

# REPUBLICAN NEWS

THE VOICE OF  
REPUBLICAN ULSTER

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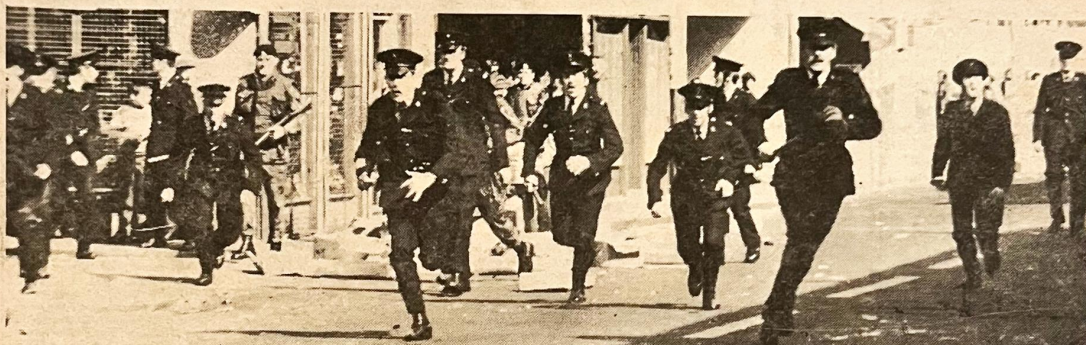


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## WE REJECT



## THEM UTTERLY

AND DO NOT INCLUDE THEM IN OUR 'NO HOSTILITIES' TRUCE WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT



A young girl being man-handled by the "brave" R.U.C.

We have been asked to issue the following supplied statement from the Belfast Brigade.

Torture of suspected Republicans by the R.U.C. to elicit information has been a policy of this force since its inception. With the introduction of internment in August 1971, new and sophisticated methods of interrogation devised by Kitson were operated by the Special Branch of the R.U.C.

Hollywood British Army Camp was the centre of operations and evidence of the brutalities inflicted on helpless prisoners there soon emerged and shocked all decent people. The resultant adverse publicity led to a diminution these excesses but torturing of prisoners still took place in several R.U.C. centres, notably Cookstown and Springfield Road.

Castlereagh R.U.C. Barracks is now the principal R.U.C. torture chamber and we have documented evidence of systematic tortures taking place there almost daily. The old familiar Hollywood barrack routine is being re-enacted. "Taken to interrogation room," "Beaten with fist on face," "Beaten on stomach," "Questioned and threatened continuously by relays of 2/3 men for eight hours," "Threats to hand over suspects to UVF etc. are commonplace."

The treatment meted out to Jos Magee (18 years) this week in Castlereagh merits special mention, Constant beatings, threats of being drowned, shot, thrown to UVF, completely unnerved him to the extent that he dashed to a window and slashed his wrists "to end it all."

We have made our position clear in relation to the R.U.C. on numerous occasions. We reject them utterly and do not include them in our "No Hostilities" truce with the British Government and British Army. Those members of the RUC who are indulging in the brutalising of prisoners must have the sanction of their superiors. We demand the closure of this torture centre immediately, and we will have no compunction in carrying out severe retaliatory actions against this force.





## Fitzgerald's work for British

Mr. Garret Fitzgerald, Minister for External Affairs, has written for the Institute for the Study of Conflict, an agency of British Military Intelligence, according to the National Council of Irish Americans. The Institute was recently tied to the CIA operated "Forum World Features." The Washington Post recently disclosed that the Forum was set up in London in 1967 by the CIA and staffed by operatives of the British government, including Brian Crozier and Ian Hamilton, directors of the Institute for the Study of Conflict. Both Crozier and Hamilton are agents of the British government. Each has written many articles describing the Irish Nationalist Movement as a communist plot controlled by Irish "terrorists." Many of their articles have been published in American newspapers and on the Continent of Europe as well.

A spokesman for the National Council of Irish Americans stated:

"We do not know how Garret Fitzgerald will explain his actions on behalf of British Military Intelligence and the CIA. Certainly, this is a matter of vital interest to the Irish people. One of his articles appeared in a book entitled, 'The Ulster Debate.' This book has been widely distributed in the United States by the British Foreign Office and the British Embassy in Washington. It has also been circulated on the continent. The question arises as to whether Mr. Garret Fitzgerald's visits to America in the last year or two were financed by British Military Intelligence and the CIA. On his visits, Mr. Fitzgerald asked Irish Americans to discontinue donations to relief organisations in Northern Ireland. His actions certainly did not serve the interest of the 80,000 people who have been driven from their homes in the north and the thousands who are presently unemployed. We feel that Mr. Fitzgerald has been less than frank in not disclosing his ties to the Institute for the Study of Conflict and British Military Intelligence. We believe that the Dublin government should conduct a complete investigation into every aspect of this matter. CIA operations in Chile, Brazil, Europe and other areas have been well documented. CIA operations, sometimes carried out under the cover of British Military Intelligence, in Ireland, are less well known. In any event, Garret Fitzgerald owes an explanation to the Irish people.

# FAOIGLAS

JOURNAL OF THE  
REPUBLICAN  
PRISONERS . . . .

NOW ON SALE

# THAT WALL

They're building a Wall around Long Kesh. So what, you might ask. Walls are built all over the place and a wall is only a wall, right? But let me tell you about this Wall and why it is being built at this time. This is a very special Wall and it has a deep significance for every member of the Republican community, both sides

is not meant to just hinder a person or snag his clothes if he tries to get over it. Razor wire is meant to literally slash a person in shreds, inflicting cuts which go bone deep and which require stitching after even the slightest contact with it. The cage fences are festooned with such wire - wire that prevents even birds from landing on it because of

Kesh to the world and undid all that expensive propaganda that the British were pouring out to the news services of every country under the sun. Private committee discussion and debate in the House of Commons finally came up with the answer (or so they thought). They would build the biggest Wall in Europe around Long Kesh and that would keep the Provos down and would ensure that everytime they looked around them they would see the sight of the British Empire's manifest itself in that Wall. Expense was no object and even the workers who built the Wall would be earning 150 pounds per week - yes £150 per week (figures from a pay slip that was picked up by an Intelligence Section of the 4th Batt. in Long Kesh). Public expenditure was cut in Northern Ireland and the money diverted to Project Wall despite protest from local councils who had to stand by and see their plans for hospitals, schools and recreation areas shelved. So, early this year the Wall was started and now it is nearly complete.

Now here is the part which will interest (or disgust) the British administration - the prisoners reaction to that wall. We thank the British for giving us reason to strengthen our resolve to resist. Now we have only to look around us to see evidence of the gross stupidity of the British and their mentality toward the Irish. We regard the Wall as a visible sign that they have no answer and we regard it as the ultimate in compliments to our determination to resist no matter what the odds. Thank you Merlyn for providing us with that visible evidence that you are whacked and on your knees. In

that position may you long remain, and when we look up at that Wall we will think of you, your government and the silly advisors who prompted you into spending millions on a futile and worthless project.

So I ask you the reader to come and look with awe at the final evidence of Britains intention to withdraw from

## MAKES THE BERLIN WALL LOOK LIKE A MERE INCONVENIENCE

the North. This Wall makes the Berlin Wall look like a mere inconvenience and you will be astonished at the permanency of the structure and space at its sheer size. When a Government has to build a bullet-proof, bomb-proof, shatter-proof, escape-proof monument like this at Long Kesh, you can rest assured that they have not a bloody clue as to how to cope with the situation in Northern Ireland. A wise man would have made preparation to openly withdraw, but a fool would confine and hide all the overt signs from view. These fools are Merlyn and his motley crew and the evidence of defeat is in his Wall. Come to it - look at it - and wonder! In years to come this Wall will be the greatest tourist attraction of all time, putting the Barney Stone away down the list of sights to see. The concrete coffin where the British finally buried their hopes of remaining in Ireland.

