

# REPUBLICAN NEWS



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## THE IRISH REVOLUTION

**NOBODY UNDERSTANDS** the European Monetary System (EMS), but all Republicans understand the IRA's "jingle bombs" at Christmas, and the hypocrisy of condemnation by the authorities of the two imposed states in Ireland.

Everybody understands the increase in price for bread, butter and flour in the Free State this week, but nobody understands, or cares about the ruling class difficulties in Bonn or Brussels engendered by France's Prime Minister Barre.

We are Irish, and the war in the north and reshaping the domestic economy in all Ireland are our struggles, and we are a simple people who shall take our revolution from there.

All are agreed that there is suffering in Ireland. At the top of the list of our priorities is the suffering nationally dispossessed people in the Six-Counties whose material improvement, like that of the whole working-class can only be attained in a United Ireland.

### REFORMIST THREAT

This week the internal establishment forces in Ireland increased their reformist threat. Quite involuntarily in unison the leader of the liberal intelligentsia in the 26-Counties — *THE IRISH TIMES*; The Fianna Fail Government; the moral leader of Catholic opinion, Archbishop Tomas O Fiaich; and the increasingly "Irish" SDLP, issued stat-

ements with a common thread of criticism of the British:— that a solution was being inhibited by their presence.

An *IRISH TIMES* editorial of the 22nd December spoke about "questions of territorial imperialism" and that the Free State's pressure in Europe "should be measured in the degree of its achievement in ending the war between Britain and Ireland."

On the 19th December Jack Lynch's crew condemned the IRA bombing of England, but added the qualification "that a solution be achieved only through the coming together of the people of Ireland, by consent under agreed structures." Well, that's up to the people of Ireland to decide, isn't it Jack?

John Hume had used the intensified peoples' resistance to draw attention "to a problem which ought to have been dealt with politically by political leaders" (presumably by himself

and infamous tout Gerry Fitt).

What we who are engaged in the struggle should realise is that the likes of the *IRISH TIMES* appeal to Republicans, and the reformists attempting to outflank what we have developed, demands a greater rationalisation of the Republican case. 'Sympathetic', reformist appeals to revolutionaries are real threats to the Republican Movement, and as hard to overcome and defeat as attacks on the Movement.

### ORGANISED LABOUR AND 'THE LEFT'

The amorphous collection of splintered groups which make up 'The Left', and radicals within the Trade Unions all, like us, adhere to Socialism as the solution to the country's problems. For the record: we are not in competition with you. We are more serious than that.

They eternally criticise Republicanism as being the struggle of individuals unconnected with the people. Most of them complain that violence

"gets one nowhere". Contrary to these myths is the historical fact that the broad base of the poor and oppressed, and struggling Irish people do get passionate satisfaction as well as results from the violent actions carried out by their relatives. What 'The Left' mistakenly term 'military elitism' consists in fact of a broadly based sanction for sending Crossmaglen Brits to their Maker, especially in threes!

The shrewd Left argue that we are only fighting to hand over power to what a wee Falls Road woman described as the 'boor's wassie'. Nol that's what Lynch and Hume will attempt to turn the fruits of the struggle into. And the Noel Brownes will snort that Republicanism is petty boor's wassie anyway.

In the south the 'Labour parties' have speculated that the food rises could jeopardise the ongoing slavish "NATIONAL WAGES AGREEMENT". What national wages are they talking about? Will they be negotiating for the underpaid in Derry? It would be better if they called it the "STATE'S WAGE AGREEMENT" and raise workers' consciousness as to who's on the make!

Despite the faults of the Left on the national question we have

a deplorable record ourselves when it comes to raising our voices inside the Unions, and we recognise this and hope to overcome it.

### BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND LOYALISM

This country was partitioned because Republicans suffered defeat at the hands of Free Staters armed by the Brits. The attitudes inaugurated then have become permanent to whoever inherits 26-County governments: That is attitudes towards Loyalty and compromise on Irish sovereignty. The concept of Loyalty we have to politically clarify, often being projected ourselves as conciliatory (which we are not) towards these aspiring fascists.

The British Government hypocrites tell the world, and its own people, that the British Army is in Ireland in a peace-keeping role, "keeping two religious communities apart."

However, about four fifths of the areas they are stationed in and repress haven't got a "religious problem". What argument (other than political imperialism) does the British Army have for being in Crossmaglen? Belfast's Fort Monagh, Silver City and Fort Pegasus are British bases in the heart of Republican areas with no other function other than to keep down militant Paddies!

As our long struggle continues the British Government will be forced into conceding that the issue is for them a strategic one, and that locally they are here in support of Loyalty. They support a sect against the rights of a nation, and the national right of the Irish people to self-determination is conditional upon and subordinate to British Government approval.

In 1979 Irish Republicans who have fought for Irish independence must make the case for the Irish Revolution and serve the economically oppressed, as they have served the nationally dispossessed in the Six-Counties.

In support of that thinking will be a united paper — the joint circulation of *AN PHOBLAUGHT* and *REPUBLICAN NEWS* at 31,000 weekly, far exceeds any other political paper in Ireland!



Molesworth Street, Cookstown, blasted by a 300 lb car bomb at two minutes to 1979. (see War News, page 3)



THE WIND howled mournfully and swept across the brilliance of a thousand lights illuminated the surrounding sky, while from the outer darkness the heavy rain came hurtling down in sheets of silver crashing upon the black tarmac surface, sending a million fairy like figures jiggling and leaping in a frenzy of movement.

A thousand miles of grey barbed wire wavered and shook in protest as the wind weaved and attacked it relentlessly. An unlocked gate clanged and the panic-stricken barks of a distant guard dog hugged the wind and were carried into the night.

Then, as if the Good Lord snapped his fingers, a silence fell. The wind was tamed and the fairies clung to the grey wire like a multitude of sparkling pearls. The ensuing calm and sudden hush was eerie until disturbed by a moan from the unlocked gate and the sharp piercing cries of the unseen night travellers, the snipe and curlew.

The pools of silver rain glimmered as the passing night settled to recuperate from its raging ordeal and I gazed at a distant star to dream in the newly born tranquility, as the cold dampness of the December evening descended.

My thoughts were of my home and family, my wife and son; I tried to visualise the fading faces of my mother and father whom I have not seen for a long time, whom I fear I will not see again. Then came an old companion of mine — depression! It tore at my heart and engulfed me with its unseen shroud of misery. The more I thought of home and family, the deeper I plunged into its darkest depths.

The smile, the soft warm tender smile of my wife kept looming up out of the

# A THOUGHT IN THE NIGHT

By **Marcella  
H-BLOCK**



darkness in front of me and I heard her plaintive gentle voice: "I miss you and I love you, come home". And my son lay sleeping like an angel, innocent and unaware of his mother's hardship and loneliness, with no father to tuck him into bed, to love or emulate as he grew and he sighed as only an innocent sighs and rolled over in his dreamy sleep. Then came the faces of my family, my sisters and brother, growing up in

my absence and I knew just how much I loved them and how I longed to share this short life with them and my poor mother.

Lord, my poor tortured mother, grey and marked with a lifetime of worry and hardship that only she knew the entirety and toll of and I said: "I'm sorry that you have suffered through my sufferings mother" and as ever she replied: "Don't be humble,

you're my son and I'll always stand by you". My father, quiet as always in his own way, stood beside her, "take heart son", he said "take heart".

The sky began to grey as the dawn threatened and the birds awoke to proclaim the existence of life and nature. In the outer corridors of silence a key jingled and footsteps approached from afar. Depression slipped away

unnoticed as tension attacked my nerves and fear fell with the dawn.

Three hundred and fifty naked bodies stirred, a million thoughts and dreams fled and a nightmare descended as the sun shone clear. Another day began, the footsteps grew louder and louder and a voice said: "Get up you bastards"; I braced myself and thought: "Oh for the darkness of a stormy night."

## SINN FEIN WELCOMES ALL SUPPORT

The Republican Movement has clarified its policy on groups engaging in all and any type of solidarity action in Britain.

A statement issued from Sinn Fein Headquarters, Dublin points out that:

"Sinn Fein welcomes support from groups based in Britain for its policy of demanding a British withdrawal from Ireland.

"We also welcome sup-

port for our campaign on behalf of Republican prisoners, particularly those in jail in England and in the Six Counties.

"While welcoming such support we wish to emphasise that we are independent in making our decisions. NO PARTICULAR MOVEMENT OR GROUP has any monopoly of support for us and we will not be dictated to by any group."



**IRISH CIVIL RIGHTS ASSOCIATION  
MARCH**  
from ST. STEPHEN'S GREEN, DUBLIN  
to G. P. O.

Saturday, 20th January, 2.30 p.m.

Prominent Speakers

ALL BANNERS WELCOME

SUPPORT THE PRISONERS

## WESTPORT

H-Block support  
comes from the centre  
of Westport.

## THANKS!

The H-Block Information Centre wishes to acknowledge the following donations from Australia.

Eddy Boardman, Wharf St.,  
Brisbane — £3.

D.H. Foran, Glenariffe,  
Gillanda, N.S.W. — £6.00.



In supplied statements the Irish Republican Army claimed responsibility for the following operations:

## Tuesday December 19 Belfast

Five RUC men were injured, one critically, when a booby trap car bomb exploded as the RUC men approached it. The car was placed alongside a factory wall in Forfar Street, off the Springfield Road.

The IRA in their statement claiming responsibility said:

"We would clearly point out that in this attack all possible precautions were taken to ensure that no civilians would be injured. Despite reports to the contrary the five injured were in fact R.U.C. personnel.

"The Belfast Brigade would re-emphasize previous warnings to civilians that they MUST stay clear of enemy personnel. The attacks of the past few days will continue and for that reason civilians MUST be alert at ALL times."

The IRA then switched their attacks to North Belfast where in a carefully planned attack a sniper shot dead a British soldier and injured another.

The IRA lured the Brits into the ambush by using a 'tip-off' that the Brits would find guns and maps in a house in Baltic Avenue off Antrim Road. When the Brits arrived the IRA sniper fired a single shot instantly killing the Brit, a Corporal in the Kings Own Borderers, and injuring another Brit with the same bullet.

## Armagh

Three bombs were planted in Derramore House, Bessbrook, one bomb exploded causing serious damage. It was at this house that the 'Act of Union' was enforced by Britain upon Ireland in 1801.

**Wednesday December 20**  
In a precisely co-ordinated bombing offensive six hotels, four in County Tyrone, one in County Armagh and another in County Down were bombed

# WAR NEWS

## Tyrone

The Knock-na-Moe Castle Hotel in Omagh was reduced to rubble after several bombs exploded inside it.

In Dungannon the Inn on the Park was destroyed by a raging fire which followed two explosions.

Corr's Hotel on the shores of Lough Neagh was the next target. Several bombs were left in the hotel; when they exploded they caused considerable damage.

The Altnore Hotel was also badly damaged following a fire.

## County Down

Four bombs were planted in the Ardmore Hotel, often used by off-duty Brits and by RUC Special Branch for meeting touts.

## County Armagh

A section of the Seagoe Hotel, near Portadown, was extensively damaged after two bombs exploded in the foyer.

## Thursday December 21 Crossmaglen

In a brilliant and daring attack the IRA killed three members of a four man foot patrol, of the Grenadier Guards as they walked down Newry Street.

