

Republican news

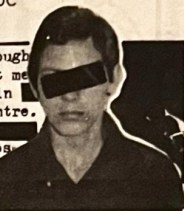
THE VOICE OF REPUBLICAN ULSTER

Vol. 5, No: 46, Saturday, 6th December, 1975 (England, Scotland & Wales 10p). Price 7p (USA 40 cents)

INSIDE

Five selected statements, made by school-boys and youths, who have been supplying information to the RUC Secret Police.

by the British army and brought the barracks where they hit me asked me to work for them in [redacted] near the City centre. Instructed by [redacted] find out the names of Provisional houses in which weapons were also sympathisers. I told [redacted] a .45 Web. and a smug n



IRA SMASH SCHOOLBOY SPY-RING

**2nd.
BATT.**

THE INTELLIGENCE SECTION of the Belfast Brigade's 2nd Battalion has recently uncovered a network of schoolboy informers 'employed' by the RUC Special Branch, and in some cases, the British Army's SAS Units, in large areas of West Belfast. The boys, whose ages range from 10-16, have been informing on members of the Republican Movement for some months under the threat of blackmail, or the inticement of financial reward. Some have been caught while carrying out petty criminal activities, e.g., stealing cars or burglary of shops, others have been 'recruited' by those already assisting the Special Branch in their work.

In cases where criminal charges could be brought against the boys concerned, the RUC Special Branch suggested, as an alternative to court action, that the boys be 'employed' as informers and financially rewarded. Because of their age, the boys, fearful of criminal prosecution and family retribution, and attracted by the promise

Not only were the Special Branch prepared to exploit the 'criminal' potential of these boys, but they actively assisted in their educational deprivation by encouraging them to stay away from school. At a time when they needed help, guidance and educational assistance, these boys were being ruthlessly exploited by the RUC Special Branch and the agents of the SAS.

Perhaps the most alarming discovery was the number of boys involved. As suspects were questioned by Republican Army intelligence officers, who are trained specialists in the field of young offenders, more and more names were revealed. As details became clearer, it was also obvious that in some cases threatened 'legal penalties' against the boys concerned had been greatly exaggerated to ensure their co-operation.

The Republican Movement has repeatedly stated its determination to continue to expose the criminal activities of the RUC who are now using children as 'secret agents' because of their fear of the highly effective intelligence machine at the Movement's disposal. While the 'professional politicians' and political reformists are clamouring for their return to Nationalist areas under whatever guise, the Republican Movement assures the people that under no circumstances will the political police of the RUC patrol our streets . . . again!

AMNESTY OFFER

FOLLOWING COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE operations against the British war machine, the 2nd Batt., Irish Republican Army has uncovered a Spy-Ring of local Schoolboys employed by the RUC Special Branch and SAS assassination units.

The boys concerned were between 10 and 16 years of age, and had become involved in counter-insurgency work through the threat of blackmail, because of their involvement in petty criminal activities, or because of the inticement of large financial rewards.

Because of their age, the Irish Republican Army is not prepared to take punitive action against them. Instead, approaches have been made to their parents and the long-term danger of the boys situation explained. In addition, documented evidence has also been supplied to confirm their sons involvement with the RUC Special Branch, and this evidence is now being used to highlight to the general public the ruthless exploitation of young boys by the British war Machine.

The 2nd Batt. has offered a general amnesty to all boys presently involved with the RUC Special Branch, most of whom are already known to our Units, and has encouraged them to declare themselves openly to the Republican Movement, safe in the knowledge that no physical action will be taken against them.

To those who have encouraged the 'criminal' potential and educational deprivation of these young boys, we warn that direct military action, designed to discourage such activity, will be taken promptly and effectively.

£4-£20 Paid by RUC for Information

of substantial amounts of money, became willing victims of the Special Branch's ruthless exploitation. The boys were encouraged to miss school, having been promised that no action would be taken against them, so that their time could be devoted to observing the movements of members of the Republican Movement. Secret meeting places were arranged by the Special Branch and information passed on. Depending on the reliability of this information, sums of money, ranging from £4.00/£20.00 were paid to the boys. This was sufficient incentive for the boys to continue their 'work.'

AFTER A MEETING BETWEEN THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2nd BATTALION, BELFAST BRIGADE, AND THE PARENTS OF THE SCHOOLBOY INFORMERS IT HAS BEEN DECIDED NOT TO RELEASE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE INDIVIDUALS

CONCERNED. IT WAS ALSO DECIDED AT THE MEETING, WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY A WELL-KNOWN NON-POLITICAL FIGURE FROM WEST BELFAST, THAT THE NAMES OF THE INFORMERS WILL BE KEPT SECRET.

**TURN TO
CENTRE PAGES**

Magilligan Incident

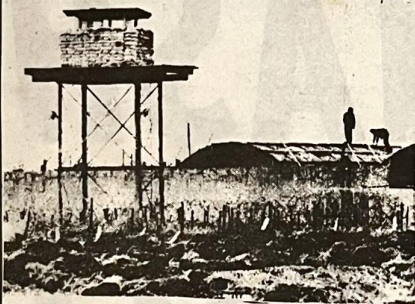
Regarding the incident which occurred on Wednesday last during a search operation in a cage in which 80 Republican prisoners are held. The facts of this incident are:

Several of the prisoners were involved in a skirmish with around 50 prison wardens resulting from a misunderstanding over personal property.

The camp O/C arrived in the scene and settled the dispute. The worst ailment received appeared to be 'Compensation'

Despite this antagonism the search ended without incident. It appeared however that the N.I.O., by making exorbitant claims to the media in blowing it up out of all proportions and creating trouble within the camp.

As we have stated many times in the past, we will not put up with harassment in any shape or form, and if it continues we have no option but to take more militant action. Nor will we tolerate the 'playing of politics' with us by the NIO and advise them to think again



and none of the injured were detained in hospital.

Shortly afterwards, as the search continued, obvious attempts were made to create a major situation in the camp. British army units were placed on stand-by, and as the search progressed, it became clear that the real motive was to provoke a confrontation. Items of clothing and other personal property were taken out of the cage. Attempts were made to strip-search the men for no apparent reason other than harassment.

before doing so. Reports of mass escape attempts are untrue as are those concerning the finding of dummy weapons in our living quarters etc.

P.S. The situation now stands at time of writing, in another search this morning of our cages, prison wardens attempted to enforce further restrictions - we refused, and the prison wardens were withdrawn - we now await the arrival of British army riot troops. At which time confrontation with Republicans may take place.

Resolution to be re-introduced at U.N.?

Long Kesh internees were intended to be freed under the U.S. resolution introduced in the United Nations in November calling for the release of "political prisoners." This fact has been confirmed by the National Council of Irish Americans which contacted the U.S. delegation to the United Nations concerning the meaning of the resolution. The U.S. move brought quick criticism from the British government which protested to the State Department. The U.K. government objected to the release of Long Kesh internees under the resolution according to State Department officials attached to the U.N.

