

An Phoblacht REPUBLICAN NEWS



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BEWARE!

1979 HAS seen the Irish Republican Army rock the British six-county state to its foundations. The revolutionary guerrilla struggle has now reduced British army morale to its lowest level during this decade of war. The loyalist UDR and RUC are also paying the price for their increasing role under the 'Ulsterisation' policy and for their sectarian activities.

British army brutality, RUC Castlereagh torture and SAS executions are well-publicised and documented methods of repressing this Republican resistance. But alongside, another even more sinister campaign has been continuing without much publicity, a campaign of assassination, not 'random' as earlier in the decade, but this time apparently intended as more 'selective'.

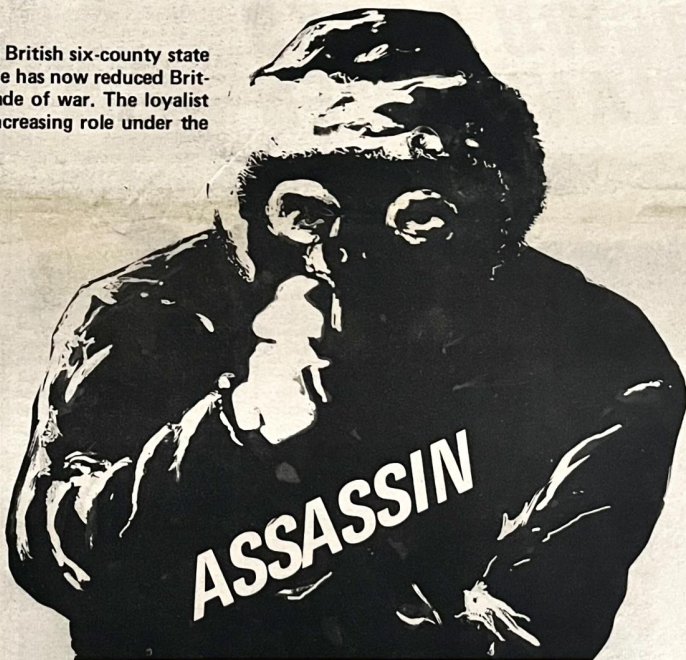
During the last ten years the old Unionist monolith has broken up under the stresses and strains of events, disagreements over tactics and the emergence of flamboyant personalities. Those who deviate from the policy of loyalist domination — the UPNI (Unionist Party of Northern Ireland) for example — have suffered politically.

Thus, the main current of unionist thinking remains totally sectarian — unchanged and within the existence of 'Northern Ireland' unchangeable.

When British soldiers took over from the exhausted RUC in 1969, the British government casually attempted to reform the most blatant aspects of state sectarianism despite the fact that the circle just could not be squared.

There rose up from within the nationalist ghettos a resistance based on historical experience and in response to British army repression.

When it was seen by the loyalists that British army jackboots, their tanks and guns could not quell Republican resistance, they too joined in — either 'legally' through the activities of the RUC and the reconstituted B Specials, the UDR, or, in



U.D.R. HEADQUARTERS ATTACKED

IN A DAYLIGHT raid on the headquarters of the UDR's tenth Battalion in Belfast's Malone Road area, IRA Volunteers killed a full-time UDR soldier and injured three others.

Shortly after 11:15 a.m. on Wednesday an open-backed lorry carrying an active service unit pulled up outside the base. The IRA men using machine-guns fired into the instructors' room, and in a statement claiming responsibility the Belfast Brigade stated that two 5lb bombs were also thrown into the camp.

A passing RUC man fired on the IRA unit but he was deterred and withdrew when he came under fire. About a quarter of a mile away a mobile RUC patrol gave chase to the get-away lorry and on the Lisburn Road they too were sprayed with bullets. The active service unit returned safely to base and it was some hours before the six-wheeler truck was found.

pogrom-like attacks and the sectarian assassination campaign in which hundreds of Catholics have been murdered.

Loyalist attacks have not usually been carried out in direct retaliation for IRA activities, but have been launched to keep the nationalist community in check (as with the pogroms in 1921-22, or the Malvern Street killings in 1966 when there was no IRA 'provocation').

However, in the April 28th edition of AP/RN we warned that "The Brits must also be considering resurrecting loyalist assassination groups", as another option, besides 'selective internment' to combat the recent increase in resistance.

In fact there has been a steady series of attacks over the last six months which indicate that an assassination campaign, particularly in

Belfast; is being carried out by loyalists and/or Brit agents. Some of the targeting has indicated a knowledge of RUC or British army collated intelligence — that is, where specific people will be at specific times.

Here is a list of some of the more prominent attacks:-

The car of leading Belfast Republican Kevin Hannaway was booby-trapped; the manager of a Catholic Social Club in North Belfast was shot dead; Billy Carson was murdered in the same area; prominent Sinn Féin member Billy Davidson was shot and wounded; the father of a blanket-man was also fired at; the mother and brother of a sentenced Republican prisoner were fired on in their home ten days ago (see page 4); and last Saturday night there was an unsuccessful machine-

gun attack on a female ex-internee working in a Falls Road taxi firm (also see page 4).

The Republican Movement calls upon the nationalist community and likely victims within the twenty-six counties to exercise extreme caution and to be aware that this campaign is in progress. Be on your guard.

CROSS-BORDER H-BLOCK MARCH

Saturday 9th June
STRABANE · LIFFORD · STRABANE
Assemble 3.30 p.m. Inisfree Gardens, Strabane,
Co. Tyrone; march across Camel's Humm
bridge to rally in Lifford Co. Donegal;
and then march back to Strabane.
Organised by Tyrone Central RAC

POST OFFICE WORKERS' STRIKE

Lynch hounded

AS THE post office workers' strike in the twenty-six counties enters its sixteenth week, strikers have been mounting protests at venues on Jack Lynch's EEC election tour, and have again been attacked by gardai and special branchmen.

In Cork on Friday June 1st, angry strikers formed a picket at the Mahon Industrial Estate where Lynch was opening a new factory. Carrying placards describing gardai as "uniformed thugs" they shouted defiant slogans as Lynch's car entered the premises, and inside the grounds hecklers prevented him from delivering his opening speech. As he left, some protesters were able to thump on the roof of his car.

Later on the same day, at the city's Victoria Hotel, post office workers again surrounded Lynch's car, and on this occasion were attacked by a large force of gardai and Special Branch.

In Galway, last Tuesday night, more post office workers disrupted Lynch's final EEC election rally in Eyre Square. On three occasions,

gardai attacked hecklers in the crowd and, according to journalists at the scene, concentrated their strongest assaults on women



Post office strikers confront Lynch at the Mahon Industrial Estate in Cork.

amongst the protestors. Afterwards local Fianna Fail politician and Defence Minister Bobby Molloy congratulated the gardai on their brutal methods.

As we go to press the Post Office Workers' Union (POWU) are holding their annual conference in Ballina, and have unanimously passed a motion to continue the strike. Opening the conference John Colfer, the union president, said: "The postal workers' determination to hold out for a fair interim offer before going back to work is stronger than ever."

TROOPS USED AGAINST DUBLIN REFUSE WORKERS

THE FIANNA FAIL government are using troops in Dublin to scab on maintenance men engaged in an industrial dispute with their employers, the Dublin City Corporation.

The fitters have been operating a work-to-rule and over-time ban in order to gain an improved wage agreement. Their action has led to the 'grounding' of thirty-seven of the city's forty-eight refuse collection vehicles. Last Friday, Leinster House directed that the troops should collect refuse using army vehicles.

At a meeting on Wednesday 6th June at the Grangegorman depot the 'dust' men defiantly told Leinster House to remove the troops or face an all-out strike. A statement signed by trade union officials warned that "The workers in the Cleansing section strongly deplore the action of the government in using army personnel and vehicles to collect refuse. This is our work

and we will not accept it should be done by others."

This latest Leinster House action of using troops against trade unionists struggling for a living wage is in line with the recent vicious attacks mounted by gardai on striking postal workers and the arrest and intimidation of striking pickets at McDonald's Hamburger 'joint' in Dublin's O'Connell Street.

The recent rise in militant trade unionism in the twenty-six counties especially the massive PAYE protests, stems from a desperate effort by the workers to keep pace with the spiralling cost of living especially after the tough wage restrictions of recent years agreed between top trade union bureaucrats and successive Leinster House governments.

ITGWU BACKS BLANKETMEN

H-Block motion was proposed by Patrick Brennan (Dundalk). A delegate from Belfast, Brian McCann said that the blanket men were not criminals and that the union should support their campaign for status.

One Dublin delegate, Fergus Brogan exposed his pro-British slave mentality and turned history upside down by claiming that the only result of "the Provo murder campaign" is to prevent any possibility of a united Ireland.

Concluding the debate, Michael Mullen, general secretary of the union referred to H-Block prisoners "incarcerated at the behest of an anti-democratic establishment".

Earlier, during the conference, Michael Mullen had stated that pressure must be kept up relentlessly on the British government to state its intention of making a phased withdrawal from the North of Ireland.

A motion condemning as inhuman the British government's treatment of prisoners in H-Block was overwhelmingly carried at the annual conference of the Irish Transport and General Workers Union (ITGWU).

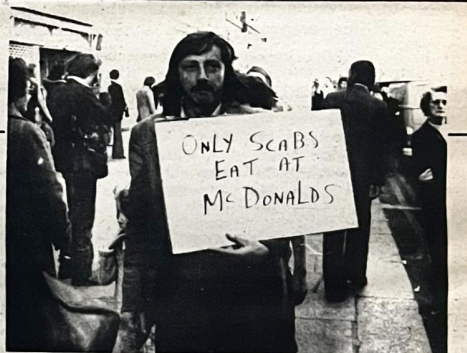
The ITGWU, which is Ireland's largest trade union with 170,000 members, held its conference last week at Salthill, Co. Galway. The

Michael Mullen, General Secretary of the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union, who spoke out strongly in support of the blanket men last week.



Election reports in next week's issue

Next week's issue of An Phoblacht/Republican News will carry an analysis of Thursday's local government elections held in the twenty-six counties (which Sinn Fein contested) and of Thursday's EEC parliamentary elections held throughout Ireland (which Sinn Fein boycotted).



Mass picket at Mac's

By Paul Rooney



Some of those who supported the McDonald's strikers in last week's mass picket.

OVER FIFTY people took part in a mass picket on Friday, 1st June, at McDonald's Hamburger 'joint' in O'Connell Street, Dublin.

The picket was organised by the strikers in order to break the injunction order which was served on them forbidding them from mounting more than a token picket.

McDonalds multi-national empire, is a notorious anti-union concern, whose arrogant management work blatantly hand-in-hand with the repressive forces of the state. Typically on Friday, the manager of McDonalds in O'Connell Street was observed walking from the premises to a waiting Special Branch car, where he had a long conversation with the occupants.

The strikers at McDonalds feel that their union, the Irish Transport and General Workers' union (ITGWU) have not been giving them the support they deserve. That if the union flexed their industrial muscles, this dispute could soon be ended.

