

AN
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Republican News

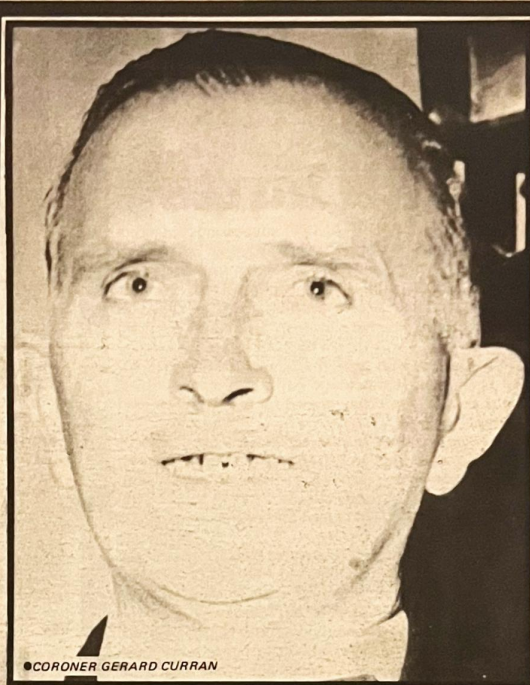
IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING
POLITICAL WEEKLY



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RUC

COVER-UP



●CORONER GERARD CURRAN

BY PETER ARNLIS

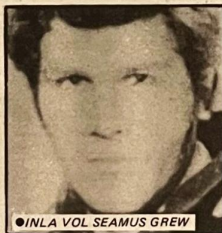
THE DRAMATIC RESIGNATION of an Armagh coroner, on Wednesday this week, is threatening to blow the lid off the RUC's extensive cover-up of their officially-sanctioned shoot-to-kill policy.

The coroner has resigned rather than preside over the inquests on the deaths of two men murdered by the RUC.

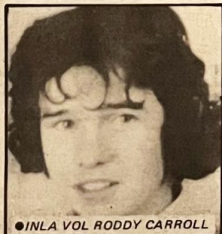
Gerard Curran, coroner for the district of Armagh and Craigavon, announced his decision in an Armagh court last Wednesday. The inquests into the deaths of Seamus Grew and Roddy Carroll, unarmed INLA Volunteers who were shot dead by the RUC in December 1982, were listed for hearing before a jury on December 19th. Curran told the court:

"Within the last few days I have been engaged in the review of police files in these cases. Certain grave irregularities are documented and recorded on these files. Consequently, I am not prepared to preside at inquests in these cases. I have decided to communicate my resignation to the Lord Chancellor."

It is believed that Curran

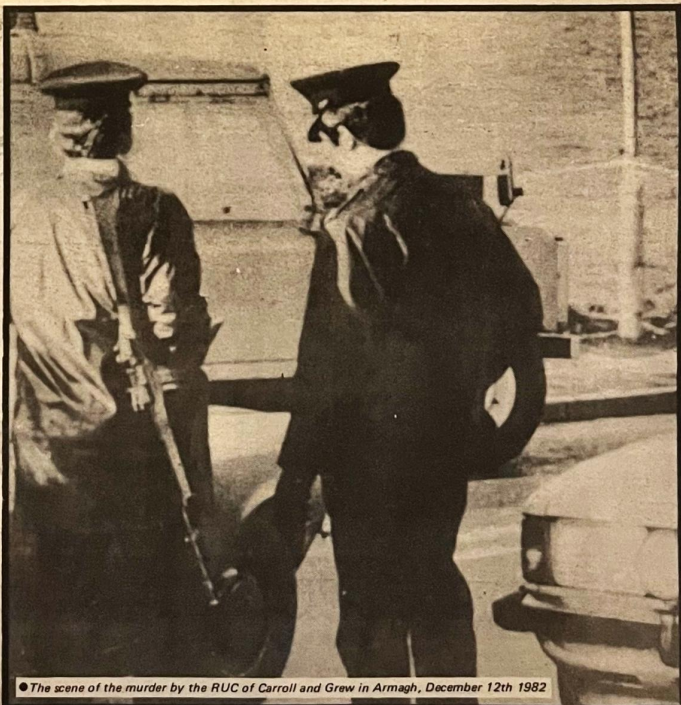


●INLA VOL SEAMUS GREW



●INLA VOL RODDY CARROLL

was referring to major discrepancies between the version of events as put out by the RUC at the time, the evidence given in a recent



●The scene of the murder by the RUC of Carroll and Grew in Armagh, December 12th 1982

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OPINION

When the truth hurts

PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS advocating media censorship? Unthinkable in most countries, of course, but not in Ireland where, only this week, the *Irish Independent* called for an extension of Section 31 of the Free State Broadcasting Act to prohibit radio or television interviews with members of Irish Northern Aid (Noraid).

Only a few weeks ago, the same *Irish Independent* cried foul when it was found guilty of a breach of the Official Secrets Act. They argued for press freedom and were right to do so.

But when it comes to striking workers, the victims of poverty or opposition to British rule in the six counties, the *Irish Independent* stands full square with the maxim 'might is right'. That they should strongly support the Criminal Justice Bill, strike laws and media censorship is hardly surprising.

And what prompted the renewed calls for censorship this week? It was the simple fact that the Irish public were 'exposed' to an interview with Noraid Publicity Director Martin Galvin on RTE on Tuesday.

The only reason why anybody could legitimately object to such an interview would be concern over the shock — perhaps delight — which the event must have caused to people, unused as they are to hearing a republican spokesperson on RTE. But like the Dublin government, the *Irish Independent* is more concerned that people, having heard Galvin, might have agreed with his opinions. God between us and all harm!

However, the *Irish Independent* is only the extreme example of an attitude which is commonly found in other Dublin newspapers — not forgetting the *Cork Examiner*.

Because, while legal censorship has applied to RTE for more than a decade now, the newspapers have been victims of self-censorship where terminology has been adapted to suit the official position, as has the storyline itself.

Only one effort was made to expose and counter this censorship. This came after the 1981 hunger-strike when individual journalists met in Liberty Hall, but the indifference and/or hostility of their colleagues ensured that any such campaign would fail.

Certainly some journalists continue to fight. The story is told of one *Independent* reporter who celebrates with a drink each time the sub-editors fail to notice that he wrote Long Kesh instead of the Maze, or whatever. He is hardly in danger of becoming an alcoholic.

Where does the National Union of Journalists stand in all this? Certainly the official position opposes censorship, but they have yet to launch a concerted campaign to defeat it. Without such a campaign, press freedom will die, and is dying, fast!

Any doubts that this is true were dispelled on Wednesday this week when, without exception, the Dublin newspapers launched snide attacks on Martin Galvin who appeared at a press conference on Tuesday.

Mind you, it wasn't just what Galvin said that bugged them. It was the way he looked, the clothes he wore and the car he drove off in when leaving the conference — the important things.

When the personal abuse was stripped from these articles, we were left with Galvin's clear enunciation of his republican beliefs and his reasons for supporting the cause of freedom in Ireland.

Why then the hostility? Was it because Martin Galvin didn't fit the press image of the American Green Leprechaun and was informed, through first-hand experience, of the things of which he spoke? What a contrast to the respect given to the utterings of such as Tip O'Neill.

The establishment media is increasingly incapable of facing uncomfortable truths. That a group of Americans should take the trouble to travel to Ireland and see the situation for themselves is embarrassing to a profession which, if it ever crosses the border, steers clear of contact with the plain people. The comfort of the Forum Hotel is more to their taste.

Republicans are not, and never have been, afraid of having their position tested, questioned or debated in the press or anywhere else. If, then, the press are incapable of confronting republicans with honest criticisms, they should at least have the professional pride to refrain from distortion and plain abuse.

But, as we have said, press freedom is dying, fast.

WAR NEWS..WAR NEWS

IRA attack barracks

ONE RUC MAN was injured in an attack on Portlennone RUC Barracks shortly after midnight on Monday morning, August 20th.

A six-person IRA active service unit from the North Antrim Brigade launched the assault as the RUC man was parking his car in the barracks yard.

Two Volunteers using sub-machineguns fired over 40 shots during the attack. The Volunteers then withdrew to safety, covered by other Volunteers carrying

automatic weapons.

SAS SCATTERED

On Friday night, August 17th, an IRA unit who were laying a 100lb landmine in a hedge on an unapproved road in the townland of Northcommons in Belleek, County Fermanagh, were confronted by a heavily-armed SAS unit who

immediately opened fire.

The IRA Volunteers, who were outnumbered two to one, returned fire, forcing the Brits to scatter and take cover.

The IRA unit, firing all the time, then made an orderly withdrawal and all returned safely to base.



RUC cover-up

(continued from Page 1)

court case when an RUC man was acquitted of murdering Seamus Grew, and the actual details of how the two men received their fatal wounds.

PROTEST

Coroners have little power and Curran's protest was probably the only means by which he could bring attention to the fact that the files and photographs which he has examined were not apparently used by the DPP in his unenthusiastic prosecution of an RUC man who was acquitted as part of a deal for not revealing the true extent of RUC undercover activity in the so-called 'sovereign' twenty-six counties.

In the autumn of 1982, there were a number of incidents when the RUC killed unarmed republicans in a shoot-to-kill policy. Three unarmed IRA Volunteers, Eugene Toman, Gervase McKerr and John Burns (whose inquest has been set for September 13th), were assassinated by the RUC as they travelled in a car in Lurgan in November 1982.

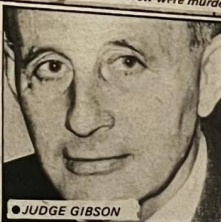
Three RUC men were charged with killing Eugene Toman and were acquitted, with Judge Gibson severely criticising the DPP for bringing the charges in the first place, before he congratulated the RUC killers for their marksmanship and for bringing the three men to 'the final court of justice'.

Roddy Carroll and Seamus Grew were travelling in a car at the Mullacreevie housing estate in Armagh in December 1982 when they were summarily shot dead.

Constable John Robinson,



● The bullet-riddled car in which INLA Volunteers Carroll and Grew were murdered



● JUDGE GIBSON

a member of the Divisional Mobile Support Unit, was charged with killing Seamus Grew but was acquitted in April. He claimed in court that he had fired from a distance of ten feet through the car door. A forensic expert stated that Seamus Grew was hit four times from a distance of three feet through an open door.

Robinson also claimed that RUC men were on undercover duty in the Free State monitoring the two men's movements on the night of the shooting, that there was an official cover-up of the circumstances leading up to the shooting and that an RUC statement issued at the time

saying that the two men had driven through a road block was not true.

The Deputy Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, John Stocker, is leading the 'investigation' into the official cover-up and no report has been prepared yet. (A number of other investigations which threaten to reveal major scandals, including the Dowra affair, are being sat on.)

Curran's protest resignation is politically embarrassing for the British and will make it more difficult for RUC Chief Constable Jack Hermon and Curran's successor to suppress the reports to which Curran was referring.

The Free State government is also bound to be embarrassed as the revelations threaten to show just how little control or sovereignty they have over their own soil which has been used by the RUC as part of their plan to carry out these murders, and perhaps others.

ASSEMBLY GIVES EMERGENCY APPROVAL TO RUC MURDER GALVINISED REACTION

BY PETER ARNLIS

THE political repercussions from the RUC's bloody attack on the Sinn Féin demonstration in Belfast almost two weeks ago, which resulted in the killing of Sean Downes and injuries being sustained by scores of others, were still being felt this week.

On Monday, British premier Margaret Thatcher officially announced that there would be no independent inquiry into the banning of Martin Galvin and the slaying of young Downes (as called for by Neil Kinnock, the SDLP and Bishop Cahal Daly); and on Tuesday, as Galvin departed Ireland having addressed a large press conference in Dublin, the Stormont Assembly went into emergency debate to give solace, and Victoria Crosses if Paisley had his way, to the RUC men who rioted in West Belfast.

The intense media interest — querying what exactly had possessed the British government to authorise such an attack, and studying the effects it has had on the nationalist community — was evident from the coverage in Sunday's papers and thereafter and compounded the anger of the loyalists.