A spokesman for the National Council of Irish Americans based in Buffalo, New York, released this statement:

"We are happy to note that the U.S. government has now called for the release of Long Kesh internees and an end to internment in Northern Ireland. This is a clear recognition by the U.S. government that Long Kesh is a concentration camp holding political prisoners who should be released. The State Depart-

ment, to its credit, ignored British objections to the introduction of the resolution even before it was sent to the U.N. on November 12th. This was a clear rebuff to the London government by the State Department. Sources at the office of the U.S. delegation to the U.N. in New York advised us of the American views on this matter and also described the British government as being incensed by the U.S. move.

Nine days after the resolution was introduced, it was withdrawn by the United Nations, largely because of continued pressure from Britain and the British Embassy in Washington. The British government stressed its political embarrassment at the international level and insisted that the resolution be withdrawn. The whole affair has strained U.S. - British relations. This is the first time the U.S. government had described Irish internees as political prisoners. It is understood that the resolution may be re-introduced at the U.N. by other governments.

JIM HEANEY.

Saga of the Cold-Cream Guards

Last week's edition of REPUBLICAN NEWS carried an article on the confiscation of copies of SOAIRE by the 'Cold-cream Guards'. I would like to comment on the point raised in the story concerning the Brit inability to laugh at themselves, this trait has been, in my opinion, carefully fostered for political/military purposes.

Invariably the Irish are the butt of most of these jokes which have played a major part in the Government sponsored anti-Irish campaign which is aimed at isolating the Irish community in England. The British public have proven to be very susceptible to such campaigns in the past. We in this part of the world who have been subject to the British media (amongst other things) can however be more objective than the 'sheep' on the so-called mainland. We remember earlier campaigns such as the 'money-grabbing Jews', the 'miserly Scotsmen' the 'loud mouthed Americans' the 'military-mad goose-stepping Germans'. The list is almost endless. In our case it is the 'stupid Irish'. Without exception all of these racist campaigns were politically motivated and owe their origins to the 'dirty tricks' department in Whitehall. It was political considerations which prevented an Anti-Arab campaign first stifled the pro-Israel groups in England. It would be poor economics after all to Lampon Colenel Gadaffi when he is supplying one fifth of all the British oil. The British are currently wooing President Sadat of Egypt in order to convince the O.P.E.C. countries, which are mainly Arab, that they should pour their millions into Britain's bankrupt economy. The Irish, on the other hand, do not have any money or oil (at least not yet)

so they are not considered worthy of the same gentle treatment. The only thing the British offer is the IRA and an alphabet soup of Loyalist paramilitaries, so they are ideal material for a nice racist campaign.

It is surprising to discover that people who can poke so much 'fun' at other nations are themselves hypersensitive when they are the subject of a joke. This was clearly illustrated on Monday evening of 17th Nov. when a patrol of the Coldstream Guards arrested two Sinn Fein members who were selling papers in the St. James area of Belfast. No reason was given except that they had 'gotten strotty' and refused to hand over their papers. After being brought to Springfield Road RUC station they were photographed and interrogated briefly and then forced to stand before a wall in the carpark for three hours. On being released they were told that 145 copies of their paper, 'Saoirse', were being confiscated because the front page (illustrated here) which contained a cartoon, was subversive and a defamation of character. The cartoon was based on a detailed report in the Daily Mirror which referred to a group of Coldstream Guards who were on charges for engaging in homosexual behaviour and had posed for pin-up photos in a 'gay' magazine. The Daily Mirror, which is often referred to as the voice of the British Army, is noted for its Anti-Republican bias and would not normally print anything as damaging as this, but it would appear that on this occasion their loyalty to the British Army was overcome by their weakness for a good dirty story which always boosts sales. It seems that the 'Saoirse' cartoon has caused something of a stir in the ranks of the Coldstream Guards. The shame felt by the ordinary squad-

dies is more than overshadowed by the consternation of the officers who see their position of authority undermined by public scorn and ridicule. A spokesman for the Robert Emmet - Francis Liggett Cumann who publish the 'Saoirse' said that throughout the four and a half years of the papers existence they had never sold or handed over voluntarily, copies to any British Army regiment in the St. James' area.

He said that the confiscation of 145 copies would not alter this policy nor prevent them from publishing the truth however unpleasant the British Army might find it. He challenged the Coldstream Guards to state specifically what they found subversive in the cartoon. He suggested that their ideas should hold talks with the British Army to explain his policies in regards to the legalising of Sinn Fein. He said that with some luck they might both be able to synchronise their ideas and attitudes which seemed to be in eternal conflict. He said that Sinn Fein had not sought the official blessings of the British Government, but since they had got it they had noticed no change in the attitude of the British Army towards them. The statement ended by saying that Sinn Fein would pursue the same policies in the same fashion on or out of a true situation.

It would seem that this incident has uncovered the Achilles heel of the British Army. They have been trained to react to attack from bombs, bullets and stones but seemingly not to an attack of public scorn. In other words to anything but don't laugh at us, seems to be their attitude. The Republican Movement will do all in its power to make them feel as uncomfortable and as unwelcome as possible and cordially invite everyone to join with us in our

LUTON SINN FEIN AGM

1976- A BIG CHALLENGE

Chairman : John Higgins.
Vice-Chairman : Jim Reilly.
Treasurer : Desmond Corzair
Asst. Treasurer : Pat Crossin.
Social Secretary : Eamonn Higgins.
Social Secre
Political Education - Jim Reilly.
Secretary/PRO : Michael Holden.

The outgoing chairman Mr. Jim Reilly, said 1975 had seen an increase in membership, and in political activity involving every cumann member. Despite harassment and arrests of cumann members Luton Sinn Fein had through the year made significant progress.

1976 would no doubt be as big a challenge. This challenge would be met, and it was worthy notice that despite the publicity surrounding the victimisation of some members

this year, the Irish Community locally had not been intimidated and continued to support our social functions and fund-raising activities. He was confident he said, this support would not only continue, but would increase during the coming year. The new chairman Mr. John Higgins, said that re-newed efforts would be made during the coming year to increase political activity even further.

Now that the 'Home Counties Comhairle Ceannair' had been formed we would no longer be operating in isolation, but within the framework of an organisation linked to Bletchley, St. Albans, High Wycombe and Watford - the new home counties regional committee. It was hoped to start a recruitment cam-

paign in Watford early in the new year to increase support in that area. Special emphasis would gain be laid on raising to aid distressed families at home and in Britain, in fact this will be made a priority. The "anti-terrorist act" had caused great hardship to many innocent families by depriving them of their sole bread winners. Luton Sinn Fein would see the renewal of this act by political activity within the trades unions and other such bodies. Contact with other groups opposed to British imperialism and oppression would be maintained during the coming year. The committee and members passed a motion thanking the NCCL for their help, by supplying them with leaflets and legal aid during 1975. MICHAEL HOLDEN, Runcil Luton Sinn Fein.

