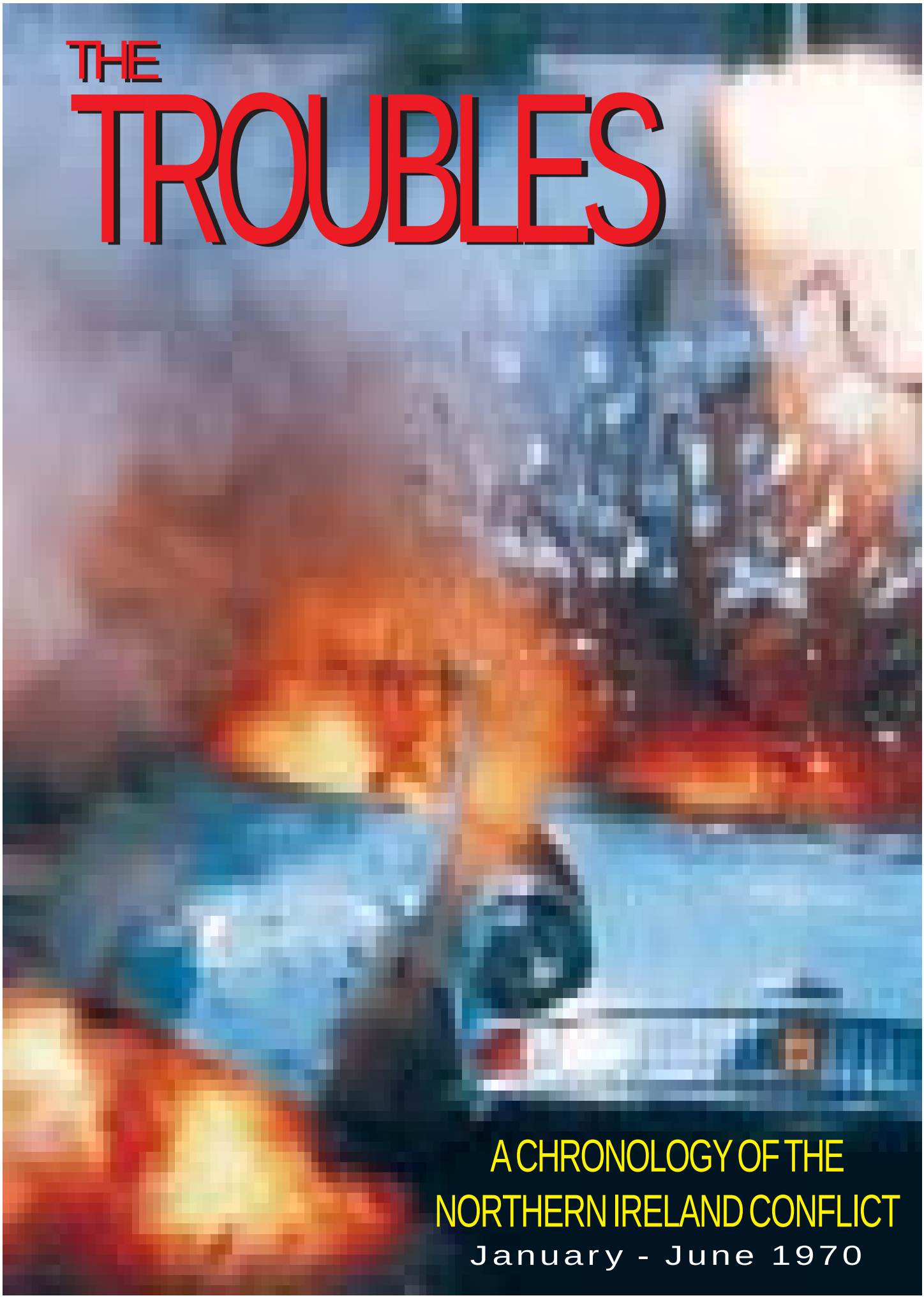
THE
TROUBLES
A CHRONOLOGY OF THE
NORTHERN IRELAND CONFLICT
January - June 1970

# THE TROUBLES

## A CHRONOLOGY OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND CONFLICT

It can often be a contentious issue of debate of when and how Northern Ireland's 'Troubles' began, who and what is to blame, and even which event in case led us to where we are now. You can go back 30 years, or even 300 years and beyond for in reality Ireland has been engaged in conflict with England for centuries.

Therefore, in order to compile a chronological record of the modern Troubles - the term usually given to the most recent conflict, we must mark a defining point of start, which we have taken as partition itself. In turn again, we feel it is equally important to give you the reader some understanding why events spiralled as they did into a bloody civil war.

This is not another view of the Troubles, this has been done and redone. This is the historical recording of events compiled by people from different parts of Belfast who lived through them. Our objective as local historians is to compile what we hope will be as near as possible a definitive reference to events as they unfolded through the last three decades.

In terms of research we have used as much material as possible and from diverse perspectives. We are confident that we have covered events as they were reported at the time. If however you feel that we have either left something out or indeed got something wrong we are more than happy to hear from you. As mentioned above this series of publications is the historical recording of the Troubles and all corrections are more than welcome.

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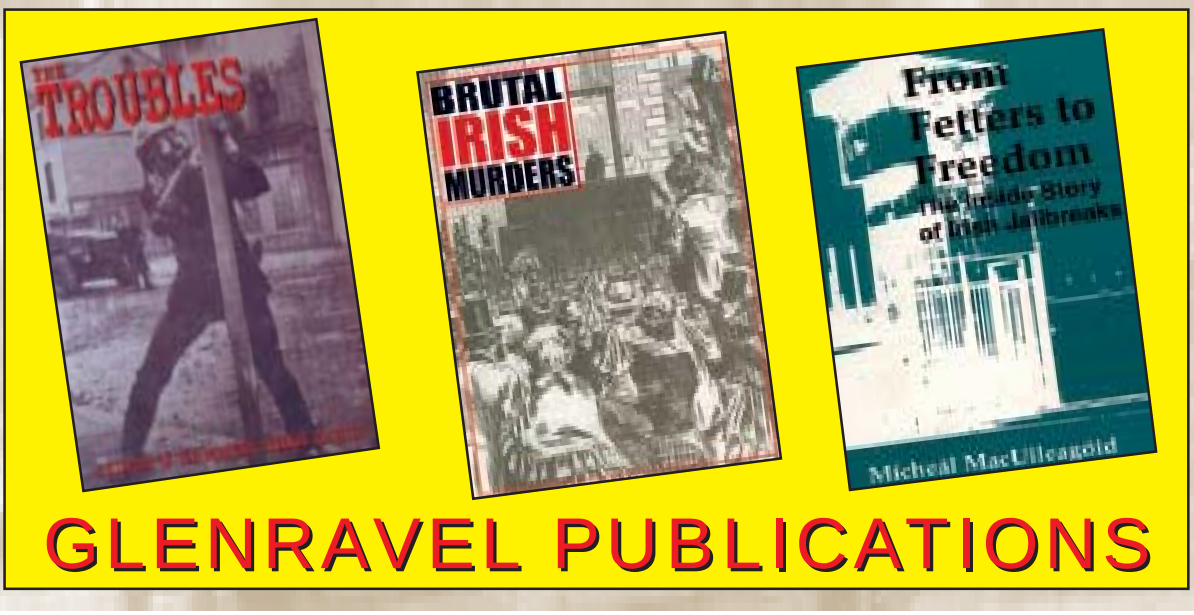
This series of publications is designed to create a better historical understanding of what has become known as 'The Troubles.' Therefore for educational purposes you are more than welcome to use any material from them. All that we ask is that the source is acknowledged and a copy of the material sent to us after publication. We use material that has been placed in the public domain. We try to acknowledge all the copyright holders but sometimes this is not possible. If you claim credit for something that has appeared in this publication then we will be happy to know about it so that we can make the appropriate acknowledgements.



# JANUARY 1970

**Monday 1st January 1970**
**Catholics first to volunteer for role in the UDR**
Two Catholics were the first to fill in application forms for the new Ulster Defence Force when the forms became available to the public today. Outlining the role of the new regiment the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Defence, Ivor Richard, stated that the formation of a "locally recruited, part-time military defence force" had an important, some would say vital role in the process of reconciliation. The regiment should be balanced and not sectarian, recruitment therefore should reflect this.
The aim is to recruit 6,000 people from all walks of life to form the new force. Mr. Richard stated that "the force comes into existence today, however. the target date for the force to become operational is April 1st. The regiment is to be an integral part of the British Army and that as such it will be under the overall control and direction of the Secretary of State for Defence and under the command of the GOC Northern Ireland" this in turn, he said, would mean that Ministers would be publicly answerable in Parliament and constitutionally accountable for the regiment as any other regiment in the armed forces. General Sir John Anderson, the regiments first commandant, stated that the regiment would support the regular forces in Northern Ireland by protecting the border and the state against armed attack and sabotage.

**Wednesday 3rd January 1970**
**Policeman is Injured**
A Policeman was slightly injured during a disturbance near Unity Flats last night. The constable, whose name was not released, received a head injury necessitating five stitches, but was not detained in hospital. Two people, one a juvenile, were detained.

**Wednesday 3rd January 1970**
**Procession ban worries pipers**
Ulster pipe band officials were worried about their program of contests for the year starting in April. They fear that the continued ban on processions will rob the contests of one of their most attractive features, the march through the towns and villages after the results are announced. If the ban continues the bandsmen will have to stay in parks and football grounds throughout the country.

**Wednesday 3rd January 1970**
**Soldiers close to bomb outrage**
Army authorities confirmed today that a troop patrol was near a Belfast home which was petrol bombed last night – the fourth attack on it in five weeks. The soldiers failed to discover who threw the petrol bomb which came through the rear window of a catholic family living in Ballynure Street, off the Oldpark Road.

**Wednesday 3rd January 1970**
**UPV threat to march in Bogside**
The Derry City Division of the Ulster Protestant Volunteers said in a statement today that they have completed plans for a 12th July parade in the city this year.
They threatened, however, to alter the route to include a route through the Bogside area if "the Republican element in the city continues to invade and damage property in loyalist areas.
The division also announced that they are inviting the Rev. Ian Paisley to the City on 6th February to institute a Protestant Unionist headquarters.

**Wednesday 3rd January 1970**
**Laborer took a swing at soldier**
A 26-year-old labourer, who tried to take a swing at a soldier, but hit a lamppost instead, was fined £5 at Belfast magistrates Courts. The man admitted disorderly behavior in the Regent Street area of Belfast. It was said that he used abusive language and threatened to take the soldiers rifles. He made a swing at one of the soldiers but struck a lamppost and was arrested.

**Friday 5th January 1970**
**Mystery over death blow inquest.**
A resumed inquest was told today that it was still not clear how a 66-year-old farmer, Mr. Francis McCloskey, received a blow on the head during rioting in Dungiven on the 13th July.
Mr. Robert Carswell, appearing for the Ministry of Home affairs, said that there were allegations that he had been struck by a police baton, but police inquiries came to the conclusion that he was lying on the footpath before any of the police party engaged in the baton charge crossed the road to where he had been standing.
The police concluded that he must have been knocked down by a fleeing crowd and struck his head on the ground. Another possibility was that Mr. McCloskey was injured shortly after 11 pm during the disturbances and died in Altnagelvin hospital 19 hours after admission without regaining consciousness.
Mr. Carswell told the coroner, Dr Leslie Marshall that there had been a good deal of controversy and local interest in the circumstances of McCloskey's death since the inquest was opened and adjourned on the 18th July. Since then there has been extensive inquiries by a number of people into the accident.
Mr. Carswell said that the state Pathologist Dr. T. K. Marshall, who carried out the post mortem examination found that there was a fracture of the skull which caused a tearing of an artery and that blood pressed against the brain had eventually caused death.
Dr. Marshall had said that the injury at the back of Mr. McCloskeys' head could have come from a blow from a hard object or due to his head striking the ground. Bruising of his ear at the side of the head could have been from a blow or being stood on while he lay on the ground.
Describing the circumstances Mr. Carswell said a party of police went to the Orange Hall just after 10 o'clock to prevent disturbances. In the first party of police there were about 20 men. When they came to the hall there were a lot of stones and other missiles thrown and reinforcements were sent. The reinforcements arrived after 11 pm bringing the total RUC force in the hall to 49.
They decided to carry out a baton charge across the street to push the crowd back and create a diversion to relieve tenders which had brought the second police party and were being subject to a hostile









**PICTURES – TOP TO BOTTOM**
**The Eagle Taxi depot after it was bombed.**
**The Adam Hairdressers after being bombed**
**Demonstrators confront troops in Ferryquay Street, Derry**











demonstration by the crowd.

One group of police went to the right to pursue a section of the crowd on the upper side of the hall and another section bore left. The party, which went left, pursued people who ran from them towards an entry.

At some stage in this manoeuver Mr. McCloskey received a blow to the head. Mr. Carswell said the police evidence would be that only one man was struck by a baton while resisting arrest and that this man was not Mr. McCloskey. The man in question, a Dungiven haulage contractor, had earlier claimed during the inquest that he was brutally beaten by police during a baton charge in Dungiven on 13th July.

He went on to tell the inquest that he could not remember whether the police struck a man in a door way behind him. But later, in cross-examination, he told Mr. Kevin Agnew, who appears for the next of kin of the charge towards him and he was surrounded.

He was also conscious that someone else was getting a beating in Hasson's doorway. He added that he was struck on the head several times by each of the policemen and he fell to the ground and as he wrenched to get free he was once again struck on the head, shoulders and back.

Addressing the inquest jury, Mr. Carswell said that he believed that there could be only two possible verdicts, death by accident or an open verdict. The inquest continues.

**Monday, 5th January 1970**
**IRA Veteran denounces new-line men**

An "Old Guard" member of the IRA has issued a statement about the split in the Republican which followed a decision by the newly elected executive to break with its policy of non-recognition of the Governments of London, Belfast and Dublin.

Younger members of the illegal organisation who now have the majority of the executive are trying to lead members away from a military programme and to concentrate instead on social and political issues.

They would like to nominate candidates for parliamentary elections with the knowledge that, if elected, they would be allowed to take their seats.

However "old guard" members of the organization who were associated with military campaigns in the past decades, are bitterly opposed to this radical change. They have elected their own army executive and army council. They have received support from members in Belfast and counties Laios, Offaly, Mayo and Kerry.

Mr. Thomas Maguire, of Cross, County Mayo, who said he was appointed Commandant general in the IRA in 1921, in a statement claims that the convention had no right to pass the resolution abandoning the absentionist policy.

He added that the "alleged executive and army council are illegal and have no right to claim the allegiance of either soldiers or citizens of the Irish Republic.

A resolution urging the abandonment of the absentionist policy will be considered at the Sinn Fein annual conference in Dublin next week.

PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM

A protest outside Hastings Street Barrack

Traffic on Divis Street is brought to a standstill as a result of the above protest

An army snatch squad detain a youth in Derry

Another youth is detained at the same disturbance

Donegall Street after a bomb exploded at the Belfast Corporation Electricity Club

**Monday, 5th January 1970**
**Woman of the Year**

Miss Bernadette Devlin, MP, has headed a poll carried out by the Sunday Independent among its readers to find Ireland's "man or woman of the year." She scored a runaway victory with 8,184 votes, more than trebling the number of votes which won the title for former Northern Ireland Premier, Capt. Terence O'Neill, last year.

Mr. John Hume came second with 6,411 votes and there were five other Northern personalities in the "Top Twenty." These were Cardinal Conway (fourth); Mr. Ivan Cooper, MP (6th); Mr Gerry Fitt, (12th); Mr. Austin Currie, (16th), and Mr. Eddie McAteer (17th).

The Eire Premier, Mr. Jack Lynch, who was "Man of the Year" in 1967, was fifth this year, the same place he occupied in1968. The "hard line Minister for Agriculture, Mr. Neil Blaney, trebled his vote from last year and rose from 26th to ninth place.

Of the 52 nominations received by the paper, the Northern Ireland Premier, Major Chichester-Clarke, was placed 49th, two places above the Rev. Ian Paisley.

**Monday, 5th January 1970**
**Monopoly power must end says Bleakley**

The Labour Party President, former MP, Mr. David Bleakley, has said that real progress in Northern Ireland will demand a change in the power structure – those who had enjoyed and often abused, monopoly power must be made to move over and give way to more representative groupings.

He told the party: "This redistribution of power is a pre-requisite for success in the Seventies. Politicians and political parties which cannot rise to the challenge deserve to be put out of business.

Mr. Bleakley said peace or war was the choice for Ulster in 1970.

**Monday, 5th January 1970**
**Troops stoned in Derry**

Stones and bottles were thrown by a crowd at troops of the 5th Battalion of the Gloucester Regiment in the Bogside area of Derry in the early hours of yesterday morning and two military police vehicles were damaged.

The group of military police had been called in to deal with a disturbance at a dance hall in Abbey Street, but when they attempted to break up a fight between civilians a crowd of about 100 turned and attacked them and their vehicles parked outside the hall with stones.

**Wednesday 7th January 1970**
**IRA plot smashed by Scotland Yard**

Scotland Yard's Special Branch has smashed an IRA plot to buy illegal supplies of arms in Britain. It has

been revealed today that three weeks ago Special Branch were tipped off that a number of agents from the inner circle of the IRA were going to London to find arms. The Special Branch is aware of the identities of all those involved in the affair. The IRA agents have now left Britain and are known to be conducting negotiations in Belgium and Switzerland.

**Thursday 8th January 1970**
**Three Belfast Refugees are found dead**
A young Belfast man, a woman and a three year old boy, who left Northern Ireland during the troubles last August were found dead in a caravan at Brownstown, The Curragh, County Kildare, last night. The dead were named as James Coleman, aged 20, Margaret Campbell from the Springfield Road and her three-year-old son James. It is believed that all three died from suffocation. Mr. Coleman's father explained that his son was forced to the South from their home in Lake Street, off the Ormeau Road "We were told to get out or be burned out."

**Thursday 8th January 1970**
**Arms Case – 7 Derry men get probation**
Seven Derry men were given probation at Buncrana Court today on charges of being in possession of fire-arms without certificates. They were released. A second charge against the men of possessing firearms with intent to endanger life was withdrawn. The men, all in their 20's or 30's, appeared in court wearing Khaki battle dress type clothing. As they appeared in court a large number of civic guards held back a crowd of sympathizers who protested and sang "We shall overcome" and "The Soldiers Song". Outlining the case against the men, the State solicitor told how police raided a cottage at Rushey, about 3 miles from Fanad, at the weekend and found a machine gun on the settee. More arms were found during the search of the cottage. District Justice Mr. Michael Larkin, said the defendants were respectable young men who had never been in trouble before but he pointed out that if this type of case continued very severe penalties would have to be imposed. The men's solicitor told the court that the men were not members of any subversive organization. They were from the Bogside area of Derry – defenders of the Bogside – and that they were proud of this role and that they would remain defenders.

**Friday 9th January 1970**
**Police to return to full strength in Falls next week**
The RUC will be back at full strength in all areas of Belfast, from Wednesday next week according to a joint army/police statement issued today. But two hours after the announcement, Mr. Jim Sullivan, Chairman of the Central Citizen's Defence Committee denied that officials of his organisation have agreed to the dramatic move. The full-scale police re-entry decision came after a meeting yesterday between high-ranking police and army officers and officials of the Falls based defence committee. Mr. Sullivan commented "We have not yet said we are in agreement with the proposal. The whole matter will be considered at a meeting of the executive committee this Monday. I can promise nothing until this meeting. It became clear today that the no-go areas of the Falls, where police have not been operating will no longer exist. There was no indication today of how many RUC personnel the final phase of re-entry would involve but a reliable source commented "Police strength will probably be brought back up to what it was before the trouble started." No decision has been taken yet about the Bogside, but reliable sources said today that the Falls Road move would probably bring about a speedier return to normal policing in this area.

**Friday 9th January 1970**
**Bail Refused in Intimidation case**
Two men alleged to have intimidated a protestant family in Blackwater Street, Belfast, last September were refused bail today pending appeal against a six-month sentence. The court was told that the couple were threatened with being shot and that there was a sectarian element to the case.

**Friday 9th January 1970**
**Irish rugby chief warned by IRA**
Fears of violence at the international rugby match between Ireland and South Africa at Lansdown Road tomorrow have increased with the issuing of a statement by the IRA warning that they will take action against those responsible if citizens are injured during the huge protest meeting planned by anti-apartheid demonstrators.
The UVF has already issued a statement warning that if the game is disrupted by demonstrators that it will take reprisals against "Fenianism."

**Saturday 10th January 1970**
**IRA planning new Northern Command**
A new Northern Command of the IRA is likely to be formed soon to co-ordinate army activities in Ulster, with special emphasis on those areas considered vulnerable to attack by "Government inspired pogromists" according to a statement issued after an IRA meeting in Armagh. The meeting said to have been attended by representatives of all IRA command areas in Northern Ireland. The IRA statement goes on to condemn "the present disunity being fostered within the ranks of the Republican Movement by the so-called Provisional Army Council."
A second statement issued in Belfast and claiming to represent 90% of the active republican members in Belfast repudiated the "recent illegal decision of a rigged convention to give recognition to the partitionist assemblies and their Westminster authority...The Dublin leadership's concentration on political gimmicks with its neglect of the militant defensive arm led to the holocaust in August when the people of Belfast were left at the mercy of Stormont's armed forces.

**Monday 12th January 1970**
**UVF man is extradited to South**
A 40 year old Belfast salesman, who claimed he was a member of the UVF and took part in the blowing up of the Bodenstown monument last October, today lost his fight against extradition to the South of Ireland in the High Court. Mr. Justice McGonigle, sitting with Mr. Justice Gibson said that they were not satisfied with the man's claim that he would be charged with political offences. The man had been arrested on behalf of a writ issued by Dublin police for his extradition in connection with a charge of forgery. It is alleged he obtained £158 worth of clothing by means of a bogus cheque. In court it was said that he was one of the men who caused the explosion in Bodenstown on 31st October. He was a member of the UVF and he had been in negotiation with certain persons in Dublin about the supply of arms, ammunitions and explosives. It had been decided that a number of men should raid the military establishment near Drogheda and he believed that if sent across the border he would face charges in connection with this matter.



**Monday 12th January 1970**
**Suspended sentence in arms case**
At Belfast City Commission today a 46-year-old shipping clerk admitted one charge of having two loaded guns in his possession for an unlawful purpose and five charges of possessing illegal documents. It was pointed out in court that there was no suggestion that the weapons, a .455 Colt revolver and a 7.65 Walther semi-automatic pistol had been fired. A 12 month suspended sentence was imposed for possession of the firearms and a further £10 fine for the possession of the illegal documents.

**Monday 12th January 1970**
**Sinn Fein splits in row over the IRA**
The undercurrent of disunity which has been spreading through the republican movement in recent weeks erupted into a major split at the Sinn Fein Ard-Fheis annual conference in Dublin last night.
About one-third of the 257 delegates at the conference in the Intercontinental Hotel walked out after a motion pledging allegiance to the IRA was passed.
The dissidents went to a hall in Parnell Square, and reconvened their own conference – where they passed a resolution pledging support for the recently established breakaway provisional council of the IRA.
The split developed over the question of recognition of the three parliaments in Dublin, Belfast and London. Earlier, 153 of the delegates had voted in favour of ending the party's 50 year old abstentionist policy. But the motion failed to get the two-thirds majority required to make a change in the constitution. The meeting was held in private but loud cheering and booing could be heard outside the hall when the result of the voting was announced.
Later, when the motion pledging allegiance to the IRA was being discussed, it was strongly condemned by delegates who favoured abstentionism. Last month the IRA central council decided to recognize the three parliaments.
A spokesman for the dissidents Mr. Sean Brady, a brother of the former Sinn Fein TD, Mr. Rory Brady, said a caretaker executive had been appointed and a full conference would be held shortly to decide on future tactics.
Another delegate who walked out said they could not agree to support a vote of confidence in the IRA which had voted in favour of participation in parliamentary politics.
The president of Sinn Fein, Mr. Tomas MacGiolla, said that it was too early to say that the party was split and he denied that this was the end of Sinn Fein as a political force. He added: 'it might reduce our effectiveness a bit, but if we put our hearts into other extra parliamentary activities, we can achieve a lot."
"A split at this time would only serve British Imperialism, not the Republican Movement."

Despite Mr. MacGiolla's attempts to play down the walk out, it was obvious from the mood of the dissident delegates as they left the hotel that there was a deep split that will not easily be resolved.

**Monday 12th January 1970**
**Split 'Not a Threat' to IRA**
Mr. Cathal Goulding, Chief of Staff of the IRA said in Dublin today that the Split in Sinn Fein did not pose a threat to the future of the IRA.
He said that those who walked out of the annual conference of Sinn Fein last night were already committed to the provisional council of the IRA, the breakaway group formed last month after the IRA had decided to end its abstentionist policy.
The IRA's objective, he added, was still the destruction of the establishments North and South, and to drive the British Army out of Ireland.
Having members of the political wing of the movement in Parliament would not affect that policy, because they would be helping to destroy the "puppet governments" in Dublin and Belfast.
Mr. Goulding said the Belfast and Derry units of the IRA had been active in defence of the people last August. Units from other areas were unable to support them because it was impossible to penetrate into places, which were being besieged by the RUC and B Specials.

