



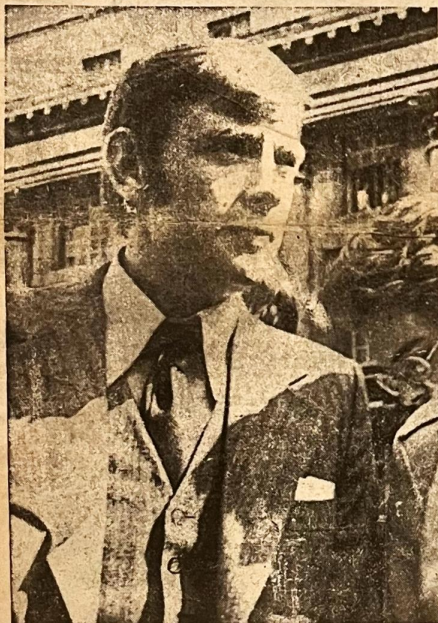
REPUBLICAN NEWS

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AS FRAMED ARDOYNE MAN WALKS FROM COURT 'MODERATES' GREET HIM WITH

THE DEAFENING SILENCE



Eddie McCafferty pictured as he left the Appeal Court after being freed on bail of £300.

EVEN AS EDDIE McCLAFFERTY WALKED FROM BELFAST APPEAL COURT AFTER BEING RELEASED ON BAIL OF £300 THE 'MODERATE MAJORITY' MAINTAINED THEIR DEAFENING SILENCE WHICH HAS ^{BEEN} ^{REVEALED} ^{BY} ^A ^{CHALLMARE} OF THE CASE SINCE CHRISTOPHER HENDLEY, A FORMER PRIVATE IN THE 3rd PARACHUTE REGIMENT, REVEALED THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE MURDER OF BRIAN SMITH, AND THE SUBSEQUENT JAILING OF EDDIE McCLAFFERTY, THE USUALLY VOCIFEROUS 'MODERATES' HAVE REMAINED MUTE.

Gerry Fitt, in whose constituency the incident occurred, had refused to enter the campaign for McCafferty's release. The trade union leaders of the pro-British "Better Life For All" campaign did not make an effort to have the murderers of Brian Smyth brought to trial or the perjurers of Eddie McCafferty arrested. Very noticeable by their absence from the controversy were the "Women Together" element of the "peace" movement and their clerical backers.

Mrs. McCafferty paid special praise to Father Denis Faul as she left the Appeal Court with her husband, "I cannot speak too highly of Fr. Faul," she said.

The bizarre circumstances which led up to the death of Ardoyne man Brian Smyth were revealed as Christopher Hendley spoke in the witness box. Hendley called his former commander, Capt. Godfrey Burt, "a maniac." Burt is now a Major in the 22nd SAS Regiment and is a close personal friend of SAS Staff Sergeant Malcolm Rees, the murderer of Peter Cleary.

Hendley said he joined the Paras in July, 1971, and was posted to Belfast in March, '75, for a four-month tour of duty.

On April 17 that year, he and three others under the command of Capt. Godfrey Ronald Burt set up a hidden observation post in an empty house, No. 9 Etna Drive at 4 a.m.

Sometime afterwards seven Ardoyne men gathered at the junction of Brompton Park and Etna Drive. Hendley said that Burt called the men "IRA scouts" and gave orders to shoot saying "This is too good a chance to miss."

Hendley said he saw no weapons at any time and no one in the patrol said he saw any of the men with any weapons at all.

"Capt. Burt gave the order to fire," Hendley said, "I fired seven shots. Every one of us opened fire."

The firing, he said, lasted between five and ten seconds. After it was over, he saw one man lying in an alley-way.

Five minutes later, after picking up their empty bullet cases and equipment, they returned to their base at Flax Street Mill in a scout car.

There, Capt. Burt said they would have to "make up a story that fitted." They were to say that McCafferty was seen picking a pistol from his blue anorak and that one of the men, Brian Smith, who had been killed, was seen picking an Armalite rifle from his trouser leg.

Capt. Burt stressed that the soldiers would say that McCafferty had a revolver, rather than a pistol, as a revolver was easily identified.

"At that time I was pretty scared," said Hendley. "We got a report back that Brian Smith had been shot dead, and two others injured. Capt. Burt replied: 'It's a pity we did not get more of the bastards.'"

Hendley said that Capt. Fletcher remarked: "It would have looked pretty suspicious with all those dead bodies and no weapons."

It was also suggested that the soldiers should say that the two weapons they saw produced by the men were picked up by some women who ran out on the streets after the shooting.

Hendley said that Fletcher remarked: "If you have got seven dead bodies on the street,

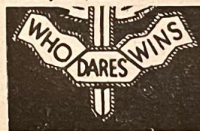
you can't do that." Later, Hendley said, he and Pritton discussed the shooting. He said to Pritton:

"I don't like this one bit," and Pritton replied: "I don't either."

Hendley said that before being interviewed by the army Special Investigation Branch and before McCafferty's trial: "We had a rehearsal about what we were going to say, until we had it all sewn up."

"In court, we gave evidence against McCafferty which was not true."

A member of Belfast Sinn Fein, commenting on the McCafferty case, said:



"This case represents only the tip of the iceberg as far as British/RUC frame-ups go. Our files are full of reports detailing cases of men, and women, being jailed on phoney evidence supplied by uniformed criminals. Most of the remand prisoners now awaiting trial will be sentenced on the strength of forced written statements or non-existent verbal statements which the RUC Secret Police will allege given voluntarily."

The Sinn Fein spokesman said that the truth surrounding the activities of Britain's agents could not be found for ever.

"The long hand of justice will someday fall on the shoulders of these men. Several of the Bloody Sunday murderers have found this out their cost in Angola."

ALJ ACCUSE BRITISH OF 'REVENGE' AGAINST THOSE WHO PROTEST AT TORTURE

The Association for Legal Justice, in a hard hitting statement, have lashed the British Army/RUC for the increased torture now taking place in various centres throughout the North.

The Association say that on the night of June 18 there were four foot patrols of soldiers and two vehicle checks in the Falls area between College Sq., North and Springfield Junction. At the same time, they say, only one RUC vehicle was noted moving along the Shankill Road.

In the Ardoyne/Woodvale area of the Crumlin Road, where two Catholics were murdered on a bus the previous day, no parti-

rols or checks were in operation. And frequent helicopter surveillance of Catholic West Belfast was absent in other areas.

They state the regular and increasing arresting swoops are made on Catholic areas between 4 and 6 am and complain that there is no evidence of similar activity to apprehend and charge the assassins operating against Catholics in North Belfast security would also seem to be a matter of revenge against those who protest against injustice and torture by the security forces, says the Association report.

The statement says that of 11 arrests reported on June

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

STRIPTEASE POLITICS

or 'How to try without really succeeding'

The script has been in the writing for the past two years and rehearsals for "A NEW INITIATIVE" began early in New Year 1976, when it was obvious that the Stormont Convention would fold-up and flop. Ivan Cooper of the Social Democratic and Labour Party had publicly warned of "an impending Fascist take over of the North by the Loyalists" and accused the Dublin government of being "preoccupied with I.R.A. condemnation, blind to the build-up of Loyalist might, weak in their dealings with the British, failing to stand uncompromisingly for S.D.L.P. partnership government and an Irish Dimension and day-dreaming in the face of a Unionist take-over." (Sunday Independent 18/1/76)

Ivan Cooper was the "Day dreamer". His more alert colleagues in the S.D.L.P. were quick to see their chances in a renewed offer of Craig's initiative, "a strong devolved parliament and government based on majority rule with an agreed acceptance of a minority group, whose ruling and firing in Cabinet posts would be a decision for the leader of the majority. There would be no veto for the minority and (most important) Union with Britain would be maintained" said Craig: "To equate such an emergency coalition with the power sharing Executive in the Northern Ireland Assembly is inaccurate and dishonest. There is absolutely no similarity." An unnecessary clarification except for the duller.

The New Initiative pleased the Brits who are desperately watching the crumbling of the U.K. It pleased the Dubs who are equally maintaining their own positions and would not have to share anything or do anything and anyway Cruise O'Brien had declared that "talk of a United Ireland stuck in his own throat." It pleased the Official Unionists who, according to John Taylor, were "fervently loyal to the Crown and wanted a restoration of a meaningful parliament and government in the North." He did recognise that "such a Cabinet could not survive without minority consent." His formula for restoration "Be rid of Paisley and Baird who blocked the way and take on some loyal Catholics in lieu - so long as they were loyal to the link between Great Britain and Northern Ireland" and "back the forces of Law and Order" chimed in Craig. It pleased Faulkner who wanted partnership government as the only means "to strengthen and secure the Union with Britain."