They accused the media of one-sidedness and announced Tuesday's emergency debate.

In Derby last Thursday, August 16th, Gregory Campbell of the DUP burned copies of the *Daily Mirror*, which had called for a united Ireland, and announced a boycott of Mr Maxwell's latest acquisition. On Monday, Ian Paisley led a delegation of widows of RUC and UDR men which met BBC Controller James Hawthorne to protest against its alleged exaggerated coverage of the over-zealous RUC.

GALVIN

The refusal of British premier Thatcher to allow an independent investigation into the banning of Galvin and the brutal attacks was announced on Monday. She said that:

"Justification for the ban on Mr Galvin may be a matter for argument, but will not be resolved by an inquiry."

Whether there would be any action taken over the death of Sean Downes was a matter for the DPP, said Thatcher.

Her stance, and that of RUC Chief Constable Jack Hermon in defence of his mobsters, won them the praise of loyalists. On the other hand, Labour spokesperson on the North Clive Soley said that the refusal of an inquiry "would be seen as a cover-up by many people in Britain".

In a statement Sinn Féin said that the rejection of an independent inquiry "confirms that the decision to initiate Sunday's bloody attack was made at cabinet level."

"The attack, aimed at snatching Martin Galvin and humiliating republicans in the process, was launched with a wanton disregard for men, women and children by the sectarian RUC and shows that the British government have no respect for the ineffectual, toady approach of people like Bishop Cahal Daly and parties like the SDLP."

ASSEMBLY

Tuesday's emergency debate in the Stormont Assembly, intended to redress some of the alleged imbalance in media reporting, was itself overshadowed and pushed into second place by Martin Galvin's press conference. The Shankill Road UVF-inspired riots in protest against the show-trials also placed a cloud over the proceedings and support for the RUC's use of plastic bullets in this part of West



● Martin Galvin (centre), flanked by Joe Cahill and Danny Morrison, at the press conference he hosted prior to his leaving the country on Tuesday, August 21st



● People try to revive the dying Sean Downes after he was shot by an RUC plastic bullet on Sunday, August 12th

Belfast was reluctantly implicit rather than emphasised. The proceedings were suspended for a while when George Seawright protested that a motion on the paid perjurer system he had down for the debate was ruled out of order. He and his supporters withdrew amidst shouts of "republicans" aimed at the other Assembly people.

The Official Unionists and the DUP combined and, by 36 votes to 7, passed a vote of confidence in the conduct of the RUC and by the same majority voted against an Alliance Party amendment expressing serious concern at the behaviour of the RUC and calling for a public inquiry.

Ian Paisley and his side-kick Peter

Robinson were both full of praise for RTE for showing that Sean Downes "was armed with a stick before being shot dead by a plastic bullet".

Paisley went on:

"The RUC member who shot that his colleague was going to be attacked and in the hand of this man Downes was a weapon, it could have been a stick or even a bar of iron, he had only one thing to do and that was defend his colleague."

Alliance leader Oliver Napier, a 'moderate', said it was morally right to bar Martin Galvin and that the other 130 visitors should have also been excluded.

MESSAGE

Robert 'Edmund Burke' McCartney of the Official Unionists lashed the press for being there.

He said:

"The representatives of the media in this instance were not simply the messengers. They were an integral part of the IRA's plan to formulate the message... There is an increasing anger among the vast majority of ordinary men and women that television was being dominated by IRA-orientated propaganda; not only in news reporting but in the choice and angling of television documentary material and drama."

However, the best comment came from Ken Maginnis of the Official Unionists who accused reporters at the scene of having 'gone berserk'!

Undoubtedly, loyalists feel reassured from RUC actions at demonstrations and at republican funerals. They feel reassured from what Thatcher has said and two other incidents during the week could be an indication of the increasingly repressive measures the British government has decided to sanction once again.

In Gough Barracks, one of the measures recommended in the Bennett report — access to a solicitor after 48 hours in detention — was denied a Fermanagh woman and a Derry man was given a severe beating by his RUC interrogators in Castlereagh.

Meanwhile, the Dublin government and the SDLP patiently await Britain's considered response to last May's Forum report. They may wait with trepidation.

Ban South African goods

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

THE STRIKE at Dunnes Stores, Henry Street, Dublin, is now in its fifth week. The Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement is supporting the strike, which began following the dismissal of workers who refused to handle South African produce on sale in the store. AFRI (Action from Ireland) and the Anti-Apartheid Movement have produced a postcard, pre-addressed to Ben Dunne, asking him to withdraw all South African goods from his stores.

A garda sergeant from Store Street Barracks seized money donated to the strike fund on Wednesday, refusing to give a receipt.

The Williams Group of Tullamore, County Offaly, is to close its plant with the loss of 30 jobs. The factory makes Dew Soft Drinks, and the company claims that it can no longer absorb the losses of the last few years.

Irish Ropes Ltd, Newbridge, County Kildare, has announced that 90 workers will lose their jobs next month. The company has a workforce of 350, which is less than half that of ten years ago.

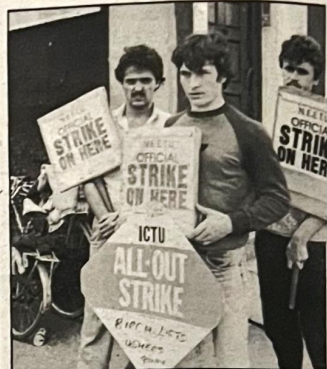
The management of Birch Lifts Ltd of Dublin, are still refusing to negotiate with union representatives from NEETU after a 17-week strike. The dispute started when half of the staff were given eight hours' notice of redundancy.

On June 29th, two days after they joined the ITGWU, Ann McEwen and Janet Tew were sacked by Jameson's Jewellers of Henry Street, Dublin. Other members of the staff were questioned about union membership. In spite of being offered bribes to 'go away' by Jameson's management, the strikers, now picketing the Henry Street shop and Jameson's other outlet in O'Connell Street, are determined to stay until the two workers are reinstated and union membership is recognised.

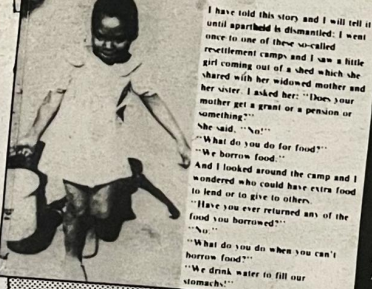
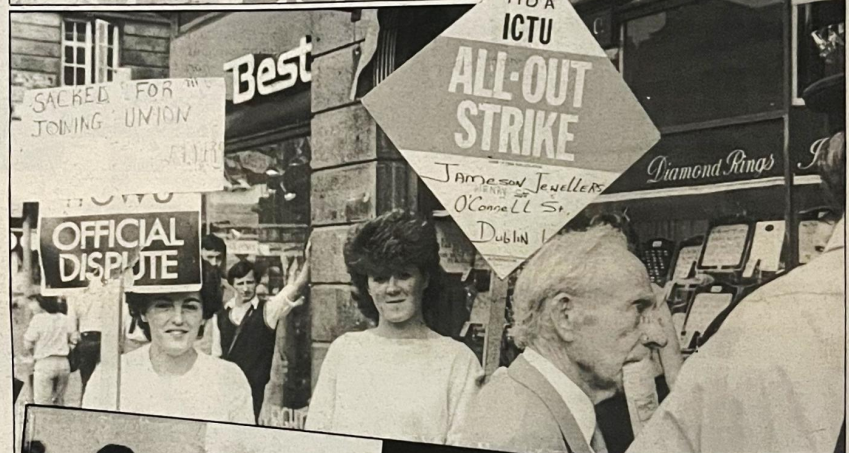
CIE plans for the run-down and eventual closure of its Drogheda depot are being resisted by the 24 workers employed there. The workers and their unions say that workers transferred to the Dundalk depot will have no guarantee of continued employment. The CIE move to concentrate all repair work in the Dundalk garage is seen locally as part of the run-down of Drogheda, with the transference of all public service offices and services to Dundalk.

An interim agreement, involving the setting up of a review body to examine the deep-sea section of Dublin docks, has been accepted by the locked-out dockers at Dublin's port. They have agreed to resume normal working until the review body's report is ready. Dublin docks were virtually closed when Dublin Cargo Handling Ltd locked out workers because of a work-to-rule imposed in pursuit of a pay rise of 15%. Redundancy notices issued to dockers during the dispute have been withdrawn.

The strike by busworkers at CIE's Phibsboro garage ended on Friday, August 17th. A settlement was agreed after meetings between CIE and the unions involved, the NBU, ITGWU and FWUI. The proposals accepted by the busworkers include the payment by CIE of £100,000 to the Phibsboro depot sickness and retirement fund, from which workers in financial hardship



●(Left) Dunnes Stores, Henry Street, Dublin; (above) Birch Lifts Ltd, Dublin; (below) Jameson Jewellers employees picket its O'Connell Street outlet in support of colleagues who were sacked for union membership; Managing Director Noel Jameson (right of photo) physically attacked the AP/RN photographer shortly after this photograph was taken, already having attacked two prospective customers



WE DRINK WATER TO FILL OUR STOMACHS. . . . in a country which is a net exporter of food. People starve in South Africa not because there is no food. They starve because of deliberate government policy

BISHOP DESMOND TULL, Gen. Secretary, South African Council of Churches, St. Mary's, St. Mary's Street, Dublin, 15 June, 1984

on buses, the Free State army provided scab labour and army lorries in an attempt to break the strike.

Craftworkers, members of the Irish National Union of Woodworkers and Woodcutting Machinists, employed at Dublin docks, are to go on strike on Monday, August 27th. The strike was announced only days after the temporary settlement of the dockers dispute. The craftworkers are demanding that they have parity with craftworkers in the public service, who get a travelling-time allowance.

A picket at the Poolbeg power station in Dublin could shortly be extended to other Electricity Supply Board installations around the twenty-six counties, unions warn. The dispute at the Dublin power station is over the dismissal of 11 shift workers.

A campaign has been launched by Irish flour millers against the increasing importing of British flour. The Irish Flour Millers Association said last week that the intention of British millers was to destroy the Irish flour milling industry so as to take it over themselves. They pointed out that it would not only be jobs in the milling industry that would be affected, but also growers of wheat, bakers and all the associated trades.

MR. BEN DUNNE, 19 STH. GREAT GEORGES STREET, DUBLIN 2.

Dear Mr. Dunne,

While one million people starved during the Irish Famine, food left our shores in abundance. Today, people are dying of hunger in South Africa while their food finds its way onto the shelves of your Supermarkets and those of others throughout Ireland.

As a customer of Dunnes Stores, I ask you to withdraw all South African goods from your stores until Apartheid is dismantled and justice for all the people of South Africa finally prevails.

Signed _____

Address _____

After the strike can obtain loans of up to £200. During the busworkers strike which

arose over the refusal by CIE to pay wages for time lost during union checks

Youth issues to be raised

BY JACK MADDEN

A SINN FEIN National Youth Conference, to be held in Dublin on September 1st, will be open to all republicans. Besides examining the role of youth in Sinn Fein in recent years, the conference will discuss the issues which confront youth today and formulate a campaign to tackle those issues.

Amongst the major contributions to the campaign against Britain's criminalisation policy in the North's jails, was the highly active role played by young people, particularly in the six counties.

With the formation of a youth group in Belfast's Short Strand on October 23rd 1980, only days before the start of the first hunger-strike, other areas followed suit. Youth against H-Block/Armagh committees sprang up, not only in Belfast, but throughout the six counties and, in a few cases, in the twenty-six counties as well.

Throughout both hunger-strikes these groups were to the forefront at protest marches and rallies, organising wall murals and pickets at British forts, and showing that youth could be involved in disciplined forms of protest.

The threat posed by organised republican youth was recognised, not only by the British but by the Free State parties and the SDLP as well. All began to develop and promote youth sections within their own parties. Even the Catholic church got into the act, organising youth centres throughout the six counties.