**Monday 12th January 1970**
**UDR on target with recruiting**
Applications for membership of the new Ulster Defence Regiment today soared to over 1,000 and the 6,000 target for the new force is likely to be reached by early March – at least a month before it officially comes into operation. Brigadier Logan Scott-Bowden, who will take charge of the new force, is already at Army headquarters at Lisburn.

**Monday 12th January 1970**
**Two sent for trial on arms charges**
Two men from the Ballysillan and Silverstream areas of Belfast were returned for trial on charges of causing an explosion and having in their possession a double-barreled shotgun.

**Tuesday 13th January 1970**
**Bomb in a parcel rocks city**
A young Belfast Hairdresser was slightly injured when a blast, thought to have been a bomb, ripped through Adam's Men's Hairstyles in Ardoyne at about 10.30am. It demolished part of the ceiling and sent glass flying on shoppers. It is understood that the explosive experts later removed the remains of a parcel from the premises.

**Thursday 15th January 1970**
**Protest Rallies**
The Peoples Democracy movement held four demonstrations throughout the North last night in protest against the jailing for four months of an Armagh Civil Rights and PD leader.

**Saturday 17th January 1970**
**Troops and RUC occupy Armagh Centre**
Nine landrovers moved army riot squad troops, armed with rifles, shields and batons, into the center of Armagh this afternoon. Almost 100 members of the RUC took up position in case Peoples Democracy supporters decided to march from Ogle Street to the planned public meeting in Market Street.

**Monday 19th January 1970**
**Arbuckle: Father of Five Charged**
A 41-year-old labourer was remanded in custody until January 30th at Belfast Magistrates Court today charged with the murder of Constable Victor Arbuckle. Constable Arbuckle, a native of Armagh, was standing in a line of police and troops across the Shankill Road on October 11th last year when shots rang out. He fell to the ground with head wounds.

**Monday 19th January 1970**
**Case against PD man dismissed**
The first of 51 cases against People's Democracy supporters dealt with at Enniskillen Court today. The charges all arise out of a demonstration in the town on 26th July last.

**Monday 19th January 1970**
**Lessons of a critical year**
The Minister of Development, Mr. Brian Faulkner, told Unionists in Downpatrick on Saturday that the O'Neill administration lost ground rapidly and undermined confidence in the community by appearing to shirk its responsibilities. Addressing the annual East Down Unionist Association meeting he said that 1969 would be remembered as a critical and painful year for Northern Ireland. They should not brood on it, but should learn the lessons it had to teach them.

**Monday 19th January 1970**
**Fianna Fail annual conference**
The extreme views expressed by several delegates and the obvious widespread support for the views of Mr. Neil Blaney on partition at the Fianna Fail annual conference caused the premier Mr. Jack Lynch to make a hurried addition for his presidential address.

In the departure from his script he emphasized the futility of advocating force as a means of reunifying the country. His reasoned argument swayed the conference giving him a lengthy standing ovation.
A resolution urging Fianna Fail to begin extending its organization to Northern Ireland was rejected at the party's annual conference in Dublin last night after it was opposed by the Premier Mr. Jack Lynch. He thought that the extension of the party to the North would not be a good move and would have a divisive effect. They would however do everything they could to help the Nationalists unite in their common cause

**Monday 19th January 1970**
**Unity in rent strike claimed**
Belfast Municipal Labour Party says it is a mischievous distortion to suggest that only catholic estates in West Belfast are supporting the rent strike by Corporation tenants and declares that all tenants have shown a united front.

The party has condemned what it calls the confusion of an economic conflict with traditional tribal politics, and accuses the Corporation of a blatant attempt to play one section of the community off against the other.
A statement issued by the party declares support for the tenants in their fight.

**Wednesday 21st January 1970**
**Bomb Hoax at Co-op**
RUC men and military police searched all floors in the Belfast Co-operative Society's building in Belfast this afternoon after a report that a bomb had been placed in it.

The store in York Street was closed this afternoon as usual and only a few members of staff were on duty. One of the staff received a telephone call to say that a bomb was due to go off within 15 minutes. A police spokesman later said that the call was a hoax.

**Wednesday 21st January 1970**
**Grenade found in school**
Some classrooms in a country Antrim school were evacuated today after a teacher discovered that an object brought into the school by one of the pupils was a hand grenade.
Police and army were alerted after the grenade, which an army spokesman later said could be in a dangerous condition was found at St. Patrick's Secondary Intermediate School in Ballymena. It is believed that the grenade was brought into the school a couple of days ago by a schoolboy from the Martinstown area.

**Wednesday 21st January 1970**
**Protection Rackets**
Responding to reports by the National Union of Small shopkeepers that some shopkeepers on the Falls Road have had money demanded from them in exchange for protection, Mr. Jim Sullivan chairman of the Central Citizen Defence Committee, whose vigilantes cover part of the area said "It is quite possible that people are going round the area threatening shopkeepers, but they are not our vigilantes. "Our people carry identification cards and anyone having dealings with people calling themselves vigilantes should ask to see their cards."

**Wednesday 21st January 1970**
**Ambulance man hit by concrete**
A voluntary ambulance driver who was injured by a piece of concrete thrown through the windscreen of his ambulance was awarded damages of £200. He told the court that he is a voluntary driver with the St. John's Ambulance and that on the night of April 20th he was returning from an incident in which Hasting Street police station when he was struck the object which was thrown through his windscreen.

**Wednesday 21st January 1970**
**Paper Ban**
The Middle Liberties Unionist association in Derry is to ask the Attorney-General what action he proposes to take over the declared intention of the local branch of the Republican Movement to defy the ban on the sale of the United Irishman on Saturday. The association described the Republican Movement's announcement as nothing more than a piece of political coat trailing and they said that they would also ask the Minister of Community Relations if he sees it as a threat to community relations.

**Wednesday 21st January 1970**
**Recruiting peak for RUC**
Recruiting for the Royal Ulster Constabulary has reached an all time high and the build up of the force will continue over the next few years, said the Ulster Office in London today. More than 500 applications have been dealt with at present. On January 29th,at a ceremony attended by the Prime Minister Major Chichester-Clarke a squad of recruits will pass out from the training center at Enniskillen. It will be the first squad not to have received any training in firearm. By eliminating arms and arms training, policemen can now be turned out from the training centre in 12 weeks instead of 18.

**Thursday 22nd January 1970**
**No change in title of UDR**
In a Westminster written reply on the use of the word Ulster in the Ulster Defence Regiment's title, Mr. Roy Hattersly, Minister for Defence for Administration, said "I cannot accept that the use of the word 'Ulster' in this context is harmful to our relations with the Republic of Ireland and I do not intend to introduce legislation."

**Thursday 22nd January 1970**
**Compensation for Vigilantes**
Two Vigilantes from the New Lodge area of Belfast received compensation from the Ministry of Home Affairs to the total of £280 after they received injuries while patrolling areas of Belfast last September. The men received injuries to their heads and arms when they were struck by stones. In a separate case a young man who was shot twice in Agnes Street, Belfast received £100 compensation.

**Thursday 22nd January 1970**
**Belfast man on firearms charge**
A father of four from Andersonstown appeared in court today on a charge of aiding and abetting another person to possess a firearm.
He was remanded in custody for one week.





PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM
Crowds gather in Carlisle Circus after the statue of the Rev Hugh Hanna was blown up. The Rev Hanna had been a vociferous Belfast clergyman in the mid 1880's.
Riot troops in Market Street, Dungannon







**Friday 23rd January 1970**
**Quarter of UDR Applicants Catholic**
Out of the 1345 men, who have already applied to join the new Ulster Defence Regiment, one quarter are Roman Catholics said Defence Administration Minister, Roy Hattersley, during a one-day visit to Belfast

**Friday 23rd January 1970**
**Daring raid on border bank**
Three men armed with revolvers staged a daring day light raid on a bank at Aughnacloy, Co. Tyrone, today and made off with £1,500. The raiders burst through the doors of the Ulster bank and vaulted over the counter and scooped up the money from the tills into a bag. One man received a gash to the head from a pistol butt as he struggled with the men. The car, a black Austin Cambridge made off towards Ballygally.

**Friday 23rd January 1970**
**O'Neill bows out of politics**
Captain Terence O'Neill, the former Prime minister will formally quit Northern Ireland politics next week. On Tuesday, when MP's return from the Christmas recess they will be informed by the Speaker, that Captain O'Neill has resigned his Bannside seat. The former Premier's letter will be read to the House. And so to will that of Mr. Dick Ferguson, the MP for South Antrim. Mr. Ferguson, a 35 year old barrister, decided to give up his seat when after his decision to resign form the Orange Order, the South Antrim Association passed a vote of no confidence in him.

**Saturday 24th January 1970**
**Troops face unruly crowds in Derry**
Intensive security precautions were taken in Derry this afternoon with a threat by local Republicans to defy the Government ban on the selling of the United Irishman. Troops equipped with full riot gear lined the City walls overlooking Guildhall square and at each side and rear of the square. Two armored cars and several truckloads of troops waited on the quay-side in the event of trouble. The Derry Branch of the Northern Ireland Civil Rights movement held a protest outside the head post office, and troops also kept a watch on this demonstration which was a protest against alleged postal censorship. At 3.00pm several hundred people arrived at Guildhall Square, the majority of them teenagers. Apart from cat calls and jeering intersperses with protest songs the was no trouble

**Tuesday 27th January 1970**
**Attempted 'invasion' at Unity Flats**
Tension was high in the Shankill Road area of the City last night for about two hours when a strong force of police and military frustrated attempts by

PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM
Troops in gas masks form a barrier on the Shankill Road to prevent loyalists making their way to Unity Flats
Troops at the junction of Hopewell Street and Shankill Road
Troops and police at the junction of Townsend Street and the Shankill Road

around 300 protestants to "invade" Unity Flats. Last night was the third night in succession that an attempt has been made to march from the Shankill into the Flats. According to the army the 'disturbances' began when a gang of youths gathered at the junction of the Shankill Road and Agnes Street at the scene of a traffic accident shortly after 11.00pm. By about midnight the crowd had grown to about 350 and had begun moving down the Shankill Road, and then started to infiltrate through the side streets towards Unity Flats. Residents looked on as police and troops formed barriers to keep back the crowd. Eventually the barded wire and barriers were removed and the crowds dispersed. Local Unionist MP Mr. John McQuade will meet with the Lord Mayor and the Town Planning Officer today to discuss his suggestion that the flats should be cleared and to convert them into offices or allow the army to use them.

**Monday 26th January 1970**
**Blast shatters taxi premises**

The premises of Eagle Taxi's in Agnes Street, Belfast was shattered by a mystery explosion early today. Above the vacant ground floor a Union Jack was flying. The occupants of neighbouring houses were awakened by the explosion at 4.30 am and described it as being "very violent." One man rushed outside immediately after the explosion said, "I didn't hear any car or the sound of footsteps, so I think there must have been a long fuse attached to the explosives." One woman was taken to hospital and treated for shock. Windows in local shops and houses were broken by the blast.

**Tuesday 27th January 1970**
**Court told of stolen RUC rifle**

A court was told today that a Royal Ulster Constabulary man was dismissed from the force after making a false report with the object of retaining his service rifle. The Dromore man reported to Lisburn police that his car, which he had parked in Church Street, Dromore, had been broken into and his USC service rifle had been stolen. Investigations revealed the rifle had not been stolen and after admitting this the USC man left the police station, and returned later with the missing rifle. A £30 fine was imposed for causing wasteful employment of police time by making a false statement.

**Tuesday 27th January 1970**
**Charges against 16 RUC Men Dropped**

Disciplinary charges against 16 policemen for alleged misconduct during riots in Derry last January are being dropped, the Inspector-General of the RUC, Sir Arthur Young announced today. Sir Arthur stated "After much thought I have come to the conclusion that I should not pursue any further disciplinary proceedings in relation to the charges.

The charges against nine Constables, five Sergeants and two Head Constables arose from incidents in the Bogside, Guildhall Square and at Burntollet where a civil rights march was ambushed.

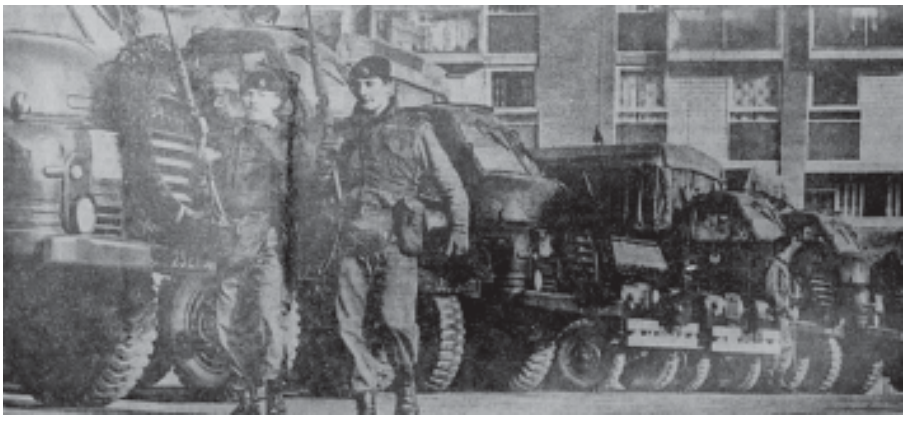
They range from drunkenness to the use of obscene language and the throwing of stones. The Inspector General lists the reasons for his decision:

1. The alleged offences bear little relation to the more serious allegations made against the police at the time for which no justification was found.
2. All of the allegations were denied by the accused.
3. Of the 137 people who complained only one could identify the policemen involved.
4. In May 1969 an amnesty was granted to criminal offenders. "In my view it would be contrary to natural justice to prosecute disciplinary offences against police when these relate to alleged misconduct during the same riots in which criminal offences by civilians were later absolved by amnesty.
5. The time which has lapsed after the inquiry was completed and before any disciplinary proceedings were started and the time necessarily taken by me to make a final decision.
6. The complaints arose at a time when the force was under stress, provocation and danger, grossly in excess of that to which any police force should be subjected.

**Tuesday 27th January 1970**
**RUC silent on UVF claim**

Police declined to comment today on a report that the UVF had claimed responsibility for the Blast, which wrecked the Eagle Taxi offices in Agnes Street, Belfast on Monday. A spokesman commented: "Investigations are continuing." The statement said it was the intention of the UVF to remove republican elements from Loyalist areas – "and reaping financial benefit therefrom."







PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM

Troops on standby in Townsend Street during disturbances in the Shankill area.

Trucks packed with troops at Unity Flats

Soldiers place their riot shields against the windows of the Tavern Bar at Unity Flats to block the view of those inside of a passing Orange parade.

**Tuesday 27th January 1970**
**Shankill unrest – Emergency talks**

The Prime Minister, Major Chichester-Clarke summoned an emergency meeting of security chiefs at Stormont Castle today for discussions on the Shankill situation, where, last night there were ugly incidents again for the fifth night in succession

At the meeting were the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. Porter, the GOC General Sir Ian Freeland, and the Inspector General, Sir Arthur Young.

A special meeting was called of the Unionist Party to discuss the potentially explosive situation. At the 90-minute Party meeting it is believed some MP's and Senators were critical of the government because the Falls Road and Bogside remain largely unpoliced. They put it to the Prime Minister that it was a cause of the Shankill Road trouble. People living in the Shankill area were resentful that police still could not go into the Falls and Bogside. There is no doubt that the Government is very worried that the Shankill Road incidents could become much more serious this weekend, and the top level talks today will have centred on how an outbreak of rioting can be avoided.

**Tuesday 27th January 1970**
**Orange Parade was stoned**

The first witness to give evidence before the Scarman Tribunal which is investigating events in Belfast last July and August, estimated today that about 50 stones and six bottles were thrown at an Orange procession passing Unity Flats on the evening of July 12th last.

The witness, a Head Constable in the RUC, said he had the balconies of the flats cleared after seeing a woman waving a small tricolour from them. There were, he said, verbal exchanges between women on both sides and he had a bar in Unity Flats closed to prevent men becoming involved in the exchanges. Two women spectators, he went on, were wearing Union Jack dresses and were walking up and down Boyd Street. There was no doubt they were acting in a provocative manner and one of them ran into the forecourt of the flats and began arguing with another woman. They began fighting, pulling each other's hair and I had to separate them, he said.

**Tuesday 27th January 1970**
**Soldier Attacks old woman**

A 21-year-old soldier attacked an old woman who lived alone after he had been on a drinking spree. The soldier a member of the 1st Bn. Light Infantry, from Yorkshire had been under considerable stress and strain during a period of nerve wrecking duty in the Andersonstown area. He had been on emergency duty in Belfast from September until a week before the attack. After a bout of drinking the soldier entered the woman's house, although he later had no recollection as to how he got there. In the house, it appeared he re-lived an attack simulated in the training exercise, and the old lady said he had gone to the door and said," There are seven or eight of them out there." The woman made tea for him for she recognised he was distressed and she took his coat off and dried him. The soldier received a suspended sentence and was fined £25

**Tuesday 27th January 1970**
**Fewer Arrests in Falls**

The number of investigations and arrests in the Falls area of Belfast between December 27th and January 26th is down on the same period last year.

Mr. John Taylor, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Home Affairs, said this at Stormont today in reply to a question by Dr. Norman Laird,

Mr. Taylor said that 36 arrests had been made at Springfield Road, Hastings Street and Andersonstown police stations, compared with the same period a year ago.

Ninety-five summonses had been issued against 127 last year, and 422 investigations were carried out, a drop of 44 over the same period last year

Welcoming the figures, Dr. Laird said that this was some indication that the RUC were now getting to grips with the disgraceful problem of 'no go land'

Mr. Taylor said that the return of normal policing in the Falls was something, which the country would welcome.

**Tuesday 27th January 1970**
**Court hears of Falls Road Civy Police**

A court was told today that a number of civilians in the Falls Road area have been carrying out what were in fact police inquiries.

And the Crown Solicitor told Belfast magistrates court that a crown witness had been pressurised following a shooting incident a week ago. The crown were objecting to bail application by a 38-year-old father of four from Andersonstown. Objecting to bail, the court was told that the charge was a very serious one and although it had no sectarian element, it had a very strong political one. RM, Mr. Gerald Lynn asked "In this country can there be one without the other?" to which the crown solicitor replied that all the people involved were of the same persuasion. By way of explanation it was stated in court that there had been a number of break ins and vandalism around the area. Three men armed with a revolver approached the home of one of the suspects and threats were issued. The case was adjourned and the man remanded into custody.

**Wednesday 28th January 1970**
**700 USC men sign on for new regiment**

Out of 1,625 applicants to join the new Ulster Defence Regiment, received by January 23rd, 700 were members of the Ulster Special Constabulary. Applicants in each County were as follows: Antrim 192 (57 members of the USC); Armagh 259 (197); Belfast 329 (22); Down 224 (98); Fermanagh 63 (33); Derry 271 (152); Tyrone274 (159).

**Friday 30th January 1970**
**Drinking ban**

The Government waits this weekend to see whether its reassurances on the policing of the Falls Road and Bogside, coupled with a drinking ban from 8.30pm will provide the first stage in the return to normality.

**Friday 30th January 1970**
**Shankill trouble: outsiders blamed**

Outsiders have moved into the Shankill area, not to help the tense situation but to cause trouble, the Inspector-General, Sir Arthur Young, said at a news conference in Belfast today. They have been resisted and resented by the people of the Shankill. Two or three of the outsiders have been handed over to the security forces by local residents. The Inspector General went on to state that the police and army have found small arms during searches of the Shankill.

**Friday 30th January 1970**
**Petrol bomb thrown at army**

A petrol bomb was thrown at an Army Land Rover in the Bogside in the early hours of this morning and it was the first time that the army was the object of such an attack. However the bomb, which was lobbed over a ten-foot high wall from inside Celtic Park on to Lone Moore Road just struck the road near the Land Rover and burned itself out without causing any damage.

There were two army personnel in the Land Rover, the driver and an officer. An Army spokesman said today that the Land Rover could not possibly have been mistaken for an RUC patrol car and the RUC do not use land Rovers to patrol the Bogside.

**Friday 30th January 1970**
**UPV accuse security forces**

Ulster Protestant Volunteers meeting in Lisburn last night decided to send a strong protest to Mr. Robert Porter, Minister of Home Affairs regarding "the blatant discrimination displayed by the security forces against Protestants on the Shankill Road and other parts". "The security forces are escalating the troubles in the province by using strong arm methods on the Shankill and kid gloves on the Falls Road.""

**Friday 30th January 1970**
**Craig says army blunder to blame for disturbances**

Mr. William Craig said that the biggest blunder the Government has made was calling in the army. Addressing the South Derry Branch of the Ulster Loyalist association in Magherafelt last night he said that the Government had the constitutional right to call in the army but they had not the right to surrender control of Northern Ireland's security forces.

By doing this they have committed the province to another period of violence. The army had not gone in as an aid to the civil authorities but they had come to replace the civil authorities and they had pushed the police force to one side. They had parleyed with the law breakers and had made agreements in certain areas the law would not be enforced and that the security intelligence service would cease to function in the Falls Road and the Bogside.

# THE FORMATION OF THE PROVISIONAL IRA

The IRA split in December 1969 — closely followed by the split in Sinn Féin — was primarily the product of diverging conditions north and south of the border. It was triggered by northern republicans, who were angry at the southern-based leadership's failure to provide guns for the defence of the nationalist areas, which came under sustained attack by the RUC, "B" Specials and loyalists in August 1969. Pressure also came from rural southern republicans, who disagreed with the leftward, anti-abstentionist trajectory of the leadership. Representatives of the Fianna Fáil government in the south promised guns and financial support to the northern dissidents, though opinions differ on how far this influenced the split.

Since its formation to fight the War of Independence (or Tan War), the IRA had already split several times in the face of changing political circumstances. Recurring points of dispute were: whether to work with less-than-ideal institutions; whether to espouse socialism; and when and how to take up the gun.

The IRA first split over the 1921 Treaty, leading to a devastating civil war. Then in 1926 the anti-Treaty IRA split, when Éamon De Valera and his supporters formed Fianna Fáil and entered the southern parliament. In each case, the issue was realpolitik. First the Treatyites and then De Valera decided to work with partition, while retaining the aspiration to an independent united country.

In the north the IRA was in dire straits after partition, crushed by the new Unionist regime through a combination of ferocious reprisals for IRA actions and internment under the Special Powers Act. In the south, they were increasingly marginalised. In the thirties, when both communism and fascism were on the rise internationally, southern IRA members began radicalising the organisation. They were headed by Peadar O'Donnell, Ireland's leading socialist agitator of the period, a trade union organiser and veteran of the War of Independence and the civil war.

In 1931 O'Donnell and others won the IRA Army Council's support for constructing an alliance of republican, labour and farmers' organisations called Saor Éire. In 1934 they planned a "Congress of the poor", which would mobilise workers and small farmers against Irish capitalism and imperialism. They went ahead with this "Republican Congress" against the IRA Army Council's wishes and were expelled. Later they sent the James Connolly Battalion to fight for the Spanish republic.

The IRA carried out some small actions in the north in the late 1930s, then in early 1940 they bombed Britain, causing five civilian deaths and many injuries. Repressive measures by all three governments ended the campaign. De Valera was already cracking down on the IRA, jailing many members. During World War II, hundreds were interned in the Curragh camp at Kildare. Here a group of left-wing prisoners split from the IRA, forming the nucleus of what eventually became the Irish Communist Party. In 1946 Seán MacBride, a former IRA chief-of-staff who had rejected militarism, formed a republican political party, Clann na Poblachta.

Frustration in the north prompted the next split, in October 1951, when the IRA expelled Liam Kelly of Pomeroy for taking unauthorised action. Kelly and fellow Tyrone IRA men set up Saor Uladh (Free Ulster), staging a dramatic take-over of Pomeroy at Easter 1952. Kelly then won the mid-Tyrone seat from the Nationalists on an abstentionist ticket in the 1953 Stormont election.

Meanwhile the regular IRA had launched an unsuccessful arms raid in England, and three men were imprisoned — Dubliner



Cathal Goulding, Londoner John Stephenson (Seán Mac Stíofáin) and Manus Canning from Derry. In May 1955 the republicans followed Kelly's example and stood two prisoners in the Westminster election in Mid-Ulster and Fermanagh-South Tyrone with stunning success.

Another maverick IRA member, Brendan O'Boyle, set up his own group, Laochra Uladh (warriors of Ulster), but it died with him in a premature explosion in July 1955 in the grounds of Stormont. Soon afterwards Saor Uladh assaulted Roslea RUC station, then in November 1956, aided by young Dubliners who had been expelled by the IRA, they attacked six border customs posts.