And so the mass picket was called, even though it could have resulted

in the arrest of the pickets, especially those who had broken the injunction before.

The picket was very successful, and McDonalds rapidly became empty.

Jimmy Macken, one of the McDonalds strikers, stated on the picket-line that future mass pickets will be held until the strikers' demands of trade union recognition and a basic living wage are met. He called on people to support the strike, and not to scab in any way, either by supplying McDonalds with their raw materials or by eating at the 'joint'.

Another mass picket is planned for Saturday June 9th between 12 noon and 3 p.m. The strikers have appealed for the support of all trade unionists.

WAR NEWS

All the operations referred to below were claimed in supplied statements by the Irish Republican Army.

R.U.C. MORALE CRACKING

On Tuesday evening Alan Wright the leader of the RUC's 'trade union' (the Northern Ireland Police Federation) demanded of Direct-Ruler Humphrey Atkins: "If we are not to lose what small gains we may have made, then the army must play a more active role in the security field."

Alan Wright was speaking at the annual dinner of the Federation at which Atkins was a guest. He was bemoaning recent IRA successes particularly in the border areas, especially recent Republican successes in killing and injuring members of the RUC.

This latest crack in RUC morale is a further blow to the British policy of 'Ulsterisation' which involves sending the RUC to the front line. The RUC are now pushing back.

The sparks which ignited to show up this crack in RUC morale was provided by the IRA in South Armagh last Sunday when an RUC Superintendent and a Constable were blown up and instantly killed by a 200lb land-mine. The Superintendent is the most senior RUC man to be killed this decade.

WEDNESDAY 30th MAY

Co. Armagh:

A fierce gun battle took place between several heavily armed IRA Volunteers and Brits and RUC men. The battle waged for several minutes as the IRA besieged the heavily fortified Brits/RUC barracks in the village of Forkhill in South Armagh. About a mile away from the main battle another Brit patrol came under concentrated fire. This attack was carried out by the IRA near Tullydonnell. No hits were claimed by the IRA units involved, which themselves returned safely to base.

Belfast:

A joint Brit/RUC mobile patrol was fired on as it passed the roundabout at the junction of Donegal Road and the M1 motorway.

THURSDAY 31st MAY

Belfast:

Shortly after eleven o'clock the IRA set up an ambush for a plain clothes Brit who was driving an unmarked mini car in the area of Whitecross/Falls Road junction.

The IRA team occupied a dentist's premises overlooking the junction and awaited the arrival of the Brit.

When his car came within their sights they opened fire. One of the bullets shattered the car's windscreen, narrowly missing the Brit, who sustained injuries from broken glass. The IRA's Belfast Brigade in their statement claiming responsibility said that the plainclothes Brit was on an intelligence-gathering operation spying on the nationalist people.

Within an hour of the sniper attack an IRA bombing team planted three bombs in a government building on Belfast's Malone Road. The building housed the Department of Health. When the bombs exploded they started a fierce fire which caused extensive damage to the building.

The successful attack caused widespread traffic chaos around the Malone Road and Lisburn Road area for several hours as traffic was diverted away from the scene of the explosion.

In a further attack, the Belfast Brigade bombed a paint shop on North Belfast's Cliftonville Road. The attack took place at 8 o'clock in the evening. The building was extensively damaged.



British government building bombed on Belfast's Malone Road by IRA active service unit on Thursday 31st May.

IRA WARNING

In a supplied statement to the media claiming responsibility for the day's bombing operations the IRA warned that civilians in receipt of bomb warnings should treat them with deadly seriousness and pass them on as fast as possible to safeguard lives.

SUNDAY 3rd JUNE

Co. Armagh:

Two RUC men, one a Superintendent, the other a constable, were

killed instantly when a 200lb land-mine they were virtually standing on was detonated. The remote control booby-trap bomb was planted in a ditch in a narrow laneway at Clonagil, two miles south of Crossmaglen.

The two RUC men were part of a joint Brit/RUC team who were engaged in carrying out a search for explosives in the area. The search had been going on for most of the day and had just ended. The two RUC men were about to leave when the bomb was detonated. The explosion took place at half past nine. Boulders were scattered over a two hundred yard radius by the explosion.

The search had apparently been carried out in response to information the RUC had been given that explosives were secreted in the area. The RUC appear to have made yet another costly blunder. Their eagerness in following up information supplied to them will undoubtedly be dampened by these latest fatalities, which bring to nine the number of RUC men killed this year.

The loss of the RUC men, particularly a Superintendent will be a considerable blow to the RUC's morale in South Armagh, especially coming so quickly after the IRA's successful operation near Bessbrook when a 500lb van bomb was detonated killing four RUC men instantly. The Superintendent is the most senior RUC man to be killed this decade.

He was named as Superintendent Stanley Hanna, a divisional Superintendent in overall charge of the RUC in South Armagh. He had spent twenty-eight years in the RUC and was stationed at Bessbrook barracks.

The IRA in a statement emphasised that their successful operation should help hammer home to Direct-Ruler Atkins, the British government and the British people "the suicidal aspect of their effort in trying to maintain a British presence in the North against the will of the nationalist population."

TUESDAY 5th JUNE

Belfast:

A double-bomb attack extensively damaged a pools firm and other commercial premises in an office block in Upper Donegall Street in the centre of Belfast.

The bombs were planted by an active service unit just after four o'clock. A fire blazed for an hour, extensively damaging the four-storey building and wrecking offices belonging to a dozen firms.

There was widespread traffic disruption as rush-hour traffic was diverted away from the scene of the attack.

AMERICAN GUNS AND OPPORTUNIST POLITICIANS

FOLLOWING AMERICAN Speaker Tip O'Neill's controversial statement in April that the North was being used "as a political football" in British politics, last week he again entered into controversy; this time over American arms shipments to the RUC.

It has been common knowledge for a considerable time now that the American State Department has been licensing shipments (particularly M1 carbines) to the RUC, as in the past they supplied anti-riot guns and gas grenades.

These weapons have invariably been used to kill or suppress Irish people - RUC men joined in the slaughter of three unarmed IRA Volunteers and a passing civilian at Ballysillan a year ago, and recently women protesters outside Armagh jail were beaten with the butts of RUC American-supplied carbines.

However, it is over the licensing of three thousand .357 Magnum pistols and five hundred automatic rifles, supplied by Sturm Ruger Corporation in Connecticut, that O'Neill has kicked up a storm. He said that to supply the RUC was to supply a faction involved in the 'dispute' in Ireland, and that this might provoke Irish Americans to send more weapons to the IRA.

He also repeated his criticism of the British administration that "the question of human rights in Northern Ireland would not be swept under the rug as far as Irish Americans were concerned."

Another Irish American politician, Daniel Moynihan speaking on BBC television whilst in London last week-end applied more mild pressure to the British government. He said that he and his associates, Senator Edward Kennedy and Tip O'Neill "care about Ireland. We hope to see a successful democracy and a multi-religious, tolerant, successful country."

Moynihan added that American interest was consistent and would go through one president to the

other. "I hope that it will not be supposed that we will be endlessly patient," he said.

CONDEMNED IRA

And just in case it could be mistaken that he was a supporter of the Republican Movement he condemned the IRA in the strongest possible terms. Significantly he stated: "There are two authentic nationalisms in the island of Ireland, and not just one." So, here we have an accommodation for the loyalist idea of an independent six-counties, which could conceivably dovetail with Garret Fitzgerald's proposed confederal Ireland of six and twenty-six county states.

To reason out why these Irish American politicians are embarrassing the Brits it is necessary to examine their motivation. In the past two years Congressman Mario Biaggi has presented a serious threat of outflanking them with his 'peace

forum' initiative which began to gather rapid support.

The euphoric momentum behind Biaggi's forum suffered a major setback when the Republican Movement correctly declared that it was boycotting it because of its promotion of the war in Ireland as being internal communal strife rather than being a colonial struggle of Brits and their supporters versus progressive national liberation forces.

Much of the wind is now being taken out of Biaggi's sails by Kennedy, O'Neill and Moynihan on their pro-Irish crusade. Two years ago when the Brits were confident that the IRA was in difficulty the Big Four (including Hugh Carey) made their St. Patrick's Day anti-IRA speech outside of the context of putting pressure on the Brits for a solution.

Since then opportunism (the need for Irish votes), overall American imperialist interests, Carter's human rights campaign, and the 'danger' of IRA successes, not to mention latent anti-British sentiment, has dictated a greater emphasis on British responsibilities towards

finding a solution.

It is of course inconsistent, not to mention hypocritical, for Tip O'Neill, who is Speaker of the House of Representatives, to condemn arms shipments just to the loyalist RUC while American armaments prop up the most reactionary and oppressive regimes elsewhere in the world.

These Irish American politicians are out to undercut that basis of the Republican Movement which currently is its most obvious source of strength - (the presence of British troops in the six-counties) and which is even a source of nationalistic discontent with rank and file Fianna Failers and SDLP members.

Whilst American pressure on the Brits may represent major breakthroughs for the spineless Lynchers and Mallons of this world, for us they certainly do not have the same significance though we enjoy the embarrassment which the Brits experience.

The results of national dispossession, poverty, unemployment, inequality - has given us native cunning. We are eternally suspicious.



RECENTLY WOMEN PROTESTORS OUTSIDE ARMAGH JAIL WERE BEATEN WITH THE BUTTS OF RUC AMERICAN-SUPPLIED CARBINES.

NORTH BELFAST HOME UNDER GUN ATTACK

SHATTERED NERVES, bullet-ridden walls and a lost home provide eloquent testimony to what the reactionary forces of loyalism generated in a street in North Belfast in the aftermath of a gun attack carried out there on Thursday May 31st. The attack was directed against the Kerr family in their Pim Street home off Belfast's Antrim Road.

The murder bid came only a few hours after a member of the family, twenty-three-year-old Robert Kerr was sentenced in a Belfast court to life imprisonment for the shooting of a British soldier and a civilian searcher on Rag Day last year in Belfast's city centre.

A guilty verdict and life sentence were imposed on Robert Kerr although the only evidence produced in court by the RUC were a series of supposed verbal confessions made by him whilst undergoing interrogation. Robert Kerr refused to partake in the farcical court proceedings, by refusing to recognise the legality of the court.

Media reports which followed last Thursday's gun attack on the Kerr family portrayed it as a tit-for-tat shooting in a 'revenge' attack. Friday's Belfast Telegraph carried a headline proclaiming 'Killer's family flee vengeance'.

Such a description of the attack is designed to justify it by putting it into the context of reacting to IRA violence. This example of tacit approval by the media of loyalist violence against Republicans or their families shows how far loyalism pervades every aspect of life in the occupied six counties.

In sharp contrast to the withholding of British soldiers' home addresses on their rare appearances in court the Orange Judge and the media collaborated in publishing Robert Kerr's home address and thus laying his family open to attack.

