Prior, not a riot, not a case of RUC men going berserk but plain and unequivocal slaughter.

Sinn Fein accuses James Prior of murder. Bowing to the pressure of loyalism, he ordered the shooting of men, women and children.

As Gerry Adams pointed out on Sunday after the bloody scenes:

"Today the RUC have been internationally exposed as sectarian and ruthless and never again do the nationalist people want to hear calls for support for these loyalist gunmen from any cleric or so-called nationalist politicians."



BELFAST'S BLOODY SUNDAY

It was a massacre

JIM DUFFY (26) Andersonstown was struck twice by plastic bullets, once on the back of the head and, several minutes later, on his left arm with which he was attempting to shield the head of his girlfriend, Kathleen Livingstone (25), the sister of 14-year-old plastic bullet victim Julie Livingstone, who was murdered by the British army in May 1981.

They were present at the march with Kathleen's sister Bernadette (19), their twin brothers Paul and John (21) and their father, 62-year-old Archie Livingstone.

They were standing in front of Austins shop, beside Connolly House. Here is their story:

Kathleen: Jim was to the right of me, my sister Bernadette was on the left near to my father Archie. Our Paul was standing just behind me.

Jim: When Gerry Adams welcomed Martin Galvin to the platform everybody cheered and clapped, you couldn't believe it. At that point I looked down towards the Allied Irish Bank where the jeeps were all sitting. The peelers were sitting on top of their landrovers. Just as Gerry Adams said that, I could see them charging and shooting and the batons going. There was no rioting whatsoever.

Kathleen: The thing that's so sickening about this was that it was so unprovoked. All around there was older people. An old man was right in front of us. He couldn't sit down because of his legs. There was older people and girls and children, babies in prams all round us.

Jim: I saw them charging and shooting all at the same time — I could see smoke coming from their guns and the batons out and wielding them, charging over people that were sitting down. They just ran amok. I couldn't believe it. I remember saying, 'Jesus look at this' and I just turned towards Kathleen to say let's get out



● JIM DUFFY

of here and I was hit high on the back of the head. It felt like everything in the back of my head was moving forward. I thought both my eyes were going to pop out... I thought it was lights out. I fell then.

Jim believes he was hit by an RUC man from the roof of Build-U-Rite — therefore, fortunately, at much longer range than many other victims that day, and thus escaped fatal injury. He managed to struggle to his feet.

Kathleen: Bernadette had got a bit worried when they fired the plastics before the speeches. She was saying to me, 'This is how it happens... Everything came back about Julie, the colour just drained from her. Then Bernadette fell and Jim grab-

bed her. I've never been so terrified in my life, never.

When we got over to those gates beside Austin's, all I could see was people squealing and running over the top of the kids and trying to hold them. Bernadette says, 'We're all dead, we're never going to get out of this'. And then as everybody surged towards the gates the RUC came up and they were just firing at people at the front of the crowd, they just fired into us. The ones on the outside were getting everything. And that started more panic as the ones on the outside tried to get into the gates.

It was then I saw the blood running down Jim's arm and realised he'd been hit. I thought he was going to pass out.

We were both crouched down. He had my head under his arm to keep my head down. It must have been then that he was hit on that arm.

Then an older woman started to squeal, 'You can't get out there, they're waiting for us round the other side. Mother of Jesus help us, we're all dead.'

Jim: It seemed like a lifetime getting along that wall, everybody crouching down in fear, you could see fear over everybody's face. Women and children lying there, nowhere to go.

Kathleen: God, I thought we'd never get out. And squealing people losing their shoes and they were tearing their clothes pulling at each other and blood, everybody you looked at seemed to be bleeding or covered in blood from somebody else. There were older people crammed into the wall and I think they just went rigid with shock. I didn't see too many of them moving.

We got round the Busy Bee and Jim near passed out then and Bernadette and I had to grab him. It took the two of us to hold him up.

Jim: I could see the peelers then, waving batons and running.

Kathleen: Bernadette took hysterics round the side of the Busy Bee. I was slapping her face. We'd lost my Da and Paul, we didn't know where they were. We knew our John had been in the middle, sitting down. Bernadette's whole coat was torn. Me and her were covered in blood off Jim.



● Belfast City Councillor Alex Maskey (left) intervenes as RUC men attack West Belfast Sinn Féin's Padraic Wilson

She just rooted to the spot and squealed. They were still firing. She started squealing to one of the peelers, 'You have killed my sister and now look what you have done to him.' Then the peeler ran at her with a baton and it was Jim who pushed her out of the way.

Just as we got round the side of the Busy Bee there was another charge. They charged up the hill — up Slievegallon Drive. The people were too stunned to get out of that crush.

We were just at the PD Bookshop making our way round. Some woman seen us and told us to go to a house in Slieveban and she would ring an ambulance. She'd no sooner said that than we had to run again, because they came running up after us, firing.

Jim: They were firing that time from the bookies across the Andersonstown Road. The ones that were in that big yard at the Busy Bee when they saw their cronies across the road starting, they joined in.

Kathleen: It was 'all women and children. Me and Bernadette were trying to hold Jim up. Then my

Da and Paul appeared and we ran again up Slievegallon, then to the left up Slieveban.

Jim: We were running past cars and their windcreens were being smashed by plastic bullets. They were still coming after us. The fear was still there.

From Slieveban, where they had parked their cars, the five drove off to the hospital, crouched down inside in terror of further bullets.

Kathleen: The RUC were still coming up at the bottom of Slieveban, they had come up Slievegallon and they were shooting at the people running up the street. There were Troops Out people on the green and they all ran, scattering in different directions.

I don't know, you've gone through things since 1969, our family were burnt out by loyalists from our house in Dover Street, but I've never seen anything like it, so much panic and terror.

There was the smell of blood everywhere, they were hungry for it. It was a massacre, it was an absolute, unprovoked massacre.

BELFAST'S BLOODY SUNDAY



BY PETER ARNLIS

PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS and reporters had occupied prime observation positions on the street pavement around and below the speakers' platform in the grounds of Connolly House. The anticipated appearance of Martin Galvin had attracted additional press interest and many more demonstrators than usual, including the Noraid delegation, had brought cameras with them for the same reason.

Martin Galvin waited in a backroom in Connolly House until the other speeches were concluded before he was introduced by Gerry Adams. He ran to the platform and appeared emotionally taken aback as he surveyed the throng of sitting demonstrators who were in jovial mood and who were totally surrounded by RUC landrovers and British army jeeps.

Within six or seven seconds, the RUC, apparently on the direction of a senior officer who observed the platform from the roof of the single-storey shops opposite Connolly House, launched their pre-arranged operation.

The following excerpts from journalists tell their own story.

"Mr Galvin was greeted with wild cheering and had just finished waving to the crowd when the police moved in from both ends. They fired plastic bullets into the air and at almost point-blank range into the crowd as they ran over to the crowd, pulling them out of the way and then began driving landrovers into the screaming and hysterical people.

"Appeals for calm went unheard as plastic bullets whizzed around. People cowered on the road, clutching children and trying to cover their heads. Screams of 'Don't shoot!' punctuated the air as the RUC arrived at the entrance to the headquarters. I and other journalists were dragged into the centre of the road as shots rang out." (Richard Ford, *The Times*).

RUC LAUGHTER

"One man died and up to 20 people were injured, four seriously, yesterday when Belfast police moved into a 3,000-strong crowd, flailing batons and firing plastic bullets with wanton disregard in an effort to capture Mr Martin Galvin...

"As the police moved in they acted with indiscriminate brutality towards the crowd. Those who tried to flee in panic, or simply cowered on the pavement, were batoned. Plastic bullets were fired from close range and at specific targets, in contravention of rules governing their use.

"One elderly man, blood pouring from his head where he had been hit by a plastic bullet, could be seen lying unconscious in the road, ignored by the police around him...

"Among the crowds were American reporters and TV crews who afterwards voiced astonishment at the way the police had acted...

"One photographer was batoned as he stood waving his press card. A teenager lay in a front garden, dazed after being hit by a glancing blow by a plastic bullet...

"As police began to move out, laughter could be heard from a group of officers sitting inside their landrovers. Yards away, doctors were trying to revive a critically injured man." (Paul Johnson, *The Guardian*).

JOSTLED

The *Daily Telegraph* reported that there were:

"No attempts made to clash with the police..."

"Several people were hit at close range, and ambulances were soon busy treating fallen casualties. A number of people were hit around the head and shoulders

Journalists tell what they saw



● Marchers and an ambulance desperately try to save Sean Downes' life as the world's media record the tragic event

with truncheons, and journalists were jostled and shoved aside.

"People were screaming and falling over each other as the police pushed on, clearing a path towards the speakers' platform."

Other British newspapers - *Daily Mail*, *Mirror*, *Star* - repeated the bloody scene with the minimum of concern or in a matter-of-fact fashion, as did the *Financial Times*.