LOOK FOR THE FLEET NUMBER

In last weeks issue of Republican News an article was included on the attempted assassination of a Belfast man from a Black Taxi, which took him down Broadway Road, and attempted to bring him into the Village area. He was wounded but made good his escape. This man picked this taxi up on the Falls Road, and we feel that the Catholics of the Falls Road should be warned about boarding taxis that do not have the recognised F.T.A. fleet nos. Each taxi has been issued with a pre-designed number, allocated by the Falls Taxiowners Association. Any person who accepts a ride in a taxi without such a fleet number is to put it in plaining taking a ride to his or her death.

It is now obvious that assassination of Catholics has commenced once again, with the most brutal murder of Francis Crossan of Glenveagh Drive, and the attempted murder of a man on the Cliftonville Road from a black taxi.

We now issue a clear and precise warning to the people on the Falls Road. Do not board a taxi which does not have a fleet number issued by the F.T.A..

Clonard Martyr's PRO.

We Will Fight Every Inch

POLITICAL STATUS

In May 1972, Billy McKee and 4 comrades, in Belfast Prison, embarked on a most perilous course — a hunger strike to gain for their comrades and themselves the right of political status. They were joined at weekly intervals by other Republican prisoners. Their struggle was ALL or NOTHING, only death would prevent them attaining their goal.

Earlier in 1972 after a rather nefarious visit to Northern Ireland, Reginald Maudling MP had made the declaration "We are now at war with the Irish Republican Army." The I.R.A. had never thought anything different, they had been at war with the Army of Occupation for countless countless years. Capture Republicans were regarded as political prisoners, prisoners of war, and political status was theirs by right.

So for 36 days (9 long weeks) Republican soldiers suffered the slow, lingering torment that is a hunger strike. Depression and outright torment that right frustration beset the whole Movement, and the Nationalist people as it became obvious that the English were prepared to let our people die. The world at large focussed its attention on the plight of the starving Republicans in Belfast Prison. Resistance groups throughout the globe protested on their behalf. The Nationalist people of Ireland, gripped by the dread of the imminent death of Billy McKee and his comrades took to the streets in protest and support. Faced with the mass movement of the people, and weighing up the fearful consequences in the even of a death in Belfast Prison, William Whitelaw, Secretary of State, granted these courageous men, political status.

Merlyn Rees has now stated that this political status will end in March 1976, that men who are sentenced after this date will not be granted this status, will be put in cells, made to wear prison garb etc. and will lose all that Republicans almost died for in May 1972.

We in Sinn Fein now pledge our complete and absolute support for our imprisoned comrades in this perilous time. We know that those people who supported the prisoners in 1972 will do so again if called upon. We have no intention of permitting Merlyn Rees to carry out this action. We will resist any move to remove political status in every way we possibly can, and we would strongly advise Merlyn Rees to ponder on the consequences of such action very carefully indeed. We will fight every inch of ground, and we can assure Mr. Rees that his proposed removal of political status will not happen.

"HANGING WEEK IN ENGLAND"

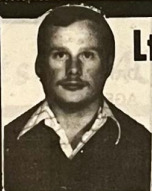
The quick-change artistry from Red Radical to White Imperialist is peculiarly well-developed in the English whose adaptive rate in this skill would require electronic measurement.

In a recent radio interview (R.T.E. 27.XL '75) the great Liberal Paul Johnson (former editor of the ever-so-Left-ising New Statesman) was totally unrecognisable in the role of Colonel Blimp as he defied the I.R.A. "to get the British out of Ireland," declared "a stiffening of British opinion," warned them "they would not break the spirit and will of the British," and "they, the I.R.A., would be the first to tire in the fight with Britain," and he sent out a call 'to bring back capital punishment' — as a Left-wing intellectual he was "totally against capital punishment — he didn't think it worked as a deterrent." As Colonel Blimp he thought "it might work with the I.R.A.," for by some super-flash of his genius, he had devised the extraordinary phenomenon that "the I.R.A. don't want to be hanged."

Of course it was "hanging week" in Britain, and an orchestrated howl rang out in Westminster calling for the re-emergence of "guts, spine and the rope." In fact it was "Imperial Week" in Britain, what with "protecting our boys in Ireland" and "protecting our fishermen in Iceland," they had a glorious week in Westminster — bringing out the gunboats, defying the Icelandic "bastards" who would deny them their poaching rights, demanding death for the Irish "bastards" who would deny them their plundering rights; grandly offering "to negotiate" with the Icelanders on the Icelandic economy and choosing at random those Irish subjects whom they considered to have "forfeited the right to live." They extolled "the splendid job being carried out by their boys in the far-flung horror colony of 'Ulster' and remembered to express their horror and anguish at the deaths of three young British soldiers" in the back of beyond in South Armagh — forgetting the many more than three million young British men they have sacrificed to their greedy needs.

The arena may have narrowed to two small islands in the North Atlantic, but for Westminster it was like old times, and credit where credit is due, they did it very well — young Winston Churchill was particularly splendid as a latter-day Alexander grinding his angry young teeth that his grandfather had left him no more colonies to tramp on.

No wonder the £ sank to an all-time low under the weight of it all.



Lt. Paul Fox

Staff Officer
Laura Crawford



FOX/CRAWFORD.

G.H.Q. Staff, Oglagh Na h-Eireann, extends its deepest sympathy to the relatives of Lieut. Paul Fox, Belfast Brigade and Staff Officer Laura Crawford, Cumann na mBan, (killed in action).

'They died that we may live.'

BELFAST REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT, comprising the following . . .

BELFAST BRIGADE, Oglagh Na h-Eireann (1st and 2nd, 3rd and 4th Battalion), Belfast Brigade, Cumann na mBan, Na Fianna Eireann, Cumann Na gCaillín, Sinn Féin, Republican Prisoners, National Graves Association, — salute the sacrifice of Lieut. Paul Fox, 'A' Coy. 2nd Battalion and Staff Officer Laura Crawford, Cumann na mBan and extend its deepest sympathy to their relatives.

'Imeasc Laoora na h-Eireann, bflaitheas de go rabh siad.'

CRAWFORD/FOX.

G.H.A. Staff, Cumann Na mBan deeply regret the deaths of Staff Officer, Laura Crawford, and Lieut. Paul Fox, Belfast Brigade, I.R.A. and extends sympathy to their relatives.

'A naoimh na h-Eireann guidhe ortha.

FOX — PAUL.

Sweet Jesus have mercy on the soul of our dear friend Lt. Paul (Basil) Fox, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Irish Republican Army :

"Basil, you were taken from us with-

out any warning; it grieves us all to have lost a dear friend. There were 'words that were left unsaid, things that were left undone, and at a time like this words fail us all . . . but you know how we feel you died for your beliefs and we are proud to have known one so brave."

— Sadly missed by Con and Kate and Family.