The gun attack followed a court-room death threat made against Patrick Kerr, the father of Robert, the day before his son was sentenced. The threat was made by a man who accompanied relatives of the dead civilian searcher who were also present in the courtroom. He warned

Mr. Kerr that he would get a bullet in the head. Later that same day he pulled up on a motor cycle beside Mr. Kerr as he was making his way across the Crumlin Road and warned: 'I'll get you tomorrow.'

MURDER BID

The murder-bid against the Kerr family happened next day at about 5.15 p.m. when a three man gang in a motor car pulled up outside their home. One of the men went into the Kerrs' home whilst one remained outside the door and the other stayed in the car, with the engine running to ensure a quick get-away.

Mrs Margaret Kerr told an AP/RN reporter what then happened: 'I was in the scullery making tea when I heard a bang at the living room door. I slid back the scullery door and saw a man with a gun clasped in both his hands. He pointed it



directly at me. He shouted: 'Where is he, where is he?' I just squealed, dropped the bottle of milk I had in my hand and made a dive for the back door.'

As Mrs. Kerr successfully escaped out of the back door, her fourteen-year-old son Martin was coming down from upstairs into the room where the gunman was. On seeing the boy the gunman opened fire. Martin Kerr explained his miraculous escape: 'I had half-turned from the landing onto the stairs when I saw a gun sticking out of the entrance to the living room. I jumped from the stairs back into the landing. As I did this I heard a number of bangs.'

The gunmen then sped off in their car into a nearby street, transferred to another car and made good their escape.

Since the shooting the Kerr family have left their house and are now seeking another home.

The area where the shooting took place has come under attack many times in the past by travelling loyalist gunmen. Murdered Catholics have been found lying in back alleys off the street and several years ago three loyalists were discovered at the corner of Pim Street itself with a number of rifles in their car. More recently the Shankill butchers travelled around the area during their reign of terror, seeking unsuspecting victims.

This latest attack in Pim Street is a horrifying reminder to its residents of the forces the six-county statelet produces when it feels threatened.

Belfast Taxi-Depot gun attack

BRIT/LOYALIST gunmen struck a second time against a specified target within the nationalist community, only two days after the abortive North Belfast shooting attack against the family of Republican prisoner Robert Kerr. The second attack, which like the first was only narrowly unsuccessful, occurred in West Belfast last Saturday night at quarter past eleven.

The potential assassins' target was twenty-two year old Republican Lillian Kelly, a former internee, who at the time of the attack was working as a receptionist in the Blue Star Taxi Depot in Shiels Street off Belfast's Falls Road.

For several minutes Lillian Kelly fought against a gunman armed with a sub-machine-gun, who was intent on killing her. Her death-defying ordeal began when she felt the cold steel of the muzzle of a sub-machine-gun pressed against her temple as she sat behind a hatch in the taxi depot.

For a split second Lillian Kelly froze expecting certain death. But the gun jammed. She grabbed it and shoved it away from her head forcing back the gunman who kept checking and clearing the weapon trying to rectify the jam. Again he levelled the gun at Lillian and pulled the trigger but nothing happened.

To unnerv her attacker Lillian screamed and threw a chair at him and attempted to escape out of the depot. But still the gunman kept checking his gun, ejecting bullets and trying to make it fire. He was very calm, not once did he show any anger at the weapon not working.

After repeated unsuccessful attempts to fire his weapon the gunman ran into the street and jumped into a waiting car which sped off into the night almost running down several youths standing at the nearby corner of Blandbawn Street.

This latest attack underlines once more the need for vigilance within the nationalist community. Next time the assassins' potential victim might not be so lucky.

case in West Belfast's Iveagh Parade in the mid-morning of Thursday 29th May when the chauvinistic contempt that the occupying British troops have for the nationalist population was crudely expressed by their treatment of a small child.

Four-year-old Robert McCormick had been playing in the street at the same time as a foot patrol of British soldiers was there. He went into his home to proudly show his mother his left hand upon which he claimed a soldier had written his name.

Mrs. McCormick was astonished to see on her son's hand inscribed in blue biro, the words: 'MICKS ARE CUNTS'. She has no doubt that a British soldier had written this petty abuse.

As she later stated: 'If they wrote that on his hand, what were they saying to his face?'

Such treatment of a small child by British troops should come as no surprise. Children only a few years older have met their deaths at these 'peace-keepers' hands.

IT'S FINE FOR SOME

THE BLATANT Orange bias of the British judicial system in the North of Ireland was clearly exposed yet again in a Belfast Crown Court last Monday.

John GILL, a forty-year-old self confessed (with no brutality claims) member of the UVF, admitted that he had an 'illegal' gun in his Belfast home. The gun had been found last October by Gill's 14-year-old son who accidentally fired it fatally wounding a school-friend.

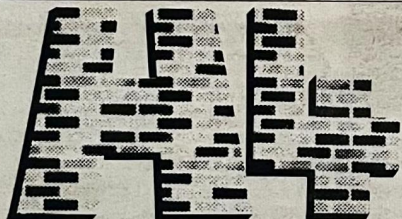
Judge William Doyle stated that UVF man John Gill must take 'primary responsibility' for the boy's death. Incredibly the judge then proceeded to merely fine Gill the almost nominal sum of £90 for 'illegal' possession of the gun and for being a member of the proscribed UVF.

At this moment of time there are numerous Republicans, framed-up for similar offences (of membership and possession) who are serving five or more years of imprisonment, naked in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh.

The contrast of their plight with Gill's 'slap on the wrist' provides a vivid illustration of the quality of British 'justice' in Ireland.

Brits are B's

Sometimes a small and apparently insignificant incident can well illustrate a general truth. Such was the



BEATINGS- NOT SIMPLY MINDLESS THUGGERY

REPUBLICAN prisoners on the blanket protest in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh, particularly H4-Block, are presently undergoing harassment and beatings going to and coming from their visits.

The beatings usually occur when the prisoners are taken to a cell (nick-named by them the 'romper room') especially set aside for searching them.

These beatings are not simply the product of their guards' mindless thuggery or sectarianism, (although there is a considerable element of this); for brutality is an important weapon used by the prison regime in their vain attempts to smash the prisoners' protest.

In this instance the harassment is designed to force the prisoners to stop taking their visits, and thus further increase their isolation and vulnerability by closing this channel of communication the men have with the outside world.

In a recent communication from the PRO of the H4-Blocks he explained the rigorous search procedure and brutality inflicted on the

men and cited the example of two Belfast prisoners, Paddy McGrandles from Ardoyne, and Hugh Malone from the Lower Falls:

'On entering the 'romper room' after returning from their visits, Hugh Malone and Paddy McGrandles were told by screws to stand naked with their legs apart over a mirror and touch their toes.'

'On refusing to do this both men were viciously punched in the stomach and pulled by the hair to force them to comply. Immediately after the forced bending McGrandles was again violently punched in the ribs.'

About a dozen blanket men are treated in this manner in a single day during visiting hours.

Several men have also been beaten over the head with the large ledger used to record their return from their visits.

Despite these unprovoked assaults the men refuse to stop going out on their visits. They are only too aware that if the screws are successful in stopping the visits, then, given their increased isolation, the beatings will intensify.

Fun with Ulster's Disreputable Rogues

Evenin' all,

And first of all, a few words about career prospects in the security forces. I know there has been a bit of defeatism recently, what with personnel dropping with monotonous regularity, but I am here to reassure you,—do not despair! Blue skies are ahead.

Firstly, never forget that one of the guaranteed benefits of being in the UDR is a full military funeral ABSOLUTELY FREE.

This applies to you even if you are a young UDR private, such as the one who managed to shoot himself in the shoulder—no mean feat—in Tyrone last week and had to be taken to Musgrave hospital.

FICKLE FINGER

It applies, even if you are a full-time UDR man like Thomas John Leonard (46) of Tullyreagh Road, Ardrea, Cookstown. Tommy was fined £5 for going into the ladies toilet and exposing himself while on duty, but, no matter, if the fickle finger of fate were to alight on Tommy next week, he too would get full military honours.

I know some of you feel that this offer is just too good to be true, but, if you won't take my word for it, ask Trooper Gary Paul Lines of Chester-le-street, whose Fox scout car overturned, or Lt. Nigel Brewer of the SAS—sorry, Royal Corps of Transport, who wrote off his sports car outside Lisburn or even ask Stephen Hall of Leeds or John Whiteman of Manchester, two more soldiers who wandered under an articulated lorry on the A1.

Come to think of it, I suppose you can't ask them personally since they are all DOAs who've gone to join the great Brit suicide Battalion in the sky (O/C Airey Neave). (I see the latest recruit is Superintendent Stanley Hanna (47), from Carryduff, who

went for a walk near Crossmaglen, silly fellow.)

But don't imagine it's all fun and free funerals in the UDR. Ulster's Disreputable Rogues have a fine track record for murder, rape, arson and pillage as well. There are hundreds of little ways one can augment one's salary. For instance, the present petrol crisis in the Republic is a Godsend to the boys at 10 UDR who have been nicking regulation five gallon jerrycans from the stores and flogging them around the shipyards.

Small beer you may say, compared with the large scale salary General Sir Frank King GCB, MBE and ex-GOC who has been appointed Senior Military Adviser to Shorts, will get, but, remember, Frank's been in the dead meat business for quite some time, so, fair dos, you envious swine.

BAD APPLES

Only a few bad apples this week, and pretty tawdry stuff it is too. There's Anthony Robert Brown of what's left of the Greenjackets who's been done for assault in Strabane, and Driver John Charles McBride (19) of 26th Squadron Royal Corps of Transport who got fined £75 for GBH and disorderly behaviour.

McBride, whom his C/O described as (guess what?) "an exemplary soldier", who was "due for promotion", while aided and abetted by another drunken soldier Corporal Stephen 'the gentle giant' Lowe—a member of the internal army security group at Lisburn—assaulted a total stranger in Seymour Street in Lisburn last November. Both have subsequently been promoted.

These disturbing incidents of

by
the
Brigadier

violence occurred in the Borough of Lisburn, the personal fief of the very lovely and charming Elsie 'Poleglass must go' Kelsie, who holds those

super non-alcoholic parties where John Taylor's bodyguards steal chairs and plot to kidnap priests or John Taylor.

Elsie has been taking some stick over that of late, and it was nice to see her on the old tube going the rounds with the Lisburn refuse collectors, as I believe they like it to be called. I know any publicity is good publicity, but I did rather doubt

whether having the deputy Lord Mayor, the diminutive wee Sammy Semple posing in one of the dust bins was going to win many votes. Ah well!

Bye for now,
THE BRIGADIER

Twinbrook H-Block march



Last Sunday's Smash H-Block march in Twinbrook on the outskirts of Belfast attracted several hundred people. The photograph (left) shows the beginning of the demonstration heading out onto the Stewartstown Road.

It was the first time a Republican demonstration had successfully marched along this road. Previous attempts were always thwarted by a large force of Brits and RUC.

But the large turn-out dampened the RUC's enthusiasm. They skulked in the side roads rather than confront the marchers.

At the spot where local IRA Volunteer Gerard Fennell was shot dead by the Brits in 1974, a two minute silence was held. Later the crowd listened to speakers from Sinn Féin and the RAC talking about the latest conditions inside the H-Blocks.