The Brits who were patrolling along both sides of the street were attacked when the IRA active service unit using a red 'post-office type' van, flung open the back doors and opened fire with an M60 machine gun.

The three Brits fell to the ground, fatally injured. The IRA Volunteers returned uninjured safely to base, despite coming under enemy fire.

The Brit occupation forces attempting to regain some credibility in the face of a shattering blow to their morale issued a statement

claiming they were mounting a major Brit/RUC combined operation in search of the "gunmen". But in actual fact, an on-the-spot eyewitness account by an 'Irish Times' report, claimed that within one hour of the shooting neither a Brit nor an RUC man was to be seen in Crossmaglen or between Crossmaglen and the border.

At the military funeral given to one of the dead Brits his parish priest claimed that he "gave his life for his country, justice, and in an effort to bring sanity to a mad situation."

In fact the "madness" of the situation is the sheer arrogance of the British in continuing to lay claim to six counties of Ireland, especially when they carry out their acts of plunder and murder under the banner of "justice".

In a well-publicised letter to 'The Daily Express' this same Brit's dead mother complained bitterly that Roy Mason had not sent a telegram of sympathy and she also asked publicly "Why did my Son die?"

Well, the answer is quite simple, he was on foreign soil as a member of an army of occupation and he paid the ultimate price of his mercenary trade.

## Friday December 22 Derry

An RUC man was injured when he was caught in a double bomb blast at Derry's Rugby Club. Two bombs exploded causing extensive damage to the building.

## Saturday December 23 Belfast

An IRA sniper fired a single shot at a Brit foot patrol as it entered the Henry Taggart Barracks on the Upper Springfield Road. No Brits were reported injured.

## Sunday December 24 Lurgan

Lurgan Railway Station, which had been completely rebuilt following an earlier successful bombing attack a few years ago, was destroyed by a fire when two bombs exploded inside it.

## Tuesday December 26 Derry City

A fierce fire followed two bomb explosions at a shopping complex in the Waterside area.

Both premises were extensively damaged.

## Sunday December 31 Belfast

Five bombs planted at 'Ulster Television Head-

quarters' on the Ormeau Road, exploded causing mainly blast damage. (This was not in protest against "Crossroads").

Another five bombs were planted at Gallagher's Tobacco factory in York Street. The SKF ballbearing factory on the New townards Road, suffered blast damage when a bomb exploded.

## Cookstown

At two minutes before the New Year a massive 300lb car bomb exploded in Molesworth Street in the Town Centre. The blast devastated the Bank of Ireland building and caused widespread damage to shops within a one hundred yard radius.

This was the third car bomb in Cookstown main shopping area within the last three months.

## Monday January 1, 1979 Omagh

Two bombs exploded in Moore and Smith furniture store on the Camalough Road. The building was completely destroyed.

## Stewartstown

A bomb exploded at the town's Ulster Bank causing considerable damage to the building.

## Dungannon

A bomb and a hoax bomb were planted at the Government's Housing Executive Offices.

## Derry

Four of five bombs exploded at Foyle Road Shopping Complex causing extensive damage to several shops.

The scene in Forfar Street, Belfast, shortly after the booby-trap car bomb exploded injuring five RUC men, one critically on December 19.



Torchlight procession on the Falls Road, Belfast.

## Torch light procession, Belfast

A section of the 1,500 strong crowd marching on Christmas Eve into Belfast's City Centre. Hundreds of people carried lighted torches and chanted anti-Brit slogans along the 1½ mile route.

Although the Brits/RUC blocked the march from entering the Town Centre the turnout and militancy of the crowd produced a very good public meeting.

Before the meeting began the crowd sang the Soldiers Song and three cheers were given for the 'heroic men on the blanket and women on protest in Armagh Gaol'.

There were speakers from Sinn Fein, Central RAC, TUCAR and IRSP. Closing the meeting the chairwoman urged the crowd to continue to support demonstrations organised in defence of political status.



# Carve their names with pride

Evenin' all.

Well, your old chum the Brigadier's cup runneth over these days. For months I've been trying to get that gutless wretch the DPP to let me release the names of some of Ulster's greatest sectarian murderers in the security forces. I kept pointing out that they were only the tip of the iceberg but, spineless lout that he is, he persisted in claiming that it would be bad for morale! Nonsense! There's nothing like blowing our own trumpets, I say! Anyway, I've at last persuaded him to let me print in my roll of dishonour the names of some of the finest. So, here they are:-

First of all, the grocer killers, Sgt. John Oliver Weir, (28) of Meeting St, Maghersfeld; and, our old friend, PC William John McCaughy (27) of Woodlane, Lurgan. McCaughy, of course, with Sgt. James Gary Armstrong (24) of Rosemount Park, Lurgan, was the one who kidnapped the loony RAF chaplain priest, Hugh Murphy last June. But lets not forget RUCR Bobby McClure and his RUC mate who are accused of attempted murder and bombing—credit where credit is due!

Several people, notably, 'Be-wildered of Thiepvall' have written to me asking why last year I was apparently obsessed with the very lovely Lady Mayor (she has appointed a ladyfriend of hers as Mayoress.) Elsie Kelsey. Now, all can be revealed, for Elsie and her drunken mate John Taylor are the key to the whole woodpile.

If Willie John McCaughy, who was Taylor's bodyguard at the time, hadn't got drunk and tried to nick Elsie's table he wouldn't have accused Taylor of being a drunk and a liar. If he hadn't have done that Taylor wouldn't have got him suspended from the force and he wouldn't have started to hang out with the Lurgan UVF, committing the odd robbery and then, remorsefully, each week going to Paisley's church to atone.

If he hadn't gone there he'd never have had the scatterbrained notion to kidnap the sky pilot and have roped in old RUC pals to help him. Even all this could and would have been hushed up, but for the fact that some weeks ago, under the influence of hi-jacked UVF liquor he started to beat his wife about and, in revenge, she started to tell all the neighbours what

Willie John had been up to. Too many people got to know and the RUC reluctantly had to lift him.

Alas, he couldn't keep his mouth shut and started blabbing about other 'bad apples'. As a result, several fine officers are under arrest and several more have had to skip the country.

Anyway, although it's been a great month for the RUC roll of honour, let's not forget the Army.

We have the two (at least) members of the Argyls due to be charged with bayonetting to death the civil rights workers in Fermanagh.

We have the ten thieving KOSBs from the Grand Central and we have the touching case of the ex-Para turned SAS who's been left legless after his patrol was shot up in Oman in the Persian Gulf. Alas, he's not to get any compo because her Maj-

## By the Brigadier



esty's government have always denied that they do hire out SAS men as mercenaries to the rather nasty old Sheikhs.

But it's an object lesson to us all! If he'd stayed here and bayoneted Paddies he'd be living in the lap of luxury now. Not so, alas, the fate of Danger Man. DM, in case you didn't know, was L-Cpl Maurice Taylor. He was Recruited of the Year when he joined the Scots Guards in 1973, and served over here where hostile natives actually had the temerity to occasion him stained trousers on several occasions. Despite that, he claimed that life in the BA was 'too tame' and so he bought himself out and went off to be a more highly paid mercenary in Rhodesia—or Zimbabwe as I believe the locals call it.

Anyway, the natives turned out to be hostile there too, and one of them was ungrateful enough to blow Maurice's head off. Another 'home in a box' job, I'm afraid. It's Crossmaglen all over again!

Finally, in this, my New Years Honours list, a small men-

tion for Sgt. William Robert Wylie—thought I'd forgotten you Willie!—don't worry, the Brigadier never sleeps. You may have only got a £30 fine for assault, small beer compared with some of this month's heroes, but your still one of my boys.

A happy and criminal new year to youse all,  
From your C/O,

## - The Brigadier

P.S. And if I may start the year with a little joke—Roy Mason.

FOR THE second time within less than a year assassins have attempted to kill leading Belfast Republican Kevin Hannaway.

The latest murder bid happened on Thursday, December 21st, outside the Hannaways home in Benares Street, Belfast; the attack occurred just two days after Kevin Hannaway was released from Gough RUC Barracks in Armagh City where he had been held for five days.

Fortunately, owing to Kevin Hannaway's vigilance the murder-bid totally failed.

During the first murder-bid last February both Kevin and his baby son were shot and injured when a hooded gunman burst into their home.

### BOOBY-TRAP

This time the assassins hid a booby-trap bomb under the family's motor car parked outside their home.

Kevin discovered the bob as he was about to get into the car. Whilst crossing the street he noticed a thin piece of wire hanging below the undercarriage of the car; in fact two thin wires were attached to an oblong box strapped under the car.

Immediately Kevin alerted his family and neighbours.

Shortly after people had moved out of their houses the Brits and RUC came on the scene. The Brits became very

aggressive; one Brit patrol tried to force the people to leave the street entirely. But the people strongly objected stating they would remain at a safe distance to watch their homes to ensure the Brits didn't loot them. Several hours later after demolishing the car the Brits robot defused the bomb.

### LUCKY ESCAPE

On the day, it was sheer good fortune that Kevin's wife Lillian, and their children were not killed by the bomb. It was only owing to an impending visit from the family doctor that Lillian did not get into the car

with the children to drive them to school. So a tragedy was averted, first by chance and then by Kevin's alertness.

As it is the Hannaway's lives are now seriously disrupted as Kevin no longer feels it safe to live at home.

Responsibility for this latest attack on Kevin Hannaway and his family points firmly to the 'dirty tricks' department of either the Brits or RUC. As we stated when reporting on the first attack on Kevin, 'Mason's plan to smash the Republican resistance by using mass arrests, goading and blatant torture have failed'. We then speculated that the Brits were about to embark

on a 'political assassination campaign' against Republicans in an attempt to demoralise them. Since then the Brits using undercover squads at 'stake-outs' have murdered ten people including seven Republicans, through their 'shoot-to-kill' policy.

### BRIT FAILURE

This Brit murder policy has also failed. This past year has witnessed Republican militancy, especially IRA operations, intensify and Roy Mason's predictions of victory have crumbled to dust.

To lift their flagging morale

in the face of IRA's successes in the week before Christmas the Brits needed to 'score' against the Republican Movement and what better way to do this than to strike at a leading Republican figure.

The murder bid having failed, the Brits, in keeping with their normal 'black' propaganda tactics, told Kevin Hannaway that the design of the bomb resembled ones which the 'official IRA' planted, no doubt naively hoping these remarks would fan the flames of a feud.

### BRITS SPOTTED

But the true finger of responsibility points elsewhere: Just two weeks prior to the bomb attack people in Benares Street disturbed a Brit patrol shortly after midnight whilst tampering with the Hannaway's car. The Brits explained their actions by claiming they were searching for "stolen-cars"!

### RUC INVOLVEMENT

Although this would suggest a guilty Brit hand, given the recent charging of RUC men with murder and attempted murder of members of the Nationalist community, the possibility of a 'political assassination' squad made up purely of RUC men has become all the more feasible.

Whichever force is responsible for this latest attack it underlines the importance of all Republicans making safe their movements, as further assassination attempts can be expected.



Centre spread story from "Republican News", Saturday, 11th February, 1978.

# ASSASSINS FAIL AGAIN

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# OPERATION SANTA, WHITE OPEL AND THE BALD EAGLE

THE pre-Christmas IRA bombing of commercial targets in six English cities was a resounding political and military success.

Politically it put British occupation of Ireland back in to the centre of English politics with corresponding massive increase of domestic English media coverage of events in the North of Ireland.