Within a few weeks of Cooper's "warning" the S.D.L.P. faced with loss of jobs and salaries (co-terminal with the Convention) placed a magnificent advertisement in the Belfast Newsletter (4/2/76) addressed to the Loyalist populace and assuring them—

"...The S.D.L.P. are committed not only to support but to defend any new institutions of government that are agreed.

...Any government formed in Northern Ireland must be agreed

on its policies and Law and Order and must give effective support to the police service.

Any new government formed will require strong unity of both policy and purpose.

...The S.D.L.P. believes that there can be no change in the status of Northern Ireland without the consent of the majority of its people. Westminster had not guaranteed any less to its loyal Unionists. A joyful Craig publicly commended the S.D.L.P. for being "so generous and conciliatory and felt so exhilarated that he now declared "we would welcome a community of the British Isles - the S.D.L.P. have made a move in the right direction."

Negotiating A Devolved Independence.

Judge how much the S.D.L.P. have "moved in the right direction" when a few weeks ago Paddy Devlin publicised to a Dublin audience that his party

'To establish the new structures throughout Ireland is the publicly declared aim of the Republican Movement and offers a far more democratic system than that which has obtained here since 1922.'

were considering joining the Loyal Unionists in "negotiating a devolved-independence" for the Six Counties. This was officially announced by S.D.L.P. Chief Whip. Austin Currie - he it was, poor chap who declared in January 1974 "Sunningdale has fulfilled Wolfe Tone's desires for Ireland to break the connection with England."

Yesterday, he "welcomed discussions on a new initiative," one designed to break the connection with the rest of Ireland. Of course, to talk of a United Ireland was to earn the charge of being "sectarian, bigoted, backward-looking, anachronistic and a myth-making separatist" and to get stuck in the poisonous crawl of Cruise O'Brien. Instead, the S.D.L.P. have learned "to respect the aspirations of the Loyalists" which means strengthening, securing the link with Britain, being loyal to the Crown and maintaining the Unionist majority and the Partition of Ireland. That is "being generous and conciliatory."

To this end the S.D.L.P. have stripped themselves of all their demands and pledges on behalf of the people they claim to represent. One by one they stripped themselves of their promises on Irish Unity, their demands for Justice, their pledges on the on the Rent and Rates strike, their non co-operation while Internment was in force.

They have dropped their demands on power-sharing on a Council of Ireland. But lately Chief Whip Currie and his party would have to examine and decide "to what extent an Independent Ulster would be compatible with current S.D.L.P. policy on Irish Unity." Which current policy? The one outlined last January in the Newsletter? Where is the incompatibility there? John Taylor said "No anti-partitionists." Harry West said, "Loyal Catholics only" and he did not mean religion.

The S.D.L.P. are down to their skiff and grabbing for the imaginary fig-leaf of "a possible incompatibility." And Mr Currie further queries "how far guarantees could be given to the minority that this new initiative would not become an Ascendancy State." The policies of the S.D.L.P. were meant to be the guarantees for the minority and have long ago been discarded. The ease with which it is done was evidenced by the "uncompromising" Ivan Cooper who last January was "warning Irish Catholics of the take-over dangers and today was warmly embracing Craig's old dream of Independence within the United Kingdom.

A New Structure of Government

New initiatives have been set before the people of Ireland. A new system to replace the old and fundamentally undemocratic system of partition that has

ruled Ireland - all Ireland - for 50 years. A scheme that embodies a New Constitution, providing an open charter of rights for each and all and nor a hedging in with "guarantees" wrung from the powerful to placate the weak.



A new structure of government providing for the maximum distribution of authority at provincial and subsidiary regional local levels, not the highly centralised structure where the fate of the people is held beyond their control and the future of the Nation is decided in the interests of some political power group.

The establishment, as pro-

posed in the new scheme, of a Provincial Parliament for the Nine Counties of Ulster within a new Ireland, would be the first step forward and in its creation the partition system would be disestablished and the problem of the Border removed. Such a parliament would be representative of Catholic and Protestant and Dissenter. It would be an Ulster parliament for the Ulster people with considerable control over their own affairs. The present Unionist orientated people of Ulster would have a working majority within the province - that power would be the surest guarantee of their civil and religious liberties.

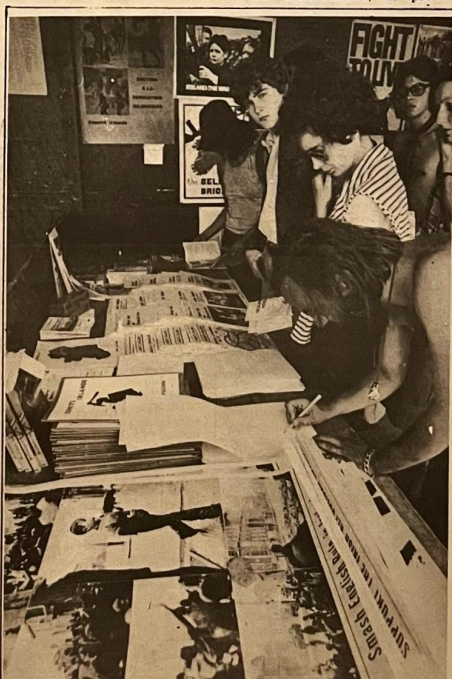
To establish the new structures throughout Ireland is the publicly declared aim of the Republican Movement and offers a far more democratic system than that which has obtained here since 1922. It has one "disadvantage" the new scheme was conceived and outlined by Irishmen, for the Irish people, in the interests of the whole Irish Nation. The colonial and neo-colonial mind still gripping Ireland, is by its nature, dependent on outside ideas and concepts. Not the good and worthy interdependency and free exchange of ideas which produces benefits to all, but the total dependency which leads to an unquestioning acceptance of national impotence and an even readier acceptance of a subservient state. In such circumstances there is never a question of a "take-over", merely a "push-over."

SUPPORT FOR IRISH STRUGGLE GROWS IN FRANCE

The photograph (left) shows a section of the large crowd who were attending an exhibition of Republican posters and literature. The display was organised by 'Comité Irlandais' a solidarity group based in France

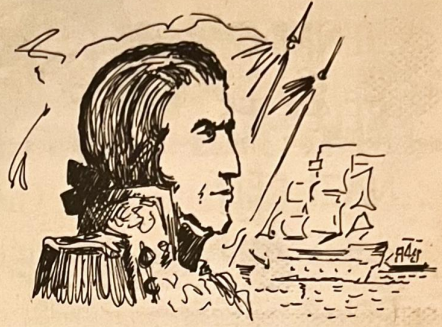
It was reported that those who attended showed a high degree of understanding of the Irish situation, and sales of the revolutionary literature were extremely good.

Included in the exhibition were photographs of British Army forces and RUC thugs making attacks on the civil community inflicting injuries on all who stood in their way. The photographs go a long way to counter the wave of black propaganda at present being peddled throughout Europe by the Brit's war machine.



Bodenstown

'THE FLAME OF RESURGENCE REKINDLED'



Gearóid Mac Carthaigh

Cosgrave's Blueshirt Government received yet another setback in their efforts to crush the Republican Movement when 25,000 supporters marched to the Tone plot in Bodenstown. Large numbers from the occupied areas were present despite the threats from the neo-B' men who had boasted that they would 'seal the border.' Representatives from many foreign revolutionary groups were present as were supporters from Germany, Belgium, France and Third World Countries.

The main speaker, veteran Republican Gearóid Mac Carthaigh, brought prolonged applause from the gathering, when he reiterated the pledge of Ogligh na hEireann to bring the liberation struggle to a successful conclusion.

This honour of providing the colour party fell to the Belfast Brigade and all along the route to Bodenstown Volunteers were cheered enthusiastically.

They were followed by a colour party of Cu mann na mBann, Cumann na gCeall, Flanná Eireann and Clann na nGael. Noticeable this year more than any other were the orders in Irish bhí an Ghaeilge; lathair agus go giorach agus tháinig sin go mór leis an slua.

Noticeable, too, were the banners of many new cumainn of Sinn Féin, many of them, also, inscribed in the national language. The weather was warm and sunny throughout and there were only a very few isolated incidents, manufactured by agents provocateurs in a bid to create trouble.

