

An Phoblacht

Iml. 7. Uimhir 36. 8p. Mean Fomhair 6, 1976.

It shall be the duty of the government of this Republic to make provision for the physical, mental and well being of the children, to secure that no child shall suffer hunger or cold from lack of food, clothing, or shelter, but that all shall be provided with the means and facilities requisite for their proper education and training as citizens of a free and Gaelic Ireland.

(In Gaelic)

IRELAND "UNITED" UNDER FASCISM

A UNITED Ireland was never any great problem, as we pointed out on other occasions. Ireland, this week or next, will be united under fascism, a drape of green and orange barely covering the Grand Old Dame.

Whoop it up for liberalism and touch your forehead to the courage of the one-time civil rights protester (very far away, of course), eating his words of protest against the Offences Against the State (Amendment) Act.

When Eamonn De Valera was touting for votes in the thirties he promised there would be no more coercion acts, those bits of repressive legislation which cease to apply after a statutory period. He promised a constitution under which every man, woman and child would know his or her rights and have them backed by the highest courts.

Dev was a great man with words, like Lord Howth. Very persuasive. Charismatic. Nevertheless, the constitution barely got through in the Twenty-Six Counties and, if it had been put to the entire Irish electorate, would have failed because, by 1938 more and more people were beginning to understand that Dev could not be trusted to do the right thing by Ireland, by democracy, by ordinary decency.

But there would be no more coercion laws. Dev kept his word: we got permanent legislation in the form of the Offences Against the State Act. The constitution said one thing but the OASA said another and the OASA was the real constitution. The other document was mere for the record.

Tightening the screw

The OASA, by some strange coincidence, bore remarkable resemblance to the Special Powers Act of the Six Counties Orange statelet, effectively neutralising whatever guarantees for civil liberties existed in the 1920 Act for the Better Government of Ireland.

The Free State constitution offered far greater guarantees for civil rights, even accompanied by coercive acts, than the 1937 constitution, backed by the OASA.

South African fascists were so impressed by the Special Powers Act that they said they would willingly have scrapped all their repressive laws if their parliament would have allowed them to put the SPA on the statute books.

The white minority in South Africa, however, believed it too risky to let them go that far, so Fascist Ulster led the field, even well ahead of the Spanish Caudillo-by-the-grace-of-God, Batista and Chiang Kai Chek.

When the Twenty-Six Counties followed with the OASA it was a great day for Irish unity, though nobody said so because at that stage of the game it would have been both impolite and imprudent and even-risky.

But we have all matured splendidly since then and, with the special legislations passed by Westminster (standing in for the truncated Ulster) and Leinster House, we are all equal and united in our chains. Enough to celebrate with a stamp: fascism unites Ireland once again.

Permanent legislation

Nobody should make the mistake of using the wrong words: this is not a coercive act, in the legislative sense. It is PERMANENT LEGISLATION, to remain in force as long as Ireland remains a satellite of the British Empire.

Fianna Fail, being in loyal opposition to her majesty's minions, whoops it up for democracy just as Cumann na nGaedheal did in 1937, just as Fine Gael did in 1971, speechwriters even harking back over the pages of repression to get the right sounding clichés as they produce the fodder for their slower-thinking clients.

O'Brien, as usual, is truthful and honest when he says that, in years to come, Fianna Fail will eat its words as he ate his in Leinster House the other day. Of course they will — when they return to power. Or if they return to power. But can they, ever again?

Britain backed Dev, carefully and circumspectly, of course, but surely, as soon as they realised he was their man. The Blueshirts were discarded. Dev's was the more sophisticated approach and it would take the people a long time to find him out. It did.

Now, O'Brien is Britain's man. But when O'Brien is found out it will be far too late for this is designed as a repressive zip fastener par excellence, made of true English steel, guaranteed to last as long as the empire lasts in Ireland, strong enough to keep all REAL opposition behind bars.

Real reason

Not that, at present, at least, it is needed, the threat to the Leinster House state by traditional Republicans, socialists, communists, anarchists, being non-existent in terms of barrels of guns.

But the real national emergency — the economic chaos — sooner or later will have angry young men and women organising for revolutionary change. It is to keep them at bay for as long as possible that the new zip-fastener has been manufactured.

Readers may murmur that we have said all this before and will pardon us for the repetition if they will consider the matter. Unfortunately, the most obvious things often escape notice unless repeated, again and again.

When Hitler was seeking his extraordinary powers he, too, like that poor man's Hitler, Patrick Cooney, was saying that only criminals and subversives complained against the police. Franco said the same thing. So did Brookeborough, Craig, Faulkner, Vorster, Batista, Maudling, Laval, Salazar and the rest of them.

Every law-abiding citizen knows that the more power you give to the police the more carefully and conscientiously they will use it all over the globe.

If you mind your own business, keep your nose out of politics, pay your taxes, watch what you say in public, what you write in your letters and make no complaints even if you are beaten up or tortured by mistake, you have nothing to fear.

Early morning knock

If you are a bank official, just take what Big Brother offers, and get back to work. If you are a more captive trade unionist, make no noisy threats of stoppages or work-to-rule if your take-home pay bears little relation to the zooming cost of living and that increasingly rubber pound-note.

If you are a fisherman whose livelihood is being destroyed by the Blueshirts' foreign partners, emigrate, kill yourself, get another job or be content with the dole — while it lasts.

No real agitation and you and your family will be spared the early morning knock on the door, the seven-days disappearance, the punches in the kidneys, the press-ups and the rest of it. And so on.

Usually, revolutionary changes take place because the previous system has failed. Sometimes the previous system has failed because of the incompetents who act briefly as our masters but, usually, because it can no longer work.

Usually, too, the most efficient allies of the revolutionaries are the frightened men and women at the top who see economic disaster facing them and who hope that tougher laws, larger prisons, more police and warders and soldiers somehow or other will end the explosive contradictions and

(Ar leamaint i n-ich. 7)



Maire Comerford is 84 years of age, a "dangerous subversive" all her life and due for trial in October next, under the OLD laws. Her crime: she celebrated the jubilee of the Easter Rising in Dublin under Republican auspices and in public.

Maire was a friend of Pearse and Connolly and a life-long worker for Irish freedom.

Peace proposals to be silenced?

"Are the Provisionals' proposals for peace to be silenced by the latest legislation?" poses a statement of 3rd August received from the I.R.P.B. Text of the full statement is as follows:—

"Despite the fact that it has been the expressed intention of the Dublin Government not to interfere in the affairs of the North, a frequently recurring feature of their lack of policy towards a just and lasting peace in our country is the invasion of the spheres of civil, political and social rights and freedoms by further increasing repressive legislation in the Twenty-Six Counties.

"Standing aside as though the 'North' were a foreign country, they leave policy decisions to the British government while violently opposing the peace initiatives of Irishmen. Twice recently the Provisional Republican Movement made genuine efforts to pave the way to peace, each in the form of a negotiated bilateral truce.

"Each time the Republican Movement suffered at the hands of the imperialists in the North and the forces of "law and order" in the Twenty-Six Counties.

"Are the imaginative and practical proposals for peace with justice on the federal principle, instigated by the Provisionals, to be further silenced and suppressed by the latest legislation?

"Repressive legislation is not an alternative to politics or to political action. Rather, it serves to maintain the root cause of violence: the presence in Ireland of the British army and their writ.

"The only aim of the perpetrators of repression is to smash Republican resistance to British rule in the North and colonial derogation throughout the country by collaborating in full with the Westminster government. But we warn Cosgrave and Co. that the Republican Movement will not be deflected from its aims by politicians with vested interests in the partition system," the statement ends.

An Phoblacht

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44 Cearnóg Pharnell, B.A.C., Eire. Guthán: 747811.

MOST healthy people respond well to the word "peace" as they do to "goodwill", "prosperity", "good health", "co-operation" and other such general aspirations for a better world. Only a very sick or evil person would oppose the general idea expressed in the word "peace".

Thinking people, however, will want to know more about what, in fact, is meant, and will be suspicious of euphoria-producing slogans which suggest "pie-in-the-sky-by-and-bye".

"Peace" is a highly political word and loaded to the mouth of the barrel. It is highly political because it describes a highly political state of affairs. This becomes, perhaps, a little more obvious when one considers the most famous "peaces" of the past.

A Roman writer quotes a Celt in Britain commenting on Pax Romana — Roman Peace — when he writes: "You have created a desolation and you call it 'peace'." But he was a barbarian and Rome was the civilising power. And the end justified the means, which excelled barbarian ferocity.

The Irish people, most likely, are more familiar with a "peace" which has been with them, on and off (mostly on) for more than 800 years. History knows that as Pax Britannica (British Peace).

The civilising Romans complained that the Celts were head-hunters and that they offered human sacrifices (though the Romans thought it rather fun to throw Christians to the lions and to entertain the eternal city by forcing barbarians to fight each other to the death).

The civilising Romans built networks of roads, to make administration, exploitation and policing more effective. They forced subject people to become classical scholars — in Latin — and to abandon their own languages and customs.

The civilising British built roads and railroads for much the same reasons as the Romans built communications in the earlier style and they gave subject peoples the benefit of a British education — compulsory English — and some of the things that go with the traditional way of life of the ruling class,

including cricket, shooting people out of the mouths of cannons and collecting heads.

Head-hunting was a British custom long after it had been abandoned by the Irish. The Norman mercenaries of the Leinster traitor king re-introduced the custom to satisfy their master after the conquest of Waterford.

The English, when they came, followed it up and special spikes were reserved on the walls of the Pale for the heads of Irish survivors. The head of Fiach Mac Aodha O Broin was sent as a present to Elizabeth of England in the late 16th century but the last time an Irish head adorned a British outpost in Ireland was some time in the 19th century, by which time the foundation work for the destruction of the Irish language was well under way. The British called this "peace".

There have been many other kinds of "peace," qualified by the national adjectives: Russian, French, German, Dutch, Spanish and, in our own time, Rhodesian.

The most important thing to remember about peace is that it is not something which just happens, because most healthy people want it. It is declared, just like war, and it depends on certain political conditions being fulfilled.

It does not matter whether the "peace" in question is Republican, British, South African or Cuban, or that of any other state, or would-be state: certain conditions have to be fulfilled before it is

granted. You don't get the coupon without buying the package.