However, according to Chris McKenna, who was centrally involved in the development of Youth against H-Block/Armagh committees:

"After the hunger-strike, a lot of young



Chris McKenna addresses a Youth against H-Block/Armagh rally in Belfast in October 1981

people became disillusioned and confused and drifted away. No structure existed within Sinn Fein to accommodate them, and youth were generally expected to do the most menial tasks such as poster and leafletting."

CHANGE

Some effects were made to change this situation and says McKenna "a lot of ideas were floated about how we should proceed".

The idea eventually adopted was the creation of a Sinn Fein Youth Department, which no longer exists. Chris McKenna explains why:

"The department was premature, with no brief and little, if any, experienced personnel. But the major problem was the lack of education so that young people were being absorbed into the Movement rather than educated into it."

Since "today's youth become the lead-

ers of tomorrow's Republican Movement", Chris McKenna believes that a relevant education programme is essential, as is the development of an action programme around issues which primarily concern youth:

"There are many such issues, plastic bullets, harassment, youth training schemes, the bombardment of youth by the coca-cola culture and of course the education system in schools and colleges."

Blanket over Mountjoy protest

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

THE APPALLING conditions in Mountjoy Jail in Dublin, and the continual harassment of prisoners led to nine prisoners going on a hunger and thirst strike on Friday, August 17th. Several other prisoners went on a 'blanket' protest, refusing to wear prison clothes.

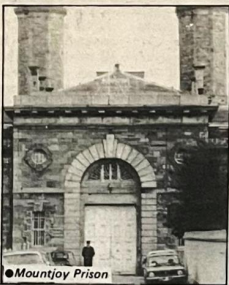
The hunger-strike was ended on Tuesday, August 21st, but the row about the statement issued to the media by the Coalition press secretary, Peter Prendergast, continues.

A statement denying there was a hunger-

strike in the prison was released on Saturday, August 18th, with the Department of Justice and Prendergast claiming that they had been given misleading information. An inquiry into the affair found that a "misunderstanding" had led to the false statement.

It appears that the Free State Department of Justice, thinking that the protests would not last, cynically issued the statement of denial.

The calls from the Prison Officers Association, backed by Fianna Fail, for the resignation of Prendergast is part of the on-going dispute between the POA and Michael Noonan, Minister for Justice, in which the prisoners are used as helpless pawns.



Mountjoy Prison

Action on Armagh

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

THE Stop the Strip-Searches in Armagh Campaign is continuing to highlight the plight of women prisoners in Armagh with public meetings and appeals to trade unionists and representatives of other organisations.

Members of an action group formed at a meeting in Monaghan town on Friday, August 17th, leafleted the town centre on Saturday and collected petitions. The local *Northern Standard* carried a full report of the previous Sunday's meeting in Monaghan on the strip-searching in Armagh.

In his regular column in the same paper, *Random Thoughts*, Brian Mac Diarmada, commenting on the "silence of the Southern media and hierarchy", said:

"Now if it all were happening on 'far foreign fields' that would be an entirely different matter..."

A photographic exhibition compiled by the campaign was again on show at the GPO on Saturday, where more signatures were gathered for the petition and leaflets were handed out. The exhibition was also on display outside Croke Park, Dublin, on Sunday during the Gaelic football semi-final between Dublin and Tyrone.

After the match a banner protesting against the strip-searches was carried onto the pitch to loud cheers from the crowd.

A meeting has been organised by members of the Sinn Fein Women's Department in Dundalk on Sunday, August 26th, in the Wine-tavern, Park Street, to form an action group in the area. Former Armagh POW Linda Quigley will address the meeting.

Portlaoise in Offaly

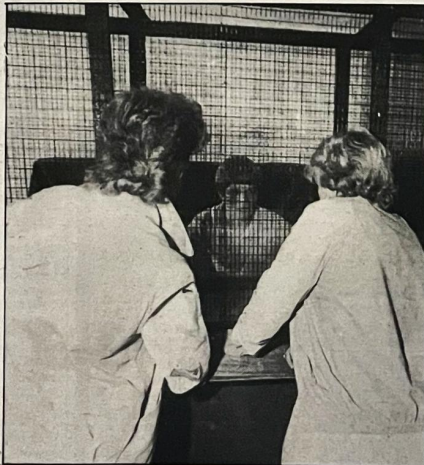
THE CAGE that is an accurate reconstruction of the visiting-box in Portlaoise Prison was shown in the Square in Birr, County Offaly, last weekend. The many visitors to the town for the Birr Festival, as well as local people, saw the cage and signed petitions demanding that these inhuman conditions cease.

The campaign of the Portlaoise Relatives Action Committee is continuing, with over 5,000 signatures gathered on the petition, and a protest and leafletting at the GPO in Dublin every Saturday afternoon.

Information packs on the

conditions in Portlaoise have been sent to prominent individuals and groups such as Amnesty International.

On Sunday, August 26th, the cage will be on show in Ballymun at the event organised by the Campaign against the Criminal Justice Bill.



PLASTIC BULLETS AGAIN FIRED AT CLOSE RANGE

Revenge attack

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

STREET RESISTANCE broke out in Turf Lodge last Saturday night, August 18th, as a direct consequence of crown forces provocation earlier, which began after a 20-year-old man was seriously injured when he was shot at point-blank range with a plastic bullet.

Dominic Piper from Norglen Parade was leaving the weekly disco in the Martin Forsythe club shortly after midnight when two RUC and one Brit jeep pulled up alongside and he was called over by an RUC man.

Over two years ago, Piper had beaten a trumped-up disorderly behaviour charge, the judge saying he had no case to answer, but as he was leaving the court an RUC man threatened his revenge. Since then, this RUC man, the same one who called him to the jeep on Saturday night, has frequently stopped Piper and shouted abuse at him from passing jeeps.

On Saturday night, he and Piper had a heated exchange of words before Piper turned his back and began walking away. As he did so, the RUC man, according to eye-witnesses at the scene, lifted a baton gun and, from a few yards range, fired a plastic bullet at Piper's back.

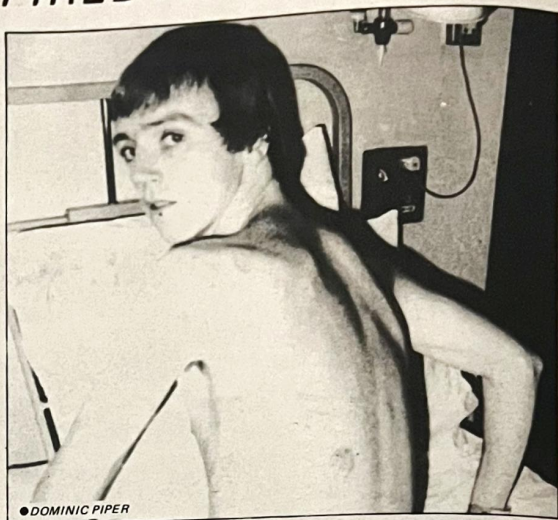
CURSORY

He was taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital where he was given no more than a cursory examination and released without medication, a nurse being overheard to comment that he was "probably a stone-thrower".

But only hours later, Piper collapsed at home after passing blood in his urine. He was admitted to Belfast's City Hospital where he was diagnosed as having fractured ribs, kidney damage and internal bleeding.

On Tuesday night during visiting time, Piper had an unexpected and unwelcome visitor — the RUC man who shot him, obviously anxious that Piper would not bring charges against him.

After a heavy scene, relatives finally ushered the RUC man out of the ward. Piper is currently commencing legal proceedings and is stated to be in a satisfactory condition in hospital.



• DOMINIC PIPER

Reward for serviles

BY EAMON TRACY

AFTER waiting over three years in prison, paid RUC informer, and acknowledged agent provocateur North Antrim man Anthony O'Doherty, aged 34, finally received his reward for services to the British crown, when the Brits' colonial office in the North, the NIO, rebutted its own claims that no deals are made with crown witnesses and announced that Prior was using "the royal prerogative to remit eight years" from O'Doherty's 18-year sentence, which he received in 1981.

O'Doherty claimed, after his arrest in 1980, that he had been a member of the IRA working for the RUC. He alleged that the RUC, in order to have him accepted by republicans in North Antrim, had supplied him over

the years with money and weapons, some of which he used in planned attacks, with the connivance of the Special Branch, against other members of the crown forces. He also insisted that he was trained in the use



• RUC Special Branchman Charles McCormack (Right)

of these weapons by the SAS.

Eventually, O'Doherty, his usefulness to them gone, was arrested by the RUC and charged with over 50 different offences, including armed robbery. Ever eager to ingratiate himself with the Brits he agreed to give

evidence against one of his former handlers, Special Branch man Charles McCormack, whom he claimed had been involved in carrying out robberies for personal gain, as well as murdering an RUC colleague, suspicious of McCormack's activities.

O'Doherty's evidence was, where uncorroborated, rejected by Orange judge, Murray, who, given the present paid perjurer tactic which has led to over 100 men and women being convicted on the uncorroborated word of paid perjurers, amazingly claimed that:

"It would be highly dangerous to convict the accused of any of the crimes on the evidence of O'Doherty unless that evidence is supported by clear and compelling corroboration."

Prior's decision to reduce O'Doherty's sentence by eight years is clearly the Brits' idea of rewarding him for his faithful service to the British crown, and concludes the deal by which the Brits bought his services. Danny Morrison of Sinn Fein said:

"This decision is clear evidence, if further were really needed, of the Brits' sordid use of deals in order to procure perjured evidence against innocent men and women."

Rights denied

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

A BENNETT REPORT RECOMMENDATION stating that people detained for interrogation purposes should have access to their solicitor after 48 hours, was cast aside by the RUC in Gough Barracks last week during the questioning of two Fermanagh women.

Sinn Fein member Kathleen Gleeson from Lisnaskee and her friend Una Lynch were both arrested at 11.30am on Wednesday, August 15th, as they were travelling on the main Enniskillen to Dublin Road.

They were taken to Enniskillen RUC Barracks first, where Kathleen Gleeson gave the name of her solicitor before being taken — under a section 12 seven-day order — to Gough Barracks.

On Friday around noon, she asked again to see her solicitor, stipulating that she was now entitled to see him as 48 hours had expired since her arrest. Four hours later, she made a further request to an RUC woman who came back with a duty inspector.

He pointed out that if the RUC feel it will "impede or interfere with the administration of justice" — a neat turn of phrase — she can be denied access to a solicitor. He handed her a form which supposedly detailed the 'rights' of detained people.

While point 2 clearly upholds a person's right to see a solicitor within the stipulated 48-hour period under the Bennett recommendations, directly underneath, in point 3, this is twisted to authorise the RUC to take whatever measures they deem necessary to deny that right.

PRESSURE

Sinn Fein elected representative Owen Carron and other individuals immediately began putting

pressure on the authorities by contacting the National Council for Civil Liberties in London, and several newspapers.

Eventually, after a lot of buck-passing the NIO and RUC bent under such widespread pressure and allowed Kathleen Gleeson's solicitor Frank McManus a professional visit at 10pm on Friday night.

The visit, however, was supervised by an RUC inspector, making confidentiality between solicitor and client an impossibility.

On Sunday night again, a similar professional visit was strictly supervised.

The RUC also claimed that Una Lynch, who has been arrested several times before, each time requesting a solicitor, had on this occasion not done so, a claim which her family challenges.

Kathleen Gleeson was released without charge on Tuesday night, August 21st. Her experience demonstrates not only a further erosion of justice for nationalists but the unrestrained and increasingly repressive power of the RUC which in recent weeks has been allowed to go unchecked by their masters in the British government.

ARREST CONDEMNED

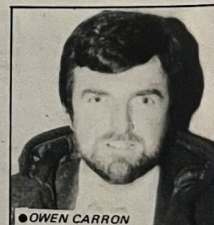
OWEN CARRON, Sinn Fein elected representative for Fermanagh/South Tyrone, has condemned the arrest of Tyrone man, Brendan Nugent, on Wednesday this week and the RUC's disregard for Nugent's six children who were left alone in the house following the arrest.

In a statement, Carron said: "This morning's arrest of Brendan Nugent, a widower in his early forties and father of six children, underlines the increasing vindictiveness of the RUC towards the nationalist community."