Few Gardai were present along the route to the graveyard but, as happened last year, check-

Six Counties, the Six Counties, Britain and America. A wreath was laid, on behalf of Comhairle an Airm by Commandant Tom Kelleher from Cork. The Last Post was sounded by members of Flanná Eireann.

Gearóid Mac Carthaigh opened his oration in Irish "A chairde, taimid bailithe anseo arís chun onóir a thabhairt do Theobald Wolfe Tone, athair phoblacht na h-Eireann, agus coimeádaimis muid inár a-síne nach bhfuil aon mhaitheas bheith ag teacht anseo chun onóir do thabhairt do Wolfe Tone mura bhfuilimid toilteanach obair Thóne a chriochnú."

Mr. Mac Carthaigh went on, "Once more the road to Kildare has rung out with the martial tramp of resurgent Republican Ireland marching once more to renew our tribute to Theobald Wolfe Tone; marching too, every year, every day, every hour nearer to the final goal, to the completion of the work of Tone."

"There are those today - the traitors, the hirelings, and the

was broken he would fight.

"Tone, if one is to speak the Cosgraves, the Lynches, the Cooneys and the O'Malleys, was a man of violence and he was proud to be a man of violence because he saw his country torn and raped by violence, by the violence of the armed forces of Britain and he saw that there was one way and one way only to defeat that violence and that was by counter-violence."

"From the day when he made that vow on Cave Hill in Belfast he devoted every minute and every hour of his life to arming, to training, to fitting the men of Ireland to break that connection with England."

"He set out, realising that the state of Ireland at that time was sad, that it would be necessary to get arms from outside of Ireland and to get men to train Irishmen in the use of these arms."

"When the Hoche stopped in Lough Swilly even these soldiers with years of experience of wars all over Europe, admitted afterwards that there was no man

times - a few short months ago - when the body snatchers, now dressed blue and green instead of the scarlet of the Yeos in '98, but with the same purpose - to prevent the people of Ireland from playing a last tribute to Pádraig Mac Stáig - the people of Ireland as you know (you were there as I was there) turned out as they did for Tone's burial and showed the Free State traitors of Ireland was still in Tone's day: "to hell with your British laws that are passed by a body of so-called Irishmen in Leinster House."

"Again when it became a crime according to Free State law to honour the men of Easter Week, the same answer was given by the Republican Movement and by the people of Ireland."

"And let any honest man compare Tone's statements, Tone's policies, Tone's means with those of the Republican Movement today."

GREATEST GENERATION

"Since Tone's death, every year down to the present year, resurgent Ireland, sometimes in small numbers, sometimes in great numbers, has marched to this spot to renew their vow of undying hostility to British rule and made another vow to complete the three tasks which Tone had set before him and they found in 1968, and 1969 and 1970 the flame of resurgence being rekindled once more on the streets of Derry and Belfast not far from the spot of Cave Hill where Tone made his three promises; and they found that a new generation had been born, a new generation of Irishmen and Irishwomen - I call them, and history shall call them the greatest generation of Irishmen and women that were ever born because they are the generation that are going to complete the work of Tone."



"They are the generation that will not be halted until the final connection with England is broken..."



"They are the generation that will not be halted until the final connection with England is broken in every sense, not in one part of Ireland but throughout the length and breadth of the Thirty-Two Counties of Ireland and in 1970 the spearhead of that resurgent generation of Irishmen - the Army Council of Ogligh na hEireann - have laid down the conditions, the only conditions on which this war would stop, (and let us compare them with the words of Tone on Cave Hill):

- the first and over-riding condition of all is that there would be no peace, that this war will go on until a declaration of intent was given by the British Government to withdraw not only their troops from Ireland but to withdraw every vestige of their power and authority from Ireland.
- that everyone of the prisoners

of war no matter where held would be released and - that there would be a complete amnesty for everyone of our soldiers who are on the run.

"I think that in the first of these conditions, the declaration of intent by the British Government, the wording is very close to the words of Tone when he said that until disconnection with England, the root of all our country's evils, there can be no peace in Ireland."

"The Republican Movement in declaring its policy in Éire Nua, the establishing of a Socialist Republican Government on Federal lines has remained true to the words of Tone when he vowed on Cave Hill to establish an Irish Republic."

"Tone sought aid abroad, he sought arms and he sought men he brought men to train Irishmen in the use of arms - and I call on any honest man, no matter what his political views might be, to come forward face-to-face with me and point out where is the difference between Tone with the Hoche and Joe Cahill and his comrades with the Claudia."

OGLIGH NA hEIREANN

"There is one difference all right; whereas Tone had to bring men from France to train Irishmen in the use of firearms, the men of the Claudia had no such need because the men of today do not need foreign trainers."

"That," said Mr. MacCarthaigh "is the difference between Tone's expedition to Ireland with the Hoche and that of Joe Cahill with the Claudia."

He continued: "The Irish Republican Army today are defeating the British army and will continue to do so until the war is won. They will not be deterred from their purpose by any power under the sun and not by the hirelings and traitors of the Free State establishing."



The colour party this year was formed from members of the Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na hEireann and Cumann na mBann.

points backed by armed men, delayed many, especially those hurrying back home before dark. Our reporters observed them being "frisked" and delayed quite unnecessarily by leisurely searching of persons and vehicles.

Whoever gave orders for these delaying and vindictive tactics must have known that they were putting the lives of these men, women and children in danger from sectarian gangs.

Joe O'Neill was chief marshal, and Jimmy Drumm was chairman. The organisation was a credit to all concerned, particularly to members of Cumann na mBann and An Cumann Cabhrach, who put days of work into providing snacks, meals, tea, fruit and ice cream, the proceeds helping to swell the funds of An Cumann Cabhrach (the prisoners' dependents' fund).

Messages of support then were read out on behalf of the political prisoners in the Twenty-

quising, who will tell you that the Republican Movement of today are blaspheming the name of Tone, that they are not following in Tone's footsteps.

"Well, let us examine the Republican Movement of today, their actions, their policies and see whether it is they, or the Cosgraves, the Lynches, the Cooneys and the O'Malleys, who are blaspheming the name of Tone."

Tone, when a young man outside of Belfast on Cave Hill with a small group of comrades set three objectives before him, and defined them very, very clearly.

- first, to substitute the common name of Irishman for Protestant, Catholic and dissenter.

- second, to establish an Irish Republic.

- third, and most important of all, he stated that he saw in the root of all his country's evil, the connection with England and that until that connection

who fought as long as did the Irishman, Theobald Wolfe Tone - the man of violence if you like to use those words.

"You can then compare the Republican Movement of today who are accused of not following in the footsteps of Tone and of blaspheming Wolfe Tone when you consider the fight in Lough Swilly."

TONE'S FUNERAL

"When Wolfe Tone died, murdered by British forces, when his body was handed over to his relatives for burial in this spot they were warned by the British forces that the burial was to be private and that no one was to let know when the funeral was taking place. But the people of Ireland came out for that funeral in their thousands and let the British Government see that their answer then, as today, as always was, 'to hell with your British laws' and in recent



Gearóid MacCarthaigh pictured during the oration at the grave of Wolfe Tone.

Mr. MacCarthaigh ended by paying a warm tribute to the Volunteer soldiers of Ogligh na hEireann and sent greetings to Republican POWs in jails in Ireland and abroad. He lashed the Blueshirt Government over the atrocious conditions in Portlaoise.

JENKINS RELEASES NAZI RELF



As predicted by socialists in England Roy Jenkins refused to let Robert Relf die on hunger strike in Stafford Prison. Jenkins had insisted during Frank Stagg's ordeal that it was not the policy of the British Government to bow to blackmail from 'convicted criminals'....Relf fell into that category. Despite the efforts of the British gutter-press to paint Relf as some sort of hero, 'fighting for freedom', the facts tell a different story.

Relf has a long record of racist and Nazi activities. He had previously served three prison sentences for racist activities.

1964 Relf was jailed for three months for refusing to pay a fine for daubing racist slogans on walls in Warwick.

1965 Relf was again jailed for aiding and abetting the wearing of Ku Klux Klan uniforms. The British Klan had at that time been involved in the bombing of the homes of black people in England.

1965 Relf and his wife continued their association with the Ku Klux Klan and this led to a third jailing for an attack on an Indian shop.

Throughout his miserable life Relf has been involved with racist and Nazi organisations and harbours a particular hate for black and Irish citizens living in Britain. He is a former member of Colin Jordan's National Socialist Movement, of the National Front, and is now trying to join the British Nazi Movement who are involved in gun-running for the UDA/UVF. The lives of Michael Gaughan and his comrade Frank Stagg were deemed expendable by Roy Jenkins, the life of Relf otherwise.