This is what Republicans should be pointing out wherever they are active. The point is easily documented from history, ancient and modern. It can be applied to the GAA or soccer pitch as readily as to urban guerrilla warfare.

Essentially, the strongest calls the tune. There is a victor and a vanquished. A "peace" often in the past has brought far more human suffering, misery and degradation than warfare. Very, very seldom is there a real peace of benefit to both of the belligerents.

Such a real peace is possible when an invading power withdraws and ends hostilities, with a promise never again to interfere in his neighbour's affairs. Sometimes a bonus goes with the coupon: reparations are made for damage done and lives lost.

Most invaded countries which have been evacuated, however, are sufficiently thankful for an end to their troublesome neighbour's morbid interest in their affairs to leave it at that.

The Irish people would settle for Britain quitting Ireland forever and, indeed, offer of reparations, under whatever guise, would be regarded with a certain reserve, even suspicion, by people who know something about neo-colonialism.

If it were possible for Pax Hibernica to be guaranteed or underwritten by states acceptable to both sides, the Irish people would respond generously. We all want peace as long as it is a real peace, not an imposed peace, not a tactic in counter-revolutionary operations designed to break the people's morale, disarm them and re-impose the old tyranny.

There are many sincere women in the ranks of those attending the "peace" rallies. Those of them who have minds of their own somewhere along the line will want to know something about the package that goes with the coupon because they realise that peace and war are the two sides of the one coin: politics. In politics, always, there is the governor and the governed, to put it at its most appealing. There is another form: masters and slaves.

Déile

CÉN FÁTH FLEÁ OIREACHTAS AG TEACHT SALACH AR A CHÉILE?

CÉN FÁTH go raibh Flea Cheoil na hÉireann ag teacht salach ar an Oireachtas i mbliana? In Indreabhán, Co. na Gaillimhe, an teachtáin seo caite, chuala me Gaeilgeoirí ag caitheamh anuas ar Chomhaltais Ceoltóirí Éireann, a chaineasán as ucht a dtarla, ach, i ndáiríre, gan aon loighe taobh thiar den ionas.

Le blianta fada, mar is eol do dhaoine a bhfuil spias acu i gceolta tíre, lucht stiúrtha an Oireachtais ina measc sin, ta Flea Cheoil na hÉireann ar an data ceanna i gconai, mí Lunasa.

Le blianta beaga tá An tOireachtas ag bogadh ó áit go háit agus ó mhí go mí. Nuair ba i Baile Átha Cliath áit reachtáil na féile bhí sé ciallmhar go leor i bheith ar síd go deireannach sa bhfómhar.

Thabharfadh sin deis do mhuintir na Gaeltachta an fómhar a bhaint chun go mbeadh deis aici freastal ar an Oireachtas gan éinni ar a coinsias. D'oir an dáta sin, freisin, do dhaoine éile, go mór mór do mhuintir Bhaile Átha Cliath, ar go leor cúiseanna.

Ach nuair is in áit éicéit sa nGaeilteacht a bhíonn An tOireachtas á reachtáil ba mhór le roinnt mhaith daoine é bheith ar síd sa samhradh nó, ar a laghad, go luath san fhómhar, nuair is féidir bheith ag súil le soineann agus an teas a ghabhann léi.

Sin an t-am is fearr le haghaidh campáir, rud a dhéanann an lán daoine óga, rud a bhí soléir i mBun Crannacha, Co. Thír Chonnail, ag an bhFleá.

Oíge as láthair

NI FHACA mé mórán daoine ag campáil in Indreabhán, chun freastal ar an Oireachtas, go dtí lár an seachtaine, ar aon naoi, nuair ba éigean dom an cuntas seo a scríobh. Ní fhaca mé mórán daoine óga i láthair ar aon chor, ach amháin muintir na háite. Ach d'fhéadfadh an seol bheith níos dhóchasáil roimh dheireadh na seachtaine.

Is dócha nach mbeadh fonn ar lucht stiúrtha an Oireachtais a admháil nach raibh an ceart acu an fhéile a thosú faoin am céanna a bhí fógruithe don bhFleá, dáta áit mórán mar a chéile, gan aon athrú, le 10 mbliana nó os a chionn.

Is cuma, anois, faoin mbórdú i mbliana, ó tá an dochar déanta. Ach is féidir le lucht stiúrtha an Oireachtais an seol a mheall agus an

dáta a thrú sa chaoi nach dtiocfaidh an dá fhéile salach ar an chéile arís.

Ba bhrú le go leor dinn go mbeadh seachtain an Oireachtais ag críochnú díreach roimh thosú na Flé; sin, nó go dtosnódh sé díreach tar éis críochnú don bhFleá. D'fhéadfadh an dá eagrais cuidiú lena chéile trí chomhoibriú. Bíonn comórtasí ceoil acu ar aon; tá na cuspóirí mórán mar a chéile acu, mar atá cuilín na hÉireann a thabhairt chun bliátha.

Bhíuill aon dochar i dteacht le chéile chun na cúrsaí seo a phlé agus chun teacht ar chomhréiteach a d'oirfeadh don dá eagrais agus do mhuintir na hÉireann i gcoitiné?

Tá faoi fonn arm go gceallfadh An tOireachtas chun mhaith den oíge má thánn sé i gcomórtas le Fléá Cheoil na hÉireann. Ní hionann an dá fhéile ach is mealltaí an Fléá. Níon mhiste do Choiste an Oireachtais an seol a phlé. Meall an oíge agus tíocheadh sí, a deirtear.

Fleá bhréa thriúil

AR CHUISEANNA áirítear is fada o d'fhreastal mar a bhFleá Cheoil. Ar an cúiseanna bhí an bhfearadachocht bhí ag baint le cuid de na fleanna. Laghdaigh an Comhaltais an phoiblichoit fúthi sa chaoi nach mbeadh duine ró-eolach ar dháta na Flé gan bheith ina chomhaltais den Chomhaltais nó, ar a laghad, bheith ag dul thart le coiltóir, ag casadh ceoil, ag amhránaíocht nó ag éisteacht. Ní fhaca mé aon lucht ar an bhFléá i mbliana. Beag duine ar meisce, Beag duine achannrach. Na Gardáil ciallmhar, tuiscenach, foighneach. Aoiobh ar gach éinne.

D'fhéadfá a rá go raibh an dúchas agus an náisiúnachas féiceálach. Níí aon chaill ar an oíge. B'fhearr liom go mbeadh siad tostach ó am go chéile, go mór mór, agus a bhíonn daoine ag canadh nó fonn mall a bheith á chasadh. Bhí na seisiúin sírdhe thar barr, na coirmeacha ceoil agus eagar an Chomhaltais ar chúrsaí i gcoitiné.

Shílfeas féin go bhféadfadh an slus a bheith níos mó ach ab é an eagla tá ar roinnt mhíth daoine faoi bhuanaí. Ach, mar a mhéad, bhuair cainteoirí an Chomhaltais dúinn ó am go chéile níor chuir aon dream tá i gceol a

chéile sna Sé Chontae isteach ar fhleá ar bith ná ar cheoilóirí i gcoitiné ó 1968 anuas: tá armheas acu uilig (ach na Gaill) ar an ngé sin den dúchas. Tuar dóchaí sin.

Tréigean na mban

SHILEAS GO raibh laghdú mór ar an slus a dhéanann freastal ar an Oireachtas. Bhí díomá orm faoi chomórtas amháin, amhránaíocht na mban ar an sean-nós. Ní raibh ach cúigeir i láthair. Bhí 15 éile le bheith ann. Má bhí siad i láthair níor tháinig siad go dtí an t-ardán.

Ba é a dúirt an moltóir nach raibh aon chomórtas ann, i ndáiríre, agus an ceart aige. Céard é thugann ar dhaoine a n-ainmeacha a chur isteach, le bheith ar an gclár, agus táille a íoc, ach gan de mhiseach na de bheas acu an lucht éisteacha a shásamh trí dhul ar an ardán agus a scil agus a mbinneas a theaspáint dúinn?

CÉN fáth go bhfuil ag éirí le hOireachtas na nGaeil comórtas maith ar an sean-nós a chur ar fáil agus go dtéann an Oireachtas eile?

Ba éisteacht is mó tá ag am ar Oireachtas na nGaeil sna cúrsaí seo gur amhránaíocht a conamara is mó dá mbóinn i láthair. Ach féach gur i gConamara a reachtáil An Oireachtas an fhéile i mbliana agus ní tháinig na hamhránaíocht amach an áit i cecolmháire in Éirinn, maidir le hamhránaíocht?

Caitfeadh anailís a dhéanamh, féachaint cén áit a bhfuil an fhadhb agus céard iad na bealaigh chun an fhadhb dhéanna a fhuascailt.

Comórtasí nua?

B'FHEIDIR GO bhféadfadh teacht ar réiteach na fadhb, go poitíníte agam, ach comórtas nua a bhíonn, do chaillíní agus do bhuachaillí 15 agus 18 mbliana d'aois, mar amhránaíocht ar an sean-nós, rud a mhol an moltóir, rud a ghlac an lucht éisteacha leis, le bualaibh báláir.

Ar an daoine a chuig na slus ar an ardán chun amhrán thabhairt dúinn bhí cailín óga chomh hóg sin go raibh rieleach na comórtasí á sárú aici agus a mbeadh an chraobh aici, déarfainn, dá laghdófaí na

rialacha nó dá mbunófaí comórtas nua do na daoine óga.

CAITHFIDH Coiste an Oireachtais fíric thábhachtach a chur san áireamh agus cúrsaí á bplé aige faosta, go bhfuil meádu mór ar líon na ndaoine óga in Éirinn inniu, agus gur ag meádu a bheas i líon faosta, de réir gach deallraimh.

Faoi láthair, den chéad uair le breis is 100 bliain, tá formhór mhuintir na hÉireann faoi bhun 25 bliana. Muna gcuireann Coiste an Oireachtais sin áireamh, caillfidh sé an oíge agus an cluiche.

Tá an rud céanna le rá faoi comórtas, eile, an t-aghaidh beirte. Tháinig beir ar Cárna a bhí ró-óg don chomórtas, de réir na rialacha, ach a bhí níos fearr ná cuid mhaith de na "seandaoine".