Militarily it was a huge success with no Republican volunteers captured, few bombs defused and only minor civilian injuries.

Repeated British claims of the imminent defeat of the IRA were once again shown up as nonsense as the IRA proved its ability to bomb the British successfully in the three countries (England, Ireland and Germany).

The Brit response was to panic for the Brit was being hit where it hurt. The English police were forced to mount several large-scale face-saving operations, so embarrassed were they by their total inability to counter-act the IRA's latest bombing offensive.

## OPERATION SANTA

The London police mounted a hugely publicised major operation code-named 'Operation Santa'. More than two thousand uniformed men and hundreds of plain clothes men were drafted into London's West End shopping centre and thousands of posters warning against bombs were pasted up in the streets.

A large area of Central London was ringed by police who were meant to be stopping and searching anyone who looked "suspicious" (small men with green horns, perhaps?). Apparently as a punishment for their previous slackness all police leave was cancelled and they all had to work 12-hour shifts.

The British army were eager not to be left out of this Christmas week pantomime; so in another hugely publicised operation more than sixty troops, wearing battle dress and carrying automatic rifles, descended on London's Heathrow Airport in a convoy of Scorpion tanks, and Saracen armoured personnel carriers. Two Scorpions patrolled the central passenger area whilst Brit foot-patrols mounted a guard on the car parks. Other mobile Brit patrols took up prominent positions on the airport's perimeter road.

At Stranraer harbour on the evening after the early Sunday morning bombings, 22 'potential bombers' (ie. Northern Irish Catholics) travelling home on

the ferry were arrested by the Scottish police under the 'Prevention of Terrorism Act'. Needless to say, no charges resulted!

Meanwhile down in the West of England, the Bristol police were busy demonstrating their profound understanding of the situation. They raided three houses belonging to members of the Sticks' British front organisation, Clann na Eireann, and "documents" were reportedly taken away. The comments of the Bristol police, upon discovering that the organisation that they had raided publicly condemns the IRA in as strong terms as they themselves, were not published.

## THE WHITE OPEL

Over several of these pre-Christmas days, at a time when the media usually finds news difficult to conjure up, great entertainment was provided for the great British public, by the police being in hot pursuit of a white Opel Kadett. This car had supposedly been used by the IRA active service unit which bombed London. Like 'Paddies' in the 'Loyalist News' cartoon strips, the volunteers then supposedly drove around England and Scotland for several days, blind and deaf to all media broadcasts of their registration number.

Many sightings of the white Opel were reported. The most spectacular sighting came from a Detective Constable in Surrey who gave a superb TV performance in which he went dramatically through the motions of how he had given heroic chase only to be fired at by a fiend with a shot-gun. The sleepy town of Farnham was sealed off by police road-blocks and again the British army got into the act

when one of their helicopters joined in the game of hide-and-seek.

The action next switched to Motherwell in Scotland with the police panicking again and mounting road-blocks all over the place.

By this time, the hundreds (if not thousands) of motorists who drive white Opels in Britain were well-advised to stay at home, otherwise they risked being shot dead on sight.

## THE BALD EAGLE

Apart from the saga of the elusive white Opel the star turn of all these face-saving operations was launched by Scotland Yard on the afternoon after the early Monday morning bombings in London. At a press briefing to 'trusted' journalists the

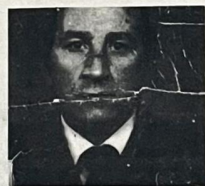
man Frederick Scappaticci as similarly "wanted".

Even the supposedly more sober 'Daily Telegraph' got in on the act. It explained that "a search was going on countrywide to trace at least two members of the Provisional IRA". It went on: "One of them is known as the Bald Eagle, a nickname he earned during operations in the Catholic Andersonstown area of Belfast".

Meanwhile that very same day 42-year-old Cornelius McHugh (the Bald Eagle) was in Belfast, signing at the bureau as usual on a Wednesday, and later that day he gave an interview to UTV.

He described how over the pre-Christmas period he had been living normally at home, decorating his house, as he does every Christmas. Only a week or so previous he had been P-checked by a Belfast patrol.

'The Sun' leads the witch-hunt.



Conn McHugh, the "Bald Eagle", used as a red herring by Scotland Yard.

'Anti-Terror Squad' announced that they knew the identities of the IRA men who had masterminded the bombings and that descriptions had been circulated to all police forces nationwide.

The gutter-press of Fleet Street showed little restraint the next morning.

The staunch upholder of the naked truth 'The Sun' blazed the trail with a screaming headline 'FIND BALD EAGLE!', beneath which they announced 'A huge hunt was on last night for a fanatical Irishman believed to be masterminding the Christmas terror bomb blitz on English cities'.

'The Daily Mail' explained without reservation: "Bald Eagle is a Provo bomb expert, who has vanished from Belfast... He gained his nickname from his bald head which he invariably disguises with different wigs".

Next day 'The Daily Mail' went one step further. They named the Bald Eagle, whom they described as one of "the most wanted men in Britain" as Cornelius McHugh. (They also named equally-innocent Belfast

He declared that far from being a 'wanted man', neither the Brits nor RUC had been anywhere near his house looking for him.

Interviewed a week ago by a 'Republican News' reporter Conn McHugh confirmed that since then neither the Brits nor RUC had made any effort to contact him. He also pointed out to us that there is nothing more sinister about his bald head than the obvious dislike his hair has for staying with him; and he certainly never wears a wig.

He also pointed out that he had never been to England and now would never be going.

He also told us he had been sitting at home on that Monday afternoon when the first 'Downtown Radio' news reports came through that Scotland Yard were hunting the 'Bald Eagle'.

At first he had been not only surprised but amused. But these feelings rapidly turned to disgust followed by fear. Fear that he was being set-up as a target for any trigger-happy Brit walking down the street, and as a prime target for SAS and loyalist assassination gangs.

In fact later the same evening as the UTV interview, three fellows came into his street and asked at the wrong door for him. They were very nervous and appeared to be armed. After a few minutes, when fortunately they had no luck in locating him, they disappeared rapidly in a car into the dark.

Conn McHugh is intending to take legal action against each of the newspapers that named him — thus putting his life in danger. He thinks the whole story arose because Scotland Yard needed something for their English public, they needed something to get themselves off the hook; and he was a convenient former intern-tee to act as a 'fall guy'.

The role of the English press in the supposed hunt for the Bald Eagle is typically disgusting, with them acting as straight mouth-pieces for the desperate men of Scotland Yard. The least bit of journalistic integrity in Belfast would have put them straight in contact with Conn McHugh at the very time that they were dubbing him as one of the most wanted men in Britain.

As it was the 'Bald Eagle' turned out to be an easily exposable red herring specially designed to placate the gullible English public along with a whole series of other well-advertised publicity stunts.

## 16-year-old removes Brit tank

IN DECEMBER a 16-year-old Essex boy appeared in court in England charged with taking away a £20,000 Brit tank 'without consent'. He was found 'guilty' and ordered to be supervised by the probation service for two years.

The boy admitted going on a joy-ride in the tank on the top secret 'Ministry of Defence' establishment at Shoeburyness in August. The boy said ("I had it for about three days on and off. I kept hiding it in the marshes so nobody could find it").

The boy's father pointed out: "This area is supposed to be a top security defence place and I think the army have got to take some of the blame for what happened".

With Brit 'security' as bad as this no wonder Scotland Yard are panicking in the face of a renewed I.R.A. bombing campaign in England.



Aftermath of I.R.A. car bomb in High Holborn, London.

Brits and London police carrying out publicity display at Heathrow Airport.





# THE U.D.R. A CHRONICLE OF MURDER

BY LATE 1969 with the explosive situation in the Six Counties on the boil, the Brits were faced with open revolt. In order to keep their stranglehold they needed to placate the pro-British elements who had lost their sectarian force, the B-Specials. The Hunt Report had recommended their disbandment and replacement by a 'more acceptable' force. And so the UDR was born out of the B-men.

This window dressing by the Brits did little to make this force any more acceptable to the Nationalist Community. In fact the UDR quickly became regarded as the 'B'-men under a different name. In some areas of the Six Counties whole companies of the disbanded B-men just changed their uniforms for a UDR uniform. The UDR remained a Loyalist force, (98% protestant) only better armed and better organised than its predecessor.

Over the years sectarian outrages committed by UDR members both on and off duty, outrages which include shootings, and bombings, have not received the press coverage they should have, given the fact that the UDR is 'officially' portrayed as a 'peace-keeping' force.

In May, 1978 an ex-UDR (they become 'ex' when they get caught) got ten years for his part in the 1975 raid on the armoury of Magherafelt UDR camp — in which 214 high velocity British army issue weapons plus 9,500 rounds were stolen. Four others on the same charge were UDA members and one was also convicted of passing on information about the UDR. The four faced other charges dating back to 1971 and proceedings threw light on the activities of the UDA in South Derry. The killing of Samuel Millar in January 1976 clearly arose from UDR men's connections with the UDA/UVF as did the murder of John Bolton in October 1975.

## UDR 5 BATT.

What blew the lid on the UDR in 5th Battalion was the confession of a former Loyalist who emigrated, 'found God' in Birmingham and spilled the beans to English police. This man had accompanied Robert Davis, a full-time UDR member, when Davis murdered 71 year old farmer Sam Millar on 14 January 1976.

Millar's misfortune was that he had seen the faces of loyalists involved in an armed robbery. He became chief prosecution witness in the trial and when Davis visited the old man to 'persuade' him to change his testimony and learned that he was sticking to his story, Davis hit him over the head with an iron bar. Davis and his accomplice threw the body into the car boot but as Millar was still alive and groaning, Davis again struck him over the head.

To understand the mentality of this particular UDR member it is perhaps interesting to note that later while on remand in jail Davis boasted that must about 'beating Millars head in' that a young cell mate was moved away from him at his own request.)

While Davis and his friend buried Millar they were spotted, which prompted a search. As UDR members, Davis and friend joined in. They drove a UDR landrover to the spot, dug up the body, dressed it in a UDR uniform, propped it up in the front seat between them and drove through two R.U.C. checkpoints en route to a new dumping ground!

There were no develop-

Since the Ulster Defence Regiment (U.D.R.) was set up in 1970 to replace the overtly sectarian B-Specials it has been responsible for some of the most gruesome sectarian killings.

Approximately 100 members of the British army regiment have been convicted of offences including murder, attempted murder and gun stealing.

Dual membership of the UDR and UVF or UDA is so common that out of a cage full of Loyalists in Long Kesh in 1976, 75% of them had served in the UDR. They were all named, and their rank given in a copy of the U.V.F. newsheet *Combat* as an example of the UVF's efficiency in infiltrating the UDR!

Over the last number of years numerous claims have been made that certain UDR men were passing intelligence files on Republicans over to the UVF.

The denials by the Brits that this sort of activity would take place rings hollow when one considers the chequered history of this sectarian force, and their comrades-in-arms the R.U.C.

The recent charging of full-time UDR men with murder, attempted murder and kidnapping further underlines the sectarian monster the British Government props up in the occupied Six Counties by their arming of both the RUC and UDR.

Below our correspondent Sean Greene recounts some of the more notable outrages carried out by the UDR.

ments in the hunt for Millar until Scotland Yard police flew to the Six Counties to trace the body. The English police had already provided the full details of the confession of Davis's accomplice to the RUC who had earlier refused to act on it. Under the watchful eye of their masters the RUC dutifully located Millar's body. Davis was convicted for Millars Murder and was also convicted of armed robbery and theft while a full-time member of the UDR.