PUBLICITY BLACKOUT ON LOYALIST ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS IN ARDOYNE

Ardoyne Relief Committee are very concerned that no publicity is being given to Loyalist assassination attempts in the Ardoyne area. Incidents are being covered up by the press and news media with the result that even the people in the area know nothing about them. A week past on Sunday following the murder of a man on the Crumlin Road another murder attempt was made within 20 yards of the first attack. Two youths on a motor-bike opened fire on three people standing at a bus stop. Fortunately no-one was hit. On Tuesday morning' around

11.00 a.m., at the Alliance Avenue end of Etna Drive a car tried to abduct two young Catholics who luckily had their wits about them and fought off their attackers. One of these lads was only twelve years old. That same afternoon at approximately 4.30 p.m. in the same area, two young boys were playing when a couple of youths came from behind the "peace-line" barricade and attacked the boys with a knife. One was stabbed in the stomach and very seriously injured, yet no publicity was given to this incident.

BLATANT LYING ON THE PART OF BRITISH ADMINISTRATION

On Wednesday 16-6-76 the newly appointed Deputy Chief Constable of the RUC Mr. Jack Hermon, spoke out against the "terrorists" operating in the 6 counties; "these people, their actions, their doctrines, are no part of the body of our society. They are alien to the vast majority of people in Northern Ireland. They are a sickness, an evil we have allowed to develop. The body of our community, every part of it, must help to kill it."

Coincidentally on that very same day further evidence of the brutal excesses of RUC personnel was made known to the public. Three young men in the course of being interrogated over the death of a police man, were systematically beaten and tortured in a most hideous fashion. Perhaps the most alarming fact to emerge from these allegations was the fact that "hooding" is once again being used to force information, and in this case

signed confessions, from young men.

Over the past years but in particular since the announcement of Merlyn Rees, of the "Primacy of the Police," pressure has been mounting to force the RUC on nationalist minority areas. The Republican Movement has consistently opposed this move, maintaining that the RUC is still a sectarian force, dedicated to the repression of the minority nationalist population.

Only a few months ago it became widely known that at least twenty high ranking RUC men who had been engaged in the torture of men after the introduction of internment in 1971, were still serving in that force. Sinn Fein has reported regularly over the past months incidents in which young men, and even young women, have been barbarously treated in police stations, especially Castlereagh and Springfield Road. How many of those young men and women are today in prison

DID COSGRAVE AND COONEY INSIST ON PHOTOGRAPHS OF S.A.S. MURDER TEAM ?

A Chara,

Through the columns of your newspaper I would like to express my disgust at the inhuman visiting conditions which exist in Portlaoise prison where my brother and his fellow republican prisoners are incarcerated. A friend applied to the authorities for a pass to visit my brother there. This gentleman received a reply from the Governor - informing him that his respectability to visit my brother would be considered if firstly he sent his photograph to the Governor himself.

I was not aware that such repressive measures existed in jails of The Common Market Countries, nor even behind The Iron Curtain! Yet this is a so called "Free State" is ruled by Christian government.

In the real interest of state security it would be gratifying to know whether or not Cosgrave and Cooney insisted on having the photographs taken of the eight SAS murderous thugs who recently crossed into our territory? Those professional ruffians were found in possession of such deadly weapons as sawn-off shot guns - openly defying the Geneva Convention. Are the British Government not morally responsible for the weapons held by their "Peace-keeping" Forces in occupied Ireland and wherever else they dominate? Many of us would welcome clarification on such subjects.

Is Mise,
Worthington & Watters Brothers
Sinn Fein Cumann Dundalk
JOSEPHINE FINNEGAN
PRO Officer.

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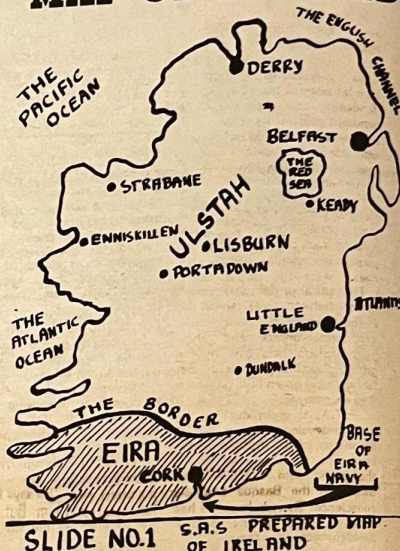
ALJ AND TORTURE

11th, there was solid evidence of serious torture in two cases and blackmail in two others.

The Association also state that the victims of this treatment are kept in a glass-house 6 feet by 2½ feet and that during interrogation they are threatened with a murder charge unless they admit less serious crimes.

The Association say that there would seem to be evidence that the British Government now felt immune from effective action by the European Commission to stop torture. "As a result the tortures of 1971 are now being resumed in 1976," says the Association report.

SAS PREPARED MAP OF IRELAND



BRITISH TROOPS ARREST AND ABUSE EIGHT MONTHS PREGNANT WOMAN

Mrs. Glennon, from Ballymurphy Pde. was arrested by a large contingent of British troops who invaded her home at 6.30 am on Wednesday. Glennon, who is 8 months pregnant, was pulled from her home and made to jump in and out of Land Rovers until she collapsed. While under 'arrest' at the Henry Teggart fort Mrs. Glennon was subjected to vile abuse by leering Brits. Immediately

on her release she was rushed to the Royal Victoria Hospital where her baby will be born prematurely. As we go to press the Ballymurphy housewife is still in labour. Following disclosures of the disgusting behaviour of troops, released by Fr. Faul last week, the latest incident reinforces the view that the Britishers are completely out of control and are a law unto themselves.

FRANK MC.GEOUGH
died Mon. 21/6/76.

(Castlebellingham)

The leadership of the Republican Movement in Belfast deeply regret the death of Frank McGeough and send heartfelt sympathy to the family.
Belfast Brigade I.R.A.
Cumann na mBan.
Na Fianna Eireann.
Cumann na gCailini.
Auxiliaries.
Sinn Fein.

Anniversary

THIRD ANNIVERSARY
Lt. Pat Carty.
Lt. Dermot Crawley.
Lt. Sean Loughran.
(Killed on active service 25th. June 1973.)

The Carty/Crawley/Loughran Cumann, Dungannon, remember with pride three of Ireland's finest. May the soil rest lightly on their graves.
"We love them yet, we won't forget, the felons of our land."

solely on the evidence of a statements forced from them? hundreds.

Personally, when I read the above quotation from Hermon, I think of the RUC terrorists in our midst and his words, "these people, their actions, their doctrines, are no part of the body of our society, etc." take on a new and more appropriate meaning. Torture, intimidation, beatings etc, are

all to commonplace an occurrence within the RUC that they to be anything other than part of their normal procedure. Any attempt to excuse these excesses as over-reaction on the parts of individuals is blatant lying on the part of the British administration. The RUC is a biased, sectarian, repressive force and as such will always be unacceptable to the overwhelming majority of the nationalist areas.

'I HAVE LENT MY CHURCH FOR CLANDESTINE MEETINGS; I HAVE COLLECTED MONEY FOR STRIKERS; I HAVE SERVED AS A BRIDGE BETWEEN PEOPLE WHO HAVE GONE UNDERGROUND AND THE OUTSIDE WORLD; I HAVE PARTICIPATED IN DEMONSTRATIONS AND SIGNED DOCUMENTS'

In the Basques' struggle to assert their national identity against Madrid's strong centralism, Catholic priests have traditionally provided strong support. How far many of them have come to identify with even the extremist proponents of nationalism was illustrated by the priest, who allowed himself interviewed on condition he not be named.

His views and views of the more extreme are more common among younger priests. Is not a young man, but those views are now rare among priests his age.

The radical priest has a parish in this industrial capital of the Basque country. His parishioners are metal-workers and shipyard workers who live in the grimy, cheerless tenements defacing lovely green hills on which they are arrayed.

"E.T.A. is a product in its general developments as well as its origins, of the disarray of the conditions in which we live," the priest said. "E.T.A. has awakened the Basque people's conscience. The whole world has become aware of the Basque problem because of them."

TARGETS IN UNIFORMS

Asked who would be legitimate targets of the counter-violence that he defended, he thought for a long time and replied:

"In a certain manner, responsibility for establishment violence belongs to everyone who directly or indirectly or passively makes it possible. That is, a great number of the citizens of Spain, all who wear a uniform and others, are responsible for establishment violence."

