

An Phoblacht



REPUBLICAN NEWS

Sraith Nua Im! 4 uimhir 47 Deardaoin Samhain 25 Thursday, November 25th, 1982 (Britain 25p) Price 20p

RUC KILL AGAIN IN ARMAGH

THE SECTARIAN RUC's shoot-to-kill policy claimed yet another fatality on Wednesday afternoon of this week, with the summary execution by them of 17-year-old North Armagh youth Michael Tighe.

And, on Wednesday night, Michael's companion, 20-year-old Martin McAuley, was lying critically injured in Craigavon Hospital. The latest victims are both close neighbours in Ballinarry, Portadown. The killing comes only a fortnight

after three unarmed IRA Volunteers were murdered in an RUC ambush on the outskirts of Lurgan. And, as in that killing, the RUC have already admitted that no shots were fired at them on this occasion.

The shooting appears, from reliable early reports, to have been a deliberate planned attack, involving three car-loads of RUC men — not a routine patrol — on a shed on the Ballinarry Road where the two youths were shot down.

Three rifles were subsequently claimed by the RUC to have been found on the premises, although none had been fired.

There was no opportunity given to the two youths involved to surrender and the RUC strafed the shed, in which Michael Tighe was later found dead lying in the hay, for up to four minutes with rapid-fire automatic weapons.

THREE HOURS

The attack was not revealed by the RUC for several hours afterwards. And it was 7.45pm, three hours after the shooting, when local parish priest Canon Pettit went to the scene, after a phone-call from the chaplain at Craigavon Hospital where the injured Martin McAuley had been brought.

He found the body of Michael Tighe still lying in the hay-shed, there he anointed it in the darkness.

It is also reported that the two were legitimately on the premises as the injured youth, Martin McAuley, had been asked by the owner of the house to which the shed was attached, an elderly woman named Mrs Kearns, to keep an eye on the place whilst she was away, as she had been for several weeks.

Within minutes of the killing being announced, local DUP assembly member David Calvert was expressing full backing for, and satisfaction with, the RUC action.

It must have been 3 or 4 minutes of constant fire

Assassins in uniform



AN EYE-WITNESS to the RUC attack, local man Pearse Heaney (a son of Henry Heaney who died as a republican prisoner in Long Kesh), has given a detailed account of the murderous RUC action:

"At approximately 4.40pm today, I was driving along Ballinarry Road when two RUC cars passed me, braked and stopped in front of me. I thought that they were stopping me so I pulled up.

"The cars were unmarked, one red and one dark blue, of the armoured type.

"The occupants, ten RUC men, jumped out and ran to the cover of a wall at the left-hand side of the road. They immediately opened fire.

"The house there is at an angle to the road and they were firing across the front of the house at the sheds at the side.

"It was dark and impossible to see clearly what they were actually firing at.

"One RUC man waved me on. I travelled on down the road for approximately 200 yards and turned left. I drove for another 100 yards and passed another RUC car, a light blue one. There were two or three RUC men standing next to it, apparently unconcerned.

"The shooting was still going on and I formed the impression that other RUC men, from this car, were at the back of the house.

"I was going to see my son who was in a friend's house and when I got there we all came out to the front door. Rapid automatic gunfire was still continuing, it must have been three or four minutes of constant fire.

"Within a short period the area was saturated with RUC."

ANNUAL SAMHAIN OF WORK
AN CUMANN CABHRACH AONACH NA NOLLAG
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DECEMBER 3rd, 4th & 5th
Friday 2pm to 10pm
Saturday 12 noon to 10pm
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15B & 20 pass the door

HYPOCRITICAL GREENERY 'HIGHPOINT' OF POLL BATTLE

The no-choice election

BY KEVIN BURKE

THE NO-CHOICE election campaign ended in the twenty-six counties with polling day on Wednesday of this week. And with the parties at one on economic policy, the only bit of excitement aroused throughout the campaign was the spurious playing of the 'Green card', by Charles Haughey in the final week.

If the opinion polls last weekend were anything to go by, he played it with some success too, dramatically narrowing the wide gap in popularity between himself and Garret FitzGerald. Although it might be added that both politicians are well short of achieving approval from even half of the twenty-six-county population.

The opportunity for Haughey to play the Green card had a two-fold basis. Firstly, in the predilection of British politicians to sell their friends if the necessity arises and secondly in the, now familiar, political ineptitude of the Fine Gael leader.

Northern direct-ruler James Prior, floundering on his anti-IRA tour of the United States, decided that he needed a counter-balance to the RUC ambush of three republicans.

He dragged in the compliant FitzGerald, by announcing that the latter was about to portray his approval of the RUC on the following day by coming out in favour of an 'all-Ireland police force' and an 'all-Ireland court'.

PLOTTING

Fianna Fail immediately seized on the picture of FitzGerald and Prior plotting secretly together on Ireland's future. Not seeing the pit he was digging for himself, the naive FitzGerald went ahead with the speech — his only one on the North in the



● Charles Haughey, after a week of hard card-playing campaign — and bore out Prior's prediction.

Haughey announced himself 'aghast' at the prospect of both an all-Ireland court or an all-Ireland police force, with RUC men patrolling the Free State.

The devotion of the British media to FitzGerald's cause was revived again by Fianna Fail, as was his private luncheon with the Duke of Norfolk at which he was reported, by the Duke, to have lobbied on behalf of Prior's 'splendid' assembly.

Even as Fianna Fail stalwarts picketed with 'No Third Force' signs and distributed 'A Vote for FitzGerald is a Vote for Thatcher' leaflets, on Sunday morning, it was revealed that the Duke of Norfolk was in

fact a trained British spy, being head of military intelligence at the British Ministry of Defence until 1967, and that also present at the secret luncheon was the sinister Tory back-bench MP, and former British army officer, who had kept up a 'special interest' in Ireland, Michael Mates.

POWER-SHARING

FitzGerald began rapidly back-tracking, claiming that he would insist on power-sharing before endorsing such a force, which would not, after all, include RUC members but could include former RUC members.

It was also pointed out that the concept of an 'all-Ireland court' had been Fianna

Fail's favourite policy, especially during the debate on the Criminal Law (Jurisdiction) Act in 1976, and Haughey conveniently dropped his total opposition to this.

It was not considered too important by either side that FitzGerald's notions of either power-sharing or 'all-Ireland' anything have been, and were again last weekend, totally rejected by loyalist politicians.

But most importantly of all, it was not considered too important by either side, that such a joint 'police force' already exists to all intents and purposes.

Senior RUC officers already hold regular meetings with senior garda officers in Dublin and Belfast. Computerised information on republicans is already freely exchanged between both forces. Radio communications are constantly open across the border. Joint road-blocks and searches are a regular feature in border areas. And British patrols can stray across the border by land, sea or air, with impunity.

MERGED

The Criminal Law (Jurisdiction) Act has virtually merged the court systems, so that a British judge has already sat in the Dublin Special Court, many RUC members have appeared as witnesses in Free State court cases, and those who escaped from Crumlin Road Jail are presently in Portlaoise Jail.

That is the present system of 'all-Ireland' British repression, which has, in fact, been refined extensively under the direction of the 'Green' Charles Haughey rather than the 'Blue' Garret FitzGerald.

Nowhere in the whole vacuous outburst was anyone asked to vote on any specific issue which would have changed Free State policy on the North in even the slightest degree or its present real and determined collaboration with Britain.

It was indeed a no-choice election campaign.

NO OPTIONS FOR OPTIC WORKERS

BY JACK MADDEN

THE SAGA of the British-American Optical Company in Dublin's Liberties area is nearing an end. In its wake it leaves unemployment, bitterness and a sense of impotence in the ability of a small group of unionised workers to challenge the might of a foreign-based company when it decides to pull out. And it illustrates, yet again, the weakness of the unions' position in relation to present company law which allows transfers of assets, without liabilities, from one company to another.

British-American Optical, a company based in Watford in England, was established in Dublin some 60 years ago. Since then little has changed other than its business name, which, for obvious political reasons, became 'American Optics' in the early '70s.

Rumours of closure began to circulate in 1981 when cutbacks in overtime began. It was not, however, until May 1982 that the union was told that the plant was indeed closing and that all workers were to be made redundant.

VIABILITY

A senior official in the Federated Workers' Union of Ireland (FWUI), the union representing the workers in the company, has told AP/RN that the company had no reason to close.

Indeed, so confident was he, and the workforce in the plant, in the viability of the business that at a meeting with management they offered to buy 49% of the shares. Sean Matthews, manager of the plant, would take the remaining 51%.

The union claims that the company accepted this idea but a few days later changed its mind and sold to Matthews. As a union spokesman said: "Here was proof that the com-

pany was viable otherwise Matthews wouldn't have gone behind the workers' backs to secure a deal for himself."

A shocked workforce was then told that a take-over by Matthews would mean a cut in the workforce from 19 to 11.

The take-over bid was rejected by the workers but Matthews, using psychological pressure, released the names of the chosen 11 and thus managed eventually to divide the workforce.

The 8 workers who were to be let go happened also to be the most active members of the union.

PROTEST

Since the closure announcement a go-slow had been in operation in protest at the refusal by the company to discuss realistic redundancy payments. On learning of the Matthews deal, a majority of the workers decided to intensify the protest by stopping work.

Events took an ugly turn on Monday, June 21st, when Matthews informed the protestors that unless they resumed work within an hour, they would be sacked and would get no redundancy. One hour later, he announced that they were sacked and that they must quit the premises. The union repeated consistently



● American Optics workers picketing the premises in June; the picket has now been abandoned and all hope rests on the Employment Appeals Tribunal

during this period that its only demand was that management sit down and discuss redundancy and the take-over bid with them.

At the end of the day, Matthews locked the door and went home, leaving the workers inside.

Injunctions to quit the premises were served on the workers the next day by the Dublin High Court. They, however, insisted that it was a lock-in not an occupation.

When the High Court injunctions had no effect the company went to the Free State Supreme Court and, using the Forcible Entry and Occupation Act, secured an injunction against the protestors. Faced with the threat of forcible removal, the protestors informed the gardai that they would leave.

PICKET But, with the question of re-

dundancy payment still unsettled, the union mounted a picket on the premises and maintained it for 19 weeks, intensifying their efforts by lobbying public representatives and the Ophthalmic Association. They received some sympathy but little action.

On August 6th, the Labour Court made a recommendation in support of the workers' claim, which the company had agreed in advance to abide by. It did not do so.

Matthews, meanwhile, had taken over the assets of the company — but none of its liabilities — and began business under a new name, 'Matthews Optical Laboratory'. FWUI officials suspect that British-American Optical still has connections with the new outfit.

But on paper the company has no presence in the country and has still not made any redundancy payments.

In any case, Matthews' company began production on August 9th, using as staff some relatives of his own and some former union members who had passed the picket. His psychological play had worked.

Last month, the union ended its picket, accepting that it was achieving nothing. It is now taking a case before the Employment Appeals Tribunal in the last hope that something may be rescued.

Early this week I visited Matthews Optical Laboratory and when I asked to speak to the shop-steward I was told that there was no union there now.

All that is left of the long and bitter dispute is the word 'scabs' written on the door, which someone has 'unsuccessfully tried' to erase.

Filling the political vacuum

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

THE MEANING of the expression 'filling the political vacuum' became obvious at the beginning of this week, as increasing amounts of air-time and column space were being devoted to the Stormont assembly. News flashes, full pages of newspapers, reports of heated debates: the show was well and truly on the road. The public was getting all the trappings of 'representative democracy'.

Armagh's leading Official Unionist, Harold McCusker, after loudly cheering the RUC for their handywork at the Lurgan 'road-block' two weeks ago, decided to refurbish his party's image by pushing for an emergency debate on what the unionists call 'security' — namely the putting down of nationalists by 'legal' means. As the assembly was not due to be reconvened until Thursday, November 25th, McCusker's demand threw the newly-elected presiding officer, Jim Kilfedder, and the other two unionist parties, Paisley's DUP and the Alliance, into a crisis.

The issue of 'security' is one of the main political footballs in the unionist camp, and it was being used by the Official Unionists to attack Jim Kilfedder, in revenge for losing the position of presiding officer to him two weeks ago.