**WARNING.** Do not photograph the Wall if you do come down here to see it for yourself. To do so could cost your life at the hands of Her Majesties Security Forces. They are still a bit touchy about Long Kesh and the Wall.

## By Dave Morley Cage 12

of the border. But first - a bit of background to the decision to build this wall around Long Kesh prison camp.

Long Kesh (renamed the Maze in a pathetic attempt to undo the worldwide image of one of the worst hell holes in Western Europe) is like a small town, complete with all the usual services - water, lighting, sewerage, even a transport system of sorts for prisoners to get to visits. The men inside live in cages which hold about 80 men living in three Nissen huts per cage. What's a Nissen hut? If you go into the country and ask any kind farmer to show you where he keeps his livestock, you will most likely be looking at a Nissen hut or something similar. It's just a framework covered with corrugated tins and the lot painted black, a very suitable colour to match the already grim surroundings. These Nissen huts in Long Kesh are surrounded by a fence covered in barbed wire. No, not the barbed wire you know of and have seen hundreds of times. This wire is called razor wire and the name goes into wire towards describing it and its intended function. Razor wire and

the Gillette sharp barbs which cover it in the millions. There are dozens of such cages in Long Kesh, with thousands of lights shining down on them 24 hours per day. Take a drive along the M.1 motorway at night and when you approach the Moira roundabout you will see Long Kesh in all its floodlit glory, but go soon if you want to have the chance to see one of the only remaining concentration camps in Europe (Magilligan is the other one) because when this Wall is completed in a few weeks you will see nothing, only a 30 foot high grey concrete monument which represents the death throes of the British in Ireland. In such surroundings are held over 1000 prisoners forced to live in conditions that would immediately be declared unfit to house the animals at Belvue Zoo. All this is now to be hidden behind the Wall away from public view and the authorities hope, away from public comment.

After the riot last year during which the Provos burned the camp to the ground, Merlyn Rees and company decided that they would have to do something about dampening the spirit of those who exposed Long

## SLOW RELEASE OF INTERNEES

Once more Merlyn Rees has reiterated his statement that the internees would all be out at Christmas. We would sincerely hope that in making this statement that Rees is being honest. The facts however, do not bear this statement out. Starting from now Rees would have to release at least fifteen men per week in order to clear Long Kesh for Christmas. To date the figure have not yet reached this level.

Terms such "as held without charge or trial," may sound worn and tired to many people but they are a harsh reality to the men being held just as Cancer is a harsh reality to the sufferer. The slow release of the internees are to the men in Long Kesh a severe form of mental torture wondering day by day if they are going to be the lucky ones and obtain their release. One can therefore understand the tension within the camp and should not be surprised if the men who are undergoing the strain of this form of torture took matters into their own hands. Releases must be speeded up and the internees returned to their families.

Robbert Emmet-Francis  
Liggett Sinn Fein Cumann.

## Vindictive Harrassment at Long Kesh

Due to the "petty vindictive harassment by the Prison administration" tension at Long Kesh at the moment "is running very high," a statement from sentenced Republican prisoners at the prison camp said at the weekend.

"Attempts are being made to daily introduce new restrictive measures which can have no other possible purpose but to make life all the harder for the inmates," the statement said.

The statement said that harassment was nothing new at Long Kesh but that on Friday last it took a new turn when visitors were kept waiting for from four to five hours. The statement said that when they complained they were told that the prisoners were refusing to co-operate with the prison staff and this was the reason for the delay.

"Some were even advised to go home because it did not look as if they were going to get a visit," the statement added. "While all this was going on, life inside the camp was going on normally and we were totally unaware of what was happening. There was no such non-co-operation in progress and we were totally unaware of what was taking place."

The statement said the whole exercise could only be taken as "a massive attempt at harassment and intimidation of visitors and prisoners."

Long Kesh was a world wide symbol of oppression and suffering. "We will resist all these petty-minded attacks on our visitors here and we will refuse to allow ourselves to be used as set pieces in whatever game is being played," the statement added.

## Cumann accuses RHF of wreckless driving

Liam McParland Sinn Fein, Ballymurphy.

We the above named Cumann accuse the R.H.F. of dangerous and wreckless driving which nearly resulted in the deaths of some of the two hundred schoolchildren at lunchtime on Monday 22/9/75.

At 12.45 p.m., two Jeeps were coming down the Upper Springfield Road from Turf Lodge, as they approached

the bend at the top of the Whiterock Road they tried to over-take a lorry which was just turning the corner.

The lorry had to swerve to avoid a collision with the two Jeeps and overturned onto a parked car which was sitting outside McAvoy's Shop, thus spilling it's contents of sand and stones onto the road which was crowded with children from the nearby St. Aidan's primary school.

## IRISH REPUBLICAN WELFARE ASSOCIATION

### TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS

Buses leave 170 Falls Road

### BUS TIME TABLE



### Long Kesh

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

### Armagh

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY,  
FRIDAY 1.30 p.m.

### Magilligan

FRIDAY MORNING 11 am

### Portlaoise

SATURDAYS 8.30 am

24-hour booking necessary for  
Magilligan and Armagh





# TORTURE RESUMES AT CASTLEREAGH

Within the past 7 days 30 people have been taken to the RUC. Interrogation is in progress which has been going on for some time. If a person is suspected of committing a crime, having committed or been about to commit a crime, or if a person is suspected of being involved in a crime, then they will be taken to the RUC. From our issue of September 13th

## NONE SO BLIND

In general the news media tends to gloss over unpalatable facts, particularly those relating to the so called security forces. This week, however two items of interest regarding the RUC appeared in the press. One told of the suspended prison sentence of eighteen months imposed on a member of the RUC for his part in the brutal treatment meted out to an eighteen year old boy in Castlereagh Barracks by the RUC. The boy was so badly beaten about the head and face that he is now deaf in one ear. Both he and his family were threatened with a visit from the UVF, does this fact confirm the suspicions of many people that the RUC and the UVF are working closely together? Finally in desperation the boy took a brainstorm during which he smashed a window and slashed his wrists in an attempt to bring his torment to an end. Such descriptions of the treatment of suspected Republican prisoners may bring to mind the tactics of the Gestapo during the nineteen forties but bear in mind the fact that it is happening in Castlereagh RUC Station and during 1975. Yet there are those in our midst, who, in their blindness, want this terrorist force brought back into our districts.

Such people have seemed to have quickly forgotten the activities of the RUC in their long career as the Paramilitary prop of a rotten system which has brought untold misery and suffering on the people who opposed this system. As guardians of peace this force has also miserably failed the minority people in the Six Occupied Counties of Ireland. A fact which can be borne out by people who in 1969 approached the police in Springfield Road Barracks and asked for the protection from sectarian terrorists which they had a right to expect from these so called guardians of law and order. The answer given is well known. It was no.

Again the people who want the RUC back in our midst seem to be under the impression that what we will be letting in will be a reformed RUC. Up until now the only reforms in the RUC has been a change in the colour of their uniforms. They have not changed one iota since 1969. Nor will they.

We would be the first to admit that if the RUC were to be allowed back into our districts that for a time they would adopt the role of the friendly street bobby and many people would regard them as not such bad chaps after all. But then for a time many people the British Army were not such bad chaps, until they revealed their true colours. On reflection it is a mystery to us why the advocates of the return of the RUC to our districts want this force of armed and uniformed terrorists back. We can only repeat the old saying and in the case of the pro RUC faction in these areas a very true one that "There are none so blind as those who will not see."