The priest did not rule out the possibility that those wearing the uniform of the church, so long a pillar of the Franco regime, might also be considered targets, on his grounds. He said that if a certain bishop had not died, "something might have happened to him."

The church hierarchy, he said, is adopting a waiting attitude, characterized by noncommittal prudence, in the current uncertainty in Spain.

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE HAS BEEN TAKEN FROM AN INTERVIEW GIVEN BY A BASQUE PRIEST TO A REPORTER FROM THE "NEW YORK TIMES."

Priests have also allowed weapons and explosives to be stored in churches and rectories. Many clandestine pamphlets have been run off on church mimeograph machines. Priests have hidden persons who are being hunted for subversion and have helped get them across the French border where they are received by French Basque priests.

In giving his help to clandestine groups, the priest said he was not taking any sides.

"My position has been to co-operate with all who needed me," he said. "Other priests co-operate only with one party."

His bishop calls him from time to time to remonstrate with him, the priest said. "He says I should have consulted him. But if I did he wouldn't let me say what I want."

CHANCES OF NON-VIOLENT CHANGE 'VERY DOUBTFUL'

What should a Basque priest's social duties to his flock be? He spoke slowly.

"To tell people not to be happy with the situation - political, economic and cultural. The second thing is to do something against the causes and origins of the unhappiness. It could be violence or nonviolence."

Asked about the chances for nonviolent change, he said, "It is very doubtful."

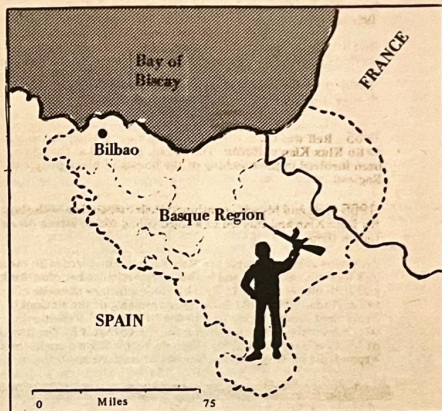
"I am skeptical of all parties," the priest replied, with a negative gesture, when asked if any of the existing groups represented a promise of realization of his aspirations for a democratic Spain in which Basque national rights would be safeguarded. "It is very difficult to imagine after so many years."

"the Basque bishops say absolutely nothing about the dead of Vitoria and Bassauri" where police killings of demonstrators occurred in March, but the bishops of San Sebastian and Bilbao spoke out against assassinations by E.T.A. and killings of civil guards. The church is discredited in Spain except among the small minority of Francists," he said.

BISHOPS DEFEND COMFORTABLE SITUATIONS

"The bishops," he went on, "only say there should be no more bloodshed. A joke is told here: 'For the heart of God, please stop the bloodshed,' the bishop says. And a man asks, 'But what side is God's heart on, the left or the right?'"

The priest drew a sharp line between the hierarchy and many of the lower priests. A recent declaration signed by 1,500 Basque priests about half the total, strongly urged Basque worker and national rights, the priest said.



The bishops, he continued, defend their inaction by saying that they abstain from public protest to use their influence with the Government privately.

"They defend their comfortable situations and privileges but are not fulfilling their ecclesiastical mission of denouncing injustice," he charged.

"The bad behaviour of the hierarchy is made up for by the local clergy," he continued. "The Basque priests have tried to put themselves at the service of

the people."

He is one of many who have been jailed for such service. In addition to his six months in prison, he said he has been detained on other occasions and fined several times. For what?

"I have lent my church for clandestine meetings; I have collected money for strikers; I have served as a bridge between people who have gone underground and the outside world; I have participated in demonstrations and signed documents."

POW's sister tells of inhuman torture and degradation in English gaol

To Whom It May Concern,
I have recently returned from Albany Prison, Isle of Wight, to where my brother has now been shifted. This occurred after a 56 day solitary punishment given as a result of trying to send out a letter giving details of the brutality suffered at the hands of the warders in Wakefield when on hunger strike. This consisted of stale water being served to them which was never changed they then proceeded to stop giving water to the hunger strikers being Frank Stagg, Gerry McEale, Paul Short and Jim. They then had to drink their own urine, Liam and the rest of them were shifted to one of the old buildings with no bedding or clothing and the roof had holes which meant they gave up their strike (During this time Frank Stagg was steadily deteriorating) They were shifted back to the hospital wing and there they were kicked and called Irish B's. The cell in the hospital where Liam was, was facing the one in which Frank Stagg was being kept, Liam

noticed one morning that Frank's light was off and it was kept on day and night, he learned from a cleaning man that Frank had been moved and was seriously ill. One warder called Clarke, when he entered Liam's cell, began singing "When Irish eyes are dyming, sure it makes my heart feel glad." and "I'll think go and see if the B's dead yet." When Liam objected to this he was again kicked and insulted. That was the last time Liam even knew about Frank until he received word he was dead. A statement was made in the press that Frank Stagg was refusing water and as you can read from this letter they deliberately withheld water from him.

When Liam was transferred to Ducham the light was kept continuously on and the cell was alive with mice and cockroaches, he found one in his water jug, he complained of this to a doctor and they moved him into a cell which was so small he couldn't

stretch his arms out. They also took his bed out during the day so that he could not sit down, this they said was also part of the punishment.

There is a man in Albany Gaol who was sentenced for the Birmingham bombings who Liam says is completely innocent, he has been speaking to him and the fellow isn't even in any organisation. He has said that he doesn't know why he is there, apparently he was taken from work and beaten up, he was taken to different places where his nose was broken and some teeth knocked. I'm sorry but I cannot remember his name as my mind is so confused at present, I would be very grateful if you would look into this and anything you can do would be very grateful.

Yours sincerely,
Liams older sister.

P.S. I forgot to say this person was also stripped naked and put into a bath of boiling water as part of his interrogation.

RAC PLAN SERIES OF PICKETS AFTER INITIAL SUCCESS

Last Saturday's picket by the Relatives Action Committee at Andersonstown Barracks was supported by more than 200 relatives and friends of Republican prisoners to high light the impending removal of political status by the British Government. The picket was a tremendous success despite the behaviour of the British troops who hurled a torrent of obscenities at the women taking part.

Many motorists honked their horns and expressed their solidarity throughout the protest.

The RAC will be holding further pickets and protests in the months ahead.

Plans are already finalised for next Saturday's picket at the Henry Taggart Fortress on the Springfield Road. Anyone wishing to take part should assemble at the top of the Whitecourt Road at 2.45 p.m.

CHILDREN OF POW TERRORISED IN DAWN RAID



On Friday 11th June four houses in Newry were raided by the British Forces of Occupation. Two of these homes were left in a devastated condition. One of these was the home of Mrs. Eilish Morley, of Derrybeg who told our reporter what happened.

At about 7 a.m. on Friday I heard a loud knocking on the door. On enquiring who was there I was told "Brits." When I opened the door a crowd of Paras rushed in and told me in obscene language to get dressed. I was followed by two Brit women who searched every single item of clothing before I put it on. I was then dragged by two Paras to a Jeep and flung inside. When I tried to send one of the children for a neighbour the Brits pulled her back. I was taken away not knowing what was going to happen to my children who were left at the mercy of 23 armed thugs in British Army uniform. Whilst I was held at Bessbrook I asked repeatedly for the Welfare Authorities to see to my children but this was refused. I was held all day until I was put out at 6 p.m. in the evening. When Mrs. Morley left home

the children aged between 13 years and 5 years were all herded into the kitchen. A soldier was left to guard them - he was fully armed. The children told me their story.

"Three of us were still in our nightclothes and we were cold but we were not allowed to dress. Ivan aged 5 was so cold we decided to make some tea; the Brits ordered us to make them 23 cups, but we refused. They then began using foul language to us and started talking about our Daddy. (Mr. Morley is at present in Long Kesh). They said he was a Fenian B. and that they should have shot him. Then they said 'When he gets out, he won't get further than the Camlough Road.' When Eoin aged 8 years wanted to go to the toilet the Brit made him leave the door open. All this time the Morley home was being systematically wrecked by the British Army and the terrified children had no choice but to form them - even a relative who called at the house was unable to gain admittance. When the Brits left, a scene of destruction was obvious. Cupboards were emptied on the floor drawers were pulled out and their con-

tents strewn around, and beds turned upside down. When Mrs. Morley arrived home in the evening to her distracted children she found that many personal items had been stolen including some irreplaceable books belonging to Mr. Morley, 2 Wallets specially made in Long Kesh, the National Flag and cigars belonging to Mr. Morley. Memory Cards were ripped up and strewn on the floor. Despite calls by Mrs. Morley and her solicitor for the return of these items they have not been returned to their rightful owners. Since the notorious Major Baker was the last Brit to search the house it is presumed the articles are in his possession. Newry Sinn Féin regards this harassment of children as a matter of grave concern to all parents, and notes that if Mrs. Morley were to leave her children unattended she would be charged with negligence. Since the Welfare authorities have been notified about this case we await with interest the results of the immediate action which we feel they must take.