Kilfedder had therefore to invent new rules for an assembly which had hardly met formally, except for a brief opening ceremony.

CONFRONTATIONS

The emergency debate requested by Harold McCusker, set for Monday, November 22nd, was the occasion for fierce confrontations between the various shades of unionism, as McCusker's party proposed to "delay assembly business indefinitely" until the British government took tougher measures against the IRA, while the DUP, backed by Alliance, pointed out that this would in effect give the IRA the power to turn the assembly on and off at will. Or, in unionist jargon:

"There must be no surrender of democratic forums to the intimidation of terrorism."

Eventually, on Tuesday, all resolutions and amendments were dropped in favour of inviting British direct-ruler Jim Prior



● Jim Kilfedder (above) was faced with a crisis in the Official Unionists' (right) 'security' ploy to address the assembly and answer questions. The tactical move by Jim Kilfedder seems to have calmed the spirits of his fellow assembly members, seemingly aware that they were shouting themselves to a rather ridiculous standstill.

DISAPPOINTING

Jim Prior was only too glad to be of assistance to the assembly he helped to instigate, and seize an opportunity to show his talents as a seasoned parliamentarian, after a somewhat disappointing visit to the United States.

Prior's last public appearance in the US was in Minneapolis on Sunday, November 21st, when he was greeted by yet another picket, of over 100 protestors.

From New York to Washington, and from Carolina to Minnesota, any media attention Prior received provided an opportunity for supporters of the Irish freedom struggle to publicly denounce what Prior's government is doing in Ireland. And even the BBC, sent over to report on his tour, could not hide Prior's dismal failure, as they revealed that he actually had to go and seek out press interviews personally so great was the interest in his visit!



Currie out of favour

THE SDLP has settled somewhat uneasily into its new attitude of abstentionism by demoting Austin Currie, the maverick Duggan member.

His pro-assembly views have been an embarrassment to the party leadership, as was the attack he made on the Free State premier Charles Haughey, in the immediate aftermath of the assembly elections, for not coming out more strongly in favour of the SDLP during the campaign.

At a party meeting in Duggan last weekend, Currie was removed from his position as spokesperson on North/South relations. Party leader John Hume now takes over responsibility for what he considers this 'delicate' area.



● AUSTIN CURRIE

Currie is understood to have declined an offer of spokesperson in another area of party policy, although he remains inside the SDLP. The possibility of him following a Gerry Fitt-style career pattern, however, continues to grow.

Another switch in responsibilities, at the weekend, involved Michael Canavan, the SDLP's former spokesperson on Justice, who has been replaced by Seamus Mallon.

Canavan did not stand for election to the assembly, believing that the SDLP should have boycotted the elections completely. He is now rumoured to be resigning from the party.

But the SDLP are assured of their place in posterity if their Irish Times 'groupie', columnist John Healy, succeeds in rewriting history.

In a lyrical piece on Saturday, November 20th, Healy attributed the disbanding of the 'B' Specials, the fall of the old Stormont, and the present stalemate in the six counties to John Humel Love is blind.



● GERRY ADAMS

Panorama on Adams

"I DON'T SEE it as a personal victory. It's a victory for the republican struggle," said Gerry Adams, talking about his poll-topping election win in West Belfast on BBC's 'Panorama' on Monday night.

He was vainly trying to broaden the programme into a political discussion about the British presence in the North, but Panorama presenter Fred Emery kept returning to the one burning question: 'Is Gerry Adams in the IRA?'

And to this end we got a run-down on the Sinn Fein vice-president's 'politicat-

ion' coupled with opinions of Adams held by such respected figures as Ian Paisley, Gerry Fitt, Harold McCusker, Mervyn Prior, Andy Tyrrie and James Prior.

Paisley talked about 'murderers'; Fitt referred to 'daylight' politicians; McCusker was "not necessarily advocating shooting them";

Rees was pondering about strong men elected, with guns in their hands; and Tyrrie worried that the hunger-strikers had been exploited.

James Prior spoke of 'bad men' in schoolmasterly tones and declared that Adams' victory at the polls had not been a vote in favour of armed struggle but had arisen as a protest against unemployment and bad housing.

RESISTED

Since politicians and

media, before the election, insisted that a vote for Sinn Fein would be a vote for the IRA, and resisted the attempts of the Sinn Fein candidates to discuss the social and economic issues, the irony of Prior's 'analysis' could be missed by few.

The Sinn Fein contention, of course, is that the British presence is responsible both for the necessity of armed struggle and for the social and economic deprivation.

The Irish Times the following morning spoke of "the superb mileage which Gerry Adams got when he danced rings around Fred Emery on Panorama... and secured what must be the most impressive piece of television exposure he or the political wing of the PIRA have ever had."

"It should have sent shivers down the spine of the British establishment, if it knew its Irish history. The process of retrospective legitimisation has now started — but that means absolutely nothing to the British, and that's their problem."

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

UDR SOLDIER SHOT

IRA VOLUNTEERS in West Tyrone ambushed and wounded a UDR soldier in Strabane on Wednesday night, November 17th, in a carefully planned attack.

The 40-year-old soldier was struck by two shots in the arm and leg as he climbed into his car outside the town's Adria nylon factory,

The location of the ambush was an apt one, since the Adria factory is well-known locally for providing 'second jobs' for many UDR and

RUC Reserve personnel, in a predominantly nationalist town which suffers the highest male unemployment of any town in the six counties.

CARRICKMORE ATTACK
Members of an RUC foot patrol

in the County Tyrone village of Carrickmore had a lucky escape on Thursday, November 18th, when an IRA bomb detonated as they passed by.

The explosion occurred around 10.40am at the junction of Hazel-hill Road and Termon Road, just outside the village centre.

BOGUS ATTACK

An itchy-fingered Brit with bad nerves was reportedly the cause of the latest 'attack' on an enemy patrol in Derry City, last Saturday,

November 20th.

A newspaper report later the same day in the Belfast Telegraph said that a Brit patrol in Beechwood Avenue 'returned fire' when several 'aimed' shots were fired at them shortly after 2 am. The news item also reported a 'follow-up search' which found nothing.

In fact, local people believe that the only people firing were the Brits themselves who loosed off shots in panic when one of their own patrol accidentally fired his rifle.



Councillor released

EDDIE O'DOHERTY, the Carrick-on-Suir Sinn Féin councillor who was jailed for refusing to buy an RTE television licence, was released from Mountjoy Jail in Dublin on Monday of this week, November 22nd.

O'Doherty had been sentenced to two months' imprisonment for refusing to pay a £500 fine imposed in June.

In court, he had made it clear that he was protesting against Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act and against the inadequacy of Irish language coverage on RTE.

He began his imprisonment in Mountjoy on Thursday, October 21st, and, in all, served four weeks and four days of the sentence.

An application he made to be transferred to Portlaoise with the other republican prisoners was not replied to by the authorities, but after three weeks of protest he was allowed to wear his own clothes instead of the prison uniform.

Whilst other prisoners were regularly released after serving a few days of their sentences, as is normal in Mountjoy - and one ordinary prisoner who arrived at the prison the same day as O'Doherty was released after completing two weeks of a 12-month sentence - Eddie O'Doherty looked set to serve the full sentence, less remission, staying in jail another two weeks until December 5th.

However, on Monday morning, he was informed that, because of a technicality, he was being released - and, in a petty attempt to deny the validity of his protest, was also informed that his fine had just been paid by a friend!

Eddie O'Doherty, besides being a Sinn Féin councillor, is branch secretary of the ATGWU in Carrick-on-Suir and secretary of the town's trades council, and is involved in many other areas of community action in South Tipperary.

Sinn Féin had protested strongly at his imprisonment and urged members and supporters to lobby Free State election candidates on his case in particular and on Section 31 generally.

On his election tour last week, Charles Haughey was visibly disconcerted by strong heckling on O'Doherty's behalf whilst he was speaking in Waterford.

And the latest protest meeting organised in support of Eddie O'Doherty was in Carrick-on-Suir last Sunday outside the local church, which was chaired by Richard Fennessey of Clonmel Sinn Féin and addressed by Jackie Phelan of the Portlaoise cumann in Waterford.

Sinn Féin AGMs

AT THE recent AGMs of the Tony Ahern, Monaghan town; John Green, Castleblayney; and Padraig Ó Pearail, Liscarrigan; Sinn Féin cumainn, the following officers were elected:

Tony Ahern cumann: chair; Jimmy MacDonald; secretary: Fintan MacPhail; treasurer: Peter McAleer; education: John Carron; and PRO: Brian MacDonald.

John Green cumann: chair: George Poyntz; secretary: Jackie Crowe; treasurer: Frank Poyntz; education: Peter Smith; and PRO: James Cunningham.

Padraig Ó Pearail: cathaoirleach: Peadar Réamonn; leas cathaoirleach: Padraig MacUaid; rúnai: Pilib Ó Ceallaigh; cisteoirí: Seamus Ó Caoilte agus Liam MacPhail; OCP: Antón MacUaid; agus tosairí do comhairle ceantair: Pilib Ó Ceallaigh agus Dessus MacCábla.

Sinn Féin Britain

READERS in Britain who are interested in joining Sinn Féin or supporting our activities, demonstrations, rallies or pickets should contact Michael Holden, 41 Waverley, Harefield, Hempsall, Hertfordshire, HP2 6DD.

Nicearagua faoi ionsaí

LE TOMÁS Ó SE

TAR EIS cogadh cathardha fíochmhar d'áirigh le pobal Nicearagua faoi cheannas an FSLN, saoire a bhaint amach sa bhliain 1979. Theith an deachtóir Somoza agus an chuid is mó dá fórsaí míleata, an Garda Náisiúnta. Bhí an tír beagnach scríosta mar dhein fórsaí Somoza na monarchain a bhunáil sular fhág siad an tír.

Bhí ardthas ar pobal Nicearagua go raibh Somoza imithe agus thug fúmhóir mór an phobail a dtacaíocht don FSLN san iarracht chun eacnamaíocht na tíre a aththógaint ar bhonn cothrom na féinne do chách. Ar ndóigh bhí géarghál le cumann airgeadais ó thíortha eile ag teastáil san iarracht seo. Dhíoltaigh Stáit Aontaithe Meiriceá (SAM) aon chabhair a thabhairt don Rialtas nua.

Sular tharla an Réabhlóid bhí meán aicme beag i Nicearagua agus bhí siad go maith as i gcomparáid leis na gnáthdhaoine. Anois i ndiaidh na Réabhlóide níl siad san agus ar údarás na hEaglaise Catoilicé ag tabhairt a dtacaíocht don Rialtas nua. Tá greim acu seo ar Roinn mhaith den na meán cumarsáide agus is fóir a rá go bhfuil siad ag iarraidh a bpróibhléid féin a chosaint.

HONDURAS

Tá na bail den Gharda Náisiúnta a theith trasna na teorann go Honduras lonnaithe i gcompal. Tá bail den CIA á dtreanáil sna campaí agus tá lón chogaidh ag teacht chucu ó bhfoinse céanna. Tá na céadtha ruathair trasteorann déanta acu le cúpla bliain anuas. Tá na ruathair seo á stiúiriú ag na Meiriceánaigh agus tarlaíonn sé seo ar ordaithe ó Washington.

Tá na campaí seo eagraithe sa tsíle céanna is a bhí campaí Meiriceánaigh i Vietnam. Tá na modhanna céanna á úsáid ag na Somocistas chun eagla a scaipeadh i measc an phobail is a d'úsáid na Meiriceánaigh i Vietnam. Tá na ruathair atá á eagrú acu dírithe ar



cheantar de Nicearagua le daonra an-bheag. Tá seans acu trioblóid a dhéanamh sa cheantar seo dá bharr. Tá fúmhóir mór pobal Nicearagua ag tabhairt a dtacaíocht don Rialtas agus glacann siad páirt go fonnmhar i gcosaint a dtíre. Níl spéis ar bith acu Somoza ná a leithéid a fheiceáil ar ais i gcuimhacht arís. Tá éirthe leis an FSLN mórán duin chun chinn a dhéanamh chun caighdeán beatha na ngnáthdhaoine a feabhsú.