LESS RESTRAINED

The Irish papers were less restrained. Irish News reporter Letitia Fitzpatrick recorded what she saw:

"Police all over the area began to fire round after round of plastic bullets at the screaming crowd, who crouched in terror, unable to run away. A woman's leg was run over by a jeep, and scores of men, women and children were batoned, and injured people lying on the road were ignored by the security forces as they ploughed their way through..."

"Police in riot gear were bludgeoning people with truncheons. They hit photographers trying to take pictures of the violence and one radio reporter almost came to blows with a policeman who tried to confiscate his tape-recorder.

"Our photographer, Brendan Murphy, who was sitting on a wall near the platform, was threatened by an RUC man, who told him not to take any photographs of plastic bullets being fired at the crowds. He was grabbed by the throat while another policeman attempted to take away his camera and told him to 'Fuck off!'

"A press photographer was unable to prevent police from removing the film in his camera and confiscating it.

"It was 10 minutes before I could get across the road and plastic bullets were still being showered on the panic-stricken crowd."

The *Irish Times* also carried a graphic eye-witness report. Its journalist, Mary Kelly, wrote:

"Women and children screamed as they were crushed under the weight of the crowd, flinging themselves to the ground out of the path of the plastic bullets. Two young women screamed hysterically that one of their friends was trapped under

a group of pressmen who had been pushed against the wall outside the Sinn Féin building when two landrovers mounted the pavement in front of them.

"Several cameramen and reporters were pushed out of the way by policemen and one radio journalist was told with an obsequy to leave the scene. A plastic bullet was fired at close range at a Republican News photographer, who continued taking pictures of police batoning people as they lay on the ground. The bullet glanced off the back of his neck.

"Another photographer standing beside him was threatened and told to stop taking pictures by a policeman carrying a plastic-bulge gun."

SEAN DOWNES

"When the firing stopped after about 20 minutes, there were a number of injured. One man was lying on the ground with blood pouring from a facial wound. A crowd gathered around another man who had been hit, desperately trying to give him artificial respiration.

"They pulled open his shirt and began punching his chest, while a man tried to give him the kiss of life. Doctors and nurses arrived after about 10 minutes and continued the struggle but were unable to restore him to consciousness..."

"No petrol bombs were thrown at the police or army at any time before they stormed the building. 'We didn't bring any fucking shooters here today', one man said as he watched the injured being carried into ambulances, 'but I wish we had them now'."

"One elderly man had to be restrained by passers-by after he ran up to police and started screaming 'You murderers!'

"After the police entered the building, several others pulled down the speakers' platform and tore off the Tricolour mounted on it. Reporters who tried to get close to watch people being batoned as they lay on the ground were pushed away by police."

RELAXED

Irish Press reporter Paddy Reynolds wrote that, before the attack:

"The crowd was in a relaxed mood,

most of them squatting in dense numbers on the road."

He reported Gerry Adams urging the people not to be provoked and to remember the maxim of the prisoners who, whilst surrounded and at the mercy of the screws, said:

"We will fight the Brits on our terms."

He continued:

"And so will we here today. Let's talk tactics... We have hundreds of heavily-armed RUC men and British soldiers... and we have our peaceful demonstration of people sitting down. If you sit in a disciplined fashion the RUC and British soldiers will be forced before the cameras of the world press to expose themselves..."

"This led to an outburst of laughter as Mr Adams remarked: 'I don't mean that'."

"It was a measure of the mood of the meeting at that time. A few seconds later mayhem was about to break out."

The *Irish Independent* reported that: "The unprecedented police action and the scale of the operation astounded veteran journalists."

The *Belfast Telegraph* and the *News-Letter* had no personalised or graphic accounts of what happened other than to report what both sides said later.

Lance Price of the BBC said:

"There was no evidence of stoning when the police made their move. I wasn't aware of any concerted attack on the police at any time.

"When the shooting started, people were shit-scared and didn't do anything. It was a good 20 minutes afterwards, once the police had cleared the people away from the front of the building, that groups began to form along the side of the road and there was a bit of stoning. But none of it was massive by any standards. I did see one petrol bomb thrown, but it was about 20 minutes after Galvin appeared."

"No one could say there was a riot going on."

It was these types of hard reports from journalists - which were also carried on the front pages of newspapers in Europe, America and Australia - which exposed as blatant lies the RUC's version of events in a statement that afternoon and at the next day's press conference.



VARIATIONS ON A THEME

BY PETER ARNLIS

EDITORIAL writers on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, following Sunday's incidents, had a busy time adding fresh comments to political developments.

Editorials in Monday's *Irish Independent*, *Irish Press*, *Irish News* and *Belfast Telegraph* had a common theme although the tone of their language reflected what they would like to think were the views of their readership. That theme was that the poor RUC who, on the one hand behaved in an "indiscriminately violent manner" (*Irish Independent*) and wielded their batons without mercy on innocent demonstrators (*Irish News*), had, on the other hand, "played straight into the hands of those most ruthless of terrorists, the Provisional IRA" (*Irish Independent*) and handed the IRA a "propaganda coup that must exceed the Provos' wildest dreams".

The base-line for these leaders is that, whilst the state makes mistakes, the state is right and the IRA is always cunning, Machiavellian, plotting and wrong.

In case George Seawright of the DUP doubted the sincerity of the *Independent*, it added, for good measure:

"Ministers must, in future, be more circumspect about whom they allow into Ireland. If the 130 (Noraid supporters) return over the border, they must be deported as 'undesirable aliens'. The point must be made that ale-house Fenians need not apply for Irish visas."

On Tuesday, the attention had swung to the bungled RUC



● RUC CHIEF HERMON

press conference at which eyewitness reporters to the incidents took the RUC apart in an unprecedented manner. The assistant chief constable for Belfast, Cathal Ramsey, was visibly choking on his lies and, with a tremulous and dry throat, told of how they had a witness who saw Sean Downes being hit by a rioter.

The pro-British *Irish News* expressed major disappointment in the chief constable's performance and explanations and accused him of 'defending the indefensible' before concluding, "having, sadly, undone his good work over the years he should consider his position".

The *Irish Times* wrote: "Sir John Hermon's television appearance can scarcely have done much to cool tempers. A word of regret might have done some good and would not have been out of place. If the chief constable felt any such sentiments they did not manifest themselves on screen or to those who attended his press conference."

On Sunday's events, the *Guardian* wrote that the RUC "thus confirmed in an afternoon, the prejudice which years have been spent in contradicting".

It continued: "What happened on Sunday should be acknowledged in government as the disaster that it was and the officer or officers

BELFAST'S BLOODY SUNDAY



responsible should have no place in the RUC. Without some very stern disciplinary measures — and it cannot be known yet how far up the force they need to reach or whether they must go even higher — the RUC's ambition of making itself acceptable to the Catholic population might as well be forgotten for several more miserable years."

WITHDRAWAL

As the 15th anniversary of the open deployment of British troops in the North fell on

Tuesday and Wednesday, a number of papers turned their attention to this issue. The *Daily Mirror* brought out a special edition, repeating its 1978 call for a British withdrawal and calling for a united Ireland. The *Irish News* added:

"Twelve years after the imposition of direct rule, Catholics have no confidence in the forces of law and order, in the judiciary and in those who govern. Surely there is a correlation between this and the IRA's continued ability to carry out its sly work."

On Wednesday, the papers returned to Belfast's Bloody Sunday and Prior's comments on it. "Refreshing honesty", was how the *Irish Press* described it; "helpful", said the *Irish News*. The *Irish Times*, whilst agreeing that Prior was reasonable, said:

"Mr Prior's sweet reason after the event is no comfort to those who would seek to persuade the Catholic population that they do not need the Provisionals to protect them from the security forces."

Stating that the RUC's action was not spontaneous, the *Irish Times* called for those responsible to be made amenable.

A nation divided, Ulster and the Republic... Ulster's six counties... and Belfast, sectarian city.

The way out

Mirror Comment

SIXTY-FOUR years ago, the British Government... decided to divide Ireland into two, leaving the North in the United Kingdom.

On the 15th anniversary of the open deployment of British troops in the North fell on Tuesday and Wednesday...

BELFAST'S BLOODY SUNDAY

BY PETER ARNLIS

NOT SINCE perhaps the death of Bobby Sands, three years ago, has the British government come in for such sustained and widespread criticism as a result of its handling of an issue in the North which it created — the withdrawal of political status leading to the 1981 hunger-strike at that time, and on this occasion the attempted enforcing of the exclusion order against Martin Galvin by brutal means, leading to last Sunday's debacle.

International and British press coverage of shocking scenes prompted a storm of political reaction nationally and in Britain, and coinciding with the fifteenth anniversary of British troops being openly deployed on the streets, only reinforced how bankrupt is British policy.