"Mr Nugent was arrested at his home at 7am this morning in Cappagh, County Tyrone, and taken to Gough Barracks by helicopter, where he is being held under Section 12 of the PTA. Mr Nugent's six children were left in the house alone. They were given a telephone number to ring by an RUC man."

"This turned out to be a local welfare office. However, six children, the youngest of whom is four, were left in a state of hysteria for a lengthy period of time."

"The arrest of Mr Nugent has angered and puzzled local people who know him as a very quiet family



• OWEN CARRON

man, who has never been arrested before.

"With the current reports filtering from Gough and Castlereagh Interrogation Centres of a renewed 'ill-treatment' method of interrogation, Mr Nugent's relatives and friends are rightly disturbed about his physical well-being in RUC custody."



London march for withdrawal

MORE than 3,000 people marched through central London last Saturday calling for the British government to withdraw politically and militarily from the six counties, and for the reunification of Ireland. The demonstration marked the 15th anniversary of British troops being deployed on the streets of the six counties.

The RUC's brutal attack in Belfast the previous Sunday undoubtedly swelled the numbers on the march and contributed to its militant mood. Several specifically-made banners commemorated Sean Downes, and black flags were carried.

The march was organised by a committee which brought together a wide variety of organisations concerned about Ireland, including the Young Liberals, the Troops Out Movement, the Labour Committee on Ireland, the Connolly Association, the Irish in Britain Representation Group, the London Armagh Group and the Irish Solidarity Movement. The march was thick with banners, a sprinkling of them from the Labour Movement, and there was a strong women's contingent.

Speakers from the front lorry continuously addressed the onlookers; most were simply curious or indifferent, but some clapped or came up to congratulate the marchers.

THREATENED

At Trafalgar Square, the demonstration halted for one minute, in protest at the government's ban on pro-withdrawal demonstrations using the Square. Labour MP Jeremy Corbyn and Labour MEP's Christine Crawley and Richard Balfe briefly addressed the crowd. The police, who had not given permission for the halt, threatened Jeremy Corbyn with an obstruction charge, but in the event they took the cowardly way out and charged the driver of the lorry heading the march, which was less likely to provoke publicity.

At Downing Street, a deputation handed in a letter to Prime Minister Thatcher and a wreath in memory of Sean Downes and the 2,350 victims of the last 15 years.

The concluding rally was held at Jubilee Gardens, a park owned by

the Greater London Council. All the speakers strongly condemned the RUC's brutal murder of Sean Downes the previous weekend. Labour MP Jeremy Corbyn added that the British Labour Movement "cannot stand on the sidelines and allow the injustices in Northern Ireland to go on, and think it has no bearing on the powers that the police and the government take for themselves over here".

Saying that "the so-called solutions offered by the New Ireland Forum are not even worth the expensive paper they are written on", he called for "the reunification of Ireland, for the withdrawal of all British troops and the British presence, so that the people of Ireland can decide their own fate in their own way in a peaceful Ireland".

MESSAGE

Loud cheering greeted a message of support from Gerry Adams, which was read by Janice Turner of the Young Liberals who chaired the rally. Adams' statement pointed out that the people of Ireland, like the people of other oppressed nations worldwide, had learnt that "armed resistance is the only way to challenge armed oppression". Sinn Féin stood alongside the miners, the unemployed, the black community and the anti-nuclear movement, he said.

Other messages of support were read from Tony Benn MP, Ken Livingstone and the youth wing of CND.

Mary Doyle, a member of Sinn Féin and former Armagh prisoner, one of three women who participated in the 1980 hunger-strike, received a very warm welcome. She outlined the cruel reality of the strip-searches endured by women prisoners in Armagh.

Jo Richardson, Labour spokesperson on women's affairs, sent a message calling for Irish unity and British withdrawal, and saying she would be



● During the Troops Out Movement vigil at 10 Downing Street on Wednesday, August 15th, a petition, calling for the banning of plastic bullets and signed by over 10,000 people, was handed in to Margaret Thatcher

visiting Armagh prison in September to investigate the strip-searches, which she described as "a disgrace". Jasbir Singh, who had been on the Troops Out Movement delegation to Belfast the previous weekend, said that the struggle of the Irish people and the struggle of black people in

Britain was one and the same.

Sile Darragh, of Sinn Féin's Foreign Affairs Department, said that the RUC was a sectarian loyalist force, and that their behaviour the previous weekend was not unusual. If the media had not been there nothing much would have been

heard of it. She said that the more British people became accustomed to repressive measures being used in Ireland, "the easier it will be for the British government to import those methods here".

Labour MEP Richard Balfe called for a ban on plastic bullets. "Short of annexing the North of Ireland to Poland, I cannot think of any way of getting this government interested in the violations of human rights that they themselves are carrying out," he said. He condemned the Prevention of Terrorism Act which, he said, was used "to cast a veil of fear over the people".

"The North of Ireland is Britain's Algeria," he said, and Britain should copy the French and get out.

Malcolm Pitt, president of the Kent National Union of Mineworkers, delivered a powerful speech which was greeted with tumultuous applause.

"The people of Ireland and the British miners and the British working class are locked in struggle with the same enemy but on different fronts."

BATTLE

"As in Ireland, imperialism has been confronted with the determined and fearless opposition of forces they never expected to come out into the field of battle. As in Ireland, it's been the young men and women who have come out in the front line of the battle — in the battle for national independence and also in the battle for the miners and their livelihood."

"As in Ireland, the bankruptcy of the system has been revealed in the resort to naked violence by the police... What Irish people have experienced for over a decade, is now being experienced by the British miners."

"And we have to be honest. As a Labour Movement we often turned our backs, but now we are experiencing the same tactics and we have learnt the lesson, we will remember, and we will stand with all oppressed people against this sort of harassment in the future."

"Young Davy Jones and Joe Green, two of our members murdered on the picket line, are as much the victims of British imperialism as young Sean Downes over in Northern Ireland."



Fianna Éireann 1909-198

BY PAT McGLYNN

FIANNA ÉIREANN is, after Sinn Féin, the second-oldest organisation which is part of the Republican Movement; this week it celebrates its seventy-fifth anniversary.

On Monday, August 16th 1909, at a meeting in 34 Camden Street, Dublin, presided over by Bulmer Hobson, Fianna Eireann was founded. At the meeting, attended by about one hundred people, Hobson was elected president, Countess Markievicz vice-president and Padraig O Riain secretary.

An Irish renaissance was sweeping Ireland at the time and the Fianna were to be an Irish answer to the pro-British Baden-Powell Boy Scouts. The motivation for starting Fianna Éireann, as Countess Markievicz later wrote, “*came from reading in the papers of how a number of boy scout organisations and Boys’ Brigades had been reviewed at Clontarf by an English king. Reading this, I realised vividly that Ireland was being attacked at her most vital point, the minds of her children*”.

She knew that one day many of them would join the British army.

OBJECT

The military character of the Fianna is indicated in the first two clauses in its constitution which stated the object of the organisation was "to re-establish the independence of Ireland," by means "of training the youth of Ireland to fight Ireland's fight when they are older"

The Fianna expanded rapidly. By December 1910 there were sluaite (sections) in Dublin, Limerick, Derry, Cork and Belfast, and, following the appointment in April 1913 of Liam Mellows as full time organiser, Fianna sluaite were organised throughout the country.

Following Markievicz's lead, the Fianna allied itself to the struggle of the Irish workers and played an active part in the Lock-out of 1913. Its first casualty

arms and ammunition were landed for the Volunteers.

1916 RISING

Several months before the Easter Rising, several senior Fianna officers were taken into the confidence of the IRB's Military Council which was preparing for the forthcoming Rising.

On Easter Monday, April 24th 1916, when the republican forces under the command of Padraig Pearse proclaimed an independent Irish republic, Fiana officers were given command of important sections of the operations.

Fianna officers Sean Heuston, Con Colbert and Countess Markievicz were in command of the Mendicity Institute, the College of Surgeons and the Marrowbone Lane units. Fianna members also fought in the other posts throughout the city and many youths took on the dangerous task of despatch carrying, scouting and reconnoitring.

Altogether, six members of Fianna Eireann were killed in action, the youngest of whom, Fian Sean Healy, was only fifteen years of age. Two Fianna officers, Sean Heuston and Con Colbert were executed by firing-squad on May 8th 1916.

After the Rising and the release of many Fiannaíde from prison, a huge re-organisation campaign was in full swing

in June 1917 throughout the country. At the Fianna Ard Fheis in August of the same year, Countess Markievicz was elected chief scout, while Barney Mellows was elected adjutant-general.

ACTIVE

Fianna Eireann took an active part in a large number of operations during the Tan War, 1919 to 1921, and provided a valuable stream of recruits for the IRA. In addition to their active participation in IRA operations, Fianna members undertook other vital work. They carried dispatches for the Volunteers, reconnoitered barracks, engaged in intelligence work and rendered first-aid to the wounded.

Fianna Eireann suffered griev-

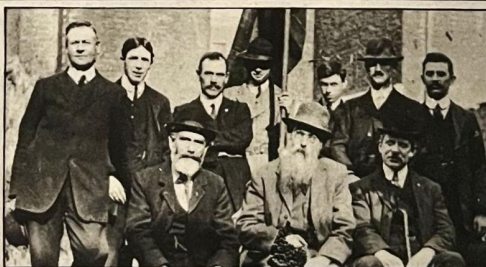
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● (Above) Members of Fianna Éireann participate in the Howth gun-running, July 1914, and (inset) Fianna officers Con Colbert and Sean Heuston (centre and third from right)



Mansion House, Dublin

1984



● Padraig Pearse Slua, Fianna Eireann, Belfast, pictured at summer camp in County Leitrim in August 1968

ous losses during the Tan War. Many were killed in action while others, including Fiannaíde Patrick Hanley of Cork, and Francis Murphy of Clare, were murdered by the RIC and British army.

When the Treaty of surrender was signed in December 1921, Fianna Eireann stood by the republic. On April 16th 1922, several days after the establishment of the republican headquarters at the Four Courts, Dublin, the Fianna Ard Fheis, presided over by Barney Mellows, the adjutant-general, declared its allegiance to the republic in unqualified terms. It was supported in its decision by the entire organisation.

During the Civil War, thousands of Fiannaíde fought side by side with the Volunteers of the IRA throughout the country. In Dublin alone, four hundred Fiannaíde were actively engaged in the fight.

In addition to the members of Fianna killed in action, a number were murdered by the enemy, including Vice-Brigadier Alfie Colley and Commandant Sean Coyle, both of whom were killed in Dublin in August 1922. The following December, Liam Mellows, Fianna chief of staff, and Joe McKelvey, commandant of the Northern Division, were executed by firing squad in Mountjoy Jail.

RE-ORGANISED

Under the guidance of Countess Markievicz, Fianna Eireann was reorganised in 1924, after the turmoil of the Civil War, to carry on "the training of the youth of Ireland to be honourable and self-reliant citizens".

The emphasis was changed from rifle and revolver practice towards education and physical training. A new handbook was issued in 1924 and the

monthly organ of the organisation, *Fianna*, made its appearance again.

Despite the change in emphasis of the organisation, the Fianna was continually harassed by the Free State government under the Treasonable Offences Act 1925 and in the six counties, Fianna Eireann was declared an illegal organisation. To this day it remains a proscribed organisation in the North. In 1931 this ban was extended to the South by the Cumann na Gaedhal government only to be removed when Fianna Fail came to power a year later.

Throughout the 1930s and 1940s Fianna Eireann was subjected to continuous harassment, intimidation and victimisation both in the six and twenty-six counties.

VICTIMISATION

In the North there are many examples of petty victimisation. In April 1935 Fian William Watson of Belfast was imprisoned for being in possession of four Fianna badges. In 1938 Fian Alex McCloskey got six months for organising Fianna, while the following year Fian Michael Smith received a similar sentence for putting up posters. These are only a few of hundreds of such instances.

In the late 30s and early 40s, the members of the Fianna Dublin Brigade defied the ban on the main republican commemoration at Bodens town by hiking the 23 miles there and laying a wreath on Wolfe Tone's grave under the guns of Free State soldiers.