Signed PRO
Newry Sinn Féin.

DUNDALK RENT STRIKE CALLED

Following the collection of signatures of the all-electric houses by members of the West Dundalk Cumann, the signatures were later handed over to Mr. Fra Browne, Sinn Féin C.C. who in turn attended a meeting of the Dundalk Urban District Council and seconded a proposal for the suspension of standing orders and raised the issue of the tenants problem in the all-electric houses who are paying as high as £60 per two months on heating alone.

Mr. Browne also informed the Council that as from last week the sixty houses involved have gone on rent strike and will continue to do so until the so-called Minister for Local Government, Mr. Jim Tully, gives a firm proposal of intention to commence renovations. Also under no circumstances will the tenants make a repayment of 50p, a week for the next seven years towards the cost of renovations.

Following a meeting organised by the almost defunct and inactive tenants association (which has adopted a sit back and wait campaign and seem to be unwilling to call on the remainder of the 650 tenants in the estate to come out on strike in support of the 60 tenants involved), the same leaders and some few of their members have recently been trying very hard to smear the name of the local Sinn Féin Cumann and its members who have been trying to help organise and support the demands of these 60 tenants involved and who will continue to do so. We are calling on all our members and fellow Republicans in the area to go on rent strike in support of these tenants who demand the right to have solid fuel fires installed free of charge in their homes.

Is Mise
Chairman
ANDREW CORBETT.

The official policy of the Republican Movement is expressed in statements issued by Sinn Féin, the Irish Republican Publicity Bureau and the leadership of the Republican Movement.

Views expressed here, by letter writers, by regular columnists and in other signed contributions; are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the publishers.

Letters to the Editor will have a better chance of publication if short, typewritten on one side of paper and well spaced. Fáilte ar leith roimh Ghaeilge.

Letters ACTION OF AN ARMY WITH VERY LOW MORALE

A Chara,
Please allow me the use of your columns to address certain points to the so called "security forces" in the Newry Area. I do so in the hope that this will somehow stop the continual harassment of my family, an ongoing process which has greatly increased over the past year. My home in Derrybeg has been continually raided and my wife and children subjected to the most vile mental and physical torture. Age or sex is no deterrent to the thugs who masquerade as "upholders of the law" and the catalogue of their activities while conducting "house searches" makes grim reading, even in comparison to the Black and Tans at their worst. An underlying theme accompanies the harassment of my family and this theme is recognised by the type of questions asked on every occasion by the Special Branch and the British Army Occupying Forces. I propose here, publicly, to answer these questions and then wait and see if the harassment of my wife and children stops.

- (1) I have no "personal" weapon in Newry, anywhere else.
- (2) I am Officer Commanding the Provisional Prisoners of War, Long Kesh. (This term seems to cause them some confusion).
- (3) When my family visit me in Long Kesh we talk about; and discuss, the same problems that face every family, such as schooling, domestic affairs, etc., etc.
- (4) My house is not used as a

"bomb factory," nor is it used as the "armoury for the whole of South Down-South Armagh."

To the members of the Parachute regiment I say this - my wife should not be judged by the criteria you obviously judge your own wives and daughters by. In short, she is not engaged in the "oldest profession in the world." That, surely, is the accepted way of life on an island not too distant from the shores of Ireland, a land from where everything which is evil in the world has emanated.

Finally may I say that if any answers are required to further questions, be they from the Special Branch or the British Army, I am available at the below address on most days and, will present myself for questioning if required. That would be a lot easier than harassing my wife and children and wrecking my home in my absence.

But perhaps that simple method would not allow the obvious pleasure that the "Security Forces" derive from terrorising women and children at gun-point in the early hours of the morning? The one consolation in all this harassment is that those are the actions of an Army with a very low morale, born from the very basic fact that they know they can't win, and they will be forced to withdraw - eventually.

Is Mise,
DAVE MORLEY,
POW, Cage 12, Long Kesh.

PROTEST AT LACK OF FACILITIES

The Fennell-McDonnell Sinn Féin Cumann, Twinbrook, would like once again to protest at the complete absence of social and recreational facilities in this area.

At present the estate accommodates over 6,000 people and more are coming every day. Even so, we are still without a shopping centre and must rely on one newsagent, one chip-shop, one bakery/Post Office and two grocery stores for our needs. There is no chemist, no dentist and no doctor's surgery. Although three shops are proposed for Thornhill none is designated as a Chemist's.

Limited recreational facilities are provided by the Tenant's Association and the Church and consist of Bingo, Men's Night and Women's Night once a week at the Association Hall.

The appalling lack of amenities for the younger people here has inevitably led to an increase in vandalism and whilst this cumann wholeheartedly condemns such activity and urges parents to take closer notice of their children, it recognises that, ultimately, full facilities must be provided if vandalism is to decrease.

PRO
Fennell/McDonnell
Sinn Féin Cumann, Twinbrook.

BRIT PROPAGANDA MACHINE MOVES INTO ANGOLA

Whitehall has again implemented the powers of the controversial "D-Notice," a piece of undemocratic legislation which entitles the British government to suppress all news reports which threaten to discredit the state. Martin Bell, foreign correspondent of the BBC, confirmed this on Sunday's BBC Late night News.

Painstakingly, Bell announced in his classical English-speaking voice that the BBC had been ordered by the Angolan authorities to stop filming the trial. Only the Cuban cameras, he announced, were allowed to film the trial. Message received, loud and clear; decoded, this meant straight-forward censorship by the Angolans. Attentive BBC

goggle-box viewers would think the worse of Angolan justice.

Nothing is further from the truth. Involved and on trial are members of the British public, for involved are ex-members of the British armed forces with service in Ulster. Against this background of intrigue are the eyes and ears of Whitehall, ready to spring into action if the need arises. The full resources of its "D-Notice" will protectively cover-up any allegation of a connection between the accused and their former lives in Ulster. The British government, fearing the publication of kept secrets involving the activities of their counter-insurgency forces, will go to any lengths in order that

they remain secret.

The British are worried that trial disclosures will unearth sordid details of an unholy alliance between the accused and the regiment they served with in Ulster. This would arouse the extensively the passions for liberty they so often tried to extinguish by butchering innocent citizens, whether Irish or Angolan.

The situation facing the Angolan people is identical with the Irish people's confrontation with the British. On trial are hired guns, trained in the techniques of killing, who gained illegal entry to the country to pursue their aims without the consent of the Angolan people. Rightfully, they will be judged by the

Angolan people. Hopefully, the trial brought to the surface by the Angolan prosecution will serve to give us a clearer insight into the full extent of British military involvement in Ireland.

British "soldiers" in Derry have on many occasions been convicted of theft - of shirts, fancy goods, and other saleables from shops and factories they broke into. No news. But you might expect them to be fined or get some sort of time for it. No fear. The same judge who sent Sinn Féiners to prison a few months ago on wildly exaggerated charges of assaulting members of the RUC decided that

the latest proof of the Brits' thieving characters was "a fall from grace" and certainly due to "the stresses and strains of boring patrolling and other routine duties."

The Brits were given a suspended sentence, possibly due also to the fact that their officers vouched for them and said they were "promotion material."

Hang on to your pension books and watch that the television doesn't walk the next time one of "Her Majesty's officers and gentlemen" come to raid your house. They could be ready to "fall from grace" after a boring day on patrol. And RM Shearer will support their thefts.

Appalled as I was to see the documentary "Destination America" (U.T.V. 1/6/76) misrepresent the events surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland and the ensuing mass exodus of vast numbers of Irish people, I could not help thinking that such distorted versions of England's role in Irish history are only to be expected, especially when they come across to us via the British media. I have written to U.T.V. expressing my concern indeed disgust, at certain claims made and important facts overlooked during this programme, although I doubt very much if it will make any impression on their policy, or for that matter, if they will even acknowledge my letter. I would therefore be extremely grateful if you would see your way to print this letter in your columns.