An Open Letter to Bernadette McAliskey
from Republican Prisoners H-Blocks 3, 4, 5 and 6

EEC QUESTIONS

The entry of former Westminster MP Bernadette McAliskey into Thursday's EEC elections, using the H-Block struggle as the main plank of her platform, was directly against the wishes of the 'blanket men' themselves. An open letter to Bernadette McAliskey, which we publish here, from the men 'on the blanket' makes it absolutely clear that they support the boycott policy of the Republican Movement.

A Chars,

We are addressing the following letter to you and our comrades in the freedom struggle in Ireland and to all our relatives and friends outside. It is not a personal opinion but is written on behalf of the blanket men, the Republican prisoners of war in the H-Blocks.

It concerns your stand as candidate in the European elections. Our outlook towards these elections is that we totally object to taking part and we fully support the call for a boycott of this election.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE MAIN REASONS FOR OUR CALL TO BOYCOTT:

If you should be successful in your election campaign and become an elected member to this set-up what changes can you even hope to make?

Have we in Ireland not seen all too often how useless and irrelevant the politics of the establishment are and have been regarding our position in the six-counties?

Has anyone ever gone into the existing set-ups and brought freedom any closer?

What makes you think it will be any different in Europe when it comes to questions on Ireland?

Ranged against you will be a coalition of those who run Westminster, Leinster House and their supporters in the rich European countries. From these can you expect

anything but a majority opposition?

Are we in the H-Blocks not here as a direct result of the position created by these same people?

What good can your campaign against repression do in a place where the perpetrators of this repression have such a powerful position?

Did you achieve anything at Westminster?

What can you hope to achieve at Strasbourg/Luxembourg?

Will you stop the torture of political prisoners in the H-Blocks or the brute force repression against the people on the streets?

We the Republican prisoners in the H-Blocks don't consider so. We, at the roughest end of British repression, don't consider that you will make one iota of difference.

We know only too well that the only way to remove the H-Blocks, the repression forever, is to boot both it and the people (the Brits) who build H-Blocks out of our country at the point of a gun which is what our comrades, and their supporters outside are now doing and will continue to do.

The reason why we are here in the H-Blocks on protest is not for any reform, but for change, real change, revolution and freedom.

REPUBLICAN PRISONERS,
H-BLOCKS 3, 4, 5 & 6

DERRY PROTEST



Derry H-Block protestors harangued Derry's unionist Lord Mayor Craig at the recent Foyle Festival held there.

They followed his Rolls Royce a considerable distance along the route of the parade before it reached the Guildhall. They chanted slogans demanding the return of political status for Republican POWs.

This document covers many covering meetings between Executive and t
cates not just
treatment o
purchase but

CONFIDENTIAL

1. The meeting was attended by:-

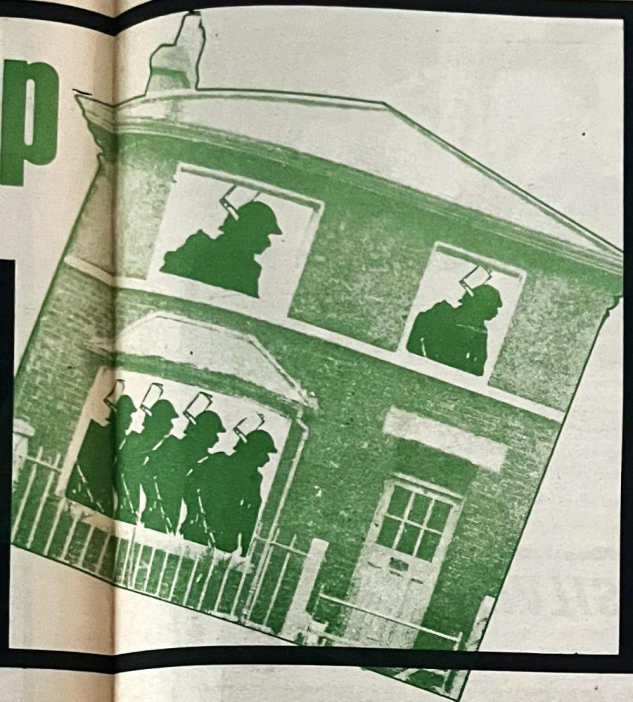
Mr Hamilton (Housing Division) - Chairman
Mr Waters (Conservation Division)
Mr Thorne (Planning Division)
Colonel Ferguson - Ministry of Defence
Mr Bruce - Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Mr Luck - Property Services Agency
Mr Gundy
Mr Sealock } Northern Ireland Office

2. MID indicated their housing requirements in the intra/intra/above areas and advised that the initial thinking had been to develop new lands at Aldergrove. Purchase of this House had now been completed with approximately 9 acres. In the light of the offer from the w... dwellings at Intra, it was proposed that the... the creation of dual...

**SORRY
CLOSED**

OIL CRISIS SHOWS UP FREE STATE DEPENDENC

Fianna Fail's energy policies for the future are equally hopeless. As far as conservation is concerned, where massive savings can be made, a meaningless 50 mph speed limit is all they have offered. As far as future energy supplies are concerned their eyes are fixed on a nuclear power station to be built and supplied with fuel by the same multi-nationals



says:

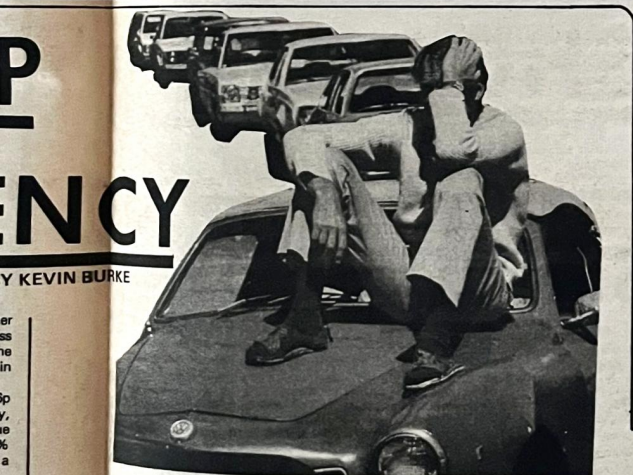
"It was also noted that MOD would be unlikely to want to purchase these dwellings and preferred the option to lease".

This document—one of many covering ongoing meetings between the Housing Executive and the Brits—indicates not just preferential treatment over house purchase, but preferential

treatment in the schedules of housing construction (in contrast to house-building to relieve the overcrowding in nationalist ghettos such as West Belfast) and preferential treatment in quality of housing (residential—the estates referred to have semi-detached housing, front and back gardens etc.).

Also, while it is alright for the

Brits and their families to take over "safe" estates for "security considerations" the same does not apply to many people from nationalist areas, some of whom have been threatened with eviction for refusing to surrender tenure and take up residence in areas which they consider to be dangerous.



Y KEVIN BURKE

who control our oil supplies. And so it goes on...

INVALUABLE ILLUSTRATION

The oil and petrol crises provides an invaluable illustration of the sham that passes for a system of government in the Free State.

The system which has political parties vying for the affections of the people once in five years, but excluding them from the process of government in between, must concern itself changed when policies, which can easily be Long-term policies which would build a sound economy require the direct involvement of the people in their planning and carrying out, and about at all.

Moreover, Leinster House, by its very

nature, is a dependent government. Its only policy can be dependency, whether on the old colonial masters in London, on the EEC bureaucrats, or the new multi-national over-fords.

So it is that the multi-nationals have been allowed to take a stranglehold on the Free State economy. To attract them, massive grants and tax-free 'honeymoons' are given, and a blind-eye turned to dirty industries and abysmal working conditions.

Natural resources have been handed over to them, to be ripped out of the ground and exported in raw state without any benefit to the economy. Indeed so slavish is this attitude that O'Malley has even offered recently to negotiate existing oil-exploration contracts if the foreign companies concerned were unhappy with them.

THE BANKRUPT STATELET



BY
BRENDAN
McCLAFFERTY

IN THEIR various documents and reports the British colonial administration often unconsciously provide a very good case for their own withdrawal from the North of Ireland. On the military front the recently exposed secret Ministry of Defence document No. 37 assessing the IRA as unbeatable provides an excellent argument for the withdrawal of British troops.

On the economic front a recently published Department of Finance report entitled 'Economic and Social Progress in Northern Ireland: Review and Prospects' shows what a disastrous mess the British are making of the six-county economy.

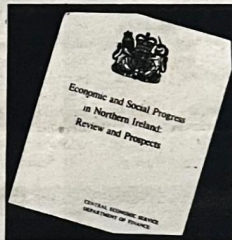
First, it outlines the depressed state of the six-county economy and its disastrous social effects. For example, in 1978, the unemployment rate was 11%, compared to 4% in the South-East of England. Future prospects are assessed to be just as dim - "N.I. is faced with continuing high unemployment and lagging standards of living arising in the main as consequences of geographical remoteness..."

But, one might ask: 'Geographical remoteness' in relation to whom?

Clearly the six North-Eastern counties are on the edge of the British economy, but they are not remote, at least geographically, from the rest of Ireland. An integrated all-Ireland economy, controlled by the Irish people themselves, could overcome many of the problems imposed by "the British connection". Of course, this orientation is not pushed by the report, but their facts and figures point clearly towards the need to oust British imperialism.

The most revealing aspect of this document is however its projection of future economic trends. Here things look even bleaker. The North of Ireland "faces the prospect of continuing low output growth and high unemployment".

Dealing with employment trends between 1977 and 1981 it projects



that no new jobs will be created in agriculture, six thousand jobs will be lost in the building industry and nine thousand in the manufacturing field - a combined loss of fifteen thousand jobs. However, it is speculated that eleven thousand new jobs will be created in the service sector which will mean more pen-pushing bureaucrats, more 'security personnel' and many of which will provide only part-time employment.

So the Brits' own figures project a total net job loss of four thousand by 1981.

These estimates are themselves not that reliable being based on admitted "optimistic assumptions regarding economic developments and civil unrest". They are the sort of assumptions that are likely to be blown sky high!

In other areas things look just as bad. For example on building houses the report admits that "with work being difficult and slow, total activity has been falling - this will continue to be the pattern in the next few years". Chances for new schools and improved medical facilities look just as bad. The reasons being that "in the present UK economic climate it would be unrealistic to expect substantially higher levels of public expenditure in N.I."

It is however deemed "realistic" to assume that 10,000 people will be forced to emigrate from the North each year. Even taking this into account the report estimates that on the basis of the present expansion of the population there will be a further 11,000 people on the dole queues by 1981.

What emerges from these cold figures is a picture of a bankrupt statelet - the six-counties carved out artificially and made an appendage of an imperialist power. With the sun finally setting on the 'great' British Empire, this statelet has outlived its economic usefulness, and its traditional industries have been allowed to decline.

Today, even by their own admission, the only prospects the British offer to the people of this run-down colony are continued unemployment, increasing emigration and the worst social and economic conditions of Western Europe.