This pushed the IRA finally to take action, and they launched a campaign against various targets along the border in December 1956. The deaths of Seán South and Fergal O'Hanlon while attacking Brookeborough RUC barracks brought an upsurge of support to the IRA, and four republicans were elected to the Dáil in 1957. One of them was Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, then interned, who subsequently escaped and became IRA chief of staff. Internment North and South took a heavy toll, and public support waned. In the October 1959 Westminster election Sinn Féin won less than half the votes they had won in 1955. The IRA formally ended the border campaign in early 1962.

A handful of republican attacks, mostly symbolic, took place in the South in the 1960s. An attack on a British torpedo boat was authorised, but other actions — including blowing up Nelson's Pillar in Dublin — were the work of a frustrated splinter group, Saor Éire. By now the southern leadership — Cathal Goulding became IRA chief of staff in 1962, while Tomás Mac Giolla became president of Sinn Féin — was heading in a very different direction.

Goulding and Mac Giolla decided to try to make republicanism relevant by taking up the concerns of "the men of no property". They were influenced by two Irish intellectuals, Roy Johnston and Anthony Coughlan, who had returned from England where they had belonged to the Connolly Association, a pro-united Ireland organisation which shared the socialist ideals of its namesake. In 1963, bicentenary of Tone's birth, the leadership founded a Wolfe Tone Society in Dublin, in effect a republican debating club, and sister societies were set up in Belfast and Cork. Wolfe Tone's emphasis on uniting Catholics and Protestants was taken as a key principle, and efforts were made to end the association between Catholicism and republicanism. For example, the recitation of the rosary at commemorations was described as a "sectarian practice".

The Dublin-based leadership encouraged their followers to take up issues such as housing, ground rents and fishing rights, and to involve themselves in trade union acitivities. They proposed establishing an alliance with radical groups to be called the National Liberation Front, the term then in use in Vietnam. In order to become more relevant to working class people, they wanted to end abstentionism, the policy of non-recognition of the parliaments at Westminster, Stormont and Leinster House. Their distant goal was a revolutionary all-Ireland government. In 1968 a Commission was set up to push forward this agenda by consulting the membership and making recommendations.

The leadership's socialist and anti-abstentionist direction caused widespread unease. The main opposition came from rural southern republicans, with Ruairí Ó Brádaigh and the London-born Seán Mac Stíofáin in the vanguard. Many were traditional Catholics who, while happy with the idea of social reform, had a deep distrust of what appeared to be godless communism. There were serious ructions. According to a document issued by Provisional Sinn Féin after the split, the entire North Kerry comhairle ceantair (district council) of Sinn Féin, 250-strong, was expelled in 1966 because of their uncompromising refusal to recognise the three parliaments. Then in 1968 Cumann na mBan, the women's organisation, was expelled, and in 1969 the Sligo Town cumann (branch) was disbanded, because they objected to socialist groups taking part in republican parades.

North of the border, the IRA formed Republican Clubs as a forum for political action to get round the ban on Sinn Féin, though the Clubs were themselves soon banned. They tried to involve their members in campaigning on social issues, sold papers openly, and played a major part in initiating the civil rights movement. The leadership believed that the achievement of civil rights would be followed by Catholics and Protestants uniting for social and economic goals. Cathal Goulding said later: "We believed that the struggle for civil rights would become a struggle for class rights: that all Irish workers would become dissenters."

The main objection from northerners to the new strategy was that it deprioritised military action. IRA veterans such as Joe Cahill drifted away. Liam McMillen, OC of the Belfast IRA, who tried to satisfy both camps, recalled: "By 1967 we had a total of five Republican Clubs in Belfast and strenuous efforts were being made to radicalise our membership, who were still very reluctant to discard the traditional physical force role of the IRA and to adopt the unfamiliar role of political activists. The Belfast Battalion Staff impressed on H.Quarters the necessity for a happy blend of political agitation and military activity. In view of a concerted recruiting drive being undertaken by the British army at that time, permission was sought and granted for an attack on three British army training centres — two in Belfast and one in Lisburn."

According to legend, the Goulding-led Army Council sold the IRA's guns to the Free Wales Army. This was a primarily propagandistic body, while the underground MAC carried out the serious sabotage. The Free Wales Army's leader, Cayo Evans, denied that they bought IRA arms. His version of events is that an American company, ARMCO, wanted the Free Wales Army to buy the IRA's guns so that the IRA could use the money to buy more modern weaponry from them. "Unfortunately we never did have the cash for such transactions," said Evans, "We bought, begged, borrowed, stole whatever we could get — war souvenirs, grandad's revolver, rifles forgotten by the Home Guard..."

The escalating crisis after 5 October 1968, when Derry marchers were batoned by the RUC, brought matters to a head. After a fierce RUC assault in April 1969, Derry republicans set up defence committees, and Belfast later followed suit. Northerners and southern traditionalists angrily pressed the IRA leadership to defend civil rights marchers and the Catholic areas. They were dismayed in July when the Commission issued its report: it recommended setting up an NLF and an end to abstentionism, and ignored events in the north.

Soon came the ferocious "battle of the Bogside" from 12 to 14 August, immediately followed by the wholesale burning of Catholic streets in Belfast by loyalist mobs. It was abundantly clear that the IRA was incapable of defending the people. Graffiti saying "IRA — I Ran Away" appeared on the walls. Catholics welcomed their saviours, the British army.



Veteran republican Liam Hannaway recalled: "I had been in the Army all along and the people of our district didn't want to know me before 1969. But then suddenly they realised that I might be able to save them. When I say I, I'm speaking about the Republican Army. We had been left in a position such that in reality we weren't members of the Republican Army, but were members of Sinn Féin and nothing else. But it's hard explaining that to people, because they simply weren't interested. They wanted to know how many guns there were, and what could you do to save them from being burned out."

Liam McMillen said: "By 1969 the total membership of the Belfast IRA was approximately 120 men and their armaments had increased to a grand total of 24 weapons, most of which were short range pistols."

In the face of the pogroms, the demand for guns came from all shades of nationalist opinion. Nationalist MPs approached the Fianna Fáil government in the south to send armaments. Among other measures, the government earmarked £100,000 for relief in the North, and set up a sub-committee headed by Charles Haughey and Neil Blaney, both rivals of prime minister Jack Lynch and more militantly nationalistic. The sub-committee sent army intelligence officer Captain James Kelly to the North. Kelly recommended channelling support to the anti-leadership IRA. Money certainly went to them, but whether any guns were supplied is uncertain. The Irish army briefly gave small-arms training to northern nationalists across the border in Donegal. The serious efforts to supply the North with guns bought overseas began after the split, and led to the arms trial in the south in the autumn of 1970.

Haughey also enabled covert government funding of a paper called Voice of the North, which aired nationalist grievances and included anti-leadership republicans among its directors. The United Irishman, voice of the Dublin IRA leadership, guessed Fianna Fáil's involvement and attacked its attempt to "restructure the civil rights movement."

Within ten days of the pogroms, northern IRA members were organising themselves and making common cause with the southern traditionalists. They met in Belfast on 24 August and decided to oust the Belfast IRA leaders and work on replacing the Goulding leadership. Those present reportedly included Joe Cahill and the young Gerry Adams, as well as southerner Dáithí Ó Conaill. They organised a coup on 22 September and took over the Belfast IRA, though leaving McMillen in charge.

In December a special IRA Convention met to consider the Commission's report. Belfast did not send any delegates, and a majority voted for establishing an NLF and ending abstentionism. Seán Mac Stíofáin left and headed to Belfast, where he began setting up a new IRA. Just before Christmas this group met in the Midlands and elected a Provisional Army Council. Mac Stiofáin became chief of staff, while Ruairí Ó Brádaigh was on the army council.

On 11 January 1970 Sinn Féin held its ard fheis at Dublin's Intercontinental Hotel. Of the 257 delegates, 153 voted for abstentionism — a majority, but not the two-thirds required to change the constitution. A delegate then proposed a vote of confidence in the Goulding leadership, tantamount to supporting the Army Convention's decisions. Mac Stiofáin then declared his allegiance to the Provisional Army Council, and led about a third of the delegates out to reconvene in a pre-booked hall in Parnell Square.

The Caretaker Executive of Sinn Féin issued a list of five major reasons for the walk-out: (1) recognition of Westminster, Stormont and Leinster House; (2) extreme socialism; (3) internal methods; (4) "The failure of the republican movement to give the maximum possible protection to our people in the North last August"; and (5) abolition of Stormont. On the last point, they said: "We find absolutely incomprehensible from any Republican stand-point the campaigning in favour of retaining the Stormont parliament in August, September and October last when it was in danger of being abolished altogether by the British goverment." Ruairí Ó Brádaigh was later elected president.

The Goulding leadership had a different view of what had happened. They saw the whole sequence of events — from pogroms to the split — as deliberately engineered by Fianna Fáil and the British government to sabotage the revolutionary movement by dividing the workers and creating a new Catholic sectarian force. Tomás Mac Giolla said in 1972:

"As early as February 1969 the Dublin government had begun their part of the imperialist plan by making their first contact with Republicans and Civil Rights workers in the North. Following the August pogroms they intensified their work on much more fertile ground. By concentrating on those Belfast Republicans and ex-Republicans who saw their role as Catholic defence groups and by playing on their latent sectarianism and militarist desires, they created a split amongst Republicans in Belfast and offered money and guns to those who would reject the leadership of the Republican Movement. Thus the Provisionals were born."

The term "Provisional" remained in permanent, though unofficial, use. The older organisation in turn was dubbed the Officials, or the Stickies, a reference to the fact that the lily badges they donned at Easter were made of sticky-backed paper, while the Provisionals attached theirs with the more traditional pins. The Officials declared a ceasefire in 1972, while the Provisionals fought on into the 1990s.

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# FEBRUARY 1970

**Monday 2nd February 1970**
**Arms plot men in court**

A jury at Leeds assizes heard today that four men took part in a plot to run large quantities of guns and ammunition from Britain to Ireland. Three of the accused were all members of an Irish organization known as Clann na h-Eireann. Amongst the items seized by police was the groups constitution which states its objective is to co-ordinate and consolidate the efforts of Irish exiles into effective support for the Republican Movement. The four accused, all living in England and Scotland attempted to negotiate the purchase of the weaponry valued at £200,000. Unknown to the accused, the arms dealer, realizing that something was afoot, had already contacted the police. Detectives arrived at the shop where they listened to the arms negations through the internal telephone System.

**Monday 2nd February 1970**
**Belfast Brothers on arms charge**

Two Belfast brothers were charged today with stealing a quantity of .22 rifles, a shotgun and ammunition in Warwickshire. The brothers, from Brookfield Street were remanded in custody.

**Monday 2nd February 1970**
**Shots fired in a Dublin bar**

A shot which was fired from a revolver in the Liverpool Bar at the North Wall, Dublin, last night narrowly missed the proprietor's head, the bullet smashing a lampshade and imbedding itself in the ceiling. At about 9pm three men were in the bar having a drink while watching television

Shortly after 10 o'clock two youths selling copies of the United Irishmen entered, and were requested to leave by the owner. The youths then left and the owner was then approached by the three men who asked him why he refused to let the youths sell the papers. On being told that the three had not got permission to do so the three began to argue with him and then one of the men pulled a revolver from his pocket and fired a shot which passed over the owner's head. No arrests have been made.

**Tuesday 3rd February 1970**
**Arms thefts**

Crime squad officers have been called into help police forces in England after the second theft of guns within three days.

They are watching docks all over Britain incase attempts are made to take the guns out of the country, possibly to Ireland.

A police spokesman said today after the theft of 11 second hand rifles and an automatic pistol from a sports shop near Bolton, Lancashire that Scotland Yard officers have also been alerted.

Although police do not have evidence that the recent thefts – the first one was at Avonmouth docks, near Bristol - are the work of the IRA, the suggestion has not been ruled out.

The rifles and pistol, worth more than £230 were snatched in a daylight raid in a sports shop. The shop was closed at the time and children playing nearby saw three men carrying the firearms out of the back of the premises and drive off in a green Ford type estate car. The raiders forced a yard gate and a door at the rear of the shop and took the firearms from a locked, glass fronted cabinet.

In Bristol police are still searching for three Royal Navy 7.72mm machine guns stolen from a storage shed at Avonmouth docks. The guns were reported missing on Friday.

**Tuesday 3rd February 1970**
**Bomb blasts in Belfast**

At 3.am today a bomb blasted open the doorway to an office block containing the headquarters of the New Ulster Movement in Botanic Avenue and severely damaged an adjoining bakery shop. The Target is believed to have be the N.U.M. offices, and it was there that the N.U.M. executive had been meeting until midnight last night.

**Wednesday 4th February 1970**
**Rioters ignored by RUC**

An English policeman criticized the police for not taking action during troubles outside Unity Flats on August 2nd when he gave evidence to the Scarman Tribunal in Belfast today. The Sgt, a member of the Herefordshire Constabulary, said that police took no action against a crowd which attacked the flats from Peter' Hill that evening. He eventually left the scene and phoned two broadcasting companies in the hope that they might be able to get something done about the situation.

**Wednesday 4th February 1970**
**Civil Rights Association call for country wide protests**

The Civil Rights Association has called on its branches throughout Northern Ireland to organize simultaneous demonstrations if a Public Order Bill becomes law tomorrow. The Bill, they claim, was repressive in intent, and no amount of argument that the law was being brought into line with the rest of Britain altered the fact that the Unionist Government was seeking the powers to imprison people for "sitting, kneeling or lying down" on the roadway. They added that "any government that cannot tolerate its citizens peaceably publicizing their grievances by sitting in the street or in public buildings is an undemocratic government and deserves to be opposed as such."

**Wednesday 4th February 1970**
**Taylor to speak in Eire debates**

A junior Stormont minister is due to speak at three meetings in Eire this later this month.

Mr. John Taylor, parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Home Affairs, said today that he had agreed to put the Unionist viewpoint at debates in Dublin, Sligo and Cork.

He was not undertaking the debates in an official capacity. "One of the great problems about the Southern Irish attitude to Northern Ireland is lack of information about circumstances here." He said.

"Unionists have everything to gain by stating the Ulster case in the South even though it may not be too popular."

North and South could only be good neighbours if each respected and recognized the other, he added.

At University College, Dublin, he will speak with the Labour TD Mr. Conor Cruise O'Brien, in a debate entitled "We shall overcome."

The meeting in Sligo on February 13th, sponsored by the Marxist Brothers' Past Pupils Union, will discuss North-South relations.

Among other speakers will be Mr. Ivan Cooper, MP; Mr. Barry Desmond, chairman of the Irish Labour Party; Senator Neville Keery, Fianna Fail and Senator John Kelly, Fine Gael.

Invitations to oppose Mr. Taylor in the Cork debate on "United Ireland" have gone out to Miss Bernadette Devlin, MP; and Mr. Neil Blaney the Eire Minister of Agriculture.

**Wednesday 4th February 1970**
**Solicitor cleared of march charge**

Maghera solicitor Kevin Agnew was finally cleared last night at Belfast Assizes at the end of his second




PICTURE

Civil Rights protest in Market Square, Armagh

trial by jury. Agnew (58) was found not guilty by an all male jury of assisting in organizing an AOH procession in Maghera on August 15th.

**Wednesday 4th February 1970**
**Tip-off leads to missing navy machine guns**
Two of the three Royal Navy machine guns stolen from Avonmouth docks last week were found in a sack in a Chepstow racecourse car park just before midnight.
Police drove to the course, a mile outside the town, after an anonymous telephone call, and found the two guns in a sack just inside the gateway to a car park just opposite the racecourse entrance.
The search is continuing for a third machine gun believed to have been stolen.
The guns had been in unidentified boxes aboard the Albistan, which began discharging at Avonmouth last week. They had been brought from Bahrain and were on their way to the Royal armaments Depot at Portsmouth for modification. Last Friday one box was found broken open and empty and two other boxes missing. A large-scale search was launched by Bristol police who feared the guns had been taken for the IRA or the Wales Free Army.
In London today three grenades were found in a left luggage locker at Victoria Station only a week after a similar discovery at the same station. They were discovered during a routine check on the left luggage lockers by railway staff.
Scotland Yard's Special Branch and railway police have been investigating last weeks discovery after the grenades were found to be fully-primed and of the very latest type.

**Thursday 5th February 1970**
**Protestant Unionists triumph in Woodvale**
The Rev. Ian Paisley's Protestant Unionist Party captured both the vacant Woodvale seats on Belfast City Council from Official Unionists in yesterday's by-election.
Barely 100 votes separated all four candidates in a 44.4pc poll.
Mr. Paisley said afterwards: "This is the beginning of the end of the O'Neill Government – or rather the Chichester-Clarke Government. Anyway it's the O'Neill thing."

**Thursday 5th February 1970**
**South ready to 'go into North' - False**
Government Ministers and other prominent members of Fianna Fail were going round party meetings throughout the country telling members they were ready to "Go into the North" last August 15th, and if the same thing happened again, they would go in it was alleged in the Dail yesterday.
Deputy Gerry L'Estrange former Chief Whip of the main opposition party, Fine Gael, who made the allegations, said the government was acting in an irresponsible manner and it was time people were told the truth.
The premier, Mr. Jack Lynch said Mr. L'Estrange's statements were "false, mischievous and irresponsible." Mr. L'Estrange claimed that the UVF was arming to the teeth and many people predicted civil war was inevitable in the North. Hate and fear was rampant and Mr. Lynch should meet the British government to inform them of the dangers. He said that speeches by Mr. Blaney and other "hardliners were doing untold harm."

**Friday 6th February 1970**
**200 strong RUC Flying Squad**
The RUC has declared full-scale war on law-breakers, by setting up a team of highly mobile and specially trained team of men and women, some of who are in plain Clothes. The recently formed Special Patrol Groups (SPG) is intended to be a readily available mobile reserve, which can strengthen the local police in combating crime and dealing with a sudden emergency or disaster. There are over 200 members of the SPG; these are divided into six sections – four in Belfast and one each in Armagh and Derry. Each section consists of one head constable, five sergeants, and 30 constables and in Belfast there is one woman.

**Friday 6th February 1970**
**Demos to go ahead in 6 Ulster Centres**
Despite the opposition MP's call for caution, demonstrations are going ahead tomorrow in Belfast and five provincial towns. But Derry and Strabane have called off their demonstrations against the new public order law and last night Lurgan civil Rights association decided not to join the demonstrations. Demonstrations will take place in Armagh, Enniskillen, Newry, Dungannon and Toomebridge, as well as Belfast.

**Friday 6th February 1970**
**McKeague trial is adjourned once more**
The trial of John McKeague and four other men accused of an explosions conspiracy were adjourned for another week at the winter assizes in Belfast this morning. They are accused that between January 1st 1969 and April 24th 1969 that they conspired with persons unknown and others who are now dead, to cause an explosion at the water supply pipe at Dunadry. All deny the charges

**Friday 6th February 1970**
**Housewife fined for personation**
A 42-year-old housewife, who pleaded guilty to personation, was fined £25 at Belfast Magistrates court today. She was charged with unlawfully applying for a voting paper to be used in the Woodvale by-election of February 4th.

**Friday 6th February 1970**
**Government is to honour 'Specials'**
Members of the Ulster Special Constabulary will be officially recognized by the Government for their service to Northern Ireland, particularly during the past year.
Mr. John Taylor, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Home Affairs told members of St. Anne's Young Unionist Association last night that the Government was also considering plans to compensate permanent staff of the USC.
Mr. Taylor paid warm tribute to the USC for their spirit and dedication, particularly during the past year. The USC, he added, had known for months that the force was to be disbanded, but they had continued to carry out their duties in the best traditions. He believed that in the future many people would look back on this period of unrest as the "finest hour" of the force.

**Saturday 7th February 1970**
**Enoch Powell flies in**
The controversial Tory MP Mr. Enoch Powell flew into Aldergrove Airport this afternoon on his way to speaking arrangements in Portadown and Enniskillen. He declined to comment on a suggestion that his visit could lead to a heightening of tension in the province.
His first stop was Portadown where he was to speak at the annual meeting of the Armagh Unionist Association. Later he was going on to Enniskillen for a meeting organized by Fermanagh Unionist Association in the Regal Cinema, for which there was a 10s address charge. He was not expected to speak on the Northern Ireland troubles at either meeting.

**Saturday 7th February 1970**
**Five soldiers injured in clashes with Bogsiders**
Five soldiers were injured and nine people including a juvenile were arrested during midnight clashes between troops and Bogsiders in Derry last night.
The trouble flared up after a protestant rally in the Guildhall addressed by the Rev. Ian Paisley and the army's snatch squad was brought into action to clear a stone-throwing crowd in William Street. A force of about 100 troops entered the Bogside at Rossville Street and advanced as far as the high flats under a hail of stones and bottles.

**Saturday 7th February 1970**
**Taylor is pelted with eggs at Dublin Meeting**
Parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. John Taylor, had to beat a hasty retreat in Dublin last night when he was pelted with flour bombs, tomatoes and eggs. Mr. Taylor was the guest speaker at the Physics Theatre at University College Dublin, in a debate "We shall overcome", organized by the Agricultural Science Society.
He had been continuously heckled throughout his address and when he mentioned "Jack Lynch…" it seemed to have been the signal for the volley of missiles, which struck him. Eggs, oranges, flour, pennies and tomatoes came from all directions and there were several direct hits. At one stage Mr. Taylor lifted a small table to protect himself and tried to resume speaking but the barrage kept up and several hecklers broke away from the audience and ran towards the platform. There were several scuffles as students tried to protect the speaker and he finally managed to get to the door and reach the comparative safety of the Porter's office.
A council member of the UCD Republican Club said that this was an organized demonstration by about 40 members of the UCD club and also members from







PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM

A soldier on sentry duty stands outside the Manor Street Boys' Club which is occupied by the Anti-Tank Platoon.

The Lord mayor of Nottingham, Mr Dyer, is shown the new 'peace line' at Kashmir Road.

RUC landrovers outside the Courthouse after an explosion.

Trinity College, Dublin and Queen's University in Belfast. "This was a stand in solidarity with our Northern Comrades who have been jailed." He said. A council member complained that Mr. Taylor constantly refused to answer why Republican Clubs were banned in Northern Ireland.

**Saturday 7th February 1970**
**Rescue bid citation for two soldiers**
Two soldiers, both members of the 1st battalion, Royal Green Jackets, twice entered a blazing house in Belfast during the disturbances last year, in attempts to save a trapped 80 year old woman have been awarded citations for bravery. Despite the actions of the two soldiers, who were driven back by flames, fumes and the collapsing building the woman died.

**Saturday 7th February 1970**
**Sinn Fein men stop Dublin address**
Eight members of Sinn Fein last night invaded the Royal Dublin Societies, lecture hall at Ballsbridge, Dublin and prevented Sir William Armstrong, permanent Secretary, Civil Service Department in London, from addressing the Institute of Public Administration. The protestors agreed after about 15 minutes to leave the meeting, if the police left first, this was agreed.

**Monday 9th February 1970**
**Explosion at home of ex-MP**
An army explosives expert joined police today in their investigations into the midnight bomb explosion, which damaged the Belfast home of a former MP. Miss Sheelagh Murnaghan, ex-liberal MP for Queen's University was not in her home at Windsor Avenue at the time the bomb shattered windows and blew a 16-inch hole in her wall. Miss Murnaghan, a leading catholic, recently pleaded for the new Public Order Act to be given a fair chance.

**Tuesday 10th February 1970**
**Government to tighten law on explosives**
The government promised today to bring in new laws shortly to tighten up the control of explosives. The law, stated the Governor, Lord Gray, at the state opening of parliament, would be amended to include new provisions for the storage and control of explosives.

**Tuesday 10th February 1970**
**Demotion for soldier who slept in**
A Corporal with the 1st battalion Parachute Regiment was sentenced to be demoted to the rank of Lance Corporal when he appeared before a tribunal at Palace Barracks, Holywood on charges of failing to report for duty, using insubordinate language and using threatening language. The offences happened in January, when the soldier fell asleep while getting ready for duty at an operations post at the Milanda Bakery in Snugville Street, Belfast.

**Tuesday 10th February 1970**
**Derry row, two girls are jailed**
Two unemployed factory girls were jailed for three months at Derry Magistrates Court for disorderly behaviour near Derry's Guildhall last Friday night while the Rev. Ian Paisley was holding a meeting there. Police evidence was that the girls were shouting "Protestant Bastards" to people in Foyle Street. Each girl had half a bottle of wine sticking out of her pockets.

**Wednesday 11th February 1970**
**"My Gun was to protect Ulster"**
A court heard to day that a Portadown man at whose home was found a 9mm Walther automatic pistol in a holster, hundreds of rounds of ammunition, as well as detonators and fuses told a police sergeant that his gun was for his own protection and the protection of Northern Ireland.