## ARMOURY RAID

Also in May 1978 the court case came up of Robert Nelson of 5 UDR. He eventually got 10 years for a long list of sectarian activities from 1971 including the infamous UDR Magherafelt armoury raid in 1975. But 19 others, most of them 5 UDR members, also believed to

have been involved in the armoury raid escaped without charge — including some of the UDR men who were in the search team that found the arms after an 'anonymous tip-off'!

## ANOTHER MURDER

During this arms raid the raiders walked into a supposedly heavily guarded installation and loaded what they could lift. There was no opposition and doubtless the camps very own part time UDR were involved in the raid.

A further activity of 5 UDR was another murder — this time of a loyalist John Bolton. He knew too much. He was about to reveal that drugs and medical supplies were being stolen on a large scale from the Mid-Ulster Hospital where he worked. He suspected the UVF to be responsible, but he voiced his suspicions in the wrong circles. On 2nd Oct-

ober, 1975 he was last seen alive in the company of a UDR man in a pub.

He remained missing for two years until on 1 November, 1977 when his body was found slumped in his car at the bottom of the River Bann. This stretch of water had been thoroughly dragged after his disappearance, but there was nothing there.

Bolton and his car, it transpires, were originally dumped in the same slurry pit in which the stolen UDR arms were found 3 months earlier. It was only later that the car with the body was pushed into the Bann. At Bolton's inquest, the RUC covered up and made no mention of the fact that traces of slurry were found in the car engine. It would be safe to assume that members of 5 UDR killed Bolton.

On at least one occasion they have silenced one of



Members of the three arms of 'British Law and Orange Order' (Brits, RUC, UDR) mingle together for propaganda purposes.

their own men. In 1972, a UDR named Porters was attacked near Maghera. A UDR put about 100 men on the scene and the UDR was later killed from Castle. Retaliation, the were not ind. ently Porters favour with chums, and kill

These don't from within R isolated. In the journal 'Hia' some 80 UDR members loyalist viol — against. Cabs. involved mur murder, caus arms posses, robbery anas mention a fe

The mo n sectarian murcar by the UDR th Showband rac UDR patrol, who blew nse during the ak two later cotte murders were members of U was a sergeant and their British uniforms fine sectarian assa were also U Other UDR t found guilty at to kill Catho by up Catholic as, churches and bomb attack in the 26 Cou

Two of members vicr crimes in the area which huc murders an robbery and charges were ers of 9 UDR In one c was revealed



Below we print a slightly shortened version of a speech delivered by a leading member of Belfast Sinn Féin to the youth conference organised in Andersonstown by Belfast Sinn Féin on December 17th.

# 'You are in a position to lead'

TEN YEARS ago when I was fifteen years old, I attended Glen Road C.B.S. School.

There were no people's taxis then, and living down the Falls Road I had to use the Corporation buses to travel back and forward to school. One day the Corporation raised the fares to about eight pence (about 3½ new pence), a raise which applied to old age pensioners as well. So I got involved, together with others from school, in leafletting the buses asking the pensioners to pay the old fare and appealing to the bus conductors not to enforce the new rise.

It was nice and chivalrous and we even thought ourselves very revolutionary!!!

The climax of the agitation was a protest rally outside the City Hall.

We gathered outside the door chanting "Cut the fares, Cut the fares" and inside a few minutes we were surrounded by RUC men who gave us a few minutes to disperse.

Things were really going well I was hoping they would take my name and make me famous or something.

But instead they drew batons and got stuck into us. One gorilla took a charge at me screaming "Get back to the Falls you long haired Fenian bastard."

My romantic dream of peaceful, student protest was shattered. And I can tell you WHEN I WENT TO THE CITY HALL I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT A FENIAN WAS, BUT I CAME AWAY KNOWING!

The reason why I relate that incident is because it introduced me to politics, although not Republicanism or Sinn Féin. That was to come later when I saw through the nature of the Six-County State.

But it's by such incidents, such conflicts, however minor, with the State, that we come to learn about and understand ourselves. For some of you that incident could have been the foreign Brit putting you up against a wall in your own streets. What is he doing in your street, instead of, for example, on the Malone Road or in Trafalgar Square? The answer calls into political question the Brits in Ireland, our standard of living and our standard of dying.

To some people the trouble began in 1968 and got worse. And the rest is too complicated to really fathom. But to Republicans it is all part of the struggle for Ireland's freedom since Britain first occupied us in 1969/116911.

In the past 200 years Irish

Resistance has been called Republicanism, after the '98 Rebellion when Wolfe Tone adopted the Republican philosophy. Republicans have fought and continued to fight since then to control their own destiny, their social and economic conditions. There was resort to arms in 1798, 1803, the Young Irelanders in 1848, the Fenians in the 1860's, the Invincibles in the '80's, which included an English bombing campaign, and then the 1916 rebellion which eventually mobilised the Irish People into action. Pearse and Connolly lifted the people off their knees and in all-Ireland election in December 1918 Sinn Féin won 78% of the vote — the Irish people stated that they wanted the Republic.

The Democratic wishes of the Irish people were ignored, the Brits refused our grandparents the Republic and instead they waged war against which the IRA fought heroically.

As I said Pearse and Connolly lifted the people off their knees, but the deliberate partition of Ireland put the people on their backs from which they have never fully recovered.

We in Sinn Féin believe that we have something to offer the people. But we are revolutionaries and not reformists. We do not believe that the occupied Six-Counties, can be made into a democratic society which can yield to the people — and the different sections of the people, workers, women the youth — full rights or utilisation of their full potential.

We are cursed with the presence of uniformed gunmen on our streets on behalf of the most hypocritical of foreign governments. The best years of hundreds of our young peoples' lives are being spent up in the hell-hole of H-Block. Many have been killed in the troubles. A high percentage from areas such

as Ballymurphy and Turf Lodge, experience unemployment and a measly dole, attached to which, after all these years of unemployment, there is still a stigma. Never feel ashamed of going to the Buro. Feel angry but not ashamed! For consider this: the Brits over centuries have taken more money out of this country, stole our land and wealth, than they could ever pay back if they gave us £100 pound a week on the dole for the next hundred years. We are only taking back what is ours.

As revolutionary socialists what we propose, what we offer, is a strategy for rectifying our bleak future. Firstly, we believe that these problems can be solved by having a socialist state. A state in which all are treated equally and one in which wealth is evenly divided. In a socialist republic the economy would be geared to the needs of the people so that we have full employment and proper health and social services.

Since we are engaged in a liberation struggle and our major consideration is to change the governments in Ireland it is impossible to plan strictly the social and economic programmes under present structure of government.

What we do lay down are a number of socialist principles: The wealth of Ireland belongs to the people of Ireland and is theirs to be exploited and developed in their interests. To ensure justice for all, the means of production, distribution and exchange must be controlled by the people and administered democratically.

Finance, insurance and all key industries must be brought under public control; the principal agents of major developments in industry agriculture and fisheries must be the federal and Provincial governments.

Our federal proposals are coming under closer scrutiny from all sections of the movement, and there is a real danger of these proposals which are in essence the devolution of power to local democratic bodies becoming confused with an imperialist federal settlement of 6 and 26 county governments or of an independent six counties. None of these settlements are compatible with Republican philosophy, and in fact more and more Republicans see the safeguard as being that **FEDERALISM MUST COME AFTER A UNITED IRELAND AND NOT BEFORE IT, IF IT IS TO HAVE SOCIALIST CONTENT.**

Republicans believe that it is idle and futile to make major social and economic demands of the administration in the

Six-Counties. That is why we disagree with the approach of the misnamed Republican Clubs and other reformist groups. They believe that the State can be reformed, we believe that it can't be, and we can quote history to support our case.

The British Government isn't in the business of conceding our rightful demands. For strategic and imperialist reasons it occupies our country. And so the first step must be to revolutionise Ireland by ending British imperialist rule. The IRA is engaged in an armed struggle — to destabilise and discredit British rule in the Six-Counties. Sinn Féin are engaged in a political struggle which supports their aims.

## ADVICE CENTRES

However, that sounds as if we are just limited to being a 'Brits Out' movement. We are certainly not. There are limited gains to be made inside the Six-Counties which give us experience in street politics, and which help build up support for the overall struggle and increase the Republican base.

We are building up advice and complaints centres which need to be manned and serviced. They work directly for the people and help alleviate the minor problems until the success of the national liberation struggle takes us on to a higher plane of political struggle and better chance of success.

We help and advise people about housing repairs, gas and electricity, the law, the courts their legal rights etc. With your help we can expand on this service. The people need courageous and fresh leadership in the struggle you are in a position to lead.

## ORGANISE

Also our foreign affairs department needs young people who can speak publicly and represent the working-class people. We need young people who can help organise the unemployed into a powerful force, and demand of the trade union bureaucracy what exactly they are doing for those out of work.

Those of you with employment should make sure you are in a trade union, organising for your legitimate rights of proper pay and conditions, and speaking out on behalf of your unemployed brothers and sisters.

You have great potential. You have the ball at your feet. You have nothing to lose but your chains, which are British made.

Join us and we'll throw them off a lot quicker.

armourer Alister Lockhart stole SLR rifle barrels for the UVF to use in their weapons and then switched them round at UDR bases to avoid ballistic detection. London 'Times' reporter Robert Fisk in his book 'The Point of no Return' states that numerous items of military equipment, including scores of rifles, riot shields, and batons have disappeared from stores belonging to the UDR. His

## SEAN GREEN

conclusion was that the UDR is serving as a training ground for loyalist extremists.

## MUST BE RESISTED

The Ulster Defence Regiment remains an arm of the British army and its members instruments of the Brit war machine in occupied Ireland. At present strength it has 8,000 men and women of whom 2,500 are full-timers. They are organised into 11 battalions but with key positions still held by Brit regular army officers on secondment.

With the Brit plan of 'Ulsterisation' in full-swing regular Brit strength on the ground has been considerably cut in rural areas. The UDR has now become the back-up to the RUC when they require military assistance. This is the essence of the policy of Ulsterisation.

Make no mistake about it. The UDR will continue to be used in the same brutal manner as their predecessors the B-Specials. The RUC have made their voice heard as they were pushed to the fore in Masons games ... Castle-reagh bears witness to this. The UDR are as much a part of that war machine which has kept this country divided. As such they must continue to be resisted.





# Post Bag

## R.U.C. SACRIFICIAL LAMBS

A chara,

The charging of three R.U.C. men with murder and kidnapping, and the questioning of several others plus two Brits, proves what we in Sinn Féin have said all along — that the so-called 'security forces' have worked hand in hand with loyalist para-military bodies since the start of the present troubles.

These arrests should not, however, be seen as an attempt to clean up the Brits and R.U.C., they are merely an attempt to whitewash them. Those charged are only the sacrificial lambs being offered at the altar of respectability of the two high priests, Mason and Newman.

All over the occupied North East can be told tales of

collusion between 'security forces' and loyalists, from the civil rights marches and pogroms of '68 and '69 to the almost daily murders of Catholics in '72-'76.

Gerry Fitt has called the R.U.C. 'respectable', the Peace People called them our 'neighbourhood bobby' (with a .38 or Sterling).