Just as no effort has been made to set up independent state-controlled industries to process and export our own resources at a pace to give us maximum benefit, so there has been no effort to set up an independent state-controlled industries to import and process the major resources needed from abroad.

And just as in the world recession of the early 70's the multi-nationals pulled out of the Free State to safeguard their home bases, so now, when faced with world oil supply difficulties, they look after the interests of their own countries first.

With no independent foreign policy either, the Free State—tied firmly but powerlessly into the western bloc—suffers all the disadvantages of the emergence of oil at the centre of world power, politics.



Petrol stations around the 26 counties have remained closed for long periods due to lack of supplies. Desperate motorists have continued to be told by O'Malley that no shortage exists.

ca Bhfuil siad anois?

IS FIÚ Ó am go chéile féachaint siar. Sin atá i gceist agam an tseachtain seo. Ba mhaith liom súil a chaitheamh siar ar imeachtaí atá imithe as aigne an phobail.

I 1976 bhí na 'Peace People' i mbéal an phobail. Dar leis na méain cumarsáide bhí réiteach ar fhadhb an Tuaiscirt ina lámha siúd. Bhí siad chum deireadh a chur leis an 'bhforéigin' sa Tuaisceart.

Níor thuig an gnáth phobal i dtosach nach raibh iontu ach úirlisi i lámha Arm na Breataine. Úsáideadh iad chun cur le polasáí Shasana gurbh ionann Oglagh na hÉireann agus coirpigh. Tugadh poiblíocht don cháineadh a dhein siad ar na fórsaí náisiúnta atá ag troid ar son saoirse na hÉireann.

Ach tá an feachtas sin scríosta anois. Aithníonn an domhain ar fad nach coirpigh iad Oglagh na hÉireann. Thaispeáin na fir i mBloc H, trinar fhulaing siad nár bh coirpigh iad. Cé nach bhfuil stádas polaitiúil acu sa phríosún, tá sé bainte amach acu i meon an phobail.

Tá na 'Peace People' geall le bheith imithe. Tá a gcuid airgid ag na ceannairí agus is cuma leo. Ach tá Gluaiseacht na Poblachta níos láidre ná mar a bhí riamh.

Bunaíodh na 'Peace People' ar bhonn neamh-sheictheach agus dhein siad iarracht ar chás an Tuaiscirt a réiteach laistigh de Stát Thuaisceart Éireann. Ní féidir a leithéid a dhéanamh. Tá Stát Thuaisceart Éireann bunaithe ar an seictheachas, is é bun agus barr leis an stáit. Ní féidir fadhb an Tuaiscirt a réiteach taobh istigh de Stát sheictheach. Cairtear dul leasmuigh do. Is tré Stát dhaonnathach sóisialach a bhuin atá réiteach na faidhbe le fáil.

Ar ndóig, ar na dreamanna a thug tacaíocht dos na 'Peace People' bhí S.F.W.P.. Tá siad san tar éis drom a chasadh ar an bPoblachtánachas agus ar an Sóisialachas. Ní nach ionadh gur éirigh chomh hólca san leo sna toghcháin le déanaí se Tuaisceart.

Is fiú féachaint siar níos faide ar an meid a dúirt eile míleata an S.F.W.P. an Official I.R.A. tar éis Domhnach na Fola i 1972.

Dúradar "b'fíréid ag scaoileadh ur-chair le saighdiúirí na Breataine ag iarraidh iad a mharú." Dúradar leis go mbeidís "ag gearradh pionós trom ar aon duine a thug cabhair i sí ar bith do fórsaí na Breataine." Cá bhfuil siad anois, agus cén pionós atá a ghearradh acu.

"Siad Gluaiseacht na Poblachta an t-aon dream nár athraigh. Tá an port céanna acu i gcónaí. Níl uainn ach saoirse."

Ós rud é gur luagh mé Bloc H, is fiú dom leis, dul siar beagán. Ar an t-aonú lá deag de Bhealtaine i 1946 fuair Seán Mac Eochaidh bás ar stailc ocras agus ar stailc tarta ar an gCurraich.

Bhí an t-éileamh chéanna aige is atá ag na príosúnaigh i mBloc H inniu. Príosúnaigh cogaidh ab ea é. Príosúnaigh cogaidh is ea na fir i mBloc H inniu. Ní raibh ó Sheáin



Seán Mac Eochaidh i Sraid Uí Chonaill, Baile Átha Cliath i 1940.

LE PADRAIG MACAODH

Mac Eochaidh agus níl ós na fir i mBloc H ach go nglactaí leis an bhfíric sin agus go dtabharfaí stádas dóibh dá réir.



Betty Williams agus a fear céile i Londain i 1976 nuair a dhírigh meain cumarsáide Shasana aire an domhain uirthi fein agus an Mhairéad Corrigan. Ní cloistear futha anois.

Tá mórán athraithe tagtha, an chuid is mó díobh de bharr an troid atá ar siúl ag Gluaiseacht na Poblachta ach tá rud amháin cinnte

agus sin ná go leanfaidh an troid sin go dtí go mbeidh saoirse, ceart agus síochain le fáil ag muintir na hÉireann.

GOLD AND SILVER

"Beidh rince fada againn má sé is fearra leat, Óir is airgead, beor is beath 'uisce, Óró is gcóir costais an róid. ("We'll have the long dance if that's your preference, Gold and silver, beer and whiskey, Óró for the cost of the road.") These are a few lines from that lovely Kerry song, "An Ciarríoch Maí-ath."

They refer to two minerals, always scarce but nowadays found underground mainly in the vaults of banks and not in the Yukon or in Alaska.

Archaeological finds in Ireland indicate clearly that gold and silver were once found in some abundance and there's fairly wide mention of them in place-names.

"Ore" is the anglicised form of "or" (gold) and, while it is nearly always gold that is in question, one must be cautious because it is also the anglicised form of "uabhar" (pride).

The well-known ballad, "The Valley of Knockanore", is a sample of this and Knockanore near Kerry Head is Cnoc an Uabhair (the hill of the pride).

Knockanore in the sense of the Hill of Gold (gold presumably having been found there and not, God help us, an actual HILL of gold) is found in Co. An Chabháin, Co. Chill Chainnigh and Co. Phort Láirge.

On Oileán Clíffire off the coast of Co. Chorcaí, there was in P.W. Joyce's time "a castle ruin" called Dúnore (Dún an Óir - the fort of the gold) and Joyce further refers to a Castleoir, "a fine circular fort of the most ancient cyclopean masonry near the village of Ballintogher in Sligo; three miles from Drumahaire."

Between Bantry and Dunmanway is the hill of Mullaghmesa, at the foot of which is a small pool called Coomanore (Cúm an Óir - the hollow of the gold) and near Hillsborough in Co. an Dúin is Tullymore (tulach - a small hill).

In the parish of Feakle in Co. an Chláir is Slieveanore (the mountain of the gold) and this name is found a little west of Carrantuohill, in Co. Chiarraí, while four miles east of Cahir, in Co. Thiobrad Árann is Gortanore (Gort an Óir - the field of the gold).

According to the bardic annals the monarch Tighearnmas reigned about one thousand B.C. and was the first to smelt gold in Ireland. He used it to cover goblets and brooches.

Some 150 years later came a king named Enna Airgdech and he was named from the ancient spelling of "air-ged" (silver, and; of course, also money).

It is said that he presented silver shields to his chieftain friends.

Three miles from Ballycastle in Co. Antrim, is Moyarget (Magh airgid - the plain of the silver) and in the parish of Tibohine, in Co. Ros Comáin, is Cloonairgid, which P.W. Joyce points out is correctly translated to Silverwood.

Throughout the country are many small lakes called Lough Anairgid or Lough Anairit (the lake of the silver - the "an" and the "airgid" having been squeezed together to make one word).

Undoubtedly these could have been named from their bright silvery appearance and not from any silver found therein or nearby.

Other names occurring frequently are Lisnairgid, Lisheenairgid and Rathnairgid (all signifying "the fort of the silver") and were probably named in the belief that treasure was buried there some time in the past and placed under the protection of the sluas á' (fairies).

By Lugum

choiste gno chonradh

na gaeilíge



Tá leis seo grianghraf a ghlacadh de Choiste Gno Chonradh na Gaeilíge ag an gcéad chruinniú acu a tionsáladh ar 26/5/79.

Is é Albert Fry, Uachtarán nua an Chonartha atá ag suí sa cheathrú áit ar dheis an phictiúir.

Is é Séamus Ruiseál ó Chathair Chorcaí, Tánaiste nua an Chonartha. Tá sé ag suí sa cheathrú áit ar chlé an phictiúir.

SEANDAOINE

BHÍ FÓGRA íns na nuachtáin laethúla ag grúpa dár teideal 'Alone' an tseachtain seo chaite. Léirigh siad dúinn an staid ina bhfuil seandaoine i mBaile Átha Cliath. Tá roinnt des na seandaoine seo ina

gcónaí in áiteanna nach gcuirfeadh feirmeoir muc.

Tá na seandaoine seo tréigthe ag an Stáit. Ní féidir bheith cinnte cé mhéid acu a fuair bás an geimhreadh seo d'íomhaigh thart ach ar a laghad fuair beirt acu bás i seomraí a bhí an-fhuar.

Seo léiriú an-mhaith ar an gcóras caipitíeach. Is iad na daoine is laige a fhulaingíonn i gcónaí sna Stáit atá bunaithe ar an gcóras caipitíeach.

In ainneoin gach rud atá cearr leis an Rúis ní chloisteaí a leithéid de scéal ón dtír sin riamh.

Caitheamh an córas a athrú. Ní féidir linn ligint do cúrsaí leanúint ar aghaidh mar atá. Ní féidir cúrsaí a athrú laistigh den chóras caipitíeach. Caitheamh athrú bunúsach a dhéanamh sa tír seo. Tá géarghá le Sóisialachas.

Tá dualgas ar ghach aon duine oibriú níos déine chun an Sóisialachas a thabhairt i bhfeidhm chomh tapaigh agus is féidir.



Sticky backing for Brits, Loyalists and Multi-Nationals

NEARLY TEN years ago the so-called 'split' in the Republican Movement resulted in the formation of the 'Officials'. Few could then have pictured the degeneration of the politics of these people to their current sorry state.

In the recent British elections, masquerading as 'The Workers' Party' they stood on a platform which includes this priceless paragraph - "We seek a Bill of Rights which would guarantee the political and human rights of all, backed by Westminster... as the foundation upon which we can rebuild Northern Ireland."

This is their response to a war of national liberation - get the Brits to 'guarantee' human rights, and 'rebuild' the sectarian Orange statelet. But, how did they arrive at this miserable capitulation to loyalism and imperialism?

STAGES

Basically, their degeneration can be traced back to the influence of certain 'intellectual' hacks during the late sixties. These characters decided that if everything was carried out in 'stages' the national liberation struggle would be successful.

Fair enough, no one is going to build a new society overnight! But,

this stages theory meant in fact restricting the aims of the movement to so-called 'democratic' demands for the foreseeable future. From this springs the Sticks' blind faith in a Bill of Rights - as though the Brits would carry out a sort of gentleman's agreement with a risen people! Most clearly of all, this utopian and reformist stages theory meant opposition to armed struggle.