Ní fheasadh dom cé an duine a scríobh an script dóibh ach bhí sé ar fheabhas. Más í an bheirt a scríobh ba chóir do An tOireachtas ar fheabhas. Más í an bheirt a scríobh ba ba chóir do An tOireachtas duais ar leith a bhronnadh ar an mbeirt.

Mar a dúirt Tán Pheadaí, an moltóir: "Mol an oíge . . ." Agus mhol. Ach cén dochar duais aitheantas ar leith a thabhairt dóibh agus comórtas nua a bhunú don chéad bliain eile chun deis thabhairt dóibh agus dá lán eile páirt a ghlacadh i gcúlaí?

Fada ó chonaic mé Nicólas Toibín ag an Oireachtas ach bhí sé inár measc athair i mbliana agus chuir sin athas as cuimse orainn a bhfuil ardmheas againn ar an amhránaíocht. Tá Níochas i mbeirte ar an mbeirte sa tír a bhfuil an sean-nós gan locht aige, sean-nós cialleach na Déisce.

Buanú 'Amarách'

MAIDIR LE litreacha, seo a leanas ceann a fauir muid ó Sheasamh Ó Cuaig, Indreabhán, Conamara: "Deir Déib go bhféadfaí 'Amarách' a fhóisiú gan deontas."

"Déarfainn gur mhór an chabhair do lucht fóilsithe 'Amarách' dá bhfoilsíodh Déib an phlean" (sic) "atá aige leis an mbeirte seo a dhéanamh, sa gcead eagrán eile den 'Phoblacht'."

Níí fhios agam faoi "an phlean." B'fhéidir go bhfuil athrú ar an eagraidheán nó gurb é "an phlean" a deirtear i gCill Chiaráin. Níó sleamhú pinn. Níí saoi gan locht.

Tá an spás gann agus caithfidh mé stopadh. Ach leatfaidh mé leis an ábhar seo sa chéad eagrán eile.

Ree's wants Maire Drumm in prison

MR. MERLYN REES, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, wants Sinn Féin leader, Mrs. Maire Drumm to be jailed even though she has not been convicted of any crime.

Sinn Féin man's fight for rights

BUILDING worker, Joe Gallagher of Milton Keynes, England is continuing his fight against a legal charge of £200 for legal fees and to have his name erased from the employers' blacklist which is leaving him jobless.

Gallagher has been on hunger strike since August 12 in protest against the legal charges.

He has already lost more than a stone and a half in weight.

The bill relates to an incident early in 1974 when Irish-born Gallagher was picked up under the anti-terror laws and jailed in Brixton.

After several days' detention Gallagher was released without any charges being brought against him.

But as a result he lost his job on a Milton Keynes building site and has since been blacklisted.

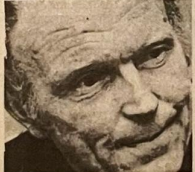
Legal aid is not available under the anti-terror laws and Gallagher was sent a bill for more than £150.

This has since risen to £200 with interest.

Union members have helped

Local members of his union, UCATT, have raised £60 which has already gone towards paying off the bill.

In contrast, the UCATT general secretary George Smith has refused any assistance.



Joe Gallagher

Gallagher told the News Line: 'I was picked up illegally, found to be innocent and let go without apologies.'

'I've been unemployed ever since because of it. Stonehouse got legal aid of almost £40,000 and he's still got his job.'

Joe Gallagher is a life-long Republican and is Bletchley Sinn Féin delegate to the Home Counties Comhairle Cheannair.

Mrs. Drumm was released from police custody after the Director of Public Prosecutions had dropped charges against her of taking part in an illegal procession for lack of evidence. But following her release, Rees told the BBC radio programme 'The World This Weekend': 'If you ask me personally whether I want Maire Drumm locked up I can give you a firm "Yes".'

Maire Drumm was arrested under Roy Jenkins' 'Prevention of Terrorism Act', which allows for people to be held in jail for a limited period without any charge or evidence against them. Clearly, Rees and other senior government ministers with whom he works closely including Prime Minister Callaghan, want to see people jailed for much longer, evidence or no evidence.

Just how long do these Labour leaders think people should be held in jail when there is no evidence to justify a prosecution? A year, five years, ten years, life?

Rees' remark was a clear invitation to the authorities in Ireland to jail this woman with no evidence and entirely without legal basis.

First the Tory Government and later their Labour successor have been found guilty by the Human Rights Commission of torturing Irish political prisoners. Now the British Government is heading for indefinite imprisonment without trial for its political opponents.

We say: 'Sé do bheatha abhaile' to Maire Drumm. Long may she live to defend the Irish people against the attacks of, Rees, Callaghan and their like.

Monaghan U.D.C. condemns Government's 'silent support'

MONAGHAN Urban Council unanimously adopted a resolution at last Monday night's meeting "protesting to the Department of Justice over the crossing of the Border by plainclothes British soldiers" and their release after being interrupted by Monaghan Gardaí.

Resolution proposed

The resolution was proposed by Councillor Lorcan Ronaghan who said it should be the policy of the State not to permit the unauthorised possession of firearms by anybody. He deplored the fact that the soldiers were released after being caught in possession of guns. Seconding, Councillor Vincent Conlon (S.F.) said the release of the two plainclothes soldiers was certainly no deterrent to those interrupted in perpetrating atrocities on the southern side of the Border. It was an open invitation to these people to come back again.

Mr. Conlon said it was a

disgrace that the weapons which the soldiers had in their possession were not retained by the authorities for ballistics' tests especially in view of the unsolved murders in the Republic of persons such as the late John Green at Castleblayney and Mr. Seamus Ludlow near Dundalk.

He thought it if had not been for the prompt action of the local people at Wards' Cross that day the young man whom the two British soldiers were attempting to abduct might have been seriously assaulted or worse.

Disgraceful

He added that it was deplorable in recent weeks to see RUC Special Branch men in cars parked in Monaghan town they were in the south with the blessing of the Gardaí. It all posed the question if the border area was being jointly patrolled at present. This was a disgraceful stance by any government purporting to represent Irish people, he said.

NCCL raps M.P.s over civil liberties

THE NATIONAL Council for Civil Liberties in England (NCCL) today launched its new journal, *Rights!*, in which it warned that most Members of Parliament are showing a depressing lack of regard for civil liberties.

A survey of the voting and campaigning records of all MPs published in the new journal, reveals 'wide divergences of commitment' to civil liberties in all three major parties. The divergences are widest within the Labour Party.

The survey, which is based on an analysis of voting, sponsorship of motions and MPs' performance at Question Time, awards pride of place to Mr. Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Ormskirk. Mr. Kilroy-Silk's victory in the survey is due, says the NCCL, to his energetic work on the rights of prisoners and on the detention of children in prison. Runners-up to Mr. Kilroy-Silk are Labour MPs, Ian Mikardo, Andrew Bennett, Sydney Bidwell and Robin Corbett. Close behind comes the Liberal Home Affairs spokesman, Alan Beith MP.

Opposition to Human Rights

At the bottom of the survey is Conservative MP, Mr. Michael Alison, who achieves his position because of what the NCCL calls 'his all-round opposition to civil liberties and human rights', notably his opposition to the Government's reform of the complaints procedure against the police. Nearest challengers for the wooden spoon are Conservative, Mr. Robert McCrindle, and Ulster Unionist, Mr. James Molyneux.

Labour's worst placed MPs are Mr. Jack Dunnett, who is a solicitor, and Mr. Peter Doig, both of whom voted in favour of the return of capital punishment in December 1975. Worst placed Liberal is

the Party's ex-Chief Whip, Mr. Cyril Smith. The Conservatives' best result is achieved by the MP for Chichester, Mr. Anthony Nelson.

The only MP in prison, Mr. John Stonehouse, shows up strongly in the poll in spite of his problems of managing a full attendance record.

Inconsistent

The survey points out that 'no member of the Government is anything like as consistent as the backbenchers' in pressing for civil liberty policies, but gives honourable mention to Mr. Alex Lyon, sacked by the Prime Minister in April.

Roy Jenkins — a disappointment

The NCCL also gives a valedictory thumbs-down to Mr. Roy Jenkins' tenure at the Home Office, which is described as a disappointment. The NCCL particularly criticises him for bringing in 'the disgraceful Prevention of Terrorism Act' and for doing almost nothing to liberalise Home Office prison and immigration policy.

Speaking at a press conference to launch the new magazine, the NCCL General Secretary, Patricia Hewitt, said that its main aim was to counteract the overwhelming public lack of knowledge and misinformation about crucial civil liberty issues in Britain — in particular immigration, the powers of the police, and discrimination against minorities.

Further information from: Martin Kettle, 186 King's Cross Road, London, WC1X 9DE.

Death of Cavan patriot

THE death of Mr. Michael Tully took place at his home near Cavan town.

A native of Roslea, Co. Fermanagh, where he was born in 1898, he was forced out of his home during the troubles of the 1920s and lost his home and farm to the Orangemen.

He took a prominent part in the War of Independence (1918-1921) and as a member of the Roslea Brigade, IRA, he took part in many daring raids and attacks on the forces of occupation. He spent many years on the run. He remained a staunch Republican to the end. He was a brother of Pat Tully, who was interned for eight years in Belfast and Derry jails.

He is survived by three sons, Michael, Joe and Jimmy to whom sympathy is extended.

Leaba i measc na bhFinini go raibh aige.

Cumann comment on speech by Dr. Eric Gallagher

IN A statement the Fennell/McDonnell Sinn Féin Cumann, Twinbrook, commenting on the Rev. Dr. Eric Gallagher's assertion that 'one of Ireland's greatest needs is a respect for the value of the expressed voice of the people' ask when was the last time the British Government or it's Army listened to the voice of the people of Ireland?

All-Ireland elections

"The last All-Ireland elections were held in December 1918. Then, Sinn Féin won 73 out of the 105 seats going. Did Britain then listen to the voice of the Irish people?"

"She sent her army to crush the government of the Irish people, Dail Eireann. She waged terrible and bloody war on the Irish people and finally in 1921 through more threats of violence against the Irish people she extracted a treaty which was to set up two artificial statelets — the one in the North to create an artificial majority for the Unionists so that the Protestant ascendancy could continue there" the statement said.