We know what they are and what they stand for and we call for their complete disbandment along with that of the U.D.R. We also call for total British disengagement from Irish soil.

There are those who call for peace and an end to violence, but to them only Republicans use violence. The only way towards peace is first of all — Brits Out. It happened in India, Aden and all of Britain's colonies. It happened to America in Vietnam. It will happen here. That is the only answer, not a whitewash or a pretence of respectability.

Is mise.

— P.R.O. Julie Dougan, Cumann S.F., Portadown.

## Scottish Students Solidarity

Dear Comrades,  
Last term at Paisley College of Technology saw the formation of a branch of the United Troops Out Movement for the first time.

We have held our first public meeting (attendance 35) at which the anti-recruitment film 'Home Soldier Home' was shown.

In subsequent discussions it was agreed that a major part of our solidarity work should be around the question of status for the men 'on the blanket' in the hell blocks of Long Kesh. Concretely therefore we decided to approach the Republican Movement with a view to 'adopting' a political prisoner from H-Block. We intend to use our resources to publicise the treatment meted out in the hell blocks, and to fight the propaganda churned out by the Brit war machine.

Please reply soon as our greatest

weakness as a solidarity movement is lack of information. Revolutionary Greetings.

RAB Wilson,  
UTOM Secretary,  
Paisley College of Technology,  
Paisley,  
Renfrewshire,  
Scotland.

### EDITORS NOTE

This letter is an indication of the increasing international awareness of the inhuman conditions in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh. A reply has been sent by the H-Block Information Centre stating that the requested information will be regularly forwarded. However it is not the policy of the Republican movement to have individual prisoners adopted as all are equally worthy of concern.

## Thanks for support

Dear Editor,

May I, through your columns, present my thanks to 'Republican News', the Relatives' Action Committee, and Sinn Féin, for their messages of support in 'The Irish News' after my arrest during the Belfast Festival.

I would also like to thank all the women in A2 Wing of Armagh Prison for their kindness and moral support to me when I was held in the prison on remand. Even though many of them have suffered horrific psychological torture and been forced to sign the notorious Castleree statements, their renewed courage and

integrity (despite the petty daily harassments inflicted on them by the turnkeys of the imperial war-machine) and their ultimate faith in the 32-county socialist republic are an example to all of us. Particularly because so much of the indignity they are suffering is due to their resolute support for the men in H-Block. Long may Ireland be proud when there are such women as these.

Yours etc.,  
Margaretta D'Arcy,  
Corrandulla,  
Co. Galway.

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

The London based 'Theatre Writers Union' recently passed two motions: One in support of the demand for political status for the men in 'H' Block and the other condemning the charging of Margaretta D'Arcy, who is one of their members.

The motion regarding political status called on the British Government to "Recognise the political

nature of the conflict and "To abandon its inconsistent policy of treating Republican and Loyalist prisoners as ordinary civil criminals".

The motion concerning Margaretta D'Arcy's arrest condemned "The action of the Ulster Museum in making the protest of our member, a matter of criminal proceedings and supports her right to introduce urgent political issues into artistic debate".

## Violations of Civil Rights

In connection with recent discussion in your newspaper on other civil rights groups, we would like to reaffirm that the Irish Civil Rights Association sees the presence of British Imperialism in Ireland as the main underlying cause of violations of civil rights both in the Six and 28 County areas.

In recent weeks I.C.R.A. has been collecting statements on tape from people in Belfast and Derry on harassment, interrogation, charges, remand and H Block, and on assassinations carried out by state forces.

We have circulated human rights and Irish groups in Europe and America with whom we are in contact, and have already had publicity that we know of in a Detroit socialist paper, a large-circulation Paris daily paper, and other publications there.

We would be glad to hear from anyone with a written or taped statement about violations of civil rights which they personally experienced. (If you cannot give your name, please give details such as age, district.) Also, any overseas groups who would like a copy of the tape we have com-

## Irish Committee, Paris

Dear Comrades,

We are pleased to send you some news of the activities of the Comité Irlandais in Paris.

On 21st October we held an Irish festival in a youth club in Alfortville. About fifty people came to the film, debate and the music session.

On 16th, 17th and 18th November, we organised with the youth club of Erment-Eaubonne (30 km from Paris) three Irish days, and the activities of the club got around to the question of how the struggle in Ireland and how the people live there.

About 250 Irish stewards were served in the restaurant decorated with flags and posters. At the entrance of the restaurant, was a large room with an exhibition of photos about the struggle and the social life in Ireland. Also we held three meetings with the film "Ireland, England's Vietnam" and there were very interesting debates with the audience.

Finally, these three days ended with a session of Irish and Celtic music where fifty people have been collected for the prisoners fund.

We send you our best "amities".  
Yours in victory,  
For the Piece Ireland committee, Paris.

## Billy Reid Flute Band, Glasgow

Dear Sir,

A band has been formed in Glasgow to commemorate the Republican martyr Billy Reid.

The organisers hope that very soon they will be adding their weight to the growing storm of protest over the H-Block situation and all other facets of British mis-rule in Ireland.

The band would like to take the opportunity of thanking Mrs. Bridget Reid who kindly gave permission to form the band under the name of her murdered son and also to thank the committee of the Liam Reid Accordion Band, New Lodge Road, Belfast, for all the help and encouragement they provided.

Billy Reid Flute Band,  
Glasgow.

piled—preferably for use on radio stations or other such publicity—are asked to contact us at the address below.

Eibhlín Ní Sheidhrí  
Public Relations Officer  
Irish Civil Rights Association  
5 Blessington St.,  
Dublin 7

Statement from Sinn Féin Headquarters

## NEITHER STERLING NOR DEUTSCHMARK

SINN FEIN has always maintained that the 26 County State was financially and economically subservient to England. The link with Sterling has always meant that we import English inflation and that our interest rates move in sympathy with Bank of England rates, irrespective of the major differences in the economic needs of the two countries. We have always advocated that a free Ireland should break the Sterling link, establish a National monetary System and control the import and export of money.

Fianna Fail is now seeking to act a Republican role by supposedly breaking the link with Sterling. What is proposed, however, is a change of masters. Within the European Monetary System we would still be dominated by foreign interests, this time a group dominated by West Germany. The new system is just one more step on the road to economic and political integration in an E.E.C. dominated by the ex-colonial powers of Western Europe—a new and more sinister kind of colonialism.

Just as James Connolly and the Irish Citizen Army accepted neither King nor Kaiser, Sinn Féin accepts neither Sterling nor Deutschmark. We assert the right of our nation to freedom; the right of our workers to democratic control of the means of production, distribution and exchange; and our right to an independent and non-aligned policy in foreign affairs. The basic tenets of Irish Republicanism are still valid and no one should be misled by Jack Lynch's pseudo Republicanism.

## Monaghan local election conventions

AT a meeting held recently in Monaghan to prepare the Conventions for the selection of candidates for the Local Government Elections, Ruairi O'Bradaigh, President of Sinn Féin, referred to the recent arrests of R.U.C. men.

He stated "that some people might think that these events indicate a change of heart by the R.U.C.—this is not so. The R.U.C. is a sectarian force and will never be accepted by the Nationalist population."

Referring to Jack Lynch's declaration that the 26 counties would enter the EMS he said that "Fianna Fail is now seeking to act in a Republican role by supposedly breaking the link with sterling. What is proposed, however, is a change of masters. Within the EMS we would still be dominated by foreign interests—this time a group lorded over by West Germany".

He reminded those present that January 21st next is the 60th Anniversary of the First Dail. He said "Sinn Féin is the only political organisation which has stood by and upheld the principles of the First Dail and we rightfully claim to be their successors and we will be commemorating this historic occasion by a series of lectures and a Concert in the Round Room of the Mansion House where the First Dail sat on the 21st January 1919."

The meeting then finished by arranging the Convention for the selection of candidates for the North Monaghan and Monaghan U.D.C. areas for Sunday 7th January at 3 p.m. in the Swan Lake Hotel. The Clones area and U.D.C. Convention will take place the same evening in Clones at 8 p.m. The Carrick and Castleblaney area Conventions will be held at a later date.

## SINN FEIN A.G.M.'s

WEXFORD  
COMHAIRLE  
CEANNTAIR

COMHAIRLE  
CHUIGE  
MUMHAN

THE ANNUAL General Meeting of the Comhairle Ceannair, Wexford Region, was held in Murphy-Floods Hotel Enniscorthy on the 6 December. The meeting was presided over by the outgoing Chairman, Oliver Murray. It began with reports from outgoing Chairman, secretary P.R.O., and Treasurers.

Joe Cahill addressed the meeting and spoke on H-Block saying that no matter how hard individual members worked, it can never equal the suffering of these men. He also spoke on Local Elections, saying that many believed 100 candidates to be too many, but he personally believed there should be twice as many.

The following Officer Board was elected: Chairman—Michael Nolan, Enniscorthy. Vice-Chairman—Sean O'Arragáin, Wexford. Secretary—Philip Kelly, Wexford. Joint Treasurers—E. O'Connor, Enniscorthy, Patrick Walsh, New Ross. P.R.O.—Sean O'Duill, Enniscorthy. Education Officer—Patrick Walsh, New Ross. Organiser—Liam Cooper, Moanaghy.

A tribute was paid to outgoing Chairman, Oliver Murray who has held the office for the past five years.

THE ANNUAL General Meeting of the Comhairle Chuiige Mumhain, was held on 3rd December in the Parkway Hotel Limerick. The attendance was good, with all areas being well represented.

The President, Ruairi O'Bradaigh emphasised the importance of a concerted effort by all Sinn Féin members, so that the maximum support is given to our candidates during the forth-coming Local Elections.

Christine Ni Eilias, stressed the need for Education and pointed out that Slides and Lectures are available, to assist Local Education Officers.

The following were elected officers: Des Long, Limerick, Chairman; Sally Walsh, Limerick, Secretary; Robert Beasley, Kerry, Treasurer; Padraigh Malone, Limerick, Education Officer; John P. Connolly, Kerry, P.R.O.; Paddy Campbell, Kerry, Regional Government Officer; Tim Garvey, Kerry, Youth Officer.

Join  
Sinn Féin



ARTICLE: COURTESY OF POW BULLETIN, AN CUMANN CABHRACH, BIRMINGHAM.

# ENGLISH PRISON REPORT



## WORMWOOD SCRUBS

Gerry Mealey who has been in solitary confinement in Wormwood Scrubs since his move from Gartree following the October riots, caught his guards off-balance at the beginning of December. When in possession of an iron bar after gaining entry to one of the prison offices he completely demolished everything possible within reach before voluntarily handing the iron bar back to his guards. Gerry informed his guards

that his action (demolition job) was his way of demonstrating his 'solidarity' with those picketing outside on behalf of all Irish POWs.

## LIVERPOOL

Eddie Byrne who was moved out of Wormwood Scrubs almost four months ago to Liverpool remains in solitary confinement, he has his arm in a sling as a result of being assaulted. Eddie has been refusing visits because of conditions there and threats against him and his wife by screws.

## WINCHESTER

Ronnie McCartney incarcerated in Winchester prison continues his protest of non-cooperation with the British authorities and is still refusing visits because of restrictions placed on both him and his visitors. As a result of his continuing actions Ronnie remains in his special cell, known as 'the Strongbox'. The latest vicious act against Ronnie was the refusal to permit him to purchase from his own private

cash, Christmas cards for his family circle.