OUR PICTURES SHOW THE CONTINUED BRITISH ARMY HARRASSMENT OF INNOCENT CIVILIANS.



FALLS ROAD TAXIMEN BLOCK MILLFIELD, DIVIS STREET.

## Don't prolong the agony says Foots

Mr. Malachy Foots, PRO of Ulster Executive, Sinn Féin has called on the people to cease supporting the idea of a Six County political institution such as the Convention.

He said the Convention like the Assembly and Stormont was nothing more than an exercise

in political manoeuvring by Britain to prolong the agony of British rule in Ireland.

### DERRY I.R.A. CLAMPS DOWN

The I.R.A. in Derry has taken action against publicans in the former no-go area who, they alleged, have been selling drink to under-age youths. They also warned that if there was any further breach of this order they would close their premises permanently.

The I.R.A.'s 3rd Battalion in Derry, in a statement, said they had sent out a number of boys to test the reaction in various public houses to orders for drink. These boys had been able to get drinks in three pubs and on the following night the I.R.A. seized more than 300 bottles of liquor from the three publicans. The bottles were exhibited at the ceasefire incident centres in Bogside and the publicans were told that they could get them back on giving

He said that Six County establishments relied more on repression than democracy for their survival and as such could not be deserving of general acceptance among people. Sinn Féin believed that the people of the Six Counties alongside those in the 26 Counties were deserving of a better future than that being offered in Stormont and Leinster House.

That being the case, Sinn Féin in Ulster again called on people to reject the "political buffoonery" of the SDLP, Alliance and UUUC and 'to lend their support to the realistic and democratic policies of Sinn Féin who seek to establish the New Ireland with equality, prosperity and justice.

This is the only viable alternative to the unstable and repressive road being pursued by those seeking to build something on a Six-County basis," said Mr. Foots.







British Army obstructing innocent Irishmen and women from going to and from work.

## Portlaoise Torture Machine in Action again

Once again the Provisional prisoners had to withstand the wrath of Doonican and Cooney's so-called security forces on the pretext of searching for explosives, these thugs have made yet another unprovoked attack on Provisional prisoners.

"A planned programme of torture is daily enforced in Portlaoise families. Not satisfied with shooting dead an unarmed prisoner, Tom Smith, the warders and police and Army have been given carte blanche to assault the men and several prisoners have received severe injuries; one man being assaulted in the Curragh Military Hospital while under medical care.

The Portlaoise torture machine does not stop at death and beatings, a daily attack on the men's minds is enforced. All of the prisoner's personal belongings have been destroyed including photographs of their children. No indoor recreational facilities are allowed; no hospitalisation facilities are available; no educational facilities are provided and books such as "Strumpet City" are not allowed.

### MASS IN CELL

Mass is heard in the cell block lined with police in full riot gear with batons at the ready. Even to the minute detail of depriving the men of anoraks for the winter the torture machine is active.

As none of this has or will break the men, Dr. Fitzgerald's government have decided to attack the men through their families by forcing them to watch their children scream in terror or lapse into deep dilence when they see their fathers behind a double cage lined with perspex. When these children ask

their fathers for a kiss the men and children must pathetically kiss the wire separating them to a distance of 28 inches. This is the ultimate torture devised by the present government. Not even the British have resorted to such

tactics. Only a government with the fascist background of the Fine Gael and its Nazi blue shirts would resort to breaking children's minds in order to break their fathers," the statement concludes.

## Internment

1971-1975



Now on Sale at the Eire Nua Bookshop.

by  
B. BRIAN J. BRADY  
P. DENIS FAUL  
P. RAYMOND MURRAY

## Stoned by their own children

SOLDIERS serving in Ulster are now facing

the added torment of being stoned in the streets. BY THEIR OWN CHILDREN. Army wives who have joined husbands there say their children are being indoctrinated with anti-British hate by classmates in local schools. Now the mothers want the Ministry of Defence to scrap 18-month postings to Ulster and pull out all the Service families.

**WIVES**  
I was told about the trouble with the children during a meeting I had with a group of young wives whose husbands are in the Royal Tank Regiment

## PEACE-KEEPING THEORY ABOUT BRITS PROVED WRONG

When British soldiers were put on the streets of the Six Counties in August 1969, to enforce British Government policy and to protect her investment the initial thoughts of the people may well have been that it was of a peace-keeping nature in respect of law and order. Surely their previous exploits in former colonies proved this theory to be wrong?

Since 1969, Army GOCs have taken a free hand in delving with great interest in Six County policies. The evidence now standing points to the fact that the same Army is now alienating itself from the policies set out by its own government. A statement by the former GOV, Sir. Frank King, even amazes the British people in its blatant criticism of government policy on internment and has all the hallmarks of an "Army hierarchy" — standing aloof from the so-called "democratic system" in Britain.

The torture, inhumanity and sheer disrespect for human life has been well documented at the Human Rights Commission at Strasbourg. The lack of respect of civil laws by these soldiers has been seen by the

numbers charged with such things as rape, assault and theft. The most recent was that by members of the Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment who staged a rampage of assault and burglary in Southend. These soldiers having been protected by their "hierarchy" from just prosecution in the Six Counties, now feel that the same system will protect them at home.

It has never been doubted that the British Army has an excellent training ground for her soldiers in the Six Counties and they now seem determined to hold on to it at any cost. A policy of "keeping the pot boiling" is now being enforced by them, as can be seen by the activities of British soldiers in the Falls area of Belfast during the ceasefire. The dangers of such an Army must be quickly realised, before it is too late. The periodical takeover of civil airports must surely speak for itself. Even the appearance of a new organisation (chaos) founded by ex-Army officers to take control of the country in the event of civil unrest only goes to strengthen this theory.

stationed at Umagh. One, an attractive dark-haired woman, said: "My son was one of the boys involved. He is only eight and been going to school here a year."

There were several other soldiers' children with the crowd. All the boys throwing stones at soldiers were aged between about eight and 16.

"My husband spotted him among them and dragged him in. My own son actually throwing stones at our soldiers. That's what they have picked up from an Irish school."

### KILL

Another mother told

me: "My daughter came home from school and said she didn't like soldiers. When I told her that he daddy was a soldier she said, 'No he isn't. Soldiers kill people.' She had picked that up in school."

To add to all the fear and worries of wives who bravely accompany husbands to Ulster is the danger to themselves and their children — even inside the camp.

Said one mother: "What with worrying about my husband's safety and worrying about the children and myself getting blown up, I never have a moment when I don't feel afraid about something."

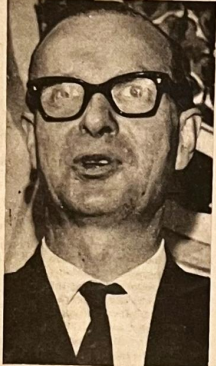




## Hysterical Reaction of the SDLP

We have been asked to release the following statement from the Belfast Executive Sinn Féin.

The recent attacks on the Republican Movement by members of the SDLP must be seen within the context of their hysterical reaction to the realisation that Sinn Féin is seen to be fulfilling its promise to remove the 'political initiative' from the hands of the 'professional politicians.'



Following the recent statement by the Belfast Executive Sinn Féin, SDLP leader Gerry Fitt hurriedly arranged a meeting with the British Prime Minister, Harold Wilson, during which he made a cringing plea to have the Sinn Féin incident centres closed. His reaction,



supplemented by Paddy Devlin's virtual political nervous breakdown at the weekend, are illustrating the SDLP's confused state of mind. That the SDLP have failed politically, and indeed will continue to fail, is a logical consequence of their six county Unionist mentality, and their total commitment to a British solution.

The people have now turned to the Republican Movement for Guidance. We shall not fail them.