So, by the middle of 1972 the Sticks had put away their guns (except for use against fellow Irishmen). The logic of their position was now becoming clearer - do not do or say anything that might upset the Brits or the Loyalists.

If Loyalist workers do not like the idea of a United Ireland, just shelve

the idea and pretend that you are a good Unionist.

If the Brits do not like being shot at and blown up, then turn away from the armed struggle and concentrate on acceptable 'bread and butter' issues.

STILL SECTARIAN

Now, the main argument of the Sticks is that Protestant and Catholic workers can only unite on these 'economic' questions. However, history has shown again and again that although loyalists might be as 'militant' as any other work force down at the shipyards or in the factories, they will still remain sectarian to the core.



The Sticks' backing of the motley crew illustrated above - Brits, RUC, loyalists and multi-national businessmen - means that they have little or nothing in common with either republicanism or socialism.

Without breaking the material basis for their relatively privileged position - the link with Britain - we cannot even begin to win over Protestant workers to Republican positions. The weakness of the 'Sticky line' is shown in that, even in their own terms, they have not had any real success.

The main political issues today centre around the presence of British troops and the division of our country by imperialism. On these basic questions the Sticks only slip further into the miserable swamp of reformism.

For example, the Brits are militarily supported in the occupied six-counties by the local sectarian forces of the hated UDR and the RUC. But, not wanting to upset loyalists, the Sticks offer their support to a 'democratic police force'. Last July's issue of the Sticks' 'United Irishman' states that "Sinn Féin, the Workers' Party, recognises that a police service is essential and that Roman Catholic and Protestant armies have played a major role in frustrating the creation of such a police service."

This type of straightforward sell-out has even embarrassed their one time allies in the Communist Party who taught the Sticks the ABC of 'stages theory' and reformism.

NONSENSE

In their recent talks with Unionist politicians the Sticks have clearly indicated that they now fully accept a partitionist framework for their political activity in the North. They call for 'devolved government' - that is to say a return to the openly sectarian rule by Stormont.

Why? Because this will apparently get the six-counties back to 'normal' politics and the irritating 'national question' will fade into the background.

But this is nonsense - in practice the 'national question' must be resolved, not brushed under the carpet, before the 'class politics' that the Sticks talk about become of primary relevance. Because any 'unity' on bread-and-butter issues within the bounds of the six-counties will in practice only be based on the continuation of loyalist domination.

A pre-condition for the dismantling of the Ascendancy is the removal of the prop of the British presence. The Sticks seem blind to the essential lessons of the libera-

tion struggle not just of the last decade but of the last six decades.

Running through all the bizzare positions of the Sticks there is one central illusion - the British state is 'neutral' (a sort of referee in the middle) and the sectarian six-county statelet obviously reformable. The depths of their stupidity is nowhere better illustrated than by their call for the British state which is carrying out the repression in the six-counties to bring in a Bill of Rights. When the RUC commits 'excesses' they call on the British state which has nurtured them to 'reform' them!

UNSTUCK

It is on the economy - supposedly the Sticks main concern - that they really come unstuck. In their recent booklet, 'The Irish Industrial Revolution', we find an amazing analysis - "Basically the Provo bombing campaign interrupted, a death struggle (?) between Ulster capitalism on the one hand, and on the other the multi-nationals, of whom the instruments are the Ministry of Commerce and the N.I. Finance Corporation... progressive advance lies unequivocally on the side of the latter." This is why the Sticks are so ecstatic about the De Lorean motor company for example.

But experience shows that these multi-national companies come to Ireland for a quick 'rip-off', not to provide stable employment for the work force. The solution to the problem of unemployment is said by the Sticks to lie in increased British investment (through an alliance with the Ministry of Commerce!) - never mind if this is a colonial administration, not to mention a capitalist state.

It is basically naive to believe that the people can benefit from the actions of a state that is there precisely to organise the economic system which grinds people down and throws them on the slag heap. It cannot be repeated too often - the sectarian six-county statelet cannot be reformed, it must be smashed!

The Sticks backing of the British, the loyalists and the multi-national companies means that they have little or nothing in common with either republicanism or socialism.

People attracted to this type of reformist politics would be best advised to join the 'Northern Ireland Labour Party' rather than pretending to be republicans. Much confusion would then be avoided.

duirt siad

"The IRA appear to have the measure of the security forces and can kill wherever and whenever they wish. The last time a terrorist was killed in Co. Armagh was two-and-a-half years ago. It is long past the time since the correct forces were displayed and proper tactics used to rectify this horrific imbalance."

Harold McCusker, Westminster M.P. for Armagh.

"People are sick to the teeth with these killings. It's time the Army's yellow card was torn up."

John McQuade, Westminster M.P. for North Belfast.

"The RUC offers rapid promotion within the ranks." 'Belfast Telegraph' headline on 'careers and opportunities' article two days after the IRA had killed an RUC Superintendent.

"I never thought the day would come when I could read more about one of the state's most embarrassing admissions in the 'Manchester Evening News' rather than in 'Socialist Worker'."

SW reader, Manchester, letter to British socialist weekly 'Socialist Worker' (2nd June) expressing surprise about that paper's failure to report the leak of 'Document 37'.

"It did not seem to be within what we knew that a man should be obliged to give information which would incriminate himself!"

Detective Chief Inspector Ian Robinson of the Scottish police pointing out in a Glasgow court that the clause in the Prevention of Terrorism Act which makes it an offence to refuse to divulge information runs totally contrary to normal practices of British law.

"I have become internationally known, in the main respected and admired."

Roy Mason preening himself like a puffed-up parrot in an interview in the Belfast 'Newsletter' 4th June.

"A spokesman for the BBC said that they reserved the right to allocate less broadcasting time to a Flat Earth Society candidate than to an Official Unionist candidate. At least forty per cent of the population of this unfortunate statelet can't see much difference. Most reasonable people believe that belief in a flat earth is less irrational and less socially harmful than belief in orange unionism."

'Homer' column, 'Andersonstown News', 2nd June.

"Almost in front of him, beyond the fringe of the crowd was a ladies' loo, the size and shape of a telephone kiosk. The door had been left wide open exposing a lidless toilet bowl, but someone had the good taste to close the door. This revealed written in chalk: 'Paisley Go Home - Up Rome' and 'Paisley the Incredible Hulk'."

Paddy Reynolds, Northern News Editor of the 'Irish Press' writing in that paper (issue dated 31st May) on an EEC election meeting addressed by Ian Paisley in the open air market at Fairhill, Ballymena.

"In 1970 my political enemies tried the same strategy in North Antrim when my posters were stuck on tombstones in a church graveyard. On that occasion we were able to stop this evil practice."

Ian Paisley complaining that his election posters had been stuck up on various Tyrone churches by someone trying to damage his campaign.

"The EEC has more than 300,000 tons of butter in stock and it is getting out of control."

An under-statement by Common Market Agricultural Commissioner, Findular Gundelach. (Irish News May 28th).

Dublin Anti-Nukes marching up a blind alley?

ABOUT TWO thousand Anti-nuclear demonstrators assembled at St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, to march to the G.P.O. and then to Leinster House, on Saturday 2nd June.

Many of them carried placards and banners and wore costumes depicting the dangers of nuclear power. They shouted slogans about the danger of radiation, and about the nuclear plant proposed for Carnsore Point.

When the demonstrators reached the offices of the E.S.B. (Electricity Supply Board) in Fleet Street, they all sat down in the road and chanted slogans against the E.S.B. who would be building the power station at Carnsore Point.

The demonstrators then ran across O'Connell Street bridge and sat down again near the G.P.O. The large numbers of Special Branch men, complete with natty sunshine outfits were then beginning to get out of breath with all the running.

The marchers left O'Connell Street to march back to St. Stephen's Green via Leinster House. At the Green, music and entertainment was provided in the bandstand of the park.

The organisers of the demonstration went to great pains to point out that it was a non-political demonstration. This of course was reflected in the composition of the turn-out with the usual overspill from Woodquay and student groups.

It is sheer foolishness if these people believe that they can stop the Free State regime building a power station, without getting involved in political action. Take a look at Germany, at France, at Japan, and on Sunday in Northern Spain, where a woman was shot dead by the state forces, at an anti-nuclear demonstration.

To build a successful anti-nuclear protest movement political groups and trade unions must become involved, otherwise it will just become another trendy fringe group, leading people down blind alleys.



ANTI-NUKE PROTESTORS IN O'CONNELL STREET LAST SATURDAY.



LANCASHIRE LOCAL COUNCILS BAN SINN FEIN SPEAKERS

TWO PUBLIC MEETINGS due to be held in Lancashire, as part of a British tour of the recently-made 'Prisoner of War' film have been banned from local council buildings, by Lancashire county council and Manchester city council.

The showings of the film about Irish political prisoners today, were due to be accompanied by speakers from Sinn Fein, from the London-based Prisoners' Aid Committee who produced the film, and from the socialist group RCG, who organised the tour.

A meeting had been arranged in Blackburn Public Library for May 24th. Four days before the meeting was to take place, the organisers were informed by letter that due to "the publicity... and in particular, on the nature of the speakers" the booking of the library had been cancelled by the Chairman of Lancashire County Council.

The publicity referred to was a campaign by the local gutter press to have the meeting banned ('Council probes IRA invites' etc.), ably assisted by the leader of Blackburn council Labour Party group, who was "gravely disturbed" that the meeting had been booked in the first place.

Subsequently the Manchester booking for May 31st was cancelled by Manchester's Labour Party-controlled Council - initially on the pretext that conditions of hire had been breached. When challenged on this the official concerned admitted that the cancellation was on the instruction of the Town Clerk because Sinn Fein were to speak.

Both these acts of censorship reflect the obsession the British establishment has about silencing political activity inside Britain which questions their role in the occupied six-counties.

Fascist attack

At very short notice the Manchester meeting was re-organised on its intended day (Thursday 31st May) at a different venue. It attracted more than one hundred people and despite repeated attacks from members of the fascist National Front it went ahead as planned.

The National Front obviously intended to prevent the meeting from taking place. They began by attacking stewards on the door with steel bars and rocks. But this attack, which resulted in two people requiring hospital treatment was successfully repulsed. The police then arrived and demanded that the stewards discontinue their defence of the main front gates! As expected the police allowed the NF into the building soon after the meeting began. However their attempts to break into the hall were easily beaten and the meeting continued without further interruption.

The film 'Prisoner of War' was shown and there were speakers from Sinn Fein, RCG and the General Union of Palestinian Students. The latter pointed out the similarities between the Palestinian and Irish liberation struggles.

After the meeting ended the audience left under a hail of smoke bombs and fascist abuse.

Dumbarton

A street meeting organised by the RCG and supporters of its bulletin 'Hands Off Ireland' in Scotland was stopped by the police in Dumbarton shopping centre on Saturday 26th May. The speakers were threatened with the Public Order Act 1936 and an inspector warned that if the meeting continued he would charge the speakers with obstruction.

