

U.S.A. & CANADA 30c
Britain 12p



MARCH/MART 1980

10p

THE STARRY PLOUGH

An Camcheachta
THE
IRSP
PAPER

H-BLOCK



NATIONAL SMASH
H-BLOCK MARCH
DUBLIN 1st MARCH 1980

HEART of the STRUGGLE

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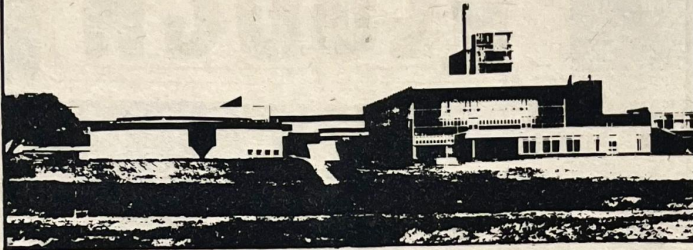
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PRO-BRIT ACADEMY

THE ACADEMIC SCANDAL

by The Ulsterman

The revelations that research data gathered by undergraduates, graduates and research fellows etc. at the New University of Ulster is being used by the British Army and the RUC in their campaign of repression against the nationalist population of the North is a devastating indictment against academic bureaucrats. That Queens University, Belfast is also a source of such intelligence gathering for the British war machine implies that the shadow of suspicion reaches out to other institutions of education and research in the North. In fact these happenings imply that Kitsonian ideas are now being implemented



Coleraine University.

to the very idea of education that the use of knowledge would be so perverted.

PRO-BRIT ACADEMICS

Apart from the imposition of Kitsonian strategy and tactics, the weakness of the academic world both in the North and the South is that it is weighed down with pro-Brit. Chancellors, Professors, Doctors and lecturers. Some, like Prof. Scheddich at Coleraine are ex-officers of the British Army of Occupation while others like Prof. Lynn at Coleraine are writers of policy documents for the British Conservative Party. The latter in fact is an advocate of psychological ideas pertaining to racialism. In short they are willing collaborators.

In conclusion it is left to the sincere pursuers of education and research in the Northern Universities, to stem the tide that a minority has created. Otherwise the ideal of education will be corrupted. Now is the time for student representative bodies to act and repair the damage that has already occurred.



DR W. H. COCKCROFT
Chancellor of Coleraine University.

and are permeating the whole fabric of Northern society.

The tragedy of the whole sordid experience, however, is that following on these revelations necessary research activity will be under suspicion and in many instances will be prevented from taking place. Sincere, committed academics may find that their work is restricted and students will be reluctant to undertake research surveys knowing that their findings will be used at sometime to repress and harass their fellow citizens. It is contrary

ment were participating in 'fake academic research projects' throughout the Six Counties implying that the personal details of thousands of persons were being gathered by would-be social scientists and fed into computers for the sole use of the manipulators of the British war machine in Ireland. The truth of such allegations have been confirmed on numerous occasions even by those who in no way support the present struggle for national liberation.

"Following information from a reliable academic source however, the intelligence cell of the Derry Brigade of the Irish National Liberation Army have uncovered facts which clearly imply that the authorities of the New University of Ulster entered into an agreement with the R.U.C. and the British Army ensuring that the raw data gathered by research students and others associated with certain departments would be ready available to the so-called 'security forces'. This more devious form of intelligence gathering is not primarily based at the main campus at Coleraine for Magee University College in Derry is an important aspect of the whole enterprise.

"In fact documents in our possession confirm that data gathered by one department at Magee's Institute of Continuing Education in recent years has already been used by the British army during search operations in nationalist working class areas of the city.

"The Irish National Liberation

Army is aware that only a small percentage of those employed by the Institute (Magee) and by the University as a whole, are aware of this misuse of academic material.

"THROUGH THE USE OF THIS STATEMENT THE I.N.L.A. INFORMS THE MAJORITY OF THE UNIVERSITY'S PERSONNEL OF THEIR INDIRECT INVOLVEMENT IN THE BRITISH WAR MACHINE AND PROPOSES THAT THEY BRING PRESSURE TO BEAR ON THOSE DIRECTLY



Magee College, Derry.

INVOLVED. IF THE RESPONSE TO OUR PROPOSAL IS SEEN TO BE NEGATIVE THEN THE IRISH NATIONAL LIBERATION ARMY HAS NO OPTION BUT TO ENSURE THAT CERTAIN

such official ignorance and deprivation. No man can experience or understand the feeling of pregnancy; wanted or unwanted. And no man has the right to be the ultimate arbiter as to whether a woman makes such a choice.

It is time that Irish socialists addressed themselves to the problem of abortion. ●

The row in Britain highlights the almost total silence and hypocrisy on the subject in this country. For according to legal and medical opinion there is nothing to talk about. Much less do. But the reality is that thousands of Irish women travel to Britain each year for abortions. People may abhor such a phenomenon but they cannot in all honesty ignore it. The absence of a freely available contraceptive service does not mean that people's sexual urges disappear — even in Holy Ireland. Thousands of unwanted pregnancies, spoilt young lives, crippling large families and unmarried mothers are the result of



extend to anybody without a great British birthright and a white skin. Or like John Corrie, Tory MP, whose private members bill aims to restrict a woman's access to abortion. At present the 1967 Abortion Act allows abortion where birth would result in physical or mental injury to the mother's health. Under the new bill — which looks unlikely to get through given the level of popular opposition outside parliament — a woman would have to establish that childbirth would result in 'substantial' damage to her health (one can only wonder about the difference between damage and

FORMS OF RESEARCH BY THE UNIVERSITY ARE PREVENTED.

"To include such activity within the context of our operations we would very much regret but if our sources confirm the continuation of such clandestine intelligence gathering then we are left with no other alternative but to eradicate this vital aspect of the British war machine."

COMMENT ON STATEMENT

In relation to the statement of the Derry Brigade of the Irish National Liberation Army, our Derry correspondent after some enquiries confirmed the existence of the documents referred to in the press release. His report is as follows:—

After I had been informed of the contents of the INLA statement, with the help of some friends, I made contact with a member of the Staff of the Derry Brigade. Upon informing him of my reasons for meeting him, we arranged another rendezvous three days later in a suburban part of the city. I was eventually driven to a house in that area of Derry and introduced to two people, one of whom was referred to as the Brigade P.R.O. and the other whom I knew to be a lecturer at the New University of Ulster. After some discussion about the contents of the press statement I was shown a photo-copy of documents which I believe to be authentic and which support the allegations contained in the press release.

MEDIA BURIED STORY

The Brigade P.R.O. informed me that these allegations had been refused publication in every newspaper that they had been forwarded to. He also stated that one local newspaper editor had contacted the RUC and the British Army on receipt of the statement.

I then requested a loan of the photo-copy for use in the 'Starry Plough' but the lecturer informed me that publication of the copy would lead, owing to markings on the document, to the betrayal of its source. Loss of employment and the threat of prosecution prevented the source from identifying him/herself.

VICE-CHANCELLOR SIGNED DOCUMENT

I AM AT LIBERTY however to state that the agreement to 'provide' information to the RUC and the British Army is not a recent development. One signature on the document is that of a past vice-Chancellor of the University, Alan Burgess. The documents are headed 'CONFIDENTIAL' and are associated with the academic Council and Deans of the University. The present Chancellor, Dr. W. H. Cockcroft, must be aware of the agreement. My informant believes that all Deans and members of the Academic Council are party to the secret arrangement.