CRAWFORD/FOX —

Mary Queen of Ireland pray for the repose of the souls of two brave young Irish people — my dear friend and comrade Lt. Paul (Basil) Fox, 2nd Battalion. B.B., Oglagh Na h-Eireann and his comrade-in-arms Staff Officer Laura Crawford, Cumann na mBan, who were killed on active service on the night of the 1st December, 1975.

The most characteristic feature of both their lives was the Christian willingness of sacrifice above oneself.

As families and friends mourn their terrible loss, whole areas and districts grieve on solidarity. They have lost two volunteer soldiers whose lives were inseparable from street-life politics — dedication to the People, resisting oppression of the people, and defeating oppression for the happiness of the people.

With this Gospel and their own essential personal courage they died full of integrity and sincerity. They died for us. — Friend and comrade, Danny.

SCHOOLBOY SPY SCANDAL

FIVE
OF THE S

"YOU CAN TAKE TIME

..... IF YOU GIVE M

Tony's
first payment was
a tin of Coke

THE FACTS



TONY
AGE: 14.

I MET the Special Branch at..... They were in a car and eating sweets. They asked me if I wanted to go with them, so I went with them. They bribed me to give them information. One of them had money. I told them where there were dumps and gave names. They first gave me a tin of Coke and then asked me if I wanted to earn more money. I said yes. I gave the following nine names to the Special Branch.

The first money I got was £4.00 for giving away a .303 rifle. I told about a dump in, and I also told them there was a dump in the back of the They lifted a bag from the and searched it. They told me they would give me £20.00 for further information. They gave me £4.00 for a rifle. I asked for the rest but he said he would give me the rest if I did more work for them. I told them about more dumps and weapons. I also told them about dumps used a couple of years ago, they went and searched them.

There were other boys in the car the next time. They brought us to Andersonstown barracks, then they brought me to Fort Monagh. The boys in the care were from thearea.

They gave me £15.00 for describing a man who was carrying. I did not know his name, he ran through our back alley. They asked me did I know any more names, I only gave the first names as I didn't know the surnames.

Father couldn't afford
fine, so Danny became
an informer

DANNY
AGE: 14.

My name is Danny ... I first came in contact with the Special Branch when my friend Brendan..... and Alec told me that Alec had an Uncle called They rang him up one night and asked to meet him up at..... the next day at 12.30. So myself, Brendan and Alec sent up and we got into his car. We went for a drive out to ...

It was after being in the car 5 minutes that I found out he was a Branch man when he said to Brendan and Alec, "What information have you got for me." I asked Alec what he meant by information and Alec told me he was Special Branch.

Alec and Brendan said to me they caught in a stolen car and Brendan was told by the RUC that if he didn't give information that they would lay everything on him. Brendan didn't want his father to have to pay another fine as he had already paid a fine, so Brendan chose to give the Branch information.



THE FACTS

I, along with Brendan and Alec give names and told were rifles were hidden. We got £20.00 for each rifle and we also received other money. £1;00 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. One of the place's we meet the Special Branch is in the city centre. We once saw the Branch man in plain clothes at the top of on the Falls Road.

Caught in a stolen car

THE FACTS



ALEC
AGE: 15.

We got caught in a stolen car in by the British Army and brought to the barracks wheret they hit me. They asked me to work for them. I agreed and they told me to meet them in in the city centre. They told me to stay off school and give them information.

The Special Branch told us to give them places where the IRA kept their weapons. 'Us' means Brendan Danny and myself. I heard from the street where weapons were, and I told the Special Branch that had weapons. I also told them about a 45 Web. and a snub nose about 10 weapons altogether. I never give away any rifles. Brendan give a way a rifle to the British Army. The Brits gave me a phone number to use when I wanted to make contact. I can get in touch with them at any time, I have only got to phone them. They arrive in a Cortina and meet me at They tell me to keep my ears open.

I meet a Branch man at in the city centre and he brings me to the Henry Taggart. Danny knows a boy from who goes up to called John Weapons were lifted in a house in and Paul and Brendan gave these away. The Branch man said we would not be found out. We got up to £20.00 a time for guns or rifles we gave away and £1.00 every time we meet them and sometimes £5.00.

FIVE STATEMENTS WHICH HIGHLIGHT THE ACTIVITIES
OF THE SECRET POLICE IN THEIR SEARCH FOR INFORMATION

TIME OFF SCHOOL

VE ME NAMES"

RUC OFFICER



in a stolen car

FACTS

olen car in by the Brit-
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£13 for 303

4 Shorts - £40

FRANK

AGE: 19.

I started working for the Special Branch 6 - 8 weeks
ago. I met them mostly in the city centre. I gave the
following 40 names to the Special Branch

THE FACTS



I also meet the Branch at I meet them a
couple of times a week, 4 - 5 times approximately.
About 3 weeks ago I told them about a 303 rifle in
..... For this I got £15.00 and for 4 short-
arms - I got £40.00. If I have names for them I get
£10.00 which I spend as soon as I get it. I also gave a
38 plus a 45 away a couple of weeks ago. I also gave
away a dump in back, a dump in back
and a dump in the area. I told them
carries a rod for I also told about
..... moving gear from to a position
alongside

I believe the following 7 people to be touts

THE FACTS



PAUL

AGE 10:

I met Paul in the Falls baths and he told me
that if you give names to the RUC they would give
you money. I started giving information about 3
months ago.

Peter and me were going up to fish-
ing and a man was sitting on the bank. He called us
over and said, "Have you any names, I will give you
money." Peter told him and he gave
us £1.00 each.

To give the second name away we had to meet a police-
man outside in the city centre.
Peter told him two names, and some call-
ed I didn't hear the rest of his name. We
got another £1.00 each. He arranged to see us two
days later at opposite the in the
city centre. Peter and I went down and met the
same policeman. This time we told him
He gave us another £1.00 each and we told him
was in the Fianna.

We were arrested when we stole a Mars bar from a shop
by an RUC man who put us into a big green car
and took us to the Henry Taggart camp. They asked
us did we know anyone in the Fianna or the IRA. They
asked where lived and what age he
was, we told them what they wanted to know.

They asked Peter, 'Do you go to school?' and he re-
plied, 'Not all the time,' and the policeman said
'You could go on the beak if you give me names.'

We met the same policeman one day when we were
walking up past Divis Flats, he was walking with
soldiers and he called us over. He said, "Give me
name and I'll give you your bus fare home." We
told him

We last saw the policeman when we went fishing
again. Peter and me met him sitting at the side of the
road. He called Peter over, but I don't know what he
said.

Joe asked me to watch houses to get
information for the Special Branch.

The Crazy Stages Theory

By Peter Dowling

"The Provisionals are racist bigots, much worse than the Loyalists. They are in no way anti-imperialist and their Belfast paper Republican News only last week published a vicious attack on the working class." So spoke Stickie Tom Moore, from Newry, at a London conference organised last weekend by the British Communist Party to promote their Bill of Rights campaign.