**Wednesday 11th February 1970**
**Unionist backbenchers discuss Police Bill**
The Police Bill, which provides the formal machinery for modernizing the RUC on unarmed civilian lines was presented at Stormont today. It will set up the representative Police Authority, which will have the responsibility of organization of the RUC, will create the RUC Reserve and provide for the interchange of police here and England.

**Wednesday 11th February 1970**
**Belfast man remanded in arms case.**
A 23-year-old man was remanded in custody on charges of possessing six weapons. The court was told that the weapons have already been distributed. Bail was refused.

**Wednesday 11th February 1970**
**Blast not bid at jailbreak**
Forensic experts visited Landscape Terrace again today in an attempt to find clues to a mystery explosion outside Belfast Prison. The explosion left a three-foot crater at the foot of a 20-foot high wall. The police are trying to establish a reason for the blast the sixth in the city since the beginning of the year. A spokesman said that there did not appear to be a plan behind these attacks, although investigations are ongoing. It was also stated that although the prison wall was slightly damaged, police do not believe it was a serious attempt to break into the prison.

**Wednesday 11th February 1970**
**More MP's wanted for Ulster**
A proposal to add six or seven new MP's to the existing 12 come from the New Ulster Movement in a memorandum submitted to the Crowther Commission on the Constitution which started sitting in Belfast City Hall today.

**Wednesday 11th February 1970**
**Falls and Shankill 'united by need'**
The community has so far given the Falls and Shankill nothing but pubs and churches the Minister of Community Relations, Dr. Simpson, said last night. He was speaking at the dinner of St. Malachy's Old Boys' Association.
Both the Falls and the Shankill are in dire need of something better than they have been given in the past. These areas may be divided politically and religiously, but they are united by need. They need the same things, - jobs and houses – and they need them equally.

**Wednesday 11th February 1970**
**Bradford says Orange order should break the link with party**
Mr. Roy Bradford, the Minister of Commerce has said he would like the Orange Order to take the initiative in breaking its relationship with the Ulster Unionist Party. Addressing Clifton Women Unionists last night he said that members of the Order are not exclusively unionist and the political tie was not always to their taste.

**Thursday 12th February 1970**
**Civil Rights member is sacked.**
There is further evidence of a split between Civil Rights and People's Democracy in County Fermanagh by the news that the Civil Rights Association has sacked one of the members of its executive committee. The sacked member, who has been organizing meeting in protest against the Public Order Act, said at a meeting in Enniskillen on Saturday said he was no longer proud to be a member of the Fermanagh Civil Rights Association because it had refused to take part in demonstrations against the public order act.

**Thursday 12th February 1970**
**U.V.F. says 'We caused blast'**
A statement signed Captain William Johnston, adjutant of the Belfast Battalion of the U.V.F. accepts full responsibility for the "token protest blast" at Belfast Prison.
The typewritten statement marked communiqué 38/70 says that "We emphasize that it was a token protest. Should we have wanted to take down the prison wall we could, and would do so at will."
"We deny having any connection with the explosion at the home of Miss Sheelagh Murnaghan. UVF intelligence officers report that this was caused by a certain student group at Queen's University."

**Saturday 14th February 1970**
**Skipper hits out at Army guns search**
The Army denied today that any of their officers were involved in a row with a Kilkeel fishing boat skipper during a massive Army and Navy search of vessels for arms yesterday. When the fleet returned to port they found a naval vessel there and between 30–40 armed troops on shore. An army statement said "Because an amount of ammunition and explosives material was found recently in the Annalong - Kilkeel area the army in conjunction with the Royal Navy have been carrying out searches in that area."

**Monday 16th February 1970**
**Court is told of plot to topple O'Neill**
Outlining the crown case at the trial in Belfast today of five men accused of conspiring to cause an explosion at the water pipeline near Dunadry. The objective of the accused, was, Mr. Robert Babington Q.C., told the jury, to bring about the fall of Prime Minister, Captain O'Neill and to try to secure the release from prison of the Rev. Ian Paisley and Captain Bunting.

**Monday 16th February 1970**
**Mystery blast in street unsolved**
Police and army were unable to shed any light on a mystery explosion in the Whiterock Road area. Investigations are also being carried out into a blast in the early hours of yesterday morning when a small explosive charge was pushed through a grill guarding a door of the Northern Wine Company off licence, Bray Street. The explosion blew a hole of 9 to 12 inches diameter in the woodwork at the side of the door. Attempts were also made to burn down a confectionary shop in Roden Street, as well as the Crumlin Cinema.

**Wednesday 18th February 1970**
**Explosion rocks courthouse**
A mystery blast rocked Crumlin Road Courthouse today and police sealed off all exits from the building. It is believed that the explosion is in the vicinity of the office of the City Coroner, just yards from the main court room where the trial of five men accused of conspiring to cause explosions was taking place.

**Wednesday 18th February 1970**
**Paisley asked me "Did I talk?"**
A crown witness alleged at the Winter Assizes in Belfast today that while being questioned in a police station about explosions at the Dunadry water pipeline, the Rev. Ian Paisley visited him in the company of a man who is now one of his co-accused. The witness described how as they were all leaving the room "The Rev. Paisley went to go out of the room and then stopped, came back again and bent down and whispered in my ears 'Did you talk?" Asked if during his stay in the police station was he ever alone with Paisley? He replied "Not exactly." The witness then denied that after an argument with his co-accused he said "I will sink you for this no matter what way I do it". The trial continues

**Wednesday 18th February 1970**
**Time bomb buckles RTE Mask in Donegal**
A time bomb blast buckled the base of 250ft TV mast near Raphoe

**Wednesday 18th February 1970**
**GPO bomb Attempt foiled**
Staff and customers ran for safety from the GPO, O'Connell Street at lunchtime in Dublin today as police carefully lifted a home made ticking bomb from the main floor of the GPO building.
Army experts were called in to disconnect the bomb, an ordinary clock attached with wires to sticks of gelignite.

**Wednesday 18th February 1970**
**First two recruits sworn in**
A Roman Catholic and a Protestant from the Ardmonagh Gardens and Knocknagoney Way, parts of Belfast, stood side by side and took the oath of allegiance to the queen this morning, when they were officially sworn as new members of the UDR at a special service at the war memorial building in Waring Street.

**Wednesday 18th February 1970**
**New Chairman of Civil Rights Movement**
A prominent Republican, Mr. Kevin Agnew has been elected as the new chairman of the Northern Ireland Civil Rights movement.

**Thursday 19th February1970**
**B –Specials in Gun Battle**
Ulster Special Constabulary guards fought a gun battle with raiders who attacked a water pumping station near Ballynahinch during the night. The four constables on duty opened up with automatic weapons after the raiders had shot at them. None of the Special constables were hurt and it is believed that the raiders escaped uninjured.

**Friday 20th February 1970**
**New Trust may take over the Clyde Valley**
A new Trust announced today could mean a last minute reprieve for the 84-year-old Ulster gunrunning ship, the Clyde Valley. For the rusty relic, which has been saved once already from the scrap yard was to find herself without a home in mid-March when the hospitality provided by Carrickfergus Borough Council was to come to an end. The purpose of the trust is to discover, repair and preserve for the benefit of the nation, vessels of historical, scientific or technical interest and to arrange for their berthing at suitable sites ashore or afloat.
The Clyde Valley should stand a good chance of being covered by the aims of the trust, for her claims to fame are not only that she brought 30,000 rifles and four million rounds of ammunition into Larne for the Ulster Volunteers in 1914, but she is also believed to be the last iron hull tramp steamer, as distinct from steel.

**Saturday 21st February 1970**
**Five cleared on pipeline blast charges**
Crowds in Crumlin Road courthouse cheered as an all male jury returned a verdict of not guilty on Mr. John McKeague and four others, of conspiring to blow up a water pipeline at Dunadry, last April.

**Saturday 21st February 1970**
**Soldier in rescue bid**
A young military policeman made a dramatic bid to save a man from falling into the Lagan and drowning early today. The soldier, seeing a man

hanging from a ledge on the Queens Bridge, managed to hold on to him for almost ten minutes. The man, who has not yet been identified slipped from the soldier's hands and was swept away by the river.

**Saturday 21st February 1970**
**Computer would aid the RUC**

Sir Knox Cunningham, Unionist MP for South Antrim at Westminster, is to ask the Home Secretary next week if the decision to put police records on crime and criminals on a central computer complex will be extended to Ulster. Sir Knox feels that the RUC could make good use of the advantages offered by the computer complex.

A statement by Lord Beswick, a government spokesman in the House of Lords said a special police communications network would be provided throughout England, Wales and Scotland enabling forces to obtain very rapid response to their inquiries.

**Monday 23rd February 1970**
**McKeague to fight South Antrim**

Mr. John McKeague, chairman of the Shankill Defence Committee said today that he would be standing as what he described as a "Unionist Candidate" in the South Antrim by-election.

Mr. McKeague, a 39-year-old manufacturing agent said, "I am no longer a member of the Protestant Unionist Party. I do not need to label myself.

I hope to raise the standard of South Antrim so that the electorate will be able to choose someone who can answer the opposition in their lies and slanders regarding the affairs of Northern Ireland."

Mr. McKeague said he would give himself the opportunity to answer the people who had slandered him personally, and to clear his name regarding the alleged parade on October 5th last.





**Monday 23rd February 1970**
**More explosions in Belfast**

Since the start of the year there has been more than a dozen different explosions in Belfast. The latest explosion occurred in the doorway of the Duncairn Arms public house on the New Lodge Road. The bomb exploded early yesterday morning causing damage to a ground floor room. No one was injured. On Saturday night petrol bombs were thrown in Belfast on the Oldpark Road, manor Street and Flax Street

**Wednesday 25th February 1970**
**Paisley objects to Army's Shankill bravery awards**

The Rev. Ian Paisley said today that he intends to contact the Minister of Defence, Mr. Healey, about the gallantry awards announced yesterday for members of the army who took part in riot duty on the Shankill Road last October.

"Honours such as these can only help to inflame the people of the Shankill Road, and will not help towards good community relations.

Once again "Socialist overlords" at Westminster had dragged the Queen's honours down into the political arena to serve their own ends.

Other public figures feel that the RUC and USC should have received gallantry awards for their part in the disturbances, and many policemen are known to have felt themselves "left out in the cold" by the awards.

Mr. William Craig, former minister of Home Affairs commented today "I always respect valour. The RUC have had an abundance of it and were certainly worthy of any honour.

**Wednesday 25th February 1970**
**People flee homes as blasts shatter windows**

An explosion, which blew out dozens of windows in University Street, as well as damaging two cars, is only one of four explosions that the security forces are still investigating. It was just before midnight that the explosion rocked University Street and sent hundreds of resident into the street to see what happened. Three further explosions were heard in the Hopewell Street area of the City but troops and police found nothing after an exhaustive search.

**Thursday 26th February 1970**
**Reward for Bomb Gang**

A £1000 reward will be paid to anyone with information that could lead to the arrest of the person or persons responsible for the bomb explosion that wrecked Belfast Corporation Electricity Club today. The announcement was made by, the Inspector General, Sir Arthur Young, at a press conference in Belfast this afternoon. The reward offer is the latest move by the authorities in their attempts to bring to justice the bombers who have been terrorizing the community over the past few months. Legislation has already been promised to tighten up control of explosives, but even if this is speeded up, the men who hit in the night and disappear will still be difficult to apprehend.

PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM

A catholic family move into a house in the New Lodge area after being forced to flee their home in Adam Street

A protester in among police and troops in Derry

**Thursday 27th February**
**'Kill the rumour' service**

Worried phone callers have so far made 139 enquiries about suspected explosions, riots and assassinations since the establishment of the anti rumour service.

The service is run by the RUC and the army, came into operation about a fortnight ago. It has been set up to quell unfounded rumours which the authorities feel can have a serious effect on creating unrest. It also provides a constant source of information for people worried about rumours of incidents in the province.

The majority of inquiries so far have been about explosions. "Many people hear the sound of quarry blasting and think it's an explosion,

"When an explosion does occur people nearby often ring to inquire whether gas appliances should be switched off.

Rumours of political assassinations also keep the phone busy. The whole idea of the service is that people shall not act on rumour. We want people to call us as soon as they hear a rumour and make absolutely sure what they have heard is right."

**Thursday 27th February**
**McKeague group small in numbers**

The Shankill Defence Association was described by Belfast's Acting Commissioner of Police at the Scarman Tribunal as "like MacNamaras Band" – small in numbers. He said McKeague's Association was small, consisting of only a few women and teenagers. Unfortunately, sometimes undue attention is paid to the views of John MacKeague rather than to those of a moderate.

**Thursday 27th February**
**Rejected by the UDR**

The Rev. John Brown, District Commandant of the Ulster Special Constabulary, in Derry, has had his application to join the Ulster Defence Regiment turned down. But the army has refused to disclose why Mr. Brown, a lecturer at Magee University College, was not accepted. The decision as to whether or not it should be made public rests with the Rev. John Brown himself." He added "The army would not be prepared give such details about private individuals."

Mr. Brown, who is a county Grand master of the Orange Lodge and a prominent official in the Apprentice Boys. Meanwhile it is reported that 12 members of a USC platoon outside Derry have changed their minds about joining the new regiment. It is believed they refuse to do because their platoon sergeant's application was not accepted.

# MARCH 1970

**Monday 2nd March 1970**
**Increased security at Courthouse**
Security precautions were again in force at Crumlin Road Courthouse in Belfast today at the start of the trial of five men accused of conspiring to blow up an electricity pylon at Kilmore in Co. Armagh.
After an explosion at a trial two weeks ago of five men accused of conspiring to cause explosions, police searched everyone entering the building. The courthouse itself was searched earlier in the morning by a squad of policemen. One of those on trial is a 48-year-old Holywood man who was acquitted at the earlier trial of causing an explosion at the Dunadry pipeline. The swearing in of a jury took over an hour. One hundred and sixty-six jurors were called before the 12 men were finally chosen. There were 31 objections before the first juror was selected.

**Monday 2nd March 1970**
**Bomb disposal team just fail to save statue**
Troops sealed off Carlisle Circus to cars and pedestrians minutes before a bomb exploded at a statue in the early hours of yesterday morning
A bomb disposal expert was making a frantic race against time to dismantle the explosives when it blew up the statue of Rev. Hugh Hanna, a 19th century Presbyterian minister.
The scene of the blast is only about 200 yards from the Belfast Corporation Electricity Club, in Upper Donegal Street, which was wrecked by an explosion last Wednesday.
The windows of shops and houses around Carlisle Circus were shattered by yesterday's blast but no one was injured. The bomb in a paper parcel was first spotted by a taxi driver. Earlier he had seen men standing around the statue. Troops were on the scene at 3.20am and put a call to Army headquarters for the help of a bomb disposal expert. But before such assistance reached the scene, the high explosives of between three to five pounds, exploded at 3.50am and wrecked the statue.
"Roaring" Hugh Hanna (1824-1892) whose statue was blown off at the ankles was a prominent 19th century "fire and brimstone" Presbyterian clergyman. An ardent unionist Dr. Hanna was noted for his anti Home Rule speeches. And some of his open-air sermons were the cause of public disturbances, so much so that the Belfast Presbytery appealed to him refrain from them until passions cooled. Apart from his ministerial work he was a keen educationalist, and was responsible for the setting up of several schools.
Years after his death in 1892 there was some controversy when the police authorities asked the Corporation's Improvements Committee to consider moving his commemorative statue from Carlisle Circus "because it was an obstruction to traffic."

**Monday 2nd March 1970**
**Bomb expert may be based in Belfast**
An army bomb disposal expert may be based in Belfast until the present emergency is over. This is one of the moves, which is being considered by the military authorities following the explosion at the statue of Rev. Hugh Hanna in the early hours of yesterday morning.
An army spokesman said today: "The strength and deployment of bomb disposal experts is under daily review and has always been." But it is believed that the review is under more urgent consideration now following the weekend blast. At the moment all the all the army bomb disposal experts, who serve the whole of Ulster, are based at the Lisburn HQ.

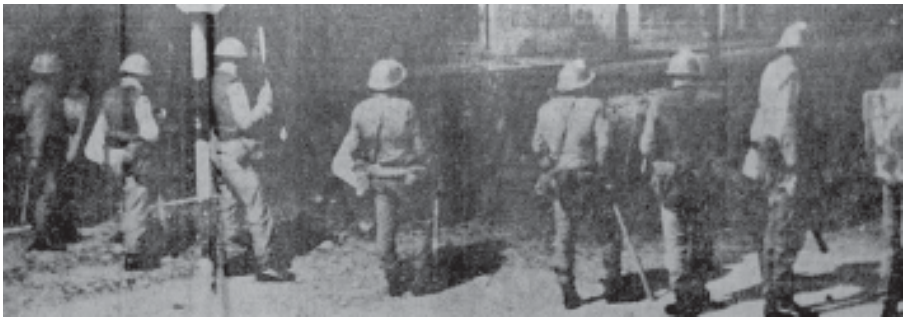
**Monday 2nd March 1970**
**Army man dismantles 'bomb'**
A bomb disposal expert rushed to Unity Walk last night where soldiers on duty had discovered a suspicious object, a small can covered in polythene. Residents of the flats were advised to open their windows so that if there was an explosion glass wouldn't be broken. The device was removed to waste ground where an examination by a bomb expert revealed that the object was only "a can of barrier cream." "It turned out to be harmless" an army spokesman said, "but we always have to check."

**Monday 2nd March 1970**
**Three arrested and papers seized by City police**
Two men and a girl will appear in a Belfast court tomorrow on charges arising out of incidents in Royal Avenue on Saturday. They were arrested after copies of the United Irishman newspaper, which were being sold to the public, were seized by police. As a crowd protesting about the sale gathered around, the men and girl were taken into custody. They were later released. About four dozen copies of the publication, banned under the Special Powers Act, were seized. Names of people selling it were noted by police.

**Tuesday 3rd March 1970**
**Banned paper seized at courthouse**
Two girls and a youth stood with copies of a banned publication, the United Irishman, outside Belfast Magistrates Court today in protest at the newspaper ban and the arrest of its sellers. On this occasion, names were noted; newspapers seized but there were no arrests.







PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM
A Republican march through Armagh.
British troops shelter behind armoured vehicles on the Springfield Road as they prepare to fire CS Gas at rioters.
Military 'snatch squad' on the Springfield Road

**Tuesday 3rd March 1970**
**Unity Shops – rent is cut by 50%**
Belfast Corporation has cut the rent of shopkeepers in the Unity Walk Flats by 50pc and Councillor Patrick Kennedy wants the same reduction for the tenants of the flats themselves.
In recent months a number of traders have left the Unity Shops because of falling business and the risk. The estates committee, following representations from the remaining traders, agreed to reduce the rent by 50% and this was approved by the City Council today. But Mr. Kennedy said that he intends to press the estates committee to cut all the rents by the same amount.

**Tuesday 3rd March 1970**
**We stop Cars – Falls group**
Mr. Jim Sullivan, Chairman of the Fall's based Citizens Defence Committee said today that vigilantes have been instructed to stop and search unknown cars in the area. He was commenting on the incident in which an Army military policeman, in plain clothes, was stopped and searched while driving along Leeson Street in the early hours of Sunday morning.
Mr. Sullivan said his committee had instructed vigilantes to be extra careful as a result of the present spate of bomb outrages in the city. They have been told to stop and search any strange cars in the area, particularly the side streets. Mr. Sullivan admitted that the army Red Cap was stopped and searched in Leeson Street by civilians but he denied that a gun was used "one of the men was probably carrying a club, but not a gun."

**Tuesday 3rd March 1970**
**Special's gun stolen**
The theft of a Sterling sub-machine gun from the home of a member of the Ulster Special Constabulary is being investigated by Newry police. The weapon, together with two magazines and a quantity of ammunition, were taken from the home of a farmer at Dunaghmore, Newry. Neither the USC man, nor his wife were at home at the time. A rear window was smashed.

**Tuesday 3rd March 1970**
**Unexploded Bomb may provide clues to identity of saboteurs**
The latest explosions in Belfast in the early hours of this morning caused no damage, but they have left the army with what may be a valuable clue in the search for the identity of the saboteurs, the one bomb that did not go off. Today bomb disposal experts and forensic scientists were examining the unexploded bomb found at the rear of a derelict garage fronting on to the Andersonstown Road, near Kennedy Way. It was discovered in a joint army and police search after three small explosions were heard in the area. The bomb being examined today consists of a number of half-inch iron or steel rods, 1 lb of explosives, 2ft of cortex fuse, a detonator and some safety fuse in a glass jar. An army spokesman stated that they may have prevented the larger bomb going off by cutting the safety fuse wired to a detonator. He also said "one gets the impression that the explosions were placed in such a way so as not to hurt anyone but to cause noise.

**Tuesday 3rd March 1970**
**Tragedy mother praises soldiers**
A West Belfast mother praised the army yesterday for the efforts made by six soldiers to save her small son when he was pinned to the ground by a heavy steel gate. Despite the prompt action of the men the four-year-old Westrock boy died as a result of the accident. It is thought he stopped to talk to a friend at the main entrance to St. Peter's secondary school when the gate crashed down on him. The soldiers of the 1st Regiment of the Royal Horse Artillery, stationed in the school, rushed to the rescue and lifted the gate clear of the child. One soldier gave him the kiss of life but they were unable to revive him.

**Tuesday 3rd March 1970**
**Bernadette Devlin gives key to Panthers**
The golden key that Mayor John Lindsay presented to Irish Civil Rights leader and MP Bernadette Devlin was turned over to the Black Panthers yesterday
Mr. Eamonn McCann, chairman of the Derry Labour Party, handed the ceremonial emblem to Mr. Robert Bay, who identified himself only as a member of the Panthers.
Mr. McCann said that the key is being given to the Panthers "as a gesture of solidarity with the black liberation and revolutionary socialist movement in America." He was asked whether he thought that the gesture could alienate many Irish Americans who contribute to Miss Devlin's fundraising campaign in the U.S. last year. "If we alienate a lot of Irish American hypocrites so much the better" Mr. McCann said. "I have been here only two days and I have met a lot of Irish Americans who want equal rights across the ocean but don't want them here. The more we alienate such people the better."
Mr. McCann brought with him a message, which he said was from Miss Devlin. In the statement Miss Devlin said: "To all these common people to whom this city and this country belong, I return what is rightfully theirs, this the symbol of freedom of New York."

**Tuesday 3rd March 1970**
**Dail row over 'B' remark**
A major Dail row is brewing over a remark by the Eire Minister for Local Government Mr. Kevin Boland, who called the Fine Gael Deputy for Monaghan, Mr. Billy Fox, a B Special, when he demanded a quorum, which has to be provided by the government party. Although the Minister's interjection is omitted from the official report of the Dail debates, Labour Deputy Dr. Conor Cruise O'Brien has tabled a special notice question on it, addressed to the Premier and to be answered tomorrow. He will ask Mr. Lynch, (provided the question is allowed by the chair) whether Mr. Boland had consulted with him before he described a Deputy as a B Special. In his maiden speech in the Dail last year Mr. Fox, who is a protestant, alleged that during the general election campaign prominent members of Fianna Fail toured Co. Monaghan telling voters that he was a B man.

**Wednesday 4th March 1970**
**IRA claims – Bombs were ours**
A statement purporting to come from the Northern Ireland Command headquarters of the IRA claims responsibility for some of the recent explosions in Belfast. And it declares "We have the necessary funds and equipment to ensure that the struggle will continue until the forces of British Imperialism are banished from these islands once and for all."
The statement accuses non-unionist members of Parliament of showing "timid opposition" to the Public Order Bill and claims that they are only interested in peaceful co-existence and have forsaken their Republican Ideals for a mere stipend.
"Certain social clubs in Belfast are being used by right-wing Unionist extremists as headquarters from which various forms of attack are planned on innocent fellow Irishmen. We believe that militant action is required against these elements as the authorities continually turn a blind eye."
Referring to the blasts in Belfast the statement says "Certain of the recent explosions in Belfast have been caused by units of our Belfast platoons in order that attention will be drawn to the fact that the forces of British Imperialism are still very much in evidence in the North West part of Ireland. The statement, left in the Belfast Telegraph letter Box, was signed P. Magee, Adjutant."
Although the statement did not specify which explosions the IRA was responsible for it is believed the blast at the Rev. Hugh Hanna's statue over the weekend and the Belfast Corporation Electricity Club in Upper Donegal Street were the work of the organization.

**Wednesday 4th March 1970**
**Boys Death –Accidental verdict returned**
An inquest into the death of a four-year-old boy on Belfast's Whiterock Road in September of last year has returned a verdict of accidental death. The court heard that the boy ran out from behind a parked car was struck and killed by an army lorry.