During the 1960s the disagreements which were to lead to the split in the Republican Movement inevitably emerged also in Fianna Eireann. It was proposed that the organisation be disbanded and absorbed into the Connolly Youth Movement as

part of a 'national liberation front'.

When the eventual split came in 1970, however, most of the rank-and-file members stood by the Fianna constitution and the IRA's Provisional Army Council.

RESISTANCE

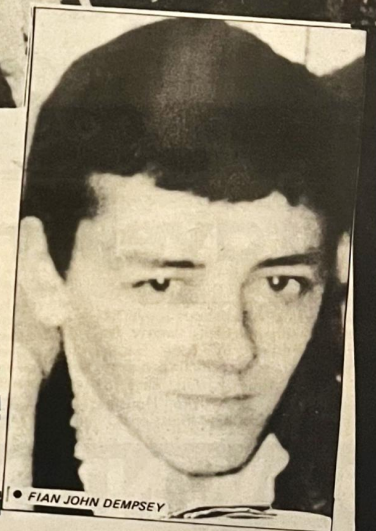
In every generation, the youth of Fianna Eireann have been in the front line of resistance, and the present generation are no exception. In August 1969, following joint 'B' Special and loyalist attacks on the nationalist population in Belfast, Fianna Eireann members stood shoulder to shoulder with the Volunteers of the IRA in defending their community. Indeed, the first casualty of the republican side during the present phase of the struggle for Irish freedom was Fian Gerard McAuley, a 15-year-old member of the Belfast Brigade, Fianna Eireann, who was shot dead on August 15th 1969 while

defending his community.

Since his death, 18 other Fiannaíde have given their lives in the cause of Irish freedom. Many more are being held in juvenile detention centres, remand jails and prison camps throughout the country.

Fianna Eireann has a proud history of sacrifice, determination and courage, working today for Irish freedom by spreading the message of militant republicanism among the youth to end the continued British presence in Ireland.

Pat McGlynn is presently researching a history of Fianna Eireann.



● FIAN JOHN DEMPSEY



● Jim Dempsey (centre) helps to carry his son's coffin; Fian John Dempsey was shot dead by British soldiers on July 8th 1981 within three hours of the death of hunger-striker Joe McDonnell, becoming the most recent Fianna victim of British occupation

MARCH AGAINST THE CUTS

A PROTEST MARCH against the cuts in food subsidies was held in Dublin on Saturday, August 18th. About 100 people marched from Parnell Square to Leinster House carrying placards demanding the rescinding of the cuts.

The march was organised by the West Tallaght Combined Associations and Groups and Noel Rice, its secretary, spoke at a short meeting outside Leinster House.

He called on "this uncaring government to use its loaf and slice the price of bread", and pointed out that Dick Spring, leader of the Labour Party, who said that the cuts would not make any difference to fam-

ilies, must have been talking about Garret Fitzgerald's family or government ministers' families as the cuts would certainly matter to the families of Ballyfermot, Ballymun and Tallaght.

Tenants associations in other areas are also joining the campaign and groups to fight the cuts are being formed in Crumlin, Ballyfermot, the Liberties, Rathfarnham and the Inner City.



● Tallaght residents demonstrate against the cutting of food subsidies



● Travelling families are forced to live at sites such as this at Collin Glen, West Belfast, without sanitation and under constant threat of eviction

her children watching her caravan being towed away:

"We've nowhere else to go. They haven't given us time to pack up properly. They don't care if they break things nor that our children will be out on the main road."

Approached by Sinn Féin Councillors Alex Maskey and Sean McKnight, who severely criticised the council's actions, Technical Services Director McKibben coldly informed them that "children are the responsibility of their parents". On the other hand, Belfast City Council's responsibility in providing travellers with any kind of permanent site in Belfast has been criminally neglected by them for years.

In the meantime, the twenty families are now situated at Collin Glen in West Belfast, once again with no sanitation, and with no guarantee of security for the future. They join the 40 other travelling families, situated nearby on the Glen Road, whose existence there is also threatened with eviction.

Sinn Féin Councillors Maskey and McKnight, in a statement, said:

"Although there are many problems surrounding the existing camps, the travellers still have the basic right to decent living conditions which would not only alleviate their own plight but would also benefit the settled community."

Travellers towed off

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

IN A SWIFT and callous move last Tuesday, August 14th, twenty travelling families in East Belfast were towed off council property, the second time within days of being 'moved on' from Housing Executive land in the Markets area.

Without any consideration for young children who were having breakfast, members of Belfast City Council's Technical Services Department, backed up by the RUC, towed the families' caravans off the small site and left them marooned on the main Lagan Bank Road.

Irish News journalist Leticia Fitzpatrick and their photographer Brendan

Murphy were present during the eviction and failed in their endeavours to secure any official comment or explanation from the council and indeed at one point Murphy was ordered, with a strong underlying threat, not to take photographs of the eviction.

PATHETIC

A pathetic Bridget Doherty stood with

DOWNTOWN DOWNPATRICK

BY JANE PLUNKETT

AIDED AND ABETTED by friends in the Workers Party, Downpatrick landlord and photographer Bobby Hanvey, who has a regular spot on Downtown Radio and who generously makes his car and driving services available to the local Workers Party at election times, has been providing the population of Downpatrick with an illuminating exhibition of 'Sticky'-style socialist principles.

On Thursday, August 9th, Omagh-born George Fiddis, aged 24, then the tenant with his wife Frances of the flat above Hanvey's Irish Street shop, greeted the local internment commemoration parade by displaying a Tricolour from a window for approximately two minutes.

On the morning following this gesture of nationalist defiance, the couple were visited by their irate landlord accompanied by his wife, who lends her name to 'Hilda's Video Centre' which also operates from the shop). Hanvey complained that the Tricolour incident would ruin his relationship with Downtown, and ordered the young couple to quit the flat by the weekend or be evicted.

Hanvey also told George Fiddis that he had made a formal complaint to the RUC over the flag-flying incident and George was made to write a note stating that the flying of the Tricolour had

had nothing to do with Hanvey, his family or his friends.

George and his 20-year-old wife Frances were all the more stunned by the outburst since only a few months previously, when the couple were desperately seeking new accommodation after Frances lost her baby during pregnancy, Hanvey had gladly offered them the somewhat decrepit one-bedroomed flat, at a mere £25 a week's rent.

Later that same Friday, August 10th, George contacted the Housing Executive and Welfare Authority for emergency rehousing but without success. He contacted a solicitor and Downpatrick Sinn Féin, both of which advised them of their legal right to four weeks' notice to quit and advised them to stay put.

Subsequently, Sinn Féin's Paddy Fitzsimmons was told by an abusive Hanvey that he was evicting the couple 'for business reasons', not because of the Tricolour.

Meanwhile, burly members of the

Workers Party were observed hanging around Hanvey's shop in unusually large numbers.

Fortunately, since the Fiddises were by now desperate to move out, relatives found them a private rented flat in Omagh, but the move, planned for the Monday, had to be postponed after the DHSS, without warning, cancelled their removal van and grant.

Hanvey, showing scant sympathy for the unemployed couple, told them that on the following Thursday morning, August 16th, whether they had moved out or not, he would be putting their furniture out and putting new tenants in.

By now feeling extremely intimidated, George and Frances Fiddis moved out on the day, before Hanvey's deadline, having incurred costs, which they cannot afford, of £50 deposit and £20 rent on their new flat.

They were also unexpectedly out of pocket another £30, deducted by Hanvey from their returnable £50 deposit, comprising a full extra week's rent because they could not move out by the Monday, plus a niggardly £5 to cover repairs to the shared toilet.

The DHSS has finally agreed to reimburse the removal cost, about £30, which George Fiddis paid from his own pocket, after the local council's sanitation officer, called in by Downpatrick Sinn Féin, inspected the flat and con-



● The Downpatrick video/photo shop and flat owned by eviction-happy landlord and 'Sticky' associate, Bobby Hanvey

demed it as unsafe and unsanitary, a factor which under DHSS rules entitles the couple to a full removal grant. It also means that Hanvey's new tenants cannot move in until he carries out major repairs.

Human rights?

A Chara,

Your recent columns gave coverage to the European Court of Human Rights' decision in the case of Sean Campbell and Father Fell - a decision that, once again, found Britain guilty of crimes against the Irish people.

It should be noted by your readers that the vicious assaults on the POWs occurred after Britain had been found guilty by the European Court of Human Rights of torturing prisoners in Ireland. This was in 1976.

Now nearly eight years later, when both men have been released having served a large part of the remission, taken, as it now transpires, illegally by the Albany Board of Visitors, the European Court of Human Rights metes out a slap on the wrist to the British political system by ordering it to pay £13,000 into the British legal system and then entrusts the victims to settle for a moral victory.

While the case deals specifically with the case of Sean Campbell and Father Fell, I would draw to your attention the case of the four other POWs who were involved in the Albany incident, who were brutally assaulted and lost large amounts of remission at the Board of Visitors proceedings.

Two of those POWs are due to be released later this year having served the remission taken by the Board of Visitors. One of the men, serving 20 years, will in three years' time begin to serve the two years' remission which he lost as a result of those illegal proceedings.

The other case which is most disturbing at this time concerns a prisoner at Long Lartin who should have been released after serving another year's sentence, but his imprisonment continues as a result of the 690 days' remission which was taken illegally by the Albany Board of Visitors.

While this man remains in prison, no victory, moral or otherwise, can be claimed and the judgement of the European Court of Human Rights is an irrelevance until such time as the balance is redressed and the men in question are released.

R. Glenholmes,
Long Lartin.



Albany Prison

Grovellers

A Chara,

The deliverance of Seamus Shannon into the hands of the RUC is one more attempt by the Free State government to impress Thatcher and the loyalists as to how sincere and responsible they are, in the hope that they might look favourably at their proposals in the Forum report.

One cannot help but draw comparison to some of our own trade union leaders here in Britain, past and present, who grovel before Thatcher,

mála poist

CRIME PREVENTION



Local people demonstrate against petty crime in Lenadon, Belfast, last May

A Chara,

Let me, through your columns, offer congratulations to the anti-hood committees who seem to be at long last giving the long-suffering nationalist people a bit of peace from the antics of some of our uncontrollable youth. The important thing is that the campaign does not stop and that it is not all geared towards punishment.

Knee-cappings in the past failed, I feel, because of the ad-hoc nature in which they were carried out. Every so often the complaints against individuals would mount up and to get the pressure off the

Republican Movement's back, someone would order a few knee-cappings.

By its ad-hoc, inconsistent nature, however, knee-capping was not a positive response to the demands of a population that required a comprehensive policy on crime prevention, and not just policing.

We must accept that crime prevention and a form of policing is necessary, since petty crime leads to demoralisation and mistrust in the community and helps the counter-revolutionaries in our midst who use it to call for collaboration with the enemy.

To deal with petty crime, we must on the one hand offer a positive alternative to

the young and not so young criminals and on the other hand offer a deterrent.

The alternative should consist of the provision of other activities through youth clubs, drop-in centres, adventure training etc, as well as provision being made by the Movement to allow youth to use their energies in a constructive manner.

One of the major problems has been that, in the past, we actively encouraged youth involvement on the streets where they tasted excitement. Yet where can they get similar excitement today if we don't provide a place for them in the overall struggle?

Because of the social, economic and educational con-

ditions prevailing and our present inability (until the revolution has been successful) to alter these conditions appreciably, it is, I feel, impossible to totally stamp out crime.

However, in particular with regard to theft, we could stamp it out in our own areas by publicly telling criminals to go elsewhere to do their dirty work and leave our people in peace. Those who refuse to discontinue crime in our areas should be deterred by the threat of punishment.

Regarding punishment, this must be consistent and uniform for each different crime. If crime shows its head it must be stamped on immediately. Joyriders should be dealt with as soon as they take to the streets.

We must never again have the situation where, for weeks on end, joy-riders are allowed to screech around our districts unimpeded or thieves allowed to break into houses in our areas and get away with it. The work of the anti-hood committees is therefore essential and I hope that they do not simply become another ad-hoc remedy which will be dropped in a few months time.