These are the politicians who claim to represent the minority population. They have propped up the credibility of Stormont Institution. They have resided over a drip-drip bloodbath and have watched their constituents slaughtered and tortured without uttering a word of protest. Their main preoccupation has always been power-sharing and jobs for the boys.

## THE IRISH REPUBLIC

**I**n this Ireland of ours there are many glorious beauty spots to delight the eye and rest the mind and fill the heart with thankfulness for the goodness of God.

Thundering seas, purple, mist-veiled mountains, broad placid lakes set like gems upon the breast of a beautiful land, hedge-bordered lanes, restful woods, brown bogs, flashing streams, hospitable homes—each and all part of Ireland's mysterious and eternal charm.

In her museums and libraries are treasures from the dim past, far away even beyond the rim of history; treasures of the scribe and the craftsman, some symbols of a pagan mysticism, others, relics of that golden age when a free Ireland, Irish in speech and thought and way of life, opened wide the doors of her schools to students from every land beneath the sun, giving them hospitality, books, instruction and education without fee or reward.

Beauty and treasure are here, indeed, and we value and love them—all of us, that is, who have not given our minds into the keeping of the alien invader—but there are more precious things that are nearer and dearer to our hearts, things that could not be purchased with all the gold of the world—things we are prouder to show to all who love our motherland, whether they are drawn to her by ties of blood or by the charm of her story and her name.



What are these other and more valued and valuable treasures? Ireland's faith in her own high destiny, the language she has clung to in spite of fiendish laws framed for its destruction, the freedom she has prized above all earthly things, the honour she has guarded at the risk of her life, her love of liberty and justice, her hatred of evil and dishonour and tyranny, her hope in days of misfortune, her pride in all who have given their lives for her sake, her courage in adversity, her determination to be free—these are the real treasures, the true and lasting beauty we would like to hold up before the eyes of her own children and of the whole world.

They are hers still, thank God, and it is because of them that men and women have gone proudly to their untimely death, that others will follow just as proudly in their footsteps whenever the call from the heart of Ireland reaches them and lights with a heavenly radiance the hard, rough road of sacrifice and of pain. It is because of these things and these men and women that we are proud of Ireland as the loveliest land on earth.



No small country anywhere in the world has stood up for so long against unremitting alien aggression without for one single moment admitting final defeat. Her altars have been defiled and overturned, her homes have been burned to the ground, the growing food in her fields has been deliberately destroyed that her people might starve, her historical and literary treasures have been given to the flames, her young people and her old people, her priests and her nuns, her helpless little ones and afflicted ailing have been put to the sword or burned in the savage destroyer's flames or exiled beyond the seas. These things have happened again and again and again throughout the unceasing attacks of powerful, callous and unscrupulous enemies.

When we are despondent at the actions or utterances of weakling, perverted, Anglicised Henry II. of England, let us go back to the struggle that has been going on ceaselessly, in some form or other, for the almost incredible space of nearly eight hundred years.



The Irish Nation has been defamed wherever on earth the news agencies and purchased poison pens of England could make their way, and Irish slaves without shame or spirit have been and are being still subsidised to help on the defamation of their own people. Everything that evil cunning and worldly wealth and brute force could do has been done to annihilate us, and here are we today, our population reduced to one-half what it should be, our national dignity injured by degrading English influences, but the faithful ones amongst us unconquered, unforgetting, more determined than ever that the armed burglar must quit our house, that in mind and body we must be free.

There have been pig-headed, obstinate people in Ireland always since the first day Henry II. of England secured a footing in our land by lies and make-believe and limit. It would not accept England's generous gifts, England's impressive institutions, England's disinterested friendship, in return for renunciation of their God-given right to live and thrive and rule in this country.

They would not yield to persecution, they would not be bought by bribes, they would not admit that England had any right other than the 'right' of the robber, and it is because of their unreasonable obstinacy, their stubborn prejudices, their incurable loyalty to lost causes and forlorn hopes, it is because of that fanatical, irreconcilable, foolish minority in every generation that the cause of Irish freedom has never been wholly and entirely lost, that Ireland has never been utterly conquered, that there is a living, unyielding Irish Nation today.

In the dark days that followed Kinsale and Aughrim and Limerick, when Ireland was seemingly beaten down into the very mud of the battlefield and her enemy seemingly all-powerful in the house of the Gael for evermore, there were some who never yielded, in speech or in spirit, there were some who remembered the past and took from it hope and courage and guidance for the future, and because they never gave in, the plans of the English enemy and his Irish traitors were foiled and the Irish Nation lived on to husband and reorganise its strength, to awaken the courage of the timid and despondent and make another bid for freedom.

## CRAIG THE NEW LIBERAL

Splits in the once strongly unionist party are now becoming a regular event, with each new brand seeking to enforce its views on the other. Not even the most bigotted of the anti-Republican critics can deny that the efforts of the Republican Movement in the present campaign have to a large extent contributed to these cracks in the unionist facade. With each step nearer our goal of a Thirty Two Counties Socialist Republic the fear of the loss of power and privilege of the unscrupulous politician increases and so they vie with each other in order to find out who can frighten the average Protestant voter into accepting their brand of unionism. Now however a new tactic has been adopted by Bill Craig. He is now a liberal, he is even prepared to accept power sharing with the SDLP.

The political history of Craig is so riddled with anti Republicanism that at first sight it is strange that after so many actions and speeches against Republicanism that this man is prepared to do a volte face and do a deal with people whom he regards as Republicans. At this point we would like to assure you that while we have wrongly used the name of Republicanism in respect of the SDLP, to the unionist



Craig greeting supporters at Vanguard rally

politician the SDLP are Republicans, although as Republicans we know that the SDLP gave up any pretence of Republicanism long ago. But such is the backwoodsmanship of the unionists that they have not yet realised this fact.

However the, to all intents and purposes, the conversion of Craig still remains a point of debated with many people. This reason and that reason has been given. When the facts are examined Craig's overnight conversion is neither overnight nor is it a conversion. It is rather in its way the result of the reasoning of a politician as astute and as corrupt as Craig is.

We have since 1970 seen the fall of Stormont mark the imposition of direct rule from Westminster, the setting up of Stormont mark 11 in the form of the illfated and unlamented shortlived power-sharing assembly and again the imposition of Direct Rule. Stormont mark 11 is in the making and despite what we have been told this new Stormont will be set up to the liking of Britain whether or not she will throw the sop of Power Sharing to the so-called minority. Someone will have to lead this new Stormont and Craig by his present posturing as a pro power sharing liberal type unionist hopes to be if not the man to lead the new Stormont at least to gain a position whereby he could reasonably expect to someday take over the reins. To some this line of reasoning may not make sense but when we consider the ups and downs of Craig's political career this line of reasoning is perfectly logical.

In the fifties Craig's star was very much in the ascendancy when as Minister of Home Affairs he pursued a relentless policy of repression of Republicans. Unfortunately for Bill he blotted his copy book once too often and was dismissed from government. In 1969 he once more popped into prominence but once more he went out of the limelight. The facts of his excessive drinking habits helped a little in this respect. Now Bill sees again his golden opportunity. Five years of Power Sharing is not a long time for the man who has been so consistently and so unsuccessfully striving for power. When the five years are up he can then tell Westminster that power sharing has not worked and throw over the SDLP and the other dupes who have helped him to power. He can then implement every repressive law which he can think of in order to stay at the top. There is only one flaw in Craig's reasoning good though it may appear. That flaw is the successes of the Republican Movement which will not only wreck the rosy dreams of Craig but those of every other supporter of the rotten system both North and South of the border in Ireland.