D'áirigh go han-mhaith leis an bhfeachtas chun léamh agus scríobh a mhúineadh don phobal. Tuigean an Rialtas go maith ah ghé atá ann chun an pobal a thabhairt leo agus tá éirthe leo sa mhéid seo.

IONSAÍ

Tá Nicearagua mar sin, faoi ionsaí ó dhá thaobh. Tá fórsaí Somoza le cabhair ó Mheiriceá ag déanamh ruathair ar an dtír. Ar an dtáobh eile den scéal tá



● Saighdiúirí an FSLN a bhuaigh saoire do phobal Nicearagua



● Ábhar pléascach de dhántús Meiriceánach a ghabhadh ós na Somocistas

eacnamaíocht na tíre faoi ionsaí chomh maith. Níl cabhair airgeadais le fáil ag an rialtas agus de bharr na hionsaithe atá á dhéanamh tá an rialtas cuid mhaith de mhaoin na tíre a threorú chun an tír a chosaint.

I mí Eanáir seo chughainn tá sé beartaithe go mbeidh fórsaí míleata Meiriceá agus Honduras ag déanamh traenala ar theora Nicearagua. Beidh aer-fórsa, cabhlach agus saighdiúirí Meiriceá páirteach san traenáil seo. Tá an baol ann go n-úsáidfidh SAM an seans seo chun Nicearagua a ghabháil.

Taispeánann sé seo go léir gur fiú trumpa gan teanga an chaint a bhíonn ag uachtarán SAM ar dhaonlathas. Níid sásta ligint do thír bheag síochanta maireachtáil i saoire. Níl ach saoire, aontú le SAM le fáil ag pobail Mheiriceá Láir. Má bhí dhábt ag aon duine gur impiriúlaigh iad Reagan agus a leithéid ba chóir go dtuigfeadh gach duine go soiléir anois an dóigh na n-oibriúnn siad.

Caithimid seasamh le ceart pobal Nicearagua don saoire agus don síocháin.

CUT-BACKS LEAVE CITY STREETS WITHOUT LIGHTING

Dark days ahead

BY JACK MADDEN

A DISPUTE, which has left large areas of Dublin city in the dark, seems likely to continue even after the ending of a seven-week strike by lighting workers a fortnight ago.

Relations between Dublin Corporation and its general service unions reached a new low on Tuesday last, when workers belonging to the IMETU, ITGWU and FWUI marched through Dublin to highlight what they see as a very dangerous decision by the corporation management to make cut-backs in overtime needed to repair the public-lighting system.

Shop-stewards are angry at recent decisions taken by management which, they claim, adversely affect the pay and conditions of their members.

One such decision, which led to the lengthy strike, provided cars for foremen who had previously been driven by general workers in the vans which also carried supplies. The number of promotions to 'driver' were thus threatened.

In the words of one shop-steward: "The corporation was playing ducks and drakes with workers; improving the conditions of one set of workers at the expense of another."

REPAIR WORK

Since that dispute ended, trouble has continued to simmer. The unions claim that nec-



● Last Tuesday's march by Dublin Corporation employees

essary repair work on public lighting was disrupted during the strike leading to semi-darkness in many areas of the city including Davitt Road, Long Mile Road and vast housing areas such as Ballyfermot and Coolock.

Instead of doing everything in their power to restore lighting in these areas, the corporation has introduced cut-backs on overtime. And, because of this, say the unions, the extra work which has built up during the strike is not being done.

The dangers of traffic accidents involving vehicles and pedestrians on unlit main roads and minor streets alike are obvious.

On last Tuesday's march, one worker warned of another danger:

"The safety of the people from muggers and vandals is being sacrificed because of these crazy cut-backs."

In the present climate of cut-backs in public services, the neglect of such a basic necessity as lighting in urban areas is an early indication of the promised hard times ahead.

PLASTIC BULLETS IN COURT

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

THE MOST SENIOR RUC officer in West Belfast, Chief Superintendent James Crutchley, claimed that he was on the Falls Road and personally gave the order for the plastic bullet to be fired which fatally injured a 29-year-old mother of three on July 8th of last year.

Crutchley was giving evidence at the inquest of Mrs Nora McCabe which began on Friday last, November 19th.

Mrs McCabe was struck by the plastic bullet, fired at point-blank range at Linden Street, on the lower Falls, on the morning that hunger-striker Joe McDonnell died. She died the following morning from severe head injuries.

The chief superintendent claimed that no baton rounds were fired after his patrol passed Clonard Street — the street before Linden Street — and he dismissed reports that there was confusion among several of his officers as to whether the rounds were fired at either Clonard or Linden Street.

The RUC sergeant who fired the baton round which killed Mrs McCabe also claimed that he had fired, on Crutchley's command, at one of two youths throwing petrol bombs at the corner of Clonard Street and that the round must have carried on down the street to hit Mrs McCabe, yet still retaining its force.

Significantly, the RUC sergeant did not make a statement on the matter until three



● RUC MAN CRUTCHLEY gave the order which killed Nora McCabe weeks after the event.



● NORA McCABE fatally injured when hit at point-blank range mitted by the RUC witnesses.



● SARAH BEGLEY lost her left eye in an RUC plastic bullet attack compensation for plastic bullet injuries, when she settled a case in which she was suing the RUC's chief constable, Sir John Hermon.

VIDEO EVIDENCE

However, counsel for the McCabe family, Charles Hill QC, told the court that he would be introducing new evidence in the form of a video film, shot by a Canadian film-crew on the morning of July 8th, which would be 'particularly relevant' to the case as it would show a far different account of the circumstances to that sub-

The film is now with the Director of Public Prosecutions and is to be shown to the coroner's jury when the inquest resumes next Monday, November 29th.

COMPENSATION

And on Monday of this week, November 22nd, a 45-year-old mother-of-six, Mrs Sarah Begley of Unity Flats in Belfast, received between £30,000 and £40,000

Mrs Begley was standing on the balcony outside her home on June 13th of last year, when the RUC charged up the stairs and opened fire with baton rounds.

She lost her left eye, suffered a broken jaw and needed almost 60 stitches to the wound caused by the plastic bullet.

BLACK TRIAL ADJOURNED

THE TRIAL OF 38 people arrested on the evidence of North Belfast informer Christopher Black, which was due to commence last Monday, November 22nd, after the Director of Public Prosecutions earlier successfully used a Bill of Indictment to bypass the preliminary investigation, has been adjourned until December 6th to allow defence counsels more time to prepare their case.

At Crumlin Road courthouse in Belfast on Monday, a barrister for some of the defendants argued that the DPP had taken 11 months to prepare the prosecution, involving the efforts of no less than 150 RUC men and consisting of 1,500 pages of depositions and an 87-page book of additional evidence which was introduced only a week ago.

Saying that the defence faced a

'mammoth task' in processing the evidence, the barrister applied to Justice Kelly for an adjournment until January. Turning down the application, the judge said he would nevertheless grant a two-week adjournment to facilitate the defence. He also said that the crown witness, Black, will not be called to give evidence until the new year, with opening statements and background



● CHRISTOPHER BLACK

evidence forming the early part of what is likely to prove a lengthy trial.

Twenty-two of the 38 defendants were granted continuing bail after Monday's hearing, with the rest being returned to remand in custody.

BLACK MAIL REJECTED

A 30-YEAR-OLD Creggan man has recently approached the Republican Movement in Derry with details of a blackmail attempt on him by the RUC during interrogation in Strand Road Barracks between November 8th and 10th.

The man, who prefers to remain anonymous, is married with an eight-month-old child. He was arrested for the first time in his life on November 8th and told that the RUC informer Raymond Gilmour had made a statement against him alleging that he had kept IRA uniforms in his home and he had frequently aided the IRA.

He was threatened that if he did not sign a statement admitting those allegations, Gilmour would make more serious charges against him. He was then further pressurised to act as an informer and told to report to them on activities of known republicans or anyone he

suspected of being involved in IRA operations.

He was given a phone number and told to ask for 'Basil', his RUC handler, who would meet him in an unmarked car at an arranged time and place. Three meeting-places were named, one outside the Waterside Health Centre, another in Pump Street in the city centre and the third at Nixon's Corner on the outskirts of Derry.

Wanting only to get out of the barracks, the man said he would cooperate, and was released. Subsequently he realised the dangerous implications of what he had done and correctly decided to contact the Republican Movement locally.

Carron charges dismissed

IN ENNISKILLEN Court on Tuesday of this week, Owen Carron, Sinn Fein elected representative and Westminster MP for Fermanagh/South Tyrone, had two charges of obstructing the RUC thrown out in spite of the resident magistrate finding him guilty of 'technical obstruction'.

A total of 17 RUC witnesses were called to give evidence on two incidents which occurred in February and April of this year.

In the first, Carron was stopped at a vehicle checkpoint mounted by members of the RUC's divisional mobile support unit from Belfast.

When they recognised the MP they ordered him to open the boot of his car, which he refused to do. He was pulled out of the car and roughed up by several RUC men.

In the second incident, in April, Owen Carron was again stopped in his car, this time at Maguire's Bridge, by members of the

RUC Reserve and he again refused to open the boot.

On this occasion, however, he locked himself inside the car until an RUC chief inspector arrived on the scene and permitted Carron to continue about his business.

The Enniskillen magistrate, dismissing the charges, voiced the opinion that he would not have liked to be treated in the way that Carron had been and that he should have been treated with some courtesy.

He expressed the hope that, in future, Owen Carron and the RUC should "sort out their differences between them." (1)



● Owen Carron undergoes, by now, routine harassment at the hands of the RUC.

The writing o

BY JIM GIBNEY

CRUMLIN ROAD JAIL should have a preservation order slapped on it. Not just because it is one of Belfast's oldest buildings, and there is precious little left of old Belfast because of careless redevelopers, but because it contains a lot of republican history both past and present.

If I had been asked several years ago what should be done with the 'Crum' in a united Ireland, I would have said 'demolish it', with Luddite glee. But my appreciation of the place then, in terms of architectural and republican history, was nil.

However, my present spell here has shown me the place in a new light!

It is by no means a place for any prisoner, even for a short spell. It is grossly overcrowded, the conditions are Victorian, out-dated, gloomy and depressing and its facilities are limited, but, as a building, it has its attractions.

Thousands of republicans have passed through its doors over the last decade and before. Many of them have left their indelible mark on the place — especially on the prison walls enclosing the prison yards of 'C' and 'A' Wings which presently house republican and loyalist prisoners.

MARKING

Recently, like an archaeologist in search of traces of ancient man, I trailed around the yard examining tell-tale signs left by 'ancient' republicans. The most notable marking is a six-inch high Celtic cross with the name 'Jim Keenan' etched into it and 'Xmas 1942' written below it.

It is obvious that the artist spent considerable time carving it out of the granite stone, probably with a nail. The cross's scrolls were meticulously dug out and pride was in the artist's hand. I wonder where he is today?

The cross is the only really significant find; there are a number of harps carved into the wall but they have faded.

If the cross is genuine, and I have no reason to doubt it, then its artist would have been a contemporary of Tom Williams, who was hung in the jail on September 2nd, 1942, and also of Joe Cahill, who was sentenced to die with Tom Williams but later had his sentence commuted.

Young Tom Williams was hung by Pierpoint for his involvement in killing an RUC man on the Kashmir Road in the Clonard area of Belfast. He is buried in an unmarked grave in the jail's small graveyard behind the prison hospital.

It will be a momentous but solemn occasion for republicans when his remains can be interred in the republican plot in Belfast's Milltown cemetery. Of course, we will have to wait until Ireland is free. And while we are at that we can also have Roger Casement's remains placed in his desired resting-place, at Murlough Bay in County Antrim.

The Free Staters have him firmly buried under 20 tons of concrete in Glasnevin Cemetery in Dublin. They claimed, when his body came home from England, that it was in the interest of 'peace' that his last wish be ignored. So they thought the concrete would ease the fears of the loyalists. But all things come to pass for those who wait, and republicans have patience and endurance.