Our Belfast correspondent writes:—

"SIMILAR DOCUMENTS to those referred to in the INLA statement confirming that the New University of Ulster is collaborating with the British war machine were received by 'Anderstown News' some years past and confirmed that Queen's University, Belfast had made a similar agreement with the so-called security forces. In fact the 'Anderstown News' issue of 6th February 1974 printed a facsimile of a confidential report to the Committee of Deans at Queen's. This report emphasised

... the need to be able to provide immediate information about these surveys to the police army ... ●



Would you be more careful if it was you who got pregnant?

Womans Eye View

THE CORRIE BILL: The Question Gets Closer

BRITAIN has been plunged into debate recently over the question of abortion. On one side stand those who claim to support life in every form. Like right wing conservatives, the Catholic Church and the National Front whose respect for life does not

F for Forensic F for Frame-up F F : Fianna Fail

Gerry Collins was gleeful at the Fianna Fail Ard Fheis as he outlined the Government's future plans for repression. "We will build for the future" he promised. "We will build new prisons". "We will extend our forensic laboratories, we will buy new computers". No wonder Collins was pictured clapping his hands for joy as he imaged all the goodies coming his way. F.F. have moved on then from Frame-ups to Forensics.

The Irish Republican Socialist Party has always stood firm against the Special Criminal Court and the torture and perjury of the Heavy Gang. The Party will continue to expose this system of mock justice despite the new tactic of trial by "experts". The Mountbatten killing trial was the initial foray by the State into this area. So-called experts testified that a hair here was consistent with a grain of sand there, and the Special Court with its usual lack of concern for facts sent a man to prison for life. The Mountbatten trial opened the flood-gate for 'forensic' cases. Why go to the bother of beating "confessions" out of republicans, and leaving inconvenient marks on them in the process, when the technical lads can put them in Portlaois with a bit of mumbo-jumbo? After all, is not Tom Dunne, the sacked mental nurse sadist, the ham-fisted pride of the Heavy Gang, A Technical Bureau man when he is not flying from police station to police station, from cell to cell, pursuing his inquiries?

SECOND TRY

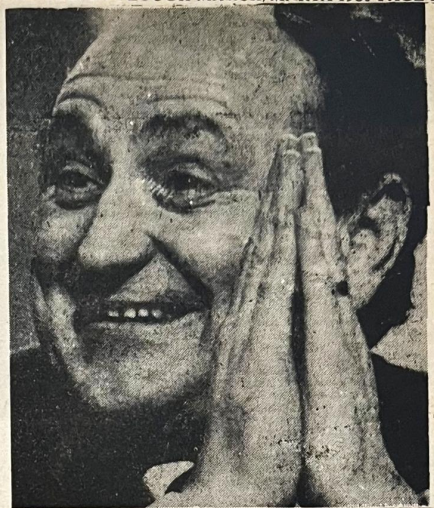
With this new toy in his hands, Ned Ryan decided to have a second go at the IRSP. He ordered an action re-play of the mass arrests of IRSP members, and the wrecking of the party HQ, as he had done following the Mail Train Robbery. Since then three

that he had decided to study forensic science himself because he had come to realise that the "expert" advice was so unreliable. McBride had been involved in a case where two men had been charged with the murder of Garda Fallon. As evidence, the Gardaí produced fingerprints which they claimed linked the men with the killing. McBride challenged that evidence. He enlarged the fingerprints to huge proportions and defied the "experts" to point out the points of similarity between the exhibits and those of his clients. The "experts" were unable to do so, and a jury acquitted the men. McBride also exposed the standards used by the Gardaí in the Free State. The Gardaí look for 8 points of similarity between the prints they find at the scene of a crime and

the prints of the person they suspect. The minimum number of points accepted internationally is 15!

FORENSIC

The Gardaí are looking to the British use of "forensic evidence," at a time when the British forensic frame-ups are being increasingly exposed. The swab test used to convict two Irishmen, William Power and Patrick Hill, of the Birmingham bombings has now been called into question by the Nuclear Research Centre. The simple 19th century test used on the men would have given a positive result for nitrates had the men handled cigarettes! Yet the "expert" witness in the case was 99% positive that his outdated and extremely broad test was conclusive proof against the men.



Collins gets new toys.

Giusseppe Conlon, is now unfortunately dead, but the so-called forensic evidence which convicted the rest of his family still stands. Annie Maguire was convicted in the same case on the basis of the swab tests which "proved" that she had handled explosives. The compound ingredients in household washing powder give precisely the same results! so much for the experts.

THE INFORMATION MACHINE

Collins delight over his new computer might be shortlived, if it gets as bogged down in its own information as the Wiesbaden computer in West Germany which inspires it. 40 Task Force men have been instructed in the use of

computer surveillance by Ulrich Wegener's GSG9 Unit — the Mogadiscio squad. However the Germans have put so much information about their citizens into the computer that it is unintelligible. If you are a Republican, it might interest the Gardaí to know that your next door neighbour's nephew is Category 72 — which means he wears red socks — however that information could hardly convict you, unless of course the Gardaí who have it are "experts". Fianna Fail would do better to forget the frame-ups, the forensics and the 'feed through' of information and address themselves to political action. As the Frame-Ups have failed, so will the forensics in the future. ●



MCCARTIN BROTHERS
Get Bogged Down.

IS LEITRIM LOST?

The Irish Republican Socialist Party took a firm stand in June 1979 in opposing the closure of Donnelly's factory in the Coombe. At that time, the IRSP warned that the Donnelly closure was the first step in the collapse of the traditional bacon industry in the 26 Counties. This warning has now unfortunately been proved correct with the downfall of the McCartin Brothers Group in Leitrim.

Donnelly workers argued in the face of redundancies that their factory was viable since it had made a profit the previous year. The parent company Clover Meats Co-Op had decided to pay off the work-force because they wanted to sell-off the valuable site in Dublin's Inner City. Donnelly workers were adamant that an explanation of recent Clover Meat losses could be found among some of the rapidly deserting directors of the Co-Op.

Give and Take!

MICHAEL COLLINS was Chief Executive of Clover Meats Co-Op when it undertook to guarantee McCartin loans from the ACC for the building of a piggery in 1975. Collins resigned from Clover Meats in 1977 to take over as Chairman of the ACC. Collins is therefore in the

unique position of calling in loans which he himself guaranteed! Collins' role in putting McCartins into Receivership is, to say the least, suspect. In view of the Donnelly workers allegations of misappropriation of funds within Clover Meats and the McCartin's assertion that Collins acted as a paid director of their Companies for a time, then it is clear that the role of the ACC boss — the State farming bank — is now in question.

Clover Meats guaranteed the McCartin loan on the understanding that the brothers would supply 50% of the needs of Donnelly's factory. The cost of that supply became a source of dispute. In order to buy McCartin pigs, Donnelly had to pay a levy to the Pigs and Bacon Commission. Donnelly workers themselves explained that the system was unprofitable, because smaller uncontrolled saus-

age factories bought their pigs from stocks which had been smuggled across the Border and therefore were able to undercut Donnelly prices in the shops. The McCartins lost their markets for pigs when Donnelly's was closed. The events in the Liberties last summer spelt the end for the Leitrim piggery.