## LETTERS

### MAGILLIGAN CAMP HAS DISAPPEARED!

Magilligan Camp has disappeared! It would appear so if a report in your issue of the 8th of September by the Ulster Architectural Heritage Society is to be believed. As the residents of this area watch the present construction of a mile long, twenty-five foot wall round this prison they must, like ourselves, wonder why the builders have not taken the advice of the Society "by masking distressingly offensive features with a discreet clump of trees or a softening creeper!"

The U.A.H.S. in their "review" of the Magilligan area state that "any new building must stand on its own merits." Although not new, the camp having been used for the original internment processing, it fills us with joy when the Society let us know that our residence is part of "a fascinating picture of architectural development over three hundred years." Not being knowledgeable in the matter we wish to enquire of the Society what "natural beauty" can be found in a massive, barbed wire and corrugated fenced prison camp with gutters thrusting ugliness to the sky? Tell us, we can't see it. Of course we forget that the U.A.H.S. when casting their eye over the area didn't even notice the camp although it is situated at Magilligan Point. Even at night its thousands of fog lights can be seen miles away.

The Society complain that "corrugated roofing or cement block walls" of some nearby cottages are not conducive to the general beauty of the area. Nowhere is the masses of tin and wire used in the building of this camp mentioned! We would be the last people to detract from the beauty that is here but there is also an eyecore of a prison here and the U.A.H.S. should not try and deceive the public into believing that they did not notice it. If the Society are not aware already, we would remind them that British prison camp "architects" know nothing of stopping the "erosion of the unique character of the area." Beauty in their eyes consists of Nissen huts and wire. If the U.A.H.S. could inform us beforehand when next they intend to visit the Magilligan area we will do our utmost to convince the Camp Commandant that the setting off of flares should catch their myopic game. By refusing to comment on the camp they hope that it will go away by their next visit. That is the only point on which we, the prisoners could concur!

On the other hand, if Magilligan remains to blight the surroundings, we shall do our best to have the camp "thatched!" At least then, it may 'merit' a mention in the Society's next report. **REPUBLICAN PRISONER, CAGE 'F', Magilligan Camp.**

# TENSION IN LONG KESH

We have been asked to issue the following statement on behalf of the sentenced Republican prisoners Long Kesh.

Tension inside Long Kesh is running very high at the moment due to petty and vindictive harassment by the prison administration. Attempts are being made to daily introduce new restrictive measures which can have no other possible purpose but to make life all the harder for the inmates.

Harassment is nothing new to Long Kesh but yesterday it

took a new form which could only have been arrived at after much deliberation by Commandant Truesdale and his chief 'Security' officer, Davy Long. Visitors to the camp were kept waiting 4 to 5 hours and when they complained of this they were told that the prisoners were refusing to co-operate with the prison staff and this was the reason for the delay.

Some were even 'advised' to go home because it didn't look as if they were going to get a visit. While all this was going on, life inside the camp was going on as per normal and we

were totally unaware of what was going on in the visits. There was no such non-co-operation in progress and the whole exercise can only be taken as a massive attempt at harassment and intimidation of visitors and prisoners.

It must be obvious to everyone by now, but particularly by this latest episode. That Commandant Truesdale and his underlings have a totally free hand to exercise their perverted and sadistic tendencies on thousands of men, women and children without fear of re-primation. In fact, Truesdale

has often openly boasted inside Long Kesh that no one could 'touch him' not even the Northern Ireland Office, with immunity such as this and an attitude such as this, there is little wonder that Long Kesh is a world wide symbol of oppression and suffering.

We will resist all these petty minded attacks on our visitors and on the prisoners here and we will refuse to allow ourselves to be used as set pieces in whatever game is being played.

**DEREC MAC THOMAS**  
PRO Sentenced Republican Prisoners, Long Kesh.

# BROKEN PROMISES

A Chas,

Since the beginning of this year Mr. Rees has made a lot of promises which we all know he failed to keep. When a promise has been made and not kept it can at least be pushed to the back of your mind and forgotten but what of a promise half-kept or a wish momentarily granted and then refused. That type of promise is not so easily forgotten. This has been the case of prisoners seeking compassionate parole over the past few weeks, after the setting up of the present 'truce' concessions were made to both internees and Political prisoners in the form of releases and parole. Parole is something that political prisoners have never availed of in the past unless for extreme personal reasons for example a death or illness in our immediate families.

Here in Armagh Gaol the Compassionate Parole system has very seldom been used except in a few cases. One of these cases is Margaret O'Connor from Belfast. Margaret O'Connor, who is married, is doing

a nine year sentence and has been in the Gaol for over four years now. Recently her husband has become ill and Margaret applied for parole in order to help him to get over the worst of the illness. Her parole was granted and she was allowed home for a week at Easter. The parole was very much appreciated by both Margaret and her husband. Since then her husband's complaint has not improved and Margaret again applied for parole using the same method that she used the first time. This was a Board Paper from herself together with a letter from a doctor who knew her husband and a report from the Welfare Service here in the Gaol. This time Margaret was refused her parole and no reason what so ever was given for the refusal. Then N. Ireland Office refused to review Margaret case or to give any reason for refusing her parole.

We know of a lot of cases in other Gaols where parole has been refused in the same way and it would appear that there must have been

a change in the policies of the N. Ireland Office. The Welfare Service in the Gaol has expressed concern at these present refusals. The N. Ireland Office do not know any of us personally and the problem of parole is based on what is submitted on pieces of paper and by police reports on security situations. Would it not be better if parole was based on reports based solely on the findings of the Welfare Service in the Gaol and then the consent of the N. Ireland Office. The Welfare Service are aware of our problems and can meet us individually, this enables them to assess each case on its own merits. I would therefore say that the Welfare Service is the only able-bodied group able to state whether an individual case merits parole or not, instead of a crowd of bureaucrats hiding behind reams of official red tape. Red tape has never and can never show 'Compassion' can it.

Yours,  
**P.R.O. ARMAGH GAOL**  
**LIBERTY AND STRENGTH.**

## Statement Misleading

The Republican prisoners in Magilligan Prison Camp call on Bishop Edward Daly of Derry to substantiate claims alleged to have been made by him while on his recent visit to Scotland.

The claims - to the effect that many young Republican prisoners in this camp were not attending religious services as a protest against his political speeches - are simply not true.

Unlike Bishop Daly, we believe that the religious practices of the men here are entirely a personal matter for each man, regardless of what their religious beliefs or affiliations may be, they are certainly not the business of the people of Edinburgh nor should they be the subject of an international conference.

In addition, we also point out that even Bishop Daly arrived in Magilligan earlier this year, he was met by representatives of the men, who, among other things, expressed our desire to have a permanent chaplain appointed to the camp - but as yet one has not been provided. Claims that he was met with a "complete wall of silence" are untrue and misleading. The meeting was a very cordial one and we treated him as we would treat any member of the Catholic hierarchy of any other politician.

Is mise,  
**SEOSAMH O' DONNAILE**  
P.R.O. Republican Prisoners  
Magilligan Prison Camp.

# SOCIAL BENEFITS AND ELECTRIC CUTS

Sir,

In March of this year Mr. C. Poots, the North Down Assemblyman speaking at a meeting at Carryduff advocated that electricity and water supplies to Catholic areas should be cut off and that Catholics should not receive Social Service Benefits. Mr. Poots also objected to the dependents of men being held at Long Kesh getting "Government hand-outs" and stated that these should be stopped forthwith. Mr. Poots is a member of Paisley's Party in the "Democratic Unionist Association" but made a point of stating that he was speaking in a "personal capacity."