The committees should be developed and the Movement itself should be developing a comprehensive and practical programme on crime prevention as well as policing which can be used in the present conditions existing in our areas. I hope that the Movement is thinking along these lines and if so I am glad to see it.

Belfast citizen.

of the loyalists along with the Catholics form a majority in the North for some type of re-unification, that the substantial minority of loyalists in opposition would meekly accept the majority decision? Is it not more likely that we would see a re-run of 1912 all over again?

Whether it be on the industrial or political front, the Tories see moderation as a weakness easily crushed under foot.

Liam Dollan,
Glasgow.



SEAMUS SHANNON

A nation in bondage

A Chara,

America is filled with many 'Barney O'Killarneys' who can trace their roots to the swamps of Ballyporeen or some other part of the Emerald Isle. Once a year they assert their 'Irishness' by donning the green, drinking green beer, praying for peace in Ireland through 'legitimate' means and condemning the Irish freedom fighters and those who morally support them.

At least once in their lifetime, they make the 'sacred' pilgrimage back to 'the old sod'. Unfortunately, they confine themselves to the twenty-six counties of the Free State - the 'real' Ireland as they would call it, kissing the Blarney Stone and marvelling at the quaintness of the thatched-roof cottages, much to the chagrin of the natives.

They never venture into the six occupied counties of North-East Ireland. Why shatter their fantasies by facing the stark realities of war?

If they once witnessed this police state, so like Nazi Germany, they would realise that the Brits are not here to keep the peace. One has only to observe the helicopters and tanks, the goon squad tactics of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and the Brit troops in the streets of Belfast to see that this is a nation held in bondage.

One has only to be held at gunpoint, as I was, to know that anyone who believes that prayer alone will free Ireland is living in a fantasy world of leprechauns, shamrocks and leishmans.

Maria Kane,
Irish Northern Aid,
Oswego County,
New York.

Stars and Stripes

A Chara,

Please allow me a small space on your *Mála Poist* page in order to set some

things straight concerning a letter printed in the July 19th edition. The letter was entitled *Stars and Stripes*, and the American writer was voicing his concern over the burning of the American flag during the recent Reagan visit to Ireland. I am not so much responding to the statements made by the individual in question, but to that which he represents.

There is a certain attitude among segments of Irish support groups here in America that would be in total agreement with what this man has to say. They would yell "Brits out!" in one breath, and "US investments in!" with the next. A 32-county Free State would be fine with them a long as it meant a 32-figure income, tax free, in their own bank accounts.

They would support a call for a special US envoy to be sent to Ireland, not with the ideals of Tone or Mellows in mind, but more like that of Hume or Mallon. And would the nationalist aspirations of the common Irish man and woman be sought out and strived for? Of course not; those aspirations would be swallowed in the dark by 'high-minded' politicians from both sides of the Atlantic bent on making a name at the expense of the Republic. It has happened before.

But there is another side to this coin, to this attitude. There are those here in America who realise that we are supporters of the Republican Movement, not savours; that we will never forget the Proclamation of 1916 and the words "We declare the right

of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland."

We remember the struggles of Michael O'Rourke, Colm Murphy, Dessie Ellis, Joe Doherty, Liam Quinn, and others. We know just why they are where they are today. We realise the connection between the British government, the American government, and the Dublin government. There are those in America who will not rest until a 32-county democratic socialist republic is established in Ireland for the benefit of each and every Irish man, woman and child.

As far as Reagan's trip to Ireland goes, we are deeply sorry that you were burdened by his presence, as no doubt deals were made in Dublin Castle, but I must admit that it was a nice respite, if only short-lived, to have an *ibhéal* go home here.

Sean Murphy,
Santa Cruz,
California,
America.

Irish addresses

A Chairde,

Craobh Roibéidif Uí Sheanasaigh, Conradh na Gaeilge, Cill Uaighe, is trying to promote a campaign to encourage residents of the Twinbrook estate who have bilingual street signs to use the Irish version of their street name in their address or at least to use the Irish version along with the English version. For a number of years now, local Gaeleoirí in Twinbrook have been receiving mail addressed in Irish and provided the correct and full postal code is included in the address there is no reason why people should not have their letters delivered.

The Craobh has circulated Twinbrook with a leaflet giving the correct postal codes for each street along with the English and Irish name for the street. We are also trying to encourage all sporting/community/religious/political groups in the area to likewise have their mailing addresses registered in Irish.

We feel this would be a good opportunity for other areas with bilingual street signs to promote the use of the Irish form of address also. Bilingual street signs can only be a first step in the campaign to Gaelicize the nation.

It is essential to promote the use of the language in everyday life activities.

Finally we would like to offer our support to the campaign to allow Irish prisoners the right to communicate in and learn their native tongue.

Mairéad Ní Chóiláin,
Arasán Chomhphobail Chill Uaighe,
Bealach Sheanasaigh,
Cill Uaighe,
Béal Feirste.



Kieran Doherty Park



Following a night of rioting and gun attacks, Belfast's Shankill Road is closed by RUC men

FEATHERS FLY OVER 'BUDGIE'

BY JANE PLUNKETT

SEVERAL NIGHTS of sustained rioting in loyalist areas of Belfast marked the closing stages last week of the preliminary court inquiry against 47 people (mostly from Belfast) charged on the word of loyalist alleged informer William 'Budgie' Allen.

On Friday last, August 17th, at the conclusion of the two-week hearing in Crumlin Road Courthouse, Resident Magistrate Basil McIvor returned all the defendants for trial on Allen's word, on a total of 226 charges. These included four killings plus other attacks and UVF membership. The magistrate threw out only one minor charge against one of the defendants.

The 'Budgie' Allen case is one of a handful of spectacular show-trials involving loyalists, which have been mounted by the British government in an attempt to obscure the reality that its paid-perjurer strategy is directed primarily against nationalist opposition to its colonial rule. While the protests, mounted mainly by loyalists directly affected, have inevitably revealed much confusion among people accustomed to seeing themselves as loyal servants of the British crown, the OUP and DUP continue to affirm their support for the strategy and for the RUC.

At the end of last Friday's hearing, three defendants made statements from the dock which attacked the 'supergrass' system as "internment by the back door", dismissed the hearing as a "political rubber stamp" ordered by James Prior and termed Allen a bribed "crown puppet".

Defendant James McCaw complained: "This type of evidence would be unacceptable in any court in England so if Northern Ireland really is a part of the UK then there should be no double standards of justice."

BIRDSEED

Earlier in the week, on Wednesday, August 15th, a fracas developed in the courtroom after defendants' relatives in the public gallery threw birdseed, sweets and other objects at Allen as he started to sign his depositions. Though the RUC used batons to clear the court, faced with fellow loyalists they curbed their customary brutality



WILLIAM ALLEN

and a defence lawyer later stated that none of the defendants was apparently seriously injured.

The next morning, after the magistrate barred the public from the hearing, the RUC did not intervene when protesting loyalist women blocked the Crumlin Road for a short time.

The previous night, rioting had flared on the Shankill Road. A disused electrical shop was burned and stones and petrol bombs were thrown at the RUC who on this occasion fired no plastic bullets, in contrast with their treatment of nationalists elsewhere that night during continued rioting in protest at the RUC's murder of Sean Downes.

On subsequent nights, rioting spread to Ballysillan, the Newtownards Road and other loyalist areas. Scores of petrol bombs were thrown and, on several occasions, shots were fired.

In response, from last Thursday on, the RUC (still under political pressure following their murder of Sean Downes and keen to promote an illusion of impartiality) fired an undisclosed number of plastic bullets in loyalist areas. In contrast to their general practice, these were apparently aimed mainly over the heads of the loyalist rioters. A small number of casualties were reported.

COUNTER-INSURGENCY

An informative and well-written pamphlet focussing on the historical and legalistic context of the British government's

paid-perjurer strategy has been produced by Concerned Community Organisations (CCO), a loose amalgam of over 200 Belfast community groups.

Entitled *The 'Supergrass'*, the booklet deals with various examples of the RUC's use of uncorroborated evidence from individuals bribed or threatened into repeating perjured 'evidence' in court to secure convictions.

The booklet's subtitle, *...in the Government's Arsenal...* is drawn from a dictum of Brit counter-insurgency strategist General Frank Kitson who stated that in British colonial military strategy:

"The law should be used as just another weapon in the government's arsenal and in this case becomes little more than a propaganda cover for the disposal of unwanted members of the public."

Illustrating this theme, the pamphlet traces the rapid development (involving the RUC, DPP and compliant judiciary) of the paid-perjurer system in the wake of adverse international publicity concerning RUC torture in Castlereagh and, significantly, in the immediate period following the mass street protests of the 1981 hunger-strike.

The authors also outline how the procedures and ludicrous 'standards' of evidence in the North's political courts differ substantially from those established in the much-trumpeted traditions of British common law.

The 'Supergrass' is available from CCO, Box 3, 7 Winetavern Street, Belfast 1. Price 50p.

VIDEO

Covering much of the same ground is a new 50-minute VHS video, *One Man's Word*, made by the Lower Ormeau Campaign for Justice Video Group. The video, regrettably marred by a poor soundtrack which will confine its use to smallish audiences, includes interviews with several victims and relatives of men and women charged on the word of RUC perjurers Morgan and Kirkpatrick. It also features Dungannon man Patrick Kelly, who was incarcerated without trial for over 20 months, though his alleged accuser, Patrick McGurk, apparently at no stage intended to testify in court. Regrettably though, it does not adequately deal with the suffering of the relatives, particularly families with young children.

One Man's Word is available from the Lower Ormeau Campaign for Justice Video Group, c/o 7 Winetavern Street, Belfast 1. Price £25.

Imeachtaí

SINN FEIN ADVICE CENTRE

Open daily 10am to 12 & 2 to 5pm
Monday to Saturday
57a Clanbrassil Street
DUNDALK
County Louth
Advice on Housing, Social Welfare etc
Also Republican literature, records
& badges

IRISH NIGHT

Featuring prominent musicians
9.30pm Friday 24th August
McGlynn's Lounge
Drumcree
LEITRIM

In aid of Sinn Féin election fund

STOP THE ARMAGH STRIP-SEARCHES CAMPAIGN

PROTEST & PICKET
12 to 4pm Saturday 25th August
GPO
DUBLIN

PICKET
12 to 4pm Saturday 25th August
Shopping Centre
DUN LAGHAIRE

PUBLIC MEETING
4pm Sunday 26th August
The Wintavern
Park Street
DUNDALK
Organised by
Sinn Féin Women's Department

MEETING
8pm Tuesday 28th August
Theatre Bar
Talbot Street
DUBLIN

All Sinn Féin members to attend

COLE/COLLEY
COMMEMORATION
12 noon Sunday 26th August
Assemble Rendezvous car-park
BEAUMONT
Dublin

Organised by Dublin North-East
Sinn Féin
Prominent Speaker
BALLYMUN '84

Festival against repression
1pm to 10pm Sunday 26th August
Music by Christy Moore & others
Workshops on extradition, show-trials, community resistance etc.
Speakers include Nicky Kelly
Shangan

BALLYMUN
Free Event
Stalls welcome
Criche provided

GAUGHAN/STAGG
COMMEMORATION
(Gaughan's 10th Anniversary)
3pm Sunday 26th August
Assemble at Cathedral
BALLINA

County Mayo
Speaker: Owen Carron
Organised by Sinn Féin

SINN FEIN FUNCTION
Bar extension & supper
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

DUBLIN NORTH-EAST
SINN FEIN GENERAL MEETING
8pm Wednesday 29th August
Camelot Hotel
Coolock
DUBLIN

All members to attend
SOCIAL EVENING
Featuring Illegal Assembly
8.30pm Wednesday 29th August
An Sean Mhuileann
BELFAST
Taille €1

In aid of An Cumann Cabhrach
SOCIAL & DANCE
Music by the Shannon Brothers
Friday 31st August
Southfork
ARVA
County Cavan
Organised by Fianna Éireann

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

TV

Once upon a time

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

THE WORK of veteran journalist James Cameron is the subject of a new series, *Once upon a time*, on BBC2 on Friday nights. Film taken in Hanoi just after the Vietnam war started was accompanied by a commentary by Cameron in which he described Vietnam and the other wars he had covered in his long career as "places where foreign journalists roost on the sick beds of the world".