## MANCHESTER

James Bennett (Belfast) has now been moved to Manchester prison from Wormwood Scrubs where he had commenced his 'blanket' protest with Michael Murray (Dublin). James will be joining Eddie Butler (Limerick) who has now been in solitary confinement since February when moved from Leicester security unit.

## ALBANY

With James Bennett (Belfast), the other five POWs continue 'on the blanket', the four in Albany prison, Isle of Wight are Patrick Guilfoyle (Tipperary), Robert Cunningham (Tyrone), Anthony Cunningham (Belfast), and Liam Baker (Belfast), together with Michael Murray (Dublin) in Wormwood Scrubs. Their barbaric treatment has not abated. Screws are still housing out the cells, the POWs and their bedding with hot water, depriving them of their chamber-pots, and

causing undue delays in permitting toilet usage. The POW's personal possessions are still denied them, their mail restricted and delayed. They are locked in their cells 23 hours out of every 24 and are rarely given a newspaper. Mass is still refused them in the main chapel.

Other POW's in Albany are also continuing their protest of non-cooperation, which started last April when visiting and other conditions seriously worsened.

All the POWs retain their strength and determination in this struggle for their just demands and BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS.

Another year has now ended for Irish POW's in England's 'Hellholes', with their lot still generally deteriorating as in previous years.

## DURHAM JAIL PICKETED



Our picture (courtesy of North-East Photo Co-op) shows some of the couple of dozen pickets who demonstrated at the entrance to Durham Jail on 9th December.

The picket was organised by the Tyneside Irish Solidarity Campaign (I.S.C.) to express solidarity with all Irish political prisoners and particularly to draw attention to those incarcerated in Durham Jail. A recent report in the local Newcastle 'Evening Chronicle' has described

conditions in the women's wing of the jail as "very oppressive" with women drugged into a "half alive" state.

The picketers demanded the transfer to Ireland of Republican prisoners in English jails and demanded political status for all Republican prisoners. In a leaflet distributed at the picket the I.S.C. pointed out "we believe it is our duty to oppose British involvement in Northern Ireland. We totally reject

Mason's hysterical claims about terrorists and criminals. The true terrorists in Northern Ireland are the British forces of occupation, who refuse to recognise the right of all the Irish people to self-determination."

The Tyneside I.S.C. meets every Tuesday at 8 p.m. at the Bridge Hotel, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and can be contacted c/o Days of Hope Bookshop, 115 Westgate Road, Newcastle.

SUPPORT IRISH POWs  
BRITISH OUT OF IRELAND

**BLOODY SUNDAY  
MARCH, LONDON**  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

Assemble: 2.30 p.m. at  
Speakers Corner, Marble Arch

Demonstration called by Sinn Fein

## Human rights vigil in London

SIXTY PEOPLE supported a vigil held by the United Troops Out Movement in central London on December 10th, the 30th anniversary of the UN Declaration of Human Rights. Despite continuous rain, twenty people were clad only in blankets, in support of all the Irish political prisoners.

The vigil was held on King Charles Island, next to Trafalgar Square—because the Square itself remains banned to demonstrations on Ireland (unless you happen to be the 'peace people' or the Better Life for All Campaign who are popular with the British).

A huge banner carried on the vigil read: "This protest would not be taking place but for peace-loving and fair-minded people in Britain, who by their silence and indifference have contributed to the continuation and spread of British torture in Ireland."

A camera crew from BBC TV was present—but with typical Brit hypocrisy the evening news programmes showed only a demonstration about human rights in Vietnam!



## Welsh magazine urges Brit withdrawal

The Welsh literary magazine, 'The Planet' has called in an Editorial, for the withdrawal of British troops from the occupied Six Counties. Some 22 pages of the latest issue of the magazine are devoted to the North of Ireland.

In a criticism of media coverage the magazine's editorial explains that "the consequence of the failure to state all views is that even educated people in Britain have little understanding of the key issues."

The editorial goes on:

"For people in Britain the policy corollary to cosmic despair is to say 'Things are bad, but they would probably be as bad, or just as bad, if British troops were withdrawn.' This is a kind of paralysis of thought.

"Would things be worse or would they not? At what point, after how many deaths of Irish, Welsh, English and Scots does one say that they could not be worse? Must we have Mr. Airey Neave and another Tory Government attempt a last ruthless round of repression — 'to stamp out the IRA' — and who believes that this would succeed in doing anything other than provoke a wave of reaction and the further devastation of the territory?"

"It must surely be clear to more and more people in all British parties that a political solution is less, not more likely, while the British Army is in Northern Ireland."

The editorial concludes:

"Cynicism is corrosive, and

acquiescence in one futile war is in the end, acquiescence in many and in the tomorrow of some of today's unemployed Welsh school-leavers. Many Planet readers probably do not belong to groups who have long been campaigning for 'Troops Out' of Northern Ireland; nor do they sympathise perhaps with the simplified rhetoric and stridency of those who see it as a straight colonial struggle. There is a depth of historical tragedy about the situation but consciousness of this should not become a form of paralysis. The time has come to throw whatever weight one has for a phased withdrawal of British troops from Northern Ireland."



# B.B.C. HYPOCRITES ON CENSORSHIP



Boney M

VIEWERS of the BBC 'TONIGHT' programme last Tuesday (12th December) were treated to a good example of British hypocrisy. In a report on a pop concert by Boney M in Moscow presenter Donal McCormick bewailed the censorship of the hit song 'Rasputin', describing the censorship as "farcical".

The authorities in Moscow and the Russian Embassy in London were quoted as "advising" Boney M not to sing 'Rasputin' because sections of the public might "take it the wrong way". An English reporter pointed out that this was ridiculous since it was being played in coffee shops and the Russian equivalent of discos anyway.

The 'TONIGHT' programme then showed a 'Top of the Pops' film of Boney M and Donal McCormick ended the report with the comment — " 'Rasputin'...cruelly censored by the Russian Authorities." When the 'TONIGHT'

programme began at 10.30 p.m. it shortly previewed details of the Moscow report. A REPUBLICAN NEWS reporter immediately rang the London studio and asked to speak to the producer or someone in authority. A telephonist answered and refused to put the complaint through at the time and reluctantly took the complaint, stating that Donal McCormick would "receive it the next day".

REPUBLICAN NEWS stated that the BBC complaint of pop censorship was the height of hypocrisy when in fact the BBC banned a record which go to number 15 (in their own charts) That record —

"Give Ireland back to the Irish" by Paul McCartney — continues to be banned EVEN AFTER SIX YEARS! The BBC telephonist said "But that's a political song" and hurriedly tried to end the conversation. REPUBLICAN NEWS said, "Exactly! The same reason the Russians had for banning 'Rasputin', and which you are complaining about as censorship!"

However, there's more irony to BBC censorship when one considers that they heavily promoted and screened Boney M singing the political song "Belfast" — an incredibly naive record which projected "the troubles" as inter-communal violence and which managed not to mention the British Army at all

## International Tribunal on Britain's Presence in Ireland

### Preliminary hearing

THE PRELIMINARY hearing of the International Tribunal on Britain's presence in Ireland will take place in Conway Hall, London, on 24th, 25th, 26th January.

A panel of international judges will examine oral and documentary evidence on several aspects of Britain's activities in Ireland and will decide if the British government has a prima-facie case to answer.

Given the horrendous reports coming out of the H-blocks the preliminary hearing will devote much of its enquiries to this issue.

Two documents are currently available from the Tribunal. One outlines the aims and brief of the enquiry, and the other, from the tribunal's women's sub-committee, contains an initial investigation into the particular effects on Irish women of Britain's presence in Ireland.

These documents and further information are available from Tribunal, c/o 182 Upper Street, London N.1, or by contacting A. Logan 0483-64766 (daytime) or P. Prendiville 01-328-1545 (after 6 p.m.).

Support  
the  
PoWs

## Paris Solidarity



THE COMITE Irlande organised an extremely successful social evening in central Paris on 8th December last. The social was held in solidarity with the H-Block prisoners. The hall was packed to its capacity of 650

and throughout the evening photographic slides about the liberation struggle in the North of Ireland were shown to packed crowds in an adjoining hall. £300 was raised to be sent to the Green Cross.



## Dutch Solidarity

A PICKET was held in solidarity with the Irish POW's and their struggle for political status, on November 15th.

The picket was organised by the 'Irland Komitee, Nederland' in front of the 'Paleis Van Justitie'; it was timed to coincide with the trial of seven people who occupied the Amsterdam British Airways office in July. (For which they were found guilty and fined.)

The slogans of the picket were 'British Troops Out', 'Political Status for Political Prisoners', 'End British Torture in Ireland', and 'There Will Be No Peace In An Occupied Ireland'. (Photo copyright Wim Bilo).



## FRENCH JOURNALISTS ATTACK BRIT AUTHORITIES

AT A specially called press conference just before Christmas, French journalists' trade unions criticised the attitude of the British authorities towards reporters in the North of Ireland.

The 'Union Nationale Des Syndicats de Journalistes', which groups together France's four main journalists' unions, was commenting on the arrest by British troops of a French reporter, Alain Frilet, last April.

French officials and the British National Union of Journalists intervened on his behalf and he was freed after 10 days on bail of £1,500.

He has been charged with "non-collaboration with security forces", "possession of documents useful to terrorists", and "membership of the IRA". To be allowed to return to France for the holiday period, he had to pay an extra £1,500 on top of his original bail.

Alain Frilet is the Belfast correspondent of the Paris Left-

wing daily, *Liberation*, and the Sipepresse picture agency. He is the only permanent French correspondent in the North.

At the recent press conference in Paris, UNSJ officials aid that Alain Frilet, who was present at the conference, was "only a journalist doing his job".

The officials said that "Journalists are not police informers and their sources of information must be absolutely protected. There was no reason for journalists to collaborate with the security forces."

They attacked the "pressures" to which Alain Frilet has been subjected by the British authorities. He has to report once a week to an RUC Barracks and once a month to a Belfast court, and troops have repeatedly searched his flat. The UNSJ officials added that they had written to the French Foreign Minister, Jean Francois-Poncet, to draw his attention to the case.



# New Year Greetings



**BERKERY, Liam, H4.** Greetings for the New Year Liam. We salute you and all your comrades. With love from Treasa and Aialing.

**BERKERY, Liam, H4.** Greetings for the New Year to a grandson who is second to none. Love from Nanny and Grandad.

**BERKERY, Liam, H4.** You are always in my thoughts. God Bless you and all your comrades. All my love Mom.

**BOWE, Peter, H5.** Congratulations on spending 1978 on the blanket. We all stand by your ideals and support you for 1979. Love from Dave and the Buckley family Dublin and Betty in Derry.

**BOYD, John, Cage 13.** We hope you have a happy New Year 'Big Daddy'. With lots of love from Treasa, Aialing and Liam H4. Also New Year greetings to our friends and comrades Joe Doherty, Harry Kirkpatrick, Mickey Reeves, Tommy Rowden, Sean Donaldson, Joe McGuigan, and Denis Dorrian.

**BOYD, John, Cage 13.** Happy New Year love and roll on the 6th December 1979. Lots of everything Moyra xxx U.T.P.

**BRADLEY, Seamus P.O.W. H-Block 4.** Wishing you a happy New Year. Love Colette.

**CAMPBELL, Billy, H5.** New Year greetings to my wife Belle, kids Michael, Tony and Colleen. Also my Mother, Father, all my family, friends and relations from the Short Strand from Billy H5.