Regarding the statement made by Mrs. Jill Knight and the allegations directed by her at the workers in the Catholic areas carrying out rehabilitation work on vandalised and devastated Catholic homes in these areas, I would say without fear of contradiction that Mr. Poots and company have indeed found a strange bedfellow. I would point out to Mrs. Knight

that the source of her information came from persons who cannot stomach the thoughts of seeing a little employment being directed into Catholic areas, thus giving employment to Catholic workers.

Employment in these areas by the way is something of a novelty to the Catholic population as the Labour Exchange records will show. Mrs. Knight might also be interested to know that for the past 50 years Catholics have had to join the dele queues to receive their miserable pittance while the Loyalists received their dole in the form of a pay packet at the Belfast Shipyard and various other industries subsidised by none other than "British Tax Payers money."

I will finish off by reminding Mrs. Knight - Mr. Poots and Co. to remember the words spoken by ex Prime Minister Terence O'Neill which went as follows: "Give Catholics decent homes and jobs etc. etc. and they will live like good Protestants."

Yours,  
**FIAT LUX.**

A Chas,

We would like to make the following statement on behalf of the Coiste Seasta of the Irish Republican Socialist Party regarding an article which appeared in 'Republican News' on 13.9.75. The article was entitled "I.R.S.P. WHICH DIRECTION NOW."

In general we welcome the article as a serious attempt to analyse the political developments within the Official Republican Movement which led directly to the formation of the I.R.S.P. as a separate political organisation. The author is of course perfectly correct in identifying the national question as one of the main areas of discontent. The fact that the leadership of the Officials were prepared to abandon the national liberation struggle and confine themselves to a struggle for reform in the context of the existing 6 county puppet state was of course a major cause of the discontent on the part of a very large number of sincere republicans and socialists.

We also welcome your appeal for a sound analysis on the part of those who wish to pass judgement on the I.R.S.P. and the recognition on your part that the national liberation struggle is broad enough to absorb all genuine republicans and socialists.

In conclusion, we would like to make following observations on some factual errors contained in your article.

1. There is no disagreement within the I.R.S.P. on the question of fighting elections. The I.R.S.P. is not an abstentionist party, and is committed to contesting or abstaining from any particular election on the basis of a thorough analysis of the conditions prevailing at the time of the election. The adoption of this policy received the unanimous support of all delegates present at our inaugural meeting on 8.12.74 including those from Belfast and Derry. The same meeting also decided in principle to contest the Convention elections but left a final decision on the matter in the hands of the A.R.D. Fais.

2. The decision to register the I.R.S.P. as a political party was made at our inaugural meeting in December '74 and received the unanimous support of all delegates, including those from Belfast and the decision has never been questioned by anybody within the I.R.S.P. since then.

We offer these comments in a spirit of comradeship and in the interests of accuracy in what we consider to be a matter of vital political importance. We hope that you will accept our comment on this spirit and that you will publish this reply without alteration.

Is Mise,  
**M. PLUNKETT, Ard Ruail**  
(General Secretary).



# Meagre Act of Welsh Wizard

A Chars.

Marilyn Rees has today, Wednesday September 17th, once more demonstrated, for those who don't know already, just what a double-talking and downright liar he is.

Yesterday (Tuesday 16th) four men were released from internment. This news was first broadcast at 6.00 p.m. and was repeated on each subsequent news bulletin on both TV channels meaning that the maximum in publicity was extracted from this most meagre act of the Welsh Wizard.

Today internment orders were served on seventeen men with the promise of more to follow shortly. This piece of news was greeted with a deafening silence from all sides. It did not warrant the smallest mention on any of the TV or radio bulletins throughout the day. Thomas Pasmore, Grand Master of the Orange Order in Belfast said nothing, which is a rarity on its own.

Recently Mr. Rees has shown a complete volte-face in his utterings: "Internment is not the answer; we must use the courts; all the internees will be free by Christmas" etc. etc., but in reality our lad hasn't changed one iota. If we look closer at the cases of two men who were served with internment orders today we get a much clearer idea of Rees' thinking.

(a) Ivor Bell is at present serving a five and a half year sentence imposed on him for escaping from "Law fine Custody" (internment) etc. So instead of expecting to be with our families this Christmas some of us can expect to be here in 1979 when Ivor's sentence is com-

pleted and he is moved to the internment cages.

(b) Gerald Rodgers was served with an internment order as well. At the time of his arrest Mr. Rodgers had been free for just 3 weeks after completing a three year prison sentence.

The point which bothers me and a lot of other men who are expecting Rees' policies at first hand, is just how much faith is put into his words by a lot of very gullible people.

Lets look at the facts of the situation. The Republican Army / British Army truce has been in force almost 10 months. During this period the I.R.A. have adhered to the terms of the truce with the utmost stringency but always reserving the right to retaliate against anyone terrorising the nationalist people of the six counties. The same cannot be said of the British Army who have contrived these same terms on numerous occasions including murdering men and boys. Meanwhile the Loyalist murder gangs continue at their work with apparent impunity. At the same time in Long Kesh over 200 men are held hostage without charge or trial. They call come from the republican side and are held hostage for events they are not taking part in and for a situation over which they have no control. He can fool some of the people all of the time etc., etc., etc.

Is mise le mae  
TOMMY GORMAN.

P.S. I'd like it noted that not once in my letter did I mention those champions of the minority the S.D.L.P.

## Handicrafts Stopped at Long Kesh

The Administration in Long Kesh have introduced a new handicraft procedure which in practice means that we will not be able to put out handicrafts as we have done for the past few years.

They claim that handicrafts are used for smuggling items out of the camp. This is completely untrue and the real purpose of the exercise is to stop all handicrafts going out.

I have informed them that we will not be complying with this new order because it is totally unnecessary and only designed to cause trouble in the camp.

I request that you make representations to the N.I.O. and warn them that we are going to take protest action on this issue. Of late there have been many petty restrictions placed on the prisoners and the line is now drawn.

A copy of this communication is being sent to I.R.P.W.O. for similar representations to be made to the N.I.O. Press statements will also be issued from here. Request full coverage in the media.

DAVE MOBLEY,  
Battalion O/C S.R.P.  
Long Kesh.

IT'S HERE NOW . . .

BUY IT — YOU'LL NEVER REGRET IT!  
HEAR IT — YOU'LL NEVER FORGET IT!

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Roots by Liam de Paor

## ULSTER NATIONALISM

"BRITISH, OR AT worst Ulster" was how Sam Smyth, of the U.D.A., and of the Ulster Council of Civil Liberties, described his ambivalence at the seminar on Northern Ireland organised in Amherst, Massachusetts by the Committee for an Irish Forum. In giving such priority to the British identity he was not speaking for all loyalists. Many would give first, not second, place to "Ulster" in stating their nationality, and by no means all would wholly exclude "Ireland", as he did — although they would exclude any "all-Ireland" nationality.

The question of identity is one which troubles and concerns people who feel threatened and betrayed. Their leaders, represented by the old-style Unionists who in some of their present factions were also present at Amherst, continue to maintain the ambiguities of the Ulster position. Like other Irish politicians of the 20th century they achieved power in ambiguity and contrived for many years to give a special and peculiar meaning to the old tag *divide et impera*. The working-class loyalists now express resentment at any suggestion that they were in any way more privileged than their Catholic counterparts in the North; yet all their arguments make it plain that they felt privileged in comparison with their counterparts in the South. For a long time it would seem that this was sufficient to bring their loyalty, not merely to the Crown and Constitution, but to the conservative Unionist Party itself. No effort to achieve solidarity of the working-class and such efforts were made by various kinds of Republican and Labour movements — could overcome their fear and suspicion of Catholics in politics. Now, when at last Unionist leadership has been rejected, the loyalist workers still, it would seem fear any commitment to an ideology which might join them to their fellow-workers. They first require and demand total assurance that the border will stand forever.