Demand the withdrawal of the Occupation Forces

"The Dublin Government appeared to be giving silent support to the policy of British soldiers whose motto was that of "who dares wins", said Coln. P. Treanor.

Confiscated

The Council also passed a resolution proposed by Mr. V. Conlon and seconded by Mr. F. McCarron that all firearms carried by members of the British Army on this side of the Border should be confiscated and ballistically tested. Mr. Conlon's resolution was also unanimously adopted.

Justice Freedom Peace

**A PROTEST RALLY
against
FORCES OF OCCUPATION
will be held in
BELEKS, STH. ARMAGH
on
SUNDAY, 12th SEPTEMBER '76
at 3.00 p.m.**

Buses to Beleeks will leave: 5, Blessington Street, Dublin at 12.30 p.m. Return fare £2.00.

Organised by Sth. Armagh Sinn Féin.

Political Status

Derry S.F. call for support

THE attempted removal of political status from political prisoners sentenced after March 1st is clearly a desperate attempt by Rees to destroy the Republican Movement by a process of criminalization and the attempted creation of divisions within the prisons between those political prisoners who will still hold political status and those who will not.

Derry and Dungen

In view of the seriousness of the overall situation, Derry comhairlecheantair, Sinn Fein appeals to the families of the men and women imprisoned for Irish Freedom, all ex-internees, former political prisoners and the community at large to show their support for the campaign demanding the retention of political status by attending all protests organised by Sinn Fein. A protest will take place in Derry, every Saturday at 3 p.m. and one in Dungen at the same time.

Organised campaign

Thousands of ex-internees, former political prisoners and their families throughout the Six Counties now have the opportunity to identify with the freedom struggle and the chance to take part in an

organised campaign for the retention of political status. By attending, not only are you demanding that political status be retained, but you are also registering your democratic right of freedom of speech and expression. This right will soon be denied completely to people who do not agree with British rule in Ireland.

Crucial period

This is the most crucial period in the history of British colonial rule in Ireland. Again we appeal to the families of the political prisoners, friends, former political prisoners, internees and anyone who honestly cares about the men and women imprisoned for the Irish people to fight for political status by taking part in the protests.

—P.R.O.
Derry Comhairlecheantair, Sinn Fein.

Port Laoise

Visitors harassed: prisoners abused

A POLICY of vicious harassment of visitors has been adopted by the Port Laoise prison authorities. Visits are being cancelled or terminated at the whim of whatever warden is present.

IN THE DEATH HOLE OF PORTLAOISE



THIS IS BEING DONE IN YOUR NAME ONLY YOU CAN STOP IT

On the Saturday following the resumption of visits in Port Laoise prison visitors from Belfast were turned away "because the quota of 30 visits per day had been utilised". Visitors from other parts of the country decided to forego their visits in order to allow the Belfast visitors priority but this arrangement did not satisfy the prison authorities.

Since the resumption of visits in the prison a number of visits have also been abruptly terminated. Mrs. De Barra's visit with her son ended before it even started because she greeted him in Irish. Mrs. Shanahan's visit with her husband was stopped when he told her that he had been beaten.

Mrs. O'Connell's visit to her husband was terminated after one minute. The reason given by the warden concerned the position of a chair. Mrs. O'Hagan who had travelled from Lurgan to see her husband had her visit prematurely ended for the same reason.

Also permits to visit are issued only to immediate family circle of the visitor. Prisoners' in-laws are being refused visits so that husbands cannot accompany wives on visits to brothers who are held in the prison.

Strip searches continue

The harassment of visitors is matched only by the policy of abuse of the prisoners who, for mere verbal objection to stripsearches, are beaten. These personal strip searches are now demanded, not only before and after visits but also before and after the prisoners enter the craft shop within the prison. This practice amounts to a demand by the prison Governor that prisoners submit willingly and without complaint to such humiliations or forgo the facilities of the craft shop.

Confined to cells

Despite the fact that the prisoners are now supposed to be out of solitary confinement they are being confined to their cells for 22 hours a day.

Will no one cry "halt!" to this institutional violence against helpless prisoners. Will no one call for an ending to this denial of the rights of men?

Where are Cardinal Conway, Dr. Cahal B. Daly and their kind who have open access to the news media and the ear of the politicians? Their silence is deafening.

Long Kesh call to ex-prisoners

IN A recent article printed in the Republican News I mentioned the thousands of ex-internees and ex-prisoners who were capable of joining the protest rallies and marches, but who so far had shown a reluctance to get themselves fully involved in the struggle for political status.

When writing that article I was fully aware of the fact that there were many underlying reasons for that reluctance — not least of which was the very simple and understandable aspect of identification by the so-called "security forces". In the past it has always been the practise for the occupying forces to harass and intimidate ex-prisoners/internees and on occasion shoot them dead on the pretext of having found them engaged in "subversive activities". Those sort of pressures are the understandable reason why some ex-prisoners/internees have not yet shown up at protest rallies called on behalf of their imprisoned comrades. But understandable though those reasons be, they are nevertheless unacceptable and the truth of the situation will now have to be faced by the ex-prisoners/internees.

Just look around you at the repressive measures being taken against the Republican Movement and all those who disagree with the British presence in Ireland. "No-trial" courts, arbitrary arrest, torture, repressive laws aimed at one section of the community only ("illegal marches by Republicans — traditional" marches by the bigots of Derry, the Apprentice Boys, aided and abetted by the British Army and RUC/UDR), house raids, wrecking of property, the threats to arrest seven year olds (to save them from being shot dead by the now out of control British Army?), planting of evidence, black propaganda by the NIO, — the list is endless and will get worse as time goes on, helped on by the one sided calls for peace by the middle class leaders of the Women for Peace movement. All this repression is aimed at those who oppose the British regime in Ireland and is not solely confined to those who take up arms. Marchers on the political status issue have been arrested, among the Maura Drumm, and there will be more arrests from within the minority

Dave Morley is at present the O.C. of the Long Kesh Political Prisoners. A native of Northern Ireland, he took part in various hunger strikes within the Camp and in Crumlin Road.

community as time goes on.

What you will not see are arrests from within the loyalist community when they decide, for whatever reason, to come on to the streets to protest on behalf of something they believe in. This raw and naked aggression against the minority community will be the means by which Rees, and whoever succeeds him, hopes to destroy the Republican Movement and it must be resisted using all means necessary.

ACTIVE ROLE

The ex-prisoners/internees can and must play an active role in this resistance and must attend all rallies and marches called for on the status issue. The threat of arrest is not sufficient reason for staying away. Stay at home watching TV and the Vrits will as well to be active in a positive and peaceful manner, despite the so-called "illegality" of the marches and rallies. The only thing illegal about these marches is the fact that they are anti-British in content and are therefore unacceptable to the British colonists. Rees can not have the thousands who attend arrested and instead will content himself with deterring the protesters. What better reason to be on the streets in the first place — to show the "right wing socialist". Rees that he and his Government are foreigners and are illegally holding the whole minority community to ransom for fear of treading on the toes of people like Ian Paisley, Harry West,

and William Craig; people who themselves are guilty in Brit terms of not only holding marches which were anti-Catholic, but who on occasion took over Stormont to resist any move toward having "Pope-heads" get any say in the then Government of Northern Ireland. To come out and protest against such discrimination should be a pleasure and an honour by any standards.

IMPRESSIVE BANNERS

To the ex-prisoners/internees I say this. One of the most impressive banners carried during the recent massive rally in Dunpark Park on August 8th was the one carried by the ex-prisoners. To us inside it was the first visible sign that our comrades on the outside had not lost faith and did not regard their imprisonment as a deterrent, or as a means by which the British were able to weaken their resolve in any way. If we took obvious pleasure and satisfaction from that stirring sight, then you can rest assured that the Brits took the opposite view — again reason enough to be on the streets in the first place. One can not cease solidarity on release from prison because to do so would be to surrender to the domination and arrogance of the British oppressors. Imprisonment was always the means by which Republicans reinforced their beliefs in the cause for which they were imprisoned in the first place and the history of that fact is well known and respected the world over.

Now is the time to make that history relive. The period we are now going through is one of the most crucial yet encountered and it is the one time when all anti-British feeling must be mobilised and put on the streets. To fail to do so would give credence to the lying propaganda of the NIO which would indicate that all that is necessary to destroy the Republican Movement is to harass them and ban them from taking to the streets. Those who would swallow that theory were never Irishmen in the first instance and their cause was never worth full commitment.

PRISONERS' ASSOCIATIONS

Because I believe this not to be the case where the vast majority of ex-prisoners/internees are concerned, I would make the following points. In every area of Belfast, Derry, Newry, Armagh, Strabane, Lurgan there are literally hundreds of ex-prisoners/internees who are looking for a lead at this time but who do not know how to go about forming Prisoners Associations for their particular areas. It's really very simple but very effective. You know the ex-prisoners in your area. Talk with them — discuss the possibilities and, if you like, mention the points I have made in this article. The obvious conclusion you will reach is that you have to get organised as quickly as possible to frustrate the drive against the Movement by the British, or surrender forever your claim to have been imprisoned in your Country's cause. That cause — Freedom — is now more relevant than at any time since 1916 and you will have to make your voice heard regardless of the pressures exerted on you by the Brits or the R.U.C. Do not hesitate to get in touch with me at the address below if the need should arise and I pledge that if I can be of any assistance whatsoever I will not hesitate to give that assistance.

You know the frustrations of imprisonment and you will also know how much it means to a prisoner when he sees that his comrades have not forgotten him. We, the prisoners of today, need you, the prisoners of yesterday. Our country needs the both of us — united in the resolve and determination over the years. That resolve and determination will prove to be the rock upon which the British perished in Ireland and cut their losses by withdrawing to their homeland. That depends on you.

Are you man enough to face the challenge, or does imprisonment at the hands of the British really deter one from the path laid by Connolly and Pearse?

—Dave Morley,
Compound 12, Fitt Cage, Long Kesh, Lisburn, Co. Antrim.