An Irish Industrial Revolution.

The 3,000 jobs lost in Donnelly's in June had a crippling effect on an already declining Inner City. The loss of 350 jobs in Leitrim will have even more drastic consequences. Such a loss will lead to the inevitable depopulation of that county. Leitrim is, and always has been, the most desolate and neglected county on this island. The stone-age landscape around the Arigna coalfields is scarred with broken cottages, grim reminders of those departed on the emigrant boat. The countryside in Leitrim today is still as bleak and barren as it was after the Great Famine. Leitrim has always been abandoned by politicians as a lost cause. It is not surprising then that to the people of the county the McCartin brothers are heroes. They created an economic miracle by marrying a

decayed rural area to modern industrial methods, and they made it flourish. An Foras Taluntais reported — after the announcement that a Receiver had been sent in — that the proposed piggery was the most impressive one of its kind and they argued that it was profitable. The solidarity behind the brothers in Leitrim is absolute. Their workers do not regard them as mere slick bosses, but are prepared to defend the companies assets with shot-guns!

panies assets with shot-guns! The issue is not just 350 jobs, it's the survival of a community. The people of Leitrim have been denied too much for too long to surrender lightly the gains of the past decade.

The McCartins have in their own manner created an Irish industrial revolution. Leitrim — the county which you don't go through to go anywhere — offers a challenge to the Left. INDUSTRIAL WORKERS IN WELLINGTONS ARE GIVING THE LEAD, THE LEFT MUST TRY AND FIND LEITRIM ON THE MAP, AND FOLLOW THEM! ●



Party members have been charged with the Scully kidnapping. But the Irish Republican Socialist Party serves notice that it will expose the bogus nature of the Special Court "expert" witnesses, just as it exposed to public view the Heavy Gang.

FINGERPRINTS

The fingerprint scandal, which rocked Dublin Castle, a year ago is not the first example of the 'mistaken' identification of exhibits by the Forensic Bureau. Sean McBride stated in the aftermath of the Fingerprint Scandal

BLANKETMEN OF 1980



Coalisland March.

POLITICAL STATUS MUST STAY 1978

DEMAND POLITICAL STATUS NOW

LETTER FROM BLANKETMEN

Sir — No doubt over these past few years and especially in recent months you have all become familiar with the terms of H-Block and "blanketmen". Undoubtedly you all know that H-Block is the name of the prison in which the "blanketmen" are being held, but do any of you know of the true living conditions within this prison and of the treatment meted out to the "blanketmen"? No? Well, let one here try, in this brief note, to bring to you H-Block.

Firstly, picture in your head, a "tomb", a cold grey box of concrete just like the tombs in your own city cemetery. Picture this "tomb" with a window. Only in the window have a large metal grille, surrounded by a wooden bar-like structure with inserted fibre-glass panels.

Now in your dull "tomb" look at all of the walls covered in human excreta and rotten food, your floor littered with decaying food, soiled paper and splashed with pools of urine and water.

As you picture the cell imagine the smell, the unbecoming stink of old moulded food, excrement and urine. Along with the stink, feel the cold as it pierces your white body as you try to cover yourself with a smelly, damp-soaked blanket.

Have you got this "tomb-like cell" in your head? Add a "blanketman".

Furniture — a large damp lump of smelly foam his bed; ragged pieces of coarse cloth which serves as his blanket; a plastic chamber pot and an old dirty, filthy water gallon from which two men have to drink.

With this "cell" pictured in your head think now of the young men who languish and rot there, young men, now old men, with long grimy shaggy hair, sunken eyes, matted beards, rotten teeth and their bodies aching from hunger, cold and endless beatings, beatings which occur daily during cell searches, wing shifts and coming and going on visit.

Along with the beatings the "blanketmen" have to undergo the most inhuman degrading search which consists of firstly, the naked "blanketman" being forced into a spread-eagle position over a large mirror, then he is kicked and thumped down into a squatting position, the mirror is then raised up to his buttocks, probing fingers prise his buttocks apart and a large torch and metal detector are used in a thorough search of his anal passage.

With this part of the search complete, he is dragged up by the hair, and in front of 4 or 5 screws his nose, mouth, ears, hair, penis, testicles and pubic hair are thoroughly searched.

We hope that through this short note we've put the true picture of life inside H-Block for 360 "blanketmen" in your mind. Could you imagine what it would be like for these men to be able to smoke a

cigarette, hear a tune on the radio, read a morning paper, write a letter to either their families or girl friends. Just these the small natural things of life have been denied to these men for over three years now and will go on being denied. The endless suffering and beating and inhuman treatment will continue unless you speak out now and tell the world the truth and help stop it all.

We the "blanketmen", write this letter to you, begging you to help us now before it is too late, before some mother's heart is broken with the news of her son's death in H-Block.

Signed: Liam Carlin, Devin Campbell, Denny Hutton, Eugene McCallion, Gary McCool, Eugene McCormack, Kieran Fleming, Adrian Callan, Frankie Doherty, Patrick McCourt, Joe Rodgers, Peter McGowan, Raymond McCartney, Eamon McDermott, John Cassidy, Micky Devine, Tony O'Hara, Connolly Brady.



Britain: Stop Irish Human Rights!

As introduced by the British in 1971 human rights in Northern Ireland. Britain's cruel methods of and its juryless courts have been condemned and the European Court of Human Rights. Now Amnesty International into the H-Blocks of Long the worse conditions of any prison in the world. The activists throughout the world, including Nobel Prize, have condemned Britain's cruelty in the H-Blocks in North America, too, have now spoken in support of the following demands of the following organization, the Relatives Action

work.
amongst political prisoners.
National and recreational facilities plus one weekly
and send out one letter per week and receive

Maryann Mahaffey, President Pro Tem, Detroit City Council
Joe Martin, Director, Business Agent, I.A.M. District 60
National Lawyers Guild, Detroit and Southern California Chapters
Beret Gilman, New York University
Mike O'Shane, U.S.W.A., Local 1010 Exec. Board member and Chair Environmental Comm.
Antonio Orlandi, President, Texas Farm Workers Union
Dave Toop, U.S.W.A. 2655, Recording Secretary
Bishop Walter J. Schoenher
Paul Sweazy, Co-editor, Monthly Review
Jack Warburg, Bailey Anti-Nuclear Alliance, Co-chairman
James Weinstein, Editor, In These Times
Fr. Jim Zellinski, Midwest Coordinator, Nicaragua Solidarity National Network
Dr. James Zogby, National Chairman, Palestine Human Rights Campaign

□ Please send me more information.
Name of the political prisoners.

Committee to Support Irish Political Prisoners
1541 Oregon
Baton Rouge 70809

Campaign Broadens.

SUFFER LITTLE CHILDREN

The Proclamation of 1916 promised to cherish all the children of the nation equally. It is a promise that no Free State Government has upheld. But it is not just the Quising politicians who have betrayed that ideal. In a country which applies the letter of Catholicism so rigidly it is blatant hypocrisy to see the spirit of Christianity applied so miserably. In no case is this more obvious than in the plight of the travelling people and their children who are often the victims of the most cruel neglect. Indeed it is ironic to note that travellers have begun to emigrate to sites in England where they are more protected by Race and Anti Discrimination legislation than they are in their homeland.