Galvin's exclusion came about as the result of direct-ruler James Prior approaching British Home Secretary Leon Brittan, the person responsible for issuing such orders. Prior had been under pressure from loyalists, but the fact that Brittan over-ruled advice from the Foreign Office, which was opposed to the ban, is indicative of the punitive Tory mentality associated with Thatcher as during the hunger-strike.

Also, he excluded Galvin under immigration law, the infraction of which is a minor summary offence, rather than under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, a breach of which is a more serious scheduled offence.

The difference meant that, when arrested, he could simply be deported and would not represent a hot potato or a cause celebre on remand on scheduled offences.

OBSERVATION

Once it was announced that Galvin was banned, the RUC issued a statement to the effect that if he entered the North they would arrest him "at the most opportune moment".

The extent of observation which the Noraid delegation were under (apart from two undetected appearances of the IRA), and the discovery of an observation post in Carrickmore where references to him were found, indicate that the RUC were serious about capturing him and were attempting to capture him at all times. Sunday also showed the bloody extent to which they were officially sanctioned and prepared to go to hammer home the supremacy of British law as administered by the loyalist RUC.

The RUC's attempts to justify their unprovoked attacks have been patently exposed as lies. Their account of the death of Sean Downes, claiming he was a rioter, then saying that he was hit by a ricocheting plastic bullet, have been refuted without doubt, the only minor question, and one which does not affect the overall issue, is whether he had a stick in his hand when he was shot dead by an RUC man from a distance of a few feet.

'CONCERN'

The Free State government and its Foreign Affairs Minister, Peter Barry, the self-styled guardian of the security of the nationalist people in the North, issued a statement expressing 'concern' at the



Political storm will pass

incidents. But when British opposition politicians and Bishop Cahal Daly called for an independent public inquiry, just how concerned the Free State government was became clear.

In a second statement, the Dublin government disassociated itself from the inquiry calls but sought instead a comprehensive British response to the Forum report. Whilst there is no such thing as an 'independent' inquiry, the Dublin Coalition, like the British government which will absolutely refuse one, both know that such an inquiry would open a can of worms about the ruthlessness of British political policy and would seriously demoralise the RUC.

In the past, the Dublin Coalition has vainly protested to the British about the Duke of Edinburgh's visit to Drumad Barracks (base of the UDR men charged with assassinating nationalists) about the revelations in the Robinson case that undercover RUC men were monitoring the movements of two INLA Volunteers in County Monaghan (shortly before the RUC murdered them in Armagh city); and about Judge Gibson's congratulatory acquittal remarks to the RUC men who gunned down three unarmed IRA Volunteers.

Dublin has also introduced extradition-by-stealth of political fugitives and just recently said that Noraid visitors were not welcome in the twenty-six counties. For all its bootlicking, it has received little or no political favours from Britain in re-

sponse. The growing perception of its toadyism, whilst annoying to the Coalition government, is a long way off from limiting its collaboration.

INQUIRY

It was only after Monday's hostile press conference that RUC Chief Constable Jack Hermon — shocked that the RUC version was not being accepted in the usual docile fashion by a press corps who, for a change, had almost been murdered — announced an internal inquiry. Heading the investigation will be Deputy Chief Constable Michael McAtamney, one of three senior officers who co-ordinated Sunday's attack!

The call for an independent public inquiry came from the British Labour leader Neil Kinnock, Liberal leader David Steel (who called the RUC attacks a "police riot"), Fianna Fail, and the Alliance Party, the SDLP and Bishop Cahal Daly who could not leave off attacking Sinn Féin. Joe Hendron of the SDLP said:

"Noraid have now got the sort of propaganda they wanted."

Shirley Williams, president of the Social Democratic Party, said there could be no justification for the killing of Sean Downes and added:

"Not since Peterloo in 1819 have British police shot people dead at a peaceful meeting."

Bishop Daly (and Fr Sean McCartney officiating at the funeral

service) criticised the RUC, not on moral grounds — indeed morality was not even brought into it — but on tactical grounds, that is, it tarnishes the image of the RUC and makes the benefits of British imperialism and their law and order more difficult to sell.

Bishop Daly said: "These events are a severe setback to the efforts which were declared to be in progress on the part of the RUC to improve relations between the police and the public and to tackle the glaring need to build up among the nationalist population the credibility of the police and confidence in their impartiality..."

"It is deplorable that the police have supplied precisely the material desired for the IRA propaganda machine..."

Bishop Daly said that "No responsible person will deny the need and the right and the duty of the police to uphold the rule of law and to defend themselves from attack" but added that they needed to use minimum force. He continued:

"I hope that the events of last Sunday will not blind people to the moral evil of murder perpetrated by paramilitary organisations..."

"I hope that Irish-Americans will not be seduced into providing money for guns which will be used to perpetrate horrible murders and to wreak violence which is poisoning the whole quality of life of nationalist communities."

It is important to study exactly what the Bishop has said, because it is the clearest statement yet of a reactionary clerical support for Britain when it is under pressure: a 22-year-old Catholic is murdered by the RUC and Bishop Daly reserved the word "murder" only for republicans. He will only attend certain funerals. When women and children tried to run into St Agnes's chapel on Sunday they found that the doors had been locked. At least two of the glass doors of the church were smashed by plastic bullets as the crowd fled. Not one word of condemnation of this sacrilege!

PAISLEY

Loyalist politicians were naturally jubilant at the 'Fenian bashing' and were subsequently outraged when James Prior, who broke off from his holidays in Hampshire for a few hours on Tuesday, said that the exclusion of Galvin was probably a 'bad mistake'; Ian Paisley said:

"Those who irresponsibly brought their children and their grannies to spectate at this event, came because they wanted to revel in the flouting of the law and they have only themselves to blame if they were caught up in the ensuing trouble..."

In a TV-am interview on Monday morning Paisley's deputy, Peter Robinson, shocked viewers by justifying the attack by describing the women and children (some of whom were as young as four months) as "sympathisers of the IRA, if not members."

Despite this political storm, it is unlikely that the British government will be forced into doing anything other than it has its mind presently set on. The real effect will be in Ireland and particularly in the North where the SDLP will perhaps feel the effects of the alienation of some of its supporters from the RUC.

At Monday night's huge black-flag demonstration along the same route of Sunday's march, the RUC stayed a discreet distance from the marchers, thus offering minimal provocation. Although they drew batons and fired plastic bullets at Catholic crowds at a football match on Tuesday and at a band during an AOH march on Wednesday, the real test of whether the policy of risking full confrontation is to be maintained will come at future demonstrations and, unfortunately, at future republican funerals.

Hermon contradicts Prior

WHEN direct-ruler James Prior took a few hours off from his holiday in Hampshire last Tuesday to go to the London office of the NIO, he said that the exclusion of Martin Galvin now looked to have been "a bad mistake" and was "a great set-back for the RUC".

Media commentators gave him credit for being so frank, but Prior could afford to be frank, could afford to say "I take full responsibility", because he leaves the six counties in a few weeks' time, not to a cabinet position but to the backbenches. His admission is also, by implication, a criticism of other Tory cabinet ministers who supported the exclusion order and who gave clearance for Sunday's murderous 'gun-ho' tactics.

Prior admitted that not to have banned Galvin would have been to invite criticism from the loyalists and, as we know only too well is the historical case,

the loyalists are not allowed to be offended.

CONDEMNATION

Loyalists united in their condemnation of Prior, saying that he was 'stabbing the RUC in the back'.

However, at a passing-out parade of RUC recruits at their training depot in Enniskillen on Wednesday, Chief Constable Jack Hermon appeared to also sharply rebuke Prior, criticising those who had formed their opinions from a distance.

Hermon said:

"I do not have any doubt in my mind as to the rightness of that decision [to exclude Galvin]. It is unfortunate, but it is not unusual, that undesirable who pose a threat to any country in the Western democracy are very often excluded from countries which do not find them welcome. It is not at all uncommon and indeed there are many precedents to sustain the correctness of the present decision."

March of defiance

BY EAMON TRACY

IN SILENCE, and in sombre yet determined mood, thousands of men, women, youths and children, many carrying black flags, gathered at Dunville Park on the Falls Road on Monday evening, August 13th.

In dignity and in anger they assembled along the road, determined to demonstrate their right to march on their road, as and when they choose, irrespective of declarations of illegality made by the RUC.

Shortly after 7.30pm, the march with several lines of stewards with linked arms at its head, and with several drummers beating a lament, began slowly to move off from Dunville Park.

Tom Hartley of Sinn Féin addressed the silent marchers who numbered many thousands more than the previous day's anti-internment rally, asking them to remember Sean Downes, and to behave with dignity and remain calm. An RUC inspector in a landrover parked on the Grosvenor Road attempted to inform the protestors that they were taking part in an 'illegal march' but his words were drowned in a chorus of jeers.

As the march slowly made its way up the Falls Road, thousands of people lined the route expressing in their silence and their presence their total opposition to what had happened on Sunday.