**Wednesday 4th March 1970**
**IRA and Sinn Fein oppose Golf Course**
The IRA and Sinn Fein are opposing the plans to build a Golf Course in Galway, stating that they want the land to be used for the relief of congestion among small holders in the area.
In an open letter issued by the Galway Command of the IRA to four businessmen from Oughterard, County Galway, states "Oglaigh na h-Eireann (the Irish Republican Army) is watching with concern your plans to construct a golf course on the 160 acre Willis Estate, Oughterard, Co. Galway while local farmers are in need of such land. The construction of a golf course on good land, while poorer land is available locally, can lead only to forced emigration of more people. Should you continue with your plans

we warn you that we will hold you personally responsible for depriving people of their natural right to live in Ireland without fear of unemployment or emigration."

**Thursday 5th March 1970**
**Specials to disband in April**
The Ulster Special Constabulary is being disbanded on April 30th – one month later than originally planned. The Ulster Defence Regiment became operational on April 1st, but throughout the month Specials who have not enlisted in the new force could be called on for duty if needed.
Announcing this in the Commons yesterday, the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. Porter, said the Government intended to erect a commemorative stone, probably in the grounds of Stormont, in recognition of the Specials' outstanding and gallant service to Northern Ireland.
Each special constable is to get a £10 bounty when the force is stood down, and men of higher rank will get more. The minister also announced that full time members of the force that can't find new jobs are to get compensation. Two-thirds of a special's salary minus unemployment benefit, would be paid until he is 65.

**Thursday 5th March 1970**
**IRA row blows up over Belfast Blasts**
A "who did what row" is going on among extreme Republicans following reports yesterday the Northern Command Headquarters of the IRA had claimed responsibility for the recent bomb attacks in Belfast. Another statement claiming to come from the 'Official' IRA, the Provisional Council, Belfast Battalion says that it represents 90pc of the militant republican movement in Belfast and denies any responsibility for yesterdays statement. Signed by J. Brown, Director of Publicity, it points out that it had never been republican policy to foster or perpetuate sectarian strife. And in Dublin the Irish Republican Army Bureau denied any knowledge of yesterday's statement regarding the bomb attacks.
IRA Chief Cathal Goulding said in Dublin that his organization did not propose to take any militant action of this kind and that it would appear to be the work of a splinter group who had no right to call themselves the IRA. Although locally some members of the Provisional Council were prepared to write off yesterday's statement as a "right wing plot" to provoke a round up of Republicans before the traditional Easter Rising commemoration. Mr. Goulding explained today why he thought it was the work of a splinter group. "A splinter group was established after the split in the Republican Movement last December over the abstentionist policy," he said and the breakaway group had support in various parts of the country but added that it was probably stronger in the Belfast Area.

**Thursday 5th March 1970**
**RUC gets its first Training Officer**
District Inspector J. C. Hermon has quit his post as Commandant of the RUC depot in Enniskillen to become the forces first training officer.
Police headquarters in Belfast said today: "The job is a new one and indicates the increasing emphasis being given to training. "As well as initial training it involves the provision of periods of instruction throughout the entire career of a police officer and a comprehensive programme of specialist and technical teaching. District Inspector Hermon will be based at Headquarters in Belfast but he will continue to have overall responsibility for the Training Centre at Enniskillen.

**Thursday 5th March 1970**
**Protest at school meeting**
About two dozen members of the Shankill Defence Committee protested outside a parent-teacher meeting attended by Protestants and Catholics last night. The protest happened at Orangefield Girls Secondary School, where the Minister for Community Relations, Dr. Robert Simpson, was speaking.
The protestors stood outside the gates of the school with placards and paraded outside the grounds. Police watched the protests but there were no incidents. The Orangefield PTA had invited the parents of children at St. Monica's School and St. Augustine' Secondary School to attend the meeting

**Thursday 5th March 1970**
**Only 20 USC guns mislaid says Taylor**
Mr. John Taylor, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Home Affairs denied in the Commons at Stormont that a considerable number of weapons had been stolen over the years. He said that of the 50,000 weapons issued to the force since its inception only 20 had been mislaid. "This is a great record for this great force" said Mr. Taylor

**Friday 6th March 1970**
**Bomb Scare at City Hall**
The army's bomb disposal squad was rushed to the City Hall today in response to a telephone call which stated that a bomb had been planted in the Mayor's parlour to investigate a bomb threat. The main staircase and corridor leading to the parlour was sealed off and after a search of nearly half an hour x-ray photographs of a suspicious object were taken. These photographs revealed that the suspect device was nothing more than a tin of biscuits.

**Saturday 7th March 1970**
**Windows broken during Orange rally at Queens**
Two windows were broken in the Students Union at Queens University last night after a bottle was thrown at bands who had been playing at an Orange music rally in the McMordie Hall. About 5000 people gathered outside the Union and police were quickly moved in but after a half an hour the crowd dispersed. The rally was organized by the recently formed Williamite and Glorious Revolution Society at the University and the bottle throwing incident occurred as the Gertrude Star flute band, from Newtownards Road, the Albertbridge Accordian Band and the Pride of Shankill flute band were leaving the premises. Today police said that the incident was an internal matter and was being left to the University Authorities. The rally was attended by Mr John Taylor, and by Mr. Jack Maginnis, unionist MP for Armagh at Westminister who gave a lambeg drum performance.

**Saturday 7th March 1970**
**Bomb blast at girls hostel**
Army bomb disposal experts were called to a Roman Catholic students hostel today to further investigate last night's explosion. The explosion, believed to be as a result of a pipe bomb being thrown into the grounds of Aquinas' Hall. No one was injured.

**Monday 9th March 1970**
**Masked gunmen rob County Antrim Bank**
Police set up road blocks all over County Antrim after three raiders armed with revolvers and shotguns made off with £700.

**Monday 9th March 1970**
**Bomb explosion at MP's Home**
The home of Nationalist MP, Mr. Austin Currie was under armed guard after an explosion there at the weekend. Windows were shattered and the roof damaged but no one was injured.

**Monday 9th March 1970**
**New Orange party wanted**
Members of the Independent County Grand Orange Lodge of Belfast said in a statement today that the time is right for Orangemen to form a new political party from their ranks. "It is time we had men at Stormont who have Christian principles and not those masquerading under the facade of Christianity bedecked in Orange regalia."

**Tuesday 10th March 1970**
**Police and army vehicles stoned**
A police squad car and an army vehicle were stoned by a crowd of about 50 men. The incident happened early yesterday morning when they went to answer an emergency call at Brompton Park in Belfast where they had been informed that a shop window had been broken. No one was injured in the incident and the key holders were contacted so that the premises could be secured.

**Tuesday 10th March 1970**
**Bank raid and bomb were the work of the UVF**
A letter and phone call to newspapers today, purporting to come from "officers" in the Ulster Volunteer Force claimed responsibility for the blast at the home of nationalist MP Mr. Austin Currie, the armed bank raid yesterday at Ballycastle and the bomb planted in a Ballysillan Road grocery shop.
The letter from the 4th Division West End branch of the UVF was posted in Belfast yesterday and stated that "The blasts will continue until the Falls Road and Bogside are policed properly. The letter was signed W.J. Cowan, A-Adjt., 4th Division, UVF, West End Branch, Belfast. An RUC spokesman said that this was the first time they have heard of W.J. Cowan







or a 4th Division of the UVF.
In a telephone call to a newspaper from Capt. Johnston of the UVF, claiming that his organisation robbed the bank and planted the bomb at the grocery shop. He added that they were now going after Mr. Gerry Fitt MP, Mr. Michael Farrell and Mr. Eamonn McCann.

**Wednesday 11th March 1970**
**Bullets the only alternative:**
**Use of CS Gas explained**
Prime Minister Harold Wilson told MP's that the only alternative to using CS gas in the Northern Ireland riots would be to use bullets. Disapproval was expressed from some MPs concerning the use of CS gas and the Governments decision to exclude it from the 1925 Geneva Protocol on the prohibition of gases and bacteriological warfare. Countries such as Canada have also expressed their disapproval of the British Governments decision.

**Wednesday 11th March 1970**
**Bomb shatters cottage in Cork**
Involvement by the IRA is suspected in a bomb explosion which shattered a house in which three people were sleeping at Carrigtwohill, County Cork. The occupants were hurled from their beds by the blast which destroyed the back wall of their cottage. The family recently started a motor repair business at the rear of their home. They planned to extend their workshop, and this would have involved the shifting of a memorial to a member of the old IRA who was shot in the 1920's. Neighbours said that some people objected to any interference with the memorial. It would seem that this is a warning not to touch the cross.

**Thursday 11th March 1970**
**Shots fired at man in Donegal**
Warning shots were fired by a sentry at an Eire army installation in North Donegal last night, after a man approaching the main gate refused to answer his challenge. The man escaped in the darkness. Fort Dunree, on the east shore of Lough Swilly, about 30 miles from Derry, was the location to which ambulance units of the Eire Army were moved during the disturbances in the North last summer.

**Friday 13th March 1970**
**Who owns Roaring Hanna?**
The statue of Hugh Hanna, blasted off his Carlisle Circus pedestal two week ago is still sitting in the backyard of Glenravel Street police station waiting a decision on its future. Belfast Corporation's improvement Committee has asked the town solicitor's department to try and find out who owns the statue. But all they have to go on is a short mention in the Corporation minutes of February 1st 1893 about a deputation from the Hanna Memorial Committee asking the council for a site for the statue. They don't expect to be able to contact any members of the committee after nearly 80 years.

**Friday 13th March 1970**
**Boxing match bomb hoax**
A boxing match in the Assembly rooms, Moneymore had to be abandoned last night after about an hour because of a bomb scare. When the announcement was made that a bomb was supposed to have been planted in the building there was a rush for the exits and some of the 200 people there were knocked to the ground. A search of the building revealed nothing.

**Friday 13th March 1970**
**Soldiers illuminated**
Soldiers on traffic duty at night in Derry will in future wear reflective clothing and road barriers will have lights, the City's road safety committee have been told. The committee's secretary said that the army had made arrangements to tie white cloth on the barbed wire stacked on footpaths and agreed to remove the sentrybox at the city end of Craigavon Bridge which made it difficult for motorists on the roundabout.

**Monday 16th March 1970**
**Soldier dies from RUC bullet**
At a malicious injury case taken in relation to Trooper Hugh McCabe, who died during the riots in Belfast last year the Deputy Recorder was informed by Queens Counsel acting for the Ministry of Defence that the Trooper was struck and killed by a police bullet.

**Monday 16th March 1970**
**Gelignite used to blast safe**
Gelignite was used in an unsuccessful safe breaking attempt at the Capital Cinema early today. Police went to the cinema shortly after receiving a 999 call from a local resident who heard an explosion. The explosion had caused the safe's door to jam and as a result nothing was taken. Half a stick of gelignite and some tools were found at the rear of the cinema where access had been gained through a toilet window.

PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM
A British soldier pictured during disturbances on the Springfield Road
British troops come under attack on the Springfield Road
Troops photographed during disturbances in Ballymurphy

**Monday 16th March 1970**
**Soldier drowns in Lough Neagh**
One soldier was drowned and four others injured in a boating accident on Lough Neagh this afternoon. The dead man was a member of the Independent Parachute Company attached to the 2nd Battalion of the Parachute Regiment. He was one of six soldiers on a training exercise on the Lough between Antrim and Randalstown.

**Wednesday 18th March 1970**
**Thirty Republican hecklers attacked**
About 30 Republicans who heckled the Eire Premier Mr. Jack Lynch during an unveiling ceremony in Cork yesterday, were badly beaten by a large selection of the crowd of 2,000 attending the ceremony.
Mr. Lynch was unveiling a memorial at Beal na Gleana were seven local men took part in an ambush in 1918, when the demonstrators, members of Sinn Fein, approached the platform. They shouted "Release republican prisoners now" and "Give us back our guns" and gave the Nazi salute to the Premier. A section of the crowd became angry and began to shout at the demonstrators. The protestors were surrounded by 100 people who punched and kicked them and then force them to retreat.

**Wednesday 18th March 1970**
**Belfast police stations stoned**
Crowds gathered outside two Belfast police stations yesterday and stones were thrown. At Andersonstown a crowd of about 100 stopped at the station on their return from a James Connolly organisation parade to Casement Park. Stones thrown broke four windows in the station and two cars were slightly damaged. The crowds dispersed shortly afterwards.
At Hastings Street, a crowd of 200, mostly teenagers, demonstrated against the flying of the Union jack from the police station. Some stones were thrown and the demonstrators dispersed after appeals by Mr. Jim Sullivan of the Citizens Defence Committee. They returned almost immediately, but broke up finally when, as is the custom, the Union Jacks were removed at sundown.

**Thursday 19th March 1970**
**Unionist Party Expulsions**
As their expulsions from the Parliamentary Party was notified to the five MP's who refused to support the Government's confidence motion in the Common's last night, there was no doubt that the future of the Unionist Party as a whole now hinges on how the constituencies will react. Unquestionably the struggle for power will be a serious one and the Unionist critics of Major Chichester Clarke will now stop at nothing short of bringing his government down, The Chief Whip is expected to write today on the instruction of the Premier to Mr. John McQuade (Woodvale) who voted against the government and to Mr. William Craig (Larne), Mr. Harry West (Eniskillen), Dr. Norman Laird (St. Annes), and Mr. Desmond Boal (Shankill) informing them that they will no longer be in receipt of the party whip.

**Thursday 19th March 1970**
**Civilians to take police role in census**
Members of the public will take over the policeman's beat to carry out a population census of Northern Ireland in April next year, the Ulster Senate heard last night.
The police have always acted as enumerators on previous occasions, but next year they "will not be available." And it will be necessary to recruit 2,500 part-time workers to deliver and collect the census forms.

**Friday 20th March 1970**
**Gun charge man freed from Jail**
A prisoner has been released from Belfast Jail after serving only five months of a two year sentence for possession of a revolver and ammunition at Alloa Street. The decision to remit the remainder of the sentence was on the perogative of the governor Lord Gray, following a recommendation from the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. Robert Porter. There was no comment from the Ministry today on the reason for the remission but "repeated representations" had been made at Stormont and Westminster by Opposition MP's for a review of the sentence. The court had been told that the man had fired shots in defence of his own home after a petrol bomb had been thrown through his window. Last month a motion was tabled in Parliament urging that in view of the circumstances he should be released.

**Friday 20th March 1970**
**12th won't be stopped**
A high ranking official of the Orange Order said today the Twelfth parades in Belfast will go ahead this year – irrespective of any government ruling.

**Friday 20th March 1970**
**Political files to be retained**
An opposition amendment, suggesting that all files relating to the political activities of citizens at present in the hands of the Special Branch should be transferred to the Police Authority and then destroyed, was defeated by the Senate by eleven votes to five. It was one of a total of 46 amendments, which the opposition has put forward in relation to the Police Bill

**Saturday 21st March 1970**
**Soldier and civilian injured in scuffle**
One of three men who tried to force their way into an Army post and a soldier was injured when scuffles broke out in Divis Street, Belfast, before midnight. The incident happened at a company post of the 2nd Parachute Regiment near St. Congall's primary school. The soldier a lance corporal, had to have eight stitches inserted in an arm wound, but an army spokesman said today that his injury is not serious and he is being treated by an army doctor. The







PICTURE - TOP TO BOTTOM
An injured soldier is carried away on a stretcher during disturbances in Ballymurphy.
Military raids in Ainsworth Street

condition of the civilian is not known. He left the scene of the incident with Mr. Jim Sullivan, chairman of the CCDC, for the Mater Hospital. But a spokesman said he was not detained.
The three men were involved in the incident had tried to get into the building occupied by the Army, but were stopped. According to Army sources they were protesting about soldiers bringing girls into the building. An Army source said there were no women in the building at the time.

**Monday 23rd March 1970**
**Clashes in Derry**
Two soldiers were injured and one youth was arrested during the clashes between the Army and a crowd of teenagers from the Bogside early today. The trouble started in the Carlisle Road area where several shop windows were broken and troops eventually sealed off the area with barbed wire barricades and diverted traffic from the city centre.
An Army spokesman said that two opposing factions of youths were in the area and the Grenadier Guards were deployed in keeping them apart. The factions did not clash.
There were incidents too in Little James Street, where a stone-throwing crowd extensively damaged a large paint and paper shop at the corner of Sackville Street. The crowds scattered rolls of wallpaper across the roadway.



A single arrest was made in William Street by the snatch squad after a charge up the street to disperse the crowd.
A fire tender dealing with a reported fire near the high flats in Rossville Street was hit by stones. A bonfire had been lit to celebrate the success of the Derry singer, Rosemary Brown, in the Eurovision Song Contest and as the fire tender was reversing to return to the station a missile aimed at an Army vehicle, smashed the window and injured the driver.

**Monday 23rd March 1970**
**Belfast pub rocked by blast**
The blast, which occurred at the Rosebank Inn, at the corner of Disraeli Street, Belfast, (and less than 100 yards away from an Army sentry post) took place at around 3.30 am this morning. The pub, which has not been used since it was damaged during disturbances last year, was being refurbished at the time. It appears that the premeises were broken into and the bomb planted inside.

**Monday 23rd March 1970**
**Searches in Belfast**
Police searched an area around Edenmore Drive, Andersonstown, early today after a report that rifle shots were fired. It is now believed that the reported shots were a car backfiring.

**Monday 23rd March 1970**
**Unions asked to boost membership of N.I.L.P.**
Ulster trade unions have been asked to encourage members to join the Northern Ireland Labour Party. A union leader said "We don't see these plans having an immediate effect in elections. We hope it will provide the long-term basis for a sane approach to politics in Northern Ireland.

**Monday 23rd March 1970**
**Trinity College ban on Catholics can seriously effect community relations**
The ban on Roman Catholics attending Trinity College, Dublin, "can only cause bitterness in our University and seriously effect community relations, both North and South," says a statement issued at the weekend by the Irish Federation of University Teachers. The Federation said that they could not accept the contention, attributed to Cardinal Conway, that the removal of the ban by the hierarchy would be inopportune while discussuions on university reorganization were in progress. In a statement released by a senior Catholic lecturer in Trinity and assistant secretary of the I.F.U.T. saying "On the contrary, we hold that it is the ecclesiastical ban which is at the root of many of the problems of University education in Dublin.



**Tuesday 24th March 1970**
**14-hour vigil at Downing Street**
Downing Street confirmed today that the prime Minister, Mr. Harold Wilson has agreed to meet Miss Bernadette Devlin this afternoon to discuss her protest at the handling of the inquiry into the death of Mr. Samuel Devenney in Derry last year.

**Tuesday 24th March 1970**
**USC man convicted**
An Ulster Special Constabulary sergeant, who was said to have fired his gun during a domestic quarrel in his home, while drunk, and then to have gone on duty in an intoxicated condition, was sent to prison for a year. Judge James Brown told the accused that he had behaved "disgustingly and disgracefully." He pointed out that the accused was a member of a force, which had rendered yeomen service to the country for many years. The USC had detractors; some with no justification, but "black sheep" give justification for condemnation not only of themselves but also of the USC.

**Wednesday 25th March 1970**
**RUC's 'Peace over Easter' plea**
Inspector General Sir Arthur Young last night made a plea for peace over Easter. He said that the world would be looking at Northern Ireland this Easter. We all have a responsibility to keep the peace, particularly at this time. I hope that nothing you do will make the job of the security forces more difficult." The inspector General was speaking at St. Kevin's Hall, North Queen Street, to an audience representing the New Lodge, Unity Flats and the Docks area of Belfast.

**Wednesday 25th March 1970**
**Trouble flares in Portadown over People's Democracy meeting**
Three hundred Protestants came up against a strong police cordon when they attempted to break up a meeting of about eight PD supporters in Market Street. A District Inspector of Portadown RUC was hit on the back of the head by a stone thrown from the Protestant crowd. After they broke up the angry loyalists split into groups and roamed the streets. Four shop windows were smashed.
Two hundred police backed up by 150 troops were on duty in the town, and on two occasions the RUC lines were charged by the loyalist crowd. Two men

PICTURE - TOP TO BOTTOM
Troops watch a blaze in the Bogside
The military raids in Ainsworth Street

broke through the cordon to snatch the PD microphone, but were dragged back by police. Part of the crowd headed for the catholic part of the town but were stopped by police.

**Wednesday 25th March 1970**
**CRA plans a 'Bill of Rights' campaign**
The Civil Rights Association is planning a new Province-wide campaign, which would reach its peak in July, with its objective of having a 'Bill of Rights' for Northern Ireland introduced by the British Government. A memorandum, which has been circulated to Opposition MP's at Stormont, and to some Unionists, reveals that the CRA is now getting ready to capitalize on the present Unionist Party split and on the assumption that this is a general election year and therefore the Irish vote should be used to bring pressure on the Government in London. "It is essential to unite the mass support of the people of the North behind a single issue otherwise there is the likelihood of further unplanned sporadic demonstrations, coupled with an increase in the number of counter-demonstrations, leading to a possible outbreak of sectarian violence.

**Thursday 26th March**
**Bomb Blast in Dublin**
A bomb explosion, which damaged an electricity pylon in Dublin today, was assumed to be the work of an extremist organisation, probably the UVF, said a police spokesman. He added that the RUC had been notified and had agreed to co-operate in the hunt for the perpetrators.
The blast occurred at an electricity pylon at Tallaght, which carries supplies to most of the southern suburbs of Dublin. Residents throughout the south side were awakened by the explosion which occurred around 5.00am, houses were shaken, windows broken, however no injuries were caused. The pylon was damaged and bent, but power supplies were uninterrupted.

**Thursday 26th March**
**Republicans in 'who goes first' quarrel**
Who is going to be second? That will be the question when two rival Republican Parades form up for their Easter commemoration marches on Sunday. The Cathal Goulding orchestrated parade was originally planned to leave Beechmount Avenue, Belfast and walk to Milltown cemetery at 3,00pm but they have now moved it forward to 2.30pm when the other organizing body, the Republican Commemoration Committee indicated that theirs would set off then. It is understood that the rival group will now begin its parade at 2.00pm
The purpose in getting away first, according to one spokesman is the parade, which does so will claim the biggest support including the 'neutral' organizations like the G.A.A., the Gaelic League and the general public. "No one wants to march off second" he said. It is a fight to impress the public by getting as many heads as possible under a banner."
The Republican Commemoration Committee, Belfast (Provisional) have issued a statement saying that the time, date and venue of the other parade was organized to deliberately clash with their parade and cause confusion and unnecessary friction.

In Armagh too there has been some discussion within the Republican ranks, caused as in Belfast, by the different attitudes to the old abstentionist policy. A spokesman for the National Graves Association, who are organizing the parade on Sunday said that theirs will be the official commemoration ceremony. But an official of the Armagh Easter Commemoration Committee, who are organizing a parade on Monday described the Graves Association as "Breakaway."

**Tuesday 31st March 1970**
**51 arrests as police and troops quell trouble**
Fifty-one people, some of them women, were arrested when trouble flared in Ulster on Easter Sunday and Monday. The worst hit area was Derry, where Army snatch squads arrested 26 people from the Bogside during an incident sparked off by a crowd attacking Victoria Police Station. Many soldiers were injured as they pursued the youths into the Bogside.
Lurgan was a flashpoint on Sunday when a 400 strong crowd of Protestants attacked policemen in the town. The attackers were angry because Republicans were allowed to carry the Tricolour during a parade.

# APRIL 1970

**Wednesday 1st April 1970**
**The Devenney killing –Scotland Yard Called in**
Scotland Yard is to take over the investigation into the death of Samuel Devenney and the allegations of police brutality inside the Devenney home last April

**Wednesday 1st April 1970**
**Clashes at Belfast City Council**
A row broke out at Belfast City Council over the on going rioting in the Ballymurphy-New Barnsley area. Councilors shouted across at each other and one Unionist Councilor described the opposition as a "lot of rotters" and said that if the Army would not protect them then the people might "call up members of the Specials and we will take over the situation in the city." It was pointed out 150 Protestant families were being forced to leave the area.

**Wednesday 1st April 1970**
**Families ask for new homes**
About 200 protestant families from New Barnsley estate in Belfast want to move. They want to be re-housed away from the mainly Catholic estate of Ballymurphy.

**Wednesday 1st April 1970**
**Paisley stoned**
A group of small children threw stones at the Rev Ian Paisley when he visited Protestant families in Ballymurphy today.

**Wednesday 1st April 1970**
**Belfast riot troops were about to use gas**
25 soldiers injured in the upper Springfield Road were injured during riots. Troops were preparing to use gas when Roman Catholic crowds in Ballymurphy, Belfast, last night Members of the Light Infantry, equipped with armoured vehicles, and anti-gas respirators, had been called in to deal with the situation but the rioters dispersed.

**Thursday 2nd April 1970**
**New Barnsley evacuation**
The Army stood by late this afternoon as the evacuation of children from the New Barnsley estate in Belfast got under way. The moving of the children to West Belfast Orange Hall, which has been organized by the Rev. Ian Paisley, started just before 4.oopm, when three Belfast Corporation Welfare Buses drove into the estate and called at the homes of Protestant families. The children got into the three buses and drove off. Two Army Land Rovers stood by a crowd of about 100 children from the nearby Catholic Ballymurphy estate ransacked the homes of three protestant families on the front of the Springfield road vacated the previous night. At the same time four families were loading their possessions into lorries and leaving the estate, others were putting hardboard over their windows. Crowds of tricolour carrying children ran through the streets while others chanted "Up the IRA."