Several weeks ago we carried an article exposing how the British Communist Party had called for the British army to mount road blocks in anti-unionist areas of Belfast in order to 'intervene' against the Provisional IRA. Stalinist Chris Myant, who accused Mervyn Rees of 'aiding with the Provisionals' bitterly complained that, 'Despite the military activity of the Provisional IRA, the British Army, have allowed the situation to ride on and have studiously avoided intervening.'

A few days later the British Stalinist daily paper, the Morning Star, featured a prominent article by Kyant in which he mounted another long attack on the Provisionals entitled 'Why the army stood aside.'

In fact the essential question that really needs to be asked is: Why the NLF stood aside?

Why is it that since 1972 the so-called 'Official' Republican Movement' have refused to take any part in the struggle against British occupation?

Why is it that both Stalinists and NLF not see the main enemy to be British imperialism but to the Provisional IRA?

BIGOTS, STALINISTS AND MARXISTS

To begin to answer these questions we have to right back in time to look at the changes which took place within the Republican Movement after the failure of the 1956-62 campaign. O'Leigha na hEireann was a husk — its strength eroded, its purpose lost, its future unclear. Despite many volunteers wanting action, in fact debate was the order of the day. This debate centred around the problem of how to recapture the support of the people. It was strongly influenced by a group of intellectuals based on Trinity College

Dublin, who were sympathetic to Soviet Stalinism. Thus the Republican turn to 'Marxism' in the 1960's was from the outset infected with the kind of politics promoted by Dr. Roy Johnson of the Communist Party of Ireland and by Desmond Greaves of the Communist Party of Great Britain. The effect of this influence was well explained by Freeman in his Notebook in the 21st February issue of An Phoblacht. Entitled, Bigots, Stalinists and Marxists, it reads:

"In the 1960's, the faction which was winning control of the Republican Movement and trying to alter its historic

course, used Marxist jargon and behaved in an offensive manner. It was boorishly anti-religious, or more precisely, anti-Catholic. It used undemocratic methods in the internal affairs of the Movement, and it tried to commit the Movement for working for a Stalinist bureaucratic dictatorship in Ireland. It took its direction from a foreign source — from Soviet Communism — rather than from the native revolutionary tradition. Republicans who had never read a line of Marx, and who found this behaviour repugnant, saw it being perpetrated in the name of Marxism. Strange things have been done in the name of God, things which caused many millions of people to turn away from him (so they thought) and to believe that they were his enemies. Much the same happened in the Republican Movement when the things I have mentioned were done in the name of Marxism. The idea that Marxists must follow the lead of Soviet Communism is not part of the Marxist philosophy!

CRAZY STAGES

However, what is this lead that Soviet Communism instructs us to follow? The Soviet Stalinists have worked out a rigid pattern of historical development according to which all repressive capitalist states, such as both parts of Ireland today, sooner or later become liberal democratic regimes. After which, working people, under conditions of democracy, are gradually organised and educated for socialism.

These fixed stages in the development of a state are not only said to be entirely distinct but also to be separated from each other by great distances of time. This vulgar 'Marxism' has had disastrous results numerous times outside Ireland.

Applied to Ireland it maps out three separate stages along the peaceful road to Socialism:

out three separate stages along the peaceful road to Socialism:

- (1) democratic reform of the Northern 6-County Statelet.
- (2) national unification and independence from Britain.
- (3) the struggle for socialism.

It is not permissible to skip stages and therefore it is a gross mistake to make demands designed to achieve stage (2) before stage (1) has been achieved; to achieve the limited objective of democratic reform in the North involves total rejection of the second stage the national struggle.

Stated briefly this theory sounds crazy; and indeed it is. When after 1969 Northern Catholics began to raise the question of partition without waiting for the completion of the first stage then the official Republican stages strategy became irrelevant. Indeed the essential difference between the Officials and the Provisionals was shown by their positions on the Northern 6 County statelet; the one wanted to reform Stormont, the other succeeded in destroying it.

More and more the NLF have come under the grip of the dogmatic 'Bill of Rights' strategy of the Communist Party, which as led them to play down the national struggle and more and more insist on limiting their policies to reforms within the six county framework. From the fact that the Catholics are a minority within the six counties, they have drawn the disastrous conclusion that unity with the Protestants must be achieved before the 'real struggle' can begin. Hence a frantic search by the Stickies for 'progressive' trends within the loyalist murder gangs.

Hence their refusal to participate in united actions against internment with other anti-unionist forces, whilst bending over backwards to reach agreements on this issue with the UDA and UVF. Perhaps their crowning idiocy was in response to the UWC strike last May. On the one hand they called the UWC fascist but in the same issue of their paper they blessed it as a progressive organisation and called for a united front with them against internment 'bubbling up' with the Morning Star.

More recently at the British CP Congress a couple of weeks ago, Stalinist Chris Myant betrayed his typical English ignorance of the situation on the ground. According to Myant, 'Unity of the working class in Northern Ireland is "bubbling up." Indeed both Stalinists and NLF have to delve into the depths of a witches cauldron to conjure mythical working class unity across the sectarian divide.

They seem to forget that the traditional response of the Protestant working class to a growth in unemployment has been to turn against the Catholic minority, since they are seen as direct competitors for the available jobs. The famous united riots of 1932 were after a fall in employment in shipbuilding of over 80% in less than two years. This was the extent to which economic conditions had to deteriorate before Protestant workers abandoned their hostility to Catholic workers. It is the height of stupidity to expect the two sections of the Northern working class to unite on 'economic' issues when it is precisely these that divide them. As unemployment begins to bite, Protestant workers will pursue their traditional way out; the expulsion of Catholics from employment. Only when the Northern 6 County statelet is visibly unable to preserve the Protestant Ascendancy, will the possibility exist of breaking the Protestant workers from Loyalism and drawing them round a program of social and economic demands. As James Connolly scornfully remarked:

"The doctrine that because the workers of Belfast live under the same industrial conditions as do those of Great Britain, they are therefore subject to the same passions and to be influenced by the same methods of propaganda, is a doctrine almost screamingly funny in its absurdity."

But here we come to the core of the central argument. For it is only through the struggle to smash the Northern statelet,

which is guaranteed through the presence of the British army that the possibility exists of getting through to the mass of the Protestants. It is not the case that the core of the Protestant demands are just for the preservation of a six county state. They want the maintenance of a sectarian state in which their privileges would be guaranteed through the oppression of the Catholics. Far from a reformed six county state giving a period of respite in which they could be encouraged to change their minds, they would fight against it as bitterly as they would against a 32 county Republic as was shown in 1969.

Such an approach arises out of the NLF complete failure to understand the relationship of the Protestant working class to the official Orange statelet. They cannot accept the fact that their failure to realise this much sought after unity with the Protestants stems from the very existence of the Northern 6 County statelet and the privileges it grants the Protestants. So instead, they hysterically denounce the Provos, claiming that it is the 'mad bombers' who are preventing the unity of Protestants and Catholics.