There are only two counties in the country which can claim a truly honourable record in their dealings with travellers, and those counties are Wicklow and Wexford.

TRADITION

The travellers have a long tradition of respect for Wicklow and Wexford. It is here that they marry their daughters and it is in the graveyards from Bray to Wexford Town that they bury their dead. The travellers return every spring to these graveyards, carrying flowers, to join in the "paidir" service - a ceremony which takes its name from the Irish "paidir", prayer, and is a mixture of Catholic ritual and pagan festival.

There has always been a welcome and a refuge for travellers in homes in Wicklow and Wexford

In these homes, they have their letters read and written. By tradition, they gather in certain friendly pubs where they will hear news of their own kin and 'leave word' for others. Over the past fifty years, many have settled in towns along the South-East coast, and it is no shame to mention that there are families in Bray, Gorey and Wexford Town who are bearers of noble Gipsy names.

bray

It is as a result of this tradition of hospitality and good-will that over the past ten years, site serving, re-settlement, special schools and training units for travellers have been established in and around Bray. These improvements have now come under threat.

VICTIMIZATION

Travellers in South Co. Dublin have in recent weeks been forcibly moved off sites in the area. Other families still living in the Bray and Ballybrack areas are being pressured to go. Co. Council lorries have taken to tipping rubbish on to one site, making it inaccessible to those who live there. This is a deliberate and vindictive campaign which will undo all the good of recent years.

The victimization has two immediate results. Firstly the family must move out, thereby losing its place on the housing list.

Secondly, with the family again on the road, the children are unable to attend the Special School, in Bray. Dept. of Education bureaucracy ensures that if the children live beyond a certain limit from the school when they are ineligible for transport to the classes.

To-days travellers are very anxious that their children should be able to read and write. They understand, better than most, some of the less obvious dangers of illiteracy. One traveller man, for example, was prosecuted for hitching his horse to a 'No Parking' sign, even though he was ignorant of the meaning of the sign. Teenage travellers take delight in going to the cinema, where they watch with awe and envy the trappings of a richer world. Many of these would avail of industrial training if a course which suited their needs was provided for them. The callous and mercenary actions of the local authorities indicate their lack of concern for travellers.

The travelling people are Irish citizens and are an historic part of the Irish nation. The settled community very often only chooses to see the worse aspects of traveller life, the alcoholism, the begging the fights. The reason for this is that the poorest and most oppressed travellers now live in the big towns and cities where the family structure which supports all travellers has broken down.



THE OTHER SIDE

How many of the settled population have bothered to inform themselves of the other side of traveller life? How many settled people know that the life expectancy of a traveller man is 34 years? That a traveller woman will be married and have four children by the time she is twenty? That one in four traveller babies will die in infancy? Despite the hardship and the deprivations of their lives travellers remain very independent and optimistic people. They retain their own culture and customs, their own language, and their own - very strict - moral codes. The travellers do not want to abandon their

own way of life, rather they want to be allowed to live in good health and with dignity.

The people of Wicklow and Wexford have long understood that the travellers were different. To their credit, they have been able to accept that being different from a settled person was not synonymous with being inferior. For generations travellers have suffered at the hands of the authorities and from the narrow and sanctimonious attitudes of selfish citizens. Let it be in Bray then that settled people recognise their responsibility in this matter and make a stand for travellers rights. Keep the school for the children open.

NEWS of the NATION

Housing Conference

A one day conference organised by the Dublin Housing Action Committee was held on February 16th in Liberty Hall. The conference was chaired by Mick Rafferty, a community worker based in the inner city. Rafferty explained that the Committee had been formed following the imprisonment of Fergus McCabe, a social worker, on charges arising out of a housing demonstration last year. The Committee comprised of social workers, political groups, voluntary organisations and student bodies.

The emphasis on research reflects in part the nature of the audience. Lawyers, architects, economists, social workers, research workers and community workers, together with a few City Councillors, all people with a declared interest in community politics made up at least half the 200 strong audience.

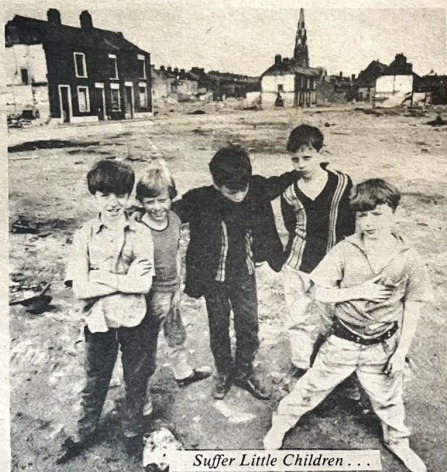
Pat Carroll, the Labour Councillor, asked for clarification of the term "community" as he pointed out, no community is homogeneous, containing as it does differing interest groups and individuals with varying political ideologies. The point was well made, but unfortunately no debate followed it.

It would have been illuminating, however, to hear NATO's Matt Larkin, in the light of his experience, discuss or dispute tactics and a way forward with this fledgling Committee.

POLITICAL ROLE?

Mick Rafferty was at pains to point out that the new Committee was anxious to distinguish itself from the Dublin Housing Action Committee of the early Seventies, and did not want to assume political overtones.

Again the emphasis on research must be seen in this light.



Suffer Little Children...

PRESS STATEMENT

The IRSP in North Derry condemns in the strongest possible terms the introduction of the RUC into Claudy Secondary School, so adding a new and dangerous dimension to the careers department.

The Irish Republican Socialist Party contends that the RUC's

claudy

record since its inception is that of going to any length to maintain the basic functioning of British interests in the 6 Cos. and subsequent Loyalist ascendancy. The history of this sectarian force speaks for itself and it is intolerable that it is allowed access to the classroom.

The Thatcher administration have continued previous Brit. policy in the 6 Cos. by providing that the Nationalist youth will stay unemployed when they leave school.

Now it seems recruitment into "security forces" is offered as the last chance of redemption. The situation is reminiscent in many ways of the hungry thirties. Living standards have fallen drastically and it is forecast that as many as 80,000 will be out of work in the North before the end of the year. There will be 2 million on the dole in England itself. The Tories are saying "Join Up" or starve.

BAR THEM

The Irish Republican Socialist Party calls on the School Committee of Claudy Secondary School to prohibit immediately the recruitment of young men and women from their classes to the ranks of the RUC. We call on the nationalist population of the area to ensure that your children do not attend these recruitment classes and to force the School Committee to bar enemy personnel from the school premises.

The Conference divided into four groups to discuss (i) land prices and control, (ii) a state building programme, (iii) recognition of the community dimension in development schemes and (iv) a charter of rights for tenants.

Although all these topics were amply discussed during the day, no real decisions on tactics or immediate objectives were arrived at, other than an agreement that further research would be undertaken.

N.A.T.O., the tenants organisation, which attained national status, as a result of the old Housing Committee's activities were not represented at Saturday's Conference.

The passing of the Forcible Entry & Occupation Act in 1972 dealt the death blow to the Dublin Housing Action Committee and also marked the beginning of a seemingly irreversible decline in N.A.T.O.'s strength.