At the same spot outside Connolly House where Sean



● FR MAURICE BURKE

Downes had been murdered the day before, hundreds of stewards guided the marchers into place around the platform.

SILENCE

For almost 30 minutes, the marchers stood in almost total silence as they waited for the bulk of the march to reach Connolly House.

Barbara Brown of Belfast Sinn Féin comhairle ceantair welcomed the protestors and applauded their courage. She read out the names of all those who have been murdered by both rubber and plastic bullets and she then introduced Fr Maurice Burke from the Noraid delegation who was loudly cheered when he told the crowd that he had a message for them from Martin Galvin.

Galvin's message read: "Yesterday when I climbed

up on to the platform I was genuinely overcome with emotion and couldn't speak when I saw the thousands of people — the men, women and children who were cheering and applauding our simple act of civil disobedience.

"What was to follow were several attempts of premeditated murder by the RUC which left Sean Downes dead and several others seriously injured. To his young widow, Brenda, and their baby Clare, to Sean's mother and father and brothers and sisters, may I offer my sincere condolences on their sad loss, and my particular personal grief as my arrest was declared the objective of the RUC's murderous rampage.

"Tonight on television we witnessed RUC Chief Constable Jack Hermon castigate eyewitness journalists for daring to question his second-hand account of events. He boasted, 'Remember, Galvin didn't get speaking,' when the real issue was your right to free assembly,

your right to free speech.

"But yesterday the risen Irish people did speak. They spoke with the voice of reason and they risked their very lives against the real gunmen, the real men of violence, the real god-fathers in Prior and Hermon when they courageously marched against British terror.

COURAGE

"I have never witnessed such courage before. I have never seen such determination, and I know that yesterday the RUC, for all their murder, slunk from this road as defeated bullies.

"People of Belfast, we salute you and Irish Noraid pledges its unending support for your struggle for peace with justice, for freedom."

The final speaker was Gerry Adams who received a tumultuous reception from the crowd. He said:

"Tonight isn't the night for long speeches. We have had a peaceful demonstration, and the reason why our demonstration is

peaceful is very, very obvious, there are no men of violence here.

"The demonstration we are having tonight is the kind of demonstration we should have had yesterday because we are a peaceful people.

"Our enemies may scoff at that but we are a peaceful people. We haven't got the weapons of war — the British army and RUC have, and yesterday when it came to us proclaiming our right to free speech we used our bodies in defence of that right.

"And Sean Downes bought that right for us with his life.

"We are a peaceful people and there are those in high places who ask us to extend the hand of peace towards the British. Bishops, who are quiet now and Free State establishment politicians who collaborate with the British to extradite Irish men into the hands of the RUC, who collaborate with those who torture the women in Armagh, who hand back Long Kesh escapees to the Screws in Long Kesh; all of these people in high places will call on us to extend the hand of peace to the British.

"We have extended the hand of peace on many occasions. We still extend the hand of peace but we won't extend the open palm, we extend the clenched fist of the freedom fighter.

"Once I saw on film a black freedom fighter with his fist raised in the air and I thought, because it was empty, that it was a rather foolish gesture. And it was explained to me that the open hand with the five fingers is not united. Each finger can only do so much, but clenched it is powerful. Clenched it is united. And clenched it has force.

"Tonight, and we appeal to young people not to feel frustrated, is not a night for burning civilian cars, nor for throwing themselves at RUC plastic bullets. Tonight is a night to meditate and to decide which one of the fingers of the clenched fist of the Republican Movement you want to belong to.

"Maybe it looks pathetic, but I would call for a minute's silence, and I would ask all of us, housewives, women, young children, youths, young men and old men to raise our clenched fists to the heavens in that minute's silence.

"And then, if there's justice in this world, you won't always be raising empty fists.

"And then comrades, then we can say 'Tíocfaid ar la'."



Thousands attend funeral



● SEAN DOWNES

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

CONTROVERSY still surrounds the tragic death of Sean Downes (22) from West Belfast on Sunday, but there can be no doubt that he was murdered by the RUC.

While the events leading up to his being fatally injured may still be clouded, the fact remains that the RUC man who fired the plastic bullet that killed him, broke every so-called guideline for the use of that weapon and clearly and knowingly intended to kill.

Members of the Downes family, particularly his father Gerry, totally repudiate RUC allegations claiming Sean was rioting.

"The RUC say he was a rioter. But if you're taking your wife and child to a rally you don't riot."

"What the police say is black propaganda to blacken the

name of their victims.

"I wasn't there - but according to what I've seen on television the police ran amok. They say they were upholding the law but it was a very strange way to uphold the law."

BLACK PROPAGANDA

At Requiem Mass on Wednesday held in the crowded St Agnes's chapel, situated only a few hundred yards away from the scene of Sunday's events, Carney, who had in fact married Sean and Brenda Downes, also spoke out against black propaganda, saying:

"The media have emphasised he was charged with serious offences in 1979 and that he was rioting when he was killed. That paints a very wrong picture of Sean Downes - the charges were made in 1979 when he was an immature 16-year-old leaving school."

And on Wednesday morning



● Brenda Downes (centre) being comforted as she leaves St Agnes's Church

before the funeral, members of the Downes family approached Sinn Féin and asked that no TV cameras or journalists be present at that afternoon's Requiem Mass and that no-one harassed or annoyed the family during the funeral procession. Sinn Féin Director of Publicity, Danny Morrison, approached the officiating priest a quarter of an hour before Mass and delivered the family's request, since it related to church property. The priest told Morrison that they had already made facilities available to the cameras and how could they now ask them to leave.

They can demand republicans remove Tricolours from coffins but they could not request the press to leave!

Morrison acquainted several members of the press about

the family request, but at the Mass cameras were there in abundance to hear the sermon which paid tribute to Sean Downes, criticised the RUC attack as unjustifiable but did not pronounce it as 'murder'.

Bishop Cahal Daly, the anti-republican priest, was also in attendance, having asked for reassurances beforehand that Sean had no republican connections.

'UNACCEPTABLE'

The sermon, which had been printed up for distribution to the press, criticised the events on Sunday as a tactical blunder by state forces rather than as a series of morally wrong acts:

"Their use of plastic bullets, their lack of concern for women and children is unacceptable by those whose task it is to protect life and uphold the law".

Local people, when they heard of the access which the press had been given to the chapel, were quick to contrast that with Sunday, when women and children ran for sanctuary only to find the doors locked. At least two chapel windows had been smashed by plastic bullets when the women had sought refuge.

Thousands of people lined the route of Sean Downes' funeral to Milltown Cemetery. Shops were closed and workers downed tools to pay a last farewell to a young man - whom they may not have known personally - but whom they recognised had lost his life because of a callous political decision by the British government.

Plastic bullets used again

BY EAMON TRACY

DOZENS of soccer supporters were injured, some by plastic bullets, during fighting with the RUC at the Cliftonville/Celtic football match at the Solitude ground in Belfast on Tuesday night, August 14th.

There are conflicting accounts about what started the trouble. Some eye-witnesses have claimed that, shortly before 8pm, stones were thrown from a loyalist area outside the ground at nationalist supporters inside the ground. Other accounts suggest that many of the youths present

were angry at the murder of Sean Downes on Sunday and reacted to the unnecessary presence of riot-clad RUC personnel inside the ground. This view is supported by the chairman of Glasgow Celtic, Desmond White, who was very critical of the RUC involvement. Afterwards he said:

"There was, shall we say, a reaction from the crowd relative to this build-up because, possibly as an aftermath of Sunday, they did not take kindly to a massed police presence. They were riot squad and they were wearing riot gear."

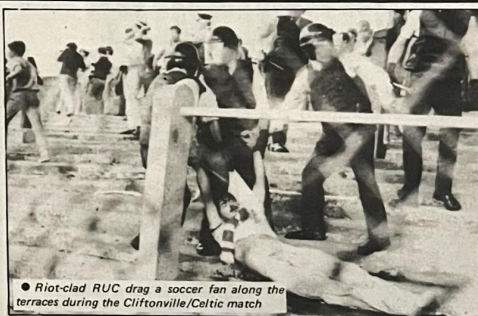
"The position slowly deteriorated. The stones certainly were thrown, but at the same time the police were

making aggressive moves relative to the supporters and which developed into charges into the supporters. The supporters were retaliating against these charges and almost a civil war developed between the two forces."

When asked whether Celtic would be back, White said:

"If we could actually have the Glasgow police transported to Northern Ireland I would have no compunction about going back there any time. Unless we could get a very firm guarantee that there would be nothing like a police presence as it existed at this game, which developed into a mutual hatred, then it would be wrong of us to consider that."