DEATH-CELL

The death-cell where Tom Williams was hung is often the topic of conversation in



● CRUMLIN ROAD JAIL, BELFAST



● Tom Williams who was hanged in Crumlin Road Jail on September 2nd, 1942



● Kieran Doherty, like all of the martyred hunger-strikers, resided in 'C' Wing at one time

'C' Wing, especially among newcomers. It almost claimed a victim in 1972 when a loyalist prisoner was sentenced to death for killing a British soldier. He was reprieved and sentenced to life imprisonment.

Rumours abound that trades 'Screws

the idea that the scaffolds still exist.

Fable it might be, but there is a large distinct square of different floor tiles over a trap-door close by — leading where?

PLASTER

There are other, more recent, tell-tale signs of the presence of republicans. In 1976, when the British government was ranting about republicans being criminals and removing all the trappings of their previous political status, they tried to blot out republican wall-slogans by covering a section of the prison wall with plaster.

The fresh plaster provided an ideal opportunity for the fresh batch of republicans to leave their mark. There is over a score of names on the wall.

They include Brendan McLaughlin, who took part in last year's heroic H-Block hunger-strike but had to end his fast after 14 days when he developed a grave ulcer-related illness, and John Chillingworth, serving 20 years in the H-Blocks. He was in the same car as Danny Lennon when the British army opened fire on them instantly killing Danny, who was the driver, and seriously injuring John.

Their car careered out of control tragically killing three of the Maguire children. The incident led to the birth of the now defunct 'Peace People'.

Another more recently made famous name, etched smugly below the warders' security box overlooking the yard, is that of 'Dingus' of 'Magnificent Seven' fame.

Dingus Magee from Ballymurphy, along with six others, escaped in a blaze of gunfire through the front gate last year, leaving behind a much chagrined prison administration whose paranoid state is still in

evidence as the security grilles go up in the most unlikely places.

Dingus leads me to the most talked about and fantasised subject among imprisoned republicans — escapes.

ESCAPES

Crumlin Road Jail has had its share of spectacular escapes in the present campaign.

In mid-November 1971, the 'Kangaroo Team', all nine of them, chased their conveniently lost ball over the wall during a football match and disappeared into waiting cars. That night, in the nationalist area of Belfast, bonfires were lit and a humorous song-writer penned the ballad 'Over the Wall' which is still sung today and still rapturous applause.

A short time later, in the early days of December, there was the escape of Michael Meehan, 'Dutch' Doherty and Hugh Cann. One day, whilst at exercise, they stood on a man-hole nearby, standing on other's shoulders. And when darkness they promptly left the jail, only to turn up at a press conference in Dundalk as prison officials knew they were gone.

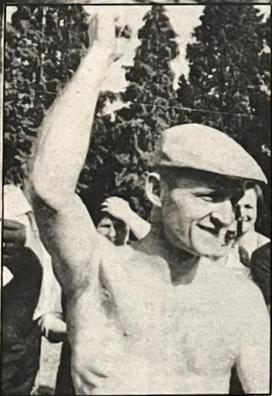
In early 1973, the late Jim Bryson escaped between the jail and the court-caped between the feet of a court when he held-up his escort with a smuggled in to the prison. In 1971, he escaped from the Maze prison in Belfast Lough as one of another 'Magnificent Seven'.

Then there was Jim McCann, who led a trail halfway around the world of fortune and fame in the sordid business of drug-trafficking. He is reputed to have casually walked out the front gate 24 hours of being sentenced to 10 years

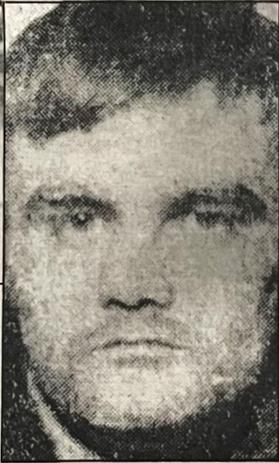
on the wall



● 1971: in the top left-hand corner (clockwise) are the jail's 'A', 'B' and 'C' wings; internees are exercising in 'C' Wing's yard



● Dingus Magee makes a defiant appearance at Bodinstown following his escape from Crumlin Road in 1981



● The late Jim Bryson who escaped from the Maidstone prison ship in 1971 and Crumlin Road in 1973

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possession of arms in the mid-70s.
Jail-lore has it that he bribed a screw who led him to freedom. No-one is certain; it is part of the McCann enigma.
Another equally daring, but not so well remembered, escape was that of Hugh McAteer, Jimmy Steele, Edward Maguire and Paddy Donnelly in January 1943. They went out through the roof of 'A' Wing and then over the wall by a means of a rope-ladder made of sheets and a brass bed-end.
GREETED
All of the dead hunger-strikers, at one time or another resided in 'C' Wing. Indeed, on my first day back into that wing in January, my mind flashed back a full six years to when I came in before and was greeted by Kieran Doherty, hanging over the balcony of Landing Three.
His was a friendly face I had not seen since we were interned four years previously.
Outside of the republican fraternity in the prison there are the ordinary prisoners. And, as in all walks of life, they have their characters.

Last week I bumped into one such character while I was waiting outside the governor's office. I wanted to borrow the jail's copy of 'Archbold', the law book. It is in popular demand these days because three-quarters of the imprisoned republican population are being held on the sole testimony of super-grasses, and Archbold has a quare lot to say, most of it unfavourable, about super-grasses.
Reading through it is like a pick-me-up, especially on bad days.
Anyway, this wizened old man shuffled alongside me.
"Who is it today?" he asked.
"Don't know," I said.
"I know them all," says he.
"Is that right?" I said.
"Ah, I remember when Truesdale (who is now director of all the North's prisons) was a red-arse," (prison jargon for a trainee Screw).
"You haven't been in jail that long?" I asked in amazement.
"No," he returned, "but I've spent 32 years in jail, different spells, like."
Thirty-two years, I thought; he has been

in jail longer than I have breathed fresh air.

HOLIDAY CAMP

"You'll have seen some changes in your time in here," I said, enticing him to tell me more.
"Ah sure, it's a holiday camp now. When I did my first spell - five years for burglary, no remission then - sure you hardly saw the light of day. See them cells," he said, pointing to the other side of the wing, "they were wood and there was a square cut out of the middle with a flap on it. You were fed through it, breakfast and dinner, pushed into you in a dixie," (a tin bowl used for everything from holding a prisoner's meals to holding his shaving gear).
"You marched everywhere with a Screw tagging along, and many's a hammering I got for talking out of turn. I was wild when I was younger."
"You weren't allowed to lie on your bed until bed-time. But sure, the place is like me own home. I'm well known here. The boys, IRA and UDA, know me. I used to launder their clothes and they'd give me stacks of fags."
"You don't have a fag on you, do you?" he asked.
"No. I don't smoke," I replied.
Our intriguing and developing rapport ended abruptly when a Screw called for governor's request.
OASIS
Although the jail's interior design has survived virtually untouched since it was built in the middle of the 19th century, there is a delightful oasis of 20th century style discreetly and neatly hidden behind a

large double door above the jail's pride and joy, the 'Sacred Circle'.
It is the communal church. It is an elegantly designed alcove with lush carpeting, teak pews and teak altar and balcony. On entering it, one is immediately struck by its ultra-whiteness - a stark contrast to the twilight in the rest of the prison.
But the real heart of the prison is the 'Sacred Circle' itself, which houses the jail's bureaucracy and is the centre point from which all four wings stretch out. The 'Sacred Circle' is endearingly looked after by a number of trustees (ordinary prisoners).
It is not a full circle, more a semi-circle, but no matter what time one passes through it, prisoners are always cleaning it. Whereas in other parts of the prison an electric floor cleaner is used to polish the red brick floors, the 'Sacred Circle' cleaners rely on a cumbersome, manually-propelled method because there, tradition and old-fashioned elbow grease is used.
No one, prisoner or prison official, is permitted to cross the circle smoking or with their hands inside their pockets. Many republicans who refuse to accept such petty-mindedness have found themselves in the punishment cells for transgressing such nonsensical instructions.
Wrought-iron enthusiasts would be "at home" in this area. The scroll work is intricate and professional and there are a number of spiral staircases which add a certain finesse to the ornate structure.
Yes, I think Belfast's Crumlin Road Jail will in time become a republican national monument like that other national monument, Kilmainham Jail in Dublin. Those wishing to see where republicans were held will visit here on 'open days'.

Mála poist...Mála poist..

A.L. letters should be addressed to The Editor, Republican News, 51/53 Falls Road, Belfast or 44, Parnell Street, Dublin. Letters should be written as clearly as possible, preferably on one side of paper only. Names and addresses should always be included, even when not for publication.

The language

A Chára,
The republican struggle for national liberation and socialism accepts as a basic premise that Ireland has a national identity distinct from that of England.

For that reason our imperialist enemy throughout the ages has had a deliberate policy aimed at destroying our separate identity. The logical and necessary reaction of republicans to such a situation must be to deeply concern ourselves with all sincere efforts to promote Irish culture.

At this moment in our history it is of vital importance that we make culture an important part of our struggle.

We cannot rule out the possibility that at some time in the future, Britain will seek to unite Ireland in a thirty-two-county capitalist Free State in an attempt to protect her strategic and economic interests while at the same time appearing to meet national aspirations.

Such a plan would be far more difficult to implement against a people who had retained their integrity and resisted cultural imperialism for, as James Connolly said, "the unconquered soul asserts itself."

Republican beliefs provide the proper motivation for involvement in cultural movements. We can utilise the revolutionary potential of the cultural reawakening and expose the contradictions of those within the Gaelic movement who do not support the war of national liberation.

Irish music, for so long feared by the British establishment, belongs to the people and will not be allowed to be used by pseudo-intellectuals as an escape route out of the struggle.

The Irish language must be given back to the masses of our people. No longer will we tolerate the idea of the elitist 'super Irishman' who thinks that because he can speak Irish he is superior to everyone else.

Working-class people in Belfast are flocking to Irish classes because they want to assert their Irishness.

And what ensures that our feeling of separateness is so strong after over 800 years of oppression?

It is the armed struggle being waged by the Irish Republican Army which ensures that the flame of Irish nationhood is still alive.

Sinn Féin members have a role to play in showing that the logical road for Gaelic people to follow is the road that leads to the republican.

The strongest and most fund-



Building a withdrawal movement

Dear Comrades,
Can it be that now Kevin Burke is 'up front' as well as 'at the back' he's lost his political marbles? I'm not sure whether I am part of 'Deep Throat' (AP/RR, November 4th), but I did, quite openly, present the Falls Road AP/RR comrades with a copy of the Troops Out Movement (TOM), 'Gang of Four' document — 'Building a Withdrawal Movement' — for their reference whilst at the same time indicating my strong objection to its content.

Surely you cannot be unaware of the long-standing struggle within what remains of the TOM since the Trotskyists ran off to hide in the 'labour movement' (i.e. the struggle between those seeking to orientate work around the most oppressed in Britain — the national minority workers, black and Irish youth in particular) and the 'one hand, and those besotted with the Brit labour movement on the other'.

The one good thing about the 'withdrawal' (in practice, to the nearest Labour Club bar) document is its clear statement of the bankrupt approach of sucking up to the official Brit labour movement.

I am sure it has not entirely escaped your notice that Britain is the longest established imperialist society in the world. A corollary of this is an indigenous work-



ing class largely tied, ideologically, economically and politically, to its rulers. Not just by the time-honoured process of ruling-class control of production and the media but, moreover, through the higher level at which the value of labour power has been established in Britain, relative to the Third World (i.e. higher cultural expectations, etc., of the British working class).

The occasional utterances of sympathy for the plight of Ireland by the Brit labour movement are always highly temporary and ex-

tremely conditional. However, all this is not to say that there is no basis in Britain for building a reliable solidarity movement. Such a basis most demonstrably exists amongst the most oppressed, the route to whom can only be direct, on the streets, door to door, and who will only respond to unequivocal support for the armed struggle of the Irish people — a concept from which even the most 'progressive' Brit labour baron flies in terror.