Whatever the views of the newly elected Committee members, there were veterans of the old Dublin Housing Action Committee and the Dun Laoghaire Housing Action Committee in the audience who visibly ached for the militancy of the mass demonstrations of a decade ago.

As one City Councillor remarked privately, "It's all a bit academic, isn't it?"



dublin

ZIMBABWE

ZANU (PF), the political party whose guerrilla army has mounted the fiercest resistance to white colonial rule in Zimbabwe will get mass support during the 27-29th February Elections. That is if those elections take place. The British presence in Zimbabwe is now showing its true colours and is employing all its well tested tactics to ensure that the voice of ZANU (PF) is stifled.

Three assassination attempts have been made on the life of Robert Mugabe, the ZANU (PF) leader, since he returned to his homeland to lead the election campaign. An ambush on Sunday 10th February, when 90lb T.N.T. exploded under a convoy that he was travelling in, was the work of Rhodesian Army explosives experts. One ZANU (PF) official, Sango Tafirenyika, and his wife were killed when four grenades were thrown into their home. Other officials and members have been seriously injured in recent weeks. In the face of this campaign of terror the Brit. Governor Soames has issued ordinances empowering him to disenfranchise ZANU (PF) supporters in the election. He has branded the Party as intimidators and has already banned a leading candidate Enos Nkala from the campaign.

THE LOYALIST FORCES

This numerous campaign is being waged covertly by Smith's redundant Rhodesian Army and openly by Muzorewa's auxiliaries. These auxiliaries have retained their weapons under the Cease-fire and to-gether with the Commonwealth forces are acting as 'custodians' of the Patriotic Front guerrillas who have entered the ceasefire camp.

LEFT WING FORCES throughout the world are divided as to what should be the correct attitude to adopt in relation to the events in Afghanistan. The Spanish Communist Party daily, Mundo Obrero was trenchant in opposition to the Soviet action: the Italian CP echoed a similar line (which like the Spanish CP did not call for a troop withdrawal): the French CP, after a trip by its leader to Moscow gave its full-blooded endorsement of Soviet action: the British CP followed sister parties in Spain and Italy. The united front of 'Eurocommunism' is certainly one of the first casualties outside Afghanistan, and such could have far-reaching consequences for that 'parliamentary road to socialism' school of thought, in the decade just beginning.

THE POLITICS OF SPORT

A personal view

by

"A Derry voice"

Irish socialists may be tempted to instinctively call 'Troops Out' before seriously considering the alternatives which Carter, Thatcher and other 'western' leaders are advocating. Upon the blood-stained regime of General Zia of no elections yet fame, the capitalist world is depending, seeing Pakistan as a new buffer-state, similar to the role of Israel in the Middle-East which is also heavily armed and financed, by U.S. capital in particular. Like Israel, Pakistan is an illegitimate spawn of British imperialism, conceived in the racist and divide and rule policies of the Brit ruling-class, during the days of Empire on which the sun is finally setting in Belfast, Derry and South Armagh. The response of the workers' movement to the 'crisis', will decide whether the war drive launched by the American imperialists (backed by the Iron Lady) succeeds in its aims of preparing the ground, both domestically and internationally, for intervention

'auxiliaries were recruited during the war from among the most reactionary sections of the nationalist population. Their role was to guard the "Protected Villages" where 600,000 Zimbabweans were imprisoned during the war. The Auxiliaries methods of protection were killings, torture, beatings, looting, rape and starvation.

The Smith-Muzorewa regime established the Auxiliaries as a transitory means by which Black Africans could be drafted into the Rhodesian Army - Smith refers to them as 'our blacks'. The Auxiliaries are the willing agents of their racist masters - and they continue to undermine and attack the Zimbabwean people with the full acquiescence of their Brit. Allies.

IRISH LESSONS

An analogy between Zimbabwe and Ireland is unavoidable. The Auxiliaries have a direct counterpart in the Loyalists, UDR and RUC in the 6 Cos. The Brits. have practised the art of playing the Orange card for so long in the North that it is second nature for them to do so in Africa. The Rhodesian Army has promised the colonial population that it will not hand over power after the election.



The Brits. off course are claiming that their presence in Zimbabwe is that of a peace-keeping force keeping warring factions apart, and preventing a breakdown into the civil war.

The truth is that the Brits. are determined to prevent Mugabe coming to power at all costs. Mugabe has warned Soames that any attempt at banning ZANU (PF) will be tantamount to a declaration of war. Mugabe is not a nigger man. He knows that the Brits. will attempt to form a Nkomo-Muzorewa Coalition to rule the country despite ZANU (PF)'s mass support. Should such political intrigues succeed and should the Brit. sabotage effort increase then Mugabe will

certainly resume the war to ensure victory for the national liberation struggle.

BRITS OUT NOW!

The lesson of Ireland for Zimbabwe is that the Brits. have returned to the country as a "Peace-keeping force", they will remain as an army of occupation. Whereas the spectacle of the Brits. engaged in a war of national liberation on another front, would gladden many Irish hearts, nonetheless the Irish people do not wish that evil on the people of Zimbabwe. If ZANU (PF) can survive openly as a political organisation over the next weeks in the face of murder, intimidation and proscription, then Mugabe's first demand on attaining power must be, BRITS OUT NOW!

FAILTE ROMHAT ABHAILE!



Picture. Socialist Worker.

against the gains of the oppressed and exploited throughout the world. We should therefore expose and oppose with all our strength the efforts of Brit and Yankee governments to exploit the situation to increase international tension, step up the arms race to aid flagging industry at a time of slump, and create new bases in Asia and the Middle East for imperialist adventures.

Crocodile Tears

Carter's crocodile tears for 'the people of Afghanistan' should fool no one, least of all an international socialist. Washington never said a word to protest Daoud's vicious repression, nor lifted a finger to improve social conditions in that country. But it

immediately set out to strangle the gains of the Afghan masses when they moved left-wards. Just two months after the revolution, Carter cut off all 'economic aid' programmes. American officials tried to block loans destined to help develop that country, and Washington's hostile reaction was not limited to economics.

Unable to launch a direct military intervention because of the deep sentiments of American workers following the debacle of Vietnam, Washington has sought to carry out its operations through intermediaries, such as Pakistan's military dictatorship. This regime provides bases for the right-wing guerrillas, money to buy arms, military training, and

free access across the Afghanistan border. With this powerful array of international forces ranged against the revolution, the Afghan government turned to the Soviet Union for aid. Initially money and advisers were provided. When it looked like the imperialist-backed forces might pull off a bloody Chile-style counter-revolution right on its southern border, Soviet troops of the Red Army came in, following governmental requests. So the issue is not Soviet intervention - but a growing US intervention - aimed at taking back the gains won by the Afghan masses - that finally forced the Soviet government to respond.

...pg. 9

By THE ULSTERMAN
* DURING the past decade the
* Palestinian Liberation Organisation
* intensified its military and
* political campaign on behalf of
* the Palestinian people. Throughout
* the same decade Ireland's
* revolutionary forces fought a
* similar campaign on behalf of the
* Irish people.

plo & us

RECOGNITION

Recently the Fianna Fail Government recognised the role of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation in representing the Palestinian people. In Bahrain representatives of the Dublin Government issued a joint communique with the Bahrainis agreeing that the Palestinian people had the right to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent State. Mr Lenihan, the Free State Minister for Foreign Affairs in a statement relating to the communique stated that the Palestinian people were entitled to their home-land and that they had a basic right to it. In answering a question Mr Lenihan also stated that he would have no objections to having discussions with Mr Yasser Arafat, the leader of the PLO.