"Cliftonville, in my opinion, did no wrong. Celtic, in my opinion, did no wrong. And the wrong done



● Riot-clad RUC drag a soccer fan along the terraces during the Cliftonville/Celtic match

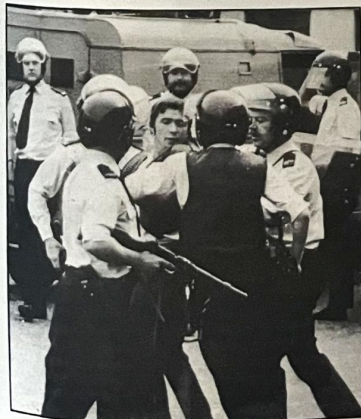
by the supporters was a reaction to a presence which was not necessary."

Denis Donaldson of Sinn Féin said in a statement:

"Officials at the ground had been informed that the RUC would not enter the grounds as the match

was between two Catholic teams.

"The RUC delight and willingness to use the plastic bullet again, within hours of Bishop Daly's calls to have them banned, is a further extension of their shoot-to-kill policy."



VICIOUS RUC ATTACK IN MAGHERAFELT

ON WEDNESDAY, August 15th, the RUC once again viciously attacked unarmed people at the Ancient Order of Hibernians march in Magherafelt, initially concentrating their attention on the Brendan Convery Band from Bellaghy.

The band was prevented by the RUC from reaching the assembly point on time. When it finally did arrive, the RUC demanded possession of the Tricolour being carried by the band. This was refused and a lengthy argument

ensued before the band succeeded in getting the Tricolour away from the area.

The band passed through the town and reached Fair Hill where the RUC had stopped two or three other bands, while they took small Tricolours from the onlookers.

Further confrontations with the RUC developed at the end of the meeting, when dozens of RUC personnel with riot shields-baton-charged groups of youths stoning them and fired plastic bullets.

Meanwhile, the RUC throughout

the town were running their armoured jeeps up onto the pavements, frightening hundreds of men, women and children.

Over 30 people were arrested, among them John Brady, aged 25, who was badly beaten after being thrown into the back of a jeep.

In Bellaghy, several hours later, Sinn Féin organised a protest which attracted at short notice over 200 people. John Davey and Benny McElwee both made short speeches and a minute's silence was observed in memory of Sean Downes.

Thomas McElwee commemoration

BY MAIRE DE BARRA

ABOUT 1,000 PEOPLE gathered at the cemetery in Bellaghy, County Derry, last Sunday, August 12th, to commemorate the third anniversary of the death on hunger-strike of IRA Volunteer Thomas McElwee.

Addressing the crowd, Aine Nic Mhurchadha of Sinn Fein's Ard Chomhairle, recalling the summer of 1981, said that as coffin followed coffin out of the obscurity that was and still is Long Kesh, people not only at home but worldwide were openly expressing their anger, frustration and dismay but, by the same token, were voicing their dedication to the unparalleled courage of those who, in spite of seeing Thatcher's unyielding and callous attitude, continued to the end. She went on:

"Bit by bit, the lies of the British propaganda machine were being broken down."

'INTIMIDATED'

"When Bobby Sands stood and won in Fermanagh and South Tyrone, we were informed that over 30,000 people were intimidated into voting for him, and after the deaths, we were told that hundreds of



● AINE NIC MHURCHADHA

thousands were intimidated into attending the funerals.

"Then with the election of Kieran Doherty and Paddy Quinn in the Free State general election of June '81 it was the

turn of the Dublin politicians to tell the public that people were intimidated into voting.

"The performance of one Dublin politician after another will go down in the chapters of shame.

"The long-suffering people of the six counties have seen the full extent of the British armoury right from internment to the present hired perjurer show-trials and the killing and maiming by plastic bullets.

"In spite of the Dublin government's collaboration to maintain Britain's border, Sinn Fein, inspired by the courage of the hunger-strikers has begun to make serious dents in the electoral process in the twenty-six counties by taking thousands of votes from the establishment parties.

"In the six counties the gains in terms of the republican cause have been massive."

CONVICTION

"The conviction that exists amongst Irish people today is one born of centuries of bitter experience at the point of a gun.



"While Britain remains in our country, Irish people will object with what means are available and necessary so that Britain's defeat in Ireland will be the monument of all those who have paid its price so dearly."

Wreaths were laid on behalf of the IRA's Derry Brigade, County Derry Comhairle Limistéir, Bellaghy Sinn Fein, Greenlough Sinn Fein, the Hughes

family, the McElwee family and the Brendan Curran Memorial Band.

The proceedings were chaired by Germaine Doherty of South Derry Sinn Fein.

Many people heading for the commemoration were delayed by the RUC who had a heavy presence there and diverted traffic for miles away from Bellaghy.

Strip-searches highlighted

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

STRIP-SEARCHING in Armagh Prison was highlighted in Monaghan town centre on Saturday, August 11th, with a petition and distribution of leaflets during the afternoon.

On Sunday, August 12th, a meeting was held in the Chieftain Lounge in Park Street, Monaghan, to extend the anti-strip-searches campaign.

A large attendance heard Linda Quigley, recently-released republican POW, outline the day-to-day experiences of the women prisoners in Armagh. She gave a detailed account of the harrowing strip-search process, pointing out that those on remand suffer this indignity many times a week.

Describing the treatment meted out to her and her comrades as a violation of their bodies, she urged all present, especially women, to organise themselves as an action group in order to campaign for an end to this degrading practice. The women

present at the meeting readily agreed and have arranged a meeting to plan further action for Friday, August 17th, at the same venue at 8pm.

The meeting was organised by the local Sinn Fein cumann, and introduced by Education Officer Fiontan O'Caolain.

In Dublin, the committee held a meeting in the Theatre Bar, Talbot Street, to report on activities so far and to extend the campaign. There were representatives from trade unions, women's groups and Sinn Fein, and the discussion centred on the further exposure of what is happening in Armagh.

Action groups in Dundalk and Sligo are to be set up and women in Dundalk are holding a meeting in the town on Sunday, August 26th.



● Ex-Armagh POW Linda Quigley at Monaghan Sinn Féin advice centre



Sheffield march

A MARCH and rally to commemorate the introduction of internment was held in Sheffield on Sunday, August 5th.

Organised by Sinn Fein, the march was supported by the Pakistani Workers Association, the Indian Workers Association, other ethnic and liberation movements and by Irish support groups and other Irish organisations.

Two Glasgow bands, the Govan Shamrock and the Twinbrook Martyrs flute bands, led the march.

The rally was held to highlight the plight of Irish POWs in English jails and to support the Irish Republican POW Campaign launched in London in February. The five demands of the campaign are:

1. The right of repatriation to jails in Ireland;
2. The release of those framed by British police;
3. An end to solitary confinement and special control units;
4. The release of Patrick Hackett on medical grounds;
5. The repeal of the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

Travellers talking

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

THERE WERE two programmes about the travelling people on RTE during last week. The first was *The Itinerants*, a programme in the Access Community Television series which is being repeated on RTE2 on Tuesdays.

It was made with young women in the Fairgreen Training Centre in Galway, who talked about the lives of traveller women and girls and the traditional role they were expected to conform to in the family.

Early marriage and large families are inevitable for most travelling women; permanent homes, whether houses or caravan sites, are hard to get and harder to keep.

The fact that the programme was done in an interview style, and the interviewer was not a traveller, made the programme too stiff and formal and gave a vague impression that just sometimes these young women were saying what the settled community wanted to hear.

Go! Movel Shift! on RTE2 on Friday was a very different look at travellers. They were Scottish families, and the programme showed the different values and traditions

of travelling people which are still very strong.

It concentrated on their ability to survive, adapting to changing times and the loss of their traditional work of tin-smith and potato-picker. One of the closing scenes was of a woman teaching her two young daughters French for a stint of work at the French harvest.

The third programme in the series *Cuba — 25 years of Revolution* on ITV on Thursday was mainly about housing, and the changes in the lives of rural workers since the revolution.

A modern housing scheme of flats set in landscaped gardens was shown as typical of the new rural housing, but just down the road, peasants who chose to stay in their old thatched houses live happily side-by-side with the modern flats. From one of these homes, a son is studying maths at university, from

another a daughter is studying medicine.

Next Thursday, August 25th, the series, *about Cuba's prisons*, The ITV preview says that Cuba has 3,000 political prisoners 'serving the longest sentences anywhere in the world'.

It will be interesting to see if the sentences being served in H-Blocks, Portlaoise and English jails have been considered when that statement was made.

The brutal attack by the RUC on the march in Belfast to commemorate the anniversary of internment, was reported extensively on the ITV and BBC news at 6pm on Sunday, and was the main story. It got barely a mention on RTE.

Seeing the coverage on the other stations, RTE hastily put together a report for their later news at 9.45pm.