INSANITY AND MONSTERS

For many NLF the main enemy has become the Provisionals, not the British army or imperialism; and certainly not the loyalists. Gerry Doherty, the Clann na h-Eireann Organiser in Britain was expelled a year ago under the 'anti-terrorism' laws. On arrival in Dublin he sympathised with the British government in their fight against the Provisionals and blamed his exclusion on the Provisionals. He announced, "I have always campaigned against the Provisionals. They are a monster which has been allowed to grow up in our midst."

This was not a temporary lapse into insanity but flows from the NLF political line. This was not line of trying to foot the Protestants into supporting them. For it is line that in carrying forward the national struggle against the British the Provos will increasingly antagonise the Protestants who, rightly see the British as guarantors of their ascendancy. But this unfortunate fact of life means, that on the road to eventual working class unity, increasing disunity is at first absolutely unavoidable, as the Protestants see their state being destroyed. However, the destruction of their state is the only way to destroy the basis of their sectarianism.

Meanwhile, back in the fantasy world of the NLF, remember we are still at the first stage of the struggle — for civil rights, which involves a total rejection of the second stage — the national liberation struggle. Therefore anybody seeking to kick the Brits out in order to unify Ireland must be a counter-revolutionary and a sectarian madman.

THE BRITS ARE NICE DEMOCRATS REALLY AREN'T THEY?

But let us see how the first stage is to be implemented. Let us look at what Chris Myant wrote in the Morning Star on 24th October last year. The essential key to the solution of the problem in Ireland, he wrote, is 'the concept of a Bill of Rights, a Bill backed by the power of the British labour movement in struggle alongside the people of Northern Ireland.' He goes on, 'If the troops were simply to be removed and the British Government were to wash its hands of the issue, then the extreme right would have a clear field of fire to

slaughter its enemies.' What is missing is any recognition of the fact that it is the presence of these troops which, by continuing to boost the confidence of the Loyalists while at the same time wearing down Republican resistance, is actually preparing the way for anti-Catholic pogroms. Numerous assassinations have taken

place while the Brits turned a blind eye; everyday we witness the brutalisation of the Catholic community by these troops.

But back to the amazing Bill of Rights. The scope of this Bill would be gigantic. It would range from outlawing discrimination in all fields of life, to ending internment without trial, to safeguarding the right of all to campaign in democratic elections. But how, we may well ask, is such a Westminster Bill to be enforced?

It is here we begin to see what role the troops can play. But let Chris Myant explain, 'And when the violence does come, the British labour movement must be prepared to use every ounce of its strength to force the army command to use its military power in defence of democracy.' Yes, Rees, against this really is like asking the jockey to carry the horse. Throughout the whole period from 1969 to the present — and especially in its reaction to the 1972 strike — the British army command has made it perfectly clear, where it stands. These people can be relied on to take the same attitude as their forebears did at the Curragh when they mutinied against Home Rule.

Now Chris Myant wants us to ask this army of imperialism to stop being imperialist for a little while and make sure that a Bill of Rights is implemented. The mind boggles at the thought of British imperialism abolishing itself as far as Ireland is concerned by passing an Act through its own parliament and then taking sure its self-imposed abolition is carried through by its very own army! We can now draw together the two main threads. On the one hand we have the position that the main enemy are the racist bigots of the Provisional IRA. On the other hand we have the position that the British Army can be forced to defend democracy. So what is more natural than to call for the defenders of democracy — THE BRITS, to defeat the main enemy — THE PROVOS!

So this is what Sticky end befalls those who follow the Stalinist path of stages.

LURGAN WARNING

Certain publicans in the Lurgan/New City area are exploiting the lack of youth recreational facilities by allowing under-age drinking on their premises. The Republican Movement has repeatedly advised these Publicans guilty of this activity to cease and we issue this statement as a final warning.

Publicans who, sell drink to those under age or allow them on their premises unless accompanied by a parent, will not continue in business.

N.A. O'NEILL,
P.R.O. North Armagh Battalion, Irish Republican Army

With the retirement, due to ill health, of Hugh Murphy the senior AUEW shop steward, and chairman of the Works Committee on the Aircraft Factory, the Communist Party finds itself for the first time in 35 years without one

With the retirement, due to ill health, of Hugh Murphy the senior AUEW shop steward, and chairman of the Works Committee of the Aircraft Factory, the Communist Party finds itself for the first time in 35 years without one member of the Party in any leading position in the trade union movement in Shorts.

At the same time we find that the Ulster Workers Council members are now being selected as shop stewards and union representatives in place of militants who are either Communists or fellow travellers.

Harry Patterson the U.W.C. leader in Shorts, is now, not only senior steward of the Sheetmetal Workers in the factory but has now been elected to the very important position in his union as chairman of the Belfast Branch second in command to Andy Barr. In the election for the post he beat a well known Communist Party trade unionist.

"It would be totally arrogant for the SDLP to say what it believed was the Gospel truth and all else was nonsense."

(Austin Currie at the SDLP Conference).

LIAM MAC

The character who writes "The Churches Column" in the Belfast Telegraph has never, to my knowledge, ever shown any interest in workers conditions or the immoral conditions of unemployment, but kept his column to discuss the happenings of the various churches and their relationships, and only of interest to church goers.

So it was with great surprise that reading the column on Saturday (29/11/75) I found that the correspondent had suddenly come alive and used his space to let off steam against the trade union movement in calling out the engineers from the factories on Wednesday 26th November to demonstrate against the policies of the British Labour Government which is resulting in mass unemployment in the six counties. He wrote:

"This week's protest strike showed up workers in the worst possible light. Let's be fair, my criticism applies to a few only. For most of the workers appealed to by the strike organisers in effect told them to get lost. But many did not."

Morally speaking it would have been more commendable if the strikers had backed the organisers of the demonstration and put on a humbly large parade, through the centre of the city. What they did do was chillingly cynical.

I must agree with this criticism, the 300 or so who did turn up at the meeting at the City Hall to hear Jimmy Graham and Andy Barr must have felt depressed at the turnout. The whole idea of a mass demonstration turned into a failure and the figures given of those who left work that afternoon was so small in relation to the number of workers employed. Only a mere 1800 came out in the shipyard. One in three from Mackie's. Representatives from STC. And Short's a workers were on a half-day's holiday due to the firm winning an award.

But there was no feeling of failure in the pages of the Communist Party newsheet "Unity" (29/11/75).

"The strike by of thousands of N.I. workers for the 'right to work' which culminated in the huge success of the meeting at the City Hall has added another page to the history of trade unionism in this area."

I would rather have the cynical attitude of the "Churches Correspondent" than the stupid dishonesty of Unity.

'By next Spring, Mr. Rees will have been two years in the job. There is renewed speculation that he will shortly be moved. Downing Street is thought to be looking for a Secretary of State with the same downbeat approach. The proof of Merlyn's success, a senior aide recently remarked is the magic way the House empties whenever N.I. comes up.'

(Giles Merritt Financial Times 26/11/75).