The bombed villages and shattered hospitals were the background, as Cameron filmed the people bringing in the harvest on a co-operative farm just out of Hanoi. The only difference this year, said Cam-

erons, was that they worked with guns on their backs. "All these people want to be Vietnamese", he said. Cameron's reporting was quite often viewed unfavourably by his own media colleagues because of these outspoken views, as he was not the usual cheque-book journalist waiting safely in a European hotel for press handouts.

Channel 4 had Lord Gerry Fitt on its Sunday afternoon programme *Questions*. It was all about how Fitt "courageously worked to reconcile Catholics and Protestants" before he courageously left to live in London. "The only reason I am in London," declared Fitt, "is that I have no home in Belfast." He neglected to say

that he had been, effectively living in London for years.

Fitt went on about how much his family had suffered, and how much they had lost because of his "courage". The interviewer also went on about Fitt's "courage", and the price he and his family had paid for Fitt's collaboration with the Brits. "Your youngest daughter failed her exams because of it, didn't she?" he said.

Other children have lost their lives to the RUC and the British army that Fitt so admires and supports but, compared to Lord Fitt's daughter failing an exam, that does not count. "Was it all worth it?" asked the interviewer.

You could almost see the pound signs clicking up behind Fitt's glasses as he answered.

Fit for a King was not about Gerry crawling further down the ladder but about Gordonstoun school in Scotland where Charles, Andrew and Edward Windsor were "educated". On BBC2 on Tuesday, August 14th, this documentary was a galling, uncritical piece about how wonderful a place it is and what wonderful people go there.

Gordonstoun is not famed for its academic successes, which is rather obvious when you consider some of the old boys. One of the gems deliv-



● Richard Burton 'out in the cold'

ered to a fawning Julian Peltier by England's Prince Edward, was about how much the upper classes can learn from the 'less fortunate' can learn from their betters.

All Edward seems to have learned at Gordonstoun is how to be a male chauvinist parasitical waster.

The Spy Who Came in From the Cold on BBC2 on Sunday night was shown as a tribute to the late Richard Burton. This spy story was not one of those exciting

adventure-type films that portray spies as heroes. It was sleazy and devious, as the world of spying is.

Burton played the part of Alex Leamas, a British spy who pretends to defect so he can give false information to discredit a KGB man. The twist in the story is that the KGB man is a British agent, and the elaborate plot is to secure his position when Leamas is proved to be lying.

Burton was perfect for the part of the weary and embittered spy. A dirty business,



● Canoe-borne Viet Cong unit in the Mekong Delta

Banana republics

BY EDDIE STACK

TWO FILMS to talk about this week, both of which are set amongst the squalid climes of South American banana republics. The first stars Charles Bronson, who is at home in anything squalid, and the second has no big stars to fall back on with the emphasis thankfully resting more on improving the plotline than pandering to some big star's ego.

Charlie Bronson got out of bed every year to pay the rent — that in short is the definition of his contribution to world cinema. To make it easy for Charlie to say his lines from year to year, the producers simply ensure that his dialogue is exactly the same in every movie: they just juggle up the order in the cutting room. Charlie even makes sure that his wife plays the 'love interest' in every film just to doubly fool himself that he is actually still in bed snoring his head off.

Charlie's latest offering is the aptly titled *The Evil that Men Do*.

In this, Charlie plays a man with the unlikely name of Holland, who is pulled out of retirement to avenge the death of a friend, who has been tortured to an ugly doom by a torturer, who had tortured his way through South America on behalf of the numerous South American dictators. (Phew!) Despite the fact that he is now old enough to need a wheelchair, Charlie manages to avoid a whole army of pro-

ductive goons and bring the terrible torturer to his just reward, thus confirming our belief in the American way.

In bringing peace and harmony to earth, Charlie meets the widow of the friend he lost to the torturer. Will they fall in love? She finds him so "cold" you know, but yet there's something about him... He finds her silly and weak but yet there's something about her too....

NO SURPRISE

It's no surprise, therefore, that I tell you that rent-a-wrinkle Bronson's latest 'offering' is truly as bad as anything he has ever done, which is saying something. But I doubt Charlie is worried what I say, because he's sure to be at home now, sleeping it off.

The only surprising thing about *The Evil that Men Do* is that Mrs. Bronson is nowhere to be seen; I can only surmise that she choked to death on some of the hideous dialogue she would've had to say in this film.

The good news, however, is



● Kathleen Turner in a scene from *Romancing the Stone*, actor-producer Michael Douglas, son of Kirk, co-stars

FILM

that *The Evil that Men Do* is no longer playing in the cinemas; just after I paid it a visit, it was pulled by a panicking cinema manager two weeks after it opened, so it seems the masses can't be fooled all the time.

It has been replaced by a

much more enjoyable romp through the jungle in a film that owes more than a passing debt to Indiana Jones and the whole *Raiders of the Lost Ark* Thirties rip-off movement currently pulling in big bucks. Thankfully *Romancing the Stone* (no, I didn't know what the title meant either) has its tongue further in its cheek than most and its heart much more in the right place.

In one of the best opening sequences in the cinema this year, *Romancing the Stone* begins with just that, a little romance in a jockey parody of a really bad western pot-boiler with the heroine surrounded by mean critters who just want to savage her in a most unladylake way. With desperadoes riding towards her from out of the sunset, she is saved by the totally accurate

gunfire of the mysterious dark handsome stranger who pulls her up on his horse and sweeps her away to a world where they live happily ever after.

Just as you're scratching yourself and wondering just what the hell is going on, you realise that you have been watching a filmed version of one of the numerous corny romantic novels of the hopelessly romantic novelist Joan Wilder. A shy girl, looking like she's destined to be a poor old spinster, Wilder becomes involved in a real-life web of intrigue which results in her possessing a map to buried treasure (the stone of the title) and discovering that her sister in South America has been kidnapped and the kidnappers want the map as ransom.

The poor delicate Joan then flies south and must fend for herself like a real romantic heroine, meeting up with a stranded bird-watcher who, in a moment of helplessness, she offers money to lead her out of the thick jungle she finds herself stranded in.

Do they fall in love? It's a lot less obvious and a lot more fun than *The Evil that Men Do*, I can tell you.

Romancing the Stone is an unpretentious, enjoyable little film with a great performance from its lead actress Kathleen Turner.

My favourite line is when Joan Wilder is trying to haggle over terms with her mercenary-minded rescuer. Surveying his truck, which has just been destroyed, she says "Why don't you take me over the mountain for 50 bucks? You've lost everything."

"I haven't lost my sense of humour", he replies.

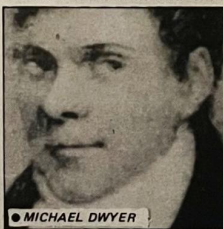
REMEMBERING THE PAST Michael Dwyer

BY PETER O'ROURKE

MICHAEL DWYER, the insurgent leader of 1798 who for over five years evaded capture by the British, was born in the Glen of Imaal, near Batlaglass, County Wicklow, in 1770.

County Wicklow held out for the longest of any in Ireland against the British army, maintaining the spirit of independence right into Emmet's day.

The Wicklow United Irishmen, led by Dwyer, Joseph Holt, Hugh Byrne, Martin Bourke and Samuel McAllister fought side by side with the Wexford



● MICHAEL DWYER

United men at numerous battles during the 1798 Rising, including Tub-

erneering, Gorey, Arklow and Vinegar Hill.

Following the defeat of the United Irishmen at the battle of Vinegar Hill in June 1798, Dwyer and his men withdrew to the Wicklow mountains, from where they carried on the bitter fight against the British forces for nearly six years.

A military road was cut through the heart of the mountains, from Glencree to Leitrinn in Imaal, with barracks every four miles along the route. These barracks, and the military road that runs for over 20 miles into Glencree are fitting monument to the bravery and efficiency of Dwyer and his Wicklow men.

Dwyer agreed to join Robert Emmet in the ill-fated Rising of 1803 but never received the signal to rise.

He fought on until December 1803, by which time nearly all his comrades had been killed, taken prisoner, or transported. Nothing was left but to surrender; and he gave himself up on condition that he should be allowed to emigrate with his wife and family to America.

The agreement was ruthlessly broken by the English and Dwyer was transported to Botany Bay — one of the worst convict settlements of Australia and Van Diemen's Land.

Dwyer died in Liverpool, New South Wales on August 23rd, 1826.

SPORT

Boo! Hiss! Boo!

BY JOHN JOE KING

IMAGINE that you have a dispute with your neighbour. You wish to settle it in an amicable, civilised manner. You arrange to call at his home — not neutral ground, but you're willing to concede that.

You arrive early and are shown into the front room by his wife. You sit down in an armchair. Unknown to you, because you are not a regular visitor, it is your host's favourite armchair.

A few minutes later your host enters the room. He quickly sees that you have taken his regular spot. He crosses the room — and sits right down on top of you.

What pattern are we to imagine the ensuing discussions will follow, with this ignorant, ill-mannered, boorish, arrogant lout?

And so it was at Croke Park last Sunday. Out came the visitors to kick about at the Railway End. Out came Dublin.

"Mammy Heffo! Mammy Heffo! Dem bold Tyrone boys is playing down our end!"

"Then get youse down there and chase them away!"

And if they won't go away have a few of your gang throw cans at them from Hill 16.

Never again should Dublin play a semi-final or a final at their home ground. They have abused the privilege which has always been an unfair advantage anyway. In future, a neut-

ral ground and equality must apply — even to Dublin.

PETTINESS

The game that followed this schoolyard pettiness was inevitable. A horrible display of holding, punching, shirt-pulling, tripping, and giggling on and off the ball, with the odd flash of good football which made the messing all the more frustrating.

It was matched on the terraces by those mindless louts who, assuming that British must be best, so ably are the 'soccer-hooligan' the other side is taking a line-ball! *Boo! Hiss! Boo!* The other side has been awarded a free! *Boo! Hiss! Boo!*

No, Dublin were not all to blame but they set the scene by that ridiculous kickabout farce. Three Dublin names went into the book to one of Tyrone. I'll leave it at that.

As for the 'fans' (to abuse the word), some mindless thugs on Hill 16 had stretched one man before the kick-off. And those gaudy-routing heroes only managed to get several innocent Hill 16 Dubs battered in revenge.

There were Tyrone fans



● (Left to right) Gerry Hargan, Frank McGuigan, Paddy O'Neill and Mick Kennedy seem to have lost sight of the ball in this scene from last Sunday's game

who behaved stupidly too. But, as I said, the scene was set.

Along with the majority of the crowd, I went to see a football match. I must have taken a wrong turn, all I saw was a display of psychological disabilities on and off the field.

'PHYSICAL'

Did I mention the referee, P.J. McGrath? He was worse than the lot of them. First of all he allowed the dirty (oh, so sorry, 'physical') play to go unchecked. His interpretation

of the advantage rule was amazing and certainly Tyrone on several occasions were deprived of a certain point which would have come from a free.

What's more, he deprived them of a penalty early in the first half that would have changed the whole game. He gave Tyrone a penalty in the second half for a foul that just did not happen.

So what about Dublin's victory? Was it deserved?

Yes it was. By nine points? No, I don't think there was such a gap between them.

On a neutral ground, such as all teams apart from Dublin play on, Tyrone's unease in the first-half would have been considerably less.

Had Tyrone been awarded that early penalty when Kerlin was fouled by both Mick Holden and John O'Leary...

Nor was I convinced that Joe McNally's goal in the second-half was valid. From my viewpoint, Plunkett Donaghy was fouled before Anton O'Toole got the ball from Brian Mullins.

So a different ground and a different referee could well

have told a different story.

However, that would not have been enough. Dublin showed that they were able to raise their game (so Kerry beware). The Dublin defence showed that they could control the problem of Frank McGuigan (so Jack O'Shea beware).

As I predicted at the start of this year's championship, Dublin and Kerry arrive in the centenary year final.