John McManus, Workers Party councillor in Bray, County Wicklow, was on RTE radio's *Saturday View* on August 11th. Talking about the killing of Frank Hand,



● A scene from Go! Movel Shift! which examined the traditions and values of the travelling people

McManus thought that all the fuss about the Garda was strange when 'Irish policemen' were being killed regularly without much reaction from the twenty-six county media. He was talking about RUC men.

Nobody mentioned the contradiction that the fundraising branch of his party continues to carry out armed robberies to finance that party's activities.

Thursday night's film on UTV, *Coming Home*, very much reflected the star, Jane Fonda's, politics at the time. It's an anti-Vietnam war film, and both politically and sexually controversial.

It shows the effect of the war on American society, on the war-wounded and their families. Fonda plays the part of a US army captain's wife who takes a voluntary job in the military hospital when her husband goes to Vietnam. She meets Luke Martin (Jon Voight) an old school friend who is paralysed after being wounded in Vietnam.

Her whole life, even her appearance, changes as she leaves the enclosed world of the officers' quarters where the war is reduced to a game, and the army wives refuse to face any reality. The base newspaper, for instance, will not carry a story about the

conditions in the veterans hospital: "This is a gossip sheet for the base," Fonda is told.

She falls in love with Luke, and when he chains himself to the gates of the recruiting office in protest at the suicide of a friend in the hospital, they are spied on by the FBI.

When her husband returns, invalidated home with a trivial self-inflicted wound, the FBI tell him about the affair and he in turn kills himself.

Coming Home could easily have crossed the line into sentimentality and melodrama but the strong anti-war theme and the political points it makes, together with the acting of the main characters, prevents this.

Jack of all trades

BY JOHN JOE KING

ON RTE Radio's *Sports Line-up* on Saturday afternoon, Galway's Tomas Tierney dismissed Kerry's victory over them in the National Football League this year with the quite off-hand remark:

"Well, we didn't bother training for the League."

Such an admission might be whispered shamefully in some dark corner, but to announce it so blatantly and unconcernedly on radio is staggering.

Galway is supposed to be one of the top four football counties, yet they didn't bother training for the League and don't see anything wrong with that. In fact they almost boast of it, and, Galway are, of course, far from alone in this.

It amounts to a massive insult to the fans who loyally give their support expecting their team to give of their best.

On Sunday night, RTE Television's *Sunday Game* interviewed Jack O'Shea after Kerry's 12-point victory over Galway and he spoke of how the Kerry team had trained hard over the past number of years to achieve their success, at considerable personal sacrifice.

If other counties trained as

SPORT

hard they could do the same, he observed.

NO CONTEST

To be fair to the over-frank Tomas Tierney, he was the outstanding Galway player in Sunday's match which turned out to be no contest.

As usual, Kerry made a slow start and for some reason used Galway's goalkeeper Pat Comer for target practice rather than the net on either side of him. But, having settled down, Kerry started to flow and the result from then on was never in doubt.

And, when Kerry's bulky branchman John Egan hit a superb first-time shot into the net four minutes before the break, it was really all over.

After-match criticism suggested that Kerry have reached the final without being tested, but even in this one-sided match their consummate skills



● Kerry's Jack O'Shea receives attention for an injury during last Sunday's All-Ireland semi-final

were obvious to all.

Jack O'Shea himself was superb, as always, covering every inch of the field and, as always, the focus of all Kerry play.

It is significant too that the younger players in the Kerry side continue to impress. Am-

brose O'Donovan, next to O'Shea in midfield, has confirmed himself as a worthy lieutenant. Tom Spillane, who came in for some criticism in the Munster final, has staked his claim to the centre half-back spot. Those who saw him in last month's exhibition

match against Derry at Ballylongford would have been expecting last Sunday's magnificent display from him.

Speaking of Ballylongford, the local new boy John Kennedy put in another credible performance to confirm his own place in the final.

And one last fearful thought for either Dublin or Tyrone in the final — the "Bomber" Liston did not explode in this match, not one point, although always a threat. He will be redressing that balance, you can be sure, on September 23rd.

REMEMBERING THE PAST Outspoken prelate

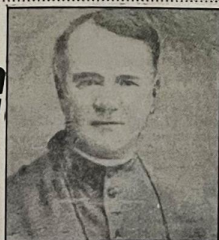
BY PETER O'ROURKE

DOCTOR Edward Thomas O'Dwyer, Bishop of Limerick, was the first member of the Catholic hierarchy to defend the leaders of the Easter Rising.

A native of Tipperary, Dr O'Dwyer was appointed Bishop of Limerick in 1886. Although he was occasionally a severe critic of the Irish Parliamentary Party, he refused to sign the episcopal condemnation of Charles Stewart Parnell, following his involve-

ment in the O'Shea divorce case, issued by the Archbishop of Dublin, William Walsh, in 1890.

During the First World War, he advocated that Ireland remain neutral and criticised the pro-British policy of John Redmond. When Irishmen were



● DR EDWARD O'DWYER

attacked in Liverpool in November 1915 for failing to enlist in the British army, Dr O'Dwyer publicly posed

the question:

"What have they or their forefathers ever got from England that they should die for her?"

He refused to comply with a request from General Maxwell, the commander of the English forces in Ireland, to transfer to isolated parishes two of his priests, Fr Hayes and Fr Thomas Wall, who had supported the Easter Rising.

In a famous letter to Maxwell in May 1916, condemning his action in executing the 1916 leaders, Dr O'Dwyer wrote:

"You took care that no plea of mercy should interpose on behalf of the poor young fellows who surrendered to you in Dublin. The first information we got of their fate was the announcement that they had been

shot in cold blood. Personally, I regard your action with horror, and I believe it has outraged the conscience of the country."

His stand earned him the admiration and respect of nationalists throughout Ireland. Local bodies all over the country sent him resolutions of support and the freedom of the city of Limerick was conferred upon him in September 1916. At the ceremony he denounced the Irish Parliamentary Party and urged the people to support Sinn Féin.

In the following years, Sinn Féin received a good deal of backing from clergymen at all levels who would have remained on the sidelines but for the example of the Bishop of Limerick.

Aged 75, Dr O'Dwyer died on August 19th 1917.

REPUBLICAN

CONVEY, Brendan. (1st Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Brendan Convey who died on August 13th 1983. Always remembered by his loving wife Cathy and daughter Nicola.

CONVEY, Brendan. (1st Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Brendan Convey who died on August 13th 1983. Always remembered by his father and mother and Matt and Sarah Convey.

CONVEY, Brendan. (1st Anniversary). The Casement/Highland Sinn Féin cumann remembers with pride INLA Vol Brendan Convey who was killed by the RUC in Dungannon on August 13th 1983.

CONVEY, Brendan. (1st Anniversary). In loving memory of INLA Vol Brendan Convey who was killed in action on August 13th 1983. Mass offered. Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on his soul. Sadly missed by the Averell family; his dear friend Josie, Maghera; Tilly and Damien and Jojo and Thomas, Bellaghy.

CONVEY, Brendan. (1st Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Brendan Convey who died on active service on August 13th 1983. He knew no fear, for the Ireland he loved to serve, he gave his life, he gave it all, he heard the siren, he heard his call, his brave young heart now you must keep, safe in everlasting sleep. Always loved and remembered by his mother and sister, Tricia, Irene and Willie, Dundalk.

CONVEY, Brendan. (1st Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Brendan Convey who died on August 13th 1983. Always remembered by the Bellaghy and Maghera Republican Youth.

CONVEY, Brendan. (1st Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Brendan Convey who died on August 13th 1983. Always remembered by his loving friends Martin, Karen and Leah, Maghera.

CONVEY, Brendan. (1st Anniversary). In loving memory of INLA Vol Brendan Convey who gave his young life for Ireland on August 13th 1983. Never forgotten by Seamus and Sarah.

CONVEY, Brendan. (1st Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Brendan Convey who died on August 13th 1983. Always remembered by the McCShane brothers, Maghera.

CONVEY, Brendan; MALLON, Gerard. (1st Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of INLA Vols Brendan Convey and Gerard Mallon who died on August 13th 1983. Always remembered by Cathy McCauley, and the Brendan Convey Flute Band, Bellaghy.

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DEVINE, Michael. (3rd Anniversary). The Republican Movement remembers with pride INLA Vol Micky Devine who died on August 20th 1981 in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh after 60 days on hunger-strike. "In every generation we have renewed the struggle, and so it shall be to the end. When England thinks she has trampled out our blood in battle, some brave man rises and rallies us again; when England thinks she has purchased us with a bribe, some patriot and man redemptive with a sacrifice." - Padraig Pearse.

DOHERTY, Kieran; McDONNELL, Joe; SANDS, Bobby. (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vols Kieran Doherty, Joe McDonnell and Bobby Sands who died on hunger-strike in the H-Blocks in 1981. Always remembered and sadly missed by their friend Ricki, Dublin.

HUGHES, Michael. (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Michael Hughes, Óglach na hÉireann, Newry, who died on active service on August 18th 1974. Fhaid's aís na hualleana seo In Éirinn n' bheidh síocháin ann gan saoirse. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Republican Movement, Newry.