The "documentary" in question attempted to create the impression that the British did *not* within their power to help the

'DESTINATION DEATH'

BRITISH MISREPRESENTATION OF IRELAND'S DARKEST DAYS

At first the British took no steps whatever to come to the aid of the starving masses, and refused to even listen to anyone who suggested that the export to England of corn and other foodstuffs, which could have been fed to the people, should be prohibited. Indeed, as Berresford Ellis records in his book

in sufficient quantities to curtail the starvation of the people. It was merely a British face-saving operation - and not even a good one at that. IN fact so many conditions were applied to it's distribution that it was little more than an insult. In addition it was dishied out quite deliberately on Fridays meaning that

deaths millions more were forced to emigrate. The U.T.V. programme also conveniently left out the root cause of the staggering emigration figures. In 1847, as well as those who went to America, approximately 100,000 sailed for Canada, and of these it is estimated that 17,000 were buried at sea, whilst 25,000

during the first 3 months of the Famine, up to February 5th 1846, some 258,000 quarters of grain, 710,000 hundredweights of barley and one million quarters of oats and oatmeal were exported out of Ireland to England while over the same period 1,000 people died of starvation. After that date exports continued at the same

In 1845 the potato was hit by blight. The crop rotted in the ground (left) and for the next four years there was Famine.



In 1847 alone almost 250,000 died of hunger or fever. (Right)



starving Irish, the sheer hypocrisy of this claim is revealed when one compared it to the claims made during the famine period when the British maintained, despite all evidence, that "There was no real famine in Ireland." Perhaps we can expect these latter-day historians, to resurrect these claims at some future stage and tell us that the famine was a natural disaster, or that it didn't really happen!

I feel it is our duty to the 1 million Irish men, women, and children who died of starvation, malnutrition, dysentery, scurvy, famine fever, not to mention those who died defending their homes and families against eviction, to ensure that the facts relating to the cause of their deaths are not distorted in any way.

A HISTORY OF THE IRISH WORKING CLASS: "During all the famine years, Ireland was producing sufficient food, wool and flax to feed and clothe not nine but nineteen millions of people." Moreover, John Mitchell of the Young Irelanders asserted that a charity relief ship bearing a cargo of grain sailing into an Irish port was "sure to meet six ships sailing out with a similar cargo." The individual self-interest of the Land-lords - mainly absentee Englishmen was considered more important than the lives of the people.

When eventually Government help did arrive, in the form of the meat soup kitchens so avidly mentioned in the U.T.V. programme, it was, true to form, too little too late; it could not bring back the dead, nor was it

the Irish Catholic couldn't eat it without breaking their religious laws. Even at the height of the famine a law was passed meaning that anyone with more than 1/4 acre of land did not qualify for the Government aid - not even a bowl of soup. Thus many people were forced to give up their small farms, in order to qualify for the soup.

Some charitable organisations however did much to help notably those sponsored by the Quakers - and a few land-lords did as much as they could alleviate the sufferings of their tenants. But others - again mainly absentee English Land-lords - evicted their starving tenants for non-payment of rents, thus thousands of families were driven out of their homes and left to die on the roadside.

In addition to the 1 million

others died soon after landing. A typical example of the crossings in the "Coffin Ships" was the *Larch* which set sail from Sligo with 440 passengers of whom 108 perished at sea. Even today the effects of the population decrease caused by this mass emigration are still being felt in Ireland, and the present day population figures are just 60% of what they were in the early 1840's.

We do not blame England for the potato blight, that was indeed a natural phenomenon which affected many other countries around that time. We blame her for the criminal neglect and indifference she showed by enforcing her corrupt laws which allowed the export of food from this country to England while the Irish Nation starved. The British House of Commons was told that

rate to make money for the land-lords. Had the people of Ireland been in control of their own affairs not one person would have died from hunger, not one person would have been forced to leave their homeland, the failure of the potato crop would not even have been considered a matter of any consequence.

by Seosamh O'Donnaiile
Magilligan Camp

All the above facts were deliberately over-looked in the British "Documentary programme" "Destination America" present day historians to cover-up, water down, or misrepresent the leading role she played in this genocidal act against our people. Her shame must be everlasting.

WELSH MP CONDEMNS BRITISH TROOPS IN IRELAND

The Bi-Centennial Banquet of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, Inc., was given on May 1, 1976, as a Salute to Irish Freedom Dinner at the Seventh Regiment Armory in New York City. More than two thousand five hundred participants in this stellar Celtic endeavour of Irish Americans.

National President John M. Keane deserves plaudits for having invited the distinguished prelate from Corpus Christi, Texas, the Most Reverend Thomas Drury and Honorable Gwynfor Evans, M.P., a brother Celt from Wales who is President of Plaid Cymru, which like Sinn Fein in Ireland, aspires to complete freedom from Britain of his native Wales. Our thanks too, goes to the dinner chairman, Michael Delehanty whose invitation brought us a distinguished son of Ireland.

Bishop Drury, in his address, reminded us that we are indeed our brothers' keepers and must abandon our brother in its difficult hour. "Having seen the insides of many prisons in my pastoral duties I am I rather familiar with some aspects of confinement. Nowhere did I see such human degradation as in Long Kesh. One sometimes wonders how can a government which boasts of Magna Carta be so inhuman to a fellow man. I am like any Irishman should, for the day when all peoples would act in the best interests of our fellow man, and do to others as we would wish them to do to us.

Ireland would be a beautiful country if there only was freedom but that comes only to a free people. I see no problem in Ireland if as your banner above me here says:

ENGLAND GET OUT OF IRELAND."

Of momentous historical consequence to this Salute to Irish Freedom was the attendance of our brother, Celt from Wales who said in part, "We in the Celtic nation of Wales have protested the sending of Welsh troops against our fellow Celts in Ireland - and condemned the role of British troops in Ireland. We believe in the ultimate freedom of Ireland, and a union of all the six Celtic nations, and the Welsh National Party expects our country to attain its freedom from Britain within the next ten years (Here his talk was held up by great applause).

In concluding, Mr. Evans predicted that Britain will cease to exist as a political entity by 1990.

JIM BRENNAN

ACCORDIAN BANDS PARADE AND CONTEST

Sunday, 15th August at Lurgan

Bands will leave Kilwilke and Teghnevan Estates at 1.30 p.m.

CONTEST IN FRANCIS STREET AT 3.00 p.m.

All interested bands are asked to complete the form below and forward along £1 entrance fee to:

Mr. G. Loughran, 50, Shankill Street, Lurgan, Co. Armagh

To arrive not later than 22nd July 1976. Bands are asked to provide own transport (Refreshments will be provided).

Name of Band:

Area:

Name and Address of Secretary:

Bands taking part will be sent further details of prizes etc. on receipt of entrance form.

ORGANISED BY: St. Mary's Accordion Band Lurgan.

Now that it seems we are at the beginning of a "Martin Smyth Must Go" campaign from his one-time friend Ian Paisley, my memory goes back to a period when Grand Master of the Orange Order had a more peaceful life.

As a boy growing up on the Shankill Road, the heart of Protestantism and Orangism, I was able to see a usual Monday rite, the queues of white-faced poverty-stricken shawled women at the three pawn shops in the area, the pledges they carried were the Sunday suits of their fathers or sons or husbands - if they were lucky to have a Sunday suit - to get a few shillings to help them last the week until the low miserable wages came in.

On the following Saturday the pledges were redeemed so that all the workers on the Shankill Road looked respectable for the weekend, dressed up in their blue-black-navy suit. On Monday morning the queues reformed, repeated every week of the year, the exception was the "Twelfth Fortnight" everyone needed their suit to be able to march on the "Field" on "The 12th", and sawing the pawnshops closed for the holidays also.

The irony of the above human tragedy was that the three pawnshops were owned by Sir Joe Davison, Grand Master of the Orange Order. The people showed their contempt for him as a politician by rejecting him twice at the polls, but later when he had given up the attempt he was "honoured" by the Stormont Establishment and made a Senator.

The people may have had contempt for him, because they saw in him the man who took away their dignity and pride. They never queried the system of unionism, the political system in the six county state set-up which the NSPCA would not have allowed animals to exist in.



Ah, but you forget, these people had privileges, didn't they get jobs from the local councillor as binmen and street cleaners? The jobs may have been - at that period - the lowest form of work, but at least the wages gave them the edge over the unemployed.

But wee Joe Davison came into his own on two dates in the calendar - the 1st of July parade commemorating the Battle of the Somme - and of course the 12th of July celebrating the victory of King William over the Taigs in 1690.

I still see in my memory Wee Joe, dressed in his best Sunday suit, covered with all the Orange regalia, with his moustache, well waxed, pointing both east and west, "military style, leading the Shankill Road working class, in their Sunday suits - which for five days every week in the year belonged to their Grand Master in his role as a pawnbroker.