This repressive action came after speeches which had argued for POW status for the men on the blanket and it drove home one of the points that speakers were making that the British imperialist state will go to whatever lengths necessary to try to silence those who threaten in any way its continued occupation of Ireland.

DURHAM PRISON PICKET

There was a well-attended picket of Durham prison on Sunday afternoon, 27th May. Altogether almost fifty people attended, amongst them were the Tyneside Irish Solidarity Campaign, members of the

Rebel and Revolution youth groups and members of various socialist groups.

The picket was organised by the Pearse/McDaid Sinn Fein Cumann, Birmingham, who together with members of Birmingham United



Hugh Doherty



Black youths are a standard target for police brutality.

STATE RACISM AND THE IRISH CONNECTION

To promote awareness of the link between various laws in England and what they call "state racism" the United Troops Out Movement (UTOM) are holding a protest march in London together with various Black and Asian groups.

The demonstration is on Saturday 16th June starting at 2 pm from Speakers Corner, London. The protestors' demands are: SMASH STATE RACISM!

REPEAL THE PREVENTION OF TERRORISM ACT!
REPEAL THE IMMIGRATION ACT!
REPEAL THE 'SUS' LAW!

The East London UTOM have produced a leaflet entitled 'State Racism and the Irish connection'.

The leaflet points out that "at first glance there might appear to be little connection between a Section of the 1824 Vagrancy Act, the 1976 Prevention of Terrorism Act and the 1971 Immigration Act." Yet "these three laws, which are supposed to control crime, terrorism and immigration, are in reality used extensively to intimidate and suppress specific minority communities."

Troops Out Movement, made a 430 mile round trip to the prison. It was part of the Sinn Fein Cumann's ongoing campaign to highlight the conditions under which Irish POWs are held in England. The campaign involves picketing one prison every month, hail, rain or snow, also disseminating information about the POWs through the medium of the P.O.W. bulletin, a monthly news-sheet.

The tricolour was flown outside the jail and protestors waved placards demanding: Political status for Irish POWs, Stop the torture in British jails, Solidarity with Ann and Eileen Gillespie and Hughie Doherty. These are the three POWs in Durham prison.)

There was a reception party of police to greet the picketers. The inspector in charge was clearly not amused at the spectacle the picket was providing for the many tourists wandering around the narrow streets of Durham. One passerby (an ex-Brit) muttered "We used to shoot people like them in Ireland" and moved off quickly.

WAKEFIELD PRISON PICKET

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Sunday 24th June
Transport to the prison will leave Birmingham Hall of Memory car park at 10:30 a.m.
Organised by Pearse/McDaid Sinn Fein Cumann, Birmingham.



POEMS OF RESISTANCE

All the poems printed on this page were written by 'blanket men' incarcerated in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh. The poems were smuggled out of the H-Blocks on small scraps of paper.

SIX O'CLOCK KNOCK

They'll come some morning early,
Long before the break of dawn,
Quickly, silently, through the dark,
Their faces blackened, but drawn.

Most will be just boys,
Scared but feigning unconcern,
Knowing the people hate them,
But for reasons they never learn.

They'll take up their positions,
Picked in some operations room,
They now feel so cold and eerie,
In shadow of street lamp and moon.

They'll hammer on the front door,
After quietly surrounding the back,
"Open up, this is the British army,
Under the Emergency Provisions Act."

Children, sleepy-eyed and crying,
Dragged from warm, cosy beds,
They're searching for ammunition,
At least that's what they said.

But they'll all recognise you;
From a photo they've seen before,
It was in their "top twenty" last week,
But it'll be there no more.

They'll leave an hour or so later,
Cold, alone and dejected,
To be gone for God knows how long.



PEACE — KEEPERS

We saw you on T.V. again,
Telling us we were to blame,
But your words are hollow,
They always are the same.

You're here to keep the peace,
With armoured cars and guns,
Special laws and Diplock courts,
Used against our bravest ones.

And all you do is kill us,
Shoot us down in the street,
You with kind, outstretched hand,
And rifle to "keep the peace"!

You talk about the plebiscite,
"The people want us to stay",
There are thirty-two counties here,
But only six have any say.

Tell me, who gave you the right,
To subject our land,
To hold our people to ransom,
With armies big and grand?



I like to watch the seagulls,
Drift on air currents in the sky,
So easy and so effortless,
As the gentle breeze goes by,
Like in suspended animation,
They stop but never fall,

And the mellow early evening,
Is pierced with their joy-free call.
I wish I was a seagull,
I'd drift and soar on high,
Earth could never bind me,
I'd be free in an empty sky.

Bitter memories

When it's quiet, I can hear the cars,
On the M1 go rushing to and fro,
And I remember times I passed there,
Not so very long ago.

Then I saw the grey fortress,
Its watchtowers stretching to the clouds,
And in the night, eerie and mysterious,
In yellow halo, or shroud,

It holds bitter memories for many,
Who have passed through its gates,
And some left again without memories,
Here they met their fate.

How many more must leave this camp?
Like Coney and Heaney to name but two,
Think as you read this small poem,
The next one could be me or you!



VISIONS

The strangest dream I've ever had,
Came true to me last night.
For heroes from the past came back,
To tell me I was right.

There stood a crowd in my H-Block cell,
And the first face I did see,
Came out of the crowd and spoke to me,
"Twas our own James Connolly.

His face was sad as he looked around,
My dirty prison cell,
And as he did I knew for sure,
His grief he could not tell.

Then out from the crowd there stepped,
A man whose face I also knew,
For fifteen years this man, Tom Clarke,
Had suffered solitary confinement too.

I almost cried when the next man came,
As he was oh! so thin,
He moved very slow, yet with pride he said,
He knew that we would win.

The just must suffer so don't despair,
Yes we must all fight on,
And as I looked, I saw this man,
No other than Michael Gaughan.

As I lie here now reflecting back,
On what was a wonderful dream,
I wonder could it have been true,
So real to me did it seem.

For strength so great it has given me,
To carry on our fight,
Just to prove to the British,
That I, not they, am right.

WHAT COULD COMPARE?

It's hard to describe the H-Blocks,
To make you understand,
But what could compare with them,
Nothing in this land.

You may think you've seen the prison,
Thanks to the B.B.C.,
But they never filmed the blanket-cell,
Where they keep me.

There's a constant smell of excrement,
To fill the clammy air,
To catch you suddenly in the throat,
And the bile comes rushing there.

Flies that come and torture you,
Plague you all day long,
Lice to eat and irritate you,
From dusk 'til light of dawn.

There's the stench of stinking maggots,
For here in dirt they thrive,
That heavy stench like putrid flesh,
How well they can survive.

The food is cold and tasteless,
Greasy, on a plastic plate,
You never get it early -
But then it's colder served up late.

Buckets of water and disinfectant,
Are thrown into our cells,
The screws going away laughing,
Another job done well.

Your bedding damp and smelly,
From lying on the floor,
And then you wonder to yourself,
Can they really do much more?

But they keep up the harassment,
Banging doors in the night,
Always pushing and provoking,
Hoping that you'll fight.

And when you've taken all you can,
You face them man to man,
There's five or six outside the door,
To quickly lend a hand.

Young men just waste away,
Christ, it's something to see,
I wish that I could watch myself,
To see if this is really me.

The doctor, yes he'll treat you,
Though not exactly here,
"Step round into the medical room,
But first put on the gear!"

Well I'll not wear the prison garb,
Nor work, nor call my jailers "Sir",
We're all political prisoners here,
For privileges we do not care.

I want no favours,
I'm demanding what is mine,
My country free of chains,
And status 'til that time.

A TRICK OF TIME

Memories, - are they ever true,
Or does everything change with time?

My memories of the past,
They seem to glow and brightly shine,

But was everything so easy then,
Did the words and story always rhyme?

Or are memories images,
Not life at all,
A helpful trick of time?

A starry sea

Staring silent through the bars,
At growing moon and twinkling stars,
At majestic clouds of silver grey,
Softly lighted, they sail away,
Drifting endlessly on a velvet sea,
Forever moving, forever free,
Who could paint such wondrous sights,
Of cloud and moon on Winter's nights,
Useless words for breathless scenes,
Unknown in our wildest dreams.



Two Cork patriots commemorated

THE NATIONAL GRAVES ASSOCIATION commemorated the memories of two Cork patriots on Sunday May 6th. The arrangements were made by the Cork committee under their Chairman, Stephen Leonard.

The first tribute was paid at the Republican plot, St. Finbar's cemetery, to the memory of Cork Lord Mayor Terence MacSwiney (who died on hunger-strike in Brixton in 1920) on the occasion of the centenary year of his birth. Later a group of two hundred people assembled at the grave of Denis Hegarty, 2nd Battalion, Cork Brigade, IRA for the unveiling of a headstone to his memory. He was killed by British forces on January 19th 1921.

The memorial was blessed by the parish priest and unveiled by an old comrade. A decade of the rosary in Irish was re-

cited by a member of Na Fianna Eireann and a salute was sounded by members of the Cork Volunteer Band. A colour party was provided by the Republican Movement.

The oration was delivered by Sean O'Duill, a local councillor and a member of the Ennis-corthy committee of the National Graves Association.

He concluded his oration: "At this graveside, in this year of 1979, the centenary year of the birth of Padraig Pearse, in this rebel county of Cork, the county of MacSwiney, McCurtain and Davis, the county of the men and women that beat the Black and Tans,



Sean O'Duill, Sinn Féin councillor in Ennis-corthy, who gave the oration.

the county that gave so much to the culture and thinking of Gaelic Ireland, we say to the British - GET OUT and take your murderers and agents and S.A.S. thugs and your new overlord, Atkins, with you; and let us create the Ireland visualised by MacSwiney, Davis, Pearse and Connolly; an Ireland fit to hold the graves of our fallen heroes.

"Speaking as one born near historic Kiltane and now living on the slopes of Vinegar Hill and therefore a proud public figure, I will now publicly declare that we all owe an enormous debt of gratitude to men like Denis Hegarty and the thousands like him from the generous rebel county of Cork and we are mindful of your recent contribution to the cause of Irish Freedom.

MEMORIAM

HEANEY, Henry (1st anniversary)
The Republican Movement in North Armagh, remember with pride their comrade, volunteer Henry Heaney, Ogligh Na Híreann, who died on the 4th June, 1978 in Magurragh Park Hospital (Military Wing) whilst imprisoned by the British. Far dearer the grave or the prison. Mum'd by one patriot name. Then the trophies of all who have risen. On Liberty's side is to fame.

HEANEY, Henry (1st anniversary)
In proud and loving memory of our dear father who died 4th June, 1978, Long Kash. Dear Ireland take him to thy breast this soldier who died for thee. Within thy bosom let him rest among the martyrs sanctified. Always remembered by his loving daughters and daughter-in-law.

HEANEY, Henry (1st anniversary)
In proud and loving memory of our dear grandfather who died while in the hands of British goliaths. Will those who think of him today a little prayer to Jesus say. Always remembered by his loving grandchildren.