LAFFERTY, Eamonn. (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Eamonn Lafferty, Derry Brigade, Óglach na hÉireann, who died on active service on August 18th 1971. "They may kill the revolution, but never the revolution." Always remembered by Derry Sinn Féin.

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LONG KESH on August 8th 1983. Always remembered by Mrs Flinn, Seamus (H7) and all the Flinn family.

MCEWEE, Thomas. (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Thomas McEwee who died on hunger-strike on August 8th 1983. Always remembered by the Lenadon Morris Sinn Féin cumann, Bawnmore.

MAGORRIAN, Paul. (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Paul Magorrian who died on hunger-strike on August 14th 1974. Always remembered by Gerald Fitzpatrick (H4).

MALLON, Gerard. (1st Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Gerard Mallon, who died on hunger-strike on August 13th 1983. Fhaid's aís na hualleana seo In Éirinn n' bheidh síocháin ann gan saoirse na hÉireann. Too good in life to be forgotten in death. Sadly missed by his friends and comrades in the Derry Brigade.

MALLON, Gerard. (1st Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Gerard Mallon, who died on hunger-strike on August 13th 1983. Always remembered by the Convery family.

O'HAGAN, James. (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol James O'Hagan, Derry Brigade, Óglach na hÉireann, who died on active service on August 19th 1971. I masec laochra na nGael go raibh a anam. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Derry Brigade.

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DOWNES, The Newry/Armagh Sinn Féin comhairle ceantair extends deepest and heartfelt sympathy to the wife and family of Sean Downes who was murdered by an RUC plastic bullet at a peaceful anti-Internment rally on August 12th 1984. A Mhúire na nGael d'fhan idirshuí ar a shon.

DOWNES, The Joseph Cunningham Sinn Féin cumann, Bawnmore, extends deepest sympathy to the wife and family of Sean Downes who was brutally murdered by RUC madmen on August 12th 1984. Go nósa Dia tríd ar a anam.

COSGROVE, The POWs in the cages and H-Blocks, Long Kesh, in Crumlin Road, Armagh, Magilligan, Portlaoise and in jails in England extend deepest sympathy to the family of Thomas Cosgrove who died recently. Ar dheis Dá go raibh a anam.

COSGROVE, The Republican Movement, Belfast, offers its sincere condolences to the family of Thomas Cosgrove on the sudden death. We also extend our sympathy to our comrade Tommy, H-Block, Long Kesh on his death.

MCCANN, Deepest sympathy is extended to the McCann family on the recent deaths of their two sons, John and Francis. Go nósa Dia tríd ar a anam. From the Dublin Sinn Féin.

MCCANN, Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of John and Francis McCann who died recently. Ar dheis Dá go raibh a anam. From Christy Burke.

MCCANN, Deepest sympathy is extended to the McCann family, Dublin on the recent deaths of John and Francis. From the Gorry family, Dublin.

MCCANN, Deepest sympathy and regret is extended to the family and friends of the late John and Francis McCann who died tragically in a rowing accident. From the Jackie Griffith Sinn Féin cumann.

WATERS, Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Vol Brendan Waters, Óglach na hÉireann, who died on active service on August 8th 1984. "While Ireland holds these graves, Ireland unfree shall never be at peace." From South Down Command, Óglach na hÉireann.

WATERS, Louth Sinn Féin comhairle ceantair extends deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Vol Brendan Waters, Óglach na hÉireann, who died on August 8th 1984. Go nósa Dia tríd ar a anam.

WATERS, The Joseph Cunningham Sinn Féin cumann, Bawnmore, sends its sister Jacobine, brother-in-law Sean and nephew Claran.

QUINN, Patsy. (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Patsy Quinn who was killed in action on August 16th 1973. You left us quickly, your thoughts unknown, but you left a memory that we are proud to own. Always remembered by his brother Frankie, sister-in-law Val and nephew Patsy.

REILLY, Thomas. (1st Anniversary). In loving memory of our dear friend Thomas 'Kissie' Reilly who was murdered by the Brits on August 9th 1983. It was a sudden parting, too bitter to forget, only those who knew you are the ones who won't forget. We didn't see you close your eyes, we didn't see you die, all we heard was you were gone, without a last goodbye. Always remembered by Joe Hagan and family, Glasgow.

THE ANDERSTOWN MARTYRS REPLICAN FLUTE BAND, Glasgow, remembers with pride the ten sons of Ireland who gave their lives on hunger-strike. You may kill the revolutionary but never the revolution.

IN PROUD AND LOVING MEMORY of our fallen comrades - the patriots all - who hungered and died that we might live with dignity and have peace with liberty, their families and loved ones, I offer my continued sympathy and solidarity the year round. Their work is yet undone. May we not be found wanting in achieving the aims and ultimate goal for which they died. Always remembered by Gearóid Mac Dónaill.

Admhail

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WATERS, The Seamus Steele Sinn Féin cumann, Carrmogh, sends deepest and heartfelt condolences to the family, friends and comrades of Vol Brendan Waters, South Down Command, Óglach na hÉireann, who died while on active service on August 8th 1984. Fhaid's aís na hualleana seo In Éirinn n' bheidh síocháin ann gan saoirse na hÉireann.

WATERS, The John Mitchell Sinn Féin cumann, Newry, offers heartfelt condolences to the family and comrades of Vol Brendan Waters, South Down Command, Óglach na hÉireann, who died as a result of an accidental explosion while on active service on August 8th 1984. Thu's aís na hualleana seo In Éirinn n' bheidh síocháin ann gan saoirse na hÉireann.

WATERS, The Newry/Armagh Sinn Féin comhairle ceantair extends most heartfelt sympathy to the family, friends and comrades of Vol Brendan Waters, South Down Command, Óglach na hÉireann, who died as a result of an accidental explosion while on active service on August 8th 1984. Thu's aís na hualleana seo In Éirinn n' bheidh síocháin ann gan saoirse na hÉireann.

WATERS, The Newry/Armagh Sinn Féin comhairle ceantair extends most heartfelt sympathy to the family, friends and comrades of Vol Brendan Waters, South Down Command, Óglach na hÉireann, who died as a result of an accidental explosion while on active service on August 8th 1984. "Lay him away on the hillside along with the rest of the bold, inscribe his name on the roll of fame in letters of purest gold." Tiocfaidh arís, Bréandán, a chomráid.

WATERS, Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Vol Brendan Waters, South Down Command, Óglach na hÉireann, who died on active service on August 8th 1984. Fhaid's aís na hualleana seo In Éirinn n' bheidh síocháin ann gan saoirse na hÉireann.

WATERS, The Michael McVerry Sinn Féin cumann, Cullyhanna, sends its sincere condolences to the family, friends and comrades of Vol Brendan Waters, South Down Command, Óglach na hÉireann, who died as a result of an accidental explosion while on active service on August 8th 1984. Thu's aís na hualleana seo In Éirinn n' bheidh síocháin ann gan saoirse na hÉireann.

WATERS, Deepest sympathy is extended to the family, friends and comrades of our comrade Vol Brendan Waters, South Down Command, Óglach na hÉireann, who died as a result of an accidental explosion on August 8th 1984. Fhaid's aís na hualleana seo In Éirinn n' bheidh síocháin ann gan saoirse. Remembered by the members of the Barney Morris Sinn Féin cumann, Crossmaglen.

WATERS, Heartfelt sympathy and condolences are extended to the family and friends of Vol Brendan Waters, Óglach na hÉireann, who died on active service on August 8th 1984. From Micky and Bap.

WATERS, Australian Aid for Ireland salutes Vol Brendan Waters, Óglach na hÉireann, and sends heartfelt condolences to his family and close friends. "A necessary war is a just war, and where there is hope only in arms, those arms are holy." - Livy, 200 BC.

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Disapproving looks

**BURKE'S
AT THE BACK**
By Kevin Burke

PERHAPS the most interesting reports to appear in Monday morning's newspapers following Belfast's Bloody Sunday wasn't about the Belfast events at all.

It appeared in the *Irish Times* and was about the loyalist Apprentice Boys of Derry march through that city on Saturday and went as follows:

"There were three UVF bands and Apprentice Boys' clubs from Belfast and County Antrim. The UVF, responsible for some of the most savage killings in the past 15 years, is an illegal organisation."

"Its bands drew disapproving looks from the uniformed police on parade duty and some interest from the plainclothes detectives."

★★★★

The prospect of a boat trip with a mob of Scottish loyalists is enough to make anyone seasick, but for 36-year-old Lindsay Coyne from Glasgow things turned out even worse.

The loyalists were crossing on Friday last week for the Apprentice Boys' march in Derry and discovered a small group who were crossing for the internment commemoration — among them Lindsay Coyne.