Whatever else they are, workers in Britain are not fools. They

know full well that an 'anti-British' campaign such as that called for by the TOM 'Gang of Four' necessarily means republican advance. The question is, does the individual concerned react to that corollary with joy or horror? If he or she reacts joyously then a clear solidarity approach would carry more clout anyway. Should horror be the response, where's the gain in soft-peddling?

You're not taken in by the Sticks, Revolutionary Struggle, the SLDL, etc., in Ireland, the subject nation, nor, for that mat-

er, by the SWP/WRP, etc., in Britain. So how come you fall for the posturing of the oppressor nation's stooges in alt-rust clothing (i.e. the TOM 'Gang of Four')?

I will concede a possible role for a 'lowest common denominator' type withdrawal movement as an unreliable adjunct to building a strong solidarity movement amongst the most oppressed in Britain. That, however, would be a retreat, an unnecessary retreat for most TOM activists though I admit it might be a step forward for the TOM inactivists and even one or two (or four) activists.

To conclude, there are two basic approaches towards 'support' for Ireland's struggle against British imperialism — viz altruism or solidarity. The former is essentially volatile and afraid of the armed struggle. The latter is, as the word itself implies, solid.

The former is easy politics and a criminal waste of time and, objectively, Irish lives. The latter is hard, frequently thankless, sometimes dangerous work, but it is the only course which will actually disturb the Brits and advance the day of their withdrawal from Ireland.

The 'Troops Out Now!' issue is a smokescreen — the essence is unity with the oppressed or with the more liberal wing of the oppressor.

Ben Hibern,
TOM & North London Irish Solidarity Committee, London, England.

amental expression of our Irish identity is the Irish language.

The neo-colonial Free State has failed to restore an Gaelic because it has never been anything more than a puppet of England.

Again, the logical place for Gaels is in the Republican Movement.

Constitutionally, we in Sinn Féin are committed to the language, and the task of restoring it must be given the importance it deserves.

Providing and attending Irish classes should be acknowledged as important work for the republican cause so that there is no excuse for delaying the work until it is too late.

Finally, let me say this. In speaking to members of Sinn Féin, I know that I am speaking to people who act on their beliefs.

Therefore I urge you to act upon what I have said. Ensure that your cumhann has a cultural officer who fosters research and education on this topic.

And, of course, allied with research and education must be action.

Colla Ó Muirí,
Béal Feirste.

Cas Uí Mhonacháin

A Chára,
Ba mhídh lóm thar cheann bhaill Chumainn Mhic Raols, Sinn Féin, ár dtacaíocht iomláin a thabhairt do Thomás Ó Monacháin as a sheasamh prionsablaite in éadan polasaí ciníoch Údaráis na Sé Chonadha Fíchead maidir le ceapadh breithíoch do chúirteanna sa Ghaeltacht.

Tá baol an áir arís go gcuirfeadh i bproisín é. Mar a dúirt ulabhráí Chonradh na Gaeilge, d'éis scóir na cúirte uachtaraí i gcoinne an Mhonacháinigh, is mó de chearta sibhialta atá ag Gaill ná atá ag Gaell in Éirinn an lá inniu.

Ní ceart ná cóir an scéal seo agus is mídh dúinn go léir a chuiream sunn sa Ghaeilge dúl i mbuán gnímh chun ár gearata d'ádhais a' ratú. Mar thosaigh

d'fhéadadh gach dúine clamsáin a dhéanamh lena n-ionadaithe áit-íola in aghaidh na h-ágora seo. Is mídh freisin gur cíoradh an moladh cás a thabhairt ós comhairl Chomisiún na h-Eorpá mar is léir é nach bhfuil son rialtas stáis eiseacht le lucht labartha na Gaeilge amháin.

Céard é an meas atá ag polaitoírí Fhianna Fáil is Fhine Gael ar aisling an Phiaraisigh anois ní fheadar?

O.C.P.,
Cumann Réamoinn Mhic Raols,
Sinn Féin,
H-Bloc 3,
An Cheis Fhada.

Intimidation

Dear AP/RR,
A few weeks after my visit to the North of Ireland with a delegation organised by the Troops Out Movement and after becoming involved with Irish solidarity work in the London area I was visited by the police at my home. They said they had received an anonymous phone call stating that there was an 'Irish terrorist' living here.

I was very frightened at the time and in retrospect I see the visit as a typical act of police harassment of people who speak out on Ireland and an attempt to end my involvement by intimidation. This demonstrates how the agents of the British ruling class defend imperialism not only by their brutal and repressive activities in the occupied six counties but also by the suppression of anti-imperialist tendencies within its own working class.

Although my own contact with the state machinery has been thankfully only minor (so far), I will no longer underestimate the formidable nature of the forces acting against the anti-imperialist struggle here in Britain and the lengths to which it goes to prevent the people here from learning the truth about the war in Ireland.

We will not give up!
Teresa Murphy,
London.

Release Nicky Kelly!

A Chára,

In 1976, at the request of relatives of persons held under the Offences Against the State Act, I was involved in monitoring allegations of maltreatment of those in custody.

Having failed to obtain the interest of officialdom at the time I submitted a dossier of cases to Amnesty International and other human rights organisations.

One of the cases was that of Nicky Kelly whose judicial appeal to the Supreme Court against his conviction was turned down recently.

Kelly is known to be an innocent man. He was sentenced in questionable circumstances. Neither he nor his co-accused (now released), belonged to the organisation that admitted responsibility for the action for which they were charged.

Amnesty International sent a team of investigators to Dublin in June 1977 — a year after Kelly was first arrested — to investigate many allegations of ill-treatment.

Their subsequent report found "consistent and substantiated, evidence of maltreatment in order to extract from arrested persons incriminating statements or confessions."

The report also expressed concern which was critical of Special Court procedures.

The Dublin government rejected Amnesty's findings, refused to set up an independent inquiry, as Amnesty requested, and appointed instead a three-man 'Safeguards Committee' under the chairmanship of Judge Barra O Brian.

The government-appointed committee immediately decided that its terms of reference specifically required it to relate to a dossier prepared by me as well as the allegations contained in the Amnesty Report which had been sent to the Taoiseach on August 26th.

My own dossier specifically



● Nicky Kelly, victim of garda frame-up

referred to Kelly's arrest in April 1976 and contained a three-page affidavit with regard to his physical and mental torture while being interrogated.

The Safeguards Committee's recommendations were completed within six months.

They were hailed by the media, some seeing in them a telling indictment of garda behaviour even though the committee had no power or function to pass judgement on the allegations. But the Dublin government chose to reject in whole or in part the major recommendations of the committee.

Nicky Kelly suffered most from the after-effects of his treatment in custody and in a state of anxiety neurosis, he absconded while on bail some days before the end of the trial.

In December 1978 Breathnach was sentenced to 12 years. McNally to 9 years and Kelly was sentenced to 12 years in absentia.

However, 17 months later, Breathnach and McNally were freed by the Court of Appeal which ruled that the statements providing the basis for the conviction should never have been admitted as evidence.

Nicky Kelly, then, returned from the USA to where he had

earlier fled and gave himself up in the hope of clearing his name.

However, on October 29th last, the Supreme Court rejected his appeal and returned him to prison to serve his 12 years for something he did not do.

Serious questions abide concerning the area of garda interrogation, protection of suspects and the attitude of the courts to defendants who allege to have been ill-treated in order to force them to make incriminating statements.

But the most important thing of all at this point and time is that a completely innocent man is languishing in prison.

We ought to have concern for his plight and the plight of his family. It may not be a popular crusade for the politician but the responsibility lies with all to press for his immediate release.

Under the circumstances, on humanitarian grounds, President Hillery might do so if no other way can be found.

An Tathair Plians O Duill,
Baile Atha Cliath.

A Chára,
The Release Nicky Kelly Committee needs help in the coming weeks in our continuing efforts to have this innocent man freed.

Despite the fact that various bodies, including Amnesty International, have expressed their concern or called for his release, the Free State Minister for Justice has thus far remained silent.

With the possibility in our minds of a hunger-strike, it is vital that the case should not be forgotten.

Posters and leaflets are available and we ask your readers to support the rally at Dublin's GPO on Saturday, November 27th, at 2.30 pm.

The Release Nicky Kelly Committee meets every Wednesday evening in Room 28A, Trinity College, Dublin. All are welcome.

C. Breathnach,
Release Nicky Kelly Committee,
11 Granon Terrace,
Blackrock,
County Dublin,
(Phone 801433 or 331463).

Burke's at the back
BY KEVIN BURKE

Not thick enough

A BRITISH SOLDIER got off a murder charge in Downpatrick Crown Court last week because his "superior intelligence had led to frustration within the army."

And as evidence of this intelligence, the court was told that he had been saving money to get a discharge from the army.

Nevertheless, it was on the grounds of 'impaired mental responsibility that the murder charge against Sapper Robert Adams of the Eighth Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, was reduced to manslaughter.

Adams (no relation!) admitted shooting fellow-Brit Christopher Beattie in Forkhill Barracks in South Armagh last April. His posting to Forkhill was one of a number of factors contributing to the stress he was undergoing at the time, the court was told.

Jailing Adams for six years, Mr Justice Hutton said that while in prison Adams should use his intelligence to learn "a worthwhile occupation so that you can look forward to a brighter and more hopeful future."

☆☆☆

An RUC man, named Lyttle, who was caught whilst fleeing with a loyalist gang from a sectarian shooting attack in Belfast last year, was let off with a five-year prison sentence last week for possession of arms with intent to endanger life.

At his home after his arrest the RUC had found a comprehensive list of all republican prisoners released since January 1980.

This was yet another court case which the establishment media failed to report (in a week when the RUC shot down three republicans in Lurgan) and it was only picked up in brief detail by the *Andersonstown News*.

☆☆☆

The British government has relaxed its policy on public-spending limits in order to assign another £14 million to be spent on 'greater RUC activity' in the North.

The 'law and order' spending by the British exchequer for the year is now put at £365 million.

☆☆☆

A UDR soldier, Philip Simpson of Cranebrook Terrace, Ballynakelly, near Coalisland, received an 18-month prison sentence at Belfast Crown Court last week for his part in an arson attack by a bunch of loyalists on a house and two hay-sheds in the area two days before Christmas last year.

I was waiting for one of his senior officers to tell the court that Simpson had had a burning ambition to defend the province, but it was not to be.

☆☆☆

And in Cookstown Court on Friday, November 12th, was another military offender, this time for an Austin Currie-type offence.

Michael Riley of the First Queen's Dragoon Guards, based at Omagh, was convicted of drunken driving, fined £15 and banned from driving for a year.

☆☆☆

The involvement of the Catholic Church in encouraging the Polish Solidarity trade union in recent times can be put in perspective by a letter from the Polish Pope John Paul to the Vatican Secretary of State, Cardinal Casaroli.



Where can this sword-wielding bishop be seen?

The main part of the letter deals with the over-spending on the Vatican's budget but the Pope goes on to comment on current protests by the 1,500 poorly-paid Vatican employees.

He recognises their aspirations for improved representation and conditions, he says, but goes on to state that the trade union which has finally begun to organise among Vatican workers should not press its aims "by labour unrest or by class struggle."

☆☆☆

An indignant Christy Moore was seen storming into the *Irish Independent* offices on Tuesday afternoon this week after that morning's paper had reported the musician as one of the 'stars' supporting the Labour Party in the twenty-six counties general election.

Moore, whose radical anti-establishment politics are a feature of many of his successful records, was heard to be muttering about 'libel' as he sought out the erring columnist.

☆☆☆

Four Leitrim men were imprisoned for seven and five days in Mountjoy Jail last week for

refusing to pay £5 fines imposed last year for taking up a collection during last year's H-Block hunger-strike.

The four, Jack Reynolds of Carrick-on-Shannon, who was arrested on Thursday, November 11th, and Sylvester Fitzsimmons, Sean Fitzmaurice and Eamon Reynolds of the Drumsna area were arrested on the following Saturday. All were released on Thursday, November 18th.

The men were all permitted to wear their own clothes in the jail after refusing to wear the prison uniform. Sylvester Fitzsimmons, who is in his 70s, threatened to walk around the prison 'in the skin' if attempts were made to enforce the regulation on uniform.