HEANEY, Henry (1st anniversary)
In proud and loving memory of our dear father who died 4th June, 1978. We often speak about you with love and sad regret and we who love you dearly are the ones who won't forget. Sadly missed by Angeline Austin and Niamh.

HEANEY, Henry (1st anniversary)
In proud and loving memory of our dear father who died 4th June, 1978. Long Kash. Old Ireland he loved with true faith and devotion. He fought and died for the cause he loved best. Always remembered by all his sons and some-in-law.

HEANEY, Henry (1st anniversary)
In loving memory of my dear husband Henry, who died 4th June, 1978, in Magurragh Park Hospital (Military Wing). True to God and the land whose cause he loved. Always remembered by his loving wife Teresa. Mary Queen of the Dead pray for him.

HEANEY, Henry (1st anniversary)
In proud and loving memory of our dear father Henry who died 4th June, 1978. Not just today but every day we remember always. His son Brian, Long Kash, daughters Margaret and Maurita.



Birthday Greetings

CAMPBELL, Matt (H4 Block)
Happy birthday son. We're thinking of you always. From Mum, Dad and Family.

CAMPBELL, Matt (H4 Block)
Congratulations to my loving husband on his birthday. From his loving wife and son.

CAMPBELL, Matt (H4 Block)
Birthday greetings from Madeline.

CAMPBELL, Matt (H4 Block)
All the best on your birthday Matt. Hope your next one is spent in better surroundings. From Ann, Robin, Mary, Veronica and Michael.

CLARKE, Joseph (H5 Block)
Congratulations Joseph on your 21st. We cannot give you the right key but you have the key to our hearts. Love, Liam, Sella and Family.

CLARKE, Joseph (H5 Block)
Congratulations on your 21st Joseph. Ireland under shall never be at peace. From Uncle Tony Wakefield. U.T.P.

CLARKE, Joseph (H5 Block)
Happy 21st birthday Joseph. We wish you everything you wish yourself. Good luck from Anne and Joe.

CLARKE, Joseph (H5 Block)
Congratulations on your 21st. A blanket is the most noble cloak you can wear. Love Menna and Mary. U.T.P.

McHENRY, Seamus (Cage 6)
Birthday greetings to my brother Seamus. It does not take this special day to bring you to my mind, for a day without a thought of you is very hard to find. Your loving sister Kathleen. XXX

McHENRY, Seamus (Cage 8)
Happy birthday Seamus. No father could be prouder than I am of you today. Love Dad.

McHENRY, Seamus (Cage 8)
Greetings on your 24th birthday Seamus. Thinking about you always. Love and best wishes from your sister Selina, Patsy, Brendan and Sinead. XXX

McPHILLIPS, Junior (Portlaoise Jail)
Happy birthday Junior. Thinking of you always. From all your family.

DINES, Sammy (H5 Block)
Congratulations Sammy on completing three years in goal on June 8th and twenty-three months on the blanket. Your courage is an inspiration to us all. Victory to the blanket men. Love from your friend Lisa.

DINES, Sammy (H5 Block)
Congratulations Sammy on completing three years in goal on June 8th and twenty-three months on the blanket. Your courage is an inspiration to us all. Victory to the blanket men. Love from your friend Lisa.

GORMAN, Michael (H5 Block)
Congratulations Michael on completing one year on the blanket. It is not those who inflict the most, but those who endure the most who achieve victory in the end. From Geraldine, Lisa and Eugene.

HALPINNY, Lorraine (Armagh Prison)
Congratulations on completing two years on the protest for political status. Never more than a thought or a prayer every. Lots of love from Mum, Dad, Annette, Marian, Nicky and Paul.

McKEOWN, Kieran (H4 Block)
Cheers to you and your comrades and congratulations on completing two years on the blanket. God bless you from the McLarnon Family and Perry H5 Block.

McKEOWN, Kieran (H5 Block)
Congratulations Kieran on completing two years on the blanket. God bless you and all your comrades. They may have you in their keeping but we have you in our hearts. All our love, Mum and Dad.

McKEOWN, Kieran (H5 Block)
Two years on the blanket. There is not a day goes by that we don't think of you. God bless you and all your pals. Victory to the blanket men. From Colum and Family.

McKEOWN, Kieran (H5 Block)
Two years on the blanket. There is not a day goes by that we don't think of you. God bless you and all your pals. Victory to the blanket men. From Colum and Family.

Solidarity Greetings



McKEOWN, Kieran (H5 Block)
Victory to the blanket men. You are my brother, my friend, my pal, forget you I never shall. All our love, Vincent and Ellen.

McKEOWN, Kieran (H5 Block)
Congratulations Kieran on completing two years on the blanket. All our love and solidarity to you and your friends on the blanket. Aunt Sarah, Aunt Mary, Gerard and Elizabeth. We have brave men, but we'll never have better.

FITZSIMONS, Sean (H4 Block)
Two years on the blanket on 8th June. Congratulations to our son Sean and his comrade Tom Kelly on completing two years on the blanket. My love did strike me Lord, I am not meek. I cannot turn to him the other cheek. Rather to those for vengeance do I cry. Tooth for tooth, dead Lord, eyes for an eye. God bless you and your comrades. Love Mum, Dad, Mary, Bobby, Merg, Gerard, Uncle Billy. U.T.P.

FITZSIMONS, Sean (H4 Block)
Congratulations Sean for completing two years on the blanket on 8th June. For too long we've been our heads in submission, the wearing gown. Beware the rean people, their wealth will always judgement away. Victory to you Sean and all your brave comrades. Love "Little Sister" Marie. U.T.P.

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FITZSIMONS, Sean (H4 Block)
Two years on the blanket 8th June. I salute you and all your comrades who refuse to bend the knee and wear the garb of the criminal. Victory will be yours soon. God bless. From brother Bobby. U.T.P.

FITZSIMONS, Sean (H4 Block)
Two years on the blanket on 8th June. It is not those who can inflict the most but those who can endure the most who will attain victory. Congratulations and God bless you and your comrades Sean, Love, Granny, Grande, Ardagh. U.T.P.

FITZSIMONS, Sean (H4 Block)
Two years on the blanket on 8th June. Congratulations to our son Sean for having the courage and determination to complete two years on the blanket. Ireland unfree shall never be at peace. Greetings from Uncle Henry and Cousin Hugh (H5). U.T.P.

FITZSIMONS, Sean (H4 Block)
Two years on the blanket on 8th June. Congratulations on completing two years on the blanket. In England's hell hole. We have had great men but we'll never have better. Greetings from Aunt Maura, Uncle Alex and Kids. U.T.P.

FITZSIMONS, Sean (H4 Block)
Two years on the blanket on 8th June. Congratulations to our son Sean for completing two years on the blanket. Our dearest wish for you is that police statue will soon be gone. Greetings from Uncle Bobby, Aunt Jean and Kids. U.T.P.

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REPUBLICAN COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

BODENSTOWN

Sunday 17 June '79



Oration by
GERRY ADAMS
Chairman
JOE CAHILL
Chief Marshall
GEAROID Mac CARTHAIGH
ASSEMBLE AT SALLINS 2.15p.m.

Buses for Bodenstown



DUBLIN
Sunday 17th June
Leave 44, Parnell Square at 12 noon.
Tickets available from 44 Parnell Square

Anyone who has billets to offer for the night of Saturday June 16th in Dublin, please contact 44, Parnell Square, Dublin. Phone 747611.

BELFAST
Leave 8:30 a.m.
Departure points:
Bussey Bee, Andersonstown
Twinbrook
Beechmont Avenue
Ballymurphy Corpus Christi
Dunville Park, Falls Road
Ardoyne Advice Centre
For tickets (fare £3) and precise details contact Sinn Féin advice centre, 85b Falls Road, Tel: 23214

LURGAN
Sunday 17th June
Leave North Street at 9 a.m.
Tickets available from Sinn Féin Centre, 77 North Street, Lurgan, Tel. 6795.
Seats (£3 each) should be booked in advance.
CO. DERRY
Buses leave 7:30 a.m.
Departure points:
MAGHERA BRACKAGH HALL
LAVEY GULLADUFF
KILREA THE DIAMOND
MAGHERAFELT KING STREET
BALLYCASTLE
CO. ANTRIM
Leave the Diamond at 7 a.m.

Twinbrook RAC Thanks

Twinbrook R.A.C., Belfast, wish to thank all those people who turned out for the Sinn Féin H-Block march in the estate last Sunday and helped make it one of the most successful marches ever held in Twinbrook. We also wish to thank those who provided transport for the bands and those taxi men who brought people out of the estate. We hope for your support for future marches.

H-BLOCK PLAY

An H-Block play, based on the thoughts of a blanket man, has been produced by two young men from Belfast's Ardoyne area. It portrays a blanket-man in a mock-up H-Block cell covered in a blanket. To date the play has toured many clubs in Belfast and has been very warmly received. Anyone wishing to stage a showing of the play should contact: Ardoyne Advice Centre Brompton Park, Belfast Tel: 740168.

BELFAST
H-BLOCK MARCH AND RALLY
Ardoyne
Sunday 24th June
Assemble 2:30 p.m.
Bone/Ardoyne Memorial.
Prominent Republican speakers.
Organised by Sinn Féin.

EVE OF WOLFE TONE COMMEMORATION

Saturday June 16th 3 p.m.
Assemble 44, Parnell Square
DUBLIN
March to Wolfe Tone Street and then to G.P.O. for H-Block Meeting.
All Cumann banners please.

COMHAIRLE CUIGE LAIGHEAN

Monthly Meeting
on Sunday June 10th
at No. 5 Blessington Street
DUBLIN
2:30 p.m. sharp
two delegates from each
Comhairle Ceannairte to attend.
Observers welcome.

SINN FEIN PUBLIC LECTURE

"Republicanism and Socialism Perspectives for the Future"
Speaker: Andreas O'Ceallaigh
3 p.m. Sunday 10th June
Intercountry Hotel
LIFORD
Co. Donegal
Organised by West Tyrone Comhairle Ceannairte Sinn Féin.

DUBLIN

Bodenstown Ceili
THE CLARE MANOR HOTEL
SUNDAY 17th JUNE, 1979
Eamon Ceannt Kilbride
9 p.m. - 1 a.m. - Bus back to city.
Taille (including Supper) £2:50

Suicidal Brits

BRITS in the North continue to display suicidal tendencies whilst driving. Yet another Brit has died to add to the mounting cost in lives paid by the Brits for their occupation of the six-counties.

At six o'clock in the early hours of the morning of Thursday 31st May a 22-year-old British officer was killed when his car crashed into a wall at the junction of

Lambeg Road and Bell's Lane in Dummuray on the outskirts of West Belfast, only a few hundred yards away from the national estate of Twinbrook. The dead Brit was Lieutenant Nigel Brewer from Bromley, Kent and whilst the Brits claimed that he was a member of the Royal Corps of Transport, it is more than likely that he was a member of the supposedly elite SAS, whose suicidal tendencies are well known.