Labour Movement delegation to Ireland

"The National Labour Movement Delegation to Ireland" which held a preliminary meeting in London, on the 21/8/76, has drawn up a detailed itinerary for their visit to Ireland from September 17 to September 20.

Murray Defence Committee

A MEETING organised by the Murray Defence Committee at Abbey Street Corner, Dublin was attended by over 200 people.

Speakers from various organisations demanded that the death sentence on Mr. and Mrs. Noel Murray be commuted and that the death penalty be abolished. Speakers on the platform included Joe Stagg, Ann Speed of Belfast, John McNulty, (P.D.), Eamonn O'Dwyer of the Socialist Workers' Movement and Mrs. Miriam Daly.

In the course of her address Mrs. Daly said that support for the Murrays was worldwide that pickets and demonstrations were being held outside Irish Embassies

in Tokyo, as well as in Germany, France and Australia.

After the meeting a protest march took place to Leinster House. Along the way the crowd chanted: "No hanging here". The ranks of the marchers were swelled by people on the sidewalks who joined with them.

On reaching Leinster House the marchers found their way blocked by a stiff line of blue-helmeted gardai supported by armed free state troops. All attempts by a delegation of the marchers to meet their TDs were met with resistance.

Addressing the crowd, Miriam Daly said that a written protest would be handed in to Leinster House the following day.

In Dublin the delegates will meet representatives of the anti-imperialist movement who with the aid of prominent Trade Unionists will outline the historical context in which the present struggle in the north is taking place.

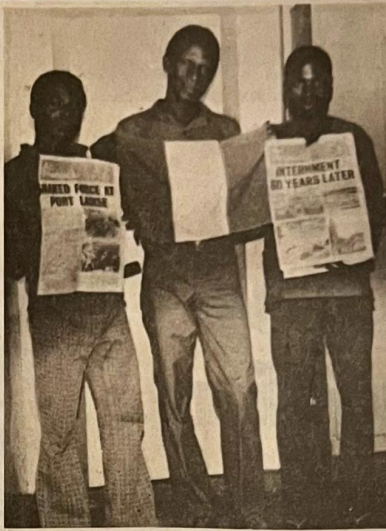
It's understood that certain Labour Party and Fianna Fail T.D.'s have expressed a wish to meet the Delegation.

En route to Belfast the following day, the delegation hopes to be able to visit Crossmaglen the capital of the South Armagh Republic so that they will be able to see for themselves that the area and its population is not in keeping with the lurid and fantastic tales presented in the British gutter press.

In Belfast the delegates will be accommodated in the homes of local people so that they will experience at first hand what life is like in the British Army "Occupied Areas". Meetings have been amongst with local politicians, Trade Unionists, "tenants' groups and clergy so that the delegates in the course of their visit, will encounter the longest possible range of anti-imperialist opinion in Ireland.

The Delegation is modelled in the 1920 Labour Party Commission to Ireland which reported that "things are being done in the name of Britain which must make her name stink in the nostrils of the whole world", and is a result of that visit some five hundred protest meetings were held throughout Britain by workers expressing their opposition to British rule in Ireland.

The 'National Labour Movement Delegation' is already sponsored by MPs and a large number of constituency Labour bodies, Trades Councils and Trade Unions. Delegates, who must have a mandate from a recognised Labour body, so that they can be genuinely said to represent a large section of Labour and progressive opinion in Britain, will hold local meetings on their return at which they will report on their findings.



These three African friends of An Phoblacht were pictured at Takoradi, Ghana.

COUNTING PROBLEMS

A "peace" meeting was held in Belfast on Saturday 21st of August. It was organised with the connivance of the pro-establishment forces and as promoted continually on the media.

The meeting has led to a wild variety of claims as to the number of people who attended the meeting. Indeed in their haste to bolster the "peace" campaign, many of the papers displayed vivid yellow streaks.

The first indication of the number attending the meeting came on the 26 County Government controlled radio station which announced that 11,000 had attended. Apparently wishing to bolster the campaign the "Sunday Press" ran the following as a banner headline on the front page "50,000 Answer Provos". Claran McKeown went on to say: "A crowd so vast that experienced reporters gave up trying to estimate at an agreed 50,000, with people still pouring in, thronged into the Ormeau Park yesterday afternoon".

The "Sunday Independent" was not quite so extravagant in their claim. They settled on a round 30,000.

The "Irish Press", which also publishes the "Sunday Press", were having second thoughts in the sober daylight of Monday morning. They now estimated 15,000. What became of the 50,000 that experienced reporters had difficulty estimating? No explanation has been issued as to what happened to the other 35,000 and it is unlikely that any logical explanation will be given.

The pro-government "Irish Times" estimated that "between 15,000 and 20,000" people attended. Obviously some journalists have great difficulty with numbers. Any pro-establishment meeting tends to be exaggerated out of all proportion, whereas the numbers attending Republican meetings are always halved.

For the "experienced reporters" it is obviously not so much a question of what number they are looking at, but at whom they are looking.

Price of cement

AT THE monthly meeting of Clones U.D.C., Cllr. Frank Maguire (S.F.) requested that the Council Engineer examine the footpaths in Fermanagh St. with a view to having them repaired.

The Chairman informed him that there was no money available at the moment, to carry out such repairs.

Cllr. Frank McCaughey (S.F.) remarked that it was strange that the Government could get ten tons of cement to put on the grave of Frank Stagg at Ballina, but no cement could be bought to repair Clones footpaths.

BRITISH VISITORS?

During a discussion on tourism, Cllr. F. O'Neill (F.F.) objected to visitors from Northern Ireland being referred to in Bord Fáilte statistics as "British Visitors". "They are all Irish as far as I am concerned", he stated. Cllr. Maguire in the same discussion asked the Bord Fáilte representative, M. Black, several important questions regarding tourist attractions and their developments. He especially asked that serious consideration be given to the up-dating of the local hand-bail alleys.

Residents of Fermanagh St. through the Sinn Féin Councillors have been successful in having a very annoying sound eliminated. It was a council man-hole cover which kept people awake at night.



In proud and loving memory of Staff Captain, THOMAS HARTÉ, Oghlaigh na hÉireann who was murdered by Free State Quislings on 6th September 1942. Never forgotten by An Cumann Thomas Harté Sinn Féin, Lurgan.

In proud memory of TOM WILLIAMS who gave his life for Ireland on the 2nd September, 1940. The generations shall remember him and call him blessed. Always remembered by An Cumann Tom Williams Sinn Féin, Lurgan.

Bishops and cages

THE Brit has built a cage for me,
The ultimate indignity!

Of hatred hot its every side
To kill all love as well as pride.

And he has put in it a bed,
And bids me dream that "God is dead".

No blanket warm against the night;
God be my warmth, God my light!

The Bishop looking hale and fit
Sees my cage and blesses it.

He then proclaims at my stool -
Saying "John Bull is a blasted fool!"

His Grace should say it on a stage
And brook the blasted fool's" Rage.

But will he?
Tiarna Breathnach,

San Francisco

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE NEWS WHEN IT GETS TO IRELAND?

ANDREW M GREELEY

(Reprinted from the Washington Daily News)

LET ME TELL YOU about two things that happened not so long ago in a country under an oppressive military rule.

An American scholar (of Jewish background) was doing research among the oppressed. She was arrested, held in jail without charge, tortured and then released after several months. The American government did not intervene on her behalf and has not protested to the government whose troops were responsible. Nor has there been any effort to tell her story in the American press.

A mother of three children, still in her early 20s, was stopped at a military checkpoint and, without provocation, beaten bloody and unconscious by soldiers. She was dragged off to prison and would have bled to death if a kindly guard had not given her medical assistance. After several days she was released without apology and without explanation. Again no protests from the American government, even though the girl was an American citizen visiting her family.

What was the country you say? Chile, Cuba, Cambodia, Lebanon, Uganda? No, none of these; it was Ireland and the military guilt of both these atrocities were British soldiers.

You didn't read either of those stories in an American newspaper because none of the American papers carried them. There were no protests from any of the American groups who are so worried about torture and imprisonment around the world - but, then, such groups never protested what went on at the infamous Long Kesh concentration camp. Probably they never heard of it.

I mentioned these two incidents to the foreign editor of a major American paper. Are they news, I asked him? They are front page news, he told me; but the wire services never carried them, and no American editor ever heard of them. He didn't know why; and I'm not sure I do either. The last trace of vicious colonial oppression on the European continent, and military brutality and torture in one of the NATO countries; yet not a word about it in any American papers. It almost has to be a conspiracy.

But I don't think there is an explicit conspiracy, rather the silence of the American media on the horror of northern Ireland is the result of something almost as bad as a conspiracy - inattention. By definition, Ireland is unimportant and, equally by definition, it is impossible for the English - nice,

civilised people - to commit atrocities of torture and brutality (even though their own press has vigorously exposed such things).

Besides, who is interested in Ireland? Rhodesia, Chile, Israel, Kenya - those are important countries and ones to which the press associations send correspondents, as do even some of the great national newspapers and journals. Who can spare a reporter for Belfast? Oh, maybe one stops in occasionally and has a drink in the bar where all the local newsmen hang out and then files a dispatch repeating the clichés about senseless religious conflict and birth control in the Republic of Ireland. But no one thinks that serious investigative reporting of British colonialism in Ireland is worth the effort.

Those who are concerned about Ulster (without necessarily supporting the IRA) have been told that it's our job to bring the issue to the attention of the American people the way, for example, American Jews have brought the issues of Israel to the attention of the public. But such advice makes the concerned Irish-Americans furious. They have been trying with all their might and no one in the media seems to be interested in listening. Is there a deep and subtle prejudice at work however unconscious it may be? You bet your sweet life there is.

NOTEBOOK

Rise of the new feudalism

As the ancient Roman world crumbled, feudalism arose. It was a time of disorder. There were barbarian raids and invasions. The Roman armies couldn't defend everywhere.

People left towns and farms and took to the hills to avoid the high taxation and military service. Communications by road and sea were interrupted. Local authorities hadn't the money to maintain essential services or to repair the town walls. Garrisons were withdrawn "to shorten the frontier" or to serve on other frontiers.

All over the place local "strong men" arose, offering protection in exchange for subjection. "Forget citizenship", said the strong man, "and civil rights. Be my serf, and I'll look after you. I'll be your judge and lord and defend you against bandits and terrorists. You won't have freedom, but you'll have security".