**CHERRY AND GLASVEY RAC** send New Year greetings to all our prisoners of war in Long Kesh, Crumlin Road and Armagh Gaol, and especially to Jacqueline Buckley, Bobby Sands, Emmanuel Collins, Seanna Walsh, Gabriel Corbett, Seamus Martin, Ciaran Dawson, Anthony McIntyre and Liam Berkery. We salute you — 'The Heroes'.

**CHILLINGWORTH, Billy, H4 Block 4.** A happy New Year to you Billy. We hope and pray that this year you and all your brave comrades shall get what is rightfully yours, political status. God Bless you all. From your comrades Matt and Gal.

**CHILLINGWORTH, John, H3 Long Kesh.** Wishing you a victorious New Year John. "We are thinking of you always and are behind you all the way in your fight for political status." God Bless you and all your comrades. From your loving wife Eileen and children, John, Mark and Kerry.

**CHILLINGWORTH, John, H3 Block 4.** Long Kesh. New Year's greetings to you John and may this year bring forth a successful conclusion to your fight for political status. Venereamos comrade from Mickey Holden and Eddie Fay H4, Ginty Lennon, Crumlin Road Gaol and Big Doc.

**CHILLINGWORTH, John, H3 Block 4.** A happy New Year to you John. "We can't give you the key but we give you our thoughts and prayers. God bless you! Kid and victory to your gallant struggle for status." With love from Christie, the O'Neill family, Turf, Lodge and Anna, Maisie and wee John.

**CHILLINGWORTH, Billy, H4 Block 4.** May this year Billy see a successful conclusion to your fight for political status. Never a day or hour passes without a thought of you, God Bless you. From your loving wife, Brige.

**COLEMAN, John Patrick, H5.** New Year greetings to my family and friends in the South Derry area. From John H5.

**TRACEY, Sean, H5.** New Year Greetings to all my family, relations and friends in the Greencastle area, Omagh. From Sean H5.

**COLLINS, Emmanuel, H5.** New Year greetings to my Father, Mother and family in Twinbrook. Also my Grandfather, McManus, Uncle Jim McManus, the Hughes, Gibney and McLarnon families, Twinbrook, the McLarnon family in the Newlodge, Road and all my relations in Ardoyne, for my Grandfather Collins, the O'Neill, Boylan and McManus families and finally for all my friends in Twinbrook R.A.C. and Sinn Féin. Thank you all for your continuing support — from Emmanuel H5.

**GOREY, Joey, P.O.W., H-Block 4.** New Year greetings to our son Joey. God Bless you and keep you safe. Love now and always, Mom, Dad.

**COREY, Joey, P.O.W. H-Block 5.** New Year greetings to my brother Joey. Love from your brother Sean and sister-in-law Bernie also from Peggy and Mary.

**COREY, Joey, P.O.W., H-Block 5.** New Year greetings to you Joey. From the Scullion family and Colm H3.

**COYLE, Patrick, H5.** New Year greetings to you Patrick. From John, Margaret and family.

**CREELMAN, Paul, H5.** New Year greetings to my Mother, Father and family in the Aghadoney area. From Paul H5.

**CUSHNAN, Henry, H5.** Greetings to my Mother and Father, brothers and sisters and all my friends from the Toome area. From Henry, H5.

**FERGUSON, Michael, H5.** New Year greetings to my Mother and Father, brothers, Stephen, Richard, Paul, Peter and Jim, sisters Dorothea and Marie. "You have all been a pillar of strength for me to lean on." With love from Michael, H-Block 5.

**LYNCH, Kevin, P.O.W., H-Block 3.** New Year greetings to our son Kevin God Bless you and keep you safe. Love from Mum, Dad, Jean, Mary, Bridie, Michael, Patsy, Frank and Gerard.

**McAULEY, Richard, Cage 12.** New Year's greetings to you Richard. We are all waiting for your arrival on the 26th. God bless you. All my love Chris.

**WALSH, Martin, H5.** New Year greetings to my wife Roseleen, Baby Aine, to the Watson family in Andytown, to my Mother and Father and all my family and relations in St. James. From Martin Walsh, H5.

**HUNTER, John, H5.** A happy New Year wish for my wife Maura and kids Paul, John, Michelle and Alan. St. James area. My Mother, Father, sister Marion and husband Anthony, sister Catherine and husband Tommy, my brother Hugh and his wife Patricia and all my friends in the Bone and Ardoyne, especially the Barnes family, the Mooneys, Thompsons and the Smith family and my mates from the Glen Park, also to the Burns, Kane, Riley, Toal and Gerlity families and all my friends from the St. James and Rooney areas. Also I would like to thank all the workers from the district and other areas in the R.A.C. and Sinn Féin who have worked so hard during the past year on our behalf. I wish them all the best in the coming year. From John Hunter, Blanketman, H-Block 5.

**LAVERTY, Sean, H5.** New Year greetings to my Mother, Father and family in the district. From Sean H5.

**McAIRT, Cormac, H5.** To my wife Susan, my kids Cormac and Seamus and all my friends from the Short Strand. From Cormac, H5.

**McBREARTY, Daniel, Portlaoise.** God Bless you and all your comrades languishing in the traitors jails. "They cannot stop the march of a risen people towards freedom." U.T.P. Danny U.S.A.

**McBREARTY, Danny.** Interned by remand, Crumlin Rd. New Year greetings to you and your friends held unjustly in Brit jails. I hope 1979 will bring with it your freedom. Danny, U.S.A.

**McCALLUM, Robert, H5.** To my Mother and Father and all the family, relations and friends. From Robert McCallum, H5.

**McCRACKEN, Kevin, H3.** New Year greetings dear brother. I think and pray for you always. God Bless all the prisoners. All my love Deldred, Paddy and Patricia and all your friends.

**McCRACKEN, Kevin, H3.** Thinking of you today Kevin and everyday. I send you greetings for the New Year. God bless you and all your comrades. Love Granny.

**SMYTH, Ciaran, 'Zack', H4.** New Year greetings Ciaran, to you and all POW's. God Bless and protect you all. From your sister and brother-in-law Deborah and Danny and niece Cara.

**McCHRYSTAL, Marcus, H3.** Congratulations on spending 1978 on the blanket. We support you and wish you the best of luck for 1979. Love from Dave and the Buckley family, Dublin, and Betty in Derry.

**McCORMACK, Gino, H5.** To my family and friends, especially my Mother, Father, brothers and sister Sarah. My aunts in Number 29, and all my other uncles and aunts. All my friends from Gobnascale, Jim, Benny, Tommy and family. The Last family, Pat, Dermott and Cathy, brother Malachy and his wife Philomena, all my friends in Sinn Féin and the R.A.C. in the Waterside and Derry City area, for the untiring support they've given and the work they've done. I wish them and all my friends in Belfast, Charley and Maureen Owens, Mary Farrell and Mary Rowntree, a very peaceful and happy New Year. From Gino, Blanketman, H5.

**McCRACKEN, Kevin H3.** Greetings to my dear son Kevin for the New Year. "They may break you in body but not in spirit." Not forgetting Irish political prisoners everywhere that God will comfort them. God bless. Love from Mother, Father, brothers and sisters, also your good friend Phillippe.

**McCRACKEN, Kevin H3.** Greetings to my nephew Kevin. Always praying for you. From your loving Aunt Annie and Jimmy.

**McDONNELL, Joe, H5.** To my wife, I send New Year greetings. Also to all my family and friends in the Lenadoon area. From Joe McDonnell, H5.

**McDOWELL, Mario, H3.** New Year greetings son, God Bless and guide you all. From your Mother, Father, brothers and sisters, also Granny and Uncle Frank.

**McILHENNON, Gerry, H5.** Greetings to my Mother and Father and all the family. From Gerry McIlhennnon, H5.

**McINTRYE, Anthony, H-Block 1.** I hope I come over in 1979 and I would like to wish you and all your comrades in the various jails a very happy New Year. From your Swedish friend, Beril.

**McCRACKEN, Kevin, H3.** Greetings for you Kevin on the blanket. We never forget you even though we're far apart. All our love. Maybe you will all be free soon. From Sally, Patsy, Michael, Daniel, John, also Maguire family and Carmel Yarto and family, New Zealand.

**KENNA, Terence, H5.** Greetings to my Mother and Father and all my family, relations and friends, in the Colin and Clonard area. From Terence McKenna, H5.

**McLOUGHLIN, Brendan, H5.** New Year greetings to my sister and her husband and family.

**McNAUGHT, Pius, H-Block.** Greetings and solidarity to you and all your comrades. "Ireland may have brave men but she'll never have better." Victory will be yours. U.T.P. Danny, U.S.A.

**MAGUIRE, Tommy, Cage 12, Long Kesh.** A very happy New Year to you Tommy and may this year bring you all that you desire. God Bless you always Tommy. From your loving family and friends Chrissie and Roisin, Armagh Gaol.

**MANCHESTER P.O.W.s.** New Year greetings to formerly Manchester based P.O.W.s: Ann and Eileen (Durham), Tippi (Albany), Kevin (Long Kesh), Paul (Wakefield), Gerry, Sean, Brendan and Noel (Park-hurst) Eddie and Steve (Wormwood Scrubs) and all our P.O.W.s. everywhere. Remembered at this time by all the lads in Manchester.

**MILLAR (Jnr), Sammy, H5.** New Year greetings to my Father, Sammy Millar (Snr.), my brothers, sisters, all my in-laws, relations and friends. From Sammy, H5.

**O'HAGAN, Patrick, H5.** Greetings to my Mother, Father, brothers and sisters and all at 11 Mullin Park, Mountfield, Omagh. Wishing you all the best in the New Year. From Patrick H5.

**PLEASANTS, Paul, H8, Long Kesh.** Happy New Year Smokey from Treasa xxx.

**REA, Paul, Cage 12, Long Kesh.** Happy New Year Paul, not many to go now. God Bless you. We'll see you soon. From Anna and Chris.

**REA, Paul, Cage 12, Long Kesh.** Here's wishing you a happy New Year son. May God Bless you always. With love from your Mum, Dad, brothers and sisters.

**SCULLION, Colum, P.O.W., H-Block 3.** New Year greetings to you Colum, hoping political status will soon be restored. From the Madden family.

**SCULLION, Colum, P.O.W., H-Block 3.** New Year greetings to you Colum. May 1979 bring back all those rights you were denied. Spud and Helen.

**SCULLION, Colum, P.O.W., H3.** Best wishes for the New Year Colum. Ireland unfree shall never be at peace. Pat and Brenda.

**SCULLION, Colum, P.O.W., H-Block 3.** New Year greetings and every good wish for 1979. Jack, Mick, Gnasher and Brendan.

**SCULLION, Colum, P.O.W., H3.** Every good wish for the New Year and hoping all your rights will soon be restored. Bridget and Eamon.

**SCULLION, Colum, H-Block 3.** P.O.W. New Year greetings to Colum. Love Mary.

**SMYTH, Ciaran, 'Lack', H4.** Greetings for this New Year Ciaran. God Bless you and all your brave comrades. Thinking of you always my son. From Mother and Seany, your brothers, Raymond, Dane, Sean and Liam, also Granny and Granda.



## ON THE BLANKET



### ONE YEAR

HANVEY, Frankie and DEVINE, Gerard, H3 Block. Congratulations to Frankie and Gerard on completing one year on the blanket. They may break you in body but not in spirit. From Mrs. Lillis and family.