### DILEMMA

Protestant rather than working-class solidarity has defined the identity of those workers in the

past, and in recent times a sense of grievance at being misled, betrayed, traduced and maligned. Their view of their own history recognised that they accepted the leadership of another class; it denies, however, that this won for them any special favours as compared with the Catholic workers who rejected such leadership. They fall wholly to grasp the sense of exclusion and injury which Northern nationalists have felt for more than a century, but point only to the common hardships, including massive unemployment, which their class as a whole has suffered in Ulster. In rejecting now the leadership which is seen to have betrayed them, they are afraid to reject the politics of that leadership.

This creates a dilemma for the loyalist workers of Ulster. It renders them, in spite of their strength, impotent, since they find themselves, although they reject Unionism, still caught in the old Ulster trap. They cannot even identify their own interests for fear of finding common ground with republicans. Instead, taking a late leaf from the opposition's book, they are now desperately looking for a "national" identity to describe their common cause.

History is the quarry from which such identities are ever hewn. The loyalist workers, who formerly felt reasonably protected under the wing of Unionist leadership and the British Empire, now, exposed, look to history for a formula which will hold them together and at the same time distinguish them as Ulstermen who have been on the right side all along. Among other matters they seek — and indeed are surely entitled to — dignity. This the nationalists however defeated, have always had, because they possessed a coherent myth which conferred meaning, and therefore dignity, on their struggle and on their suffering. To Ulster Volunteers were not put to the test in 1914, and Protestant Ulster has not since been united in a common cause which was its own exclusively; on the contrary, under the test of the present troubles it has fallen into disunion. An Ulster nationality has failed to emerge clearly from this struggle, while the "Britishness" of Ulster

has been diminished rather than increased by the succession of events.

### EVASION

One of the requirements of the sought-for myth is that the ordinary people of Ulster should be shown to be in possession of their patrimony, not colonists, settlers or carpet-baggers. The rejection of the leadership of the past century is also a rejection of the myth of the Plantation. "We are not settlers but the ancient people of Ulster," is what the loyalists, it would seem, would now like to say. And history, if we look at the constant coming and going of people between the north of Ireland and Scotland in prehistoric and historic times, can be made to bear this interpretation. The "Ulster Scots" can, with but a little manipulation of the facts, be presented as a people who long long possessed both shores of the North Channel. Belfast a great deal less English than Dublin, the red hand is a much more ancient (and more Irish) symbol than the tricolour, and an Ulster nationalism can soon find grounds for declaring itself to be the indigenous nationalism in the island. But it is a belated development, for this is not a time for such nationalisms. Their day has gone by, and history is read differently nowadays.

What the loyalists are seeking is, essentially, an evasion. It is the evasion of the Social Contract; in other words, of republicanism.

It is an evasion of the recognition of what their common interests are, since such recognition must express itself in policies that cut across the long-held solidarity with the Unionist leadership against the bogey of the Republic. It is an evasion of the distasteful truth that Protestantism and Catholicism are no longer the political camps they once were, that the wars of today and the future are fought on other (not necessarily more sensible) grounds. But it is an evasion which implies the danger that, before illusion is finally relinquished, one last battle may be fought for the old cause.

## NEWS FROM USA

By Terry Ferguson

Last July a Regiment of the British Army flew into Maine and later trained at Fort Carter, Colorado in July and August. The U.S. government claims its a NATO operation — and ignored protests by Irish groups in America. NATO Troops from the British Army have been stationed in Northern Ireland since 1969. Their training by the U.S. Military is a clear violation of the NATO Treaty and Americans so called "Neutrality" in Irish affairs.

Congressional Investigators of the CIA have discovered CIA operations in Northern Ireland, often in conjunction with British Intelligence operations

The story will bring Red Faces to the State Department and the White House when the full facts are published.

Is Henry Kissinger a Racist?

This question is being asked by many Irish Americans who point to his long Anti-Catholic and Anti-Irish record. His State Department has advised Congress not to investigate Ulster affairs, and Henry has supported Britain's Internment Policy which is an Anti Catholic device. Cancellation of visas held by Seamus Loughran and other Republicans came on direct orders from Kissinger's State Department officials conceded last week, letters to Congressmen by Robert McCluskey, Assistant Secretary of State, calls the IRA a "Terrorist" group, despite the fact the State Department, in a 1973 bulletin, conceded the IRA was not a Terrorist group — but a guerrilla force engaged in a Nationalist struggle for freedom.

### IN MEMORIAM

In Proud and Loving memory of the Officer's and Volunteer's 2nd Battalion Belfast Brigade who gave their lives for Ireland.

Staff Captain James Bryson  
Lieut. Patrick Mulvenna,  
Lieut. Liam McParland  
Lieut. John Stone,  
Vol. Patrick Campbell,  
Vol. Bobby McCrudden,  
Vol. Michael Clarke,  
Vol. John Dougal,  
Vol. Patrick Teer,  
Staff Captain, Ann Marie Petticrew,  
Staff Captain, Dorothy Maguire,  
Vol. Ann Parker, Vol. Eileen Macklin,  
Fian Michael Magee, Fian Michael Sloane, Fian Eamon McCormick,  
Gallini, Catherine McGartland.

Always remembered by the Staff and Volunteers of the 2nd Battalion Belfast Brigade Ogligh na h-Eireann.

## 2nd Annual Commemoration

In Honour of The Officers and Volunteers of B. & F. Company's, 2nd Battalion Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na h-Eireann. Who gave their lives in the fight for Irish Freedom. — Leaves Bullring (Ballymurphy) 2.30 p.m. to Milltown Cemetery, Sunday 28th September.

## THE DUBLIN RAPIST . . .

Whatever happened to the Dublin Rapist? A full two weeks have passed without as much as a midnight scream from Rathmines. And two editions of the "Sunday World" have come and gone without a single reference to the passionate prowler.

Well, the happy tidings for the maidens' of flatland is that they may once again sleep soundly and safely in their bedsits. The scourge of suburbia is in custody. Yes, the Rapist has been apprehended and is receiving psychiatric care which everyone will agree is the correct and humane treatment for such a demented person. His treatment is of course, entirely incidental to the fact that he happens to be a member of the Garda Síochána.



# THE LIAM MAC COLUMN

In the past few weeks, watching the hysterical dance of death of those so-called "elected representatives of the people" in the Convention, it is understandable that the political columnists in the Press, should react in a pessimistic mood, they had tried to condition the minds of the minds of the people that all that was needed for the Convention to succeed was that the politicians, especially those belonging to the SDLP give a little to the other side — the word used was compromise.

Now that the balloon has burst, now that we know that the SDLP were willing to agree to every thing and anything, merely to have a few of their leaders sitting as equals in a Protestant/Unionist dominated six county parliament, the same political columnists have gone sour, depressed and their columns in the establishment newspapers show this very clear and blunt.



"Ian Richard Kyle Paisley is now the undisputed Pope of Loyalism. All others, including those prepared to shoot to kill for their brand of loyalism, are traitors and Lundy's."

(Ciaran McKeown, Sunday Press 21/9/75).

"The last vestige of respectability in the old Unionist establishment is about to be torn away by the Frankenstein monster they let loose to smash Civil Rights all those years ago. It may be Paisley's historical role to do just that before the people he has led into a trap turn on him at last with the cry 'Paisley Must Go.'"

(James Kelly Sunday Independent 21/9/75).

"Now that the loyalist politicians are going about scuttling their own boat in true-to-form tradition, and that hoary old argument is being revived over what it's all about — the naked roots of the problem are being laid bare for the final act of the six county farcical tragedy. What it's all about is basically simple. We are witnessing the disintegration of a confused and disorientated bunch of wilderness wanderers who are not only bankrupt but utterly incapable of administering a rural district properly.