Freedom of movement ceased. The serfs were bound to their lord's land. The courts were cleared and the courthouses stood empty. The strong man, now feudal lord, sat in his castle in the country and handed down judgment. His armed men patrolled his territory, chasing bandits and pirates and repelling incursions by the armed men of neighbouring lords.

Occasionally, the lord formed alliances with other lords to defend their territories jointly against invading armies. And gradually, the lords, according to their respective strengths and riches, formed hierarchies of lords bound together by kings.

In many parts of Europe this system lasted for hundreds of years. Civil life and civil rights, as the Roman world knew them or as we have known them, disappeared. Fear was the lever of power.

"The world is dangerous", the people felt, and there was a great deal of evidence to suggest it. "Yes, indeed", the lords told them, "the world is very dangerous. Cluster around us, on your knees, and we'll protect you, lest death and destruction strike you, too, as it has struck, and is now striking, so many".

Something similar is happening in Europe in our own time. Our world, too, is breaking down and its civility crumbling. On the one hand, the bomber and gunman, on the other, the armed state oligarchies, hold the centre of the stage. The states and nations are being transformed before our eyes into embattled fortresses promising "security" from violent death to their respective masses. Security in exchange for liberty.

This new feudalism is arising from, and being strengthened by, the materialist view of life. By that I mean the view of man as a sort of animal — as a creature, whose essential needs are purely physical and whose only real misfortunes are material poverty, physical sickness, bodily injury or death. Propagated by the ruling oligarchies, accepted by gullible masses, and sinking itself as a basic assumption into the very fabric of social life, this view of man so insults man's nature that it drives courageous men and women to the bomb and the gun.

With the bomb and the gun they seek to destroy the world which is denying their human personality. By their courage in face of death and physical suffering, and their indifference to material goods they seek to assert their spiritual nature, the humanity of man, or the collective personality of their nation.

But their activities inflict death and injury, and the state oligarchies, for their part, find that they can use this evident fact to increase

their power over the gullible masses who believe that physical injury or death are the supreme misfortunes. The state oligarchies point to what the freedom-fighters do; use every device to make their deeds seem horrible; suggest that the gunmen and bombers are lurking everywhere — ready to strike — and state plainly that they must have more powers to deal with the menace of THE TERRORISTS MAY GET YOU TOO.

The state broadcasting services drive this message literally home, and do everything else they possibly can to make the world seem an "insecure" place. Not satisfied with the deaths by bomb and bullet which each day provides, they scour the earth for violent disasters of every kind and their attendant corpses, and pack them all into their hourly news bulletins.

News from France — a block of flats collapsed in Lyons, killing 20 people. From Ecuador — a volcano erupted burying 300 alive. From Bulgaria — a suburban train was derailed near Sophia, crushing 18 people beneath the wreckage. It would seem that the world — and this is the object of the exercise — is being pockmarked with hecatombs of every kind and that SUDDEN VIOLENT DEATH is a constantly threatening possibility.

"So you must agree", say the politicians, when the "news bulletins" have properly scared the people, "that you need protection from the purveyors of violent death, from the lurking terrorists who threaten you. And it stands to reason that, (if we are to protect you properly, we need powers and some further restriction of civil liberties. But it's a fair bargain, really. What use are civil liberties to you if you're DEAD?"

So runs the extreme propaganda argument. It is backed up by talk about the tourist trade, foreign investment, and "threats to our standard of living". (The materialist propaganda has already taken care to define "standard of living" as a condition of material well-being which does not necessarily include freedom. What a pig would call "standard of living", if pigs talked).

I see no likelihood of this trend towards a new feudalism ending in the near future. If any reader can envisage such a possibility, I should be glad if he would write and tell us how and why.

For my own part, I believe that the only way to end it is to build the alternative, humane society (national and international) within the debris of the old and with one's back turned to the existing system. But that takes time, especially the international part of it.

I have pointed out here many times that Dubland is ruled by a subversive regime: men whose primary purpose it has been to subvert the Dubland State, as established by de Valera and in particular the Dubland Constitution. They are anti-constitutionalists to a man, and make no secret of it.

So I am not surprised at their suggestion that the Constitution should be suspended. It fits into the pattern. Only it's funny when they say that suspending the Constitution of the state is a necessary measure in the struggle to defeat subversion.

Of course, it could be clever-clever in a zany sort of way. In order to prevent the Provos from subverting the Constitution, you suspend it! Ha! Ha! Then there's nothing for the Provos to subvert. Ha! Ha!

FREEMAN

News from the North

BRIT enemy troops came under fire in several incidents and R.U.C. Patrols were also attacked. Petrol Bombing of houses continued over the weekend and several people were treated for burns. South Armagh Provisionals mortar bombed the local Barracks causing several injuries.

Saturday 28th August

LURGAN: A high velocity shot was fired at a Brit patrol operating near North St. Two Brits were wounded. One was grazed on the neck and the same bullet then smashed another soldier's rifle causing it to disintegrate. Over 20 pieces of shrapnel were removed from his body.

The local unit of Ogligh claimed responsibility. **DERRY:** In a similar attack on a Brit Patrol one soldier was hit in the shoulder by a single high velocity shot.

An R.U.C. mobile patrol came under fierce gunfire attacks as they were travelling along the Hospital Road near Magherafelt.

It is believed over 30 shots were fired but the R.U.C. did not return the fire. **ARMAGH:** Brit soldiers had a lucky escape when only part of a 60-lb. bomb exploded in a derelict house, close to where they were examining two hi-jacked lorries.

BELFAST: The Glen Inn Pub, Glengormley, was destroyed by a "No warning" bomb. One youth lost both legs and 26 customers and staff were injured.

Sunday 29th August

BELFAST: Three petrol bombs were hurled into a house at Scilly Park, Finaghy. Eight people were in the house at the time and one woman was detained in

blaze on Sunday. Experts were checking out the possibility that timers may have gone on fire again and started last night's inferno.

Another of the fires, at a music shop in Sandy Row was thought to have been started by a petrol bomb. It caused much damage.

The third blaze was at a house on the Crumlin Road being used for storing furniture. Again, police were not sure what started the fire, which damaged the ground floor of the house.

A man standing at the door of his car outside his home at Ballysillan Park had a lucky escape.

A man operating from a passing car fired a single shot at him. It missed by inches and smashed into the driver's door window.

Earlier two youths, one armed, left a bomb in Noblett's paint store in Castlereagh Street, east Belfast.

It blew up 20 minutes later, starting a fire which destroyed Noblett's and Wilton's funeral parlour next door.

At Stewartstown Road a petrol bomb was lobbed over the recently-erected peace line, but it failed to ignite.

GORTIN: Two buildings were slightly damaged after petrol bombs were lobbed at them. They were the Ulster Bank and Ballantine Garage. Later several shots were fired in the area but the source could not be checked out.

the explosion totally wrecked the premises.

BELFAST: Armstrong's tiling warehouse at Boucher Rd Industrial Estate was completely destroyed after two bombs exploded.

The six man party responsible for the attack escaped in a red van.

Wednesday, September 1.

BELFAST: The Unionist Headquarters in Glengall St. was totally devastated by a huge fire. Floors in the four-storey building collapsed and the inside was burnt out. Damage was estimated at a quarter of a million pounds. The premises have been the target of several attacks over the years and just recently had been renovated after an earlier bomb attack.

CROSSMAGLEN: The local CRA group issued a statement claiming that several local people had been viciously "beaten up by troops". Some people had required hospital treatment and the CRA warned that further statements have been collected they would be considering what action to take against the British troops in the area. The beatings followed a mortar attack on the RUC Barracks the previous day.

Thursday, September 2.

BELFAST: The man found bound with wire and suffering from gun shot wounds in the Shankill Road on



Prisoners in a British jail protest against illtreatment by prison warders.

hospital for treatment. A man and woman were treated for burns after their house was petrol bombed. They lived in Gardiner Street off the Shankill Road.

Another petrol bomb attack took place in Whitecock Road. But only the door was damaged.

The large Pant store belonging to W.A. Clohesy, in the Milfield area, was completely gutted after an incendiary device exploded.

Three men and two women were taken to hospital suffering from shock, after the club of which they were all members, was damaged by an explosion.

The club was situated in the Merville Garden Village.

An ex-Brit soldier was shot twice as he sat in the living-room of his father-in-laws house. The house was in the Tiger Bays area.

Monday, August 30th

BELFAST: New equipment and machinery was destroyed in the blaze at Abraham Neill's flour mill at King Street near the city centre.

The scene of the fire was just beside Clokey's paint store which was gutted in a

CASTLEWELLAN: Two youths standing at Upper Square fired three shots at a passing R.U.C. patrol last night.

No one was injured, and the R.U.C. fired back, but the attackers escaped.

Tuesday, August 31.

BELFAST: A man was found in the Shankill Road area of the city, bound hand and foot with wire, and suffering from a severe beating and gun shot wounds.

CROSSMAGLEN: The local unit of Ogligh na hEireann claimed responsibility for a well organised attack on the village's RUC station. The barracks were hit by five mortar bombs and sustained gunfire.

Before the assault on the barracks took place Ogligh blocked all roads into the village and cleared the inhabitants living close by. Brit sources later confirmed that in fact all the residents had been properly warned.

LURGAN: Two women, one carrying a sub-machine gun entered a Restaurant in Malcolm Road, Mourneview, and placed an explosive device. A warning was given and the area cleared before

Tuesday died. He was named as Patrick Cunningham from Co. Down.

A large fire broke out after a bomb exploded at Coulter's Car Showrooms on the Antrim Road. The bomb had been left by two men who shouted a warning. The area was cleared.

LURGAN: A 25 minute warning was given after a youth left a bomb in a shop. Extensive damage was caused to the building after the bomb exploded.

Friday, September 3.

BELFAST: There were two shooting incidents in the city today.

In the first incident, three men burst into a house in the Whitewell Road area and fired over seventeen shots at a man sitting in his living room. The man unbelievably escaped injury.

In the second incident a Prison Warden from Crumlin Road jail was shot in the leg and thigh as he walked near the Oldpark Road.