Did you know that the six county egg producers are on the verge of collapse? The reason for this situation is that we produce more eggs than we can use locally. Thus more than 80 per cent of the eggs produced here are exported to Britain and have to compete with cheaper EEC imports. And because French eggs are so much cheaper, Britain has begun to turn her back

on six county eggs. This coupled with the high price of feedstuffs, transport and labour charges has forced producers here to stand and look on while the industry collapses.

Small producers are disgusted about the prices they are getting from the packing companies compared with the price the housewife is having to pay. While it costs an estimated 25 pence per dozen to produce eggs, they are only getting 23 pence.

Did you know that in 1971/72 that total number of recruits to the British Army was 32,258, so the British Government decided to spend 2.9 million pounds on a recruiting campaign, it was a flop the number of recruits fell in the years 1972/73 to 27,940 and again in 1973/74 to 16,575. They have now decided to spend in 1975/76 the amazing sum of 4.2 million pounds on publicity to raise some enthusiasm for their army of thugs.

In January 1975, the British Army consisted of 169,100 out of the total of 342,500 armed personnel in the forces as a whole. On top of the professional hard core, there are 53,000 members of the Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve, about 7,900 members of the Ulster Defence Regiment and 108,500 regular reserve forces.

From a Ministry of Defence statement we find that 42,800 army personnel will remain stationed in Britain at any one time (15,000 in the six counties), 3000 are in Berlin, while the number stationed on the Rhine is 54,900.

There are 9,800 serving in HongKong, 2,800 in the Far East, 4,500 in the Mediterranean area and 600 in "other areas."

Did you know that unemployment in 23 industrialised countries soared to an estimated combined total of 17 million in September this year, the highest

level in 40 years, the International Labour Organisation (I.L.O.) announced in Geneva.

Taking into account dependent family members, the number of people directly affected by unemployment was about 40 million.

Capitalism is surely creaking. And while the unemployed figures grow in Britain, the six counties and the twenty six counties of Ireland, The Common Market Commission handed out some of its charity funds to help projects, in their compassion for the poor they gave a miserable £421,000 to Britain with an unemployment problem of one-and-a-quarter million. While the twenty six county government of Cosgrave with 105,000 unemployed were so pleased at receiving a miserable £233,000 to help them to carry out projects to cure their unemployment problems.

Did you know that the Brits who sneer at the corruption in the USA and love quoting the Washington Post in their revelations and exposures got quite a shock last week when that same paper quoted some methods of corruption in Britain, also the method of legally covering up their activities when caught. The correspondent Bernard Nossitor said the Brits had a easier way of doing it. He quoted the case of Edward Heath who tried by court order to stop the Times from printing his connections with the Stock Exchange scandal of Slater Walker, and when he failed took a libel action against the paper. Or the case of Maudling the Tory shadow Foreign Minister of Margaret Thatcher, who was involved with Poulsen and his friends in corruption of local councillors to get contracts. The case of Lord Goodman who is hailed in Britain as the saviour of press freedoms, while very few point out that he is in reality the chairman and chief negotiator for the newspaper owners. Then there is the case of Ian Mikardo who received a percentage as commission on business deals with the Soviet Union. Yes the Brits cannot afford to sneer at any other country.

"Women Conservatives at a conference yesterday carried a resolution calling for the reduction of the age of criminal responsibility from 10 to eight years of age."

(Daily Telegraph 29/11/75).

"The Provos, even in South Armagh, are completely invisible. To amount a kind of Somme or Paschendae offensive against them with tanks and trench warfare would only result in the deaths of a few unfortunate bullocks. A party of reporters who toured the Crossmaglen region thoroughly last week did not set eyes on one suspicious character. The army or police would be even less likely to meet one."

(John D. Stewart Sunday News 30/11/75).

According to Vincent Browne in the Sunday Independent (30/11/75) the SDLP conference last weekend showed that the party was very worried about the future and even survival as a political entity, you see now that the Convention is coming to an end, all the boys who were members will have to find other means of support as their wages as Convention members will soon end. So with the exception of Gerry Fitt the rest will be unemployed. According to Vincent the conference was merely a gathering of middle class people, it reminded him of the Fine Gael conference, and the main resolution which was on the police seemed irrelevant as a "fact of political life in N.I. is that a large section of the minority just won't accept the RUC as a police force and certainly won't side with it in a straight confrontation with the Provisionals."

In that time, 8 men have died here, countless others have been beaten, tortured, blinded, humiliated and degraded in every way possible. Long Kesh could not have existed for even 1 year, where it not for the connivance of the power-hungry, opportunist politicians and their continued participation in British imposed 'solutions' on this illegal 6 County statelet. Because of their unwavering support for the British system, which includes Long Kesh, we have taken the decision to bestow on them the fame and posterity which they so richly deserve by naming our cages after them. As well as using cage numbers, we ask all our friends and relatives to address our letters and cards as follows:

Cage 9 (Hume Cage), Cage 10 (Cooper Cage), Cage 11 (Currie Cage), Cage 12 (Fitt Cage), Cage 13 (Devlin Cage).

We are reserving other cage names to see who does the most to deserve them in the coming months.

DESERVING MONUMENTS

CIA CONTEMPT

While on a visit to the Twin Cities recently National Caucus Director, Sean Walsh and his associate Dr. McCafferty were repeatedly photographed by two unidentified men as they emerged from a Minneapolis restaurant. When approached by the Caucus leader they refused to identify themselves. Many people are beginning to wonder who pays for the time and money which is expended in these Keystone Kops operations.

It is believed that the primary front for the Brit propaganda and espionage machine in the States, the British 'Information' Service, (located at 845 Third Avenue, NYC) is behind the illegal capers. The CIA are known to have a cozy relationship with the Brit Secret Police. CIA agents spy on Irish subjects and Republican supporters in America while the Brit SP reciprocate by watching Americans in Britain and Ireland. The Republican Movement in America recently revealed that the Brit Information Service agents are given large amounts of money to wine and dine US reporters while passing distorted accounts of the situation in Ireland.

Incidentally, the CIA are operating in Ireland in violation of the law passed by Congress in 1974 which requires that the US President should be notified if engaged in activities, in a friendly country. The CIA have denied their presence here and is in contempt of Congress.

Coloured Christmas Cards on sale now - 15p each at the EIRE NUA Bookshop, 170a Falls Road, or THE CRAFT SHOP, 44, Parnell Square, Dublin 1.



Out of The Ashes Arose The



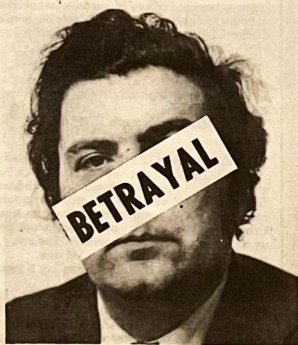
Provisionals

Christmas



Gross Betrayals of a Discredited Party

The S.D.L.P. have now emerged on the N.I. Political scene as a new Unionist party. They have demonstrated their ability to betray their own people; to betray their identity, to deny the just right of freedom of this nation from English domination. They have shown clearly their preference for the coin of the English realm; seats in a 'Protestant Parliament' to the unification of this country and its people. Acts of treachery on the part of the SDLP have been deliberately played down by the media, in a British-inspired plan to promote them as 'the leaders of the anti-Unionist minority.' This has failed, and below we present a dossier compiled on the treacherous activities of these people since the SDLP came into being in 1970.