☆☆☆

Passing through Shannon airport on Wednesday of last week on his way home from the Moscow funeral of President Brezhnev, the Cuban president Fidel Castro spoke of the sorrow and sympathy he had felt at the time of the hunger-strike of the 'Irish patriots'.

"Some people thought I did wrong when I called them patriots," he said. "As far as I am concerned, whoever fights for his ideals or for his or her homeland is a patriot and there is no doubt about it and it is with this I express my sympathy."

☆☆☆

Racist, anti-Irish 'humour' has proven expensive for the London evening newspaper *The Standard* with the decision on Tuesday of this week by the Greater London Council to withdraw its £100,000 per annum advertisements.

The GLC, led by the controversial Ken Livingstone, is demanding that the paper apologise for a JAK cartoon it published on October 29th, depicting a film poster in which grotesque cartoon characters were shown carrying explosives, guns and knives accompanied by slogans about 'Irish psychopaths'.

☆☆☆

Where will you find a bishop depicted with a sword in one hand and a bible (not a ballot paper), in the other?

The answer is in the walls of St Macartan's Cathedral in Monaghan town, where a statue commemorates Bishop Heber McMahon who succeeded Owen Roe O'Neill as commander-in-chief of the Ulster army in 1650.

And the source of this information, is a remarkable calendar published by the Monaghan National Graves Association which records, in words and illustrations, a host of historical personalities and events connected with the county's role in the national struggle, from the bishop's time right down to the naming of the Kieran Doherty Park housing estate this year.

The calendar is available from Sinn Fein in the county, price £2.

WHAT'S ON

<p>OICHE AIRNEAL (talks, music, drama, quiz) Every Thursday night The Falcons' Club Andersonstown Road BELFAST</p>
<p>KERRY SINN FEIN ANNUAL SOCIAL Featuring 'The Kerry Blues' Friday 26th November The Manhattan Hotel TRALEE County Kerry Dinner at 8pm sharp Admission £7</p>
<p>BALLAD SESSION 9pm Friday 26th November Swan Lake Hotel MONAGHAN TOWN • Tickets £1.50 Organised by Sinn Fein</p>
<p>DARTS COMPETITION (prize: a turkey) 9.30pm Friday 26th November The No. 5 Club 5 Blessington Street DUBLIN Organised by Sinn Fein</p>
<p>DANCE Featuring 'Moonshine' 10pm Friday 26th November Cloghan Lodge BALLYBOFFEY County Donegal Admission £1.50 Organised by Sinn Fein</p>
<p>RELEASE NICKY KELLY RALLY 2.30pm Saturday 27th November GPO DUBLIN</p>
<p>VIDEO DISCO (in aid of the Liberties Centre) 8pm Saturday 27th November The Brown Derby James's Street DUBLIN Buses 21, 21A, 78 & 78A Organised by Sinn Fein</p>
<p>COMHAIRLE CUIGE LAIGHEAN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2.15pm Sunday 28th November 5 Blessington Street DUBLIN Two delegates from each cumann must attend</p>
<p>COMHAIRLE CUIGE CONNACHT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2.30pm Sunday 28th November The Village Inn STROKESTOWN County Roscommon Two delegates from each cumann must attend</p>
<p>CONRADH NA GAELIGE PUBLIC MEETING (to discuss forming a local branch) 9pm Monday 29th November Craighton Town CLONES County Monaghan</p>
<p>MONAGHAN COMHAIRLE CEANTAIR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 8.30pm Tuesday 30th November The Hope Arms CASTLEBLAYNEY County Monaghan</p>
<p>'WELCOME HOME' IRISH NIGHT (for P.McMahon, ex-Long Kesh POW) Featuring Jim Lynn & Anne & Francie Broilly Thursday 2nd December Thornles Hotel CUSHENDALL County Antrim Organised by Sinn Fein</p>
<p>CHARLIE KERINS COMMEMORATION 8.30pm Friday 3rd December Denny Street TRALEE County Kerry Speaker: Ruairi O'Bradigh</p>
<p>DAY OF ACTION AGAINST APARTHEID Saturday 4th December Pickets from 10.30am to 2.30pm at Henry Street, Phibsboro, Stillorgan, Rathfarnham & Bray DUBLIN Boycott South African goods Organised by Irish Anti-Apartheid, phone Dublin 895035 for details</p>
<p>COMHAIRLE CUIGE MUMHAN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2pm Sunday 5th December LIMERICK Two delegates from each cumann must attend</p>

THEY MAY KILL THE REVOLUTIONARY BUT...

CHRISTMAS CARDS

CHRISTMAS CARDS on the themes of 'They May Kill the Revolutionary But...', 'Out of the Ashes...' and 'The Last Man' - which include quotations from Padraig Pearse, Maire Drumm and Bobby Sands - have been issued by Sinn Fein. They cost 15p each, plus postage per £1.50 for 10 (including postage and are available from: The National Finances Committee, Sinn Fein, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.

Memorial calendar

AFTER the highly successful 1982 Revolutionary Calendar, Republican Publications have produced a new calendar for 1983, honouring our patriot dead.

The calendar - in full colour and carrying lists of all IRA Volunteers, Cumann na mBan Volunteers and Fiannaiche who have died during the present phase of the struggle - is in great demand and now available.

Individual copies will cost IRE£1.20 and Stg £1 (Britain and abroad), plus postage. Bulk order rates are available on request.

Orders should be sent to: Republican Publications, 2a Monagh Crescent, Turf Lodge, Belfast (tel: 6207693) or 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1 (tel: 728932).

Irish Republican Martyrs
MEMORIAL CALENDAR 1983

SYMPATHY

BURNS, McKERR, TOMAN. Deepest sympathy is extended to the families, friends and comrades of Vois Sean Burns, Gervais McKerr and Eugene Toman. From Kevin Lynch (H2-Block).

BURNS, McKERR, TOMAN. Deepest sympathy is extended to the families of Vois Sean Burns, Gervais McKerr and Eugene Toman who were murdered by the RUC on November 11th. Deeply regretted by their friend Frankie McGowan, Dundalk.

BURNS, McKERR, TOMAN. The Carroll/Ahe Sinn Féin cumann, Dublin, extend their deepest sympathy to the family, friends and comrades of Vois Sean Burns, Gervais McKerr and Eugene Toman who were murdered by the RUC on November 11th.

McKENNA. The Tom Smith Sinn Féin cumann, Dublin, extend their deepest sympathy to Eamonn McCann on the death of his father, the late Eamonn McKenna. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Jeff McKenna who died recently. From Barney and Teresa McAleer.

McKENNA. The Carroll/Ahe Sinn Féin cumann, Dublin, extend their deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Jeff McKenna who died recently. He is sadly missed by all his friends. **McKENNA.** Deepest sympathy is extended to the family, friends and comrades of the late Jeff McKenna, Sinn Féin, from Patricia and Margaret Devlin, Tralee, County Kerry.

O'HAGAN. The Republican Movement, Derry, extend their deepest sympathy to our comrade and friend Eddle O'Hagan, Long Kesh, on the death of his mother. **O'HAGAN.** The Republican Movement of war, Long Kesh, extend their deepest sympathy to our comrade Eddle on the death of his mother Mrs. Catherine O'Hagan and offer our sincere condolences to all the family. Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for her.

GALLAGHER, Denis. (H5-Block). Happy birthday, Denis. It's a wonderful day when you are free once again and home with us to stay. God bless, son. From mum and dad, UTP.

GALLAGHER, Denis. (H5-Block). Happy birthday, Denis. They may imprison your body but never your soul. From brother Charlie, Anne and Sean Cribb; and brother James, Isa and family. UTP.

GALLAGHER, Denis. (H5-Block). Happy birthday, Denis. Thinking of you always but especially today. Good luck and God bless. From sister Lizzie and family; and sister Anne and Jacqueline. UTP.

GALLAGHER, Denis. (H5-Block). Happy birthday, Denis. They may have you in their keeping but we have you in our hearts. From sister Maejella and family and brother-in-law Noel (Magilligan); and sister Philomena, Joseph and family. UTP.

GALLAGHER, Denis. (H5-Block). Happy birthday, Denis. Aren't you glad to be on the winning side? All the best to you and all your comrades. From sister Helen, Tommie and family; sister June, Terry and family; Geraldine and Peter; and nan and Colm. UTP.

LENNON, Damien. (H4-Block). Wishing you nothing but the best, Damien. Happy birthday and God bless. From Mary Ann and John Jude, Philadelphia, USA.

TU & RADIO

Women at war

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

THE FACT that RTE can sometimes make really good programmes shows up their usual poor standard even more.

Last Wednesday night's 'Public Account' was about the area around Sheriff Street in Dublin's inner city.

The programme showed a community of people who still care about each other and are proud of where they live in spite of the deliberate wrecking of this area by Dublin Corporation and commercial business interests.

The attitude of the people to the gardai is reflected in the words of one young man on the programme: "They're never here when you want them - and who wants them?"

The narrator pointed out that the gardai, young country men with no concept of what life is like for the urban dwellers, do not understand their frustration and resentment, and can never be seen as anything but enemies.

A local priest, with rare honesty, admitted that he felt 'constrained' when preaching about justice "to people who are treated unjustly by society."

This area once provided plenty of jobs for the local people. There was work on the docks and there were the local factories. Now all is desolation and despair.

This short programme was excellent, catching perfectly the atmosphere of this area and the people living there.

'The Year of the French' started on RTE1 last Thursday and if the rest of the series is up to that standard of the first episode, it will be good.

EXPLOITATION As an alternative to the 'Miss World' contest on UTV, Channel Four gave us a film depicting another form of exploitation of women.

'The Life and Times of Rosie the Riveter' was a film about the women in America who went to work in the munitions factories and other heavy industries during the Second World War.

It showed how the United States government encouraged women into these traditionally male jobs by appealing to their patriotism and who they set up child-care facilities for them.

It showed how, after the war, the same women were forced back into the home or into jobs as waitresses and shop-girls when they were no longer needed or when the jobs were wanted for the men coming out of the army.

Women who had worked as welders, riveters and fitters talked about their training and working in the factories, and their confusion and resentment when suddenly the whole tenor of society's attitude changed in the concerted effort by the government and the media to get them back to being the 'little American housewife' once again.

One woman who had worked as a welder told how they were depicted as the little woman quivering for her man to come home so she could get back to her kitchen.

She spoke bitterly about the flood of articles in newspapers and magazines about the psychological damage done to the children of women who worked outside the home and remarked that none of this was mentioned while the war was on.

The fact that a lot of the women were widows or deserted and single mothers by the time the war was over who had to find another job, was ignored.

The black women workers were particularly badly treated as, of course, they went back to the most menial jobs that were the only ones open to black people in the United States.

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REVIEW PAGE



● The black women workers in US munitions factories were the most badly treated when the Second World War ended

States - the dish-washers and the toilet-cleaners.

SOLDIER GIRLS Later on Thursday, Channel Four showed 'Soldier Girls', another documentary film about American women - this time in the United States army.

It was a chilling programme which showed the deliberate dehumanising of army recruits. It opened with the women recruits marching along singing the squadron's song which was being taught to them by a male sergeant.

The song included the lines: "I want to go to Iran, I want to kill an Iranian." And the chorus was a rousing: "Blood! Guts! Blood! Guts!"

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The film followed the basic training of a group of women recruits in the Airborne Rangers Squadron and showed how two of the women could not take the constant physical and mental abuse that was the mainstay of it.

The officers constantly forced home the message that the American army wants soldiers with no feelings and no emotions.

Ironically, one woman, who reacted to being forced to dig a hole in the ground over and over again by throwing the spade at the officer supervising her punishment, was locked up alone "in case you kill somebody!"

Resistance cartoons

BY ANN BERRY

CORMAC, this paper's regular and popular cartoonist, has been putting the Brits, the media, the politicians and the churches in their comic places in his cartoon strips for several years now. And at last a collection of his work has been published, and is going to be a certain best-seller as the ideal Christmas gift.