**Friday 3rd April 1970**
**Policeman Killed – RUC join in dragnet**
A 44 year old Civic Guard was shot dead today when he tried to stop five men making a getaway after stealing more than £2,000 from a bank in Dublin. The Guard, a father of five was shot in the head after the raid on the Royal Bank at Arran Quay. Minutes after the robbery, the RUC were asked to assist as the biggest ever Garda dragnet was put into operation to find the men who escaped in a gold coloured Ford Cortina with false number plates.

**Friday 3rd April 1970**
**More troops on the way**
The Ministry of Defence has agreed to send more troop reinforcements to Ulster in a response to a request by Lieut-General Sir Ian Freeland. A Ministry of Defence spokesman said that between 500 and 550 members of the 42 Medium Regiment would be sent to Northern Ireland during the next two days. They would act in an infantry roll and the unit would provide an additional element of



PICTURE
A Protestant family leaving their New Barnsley home









continuity during the coming weeks. Two major units are due to be relieved and a third is near completion of its tour of duty.

**Friday 3rd April 1970**
**We didn't provoke riots say Orangemen**
The Grand Lodge of Ireland repudiated allegations that the troubles on the Springfield Road, Belfast, were as a result of provocation by junior members of the Junior Orange Association on Easter Tuesday. A statement said the violence had been initiated by hooliganism of a Republican nature.

**Friday 3rd April 1970**
**Bomb cache in Belfast**
Troops have uncovered a cache of 150 petrol bombs at a crossroads in the Ballymurphy area, the Army revealed today. The discovery was made at the junction of Ballymurphy Crescent and Whitecliff Parade by soldiers who were chasing rioters back into the Ballymurphy estate. In the rioting the Army used 104 cartridges and two grenades of CS gas – the largest amount used so far in the city to dispel attacks from Roman Catholic crowds. About 50 petrol bombs were thrown by rioters at the troops during last night's disturbances, some struck armoured vehicles but there were no reports of any injuries to the soldiers.

**Friday 3rd April 1970**
**Tactical redeployment by Army**
Men of the Royal Scots Regiment, who suffered the heaviest casualties of the rioting in the Springfield area, have been pulled back from the immediate riot zone. But an Army spokesman today denied that the move was made because of the opposition to the soldiers from Roman Catholics at Ballymurphy. He said "The Royal Scots took a terrible pasting this week, and this move is just part of the Army's tactical re-deployment in this area of trouble.
Yesterday the Ballymurphy citizens Defence Committee called on the Army authorities to withdraw the Royal Scots from the Whiterock area until a full and impartial inquiry into the rioting had been held. The committee said that the inquiry should have particular emphasis on the reasons why an Orange parade was allowed to engage in a coat trailing exercise. The committee further claimed that the trouble was sparked of on Tuesday night by a crowd, which waved Union Jacks at Springhill, provoking local residents.

**Friday 3rd April 1970**
**UVF issue Warning**
In a statement purporting to come from the Ulster Volunteer Force, Catholics were threatened with revenge, should they continue to attack soldiers and Orangemen. And the statement from Tactical HQ, NI, "humbly apologises" to the British Army "our comrades in arms" for the cowardly attacks made on them by the rebel elements at Ballymurphy who carry the tricolour."
The statement says: "After an emergency meeting of the 10 Battalion Commanders, drawn from all over NI. we warn that IRA agitators in the Ballymurphy and McDonald Street areas (masquerading under the false cloak of Defence Associations) that we take vengeance for the cowardly attacks on loyalist homes in the New Barnsley area and of defenceless young Orange boys in the Grosvenor Road area." It was signed Capt. William Johnston, Assistant Adjutant, and 1st Belfast Battalion UVF.

**Saturday 4th April 1970**
**Four injured in office blast**
Four people were injured and dozen of windows smashed when a bomb exploded, wrecking an estate agents office in Lower Donegall Street, Belfast this morning just as many women were starting their Saturday morning shopping. An incendiary device was found in a Wallpaper shop in Rosemary Street, while 200 shoppers were evacuated from the GPO in Royal Avenue as the Army searched for a bomb. Nothing was found.

**Saturday 4th April 1970**
**15 people charged out of disturbances in Belfast**
One man was remanded in custody charged with possession of a .22 Winchester rifle and 53 rounds of ammunition in the Ballymurphy area. Several others were charged with riot related offences.

**Saturday 4th April 1970**
**Explosion wrecks gents outfitters**
After a night, which has been virtually trouble free, a bomb exploded early this morning wrecking a gents outfitters. It was just before 5.00am that an explosion blew a gaping hole in John Temples shop in Royal Avenue. Tailors dummies were blown from one end to the shop to the other. Adjacent shops had their windows blown out and woke guests in the nearby Grand Central Hotel.

**Saturday 4th April 1970**
**Petrol bombers may be shot.**
In the Ballymurphy estate, where Catholic youths fought running battles with troops early yesterday morning, all was quiet. It is thought that a statement by the GOC Sir Ian Freeland that petrol bombers were liable to be shot and the fact that 1,200 troops were on duty in the area, stopped any trouble that might have broken out.

**Monday 4th April 1970**
**Two gunmen involved in Shooting**
Witnesses claimed today there were two gunmen operating near the top of Elswick Street. They merged from an entry, one remained in the shadows, while the other stood in the middle of the Springfield Road and fired eight shots. During the Gunfire a 22 year old lay preacher was shot once in the stomach. At

PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM
Burnt out remains of the Doagh Spinning Mill
Catholic families move out of their homes in Chief Street
Troops block off the Crumlin Road after shots were fired from Herbert Street (in the background)
Barricade in Brompton Park

this point the hospital will only describe his condition as ill.

**Monday 4th April 1970**
**Eire death – wanted men in Bogside?**
A Garda Spokesman said today that the seven men wanted by the Civic Guards following the killing of guard during a bank raid in Dublin last week may be in the Bogside

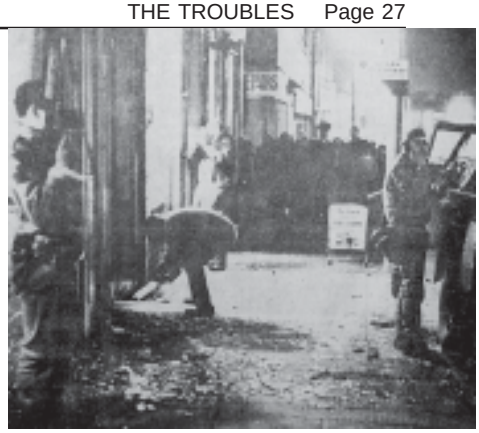
**Monday 4th April 1970**
**IRA issue threat to Soldiers**
Security has been tightened following the alleged IRA threat that British troops would be shot on sight.
Orders have gone out to soldiers warning them not to patrol the streets of Ulster on their own an Army spokesman said today. He went on to say that "We have no real proof that this statement came from the IRA but we are taking no chances. This is the first threat of this nature that the Army has received." The threat, claimed to have come from the Northern Division Command Staff of the IRA. The statement signed E. O'Connor said that a meeting of the Northern Division Command Staff in Dungannon on Saturday, deep consideration was given to the "recent threat by the GOC of the British occupation forces that people throwing petrol bombs would be shot dead." The statement continues, "while, it is, and consistently has been the policy of the Irish Republican Army to avoid all contact of a sectarian, the threat by a British Army General to shoot Irish Citizens made it necessary for the Divisional Command to state its position on the present disorders."

**Tuesday 7th April 1970**
**UVF Join in Death Threats**
In response to the recent IRA threat to shoot soldiers, the UVF have stated that for "every soldier shot, we will in return shoot one catholic. Two can play at that game. IRA, you have been warned."

**Tuesday 7th April 1970**
**New Barnsley Protestants not going back home**
The Protestant refugees from the New Barnsley estate, now squatting in houses at Glencairn, will not be returning to their homes. Even last nights appeal from two MP's and a number of Corporation councillors has not helped to change their minds. And even those who have returned are unlikely. Names of "tenants" who have not yet arrived have already been put in the windows of the few remaining empty houses in Glencairn. Some furniture has already been moved in and other "tenants," who are watching in case other squatters jumped the queue.
This morning at New Barnsley four more Protestant mothers were packing their belongings to await the arrival of removal vans, which will take their furniture to their new homes at Glencairn.
Empty prefabricated bungalows are not being considered by New Barnsley Protestants who cannot get houses at Glencairn. In the meantime, a vigilante group has formed among the squatters and move back into their homes at New Barnsley every night. A spokesman for the vigilante group said "Our aim is to make sure that nobody else takes over the houses until the Corporation gets other tenants re-allocated. We are also there to make sure that nobody intimidates the remaining Protestants until they can find other accomodation.

**Tuesday 7th April 1970**
**Bombers damage shop and hotel**
Bombers struck during the night, damaging a shop and hotel. No one was injured in the explosions. These latest explosions bring the total to seven since the weekend.
Forensic experts are investigating a small fire at Elmfield Service Station Glengormley, where two constables surprised a man who made off in a car after dropping a petrol bomb.
Bombs exploded at the Market Garden, vegetable store on the Woodstock Road. The device contained one pound of Gelignite. A second explosion occurred at the rear of the parkview Hotel on the Reavenhill Road. Little damage was done and all the customers had left the hotel's public house when the blast occurred. The Government is offering £5,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of those responsible for the Bombings.

**Wednesday 8th April 1970**
**IRA deny report of blast**
The Provisional Army Council of the IRA issued a statement in Dublin last night disclaiming responsibility for the explosion at the John Temple shop in Royal Avenue Belfast.
It said, "A statement which appeared in Tuesday's Belfast Telegraph and which purported to come from the organization and which was signed 'Padraig Walsh' Commandant, claiming responsibility for the recent explosion at the John Temple shop in Royal Avenue Belfast, is a bogus statement.
The Irish Republican Army disclaims all responsibility for this action and the issuing of such false statements is highly irresponsible in the present circumstances









PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM
An army bomb expert shifts through debris at the scene of an explosion on the Woodstock Road.
Troops search the scene of an explosion on the Crumlin Road.
Workmen clearing up after rioting on the New Lodge Road.
A brick covered Annadale Street after troops were attacked in the New Lodge area.

"We would like to remind news editors and journalists that all authentic statements from the Provisional Army Council will be issued on paper headed Irish Republican Publicity Bureau" and will be signed "P. O'Neill"

**Wednesday 8th April 1970**
**USC arms offered to UDR**

The arms on issue to the Ulster Special Constabulary have been offered to the Ulster Defence Regiment, the Ministry of Home Affairs said in a statement today.

However, before they can be brought into service Army regulations require that they be inspected and reconditioned and for this purpose they are being sent in lots to Army Ordinance depots in England, and the Ulster Defence Regiment is being equipped with newly issued weapons," the statement added.
The statement followed a Bannside election speech by the Rev. Ian Paisley, who said that the USC guns were being exported to England.

**Wednesday 8th April 1970**
**Quiet night in Belfast**

One petrol bomb was thrown and 12 live bullets were found but otherwise it was a quiet night for the security forces in Belfast. The petrol bomb was thrown into the back yard of a home in Alexandra Park Avenue, off York Road. The bullets, all 9mm caliber were found by a newspaper messenger in the Gresham Street. They were lying in the roadway, wrapped in a piece of cloth. They were later handed over to the Army.
People's Democracy leader Michael Farrell said reported finding a bomb in his car, which was parked, outside his home. But the Army said today that a harmless torch battery had been wired up to the ignition and there was no explosive device.

**Thursday 9th April 1970**
**RUC go house-hunting**

The RUC are house hunting in the Springfield area. They are hoping to set up a full time police post at New Barnsley estate. The matter is one of urgency according to RUC headquarters. At the moment the estate is patrolled from the Springfield Road station. Asked what type of accommodation they were seeking, a spokesman said today: "We are hoping to get a vacant house in the area."

**Thursday 9th April 1970**
**McKeague challenge to Fitt**

Mr. John McKeague, chairman of Shankill Defence Association, is challenging Mr. Gerry Fitt to repeat outside Parliament remarks about the recent conspiracy trial in Belfast. Mr. McKeague says: "It is all very well for Mr. Fitt to say under Parliamentary privilege that I and nine other men are guilty of causing explosions in 1969. I challenge him to make those statements in public and let us see how brave he is."
In the Northern Ireland debate at Westminster this week Mr. Fitt said the men who were found not guilty of the explosions were only acquitted because "everyone knows that juries are intimidated." They were guilty." he said.




**Thursday 9th April 1970**
**Drifting towards Chaos**

A massive round-up of Republican extremists and reconstitution of the Special Criminal Courts by evoking the Offences Against the State Act were expected in some quarters after the recent killing of a Civic Guard. However, judging from the evasive replies given by the Fianna Fail Minister of Justice such measures are not imminent. Fine Gael Deputy Gerry L'Estrange criticized the Southern Government's "Softly Softly" approach towards subversives and said that the government was permitting this "drifting towards chaos." Mr. L'Estrange went on to say that men in semi battle dress and bearing arms openly have been allowed to strut around the country with impunity, and that illegal organizations are allowed to issue impudent statements without any action being taken against them. It appeared that very few of the deputies in the house, including opposition members, were inclined to probe the Governments intentions towards known members of illegal organizations such as the IRA or Saor Eire. Apparently all parties feel that it would not be a popular move to crack down on extremists in the Republican Movement at this time.

**Thursday 9th April 1970**
**300 absent from riot area school**

Only 200 out of 500 children, who normally attend the Vere Foster Primary School on the New Barnsley Estate in Belfast, turned up for lessons this morning when the school re-opened after the Easter holidays. Many of the pupils are living in refugee centers and in other parts of the city following the trouble in the New Barnsley and Ballymurphy areas last week.
Two other schools, which were to have opened today, remained closed because refugees from New Barnsley are still living in them. Both the Glenwood infant and junior schools were turned into temporary refugee centers on April 2nd. It is hoped that all schools will be opened again by Monday.

**Friday 10th April 1970**
**New police station kept busy**

The new RUC station, set up in a council semi-detached house at 699 Springfield Road is being manned 24 hours a day but mobile patrols for the area continue to be carried out by police from Springfield Road barracks. The installation of a police station in a council house idea has been latched on by the Army in the area. For just a few doors away, a house is occupied by men of 49 Battery, 42 Medium Regiment Royal Artillery, who are using it as an observation post.

**Friday 10th April 1970**
**Youth with catapult sentenced**

A 17-year-old Ballymurphy youth who admitted possessing "a deadly weapon" was given a four months jail sentence arising out of the riots on the Springfield Road last week. The youth was in possession of a catapult and marbles. The court was told that this was the third time in recent days that people have been before the courts charged with possession of catapults. In a separate case a 20-year-old man from Springmartin Road was also sentenced for possession of a catapult, five marbles and three dozen steel pellets. Detectives were told "I had them to protect the Protestants of New Barnsley" In other cases men appeared in court charged with possession of a variety of weapons such as knives, iron bars, coshes and stones.

**Friday 10th April 1970**
**Bombs Blast at Offices**

Two bombs badly damaged the offices of a Belfast removal firm, and shattered dozens of windows in shops and houses on the Antrim Road early today. The two explosions occurred within 90 minutes of each other at the premises of John Morgan and Sons, whose senior partner is Mr. William Morgan, the official Unionist candidate in the coming South Antrim by-election. It was about the third biggest in the series of explosions in the city, said an Army spokesman who also stated that the bomb is believed to have contained approximately ten pounds of Gelignite. The premises are near the home of Mr. Gerry Fitt, Republican Labour MP for West Belfast, and close to Girwood Park Army Camp.

**Saturday 11th April 1970**
**UDR may go in a few years –West**

Mr. Harry West, MP for Enniskillen, at a Unionist rally in Florencecourt, Fermanagh, last night suggested that within the next few years the British Government in an effort to cut expenditure might axe the Ulster Defence Regiment.

"Then", he said, "We will be left without any defence whatsoever. This is why I firmly believe the men of the Ulster Special Constabulary should be kept together in some form or other

PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM
Police and soldiers raid homes in Lincoln Avenue.
Boarding up broken windows after an explosion in Dock Street.
Experts examine the crater left by a bomb in Donegall Street
Police examine the scene of an explosion in Dock Street.

**Saturday 11th April 1970**
**RUC and Army stoned in Derry**

Police in Derry were stoned last night in two separate incidents. At the Craig Memorial Hall, the Army who arrived with the police were also stoned. A police spokesman said there was a dance at the hall and apparently a crowd from the Creggan area went to the hall and a fight started in which bottles were used. "Coins as well as stones were thrown at the police and army," he added. One arrest was made. Two young people were taken to hospital for treatment to minor injuries, but they were not detained. Stones were also thrown at a police car and Army in Brandywell Avenue. No damage was done except for some paint chipped off the car.

Ten windows were broken and two seats were thrown out of a bus at Graysteele early this morning. The spokesman said the fight developed on the bus, which was returning to Derry from the Magilligan area.

**Saturday 11th April 1970**
**Not us say the UVF**

The illegal Ulster Volunteer Force disclaimed all responsibility for the two explosions at the premises of John Morgan and Sons in Belfast during the night. A telephone caller to local newspapers, purporting to come from Capt. William Johnston, adjutant, 1st Belfast Battalion UVF said the organization had nothing to do with the explosions.

**Monday 13th April 1970**
**Army glad of quiet period**

Security forces in Belfast had a trouble free week-end, apart from the two explosions at the Antrim Road premises of John Morgan and Sons. The only casualty of the period was a soldier from the 2nd Parachute Regiment who fell from the back of a moving vehicle in Ormeau Avenue. He was standing on a tail-board when a strap holding him in place snapped. He was discharged from hospital after treatment.

The Army and police dealt with some minor incidents in the City but none were serious. An army










spokesman said, "We are very pleased to have a quiet period for a change." But staff at Belfast police control were kept busy dealing with calls from the public on their rumour checking telephones. The RUC received a total of 199 calls over the weekend, but 98 of those followed the two explosions at the Morgan Offices.

**Tuesday 14th April 1970**
**More Marches planned for Saturday**
Immediately after 500 Civil Rights supporters had marched through Omagh last night, notice was given to police of another Civil Rights march in the town. But a march planned by the Ulster Protestant Volunteers for tomorrow night has been cancelled.
Last nights parade protesting that the letting of 65 houses last week by Omagh Urban Council had been done without applying a points system, passed off without incident. About 300 police were on duty along the route of the march, which was round the streets of the town, ending with a meting at the court-house. Four men carried a coffin with the inscription "Here lies democracy." The marchers chanted "Omagh UDC out" and "SS RUC." At the county hall on Drumragh Avenue, they stopped for a few minutes while one of them read a "funeral oration"

**Wednesday 15th April 1970**
**Street Protests welcomed**
Mr. Kevin Agnew, Chairman of the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Executive, has welcomed the return to the street of Omagh Civil Rights Association and praised their move to oust the urban council.
Speaking at a Civil Rights meeting in the town last night, he said that whether a return to the streets was good for community relations he did not know, and he did not really care; but the streets were the only place where they got any satisfaction.
Referring to the role of the voter in tomorrows by-election, he said there were a lot of people on the minority side of the House who would need to do a bit of thinking whether or not they would be well advised to stay at home.

**Thursday 16th April 1970**
**Soldier who attacks girl gets five years**
A 19 year old soldier of the Royal Highland fusiliers was sentenced to five years imprisonment on two charges at Fermanagh County Court. The soldier admitted wounding with intent and possession of an offensive weapon. The trial judge said that the soldier, who was drunk, had chosen the young girl "to satisfy his own whim of carnality" and that if the assault had been allowed to continued it could have resulted in death.

**Thursday 16th April 1970**
**Election Inquest**
Reeling from the shock of the by-election wins by the Rev Ian Paisley, in Bannside and the Rev. William Beattie in South Antrim, the Government and Unionist Party today began their inquest into the loss of the seats and to consider the implications for the country as a whole. Initial Government reaction, however, is that this startling endorsement of Mr. Paisleys brand of right-wing politics will not mean any dilution of reform policies.

**Thursday 16th April 1970**
**Eire hunt for men who shot at police**
A major hunt was being conducted today for two men who shot at Civil Guards and a soldier at the entrance to the Dail last night. Five shots were fired from a rifle but missed all three men.

**Friday 17th April 1970**
**We didn't cross border - Army**
The Army say that after a thorough investigation of allegations that two Donegal farmers were stopped and searched at gun point well into Southern territory, and they were satisfied that there was no violation of the border. A spokesman said that troops on duty near the border saw two vehicles approaching by an unapproved road and they blocked the road with their jeep. The vehicles stayed on the Donegal side. There was no question of the troops crossing the border at any time or having searched the men.

**Friday 17th April 1970**
**Bid to burn old Derry RUC station foiled**
A bid to burn down a former RUC barracks in Derry was foiled today when police sped to the scene after a call claimed a bomb had been planted there.
They found a five gallon drum of petrol had been rigged up on a ground floor window, with a rubber hose feeding the petrol through the letter box of the building at Bishop Street. A length of smoldering fuse had been put under the door, but it was pulled out by a policeman. Firemen called to the scene said the hall had been saturated by petrol. The station had been vacant for some years until had been taken over last year as a headquarters for the city's traffic wardens. Recently some RUC personnel were based there.

**Saturday 18th April 1970**
**30 charged after council row**
Thirty men will appear in Enniskillen court on Monday on charges arising out of an hour long protest by members of Fermanagh Civil Rights Association who barricaded themselves in the offices of the County Council Secretary. Twenty seven of the protestors are charged with trespass and three with disorderly behaviour. The protest began yesterday when the council secretary returned to his office after lunch to find the Civil Rights supporters using his phone. They informed the press that they intended to remain there indefinitely, after which they began to barricade themselves in. Steel and wooden fencing was placed against the doors. Supporters outside sent up food and cigarettes in a bucket to the men. After an hour, about 40 police arrived but first attempts to break down the door were unsuccessful. Eventually, using an axe they got in and arrested the men.

**Saturday 18th April 1970**
**Explosion - Soldier charged**
Two men, one of them, a soldier, have been remanded in custody charged with causing an explosion at a public house in Portadown last night. The explosion wrecked a plate-glass window in a licensed premised in West Street, Portadown.

**Monday 20th April 1970**
**Maiden speech - Paisley will wait**
The Rev. Ian Paisley, will not make his maiden speech in the Ulster Commons until a suitable opportunity arises, the congregation at his Martyrs Memorial Free Presbyterian Church heard yesterday. He takes his seat at Stormont tomorrow. Mr. Paisley celebrated his victory as the new MP for Bannside with a day of prayer. He told his congregation: "Without divine intervention I would not have been able to defeat the Unionist Party machine."

**Monday 20th April 1970**
**Man had three cartridges**
A 23 year old man from the Glencairn area of Belfast was given a four months sentence at Belfast magistrate's court yesterday after pleading guilty to possessing three shotgun cartridges. The man claimed he found them on a building site and put them in his pocket.

**Tuesday 21st April 1970**
**Ulster's new party is named Alliance**
The formation of a new political party – for Protestants and Roman Catholics was announced today. The Party, will support the constitutional link between Northern Ireland and the United Kingdom. The new party has ran into some early problems when a number of the party's 200 "Sponsors" denied they knew anything about the party. One man said that while he was sympathetic to the idea but "we know nothing about its policies and didn't even know the name of the party until we heard it on the radio." A spokesman for the Alliance party said that there had been a misunderstanding on the part of the sponsors and it was not the intention to list the names of people who did not wish to actively support the party.

**Tuesday 21st April 1970**
**RUC drop the stick**
The traditional blackthorn walking stick, often carried by officers of the RUC, has quietly disappeared during the last month.
The stick, which was never officially a part of the RUC uniform, will be replaced by a swagger cane in the new RUC structure. The cane, about 18 inches long, is a part of the official uniform of English police officers. A police spokesman said: "This move is part of the transitional period which the RUC is going through. There is no other reason why the blackthorn stick has been done away with."

**Wednesday 22nd April 1970**
**Man shot on Falls**
A 50 year old man was shot in both legs outside a Falls Road bar last night. The shooting occurred

outside the Celtic Bar at the corner of Linden Street. Witnesses said that a man stepped out of a car, which had come from nearby Dunville Street and fired two shots at the man. He then got back into the car and which drove off up the Falls. According to police there was no sectarian motive to the shooting.