THE MAKE-UP

The make-up of the SDLP was formed by treachery of one kind or another. Its members came from other parties of varying political affiliations — Nationalists, Independents, Republican Labour, N.I. Labour, illustrating the illegitimacy of the SDLP.

BETRAYAL:

Their first act of betrayal came with the murder in Derry of Seamus Cusack and Desmond Beattie in July 1971. This brought about the withdrawal of the SDLP from Stormont, initially precipitated by the action of the Derry members, and condemned at party level by the Belfast members, who had no other option but to back the withdrawal line. Their withdrawal from Stormont was strengthened by the onset of internment in August 1971. At this point they jumped on the bandwagon of the Civil Disobedience Campaign. Derry SDLP indicated to the strikers by leaflet that the motto would be 'RENT SPENT: NO RENTERS', the campaign would be maintained until the end of internment. The SDLP as we all know returned to Stormont with their tails between their legs, crying salt tears, stabbing in the back not only the internees, but all those people murdered by Brian Faulkner, his Unionist minions, and the Brits. So much for SDLP promises.

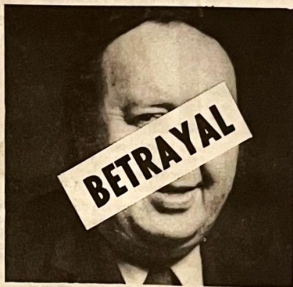
BETRAYAL:

Their next act of betrayal came when they obtained positions on the ill-fated Assembly. The deal they did for these positions took in the attempted sabotage of the Civil Disobedience Campaign. They adopted several tactics in this regard (a) in country areas they confiscated the cattle belonging to farmers to force payment of rent and rates arrears.

(b) Austin Currie SDLP (the Housing Minister) put a levy on the peoples' rents of 25p in some instances putting an overwhelming burden on thousands of people (c) we saw the manipulation of people's family allowances, pensions, dole money, supplementary allowance etc. and we know full well that SDLP back Paddy Devlin was in sole charge of this operation. He was the man who through his active collaboration with the British forced many Nationalist people onto the poverty line. It was he along with his SDLP traitors who were responsible for countless Nationalists being summoned to the British Courts. The stab in the back by the SDLP on the Nationalist people living and died was complete.

BETRAYAL:

In Derry on 30th January 1972, the British paratroopers murdered 14 men and boys; mowed them down on the streets of their own city in a carefully planned massacre. The Derry SDLP, namely Mr. John Hume stated categorically 'that a United Ireland only would suffice now.' We all know what happened to that statement; it was buried along with the coffins of the dead 3 days later.



BETRAYAL:

The implications of the other acts of treachery by the SDLP are not seemingly always understood by the Nationalist people. How else can anyone continue to support traitors who have sat down and discussed the future welfare of the Nationalist population with men like Brian Faulkner who was responsible for internment and the wholesale murder of innocent people, with William Craig, the man who engineered the 400 or so Catholic assassinations, including the foul murder of SDLP Senator Paddy Wilson.

BETRAYAL:

The RUC were ejected from our areas in 1969 when they and their loyalist murder gangs attacked the Catholic enclaves of the North, murdering men, women and children. At this time the SDLP did not exist and now this party dares to comment on the return of the RUC to these districts. At their recent party conference the rift in the SDLP was obvious on this issue; Tom Donnelly resigning. We have no doubt that the whole SDLP membership support the RUC, but being politicians and recognising the fact that people do not want the RUC back again, they realise that back-



tracking on this issue would be a death blow for the SDLP.

BETRAYAL:

POLITICAL STATUS — The SDLP have betrayed the people of the occupied area all along the line since its formation. As a further placation to Merlyn Rees and the Unionists, the SDLP have given their tacit approval to the proposed withdrawal of political status. This latest act of treachery will seal the fate of this new Unionist party. To think that men almost died on hunger strike to gain political status, and these hacks to back moves to remove it is disgusting.

CONCLUSION : We know SDLP history, we know their breed, and their gross treachery comes as no surprise, but is a fitting description of men who have betrayed the living and the dead in their quest for power.

In Mr. Cooney's reflections in the Press of 3-12-75 I noted with no small amount of cynicism, when one realises that any measure of freedom enjoyed in the South of Ireland has been due not to his cowardly party's indulgence in political by partisan attitudes but to the blood of Irishmen, both north and south who were not professionally involved in politics but in the unity of our country. To which arose successive Governments in the south have contributed nothing but persecution on these dedicated Republicans seeking no self gain but the good of all the Irish.

The South must bear in mind we Republicans in Ireland and across the seas have no intention of letting the south go on a free pass to indulge in their pittance of freedom they supposedly have gained from the dominance of Westminster.

The time is fast approaching when they must stand and be counted in the ranks of pure Nationalism. The Provisionals may be a threat to self-denial of the righteousness in Mr. Cooney's party colleagues. But not to the Irish nation as a whole.

Is Mise

GERARD MCCAULEY, Cumann Sinn Féin.

BUS TIME TABLE



Portlaoise

SATURDAYS 8.30 am

24-hour booking necessary for

Magilligan, Armagh & Portlaoise.

Long Kesh

Daily at 9 am, 9.30 am, 1.00 pm and 1.30 p.m.

Armagh

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY
SATURDAY 1.30 p.m.

Magilligan

TUESDAY & FRIDAY.
Leaves sharp at 10.00 a.m.

Buses leave 170 Falls Road

MICHAEL CROSSEY

The Annual parade to the grave of the 1st Lt. Michael Crossey Adj. Lurgan Company Ogligh na H-Eireann who was killed on active service on 23rd November 1971 was held in Derrymacash on Sunday 23rd November.

Approximately 400 people took part in the parade which was headed by a Colour Party which consisted of the National Flag, the Starry Plough, the Fianna Flag and the flags of the 4 Provinces. Behind the Colour Party marched a large contingent of uniformed members of Na Fianna Eireann. The general public were led in the procession by the local St. Mary's Accordion Band.

At the graveside wreaths were laid on behalf of the Crossey Family, Ogligh Na H-Eireann and other branches of the Republican Movement along with others from various bodies and organisations.

A lone piper played a lament to the memory of the young volunteer, who was killed in an explosion on November 23rd 1971. A decade of the Rosary was recited in Irish by Mr. G. O'Toole of the N.G.A. The oration was given by Mr. Niall Fagan joint General Secretary of Sinn Féin. Mr. Liam Haddock North Armagh C.C. Sinn Féin chaired the proceedings. St. Mary's Band conducted the ceremony with the playing of the National Anthem.

Is mise, Owen McKenna.

COONEY'S
'REFLECTIONS'