TOMORROW'S STATESMEN

These happenings illustrate the hypocrisy of southern politicians. While Lenihan is willing to meet Mr Arafat, the leader of an organisation successfully waging an armed struggle against international imperialism and Zionism, the Fianna Fail Government is busy attempting to smash the continuing struggle for the right of the Irish people to their homeland. The recent mass arrest of members of the Irish Republican Socialist Party is only another notorious example of their collaboration policy. The participants in the present struggle for Irish freedom and self determination should take heart from the P.L.O. breakthrough. The P.L.O. and Arafat were labelled "terrorists" yesterday just as volunteers in the INLA and the IRA are so labelled today. Today's terrorists are most frequently tomorrow's statesmen. Ireland's revolutionary forces can look to the Palestinians and to Zimbabwe and move confidently onwards to victory!



"What are you going to be if you grow up?"

STEEL STRIKE STOPS the TORIES!

THE FIRE-BOMBING OF THE STEELWORKERS' HEAD-QUARTERS IN ROTHERHAM is a sign of how seriously the Right want to break the two month old steelworkers strike. The attack was aimed at the militant strike committee who have played such a crucial role in organising the 24-hour pickets and flying pickets. The strike committee realise that their ability to picket the stockholders, who stock-piled steel at Christmas, in the face of 'legal' restrictions and now illegal fire-bombs, will be crucial if they are to be victorious in their bitter struggle.

sirs & co.

BILL SIRs, General Secretary of the Irish & Steel Trades Confederation was not unduly worried by the attack. Why should he be? The Union has not had a strike in 30 years and has assets of £11½ million. Sirs can use those assets to repair the building because he certainly doesn't intend giving the money to his striking members. The attack on the Union came at the moment when Sirs had agreed to allow steelworkers in private industry to return to their jobs. With attacks from the outside, and sellouts from the Union Executive, the rank and file steelworkers now realise that in order to win their 20% rise, they will have to fight for themselves.

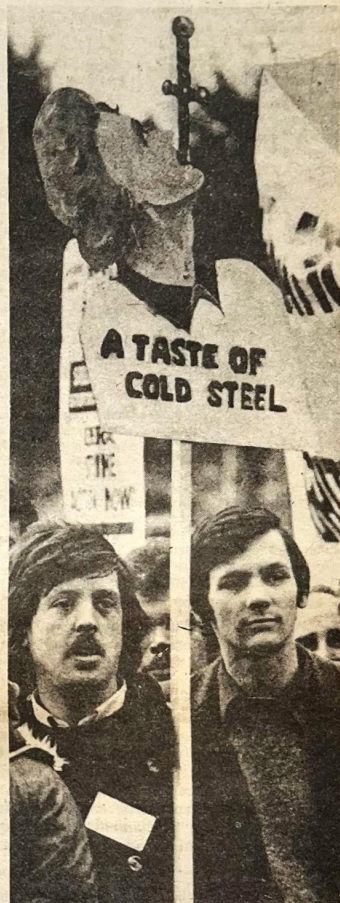
The steelworkers strike has developed into a struggle between workers and the Tory Government over basic issues. The British Steel Corporation and British Leyland between them have announced that they plan to cut 100,000 jobs by the autumn. The steelworkers are demanding that this redundancy money be paid to them in the form of wage increases. The Thatcher Government have refused to intervene financially on behalf of the nationalised industries, although Thatcher is using every legislative and 'legal' dirty trick in the book to break the strike. The British Government has even refused an offer of EEC aid to bale the BSC out of its difficulties. The proposed Tory cuts will have massive repercussions in the mining industry. For this reason coal-miners in South Wales and in the North of England have given total support to the steel strike. Trade Unionists from all over Gt Britain have rallied to help and supported the flying pickets on private sector steelworkers in their thousands. Rank and file militancy contrasts sharply with the speeches and the secret deals of the trade union bureaucracy. Len Murray, the TUC leader, has publicly stated that there should be no talk of topping the Tories. The leadership of one craft union after the other have made deals with employers in the private sector and have compelled their workers to return to work. If the steelworkers are defeated, then the blame can be laid squarely at the door of the Union leadership, rather than the Tory anti-worker legislation.

Defy the Law!

The steel workers have made nonsense of all the Thatcher-inspired anti-picketing laws, by the simple expedient of ignoring them. Duddery Denning, the Law Lord, banned secondary picketing but he was defied by thousands of steel-workers. Bill Sirs had called for a halt to secondary picketing pending an appeal; but such a halt would have allowed the private sector the opportunity to import thousands of tons of steel into Britain. The strikers themselves wisely followed their own advice. They closed the ports, they blockaded the stockpiles, they halted private works. They made the Denning's ruling a dead letter.

More Legislation

If the trade union leadership are blind to the basic issue involved in the steel strike, then Thatcher & Co. are not. The Government when it failed to break the strike in the courts, turned to the police and issued orders that mass pickets were to be dispersed before they reached firms in the private sector. Thatcher called a top brass meeting in Downing Street at which Lord Hailsham, the Lord Chancellor, Sir Michael Havers, the Solicitor General and Willie Whitelaw, the Home Secretary were present. Whitelaw's Irish expertise was called upon, and the order went out that the police should use riot control methods on the pickets. The Rotherham HQ bombing is an indication that the Army is standing in the shadows awaiting its turn to take on the unions.



"Our strike is a trial of strength between the Iron Lady and the men of steel — but we steelworkers know the flaw in iron — it cracks under pressure."

political strike

THE STEELWORKERS' STRIKE IS A POLITICAL STRIKE. It is a strike where workers are standing firm to reject Tory policy and Tory attacks on the working class. The Tories are now rushing a new employment Bill through Westminster, which will not only ban secondary picketing but which will also make action that has a predominantly extraneous motive, e.g. aimed at toppling the Government illegal. The TUC leadership have responded to Jim Prior's threat to their existence by calling for a day of protest on May 14th! The steelworkers cannot wait that long. STOP ALL STEEL NOW!

"The proposed cuts will mean that approximately 22,000 children from poor families will be deprived of a free dinner. As at present constituted these children get free meals because the income of their families is below the official poverty line. Therefore if the cuts become a reality coupled with the proposed increase in school transport the increase in the average family's budget will be between £1.50 and £2.00 per week."

"This is a prospect that should not be tolerated and the families concerned must rise to the impending threat. They should seek the support of the 36 District Councils in the Six Counties and put pressure on the Education and Library Boards throughout the North in order to thwart Thatcher's continuing attempt at creating and consolidating poverty."

"An important factor in the fight to frustrate the

I.R.S.P. Hits at School Meal

Cuts

Derry Comhairle Ceannair of the I.R.S.P. has said that cuts in the free meals services in schools will cause further problems for working-class families

Conservatives plans is the role of the Trade Union movement, especially the reaction of the union primarily involved, that is, the National Union of Public Employees. The Irish Republican Socialist Party calls on N.U.P.E. to help the thousands of families living below the poverty line by going on strike if the British Government proceeds with plans.



CARVE THEIR NAMES WITH PRIDE.