During the voyage, the loyalists attacked them and also wrecked the restaurant, but when the boat docked at Larne attacked again, throwing Coyne and his bag over the side.

He swam for his life and was hauled out badly bruised and vomiting severely.

★★★★

A single Tricolour flying from a tree in the small Hunter's Park estate in Bellaghy, South Derry, has for some time been a source of considerable frustration for the local RUC.

Following an earlier unsuccessful attempt to remove the flag by more conventional methods, on Monday afternoon, August 13th, a car-load of RUC men drove into the estate and attempted to shoot it down.

They fired six shots in all but failed once again and withdrew hastily.

★★★★

The highlight of the Noraid tour, if not for the American visitors certainly for South Derry republicans, took place on Tuesday last week at a celi in the Memorial Hall to entertain the guests.

Belfast republican Fra McCann, who acted as guide to the tour, astounded all with a display of Irish dancing clad in kilt and full regalia.

Snide informants also reported an in tempo *bolg beorach* but I refuse to print such jealous slanders.

★★★★

More information on the Sticky Gerry McCann whom I mentioned last week possesses a fully-licensed arsenal courtesy of the RUC.

At an eve of internment bonfire at Summerhill in Belfast's Twinbrook last week, McCann was amongst a crowd of Sticks who pulled guns on local residents and threatened to blow their heads off.

A couple of years ago, the same McCann was charged with the manslaughter of a fellow Stick, Micky Russell of Twinbrook, when a punishment beating ap-



● Anna Wall and Fionn MacGiolla Chuda skated from Dublin to Belfast last week to raise funds for prisoners' dependants. I would imagine they had to skate pretty fast through certain areas en route

parently went too far.

★★★★

The blanket of secrecy which has surrounded the holiday destinations of Coalition ministers speaks for itself.

Garret FitzGerald is to remain in the South of France until the end of August. Alan Dukes is also understood to be in France.

Labour's Dick Spring, after an exhausting two-week spell as acting-premier has

fled from the bread and butter issues to the sunshine of Portugal.

★★★★

One piece of Coalition policy, at least, has found favour in an unusual place.

Last week, a Bray drug-pusher told the local Concerned Parents Group that he was willing to meet them to discuss ending his activities "as long as they do not include any Sinn Féin members".



DUIRT SIAD

"I am pleased to tell you that I just signed legislation which outlaws Russia for ever. The bombing begins in five minutes." — Ronald Reagan "only joking" before broadcasting his regular message to Americans last weekend.

"I consider myself a feminist and I believe we have won the battle to have women fully involved in politics." — The Free State Labour Party's Bernie Malone, who describes herself as

'chairman' of Dublin County Council.

"I have a plain duty to warn people that what we saw happening in Belfast on Sunday could happen in Chesterfield next week." — Tony Benn MP on the British miners' strike.

"One can hardly blame the RUC." — The Evening Herald's John Feeney on last Sunday's events in Belfast.

"I have had so many disasters that one more will make no difference." — James Prior.

NOTES



©CORMAC

Imeachtaí

**MARCH TO OPPOSE
THE CUTTING
OF FOOD SUBSIDIES**
2.30pm Saturday 18th August
Parnell Square
DUBLIN

MUSIC & VIDEO
(In support of Stop the Strip-
searches Campaign)
Saturday 18th August
No. 5 Club
Blessington Street
DUBLIN
Taille £1

**INCHICORE AGAINST
THE BILL**
Open-air Sing-song & Disco
8pm Sunday 19th August
St Michael's Estate
INCHICORE
Dublin

IRISH NIGHT
Featuring prominent musicians
9.30pm Friday 24th August
McGlynn's Lounge
Drumcorg
LEITRIM
in aid of Sinn Féin election fund

**BALLYMUN AGAINST
THE BILL**
Open-Air Concert
Guests include
Christy Moore, The Business,
Those Handsome Devils,
Nicky Kelly & others
1pm Sunday 26th August
Shangan
BALLYMUN
Free Event
Creche facilities available

SINN FEIN FUNCTION
Bar extension & supper
9pm Sunday 26th August
Tower Lounge
CLONES
Taille £3

BALLAD SESSION
Music by Paddy's Dream
& guests
8pm Monday 27th August
The Hunting Lodge
Ballyfermot
DUBLIN
Taille £1.50

**SINN FEIN
NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE**
10.30am Saturday 1st September
CIE Hall
Marlborough Street
DUBLIN
Everyone welcome

DANCE
Friday 28th September
Jackson's Hotel
BALLYBOFEY
County Donegal
Organised by Sinn Féin



THE LATEST issue of IRIS, the republican magazine, has just been published and contains a special focus on women in the republican struggle.

Among the articles in this issue are interviews with Sinn Féin women and former women prisoners as well as articles on health, culture and other features.

In addition, the magazine presents a detailed analysis of the harmonisation of the political and military struggle and a full review of IRA operations so far this year.

IRIS is available from the usual republican outlets at £1 sterling or IR£1.20 or directly from IRIS Distribution, 51/53 Falls Road, Belfast (plus 50p p&g).

Widespread protests

NUMEROUS protests throughout Ireland and abroad have followed last Sunday's RUC onslaught in which Sean Downes was shot dead.

BELFAST'S BLOODY SUNDAY



After a meeting with the US Consul in Belfast on Monday, members of the American delegation to the six counties travelled South on Tuesday and picketed the British Embassy in Ballsbridge, Dublin.



● Noraid delegation outside the British Embassy, Dublin

And elsewhere in Dublin, protests were held outside the Free State Department of Foreign Affairs on Monday and in the British Airways office on Tuesday. Black-flag vigils were held on O'Connell Bridge on Tuesday and Wednesday.

In Letterkenny, County Donegal, government buildings were occupied by protestors on Wednesday and in Sligo town a vigil was held in O'Connell Street.

Derry Sinn Fein organised a black-flag protest, attended by 1,500 people, on Tuesday night. At Rosemount Barracks, a ten-minute silence was observed by the marchers who were then addressed by Sinn Fein elected representative Martin McGuinness.

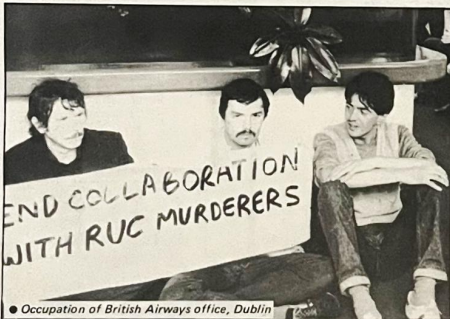
More than 200 people joined a vigil at 10 Downing Street in London. The protest, organised by the Troops Out Movement, included Labour MPs Claire Short, Harry Cohen, Jeremy Corbyn and Jo Richardson. Also present was Liberal MP Alf Lomas and MEPs Richard Balfe and Christine Crawley. A petition signed by 10,000 people and calling for the banning of plastic bullets was handed in to Margaret Thatcher.

AUSTRALIA

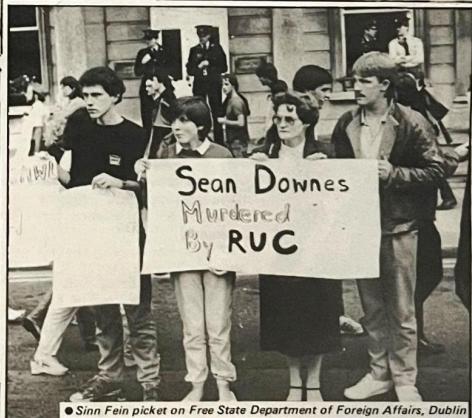
In Australia, protests have begun with 20 state MPs in South Australia supporting a letter of protest to the British and Irish ambassadors. Further support is expected from other state and federal MPs and from the Australian Trade Union Executive who meet in Melbourne next week. These protests have been organised by Australian Aid for Ireland who also plan a series of pickets at British Airways offices throughout Australia on Friday.



● A black-flag vigil on O'Connell Bridge, Dublin



● Occupation of British Airways office, Dublin



● Sinn Fein picket on Free State Department of Foreign Affairs, Dublin



THE DAY following the murder of Sean Downes, Monday, August 13th, former workmates of his from the British government's Boucher Road training centre downed tools at lunchtime and walked out, first to Sinn Fein headquarters at Connolly House and then to his parents' house in Lenadoon.

Almost 100 young men, who are involved in various adult training courses, one of which Sean Downes had recently finished, left their workplace to protest at his murder, and in spite of RUC provocation walked peacefully to the spot where he was murdered.

They carried placards denouncing his murder and demanding the banning of plastic bullets. A wreath which they carried was given to the dead man's family when they paid their respects at the family's home.

A former colleague of Sean Downes said:

"Sean was a sound man, good-natured, generous to his friends and always good crack. Those of us who knew him will greatly miss him."



● Sinn Fein black-flag demonstration at Rosemount RUC Barracks, Derry