'Cormac Strikes Back' is published by the London-based Information on Ireland and gathers together a selection of his cartoons - mostly from AP/AN, but also from the British and from the old Resistance weekly, which Cormac was chief contributor, as well as some originals.

The fact that you have probably seen some of them already does not at all diminish the wicked pleasure that they convey.

Cormac's Belfast-eye-view of the world is hard to capture in any single one of the many examples of his skill in the book, but perhaps one classic example which is included summarises his refusal to baulk at any challenge.

'I don't like Mondays' was his extended cartoon in AP/AN the week after the Monday execution of Lord Mountbatten and the blasting of 18 Brits at Narrow Water and is in Cormac's best bad taste. And slipped into one frame is a wee Belfast man with bottle of wine saying, 'I do like Mundies'.

It is Cormac's ability to reduce the pompous utterances of politicians, the sanctimonious sermons of pro-Brit clerics and the lies of the media to comic proportions that makes this book, but perhaps one classic example which is included summarises his refusal to baulk at any challenge.

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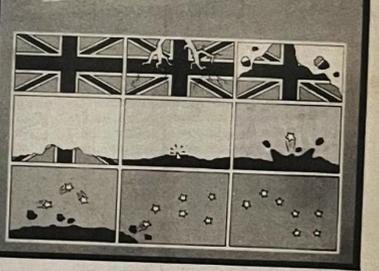
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CORMAC STRIKES BACK



ed from the publishers, information on Ireland, Box 189, 22 Ivor Place, London NW1 6DA, at the following rates: Britain: Stg £3 including p&p; rest of Europe: Stg £2.50 (plus £1 p&p); and outside Europe: Stg £2.50 (plus £1 surface mail or £3.50 air mail). Bulk order rates on request.

Elsewhere, it can be obtained from the publishers, information on Ireland, Box 189, 22 Ivor Place, London NW1 6DA, at the following rates: Britain: Stg £3 including p&p; rest of Europe: Stg £2.50 (plus £1 p&p); and outside Europe: Stg £2.50 (plus £1 surface mail or £3.50 air mail). Bulk order rates on request.

Seán Ó Murchú - scothchraoiteoir ar lár

le Marcus Mac Diarmada

RUGADH Seán Ó Murchú in aice le Tuam sa bhliain 1923. Ceantar láidir poblachtánach ab ea é sin an am. Chait sé tréimhe ag an Stáitseáirín i mBaile Átha Cliath, sa Roinn Oideachais agus go háirithe i mBrainse an Bhunoidreachais agus an Mheánoideachais. Ní raibh aird air a leithéid, áfach, ach ar chraoladh raidió agus is fearr a chúis agus a cháil ar an dóigh seo againn.

Thóg sé amach ag cur suime i ndrámaíod do pháistí agus baint aige le Seamas Coamhánach an Chompartais Drámaíochais. Casadh ina thréas mac Máirín Ó Diomsaigh, Anraoif Ó Liatháin, Niall Tóibín, Con Ó Liatháin agus Tomás Tóibín.

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MUSIC



Sean Ó Murchú chailíúil seo nuair a chualas sé 'Cailí House', dár ceoil agus amhrán. D'obhrigh sé go dian leis an chláir a chur chéile agus rian a dhícheallachta agus a dhíograise le sonrú ar an fagsúil agus ar a shuimúla leis. Ó chomráid le Rias go Dún Garbhán, ó Dhal Riarda go Bóthar na bhFáil, ó Ghlaschú go Swinsea a d'isteach lucht leanúna an traidisiúin Ghaeilge leis.

Clár speisialta a bhí ann, a tháinig le idir óg agus sean, íosal agus áfach, Gaeilgeoiri agus iad súid nach bhfuair fáil cheart ar an chultúr dhícheallach a bhreathnú ina chomhthéacs beo.

Bhí beocht ina ghloir shean-aimseartha a chualas i bhfeidhm ar chúis agus ar chroí. Bhain an clár le réimse a chualas thar le 'Teach an Cháil' rud nach bhféadfá a rá faoi The Long Note, The Heather Breeze, Sunday Folk agus an bagáin eile cláreacha ar fiú trácht orthu.

Chuir sé seansal na sean-amhrán Cnaeilge, na seanphoirt léithéir. Is eol don bean amháin ná eol don chláir de o thús béire ach ar nós luchtanna beo ina dícheall sí í ar leaba báis anois. Tá súil againn uilig mar Ghaeil, óir gheall tuilleadh Cláiranna idir Ghaeilge agus cheol ar Raidió agus ar Theilifís Éireann amach anseo. Mura mbéidh cad is fiú diúin bheith ag iarraidh spiorad an náisiúin a chomráid leoc?

Cuiradh Seán sa reilig in Idras go Bóthar na bhFáil, ó Ghlaschú go Swinsea a d'isteach lucht leanúna an traidisiúin Ghaeilge leis. Clár speisialta a bhí ann, a tháinig le idir óg agus sean, íosal agus áfach, Gaeilgeoiri agus iad súid nach bhfuair fáil cheart ar an chultúr dhícheallach a bhreathnú ina chomhthéacs beo.

Manchester Martyrs Commemoration

THE ANNUAL Manchester Martyrs commemoration, which has been a tradition for over a century in the small village of Hugginstown, County Kilkenny, was held there on Friday, November 12th.

The ceremonies, in memory of William Allen, Michael Larkin and Michael O'Brien who were hanged in Manchester on November 23rd 1867, began with a torchlight parade through the village led by a colour party and St Stephen's pipe band.

The chief marshal was Willie Murphy and the proceedings were chaired by Jackie Phelan. The oration was given by Richard Behal of Kerry Sinn Féin, in the course of which he said:

"Proof that British imperialism has never changed towards Ireland was clearly demonstrated this week in Lurgan, where three more young Irishmen — like the Manchester Martyrs — were cruelly executed by British crown forces.

"All too often people in the twenty-six counties fail to understand the oppression and harassment which their fellow Irish people endure in the North.

"Ask those who can remember what it was like here during the Black and Tan period and you will begin to appreciate what it is like in the North today — doors kicked in, families terrified, brutal interrogation and prison sentences, and less abuse by sectarian forces at road-blocks, civilians and political suspects shot in cold blood — and all in the name of British law and order.

"The truth surrounding the entire national question is purposely kept from you by the Dublin government through distortion and selective censorship. The



● ALLEN ● LARKIN ● O'BRIEN



● The 'Smashing of the Van', Manchester, in which a policeman died

unfortunate tax-payers' money is being squandered on so-called 'security', which in fact is nothing less than treacherous collaboration.

"On the other hand, in this area of Kilkenny and Waterford alone, there is rampant unemployment and poverty which these huge sums of money could be used to relieve by stabilising jobs and creating new ones and by helping the hard-pressed rural and farming community."

BRADY, John, CARR, Jimmy. (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear brother Vol John Brady, Derry Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed in action on November 28th 1972. Always remembered by their friends and comrades in the Derry Brigade.

BRADY, John. (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear son, brother and uncle Vol John Brady, 'B' Coy, 2nd Battalion, Derry Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on November 28th 1972. RIP. "He loved his god, he loved his land, he served the cause of right in danger's gap he took his stand, to wage the age-old fight. A martyr gone for Ireland so young but very brave, his spirit will live forever, although his body's laid." Always loved and never forgotten by his mother, father, sister Noreen and nephew John.

BRADY, John. (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear brother Vol John Brady who was killed on active service on November 28th 1972. "We are the silent people. How long must we still nurse in secret at our breast an ancient culture? Let us arise and cry them, call from the sleeping ashes the deity which christened who will be our voice. He will strike the brass and we will erupt from our hidden caves into the golden light of a new-born day." Always loved and remembered by his sister Geraldine, brother-in-law Kevin and family.

BRADY, John. (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear brother Vol John Brady, Derry Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on November 28th 1972. RIP. St Columba, pray for him. "We will name you the soldiers, who for Ireland's freedom died, and through all generations, we will think of you with pride. Your heart was filled with loyalty, to Ireland's age-old cause, no crime was yours save hatred, of oppression and laws. We will follow you without faltering on the road that you have trod. God rest you, J. J. Always remembered by his sister Patricia, Michael and niece Seana and Sínead.

BRADY, John. (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear brother Vol John Brady, Derry Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on November 28th 1972. RIP. St Columba, pray for him. "You heard our country's call of distress, and you readily went to her side, like any other young man of your country, you fought, for your country you died." Always remembered by his loving brother-in-law (New Road), sister-in-law Ann and the twins.

BRADY, John. (10th Anniversary). In loving memory of my dear friend Vol John Brady who was killed on active service on November 28th 1972. We did not get to say goodbye but memories of you will never die. Always remembered by Sheila.

BRADY, John. (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear brother Vol John Brady, Derry Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on November 28th 1972. Always remembered by their friends and comrades in Derry Sinn Féin.

ROSSY, E. (10th Anniversary). The North Armagh comhairle ceantair, Sinn Féin, remember with pride Vol Michael Rossy who was killed in action on November 22nd 1971. "I may die, but the republic of 1916 will never die. Onward to the battle of freedom and the liberation of our people." (Bobby Sands).

DUFFY, Patrick. (4th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Patsy Duffy, Derry Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on November 24th 1978. Thus sá a rabh alge ar son saoirse. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Derry Brigade.

DUFFY, Patrick. (4th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Patsy Duffy, Derry Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on November 24th 1978. "Lay him away on the hillside, along with the brave and the bold, inscribe his name on the roll of fame, in letters of purest gold." Sadly missed but always remembered by his loving wife Morag, daughters Margarita, Martina, Bridgett and son Raymond. Go ndána Dia trócaire ar a nam.

DUFFY, Patrick. (4th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear father Vol Patsy Duffy who was killed on active service on November 24th 1978. He gave his life that we may be free. Always remembered by his son Patrick, daughter-in-law Donna and grandchildren Patrick and Catriona. Fuair sé bás ar son saoirse na hÉireann.

DUFFY, Patrick. (4th Anniversary). In loving memory of Vol Patsy Duffy who was killed in action on November

24th 1978. Always remembered by his daughter Mary, son-in-law Raymond and grandchildren Martin and James.

DUFFY, Patsy. (4th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Patsy who was killed in action on November 24th 1978. Always remembered by Kevin.

DUFFY, Patrick. (4th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Patsy Duffy, Derry Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on November 24th 1978. Thus sá a rabh alge ar son saoirse. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Derry Brigade.

FOX, Paul. (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear son Vol Paul Fox, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, and Vol Laura Crawford, Belfast Brigade, born ann na mBan, who died as a result of a premature explosion while on active service on December 1st 1975. First RIP. Never forgotten by their friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

FOX, Paul. (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear son Vol Paul Fox, who died on December 1st 1975. "O Sacred Heart of Jesus, we pray to thee today, to aid our suffering motherland, upon her blood-stained soil. For loyalty to the cause of Christ to set her free, O Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place our trust in thee." Always remembered by his loving mum and dad.

FOX, Paul. (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear brother Vol Paul Fox who died on December 1st 1975. "In a silent Belfast graveyard, lies a soldier of Ireland true, he took his stand for Ireland's freedom, his own dear R65in Dubh. The memory of his brave deeds, will forever live in our minds, and the name of Vol Paul Fox, will be on the roll of honour shue." Always remembered by his loving sisters Noreen, Marcella, Jacqueline and Gabrielle.

FOX, Paul. (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear brother Vol Paul Fox who died on December 1st 1975. "In a graveyard where the wind softly blows, sleeps my dear brother Paul. Let the winds of love blow gently on that quiet and peaceful spot where the brother I love lies sleeping, never to be forgotten. Always remembered by his loving sister Carmel, brother-in-law Gerry and family.

FOX, Paul. (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear brother Vol Paul Fox who died on December 1st 1975. "Rest on, my brave Provo, beneath your Irish soil, until the day we will meet again and pray, upon your sweet grave in a free and Gaelic Ireland." Always remembered by his twin sisters Paula and Donna.

FOX, Paul. (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear brother Vol Paul Fox who died on December 1st 1975. "No saint nor king could be as proud, as he whose flag becomes his proud, St Jude, pray for him. Always remembered by his loving sister Dolores and Jim.