**Thursday 23rd April 1970**
**Woman's narrow escape**

A mother of five from Ballymurphy told of how a cup of tea saved her life. The woman had been watching television in her Ballymurphy home when she decided to make a cup of tea. Seconds after she went into the kitchen a bullet smashed through the sitting room window and shattered a wall mirror. Troops rushed to her home in Divismore Crescent and found a 9mm bullet. Later, as the soldiers left the scene shots were fired at them from a passing car. Speaking of the shooting the householder said "I think the gunman must have been on top of the Corporation yard when he shot through the back window of my house. I don't know why anyone would want to do this but I have no intention of moving."

**Monday 27th April 1970**
**RUC to undergo re-shaping**

Drastic changes in the manpower structure of the RUC were revealed today by the man brought to Northern Ireland to assist Sir Arthur Young in the reorganization of the force. In his report, already accepted by the government, the Deputy Chief Constable for Mid-Anglia, Mr. Robert Boyes asks for: Seventy-Five percent more Detectives; Double the number of policewomen; three times as many traffic patrolmen; more members of the Special Branch and seven hundred promotions in the next five years.

**Monday 27th April 1970**
**Special Branch probe Finaghy shooting**

Special Branch officers are today probing a shooting incident at Finaghy last night when a gunman stepped out of a stolen car and fired six shots from a revolver. No one was injured in the shooting.

The car, a dark blue Ford Zephyr, was found abandoned today a short distance from the home of its owner. It had been stolen on Saturday night. At least one man got out of the car at Ladybrook Park and fired six shots. Six bullets were later recovered from a garage door in Trench Park. Police and Army spokesmen said that there did not appear to be particular target for the shots.

In an incident in Belfast on Saturday night, eight youths who tried to storm an army billet made off when a sentry fired a warning shot in the air. The Army said today that they still did not know why the gang tried to enter the billet, a church hall, used by the 2nd Parachute Regiment at the corner of Percy Street and Beverley Street. Apparently the youths tried to lure the sentry from his post at the billet shortly before midnight. The sentry called the sergeant of the guard and when he appeared the youths jumped on them. The sergeant then called out ten soldiers who were inside and in the scuffling which followed one of the raiders was struck on the face with the butt of a rifle. The sentry also fired a shot, which brought 100 people out on to the street. The raiders ran off and the Army persuaded the people to return to their homes.

**Tuesday 28th April 1970**
**Civil Rights man may have been target**

A leading Belfast member of the Civil Rights movement may have been the target for the mystery gunman who opened fire in Ladybrook on Sunday night. A Civil Rights spokesman said a member of their executive committee was lured to a meeting in the area shortly before 8pm on Sunday but no meeting took place. As he left the house the gunman opened fire on him and missed. The spokesman refused to reveal the identity of their member but said they would probably have more information after the executive had interviewed him. The association is concerned about the incident and recent shootings in the city. Some members believe the attack on Sunday evening was the work of the Provisional IRA group who are opposed to the orthodox Republican views of the man concerned.

**Wednesday 29th April 1970**
**Blast and fire destroy Linfield Social Club**

Shankill Road's Linfield Social Club was gutted by fire early this morning after three explosions rocked the three-storey building. Thirty firemen and six appliances fought the blaze for an hour before getting it under control. A small warehouse and a 100 year old mission hall in the same building were also destroyed.

A Fire Brigade spokesman said, "We have no evidence that the fire was started deliberately, but exploding beer barrels could have rocked the club."

An eye witness, who was going up the Shankill Road ten minutes after the alarm was raised, said he heard an explosion. "As I came up to Agnes Street the whole roof lifted off the building. When the firemen arrived there was no roof for them to get on to. The whole building was a mass of flames."

The building was empty when the fire started as the social club was closed at 11.30pm last night.

**Wednesday 29th April 1970**
**Former Unionist MP's home bombed**

Army explosives experts have been unable to find any clues to the type of explosive used in midnight bomb attack on the home of Mr. Richard Ferguson, the former unionist MP for South Antrim.

Neither Mr. Ferguson, a 35 year old barrister, nor his family, were injured in the explosion but all the windows in his Lisburn home were blown in. Other homes near by were also affected. The device, believed to be made up from about 1 pound of Gelignite disintegrated in the blast, leaving no clues about its type or whether it was planted or thrown.

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PICTURE

A wedding party passes an army billet at the Springfield Presbyterian Church

**Thursday 30th April 1970**
**Shot man walks out of hospital.**

A wounded man has discharged himself from a hospital in Belfast this week only two days after he was shot in the city. The incident in which the man was injured is said to have happened when armed men are alleged to have surrounded a house in the Cullingtree Road district of the City. Sources close to the Provisional Council of the Republican Movement have claimed that shots were fired when the armed men surrounded the house but there is no confirmation that a man was shot. The shooting follows other recent incidents involving arms, which are now believed to be part of a row, which has developed between traditional IRA supporters and sympathizers of the Provisional Council. A spokesman for the Provisional Council of the IRA claimed the shooting incident on Sunday night was a reprisal for an earlier shooting incident at the Celtic Bar. The spokesman also confirmed that the member of the Civil Rights Executive was the target for the gunman in Finaghy. The spokesman made it clear that he was not being shot at because he is a member of the CRA but because he is alleged to have been responsible for the earlier incident.

In a statement issued through the Belfast Republican Press Centre, the Provisional Council has also alleged that at least ten families have fled their homes in the Falls area after threats and intimidation by other Republicans.

It is now known that some of the evacuees have been given accommodation in another part of the City. The intimidation, according to the statement has been going on since last Saturday. A spokesman for the Provisionals said, "Others have been arrested and interrogated and some have been warned to leave the district and not return. "While our immediate efforts are directed at arranging temporary accommodation for these people we are determined that the present reign of terror in the St. Peter's district must cease."

The Central Citizens Defence Committee however has denied that people have fled their homes. The breach between the two groups arose when the Provisionals, who claim the greater support in the North, discovered that the Northern Executive was still working in close contact with Dublin. This was after a break with Dublin headquarters was agreed at a meeting last September. Moves may be made shortly to get both sides together again before anything more serious breaks out.



# MAY 1970

**Friday 1st May 1970**
**UDR go into action**
Last night the Ulster Defence tasted its first action on a grand scale when 400 men from seven companies, scattered throughout Armagh, Fermanagh and Tyrone, combined with 1,600 troops in a massive border arms search. Code named Operation Mulberry, the UDR and men of the 8th Infantry Brigade set up road blocks on all roads leading to the border in the three counties and searched cars for arms. The four hour security clamp down was headed by a UDR Brigadier and was controlled from a mobile HQ at Clougher. As the clampdown took effect police helped to control traffic and by early morning UDR and Army officers said everything was going as planned. Before the operation all UDR platoons were briefed by their officers and at Clougher HQ the areas six platoon commanders were told to co-operate closely with the regular forces.
Army Land Rovers and Saracen armoured cars were used to transport the UDR Companies to position. It is expected the UDR will receive their own vehicles in the near future.

**Friday 1st May 1970**
**Shots fired at Army**
The Army is investigating a report that shots were fired at one of its Land Rover patrols in the Springfield Road area of Belfast last night. The Army spokesman said he could not confirm or deny that at least three shots were fired form Whitworth Street, as the Army vehicle drove along the Springfield Road. The incident was reported shortly after midnight. Residents in the area said they saw a car speeding from the scene into Woodvale Avenue towards the Shankill. When the sound of shots were heard the patrol drove into a side street, and along with other troops they then searched the area. Nothing was found. The spokesman said, "It is assumed that this was a car back firing, but we are still looking into it.



**Friday 1st May 1970**
**Republicans deny shots statement**
The Executive Committee of the Provisional Army Council in Belfast today denied that it authorized recent statements about reported shooting incidents in the city. An official for the council, which heads the Provisional wing of the Republican movement in the North, said statements attributed to it were not official. No-one was authorised to make the statements on behalf of the council. The spokesman however did not deny that a shooting incident in the Falls area at the week-end did take place.

**Friday 1st May 1970**
**Prisoners refuse food**
Ten long term prisoners in Belfast's Crumlin Road jail have gone on hunger strike. They are protesting against prison conditions. A Ministry of Home Affairs spokesman said "The prisoners refused several meals on Wednesday and yesterday did not eat anything. There are about 10 of the 700 prisoners refusing food and the Governor is investigating complaints.

**Friday 1st May 1970**
**Republicans to picket tourist office**
The Belfast offices of British European airways and the Irish Tourist Board will be picketed tomorrow by members of the Wolfe Tone Republican Club.
At a meeting last night the group, whose members come from Ballymurphy, Turf Lodge and Andersonstown, decided to place pickets at both offices in Castle Street to protest about the imprisonment in English jails of six young Irishmen on political charges.
They said in a statement "With the direct connivance of the Fianna Fail Government savage sentences were meted out to these three young men whose only crime was to try and help the people of Belfast." Similar action was recently taken by Republicans in Dublin and London.



**Saturday 2nd May 1970**
**Army barracks puts out to sea**
The H.M.S. Maidstone, which is now to be used as a barracks for soldiers of the 1st battalion of the Royal Scots, has been moved to a new berth in Belfast at the Alexandra Dock.

**Saturday 2nd May 1970**
**Police station stoned after festival on Falls**
Over 30 windows in Springfield Road Barracks were smashed by a crowd of about 50 people after the end of the music festival on the Falls Road. No one was injured and no arrests were made. The attackers, a break away group from the crowds who attended the festival stoned the station for about 15 minutes. They then disappeared before a company of Scots Guards arrived. Afterwards soldiers in riot gear patrolled the area, but the rest of the night was incident free. The Fleadh Ceoil's first night, with folk groups staging impromptu sessions at street corners kept the Falls Road busy until early this morning.
Six streets leading to the Shankill were sand bagged and guarded by troops. In the festival area itself crash barriers were used to control the entrances to streets, and vigilantes were used to control the crowds.

**Monday 4th May 1970**
**Manager wants school to close**
The manager of a Roman Catholic school is to ask permission to suspend classes after three attempts to burn it down. The school, St. Joseph's primary school on the Shore Road, Belfast, was attacked late last night when a milk bottle containing paraffin was thrown through a window. It was the third arson attempt since last year and the worst to date.

**Monday 4th May 1970**
**Rival IRA groups in truce**
The leaders of the two factions of the IRA in Belfast are understood to have finally agreed to a truce after a week of evictions, intimidation and shootings in the city. Members of the Citizen Defence Committee and the local Roman Catholic clergy stepped in as mediators to get both sides together and heal the dispute between them. Word of the truce has now gone to all the IRA units in the city. A group

PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM
Military raid in Chatham Street
Bombed out shop in Castle Street

100 strong is alleged to have been responsible for the eviction of about 10 families in the Cullingtree Road area during the week. People who sympathise with the Provisional Army Council were threatened and intimidated. It is now clear that an attempt was made on the leader of the regular IRA when shots were fired recently in Finaghy. The IRA man received a slight wound but later discharged himself from hospital.

**Monday 4th May 1970**
**Army Land Rovers damaged**

Early this evening two Army Land Rovers were damaged when they were stoned by youths in two separate incidents in the Falls area. The windscreen of one vehicle was smashed and the canopy torn when it was attacked by a crowd in Leeson Street at the Grosvenor Road end. About 20 minutes later the other Land Rover was stoned in Albert Street and the windscreen was cracked and a side window broken.

**Tuesday 5th May 1970**
**Ardoyne hall burned**

Petrol hosed through a broken window is believed by police to have caused a fire at the Holy Cross Hall in Butler Street, Belfast, early today. The hall, used by the Holy Cross indoor golfing society, and is the Headquarters of the North Belfast Tenants Association, is also being used to store furniture belonging to families who were burned out of their homes during the troubles last year. A neighbour stated that sometime after 3am she "saw a man outside the window and he drove off in a car when the alarm was raised."

**Tuesday 5th May 1970**
**Death threats to UDR men on Falls Road**

Two members of the Ulster Defence Regiment were each handed a bullet early today by gunmen in the Falls Road and told to get out of the force. Two men stopped the part-time soldiers shortly after midnight as they were entering Divis Flats in the lower falls area. The men produced guns, threatened the UDR men and handed them .38 calibre bullets. The gunmen, who made no attempt to conceal their identity, then made a death threat to both UDR men. The UDR men protested but left the area and went to Hasting Street RUC Barracks to report the incident. Both UDR men are understood to be Catholics and were in plain clothes at the time.

**Tuesday 5th May 1970**
**Release prisoners plea rejected**

The Unionist controlled Armagh City Council last night rejected a plea from the local Republican club to have six Irish political prisoners released from jail in England. A number of opposition councilors abstained from voting. The council decided to mark the republicans letter "read."

Speaking in support of the letter one councilor said that he felt that an injustice had been done to the men and he formally proposed that the council support the campaign. Speaking in opposition to the proposal a Unionist councilor argued that a matter of this nature would not have the support of all sections of the people and he recalled in the 1950's when the province had been attacked from over the border the council had done nothing about it.

**Wednesday 6th May 1970**
**Dublin Government rocked by sackings**

Southern Premier Mr. Jack Lynch was grappling today with one of the biggest political crises in the history of the State after his sensational 3am sacking of two senior Ministers, Mr. Charles Haughey, Minister of Finance and Mr. Neil Blaney, Minister of Agriculture. Fianna Fail, has been thrown into turmoil and there is now national crisis in Dublin. Even Mr. Lynches own position as head of





PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM

Troops seal off Leopold Street to carry out house to house searches.

Military raid in Butler Street.

government is judged to be precarious. Immediately after the sackings, another cabinet member, the Minister for Local Government, Mr. Kevin Boland resigned his portfolio in sympathy with his axed colleagues. This leaves Mr. Lynch with four cabinet positions to fill, the fourth being that of Mr. Michael O'Morain, who resigned the previous day "for health reasons." While the full reasons for the sackings have yet to be revealed, it is clear that some of the Ministers did not subscribe to Government policy in relation to the Six Counties. In Dublin today there is intense speculation about a split in the Government over reports of alleged smuggling of arms to the North.

**Wednesday 6th May 1970**
**Prisoners to plan their own menus**
The prisoners who went on hunger strike to protest about alleged bad food in Crumlin Road Prison may soon be able to choose what they eat. The prison Governor, has agree to the formation of a committee of prisoners who will be allowed to plan their own menus. "They won't have a completely free hand of course," said the Governor "they will have to work within the bounds of the dietary here."
He also dismissed suggestions that there was any justification for last week's strike by long-term prisoners. Responding to the allegations of bad prison conditions, made by two former prisoner, Mr. John McKeague and Major Ronald Bunting, the Governor said: "They never complained to me when they were in here and they haven't complained to the Ministry of Home Affairs since their release.

**Thursday 7th May 1970**
**Guns smuggled as Red Cross supplies**
In the wake of Southern Prime Minister, Mr. Jack Lynch's shock disclosure of an international plot to smuggle arms into Ireland has come the news that guns were being imported under the cover of the Red Cross. The alleged gun-running attempt referred to by Mr. Lynch is believed to be ten ton of weapons, discovered in Vienna and bound for Dublin. The pilot found that instead of the Red Cross 'machine parts' there were weapons. There is speculation that a previous assignment of weapons may have gotten through.

**Thursday 7th May 1970**
**Re-arm the RUC call rejected**
The Prime Minister, Major Chichester-Clarke, today rejected a cal l by the Rev. Ian Paisley for the re-arming of the RUC and the recall of Special Constabulary, following the disclosures of gun-running. "The security forces in Northern Ireland are in sufficient strength and readiness to cope with any threat which may arise from subversive organizations."

**Thursday 7th May 1970**
**Security man shot by armed raiders**
The driver of a security van was shot in the leg during armed raid in which £14,000 was snatched. The raid was carried out on the van carrying the wages to the Adria Knitting Mill, in Strabane. A police statement told of how the van, as it arrived at the factory was rammed by a Wolseley saloon car. A man carrying a spade and walking near by smashed the windscreen of the security van, while two men, both armed covered the sides of the van.

**Friday 8th May 1970**
**Haughey denies gun running**
The sacked Fianna Fail Minister for Finance Mr. Charles J. Haughey today categorically denied having any part in any gun-running or attempted gun-running into Ireland. "I have not any opportunity to examine or test such information or the quality of its source or sources," said Mr. Haughey in a statement issued through his solicitor. "I have fully accepted the Taoiseach's decision, as I believe that the unity of the party is of greater importance to the welfare of the nation than to my political career." Mr. Haughey regretted that owing to medical advice he could not personally make a statement in the Dail concerning the termination of his Ministerial position and as a member of the Government.

**Friday 8th May 1970**
**Two groups claim Strabane raid**
Two illegal organizations have claimed responsibility for the £14,000 payroll snatch outside the Adria factory at Strabane. A statement on behalf of "North Tyrone Division" of the Ulster Volunteer Force and signed "Captain Trevor Anderson," took responsibility for the seizing of finance" in Strabane yesterday. "These funds will be used for the maintenance of our constitution against any future attempts by IRA murders. These murderers are using Eire as a base and we are determined to uphold our Protestant heritage in spite of whatever price that will have to be paid," said the statement.
The militant Republican organization "Saor Eire" (Free Ireland) in a statement issued to newspaper offices in Dublin said the organization staged a successful operation at Strabane and that all units had returned safely to base. The statement said the "requisitioned" money would be used to purchase arms and added: "Saor Eire repeats that we will continue to carry out whatever operations are necessary to build up the military potential and political machine through which we can smash Imperialism in Ireland and establish 'Irish Socialist Republic'"

**Friday 8th May 1970**
**Irish history 'optional'**
Mr. Ivan Cooper (Ind. Mid Derry) asked in Stormont yesterday if there were any plans to increase the amount of Irish history taught in State schools. The Minister of Education, Capt William Long, said his Ministry had no plans to try to influence schools one way or another. It was an optional subject and it was a matter for the authorities at each school to decide whether or not it was to be included in the curriculum. Mr. Cooper asked if the Minister was not concerned that many people knew about American and European history but not about the history of their own country.
Mr. Harry West (Unionist, Enniskillen) asked the Minister to ensure that the history taught in Roman Catholic schools was not biased. It was difficult to have good community relations when children were being fed on biased Irish history
After a statement by Mr. Austin Currie (Nat. East Tyrone) that unbiased Irish history should be taught in all schools, Capt. Long pointed out again that it was an optional subject. He said that school authorities would be very resentful if he tried to impose too rigid a syllabus.

**Friday 8th May 1970**
**RUC Reserve to be recruited**
The Inspector general of the RUC, Sir Arthur Young said today that an RUC reserve is due to start recruiting on Monday. There will be 1500 members and already there have been 800 inquiries. Sir Arthur said that the purpose of the body is to provide trained men to assist the RUC in their normal duties, but on a part time-basis. It was pointed out that no member of the Reserve would carry weapons or be trained in their use. Reserve Constables would have the same powers and privileges when on duty as members of the RUC. Their uniform will be the same as that worn by the RUC except that Reservist Constables will wear the letter "R" on their shoulders followed by a number. Members of the Reserve will normally work in their own localities and the Inspector General has said that emphasis to getting the Reserve under way in Belfast and Derry, where their services are most required.

**Monday 11th May 1970**
**New Lodge street battles**
The Prime Minister, Major Chichester-Clarke and the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. Porter, have had informal discussions with the Army and police chiefs about the weekend rioting in the New Lodge Road-Duncairn Gardens area of Belfast. There was no official reaction today to the latest wave of violence, but it will almost certainly be mentioned in the Commons at Stormont during the week.
There is alarm among many MPs at the intensity and savagery of the conflict and new pressures are certain to be exerted on the Government and the joint security committee to have much tougher action taken against rioters.
The night of violence in Belfast's New Lodge area finally came to an end at 7am yesterday after five hours of bitter street fighting. The soldiers of 1st Battalion Kings Own Scottish Borders and the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the Queens Regiment were he subject of a constant barrage of stones and bottles throughout the night. In all a crowd varying at times between 150 and 400 fought with the troops. Marbles were fired and at least one dart and two petrol bombs were thrown. Troops responded by firing125 canisters and 159 cartridges of CS gas. Some local families found it necessary to leave their homes because of the effects of the gas on their children. The trouble started around midnight on Saturday on North Queen Street scene of a stoning

incident this afternoon after a bomb blast at the nearby Regent Bar in nearby Dock Street. Police prevented rival crowds from clashing at North Queen Street, however, the crowds eventually moved on and the clashes happened at Lepper Street.

**Monday 11th May 1970**
**Dead Child's father on ammunition charge.**
Only hours after his two-year-old daughter died from a gunshot wound, a 25-year-old building worker appeared at a special court charged with the illegal possession of 1,000 rounds of ammunition. The man from Clondara Street was released on bail. The magistrate, said it was unusual to grant bail in a case were a weapon had not been recovered but in view of the little girls funeral and other humanitarian aspects The dead girl, Ann Gilligan, was being looked after at her home by two ten-year-old baby sitters from the Ballymurphy area when the accident happened. It is understood that the children found a revolver in a pair of trousers hanging on the back of a door. One of the boys started playing with it and it accidentally went off. The little girl was shot in the head. She was taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital where she later died. A search of the house failed to find the weapon but it is alleged that 1,000 rounds of ammunition were found.

**Wednesday 13th May 1970**
**CS gas used to flush out gunman in siege.**
Police used CS tear gas at dawn today following an eight-hour siege at a remote petrol station at the outskirts of Larne. Throughout the night they had been forced to take cover as a gunman pumped 20 shots at them from a caravan at Greenisland Service Station. Eventually the siege ended at 5.30am when a window was broken and a CS gas canister was lobbed into the room.

**Wednesday 13th May 1970**
**Army loses rifle**
Tougher orders about the handling of weapons and equipment are likely to be issued to troops on security duty in Belfast. The tightening up of security follows a report that an Army rifle was stolen during fighting in the New Lodge Road on Sunday. The army said today that a board of inquiry had been set up to look into this. The army has said that there is no truth to the rumour that three other self loading rifles and 1,500 rounds of ammunition have also been stolen. A spokesman at Army headquarters in Lisburn did say that two gas masks were snatched from soldiers during the disturbances but that no tear gas canisters were missing.

**Wednesday 13th May 1970**
**Punch up at Dublin meeting**
A Connolly commemoration meeting in Dublin last night, which had been addressed by Miss Bernadette Devlin, Dr. Conor Cruise O'Brien, TD, and Mr. Thomas MacGiolla, president of SinnFein, broke up in complete disorder when several chairs were thrown and speakers punched each other on the platform. Long haired students grappled with each other for the microphone to address the 1,000 strong meeting. One man jumped onto a table to speak, but a youth grabbed a tablecloth and pulled him down. He seized a microphone but was felled by a chair before he could speak. A steward with a red arm band forced his way to the front and shouted for 10 minutes to restore order. When a young girl tried to speak she was grabbed but somebody seized her attacker and instantly a dozen separate fights broke out. Half an hour later, however, the combatants went quietly home. No one was hurt and the police was not called.

**Thursday 14th May 1970**
**IRA blames Dublin Government**
**guns bribe for Split**
The Northern Divisional Command of the Irish Republican Army has issued a statement accusing the breakaway "provisional" council in Dublin of splitting Republicanism by falling for promises of guns and money from "Fianna Fail agents operating in the North."
The statement drawn up at a Meeting of the Northern Divisional Command in Newry is in reply to an attack on the Official IRA by the Provisional Army Council a few days ago. It says that while nobody can deny that there were insufficient arms in Belfast to protect the people from organized pogroms during last August, this unfortunate situation arose primarily from the lack of co-operation and support for the Republican Movement from those erstwhile Republicans who were now so generous with their criticism. Referring to the breakaway council, the statements says, "There is no doubt that this splinter group was encouraged to adopt this disastrous course by promises of finance and arms from Fianna Fail agents operating in the North and whose sole purpose was to destroy the Republican Movement by playing on existing differences and dissatisfaction arising out of the shortage of arms during August and the recriminations arising from this." Referring to the Provisional Councils denial that it was involved in the Ballymurphy riots last month, the statement says that the formation of the O'Hanlon Fianna Fail Club in the North Queen Street area was followed by "savage sectarian strife of a strikingly similar nature and at a time when Messrs. Blaney, Haughey and Boland were most in need of a diversion and justification for their involvement in Northern troubles.
Meanwhile a statement issued in Dublin yesterday by the Provisional Council claimed that the August "Disaster" in Belfast would not have happened if the military wing of the Republican Movement had been kept to its proper role. It was in reply to a statement from Sinn Fein claiming that Fianna Fail engineered the split in the Republican camp. "The origins of the split go back to 1964 when certain members of the Republican Movement began intrigue in order to undermine the fundamental position of the movement and to carry out a systematic undermining of the military wing of the movement. "Those who engineered this takeover of the military wing must share a large part of the blame," the statement said.

**Thursday 14th May 1970**
**Paisley Asks about spying**
The Rev. Ian Paisley is to ask the Prime Minister at Stormont next week why the spying mission in Ulster of a Southern army officer was not uncovered. He calls on Major Chichester-Clarke to protest to the Dublin Government about the activities of Captain James Kelly, and asks for an assurance that efforts against espionage here will be intensified. Together with his colleague, the Rev. William Beattie, he has tabled a motion urging the Government to order an immediate search for arms in the Falls and Bogside.