HUGH FERGUSON



Thomas Trainor

Fifth Anniversary

In proud memory of

HUGH FERGUSON

Belfast, who was murdered by Republican Club counter revolutionaries, Feb. 1975.

Second Anniversary

In memory also of

TOMMY TRAINOR,

gunned down by a Loyalist murder gang, Portadown, 1978.

SHOP STEWARDS MILITANT

At a meeting of Dublin shop stewards on January 23rd the leader of the A.T.G.W.U. Matt Merrigan, called for a strong shop-stewards movement to protect themselves and their fellow workers against any conspiracy between the F.U.E., the I.D.A. and sell-out elements of Trade Union bureaucracy. In the light of this it is certainly worth noting the sell-out of one such shop-steward.

Pat Casey was employed as a production operator with an American micro-fish company called Bell & Howell. In March 1979 he was asked to become a shop-steward, he decided to accept because he felt the workers on the shop floor were being exploited.

The following are some examples of what Mr. Casey deemed to be unjust and the response to his representations in regard to such:

1. Contrary to their own policy the company employed persons under the age of 18 and while doing overtime they were not given the minimum break of 30 minutes as stipulated under the Employment of Young Persons Protection Act 1977. After Mr. Casey's objections the company ceased to employ any more underage workers, but still did not grant the minimum break to those already employed.

2. He complained of poor toilet and sanitary conditions and of his members not having sufficient time for use of such. In this regard he was successful in having conditions improved and in having 8 to 10 minutes allowed for the use of same.

3. Mr. Casey succeeded in obtaining a grading structure change which benefitted the workers by about £5.00 per week and charge-hands by £17.00 per week.

4. A sickness scheme. The Union joined the management in opposing this: their reason being that it would be open to abuse.

5. Disturbance money for moving from Santry to Coolock. He was unsuccessful in making any gain in this regard, the Union accepting the company's submission that compensation wasn't merited.

6. He succeeded in getting improved canteen facilities, these having been almost non-existent.

In August, at a time when Mr Casey had agreed to act as a witness in a damages claim against the company by a factory worker, it was stated by the management to some shop-floor workers that he would be got rid of one way or another.

Things came to a head on September 3rd. Mr Casey objected to management on the point of office desks being put on the factory floor as members felt this was designed to provide over-excessive supervision. Mr Casey was told to F.... Off. Later in the day he was informed that a female employee was being made a temporary Quality Controller. This was contrary to an agreement between the Union and Management that all jobs be advertised. After complaints from the girls on the floor, Mr Casey went to the management and advised them against carrying out the appointment.

Suspended

Later that day he was asked to wait on in the evening as the management wished to see him. At about 5.10 p.m. he met the management and was informed that he was being suspended pending a meeting, which had already been arranged, on September 7th between the company and the F.U.E. The company claimed that he had made an allegation that one of the management staff had slept with a girl who was subsequently promoted. Mr Casey had in fact only expressed the views of certain workers who later confirmed this at a Labour Court hearing. On the day following the meeting between the company and the F.U.E., he received word that he was being dismissed.

Labour Court

A Labour Court hearing of the case on December 12th decided in favour of the company. The company had made allegations against him which he claims are completely untrue, the main one being the allegation against a fellow employee, as already mentioned. In view of the ongoing conflict on shop-floors and in other areas it is certainly worth considering Mr Casey's claims that:

- a. He was the victim of a conspiracy between the I.D.A., F.U.E., I.T.G.W.U., and the company.

- b. That his dismissal was to serve as a warning to other shop-stewards who are in the least way militant regarding their members rights.

- c. That the F.U.E. have dossiers on all shop-stewards.

with that of Hungry or Czechoslovakia is tendentious. In the Afghan case the Amin regime was universally loathed, thousands were interned, and already the country was 100% dependent on the Russians, and the scale of foreign counter-revolutionary influence was, even if less than the Soviets claimed, substantial. There has been much talk of the Russians advancing on the oil of the Persian Gulf: but the Russians, for all their problems, remain the world's largest producers, at a rate of 12.4 million barrels a day, and the availability of warm water ports, while obviously convenient, is hardly as serious a goal in the era of intercontinental missiles as it was in the days of Peter the Great.

Reject the Boycott

It is with this background to events that we come to the question of the 1980 Moscow Olympics, and calls, particularly from Carter for a boycott. It is an appeal which will again meet with much instinctive popular support — including in the workers' movement. The reason why such a call should be firmly rejected is because the U.S. appeal has

nothing to do with human rights, self-determination, or any other issue of concern to working people. Carter's main concern is for "the economic interests of our country and our allies". In other words, boycott the Olympic Games to defend the interests of US imperialism. If any further proof were needed that this is what is intended, just think back a bit to 1968 if you were around or remember. Then the Olympics were held in Mexico. On the eve of the Games the pro-US regime shot down hundreds of protesting students in cold blood. No one at the White House batted an eyelid. And then there are the Brit Tories canvassing for boycott. Many of them are simultaneously the most ardent supporters of the British Lions rugby tour to South Africa — a country where the politics of apartheid determine every single aspect of the way sport is run. It is this Tory government, too, which seeks to punish Moscow at the same time as it re-establishes diplomatic relations with Pinochet in Chile — a classic product of an imperialist intervention in another country's affairs. So familiar throughout our own history.



**norway
protests:
canada**



**Easter Commemoration
Annual Easter
Commemorations will be
held in
BRAY
ENNIS
and
DERRY.**

Contact local IRSP Cumann for details.

The IRSP is organised on a 32 County basis with the aim of establishing a 32 County Democratic Socialist Republic with the working class in control of the means of production, distribution and exchange.

**ANTRIM, FERMANAGH,
DOWN, TYRONE & ARMAGH:
C/O
MRS. COLETTE DORNAN
392 FALLS ROAD,
BELFAST 12.**

CARLOW: Michael Aherns, 7
Royal Oak Rd., M uine
Bheag or Noel Doyle,
10 St. Oliver's Drive,
Rathoe, Tullow.

CORK: Jack Lynch, 21 Earlwood Estate, Cork City

DUBLIN: IRSP Head Office, 34 Upr. Gardiner St. Dublin 1. Tel. 721175

DERRY: IRSP, Conolly House, 8 Chamberlain Street, Derry City.

CLARE: Bridie Makowski, 16 Tradescot Court, Shannon, or Anne Kennelly, 26 Corravorrin Green, Ennis.

LIMERICK: John Gilligan, 143 O'Malley Park.

TIPPERARY: Tony Quinn, 4 Thomond Place, Nenagh.

WICKLOW: Maeliosa Costello, 5 New Cornalscourt, Dublin Rd., Bray.

**JOIN
the
IRSP**

(Block Letters Please)

Attn (Name):

Seoladh (Address):

Tel. No.:

... sport

If the Afghan and Soviet forces are successful in defeating the reactionary right-wing offensive, the Afghan people will be in a much better position to achieve their aspirations.

The Soviet move in Afghanistan has also put a big crimp in Washington's war drive against Iran, making it harder for Carter to drag US workers into another Vietnam there. It has gained time for the masses in Nicaragua to advance their struggle with less danger of US intervention. It is a sharp blow to the US rulers' efforts to hold back popular revolutionary upheaval throughout the world.