A blast bomb caused slight damage to the Holy Cross Primary School in the Ardoyne district.

Fire completely destroyed the Catholic Ex-Servicemen Club at Rodney Parade.

James Connolly's daughter writes . . .

I AM really appalled at the consequences to the Irish people if the currently proposed 'Bill Against Terrorism' becomes law. I feel that the politicians in the Oireachtas are not politically learned enough to realize what the horrible consequences of such a Bill becoming law in this country will be. I give, under numbered paragraphs, horror of this legislation to their notice, and to the notice of the electorate, and to show what the likely consequences of the Bill may be.

The Civil Liberties Association have declared their opposition to the Bill because it takes away the Civil Rights of the people and ignores the United Nations Charter of Human Rights which is understood to cover the whole world; the Irish Section of Amnesty International will find itself too busy attending to cases in Ireland to give any attention to their work on behalf of prisoners of conscience.

I am glad to note that so famous a man as Fr. Denis Faul of Dungannon brings out in a recent statement last, August 19th, Fr. Faul complains, and I quote "that as under the proposed legislation in the South - was the Republic should take note of this and ensure that no of the points that occur to me on learning of the Causes of the proposed Bill."

1. It abrogates the Constitution.
2. It will affect every man, woman and child, because with the abrogation of the Constitution we lose all rights the State has gained since its separation from England.
3. It will create impossibilities for trade-unionists and prevent them from doing anything would enable them to improve the conditions under which they are compelled to live. For since this Bill makes it an offence to do, or say, anything against the Government, the channels of protest and dissent namely, picketing, striking, marching and protesting in any way to redress grievances will be denied them. The unemployed, the housewife afflicted with rising prices, will be afraid to voice their protest. The provisions of the Bill be raised against them. In fact the Bill attempts to make deaf mutes of the Irish people. These points may seem trivial but to me they are the basis of democratic civilisation. We remember all the stories which we have read since the death of Spain's General Franco - the thousands of trade-unionists and other dissidents who have been imprisoned and of whose plight the world had never heard. Similar things happened in Portugal under Salazar's Government, and are happening now in all the countries behind the Iron Curtain - even in Russia itself - which holds the whip hand over them all. The Coalition seeks now, through this Bill, to bring Ireland into line with Franco's idea of Government; with Salazar's idea of Government, and with Russia's idea of Government - all blatant coercive systems which allowed no opposition whatsoever and ruled by Councils chosen by themselves. I see this Bill as steering Ireland on the same road.
4. As a matter of fact the Bill means the end of democracy in the Republic. This, of course, demonstrates what the Coalition have been aiming at since they reached that apex of political life. Their spokesmen have denigrated the Rising of 1916, and have shown by their speeches that they wished we were back to W.T. Cosgrave's "Irish Free State" when we were part of the British Empire.
5. Not only are Fine Gael at fault, but the Irish Parlia-

mentary Labour Party will share the burden of guilt if they collaborate in dragging the country down to this level. Perhaps the Labour Ministers feel that as members of the Cabinet they must support the Government but, surely to goodness, there are other Labour members who are not so bound by their membership of the Cabinet who can voice their disassociation with the measure by abstaining if they do not want to vote 'No'.

6. Fianna Fail, it would appear, also favours the Bill except for the Clause declaring a National Emergency. They may find other Clauses in the Bill to object to as well; it remains to be seen. But if all the political parties in Dail Eireann think that coercive repressive legislation is the cure for what the Government chooses to term "terrorism" and "subversion", they should think again, for terrorism stalks the land under many guises that evoke no punishment, no Special Courts, no imprisonment, yet all too frequently, needless injury and death is the tragic fate of the victim. I refer to the terrorism of carnage on our roads through carelessness, drunken driving and sheer negligence; in one year alone how many hundreds of people are killed or crippled for life on the roads as a result of motor accidents that are officially looked upon as "just another casualty"; no special law has been made to bring such terrorists to book; what about the terrorism that surrounds old people living alone and that prevents ordinary people from walking the streets in safety at night? In these cases law-breakers have freedom to do as they like and are not labelled with the odium of "terrorist" when they appear in Court.

Ireland has had a history of coercion and found means to defeat it and it will find the means again, but isn't it sheer lunacy to introduce this Bill that denies all civil liberties and that can have no other effect but to sow the seeds of Civil War.

7. The idea of allowing soldiers to raid houses without a warrant is most objectionable, for what guarantees are being given the citizen against the excesses of military personnel; against home-wrecking, theft and physical abuse? As Fr. Faul so ably points out, and I quote: "if you find police-forces emergency laws of that type it is almost inevitable that they will abuse them and that brutality and torture will intervene because they are given too big an opportunity to do these things and to cover them up."

8. If this Bill is passed, will the soldiers who are to be given powers to raid the homes of citizens, be provided with arms? Will there be closer co-operation still between the Irish Army and its British counterparts and between the Gardaí Síochána and the RUC? Will the Bill in fact bring British troops once again back to the streets of our cities and towns, and to our lovely Irish countryside to create 1916 all over again? It is a terrifying prospect and it must not be lost sight of.

I apologise to you, Mr. Editor, for the length of this letter, but the subject is of such gigantic importance, and the consequences of the Bill so horrifying, that I feel in duty bound to warn the public of the terroristic legislation that is now to be enacted in their name, and in the interests of all our people, I hope you will see fit to publish it.

Nora Connolly-O'Brien, L.L.D.

40 Galtymore Park,
Drinagh,
Dublin 12.
31st August, 1976.

IRELAND "UNITED" . . . (Ar leanúint ó ch. 1)

keep the people at bay until something turns up (Oil? Gas? A new mine? A new loan? A new EEC handout? A valuable NATO lease? A pick-up in international trade? An earthquake, volcano, tidal wave or even Direct Divine Intervention?).

All Western Europe and many other parts of the world are in ferment today because capitalism has failed and is seen to have failed. Or is it all a huge IRA conspiracy?

The revolutionaries are not responsible for the massive failure, merely the harbingers of the next economic system which is producing its own ideology, its own politics, its own morality.

Locking more and more people up cannot stop the economic clock, cannot forestall the crash. All it can ensure is that the changes, when they come, will be all the bloodier.

Very few people in Ireland believe that the IRA was responsible for the events of 1968, 1969, 1970 and 1971, yet these events cannot be disregarded in considering the bloody history of the north-east from then up to the present.

The IRA was not responsible for the rejection of the 1918 democratic decision of the Irish people to be free and independent, nor for the Pax Britannica which followed.

But Orange gomben tyranny in the north-east and Green gomben tyranny in the rest of the country were merely contributory factors, not the prime movers of the revolution.

The instigator was the economic factor: colonialism and neo-colonialism have failed to meet the economic challenge as have the multi-national corporations, the next logical step in capitalist expansion.

The IRA was not responsible for the oil crisis, nor for the problems of Smith's Rhodesia, nor for Soweto, nor for Notting Hill. Nor were "subversives," in general or in particular.

"Subversive" scapegoats, however, are useful; they may help to distract attention from the facts, from a time eventually, the facts will have to be faced and the economic contradictions resolved.

Keating and O'Brien are about the only people in Leinster House who have any idea of what we are talking about, and, what is more, they know we are right.

That is why they will watch and wait, to try to trap us and destroy us, even though they realise fully that the tactic will be merely diversive.

That is their tragedy in the full classical meaning of the word. They know that revolutionary changes in Ireland are inevitable, just as they are inevitable throughout the capitalist world; but Keating and O'Brien are prisoners of their own greed for power.

The other politicians are putty in their hands. The coming changes will destroy them all and end forever the power of their class.

The new laws are the dark before the dawn. They serve a very useful purpose. Henceforth, everything will be in black and white. There will be no confusing neutral tones.

As repression increases, let us clarify issues, make obvious to all concerned, honourable men and women who are their friends and who their enemies; where the good is and where the evil; who stands for freedom and who for slavery; who is working for peace and prosperity and who for slavery and exploitation.

Curbs on Press

People who have read about O'Brien's files on the "Irish Press" can be in no doubt about the warnings we have sounded, monotonous perhaps, for the last four weeks. These files have been accumulated before the "Bill" is even passed.

The tramp, tramp, tramp of the Jack Boot can be heard ominously in the distance.

Republican Post

PRIOBHAIDEACHT CRUINNITHE CEANNAIS

CHEAPFA é eagrán 30 lúil go raibh "Déde" in aghaidh an Conradh a bheith ag glacadh le deontaisí stáit. Ach é eagrán 13 Lúna seans go samhlofa a mhalairt ("beathaithe ar airgead an phobail"). B'fhéidir nár mhiste dó ceist a chur ar Dheasán Breathnach faoina dhearcadh-sán, ar cheist na ndéontas, nuair a bhí seisean ar an Góiste Gnó: airgead an phobail a bhí sna deontaisí agus mar sin bhí sé de cheart ag an gConradh glacadh leo, an port a bhí á chanaidh aige sa Chlub agus in áiteanna eile an t-am úd.

Ar cheist phríobháideacht na cruinnithe ceannais b'fhéidir nár mhiste a mheasbhuir do bhuir léitheoirí nach nós libh mionchur síos ar chruinnithe ceannais Shinn Féin a fhóisiú. Ní bheinn ag éileamh a leithéid a fhóisiú ins "An Phoblacht" gan trácht ar i "Rosa" nó "Déde" i éileamh ach an oiread! (Slát-tomhaís eile in úsáid aige?)

Bron orm faoi na botúin sa chlóscríobh im'chead litir: "meascann sé a thairimiocht féin agus tuairiscíreacht" a bhí le "Rosa" sa chláid deiridh. Tá sé sin níos so-thuaise é d'fhaic.

Ar an geist ginearálta is dóigh liom nár mhiste dó, d'fhonn "pobal na hÉireann a ligean isteach chun éisteacha", sleachtaí as cuid dá bhfoilsicéir, m.sh., Pólaid Gaeilteach, Geirtheim na Gaile, agus b'fhéidir Open Broadcasting: An Alternative a thabhairt do phobal léitheoireachta An Phoblacht. Caithrohró sé go mór, meaisim, le tuairisc orain a chothú.

-Padraig Ó Sneadhaigh, Conradh na Gaile, 6, Sraid Fhearchair, Baile Atha Cliath 2.