A bunch who will have to be by-passed before any sensible solution can be found."

(Claid Gordon, Sunday Press 21/9/75).

Those quotes where the opinions of the journalists in the papers in the South. When one looks at their counterparts in the local press, we get the arrogance of the middle-class conscience from the pen of the one and only John D. Stewart. "Harold Wilson may be, as I am constantly told, a bit of a Fenian, but at least he hands out the dough in lavish quantities. Only a real dumb vote against Santa Claus." (Sunday News 21/9/75).

That my friends is John D. Stewart one of the great upholders of the Establishment, who will never understand what it's all about. His contempt for people is shown in everything he writes. He just sighs with relief, as he makes his way to the bank, that he is not like the ordinary mortal.

In the same newspaper, John Morrison, better known as Hugh Sherman, a time historian for the old Unionist Party, doesn't agree with Stewart, and doesn't give a damn about the Brits Santa Claus. "...Empires in their decadence depend on the principle of Divide and Rule. With empires gone, all the neurosis of Britain's senility has been projected into a banana colony exercise in N.I. and following the book of rules which they keep somewhere in the imperial archives, they had to have two communities between whom they could beat up hatreds and devise rivalries. And on what more emotive basis could they put this than religion? This is what Whitelaw, Callaghan, Heath, the Arch-Bishop of Canterbury and all the rest of them were up to.

Look at the procedure which Woodrow Wyatt, the latest of our crackpot failed imperialists, proposes to adopt. Such Catholics as he cannot wangle into the Republic by changing the frontier, he will entice thither by payments up to £20,000.

The muddlers who have reduced Britain to being the sick man of Europe, would remain here to intensify and make permanent the muddle they already made in Ulster. Can it be that the day will come when we will have to join Kennedy Lindsay and cut the rope that attaches us to the incompetently crewed, waterlogged and sinking ship, which is modern Britain.

(John Morrison, Sunday News 21/9/75).

Do the Brits have a policy for the six counties? According to John Wallace of the Belfast Telegraph they don't have. "In the middle of it all poor old Airey Neave has been here. Some intrepid journalists traced him to Stormont and fired questions at him.

What about this bi-partisan policy then? Alas, the nice Mr. Neave had no answers. The truth is of course that if there is a policy at Westminster, let alone one on which the Tories could split from Labour, they don't appear to have told Airey what it is yet."

(Telegraph 19/9/75).

And Michael Farrell of the Peoples Democracy, writing in the Hibernia Magazine (19/9/75) seems to think the same way as John Wallace, anyway our Michael is very depressed, and writes that "The Wilson Government will continue to dither, but if they continue to dither too long the loyalists will begin to put pressure on. And they have the muscle to do it in the shape of the U.W.C. and the para-military private armies. A loyalist coup is no idle threat. There is not the slightest chance now that the British Army would crush a loyalist coup. And it is increasingly doubtful if Westminster would want them to.

At any rate a loyalist take-over now seems inevitable.

But then in the same magazine, the very same issue we get a very different outlook which might help to raise the spirits of Michael. From the pen of Jack Holland we read: "Soon after Harold Wilson became Prime Minister he put into operation an updated and drastically shortened version of his 1971 'fifteen point' plan for an United Ireland. What Wilson has slaved from his original plan is now a scheme for a gradual British withdrawal, and it includes a series of concessions to the Provisionals. The first point in 1971 Wilson plan was the securing of a 'cessation of violence.' By 1975 he had realised that this could only be achieved by talking to the Provisionals; the SDLP could not deliver the goods.

The kind of violence that he was interested in stopping was that directed against the British Army, but more especially, the bombing campaign in England. To a large measure he has succeeded in achieving this. The British have decided to go straight ahead to the IRA and by-pass the SDLP. The effects of Wilson's policies in the short-term has been to demoralise the Army, split the Unionist Coalition and in particular to undermine the position of the SDLP. With the setting up of the Incident Centres the Provisionals, now have a legitimate voice in the affairs of the community, and they claim — with some justification — that the people are having more and more recourse of the Centres with a wide variety of everyday problems. Needless to say, the SDLP have watched this development with growing unease as they have the spectacle of the Provisionals through their ceasefire achieving a run down of internment, something the SDLP using the channels of parliamentary democracy, have not been able to do.

Whatever the outcome of the Craig versus Paisley struggle, Wilson at any rate has come to the conclusion that the Provisionals cannot be defeated militarily, and must be talked to. And when the British go, it seems that whatever regime they leave behind will be forced to negotiate with a politically strengthened and military refreshed I.R.A. The alternative is of course civil war." (Jack Holland Hibernia Magazine 19/9/75).

Let me quote the words of Leo Abse, the Labour MP just to finish this article on an optimistic note. "Our days of the empire are over and the continuous use of courageous British troops for a spurious cause is intolerable. Direct rule in the context of the existing situation means colonial rule, and the Labour movement has no intentions of stepping back in time to join those in Northern Ireland whose allegiance is to yesterday Britain. Our disengagement from N.I. is as inevitable and predictable as our disengagement from India, Palestine and Cyprus.

When new economic burdens were falling on the electorate, a Labour MP could no more be expected to support a policy of making good a Budget deficit of a non-democratic N.I. than he could be expected to subsidise a racist Rhodesia. (Belfast Telegraph 19/9/75).

# UNWARRANTED AND VINDICTIVE PROVOCATION

Republican remand prisoners in A Wing of Crumlin Road Jail have threatened to appear in the nude at remand courts in future against the "Unwarranted and vindictive provocation" towards them by prison authorities.

They hope to mobilize public opinion into pressurising the authorities to end the "degrading practices" being used against the prisoners.

Remand prisoners in a statement said that over the past few months they had shown restraint in face of the degrading treatment meted out to them. They list their complaints as follows:

Trumped Up Offences:

"We have had our parcels tampered with; we have frequently suffered severe rationing in our food; we have had our men severely maltreated in the notorious B-wing for minimal or trumped up offences; we have been subjected physical and verbal abuse; we ourselves and our visitors have been subjected to degrading search procedures; we have our cells wrecked and personal effects destroyed in the course of joint army-prison officer 'controlled searches'; we have endured more and more petty restrictions."

The prisoners claim that they only received "blank" assurances and sanctimonious promises from the governor when they protested to him. But the harassment continued unabated. They say their patience has been stretched to the limit and added: "the verbosity of the past must now be replaced by constructive and responsible action by the prison authorities."

The prisoners appeal to all right-minded people, especially their relatives, to give them active support by contacting the incident centres, the Northern Ireland Office, and the prison authorities, expressing their abhorrence of "these despicable encroachments on human liberty and dignity."

# TEENAGER BEING DENIED POLITICAL STATUS

An eighteen year-old Derry youth, is the victim of a callous "experiment" by the Northern Ireland Prison Authorities, the Royal Ulster Constabulary and the British. The prisoner, Billy Page from Derry, is at present the only Derryman serving his sentence in Belfast's Crumlin Road Jail. He is being denied political status by the Northern Ireland Authorities to see if by totally denying a political prisoner political status and the accompanying right, they can succeed in putting down the entire system of political status. Until the Republican Movement campaigned for Billy to be given his proper food parcel and visiting time, he was kept as a remand prisoner, although he was sentenced. He got the small remand parcel only.

The most unjust aspect of Billy Page's treatment revolves around his denial of political status, despite being accused of probably the most political crime there is — that of shooting of a British soldier. Billy Page was also subjected to a most unfair trial. Although arrested while still a juvenile, he was held on remand for over a year, in order to be old enough to be tried in an adult court. Tried in a juvenile court and convicted of the alleged crime he was finally convicted of, he would have got off far more lightly.