LILLIS, Brendan, H3 Long Kesh. Congratulations Brendan on completing one year on the blanket. Our meetings are seldom, our writing times few, but never a day begins or ends without a thought of you. With love from your Mother and brothers Bobby, Kevin and Barry.

LILLIS, Brendan, H3 Block. Congratulations to my brother Brendan on completing one year on the blanket in naked defiance of the British Crown. "There's a prayer on our lips and pride in our hearts as one year ends and another cold year starts." From your loving sister Rosaleen, Tony and kids. Also best wishes to Frankie Hanvey and Gerard Devine.

LILLIS, Brendan, H3 Long Kesh. Congratulations on completing one year on the blanket. "A blanket for

a pillow, a blanket for a gown, a blanket for companionship, a blanket cold and brown." God Bless you and all your comrades especially Frankie and Gerard H3. From your loving sister Maura, Liam and family.

LILLIS, Brendan, H3 Long Kesh. Best wishes Brendan on completing one year on the blanket. Lots of love from your sister Geraldine and Robert. Also best wishes to Frankie and Gerard. "If I had a wish it would be to have the keys of Long Kesh to set you free".

CAMPBELL, Matt, H4 Long Kesh. Congratulations on completing one year on the blanket. "Your fight is our fight, your struggle is our struggle." From your Mother and Father.

CAMPBELL, Matt, H4 Long Kesh. Congratulations on completing one year on the blanket. From your brother Kevin in H5. May you and Ireland soon be free.

CAMPBELL, Matt, H4. Congratulations on completing one year on the blanket. From Madeline and Lottie.

SCULLION, Colm; McELWEE, Benedict; O'CONNOR, Seamus. The James Connolly Sinn Fein Cumann, Bellaghy salute you on having the courage and determination to complete one year on the blanket.

CLARKE, Gerard, H3 Long Kesh. Congratulations to our son on completing one year on the blanket. "God Bless you and all your comrades." All our love from your Mum, Dad, Kelly and brothers Seamus and Terry in H3 and H4.

### TWO YEARS

McCAUGHEY, Brendan H5 Block. Congratulations Brendan on having completed two years on the blanket. "You are always in our thoughts". From the McCaughey family, the Boardman family, the Finnegan family, the O'Neill family, the Walker family, and the Stewart family, Belfast, Shannon, Kerry and Cork.

FARRELL, Mairead, Armagh Gael. Congratulations Mairead on completing your 2nd year fighting for political status. From your entire family and also friends Bobby, Roisin, Sadie and Roisin.

O'NEILL, Kevin E, H5 Block. Congratulations on having completed two years on the blanket and to all your comrades. From the Fergal O'Hanlon Sinn Fein Cumann, Lavey, South Derry.

## Bloody Sunday Commemoration

**DERRY**

**7th ANNIVERSARY MARCH**

**Sunday 28th January**

**Assemble Creggan Shop 2.30 p.m.**

*Organised by Sinn Fein*

## \*\*\*\*\* Birthday Greetings \*\*\*\*\*

HARKIN, E.T. H3 Block. Greetings on your Birthday, 20th December. Keep up your spirits. "You are always in our thoughts." God Bless from Mum, Dad, Tony, Kathleen, Lee, Elaine, Patrick, Margaret, Mairead, Connor, Bernadette, Tom, Darron and Jason.

HARKIN, E.T. H3 Block. Best wishes for December 20th. "No gift of gold or silver can we impart but all the love within our hearts." God bless, from Karen, Deirdre, Damien, Pam, Pat, Brendan and Sinead.

HARKIN, E.T. H3 Block. Birthday Greetings on December 20th. "They may hold you in their keeping, we hold you in our hearts." Love from Attracta, Packie, Sister Sarah Clark (London), Bosco, Anna, Paula and Roisin (Canada) Chris, Deirdre, and Maureen (Australia).

HARKIN, E.T. H3 Block. Birthday Greetings. Eddie. "Determined, dedicated, and true, we owe a lot to lads like you." From the Doherty family and Marlene.

HARKIN, E.T. H3 Block. Birthday Greetings on the 20th December. From the friends of prisoners and relatives, London N.1.

HARKIN, E.T. H3 Block. Birthday Greetings for December 20th. Your fight is our fight. Love from Jo, Roy, Stephen, Agnes and Junior.

TOAL, Freddie. Birthday Greetings Freddie on your 22nd Birthday on December 28th. From Kevin, Frankie and Frankie.

WHELAN, Peter, H3 Block. Many Happy Returns on your 21st Birthday. "We're behind you all the way." Love from Terry, Bernadette and Ruairi.

McKENNA, Brian, H5 Block. Here's wishing you as happy a birthday as possible. "You and your comrades are always in our thoughts." Love from your proud Mother, Father and family.

McDONNELL, Gerry, H3 Block. Best wishes on your Birthday Gerry. "Stone Mason won't break us." All my love from Sheila and all the McVeigh family.

McKENNA, Brian, H5 Block. All our love and blessing dear Brian on your 24th birthday and congratulations on completing nearly 2 years on the blanket. From the Maire Drumm Sinn Fein Cumann, Magherafelt.

### EDDY CARMODY COMMEMORATION

ABOUT 500 people led by the Ballybunton Pipe Band, attended the annual commemoration held in Ballylongford, Co. Kerry to honour Eddy Carmody, killed by the Black and Tans.

Wreaths were laid on behalf of Cumann na Gaillini, Fianna Eireann and the Republican Movement. A decade of the Rosary was recited by Tomas O Loins.

The Chairman John Paul Connolly said that "considering the statement of Archbishop O'Flaherty, the silence of the Church in the 26 counties, is hard to understand in regards to the men suffering in H-Block."

One minute's silence was observed in respect of three life-long members of Sinn Fein who died during the year: Mick Keane (Asdel), Con O'Shea (Tralee) and Tom Mason (Ballylongford).

Richard Behal in his address said ("that the men and the women in the North of Ireland are carrying on the same fight that Eddy Carmody carried on; that is carrying on the fight against British Imperialism.")

## IN MEMORIAM

FOX, Brian (4th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear Son Volunteer Brian Fox, 1st Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na h-Eireann, who died on active service in England, 21st December 1974. "When men speak of me in praise or dispraise, you shall not heed, but treasure in your own heart, the memory of your first son". Always remembered with pride, from his Mother, Father and family circle.

FOX, Brian (4th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear Brother, Volunteer Brian Fox, 1st Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na h-Eireann, who died on active service in England, 21st December 1974. Remembered always by Sally, Anne-Marie, Benny, Gerard, Bridie, Roger, Susan, Paddy and Mickey.

FOX, Brian (4th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear Nephew, Volunteer Brian Fox, 1st Battalion, Ogligh na h-Eireann, who died on active service in England, 21st December, 1974. Always remembered with pride and honour by his Aunt Maggie and Uncle Charlie in Montreal, Canada.

FOX, Brian (4th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear Brother, Volunteer Brian Fox, 1st Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na h-Eireann, who died on active service in England, 21st December 1974. Remembered always with pride and honour by his Sister Anne-Marie and children Gerard, John and Brian.

FOX, Brian (4th Anniversary). In proud memory of our dear friend and comrade, Volunteer Brian Fox, Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na h-Eireann, who died on active service 21st December 1974, in England. Always remembered by Chrissie, Roisin, John Chillingworth, H-Block, Hughie, Seamus and the O'Neill family, Turf Lodge.

FOX, Brian (4th Anniversary). In proud memory of Volunteer Brian Fox, Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na h-Eireann, who died while on active service in England, 21st December, 1974. Remembered always with pride and honour by his friends and comrades Belfast Brigade and Volunteers Ogligh na h-Eireann. "Lay him away on the hillside, along with the brave and the bold, inscribe his name in the roll of fame, in letters of purest gold".

FOX, Brian (4th Anniversary). In loving memory of Volunteer Brian Fox, Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na h-Eireann, who died on active service in England, 21st December, 1974. Always thought of by the Flynn family, especially Jockey 'C' Wing Crumlin Road and Brendan, H4 Block, Long Kesh.

McDADE, Gerard (7th Anniversary). In proud memory of Volunteer Gerard McDade, 3rd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na h-Eireann, who was shot by the British army while on active service, 21st December, 1971. Brave soldier of Ireland. Sadly missed and will always be remembered by his comrades in the Republican Movement, Brigade Staff and Volunteers. "Mary, Queen of Ireland, Pray for him".

O'NEILL, Danny (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Volunteer Danny O'Neill, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade Ogligh na h-Eireann, who was shot by British forces while on active service, 8th January 1972. He will always be remembered by the Republican Movement, Belfast Brigade Staff and Volunteers. Mary, Queen of Ireland, Pray for him."

## SYMPATHY

DUFFY, Patrick. Volunteer, Derry Brigade, Ogligh na h-Eireann. Killed on active service (shot dead by S.A.S. while unarmed) on 24th November 1978. Deeply regretted but proudly remembered by his comrades in the Republican Movement, Derry, including Derry Brigade, Ogligh na h-Eireann; Brigade Staff Officers and Volunteers; Cumann na mBan; Na Fianna Eireann; Cumann na gGaillini; Derry Sinn Fein, Comhairle Ceantair and Cumann; An Cumann Cabhrach/Prisoners Dependents Fund. "Lay him away on the hillside, along with the brave and the bold, inscribe his name on the roll of honour, in letters of purest gold".

FARRELLY, Liam, Killeen, Newry, Co. Armagh. We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Volunteer Liam Farrelly, 1st Battalion, South Armagh Brigade who was recently killed in a road accident. Deeply regretted by his comrades in the Republican Movement.

CASTLETOWN, Co. WEXFORD.

## Liam Mellows Commemoration



THE LIAM Mellows commemoration was held in Castletown, Wexford, on 10 December. The Parade was led by a Colour Party of Ogligh na h-Eireann, the Wexford Liam Mellows Slua of Na Fianna Eireann and the Fife and Drum Band.

The Oration was delivered by Jack Dunne, veteran Republican from Wexford Town. He recalled how Mellows first became involved in the Republican Movement and organised Na Fianna Eireann throughout the country. Eventually he took his stand in the Four Courts in Dublin, and showed for us the straight and narrow road to a Free Ireland. Jack told how Mellows and his comrades were murdered by Free State traitors on 8 December 1922.

He went on to speak of H-Block and showed that the struggle of the prisoners was the same struggle that Mellows died for — an Irish Republic.

Dick Cooper then recited a decade of the rosary in Irish. The Chairman of the day was Mr. Oliver Murray. Wreaths were laid on behalf of Ogligh na h-Eireann and Sinn Fein, Enniscorthy and Gorey. A special tribute was paid to the Kavanagh brothers who also gave their lives for Irish Freedom.

## Gratitude

DUFFY, Patrick. The wife and family of the late Patrick (Patsy) Duffy wish to express their gratitude to all those who called at the house, attended the Requiem Mass and funeral, those who sent wreaths and Mass cards, and to all our Friends and Neighbours who helped us in so many ways at such a tragic time. Special appreciation goes to his comrades in the Republican Movement, Derry; in particular, those who helped with the funeral, including Na Fianna Eireann, Cumann na gGaillini, Cumann na mBan, and Ogligh na h-Eireann; and to Sean Keenan who delivered the oration. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass has been offered for all your intentions.