PEACE MARCHERS: 'NO BLANKET APPROVAL'

SIR - Reading the editorials and the letters published in "National" papers every morning, they give the impression that the peace marchers have blanket approval from everyone. This is just not so.

I may be the one dissenting voice and the National papers will never let it see the light of day.

Where are the condemnations about the horrific deaths of the Dempseys? It seems to me that it has all been played down to a very low key.

No heartbroken relatives on television; no strong words from the pulpit and on your part, dear sir, no stirring editorial.

Mrs. Williams sang last Saturday "When Irish Eyes are Smiling". Dear Mrs. Williams, there are eyes in Hillman Street that have nothing to smile about - Yours, etc.

-Very Soot (Mrs). 55 Unity Flats, Belfast.

Abolish Capital Punishment

PUBLIC MEETING G.P.O., DUBLIN.

Wednesday, September 15 at 8 pm

Organised by the Murray Defence Committee

AN CUMANN CABHRACH (Republican Prisoners Dependents' Fund)

Ceili

in ERNE PALAIS, BELTURBET

on Friday, 1st October, 1976

MUSIC - DOONAREE CEILI BAND

TICKET 60p

The official policy of the Republican Movement is expressed in statements issued by Sinn Féin, the Irish Republican Publicity Bureau and the leadership of the Republican Movement.

Views expressed here, by letter writers, by regular columnists and in other signed contributions, are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the publishers.

Comhbhron

SUDDEN DEATH OF COMMITTEE MEMBER OF LONDON CUMANN CABRACH.

Republicans in London were sad to hear of the recent untimely death of Dennis O'Donovan of Dagenham.

Dennis, who died suddenly while on a visit to his wife Cork city, was a tireless worker for an Cumann Cabrach and the prisoners dependents over the years.

To those of us who had the pleasure to have known and worked with him in the movement over the past decade, the memory of his sincere and ever happy disposition will be a source of inspiration in the days ahead.

May the soil of rebel Cork rest lightly on his mortal remains.

Inserted by his comrades and friends in the Republican Movement London.

Also
Pray for the soul of Denis O'Donovan Vice-Chairman of an Cumann Cabrach, London, who died suddenly while at home on holidays in Cork city. Over the years Denis had been treasurer, chairman and vice-chairman of the London Cumann Cabrach. Denis was also organiser of "Aid at Christmas" to prisoners families and the now popular "cards for prisoners at Christmas" Cumann Cabrach Group. Sadly and sincerely missed by the members of an Cumann Cabrach London, who tender their deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

Also
Denis O'Donovan whose recent and sudden death in Cork city has been a great shock to friends and associates in an Cumann Cabrach London will be missed most of all by his friend and comrade in Ireland's cause - Terry (Treas).

A Chara,
Please insert the following notice in 'An Phoblacht' "The members and Committee of the McAdurey/McCusker Sinn Féin Cumann Lúton, England, regret the death of Danny L'Ennon, Beal Feirste, and tenders deepest sympathy to his family, friends and comrades. Mass Offered". Is Míse le Meas, Michael Holden, (Rural).

GUILTY

THE European Commission of Human Rights at Strasbourg has found the British Government guilty of using torture in the interrogation of internees in August 1971.

This, at first seemingly favourable report, has been laced with mitigating clauses, palatable to the English television and Press, such as the conclusion that the introduction of internment was 'strictly required by the exigencies of the situation' (a 'grave emergency') in the Six Counties, and that the British were 'not guilty' of discriminating unfairly against the minority in the application of internment. This means that the distinction drawn between Republican and Loyalist extremists 'was justified'.

The Commission backed the British in that the nature of the security situation justified the government's policies.

The accusation that the killings of the victims on Bloody Sunday, January 1972, were in breach of article 2, were declared inadmissible as it had not been shown that domestic remedies available under the law in the Six-Counties had been exhausted before the date of the claim.

Similarly on May 21st this year the Commission absolved the Brits in the Donnelly/Duffy/Bradley case of declaring that they offended the principle of "exhaustion of domestic remedies:" effectively saying that the existing compensation procedure for persons alleging torture at the hands of the Brits/RUC/UDR was 'adequate and effective'.

The British propaganda emphasis will thus be on these aspects and they will probably ignore the following:

- The British Government instructed its witnesses not to reply to questions about interrogation in-depth techniques.

- The politicians responsible for the introduction of Internment (i.e. Faulkner, Heath and Maudling) refused to give evidence.

- This blanket "non-co-operation" applied also to the seminar conducted by the English Intelligence Centre where the techniques were taught orally to RUC officers in April '71, four months before Internment was introduced.

- The British Government did not permit any confrontation of the victims with members of the RUC or British Army.

- The Brits refused to submit copies of interrogation records showing which police officers interrogated particular witnesses, and during what period.

- That many of the RUC men and soldiers involved in the torturing have been promoted; two of whom we know of personally to the rank of Superintendent and Chief Superintendent.

- That some or all of the techniques had played a part in counter-insurgency operations in Palestine, Malaya, Kenya, Cyprus, the British Cameroons, Brunel, British Guiana, Aden, Borneo, and the Persian Gulf, as well as in the Six-Counties, and that their application — according to the Brits — was justified because they had "produced very valuable results in revealing rebel organisations." [On this submission the Brits were found guilty].

SURVEY

In a five-year follow-up study into the psychiatric effects of interrogation techniques employed by British counter-insurgency forces in Ireland, Professor Robert Daly said the victims suffered drastic psychiatric after-effects and serious medical illness.

Forty-three of the individuals he examined

"have been experiencing considerable psychological disability and suffering psychosomatic problems. The commonest symptoms were: marked anxiety, fear and dread, as well as insomnia, nightmare and startle response".

And his report continues: "The emergence of serious illness in the group of 'hooded-men' (one of whom has since died), points to the drastic nature of this particular procedure."

"One 29-year-old 'hooded man' has developed Hodgkins disease, of which there was no evidence prior to arrest. Another man has had surgical treatment for carcinoma of the skin which developed on one of the scars he received on his leg while 'being interrogated in-depth'."

"The fourth has had colonic resection for suspected Crohn's disease. He developed intense and chronic diarrhoea some three months after the 'interrogation in-depth'."

His report explains that out of the 342 men arrested in August, 12 individuals were selected for interrogation in-depth.

VICTORY

Five years and one month ago we KNEW that the British were torturing captured comrades. The practice still continues and we are certainly not so naive to believe that the findings of this Commission will have any bearing on the Intelligence — gathering activities of the Brits/RUC. Perhaps, however, they will be more subtle about their next methods.

It is interesting, and perhaps worth remembering, that the Strasbourg Commission faced with indubitable and incontestable proof of sophisticated British torture have left plenty of room for British domestic and international manoeuvrability in the propaganda field.

The British will duly ignore the adverse criticism of their more philanthropic Strasbourg colleagues.

9th August '71, and Bloody Sunday are indelible.

The British are torturers and murderers on our soil.

These methods, they hope, will make us lie down.

For the third time in as many weeks, we, the Republican POWs in Magilligan Camp have had to strip-search various members of the Prison Administration to emphasise our opposition to the whole strip-search procedure.

LATEST INCIDENT

The latest incident occurred on Tuesday, 24th August, when prisoners in a Republican cage strip-searched a Senior Officer who had participated in a raid on the cage. As usual, the prison official involved, S. O. Horgan, was neither intimidated nor ill-treated, merely informed that the action taken was not directed at him personally, but at the whole corrupt prison system which he represented.

At the time of the reintroduction of strip-searching we stated clearly that we would oppose with all the means at our disposal the Admin's petty decision to inflict senseless indignities upon us. This we have done, and this we will continue to do until the Administration finally realise that we will not accept strip-searchings, and that we are fully determined to maintain our protest campaign just as long as is necessary.

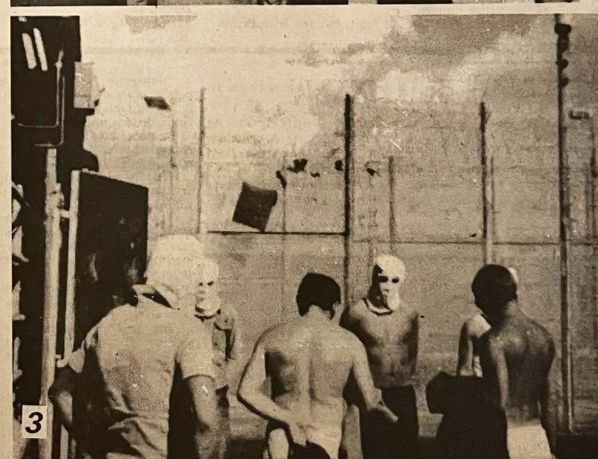
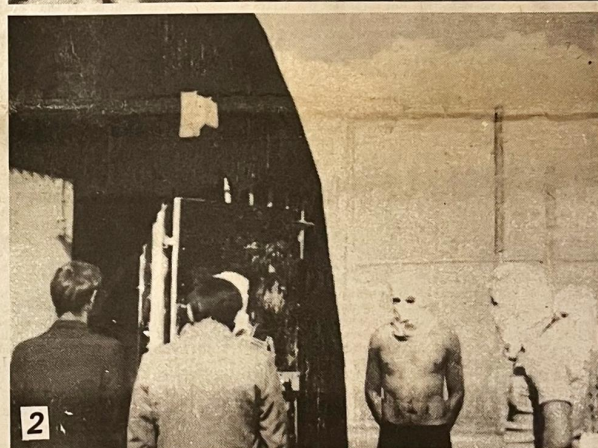
Roger Casement Commemoration 60th Anniversary



The annual Roger Casement Commemoration will be held on Sunday, 19th September at the birthplace of Casement in Sandycove, Co. Dublin.

ASSEMBLY: Bottom of Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire at 3.00 p.m.
Speaker: Deasún Breatnach

Organised by The Roger Casement Commemoration Committee



1. Two members of the Board of Visitors are shown around the Cage by a Prisoner-of-War.
2. The Board of Visitors members are confronted by masked P.O.W.s.
3. The Board of Visitors members are strip-searched. They are told that this is a daily ordeal for Republican prisoners.