Who will win it? Well, we've five long weeks to discuss that one — and maybe I've annoyed the Dubs fans enough for now.

Ardú meanman

LE TOMÁS Ó SÉ

NÍLIM ach ag teacht chugam féin go fóill i ndiaidh na Cluichí Oilimpeacha. Tá mo shúile dóite siar i mo chloigean ó bheith ag féachaint ar an mbosca teilifíse go mach agus go déanach. Bhain mé taitneamh as an spórt cé gur crá cor' ab ea an dóigh inar úisid na Stáit Aontaithe na Cluichí.

Ach caithfidh mé a admháil gurb é Seán Ó Treasaigh a chuir an fhúil ar rás triform chorp leis an sárriacht a dheimhíod sé sa mharatón. Ní raibh súil ar bith agam go ndéanfadh sé go maith sa rás agus ar feadh beagnach dhá uair a chloig den

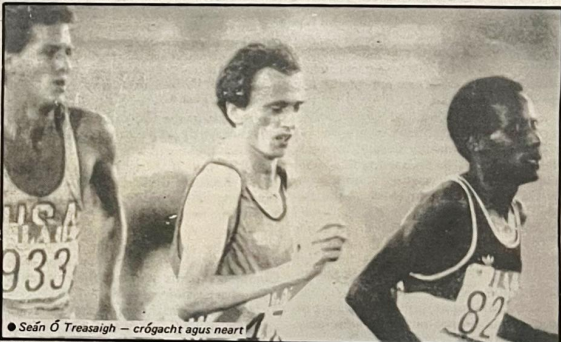
mharatón féin níor tháinig mé a chreididint go mbuafadh sé bonn ar bith.

Bhí clúd agus cáil ar na reathaithe eile agus bhí a gcuid 'fachta' cloiste againn go minic cheana. Leis an bhfirinne a insint bhí níos mó dóchais

agam go ndéanfadh Gerry Kiernan go maith.

Bhí mé ag féachaint ar Sheán Ó Treasaigh agus ag ceapadh an t-am ar fad go raibh cuma ar-tuirseach air. Bhí ag ceapadh go dtitfeadh sé le pian agus le tuirse. Ach a chairde nach orm a bhí an ríméad nuair a bhréagnaigh sé mo smointe. 'Sé an rud is iontaí ar fad ná gurb é an chéad maratón a dheimhíod Ó Treasaigh riamh. D'fhág sé mórán ina dhiaidh a raibh clúd orthu.

Ní dhéanfaidh mé dearmad ar an rás sin go dtí lá mo bhis. Thug sé ardú meanman don náisiún uile lena crochacht. Mo ghraidhin thú a Sheán.



● Seán Ó Treasaigh — crochacht agus neart

O'MORE'S ALMANAC

Magic roots

BY RORY O'MORE

THE magic of Stockton's Wing is as live performers, which is why their newly-released live album *Take One* is certain to be a long-term hit.

Thanks to that amazing 24-track mobile recording studio, the Eerie Mobile, (on which Christy Moore recorded his *Ride On* album, by the way) the atmosphere of a Stockton's Wing gig, savoured by thousands, is captured to perfection.

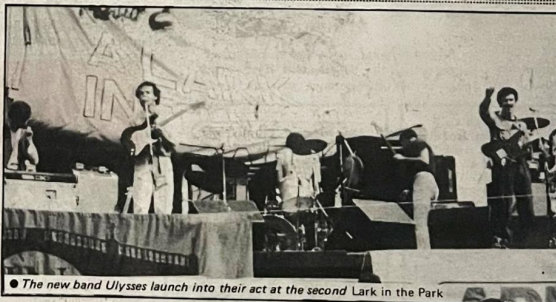
The thing about Stockton's Wing — and thankfully more and more Irish musicians — is that they are able to produce rock music which is not stamped all over as 'cheap import'. You can tell where they are coming from, or, in current jargon, they have got roots — and those roots are, of course, in traditional music.

On this new album that is clear throughout all the familiar tracks, most notably perhaps on the brilliant *Skiddo*.



Also included are their popular hits *Walk Away* and *Beautiful Affair* and the album ends with a straight traditional *Mason's Apron* just to prove a point.

At the first of this summer's Larks in the Park in



● The new band Ulysses launch into their act at the second Lark in the Park

Dublin it was Stockton's Wing which really set the audience alight and they were obviously missed at the second concert in St Anne's Park, Raheny, last Sunday week.

The groups involved, for almost the whole audience, really only provided background music to an enjoyable day in the park, there was no spark in the Lark in the Park.

Les Enfants I have always considered highly over-rated, Aslan, a new young group were much more promising.

Ulysses, which included half of the now defunct Scu-

llion, is only starting off and definitely needs time, and The Host, which is a recent resurrection from Horslips, is in the same position.

Still, a good time was had by all.

Another group which is developing Irish rock music from very clearly defined and confident roots is, of course, Moving Hearts, which has taken another step since adding vocalist Flo McSweeney.

One certainly suspects that politically she is uneasy with

some of the Hearts' clear-thinking, but nevertheless the voice fits.

The new Hearts single *State Music* is not quite a mind-blowing new statement from the group but is a strong sound well worth buying.

On the B-side we get another straight traditional number, again, perhaps, to prove a point. It's *May Morning Dew* and well worth hearing. But make sure you get into it straightaway because it's so short you could easily miss it.

Donal Lunny produced this

single with his accustomed skill.

Arriving for its first Irish tour this month is the London-based band Illegal Assembly. A seven-person group, they present a unique panorama in international resistance music from Ireland, Chile, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Africa and Palestine.

Illegal Assembly has strong Irish connections. Two out of three lead singers, Tom McCann and Brid Keenan, are from the North. The latter will be known to the discerning for her connection with People of No Property.

The group also includes Elaine Jeffries, the top Irish traditional flute player in England, soon to be the first woman traditional flute player to have an album of her music in the shops.

For civil rights songs, human rights songs, workers' songs, women's songs and some very fine Irish traditional sets, Illegal Assembly have to be heard.

They are in Belfast and Derry next week and an eye should be kept out for them at other venues. When I get further details I will pass them on.

BURKE'S AT THE BACK

By Kevin Burke

It's Marx, Brothers!

WHILST loyalist politicians had no problem choosing sides between the RUC and nationalists on Belfast's Bloody Sunday, the Shankill Road riots which followed presented the need for a much more complex analysis.

Unionist MP Rev Martin Smyth, leader of the Orange brethren, was just the man for the job.

He told a press conference on Monday this week that the NIO could well have "manipulated the situation to show the RUC's impartiality in dealing with trouble."

However, he was more inclined to believe that "Marxist elements, working in collusion with both loyalist and republican paramilitaries, were the most likely instigators".

He didn't specify whether it was Karl or Groucho he had in mind.

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The Shankill riots also seem to have shaken another loyalist politician, Councillor Joe Coggle, formerly of the DUP.

Interviewed on Downtown Radio on Monday morning this week, Coggle insisted that the rioters' grievances against the paid-perjury system should be resolved through talks with local elected representatives, including — in an apparent slip of the tongue — "their MP".

The Shankill Road, being situated in West Belfast, has as its MP a well-known republican.

But then perhaps Coggle has been secretly impressed by Gerry Adams' many outspoken denunciations of the RUC's use of paid perjurers.

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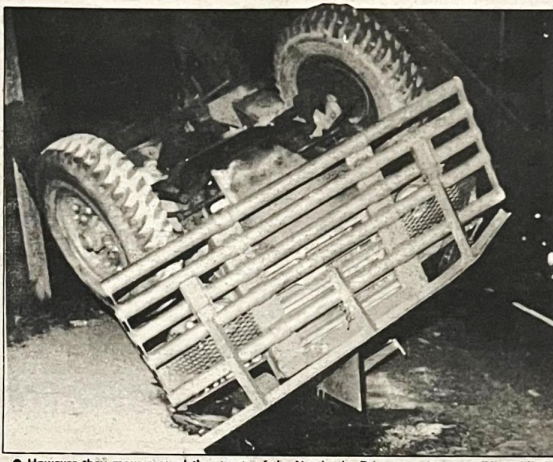
General Sir Timothy Creasy, formerly top Brit in the North, has found a more salubrious overseas posting — on loan to the Sultan of Oman as chief of the Defence Staff there.

Oman, one of the most corrupt states in the world, was, you will recall, the venue of Margaret Thatcher's fixing of the £300 million contract for son Mark's Cementation client.

Creasy, it appears, also came as part of the deal and he has settled in admirably to the local scene.

The general's new home, beside the beach, is the £2 million villa of Prince Sayed Hamad bin Hamoud, leased for three years for a mere £270,000.

But like most of these £2 million residences, it was less than adequate so



● However they move around the streets of the North, the Brits are a danger to life and limb, not least when careering along in their Saracens.

This particular vehicle raced down Hannahstown Hill in Belfast last Tuesday night and turned into Glen Road. Overturned into Glen Road, in fact.

Luckily, no pedestrians were injured. The Brit driver was, seriously. What the Brits call an 'own goal', I believe.

Creasy got in the local builders for a spot of refurbishing, at a cost of £170,000.

Then there was no tennis court, but £40,000 put that right. But not quite right, because Creasy's balls were not bouncing satisfactorily, so £18,000 was spent on a new surface.

As well as Creasy, Thatcher has also loaned the Sultan a couple of hundred SAS men who are able to deal with Omani dissidents without the restrictive glare of television cameras.

In return, British arms suppliers are able to grossly over-charge for military hardware which means lots of payola for all concerned.

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Anyone living in Housing Executive property in the North will have little faith in the competence of their land-

lords. The latest example is unusual only because of its scale.

Work has suddenly stopped at a site at Whiteabbey, County Antrim, where 20 out of 56 houses to be built under a £1 million contract have been completed.

The reason is quite simple — the Executive has discovered that it forgot to purchase the land before starting to build on it.

A delighted landowner is now preparing to name his own price to extract from these illegal squatters.

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On Monday night, Dungannon man Brendan Hughes had just dropped his

wife and children at Mullaghbawn when his car was hit by a speeding car travelling on the wrong side of the road at the Kesh checkpoint.

Although his car was badly damaged on the passenger side, Hughes did a U-turn and followed the hit-and-run motorist who was conveniently waved through the checkpoint by the UDR.

Stopping at the checkpoint and getting no satisfaction, Hughes went to Belleek RUC Barracks and expressed his opinion that the motorist in question must have been drunk and also a member of the crown forces — otherwise, how could he have gone through the checkpoint without being detained?

The RUC eventually told Hughes that the fleeing driver was indeed a member of the 'security forces' but was 'sick' and couldn't see him. He was, however, perfectly willing to take responsibility for the damages.

Thus another offender rested safely in the hands of the forces of law and order.

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Downpatrick hardware-store owner Fergus Kelly is a pillar of the local loyalist community, a prominent member of the local traders' association and has just been banned for a year from the cricket club.

The ban follows an incident which took place on July 11th when the bigoted businessman, flushed with the 'Twelfth' spirit, climbed onto a table in the club's bar and appealed for volunteers to go out with him and shoot all the Catholics in Downpatrick.

Kelly, it seems, had clearly overlooked, in the heat of the moment, that Catholics in the 90% nationalist town constitute the bulk of his customers. He also overlooked the fact that by no means all Downpatrick nationalists shun such English sports as cricket.

At a meeting on Sunday night, August 19th, of club members incensed by his offensive remarks, Kelly found himself caught, bowled and, for a year, at least, out.



DUIRT SIAD

"He is unique in the party. He has a certain amount of bottom which a lot don't have." — Tory MP Fred Sylvester describing James Prior.

"Praise the Lord!" — Born-again con-man John De Loreon on the announcement of his cocaine acquittal.

"A republican rag." — DUP Assembly member Gregory Campbell's description of the Daily Mirror.

"Our police force needs investigation and inquiry like they need a hole in the head." — Official Unionist Thomas Passmore making suggestions in Tuesday's Assembly debate.

"Reporters on the scene went berserk." — The Ken Maginnis version of Belfast's Bloody Sunday.



● THOMAS PASSMORE