To conclude this memory of my youth, can I quote from the book "The Protestants of Ulster" by another Belfast Protestant like myself, Geoffrey Bell.

He quotes the part 5,000 Ulstermen played in the Battle of the Somme, and the pride which the name of that battle kindles in the heart of the Ulster Protestant, and how it is woven into Orange banners and Orange tradition.

"They quote the words not with anger at the senseless carnage, at the way they were sacrificed so that well-fed, high-living Englishmen could enjoy themselves a few more years. They are not bitter at the slaughter of their own people in one of the most pointless military battles the world has ever seen, a battle judged necessary at the time by those not of their class, not of their country. They are not angry, they are not bitter, they do not protest, they are proud. That is their tragedy."

So next Thursday on the 1st of July when the Orange working class march in memory of those victims who were slaughtered in the interests of British Imperial stupidity, remember we have to win them to our struggle. The struggle for the

SECURITY DEBATE —HOUSE EMPTY

On the demand from the Tory opposition the British Labour Government decided to have a four-hour debate on the six county security situation on Monday 14th June. During the debate there was never any more than 30 members present out of a total of 640. Where were the rest of the House? According to the Daily Mirror report quite a few of them were spending the time getting fitted with rented suits from Moss Brothers, the rental firm, at a cost of £10 for the day.

According to a report in the Daily Express (16-6-76) which loves to record the doings of the wealthy idlers in Britain, the MPs who couldn't be bothered to attend a debate on

that £10 million badly and was willing to take the gamble. He met with obstruction from the Dundonald factory works committee led by Jim Smyth, the same Smyth who runs the Ulster Workers Council. Smyth was able to convince the workforce that he could get severance pay for them and then get jobs with Shorts. A damned good bargain if he could do it.

What he didn't tell them was that in Stan Orme's plan, it was either one or the other, not both. When the deal fell through, Phillip Foreman told Orme of Short's own cash flow problems. To the extent of a million, Orme went guarantor for this sum and everyone was happy-except the workers of Rolls-Royce; they are now left

"With Saville Row prices soaring to £300 a suit, mustard over his forehead. Eight years ago he spent £500 there on 10 City suits, each meticulously labelled with the day of the week (Monday to Friday, twice) 'It means that I always know what suit to wear.' (William Hickey Daily Express 14-6-76).



"It is rather ironic that the Garter which the Queen fastened on to Sir Harold Wilson's left leg the other day was the same one she had once attached to another illustrious leg, namely that of the former N.I. Premier the late Lord Brookeborough." (Belfast Telegraph 16-6-76).

"Only for Gerry Fitt, in his role as a tribal chief from a remote corner of the colonial empire, does a thin red carpet continue to be rolled out at this coming. This will continue so long as he is prepared, in return for the glass beads or other baubles that excite the 'untutored' colonial mind, to rally native support to keep a British government in office." (John Morrison Sunday News 20-6-76).

At the Methodist Church Conference in Dublin last week, we heard the Rev. Charles Bain of the North Belfast Mission complain that the huge housing estate of Rathcoole although it was now 100 per cent Protestant only about 10 per cent had any meaningful church connection. "It was one of the toughest situations in N.I. he himself had never faced a challenge like it before in his home mission career. (Irish Times 19-6-76). I suppose the Reverend gentleman like all the other church and public figures around Rathcoole sat back and watched the thugs murder, bomb and burn out the Catholic people from Rathcoole without showing much sympathy until the estate became 100 per cent Protestant. All he can do now is moan the fact that 90 per cent of the Protestant population don't even bother to attend the churches in the area.

D using a picket by the Relatives Action Committee at Andersonstown Barracks a steady torrent of abuse was hurled at them from the Brits.



right of the Irish people to rule themselves; free from any influence from British imperialism.

DISCRIMINATION

"I hope Bob Cooper takes a more active stand against discrimination in his new job as chairman of the Fair Employment Agency than he did when he was secretary of the Engineering Employers Federation in the 1960's. The federation's biggest members, Harland and Wolff, Sirocco and Mackie's employed at that time perhaps 20,000 workers - of whom only a few hundred were Catholics. Questioned once by a BBC interviewer as to what he intended to do about such discrimination, he replied: "Nothing." It was not his job he said, to "stir up the hornet's nest."

The Fair Employment Act outlaws political as well as religious discrimination. Here again Cooper has some experience. When he was Secretary, the Engineering Employers Federation operated a "black-list" against radical, active trade unionists; most of them were Protestant workers who had been prominent in the strike wave of the 1960s.

You should not take Bob Cooper too seriously, then, when he points in his credentials for the new job, especially when he refers to the former post as "conciliation work." (Sidelines. Hibernia Magazine 18-6-76).



I agree there was a black-list against active trade unionists, and among the many of those blacklisted by Harland and Wolff was the now well-known Brendan Harkin of the Civil Service Union. In those days Brendan was a very active shop steward of the Electrical trade union in the shipyard, too active according to the employers, he was sacked and although the union fought his case, and paid him his wages for over a year, he never worked as an electrician ever again. Brendan was one of the lucky ones, he became a trade union official. Since then he has joined the Establishment himself. Brendan's philosophy seems to be if "you can't beat them, join them."

their last Irish colony, joined forces at Ascot and helped to drink 1250 bottles of champagne and eat 700 punnets of strawberries.

They paid £43 to hire a Rolls, £6 to park it, and paid £8 to get into the Royal Enclosures. That was for only the first day at Ascot.

On Wednesday the same week, the British TUC at a special conference decided by a majority to accept a pay deal of four-and-a-half per cent because the Government couldn't cure inflation if the workers had too much money to spend.



"As an Orangeman of 38 years standing and with four sons also in the Order, I am sickened to think that our Grand Master and Capt. Ardill are now having talks with the enemies of Ulster. It is obvious that the only loyalists we can trust now are the Rev. R. Bradford, Dr. Paisley and Mr. Ernest Baird. We, as a family, do not intend to 'walk' this 'Twelfth' while the Rev. Smyth, another of the Craig, Faulkner class, is permitted to remain Grand Master." (Belfast Telegraph 18-6-76).

APPALLED

"As a teacher in a Presbyterian Sunday School I am appalled by the Very Rev. Dr. Austin Fulton, an ex-Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in his condemnation of the vigilante force proposed by Dr. Paisley and Mr. Baird.

As time goes on it is becoming clear to me and many of friends that Dr. Paisley is Ulster's only hope." (Sunday School News Co. Down).

GREED AND STUPIDITY

At the beginning of the year when it was decided to close the Rolls-Royce factory at Dundonald, Stan Orme tried to work out an agreement with Shorts. For a total of £10 million and a new machine shop with all the latest machine tools offered as a bribe Shorts was to saddle themselves with an extra labour force of 800.

Now Phillip Foreman the boss of the Aircraft factory, needed

with the prospect of a long period of unemployment, thanks to the greed and stupidity of Jim Smyth, leader of the Ulster Workers Council.

'TO HELL WITH PRINCIPLE'

Trade Union officials don't usually show their yellow streak so easily as did John Coulthard, the regional officer of the National Union of Public Employees, which is the trade union representing the local hospital workers. The RUC arrested a young man who works in the Royal Victoria Hospital, and while in custody he was abused and ill-treated and released with no charges against him after several days. His fellow trade unionists in the hospital, when they heard of the incident, held a 15 minute protest out on the roadside and blocked traffic.

A straight forward, understandable reaction of workers, one would say, and would be supported by all trade unions, more so by trade union officials who have been running a campaign this past few months for a "Better Life for All."

But the good 'loyalist workers' employed in the City Hospital who are also members of NUPE objected to the protest against 'their beloved RUC' and threatened to resign from the union unless Coulthard disassociated himself and the union from the protest.

TO HELL...

John very readily did so...to Hell with the principle that all union members must be protected and that an injury against one is an injury against all. Coulthard is a leading member of the N.I. Labour Party.

FISH POISONED AND DUMPED

On Tuesday June 8th the Irish Times carried a report that 500 boxes of fish had been dumped back into the sea off the County Kerry coast, because they had not realised the minimum auction price set by the EEC. The fishermen concerned were compensated for the destruction of their catch.

Charitable organisations in Kerry had asked that the fish be distributed among the poor families in the area, but were informed that EEC regulations did not permit this. According to the Irish Times 9th June, the same thing happened again this time 210 boxes were dumped, sprayed with dye so that they were unfit for human consumption.