MAGEE, Alex. (4th Anniversary). In loving memory of my father Alex Magee who died on active service on November 1st 1978. Always remembered by Paul (Portlaoise).

MARLEY, Michael. (9th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Flan Michael Marley, Belfast Brigade, Flanna Eirann, who died in action on November 24th 1973. Thus sá a rabh alge ar son saoirse. Never forgotten by his friends and comrades in Na Flanna Eirann, Belfast.

MARLEY, Michael. (9th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Flan Michael Marley who died on November 24th 1973. Mary Queen of Ireland, pray for him. Always remembered by the Lower Falls Commemoration Committee.

MORGAN, Desmond. (9th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Desmond Morgan, East Tyrone Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died on active service on November 26th 1973. I measc laochra na nGael go raibh a nam. Never forgotten by his friends and comrades in the Republican Movement, Tyrone.

MORGAN, Dessie. (9th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Dessie Morgan, East Tyrone Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on November 26th 1973. "Six counties are in bondage still, those men who died 'twas not their will, until they're free and oppression cease, only then will they rest in peace." Remembered always by the members of the Lower Falls Commemoration Committee, Sands Sinn Féin cumann, Coalsland.

Irish Lesson 6

an (un) — the cat (koth) — a cat an cat — the cat madra (modhrh) — a dog gluastáin (glooshtawn) — a car Seán (Shawn) — John Máire (maw-íre) — Mary ag (egg) — at Cáit (kaw-it) — Kate Tomás (thomas) — Thomas capall (koppl) — a horse tá — ag Tomás — Thomas has

PRONUNCIATION: The pronunciation given in brackets is as near as possible to the sound. CH is sounded as in LOCH ERNE. D and T before A, O and U are thick, spoken with the tongue pressed against the upper front teeth. DH and GH are like a G far back in the throat — almost a gargle.

Tá an capall ag Tomás — Thomas has the horse
Níl an gluastáin ag Máire — Mary hasn't

the car
Tá mac ag Seán agus Cáit — John and Kate have a son
Tá síopa ag Tomás — Mary has a shop
Tá cáilín ag Máire — Thomas has a girl
Tá capall agus gluastáin ag Seán — John has a horse and a car.

Is maith liom é (is moh lyum oy) — I like it.
Ní maith liom é (nee moh lyum oy) — I don't like it.
Dáim do shliainé (ole-in dhá hliawnt) — I drink to your health.
Go dtá do stáin (go djay thow slawn) — God speed you (safe journey).

REMEMBERING THE PAST Priests in politics

BY PETER O'ROURKE

ALL REVOLUTIONARY movements sooner or later realise the need for a newspaper, and in 1863 the Fenian leader James Stephens felt that the time had come when a weekly paper was a necessity.

Towards the end of that year he launched the *Irish People* as the official organ of the Fenian movement in Ireland.

The paper was edited by John O'Leary with Charles J. Kickham and Thomas Clarke Luby as the chief contributors. Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa became its business manager.

Not believing in constitutional agitation of any sort, the *Irish People* preached separation of Ireland from England and saw physical force as the only means by which this could be achieved.

Perhaps the most notable feature of the *Irish People* was its criticism of clerical involvement in politics, a subject which is very relevant to this day.

Again and again during the 22 months of the paper's life, Kickham, in his leading articles, returned to this question. "Our only hope is in revolution,"

he wrote, "but most of the bishops, and many of the clergy, are opposed to revolution... We have over and over declared it was our wish that the people should respect and be guided by their clergy in spiritual matters."

"But when priests turn the altars into a platform, when it is pronounced a 'mortal sin' to read the 'Irish People', a 'mortal sin' even to wish that Ireland should be free, when priests actually call upon the people to turn informers... when, in a word, bishops and priests are doing the work of the enemy, we believe it is our duty to tell the people that bishops and priests are bad politicians and worse Irishmen."

In his 'Recollections of an Irish Rebel', published in 1929, John Devoy wrote: "The 'Irish People' revived the spirit created and fostered by *The Nation* and the *Young Irelanders*, and carried down their teachings to a new generation."

The first issue of the *Irish People* was published on November 28th, 1863.



● CHARLES J. KICKHAM
Joint editor of the 'Irish People', official organ of the Fenian movement

Birthday memories
HARKER, Tony. Birthday memories of my father, murdered by the UDR, who would have been 22 years old on December 1st. We'll never forget you, Tony. Always remembered and loved by Cathy and sons Ruairi and Anthony.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
THE McKENNA FAMILY wish to thank the following for their support during the recent bereavement of their son Jeff: the officers and members of Dublin Sinn Féin; Una and Tony McNally; Christy Burke and Gerry; Mr and Mrs Dunne; Mr and Mrs O'Connell; Mrs. Eileen O'Rourke's bar; the staff and customers of the (son, John) Irish Pub; Mrs. Eileen Mary, Burke's children; Tommy, Mrs. Eileen, Card; and Patrick and Macy Devlin, Kerry.

Christmas greetings

AS WE approach Christmas and the New Year, *An Phoblacht/Republican News* requests relatives, friends and organisations who wish to send greetings to the prisoners through AP/RN to do so as soon as possible.

Annually there is a last-minute rush of greetings and we do our best to accommodate the late arrivals but due to our Christmas printing schedule we are forced to rigidly adhere to our deadlines this year.

All Christmas greetings should be in our Belfast or Dublin offices by Thursday, December 16th.

Sectarian attacks continue

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

THE BODY of 25-year-old Catholic Michael Fay, from Ballygowan in County Down, was discovered in the boot of his Ford Escort car on Saturday afternoon, November 20th, with a single gunshot wound to his head.

Later, in a message to a newspaper office, his murder was claimed by the loyalist Protestant Action Force who claimed to have assassinated Mr Fay in 'retaliation' for the IRA execution last week of Lennie Murphy, the UVF leader and architect of the notorious 'Shankill Butchers' murders.

Their spokesperson boasted: "Three Catholics will die this week-end to avenge the death of Murphy." Michael Fay, who was a mechanic by trade, was last seen alive working on his car in a garage on the Glinahirk Road in Belfast at around 3.30pm on Friday evening, November 19th. He was on his way to visit his young daughter in Dundonald Hospital.

But what transpired in the interim still remains a mystery, all that is, except the fatal outcome. What is most definitely recognised by the nationalist people, is that Michael Fay was murdered for no other reason than that he was a Catholic.

SHORT STRAND

Meanwhile, in Belfast on Saturday

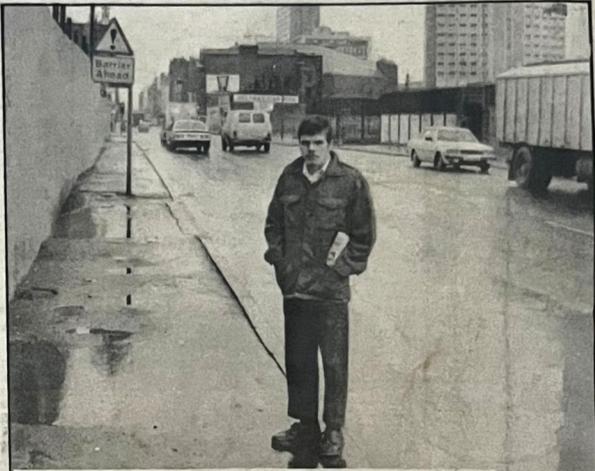


● MICHAEL FAHY

night, a 39-year-old woman was shot in the hand in an unsuccessful assassination bid when she answered a knock at her front door.

The lone gunman called to the house in the Mountpottinger Road in the Short Strand at around 10.20pm. He escaped, after the attack, into a loyalist housing estate which is a matter of yards from the woman's home.

She was detained for several days afterwards in the Royal Victoria Hospital as the bullet had fractured her hand.



● Michael Shaw on the Grosvenor Road where he was threatened by British soldiers

Youth threatened

TWO British soldiers, members of the Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment stationed in Belfast's North Howard Street Barracks, have threatened to shoot an 18-year-old youth before they leave the North and, by way of reinforcing their threat, stuck the barrel of a rifle into his mouth when they stopped him for questioning last Sunday afternoon, November 21st.

Michael Shaw, from Selby Walk, was walking home alone up the Grosvenor Road, from the city centre direction, when he was stopped by a British army patrol as he

approached the new West Link motorway.

He recognised two of the patrol from an earlier incident, three weeks ago, when they had forced him to bend across a car while being searched outside the Pound Loney Club in Cullingtree Road. On that occasion he was spared further abuse when his father arrived on the scene.

On Sunday afternoon, however, Michael was on his own. He was grabbed and shoved up against some timbers and punched in the jaw. In a sudden outburst of rage, one of the Brits put his rifle into Michael's mouth and then cocked it.

Jerking the barrel up and

down, the Brit screamed into his face:

"Fuck you, Father Faul and the papers. Only there's too many cars about we'd shoot you now, but we'll get you some night on your own. You can be sure of that."

Michael was then caught by the hair and thrown to the ground. He was then allowed to go home, which he rapidly did.

Later the same afternoon, Michael Shaw and his father, Thomas, went to Hastings Street Barracks where they demanded to see the major in charge of the regiment. He finally agreed to see them, but only to subject them to verbal abuse and a display of table-thumping.



● Republican Prisoners' Welfare bus-driver Patsy McNulty

STRABANE HARASSMENT

GREEN CROSS workers in Strabane, County Tyrone, have recently been on the receiving end of a series of petty acts of harassment from Brits and RUC as they go about their business. Last Sunday, November 21st, 19-year-old Charlie Breslin was assaulted and forcibly thrown into an RUC jeep when he and two other collectors, Raymond McGowan and Michael McCrossan, were arrested and taken to Strabane Barracks.

The three were walking down Barrack Street carrying their collection boxes and going towards The Head of the Town, a nationalist housing estate, when two RUC landrovers pulled up alongside them. They were abruptly ordered to hand over their boxes which they refused to do. One RUC man grabbed Charlie Breslin's box, which was attached to his wrist by string, and pulled it away leaving a deep red mark on his wrist.

His arm was twisted up his back and he was thrown into the back of the landrover, crying out in pain.

All three men were held for almost two hours, Charlie Breslin being charged with obstruction and possible charges being preferred against the other two of collecting 'illegally'. Eight pounds in the collection boxes was also confiscated.

Also in Strabane, Republican Prisoners' Welfare bus driver Patsy McNulty

and relatives travelling to and from Long Kesh and Crumlin Road jails have been stopped consistently for periods of up to half an hour. It is not unusual for the passengers, mainly women with young children, to be taken out on to the side of the road and thoroughly searched.

Patsy McNulty reports that as the bus is well-known to Brit and RUC patrols in the Strabane area he has been detained on one occasion by three foot patrols, all in the same street, one after the other!

In further acts of petty harassment, his mini-bus has been virtually taken apart in fruitless bids to find some fault with it and then ordered to produce either the insurance, licence or tax-book to the RUC station. In the space of one week, this could occur on several occasions.



Death of Patrick McCotter

THE DEATH took place on Saturday, November 20th, of veteran Belfast republican Patrick McCotter at the age of 64. He was buried, with a republican funeral, at Milltown Cemetery on Tuesday of this week.

In the early '30s he was a district officer in Na Fianna Eireann, going on to become O/C of 'C' Company in the IRA Belfast Brigade's First Battalion in 1937. As such he was a contemporary and friend of Sean McCaughey and Charlie McGlade.

Patrick McCotter eluded the internment swoops which took place on the day after the Second World War broke out in September 1939, and, following a lengthy period on the run, was finally arrested after a shoot-out with the RUC and 'B' Specials in Cullyhanna, South Armagh.

He spent several years in Crumlin Road Jail and while there was one of the last prisoners to receive ten strokes of the 'cat'.

As a republican prisoner he was an inspiration to his comrades, having a particular interest in the Irish language and Gaelic games.

He retained this interest afterwards, in recent years taking adult Irish classes each week in Belfast and remaining an active republican right up to his death. Go ndánna Dia troicire ar a nam.