THE REAL THREAT to peace comes from Washington, not Moscow. The real threat is Carter's campaign to aid the right-wing Afghan guerrillas, to beef up the Pakistani military dictatorship, to establish bases in the Middle East and Africa, and to squander more billions on the war budget. Socialists should not permit the media to think for them. To compare Afghanistan



THE STARRY PLOUGH

An Cancheacha
THE IRSP
PAPER

The Harrier is a strange animal. Like a sewer rat it is vicious, evil and motivated by self-interest. Similarly both species breed fast. The number of new Harriers in the Dublin area alone is a manifestation of the colony syndrome. The Harrier when he feels cornered adopts a slash-out policy. He realises that being virtually immune from prosecution, he and his ilk can roam the streets attacking where they will.

HARRIER QUANE, who gained national recognition in the 'Sunday World' where he was featured batoning a mourner at Tom Smith's funeral in Glasnevin Cemetery, is suffering from an excess of overtime. He was spotted recently sound asleep in a Branch Car in Baggot St. while his accomplice relaxed - on full pay - reading a newspaper.

The Harrier reported in the February issue of the Starry Plough that a Special Task Force informer, ran down a child while drunk. The child was killed and the driver, who we can now name as Peter Curtis from Priorswood escaped with a fine. Curtis's brother-in-law Joe Mitchell together with another tout Lawlor are in frequent collusion with the Guards. Although all three normally confine their touting to criminal acts they have also been known to set up political activists.

Harrier JOHN JORDAN, still pounding the beat! recently threatened a student attending the S.C.A.R. (Student Campaign Against Repression) at Trinity College. Jordan stated that he would arrest the student if he refused to answer his questions. However he withdrew sheepishly from the scene when witnesses at the bus stop intervened to back up the student in his assertion that his legal rights were being denied him.

Harrier MALACHY SHIELDS is the only 'pig' known to frequent the 'Goat' Grill in Goatstown. However, his days there may be numbered - for it was he who conveyed Charles Haughey to the Bridewell during An Taoiseach's 'republican' days and a possible transfer to the Aran Islands is rumoured for him.

Harrier JOHN GALVIN from Coolock has been promoted from the SDU to the Special Task Force. He is now based in the Monaghan area, but with his promotion his arrogance has increased. He now refuses to identify himself when harassing members of the public.

Harrier EDWARD ROCHE, a new and inexperienced member of the 'trendy brigade' only barely recovered from an oversight during a demonstration at the EEC Summit. A Sinn Fein activist on being stopped for questioning by Harrier Roche refused to answer any questions until the detective produced his identity card. Because of the failing light the activist was unable to see the Harrier's I.D. properly so he moved towards a street light. From there he continued his retreat... and continued... until Roche suddenly realised what was happening and hurried to make good his loss.

It has now been confirmed by one of Harrier MARTIN MANNION'S neighbours that his strangled dog was not an alsation - as reported in the Starry Plough. It was, in fact, like himself, a mongrel.

We trust that the mixed weather has not wrecked all that expensive peat moss that HARRIER McGRATH has put down in his garden.

While Harrier SMITH B.A. was shaving off his beard, papal guard NIALL LEINSTER C.D.U. decided to try and sprout some facial fungus.

In perfection of their psychological disorientation techniques Harriers CULLEN and MURRAY have taken to addressing people as 'Sir' when they question them.

THE HARRIER

Detective Inspector JAMES McPARTLAND'S son has joined the Catholic Boy Scouts. He would be well advised not to consult his father on the aims of the organisation since they include truth in word and courage. It's been a long time since the wee Armagh man practised either virtue.

The residents of Chapelizod saw their 'lad' - Heavy Gang member PAT CULHANE accompany the Pope during his visit. Like ex-Crumlin gang leader JUDE MURPHY, Culhane kept his sleeves rolled down for th occasion.

During 1978 while still a uniformed Garda, Harrier ELLIS now in the S.D.U. savagely assaulted a Sinn Fein woman who had been arrested for painting H-Block slogans. Another Harrier with the reputation as a woman beater is none other than our old friend TOM DUNNE. Even the Special Criminal Court has learnt to take Dunne's testimony with a pinch of salt. The rejection of his evidence in the Mountbatten trial was crucial to Francis McGill's acquittal. Outside the courthouse, the distraught Dunne was hounded by a BBC film crew, but they failed to elicit more than a grunt from him.

Offaly's Harrier HARTE was recently spotted dancing the night away in the National Ballroom to the music of his Westmeath neighbour - Joe Dolan.

Recently as Kathleen McNally whose husband Brian is still in Portlaoise Prison, was being harassed yet again by Harrier PAT BYRNE, her children went into action. The unsuspecting Byrne drove off with a postcard calling for the release of her husband and Ogur Breathnach on the boot of his car.

Like Harrier NOEL HYNES, Harrier FRANK DOYLE from Leitrim, looks back with nostalgia to the heyday of the Heavy Gang. The Joe Bugner lookalike - could this explain his role as bouncer at the Special Criminal Court? - informed a member of the public seeking to gain access to the Court that if he didn't clear off, he would be removed to the Bridewell and beaten up. Justice Irish style!

Detective Inspector MYLES HAWKSHAW S.D.U. who was involved in the Train Robbery Frame-Up has forsaken Dublin Castle's canteen in favour of the ambience of Bewley's, St. Great Georges St. Perhaps his promotion has affected his sense of finesse?



Did you know that bearded Harrier BOSCO GLEESON is also a farmer? But farming and harassing political activists don't mix well, paranoia often sets in. One evening Bosco's nerves got the better of him when he heard some noises emanating from the pigs (animal variety) outhouse. He reacted by firing shots at them when they failed to calm down after a warning.

Harrier MICK CANAVAN from Co. Clare, now an Inspector in the C.D.U. has not been heard from lately. Could this have anything to do with the investigation within the force into financial irregularities which just might lead back to Mick?

Harrier O'CONNOR produced a search warrant at the Leinster Chalet Shop, in Rathmines, so that he could remove 'offensive' (as he called it) literature from the windows. Two 'Victory to the Blanket Men' posters were confiscated... so much for freedom of expression.

Congratulations to Garda ALLEN who has finally made it to the dreamed of Harrier status. He drove an unmarked police car, in uniform! for the past year while playing with his fantasy. The Harrier column will follow his future career closely.

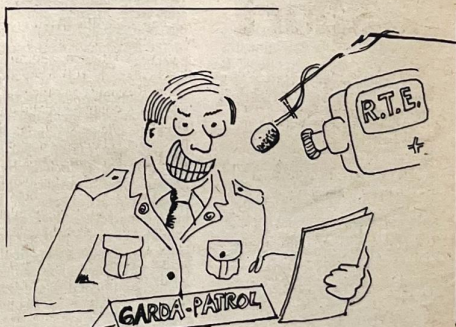
HEAVY GANG GALLERY

THE EGANS

JOE "FATS" EGAN

.... and

MICK "FINGERS" EGAN.



TO END THE PROGRAMME TONIGHT
HARRIER RYAN WILL
SING 'BRANCHES FAVOURITE
"Two DAYS AT A TIME, SWEET JESUS"

The Harrier column wishes to thank HARRIER McLOUGHLIN for the kind invitation he sent for hear him singing in the Garda choir.