**Thursday 14th May 1970**
**Ambulance group protest over search**
The Knights of Malta organization complained about a search carried out last night by police and army, after an anonymous phone call claimed that strange boxes were being loaded into ambulances on the Falls. Five ambulances were searched at the Knights of Malta First Aid Centre but nothing was found.

**Saturday 16th May 1970**
**Call for arms searches in all areas**
Three Unionist MPs have amended the motion proposed by the Rev. Ian Paisley calling for arms searches in the Falls and Bogside. The amendment surges that the search for arms should be carried out in all areas and that effective steps should be taken to eliminate all subversive elements whether UVF or IRA. Measures should also be taken to protect citizens of all persuasions from illegal arms from whatever source. It is unlikely that the motion or the amendment will be debated before the summer recess.

**Monday 18th May 1970**
**Army seals off street in hunt for guns**
A strong force of troops moved into the New Lodge area of Belfast this afternoon to carry out a house-to-house search for weapons. Barriers were placed across the road about 50 yards either side of Lepper Street. About 300 troops and police took part in the search of five houses. The whole operation lasted 10 minutes.

**Monday 18th May 1970**
**Bomb blast at Bank**
The manager of the Nova Scotia bank in Belfast, which was damaged by a bomb explosion this morning, revealed today that he received a bomb threat last week. It is not known if the two things are connected. The explosion shattered two plate glass windows at the front of the bank, which was opened only six weeks ago by the Minister of Finance Mr. Roy Bradford.

**Monday 18th May 1970**
**Court Guard on IRA chief**
Police at Kilmainham Court in Dublin mounted a tight security ring today when IRA Chief of Staff Cathal Goulding and another man were remanded in custody on charges of stealing a lorry.

**Monday 18th May 1970**
**Running battles in the streets**

Troops fought running battles with crowds in two areas of Belfast last night. Six soldiers were injured and six arrests were made in the Ardoyne area where troops tried to contain a crowd of about 150. The trouble started after a petrol bomb attack on a garage at the junction of Alliance Avenue and Alliance Road. Three petrol bombs were thrown through the front window and the office was soon well alight. Belfast Fire Brigade soon had the fire under control. When police and army arrived they were met first with jeers, then were subjected to a barrage of bricks, broken gratings and petrol bombs. Armoured cars and Personnel carriers were attacked and the Army responded with CS Gas. A local priest appealed to the crowd to disperse but without success. As the CS Gas was used time and time again against a crowd in Etna Drive and when they refused to move Army snatch squads in armoured Saracen cars roared down Northwick Drive. At one point a man holding a white flag marched down Etna Drive towards the troops but he was pulled back by the crowd. After the Army had made their swoops the crowd pulled two old cars on to the road to make a barricade. Shortly after this a deputation from the crowd went to see a company commander of the Kings Own Scottish Borders and told him that they would go home if they would release the men. The army told them that they had no intention of doing so and the men would have to appear in court.

As news of the disturbances in Ardoyne reached other parts of the City trouble broke out in the New Lodge Road area. A Royal Military Police patrol was stoned and North Queen Street was cordoned off as men from the 2nd Battalion of the Queens Regiment came under a barrage of petrol bombs. Troops made repeated baton charges up the New Lodge Road and for a time a stalemate situation existed. North Queen Street, Carlisle Circus and Duncairn Gardens were cordoned off as youths made hit and run attacks on the troops.

**Tuesday 19th May 1970**
**Operations by Special Branch stepped up**

The RUC Special Branch was engaged chiefly against subversive organizations and activity and has been strengthened to take account of the change in conditions the Prime Minister, Major Chichester-Clarke, revealed in the Commons today.

Responding to a question by Mr. Ian Paisley as to why Capt. Kelly's spying mission had not been discovered the Prime Minister replied by saying "It would not be in the public interest to discuss this as it relates to a security matter and I regret I can offer no comment."



PICTURE
An army snatch squad in Rathlin Street

**Tuesday 19th May 1970**
**MPs phones not tapped.**

The Leader of the House, Mr. John Dobson, gave an assurance at Stormont today that MPs phones were not tapped. But on being asked by a nationalist MP for a guarantee that there would be no tapping in future, Mr. Dobson said he could give no such guarantee. Mr. Austin Currie (Nat. East Tyrone) said that the Opposition was cynical about the leaders assurances. He added that when he became suspicious his own phone was being tapped he gave out certain information in a conversation during a phone call and that information had later come back to him. Mr. Ian Paisley (Protestant Unionist. Bannside) said phone tapping had taken place in the homes of those who were opposed to the Government, both Protestant and Catholic.

**Tuesday 19th May 1970**
**Official IRA makes appeal for peace**

Appeals for peace were made in Belfast last night by the Central Citizens Defence committee, The Irish Republican Army and the rector of Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church, Ardoyne in statements handed in to a Belfast Newspaper.

The CCDC statement said: "It must be borne in mind that the Army, who were initially called in to hold back hordes bent on pogrom and arson, may be required in the coming months to deal with attacks from those extremists who will not, or cannot, accept justice for the minority.

The statement purporting to come from the Belfast Battalion of the Official IRA urged its members in the Ardoyne area and elsewhere to "exercise the utmost discipline and self control in order to avoid becoming involved in isolated acts of violence which in the prevailing circumstances can only lead to sectarian strife and the loss of innocent lives.

The Rector of the Holy Cross, warned that a continuance of the disturbances could lead to the worsening of the present tense political situation and could do nothing but harm for the entire community in the Ardoyne area.

The CCDC statement deplored the action of those responsible for the recent outbreaks of violence in Belfast. "No one is more acutely aware than we are of the legitimate grievances of the minority here, and with this in mind the CCDC warns those members of the minority community who have become involved in recent troubles that such activities can only serve to obscure the justice of our cause and of our aims."

The IRA statement said, "Undoubtedly some of the people involved in these acts of violence are acting out of misplaced patriotism and we would ask them to reconsider the consequences of their activities."

**Wednesday 20th May 1970**
**Safe Unionist seat in jeopardy**

Another formerly safe Unionist seat could be in jeopardy at next months General Election if moves, which began today to patch up a split among opposition groups in Derry, are successful.

The independent organization of Mr. John Hume the MP for Foyle has made approaches to the Nationalists to find a unity candidate who could offer serious opposition to the sitting MP, Mr. Robin Chichester-Clarke, brother of the Prime Minister.

**Wednesday 20th May 1970**
**Gelignite found in Belfast**

A quantity of Gelignite was found in Lonsdale Street, off Belfast's Crumlin Road today as the police and Army continue their lightning searches for arms and ammunition.

In Ardoyne another military-RUC swoop was carried out following yesterday's discovery of 18 hand grenades and a quantity of chemicals.

More than 40 sticks of Gelignite were found in Lonsdale Street near the Mater Hospital, an army spokesman said that it was in a dangerous condition and would be destroyed.

In Ardoyne forensic experts were still examining the chemicals found in an empty hut in Jamaica Street yesterday afternoon. Eighteen empty grenades of an unknown type were discovered, two large jars – one containing a white substance and the other brown crystals; two small jars of Potassium Chlorate and Potassium Nitrate, acid and an oil can filled with an unknown substance were found in the hut. An RUC spokesman said, "We do not know for certain whether or not all the materials are exactly what they are labeled." But an Army spokesman confirmed that the chemicals, if they are what they appear to be, could have been used to make a "fairly lethal" explosive device.

**Thursday 21st May 1970**
**Spectators at riots get warning**

The Army today stepped up its "get tough" policy with a sharp warning to those who linger at riot scenes after the local security commander has given the order to disperse. A military spokesman made it clear that anyone on the street whether taking part in trouble or merely spectating was liable to immediate arrest and face the possibility of prosecution. "All persons who join, support or assist such a crowd become part of an unlawful assembly. "The new procedure was being emphasized by the Army, as troops pushed on with their relentless search for arms. In two more lightning swoops this morning, they moved in on part of the New Lodge Road and on St. James Road off the Falls Road. The areas were cordoned off while selected houses were searched

and mine detectors used. The troops cordoned off the top end of the New Lodge Road and used mine detectors to search three houses and a bookies shop after a tip off that arms might be hidden there. Nothing was found during the search.

**Thursday 21st May 1970**
**Shots fired at UDR man's home**
Shotgun blasts smashed into the Clady home of a 30-year-old Roman Catholic who joined the UDR a month ago. Five or six shots were fired into the house while the man and his family slept upstairs. Two weeks ago the man, the only Roman Catholic in Clady to join the UDR had his front door daubed with the slogan "Get out of the UDR or be shot – signed IRA." The man said that he still would not resign.

**Saturday 23rd May 1970**
**Attack on extremists**
The Falls based CCDC has given its full support to the statement by Cardinal Conway and five northern Bishops concerning extremists in the Roman Catholic community. "The CCDC endorses the view of the hierarchy that the provocation of violence by any individual is a betrayal of the Catholic community." The CCDC has also suggested that local parish committees of the organisation should be formed with street leaders and street committees to "isolate" provocateurs before trouble begins. The committee says it has been assured by the authorities that policewomen would be used where necessary in searches for arms in the area and that the searches would be carried out with care. The statement added, "In reply to representations that house searches seem to be confined to one side of the community, the authorities stated that this is not the case. But they agreed that areas where trouble occurred may be more liable to be searched.

**Saturday 23rd May 1970**
**Military training for Bogsiders admitted**
Because the scheme was discovered by British Intelligence, a plan to train Bogsiders in the use of rifles, machine guns and hand grenades at an Irish military camp last August was abandoned. It was learnt in Dublin last night that Bogsiders, in groups of 20, were to be recruited into the FCA, the local defence force, and trained in the use of arms at the Fort Dunree summer camp in County Donegal. It has now been admitted that due to the discovery of the scheme, only 10 actually received training.

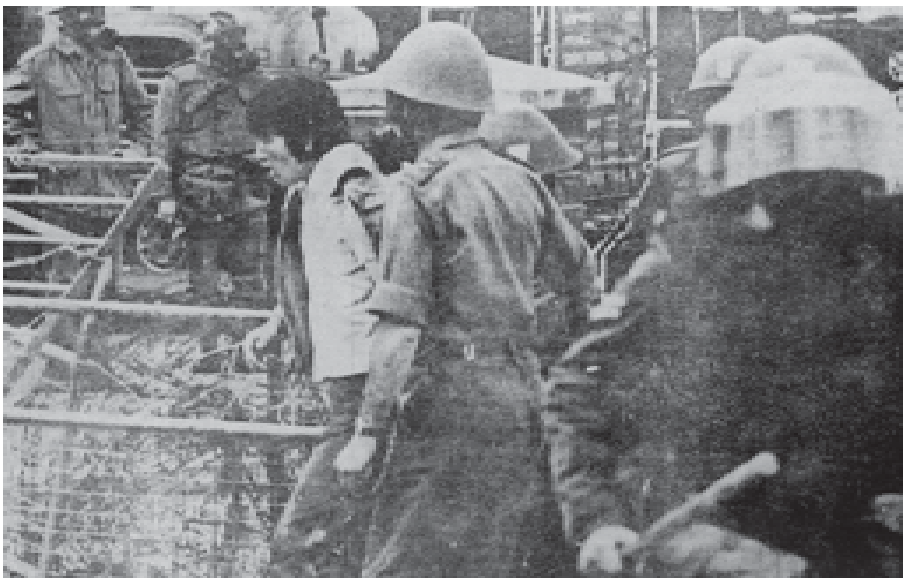
**Monday 25th May 1970**
**Chance of an anti-unionist pact fade**
The prospect of anti-unionist groups combining forces for the June 18 election appeared today to have faded in many of the 12 Northern Ireland constituencies. An exception is Fermanagh-South Tyrone, where the bid to find a "unity" candidate will climax next Sunday.

**Monday 25th May 1970**
**Explosions in County Antrim**
No one was injured and only slight damage was caused by two bombs at Carrickfergus and Dunadry early today. The explosions happened within 20 minutes of each other. The Carrickfergus explosion occurred shortly after 2am when a bomb exploded at the Town Hall, windows in the area were shattered. It is estimated that one stick of Gelignite was used. The other explosion happened at Clady Cottages, Dunadry, near Templepatrick. Slight damage was caused to a wall and some surrounding windows were broken. The Dunadry bomb, believed to have been a larger quantity of explosives than the earlier bomb, is believed to have been thrown from a passing car. In Armagh there were reports that shots were fired near Gough Military barracks but a search has failed to find any evidence of them.

**Tuesday 26th May 1970**
**Hume backs McAteer as a Unity candidate**
The Nationalist Party in Derry and the Independent Organisation of Mr. John Hume, are to merge to form a new united political movement to back Nationalist Party president Mr. Eddie McAteer as a Unity candidate in the Derry constituency. This dramatic development was announced at a press conference in Derry today by Mr. Hume and Mr. McAteer. The social and economic policies of the new movement, which is so far unnamed, will "clearly be left of centre." It will be a democratic organization with an open membership and will seek to promote the reunification of Ireland through peaceful persuasion of the majority of the people of Northern Ireland.

**Tuesday 26th May 1970**
**Youth who threw stones jailed.**
An 18-year-old youth was sentenced to four months imprisonment at Belfast magistrates Court today for disorderly behaviour by throwing stones at an Army Land Rover on the Falls Road last night. Three or four bricks were thrown by youths as the vehicle passed the Broadway Cinema. No one was injured in the incident.

**Tuesday 26th May 1970**
**Orangemen will not be given advice on voting**
It is now certain that in the present General Election campaign no "advice" will be given to members of the Orange Order on how they should vote in constituencies where official Unionists are opposed by Protestant Unionists. This is in recognition that the intervention of Capt Orr, Imperial Grand Master of the Orange Order, when he urged Orangemen to support official Unionists, may have backfired causing members to vote for the Paisleyites.






**PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM**
**A youth is arrested by the army in Ballymurphy**
**Police and troops keep back Catholic demonstrators on the Grosvenor Road protesting at an Orange parade.**

**Wednesday 27th May 1970**
**2,000 in IRA claim probed**

A claim that the IRA has 2,000 fully trained in Northern Ireland was raised at the daily conference of senior officers at Army headquarters today.

But there has been no official reaction to the statement made by an IRA spokesman during the nationally screened Nationwide programme on BBC television last night. Masked Men wearing battledress and berets were shown in training by a London based camera crew who were blindfolded and taken to a secret IRA camp in the South. They were told that modern weapons were hidden "in the hills" and could be distributed at any time.

There has been no official reaction from the Government but Mr. John Taylor MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Home Affairs, who did not see the programme, said it was good to know that people in Northern Ireland have a greater number of well-trained troops to protect them than for many years.



**Thursday 28th May 1970**
**Ex-Ministers Gun Charge**

Two former Fianna Fail Government Ministers, Mr. Neil Blaney and Mr. Charles Haughey, were among four men charged in Dublin today with conspiring to import arms and ammunition into the Republic between March 1st and April 23rd. Two others before the court were Army Intelligence Officer Captain James Kelly and a Dublin based company director.

**Thursday 28th May 1970**
**Explosives found by boys looking for bird's nest**

Two young brothers played with 60 sticks of Gelignite for several hours in the roof space of a derelict house at Nutt's Corner. The schoolboys, aged 15 and 12 found 28 sticks played with them until another boy identified the tubes and told his mother. Police were called in. Some of the Gelignite was wrapped in newspapers dated April 30th and one had the writing 'Dublin' on it

**Thursday 28th May 1970**
**Doubt over IRA claim**

Although the BBC's Nationwide film on the IRA was discussed at the Cabinets security committee at Stormont today there was considerable scepticism among Ministers and security chiefs of the claim made in the programme that the IRA strength is currently 2,000 fully trained men



**Friday 29th May 1970**
**Falls Road Vigilante shot**

Surgeons are fighting to save the life of a young man seriously injured in a shooting incident near his home in Belfast early today. The 17-year-old apprentice barman of Servia Street, in the Falls area was on vigilante duty when he was shot in the chest. It is understood that this is the second attempt on the man's life within a matter of weeks. In the previous attempt on his life the man was only slightly wounded, however after this latest attempt his condition is described as critical.

Police investigating the incident, which happened shortly before 6.30am believe that it is linked to the feud between opposing elements in the IRA. As yet no witnesses to the shooting have come forward.

**Friday 29th May 1970**
**Law and order - Join The UDR says Prime Minister**

The Prime Minister, Major Chichester-Clarke, said last night that some of the people expressing concern about security in the province did not seem prepared to join either the police reserve or the UDR. He called on everyone with the interests of Ulster at heart to join the UDR or police reserve and help protect it.

The Prime Minister hit out at irresponsible people who still claimed that law and order did not exist in certain parts of Belfast. "What do people expect when they use the expression law and order? If it is large numbers of RUC on the beat and on street corners then normality may still be some way off, as we still do not have the numbers in the police force. If law and order meant the investigation of crime, this was being done in all areas."

**Friday 29th May 1970**
**Four injured in Derry Scuffles**

A soldier was detained with head injuries and another soldier and two civilians were treated in hospital after a series of incidents in Derry last night. The first incident that happened occurred in the Pump Street area, Police had to intervene to keep two rival groups of youths apart. Two arrests were made.

Near midnight a party of men from the 5th Light Regiment of the Royal Artillery charged a group of about 20 to 30 youths who were fighting among themselves at Butcher Gate in order to rescue a man who was being beaten up. It was during this incident that the three soldiers were injured.

**Saturday 30th May 1970**
**Funeral attack: Charges likely**

Police are expected to bring charges against a number of people following an incident yesterday afternoon when a Protestant funeral attended by Rev Ian Paisley was stoned by a crowd at Belfast City Cemetery. Flying stones injured two mourners and

PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM

Troops question a group of youths on the Crumlin Road Nationalists wave a tricolour at an Orange parade from Hooker Street

two funeral cars were damaged in the attack. The funeral, of a Pentecostal minister and friend of Mr. Paisley was attacked by youths who threw missiles from the Falls Park, which is separated from the cemetery by a small fence. The undertaker managed to get Mr. Paisley out of the cemetery before further trouble started. The funeral ended in uproar just after Mr. Paisley had given a bible reading and the mourners had sung a psalm.

**Saturday 30th May 1970**
**Gelignite found in Belfast**
Six sticks of Gelignite, a fuse and some detonators were found during one of two army searches in the Donegal Road early today. Men of the 2nd Parachute Regiment and a police detachment found the Gelignite when they searched a derelict house in Dickson Street shortly after 2am. Six hours later men of the Royal Scots sealed off St Katherine Road and Rodney Parade while police helped them search. In the space of three hours, four houses were searched but nothing was found.

**Saturday 30th May 1970**
**Religion not reason for conflict say church leaders**
Four church leaders have joined in a rebuttal of the belief that the divisions in Northern Ireland are primarily of a religious nature. They expressed deep concern at the interpretation that has been put on events in the province, and believed that the true nature of events had been seriously misunderstood. "We have no wish to deny that there are serious and deep divisions in the Northern Ireland community, but we wish to assert that these divisions are not primarily of a religious character," they stated. "They arise from deep and complex causes – history, political and social – but the religious differences between professing Christians are not the primary cause." The joint statement was issued by Dr. John T. Carson, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, Cardinal Conway, the Roman Catholic Primate' the Rev. George E. Good, President of the Methodist Church in Ireland and the Rev. George O. Simms the Primate of all Ireland.

# JUNE 1970

**Monday 1st June 1970**
**10,000 post office robbery**
Police are investigating a 10,000 raid on a Belfast post office. The back door of the office, at Peter's Hill was forced and a safe jimmied open. £1,200 in cash was stolen along with about £9,000 in postal orders, insurance stamps and postage stamps. There has been no immediate indication from the RUC as to whether there is a political significance attached to the raid.

**Monday 1st June 1970**
**Searches are courteous**
Security forces searching for arms and ammunition in Belfast do so with courtesy and with a minimum of inconvenience to house occupants, an Army spokesman said today. He added that very few complaints been received about searches, which, he said, had been conducted in the proper manner.

**Monday 1st June 1970**
**Television crew arrested by Army**
A Dublin television researcher and a Swiss editor who claim they were severely interrogated by the Army in Belfast did not produce their credentials immediately an Army spokesman said today. The Army stopped the pair on Saturday night while they were looking for film material and were taken to the military headquarters in Leopold Street. Audio and tapes and film were examined. The men were questioned about their movements and in the case of one of the men this had to be done with the help of an interpreter. They were released after three hours. An Army spokesman said, "The soldiers who stopped them were carrying out normal security duties, although they may have been a little over anxious."

**Tuesday 2nd June 1970**
**AOH calls off 15th August Parades**
The Ancient Order of Hibernians will not hold any public parade in Northern Ireland on the 15th August, it was confirmed today. The AOH National President, in a statement today said, "We have constantly warned of the dangers of Civil War. There is now a desperate and present danger of a situation developing where Irish will slaughter Irish in bloody guerrilla war, while the British Army holds the ring, so long as it is only Irish blood that is flowing. Some one must take this initiative in an effort to halt this stampede towards civil war. The Ancient Order of Hibernians has held orderly and neighbourly demonstrations on the 15th August for many years in good times and bad. The decision not to hold one this year is a hard one, but someone must take the initiative and we believe the duty rests on us to show the way."

**Tuesday 2nd June 1970**
**No spies in UDR**
Allegations by prospective Unionist candidate Mr. Jim Kilfedder that Army intelligence from the Republic have tried to infiltrate the UDR are groundless, the Army said today. Mr. Kilfedder has no grounds for anxiety in this respect said a spokesman. "Vetting for the regiment is done by specially trained officers and combines both written reports and personal interviews with referees."









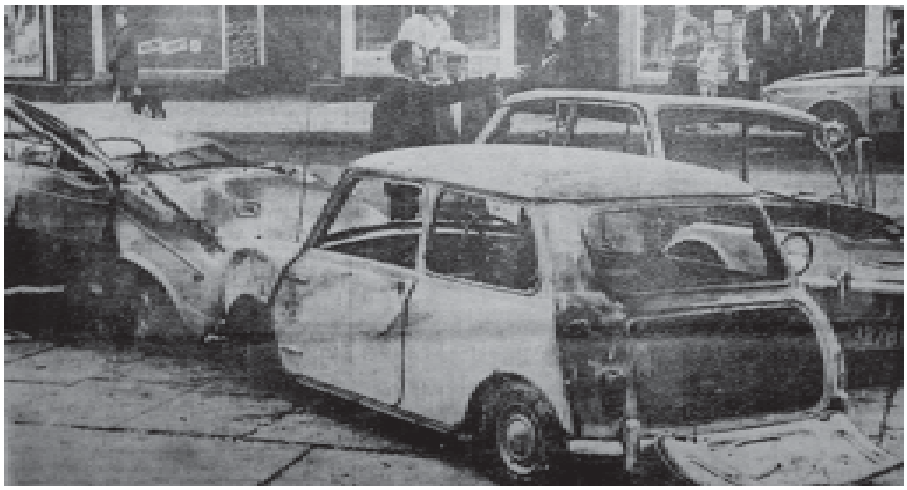
PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM
A boy waits to be evacuated from his home in the Springmartin Estate
Burnt out cars on the Crumlin Road after an Orange parade sparked rioting
Troops move in on a group of youths in the Ballymurphy Estate
C.S. Gas fired at rioters in the Ballymurphy area.

**Tuesday 2nd June 1970**
**Children interrogated by troops**
Further investigations are to be made by the director of Education for Antrim into allegations by Mr. Ian Paisley that school children were interrogated about guns and ammunition. "I have been furnished information independent of Mr. Paisley which merits further investigation," said the Director. Mr. Paisley first raised the matter in the Protestant Telegraph last November. The article appeared again in the pamphlet issued by the Ulster Constitution Defence Committee during the Bannside election. Mr. Paisley said the Director "agreed with me that the facts which he now has in his possession and which he has personally investigated fully substantiate the allegations which I have made."

**Tuesday 2nd June 1970**
**Crack troops come to Ulster**
More than 700 crack troops arrived in Belfast today to begin an emergency tour of duty in the North. They will cover the run up to the General Election and Orange celebrations on the 12th July. The Unit 45th Royal Marine Commando saw service during the emergency in Aden and its presence brings the total number of troops now in Northern Ireland to more than 8,000. The commandoes will be based at Ballykinlar, Co. down, but if trouble breaks out will be called in to support troops already in Belfast.

**Wednesday 3rd June 1970**
**Unionist attacks army riot role**
As 30 Catholic families today moved out of their homes in Chief Street, in the centre of last nights rioting in Belfast, two General Election candidates issued statements critical of the way the Army handled the Trouble.
Official Unionist, Mr. Stratton Mills, standing for North Belfast toured the riot area to collect statements from residents and urged an inquiry into the Army's role. At the same time the Protestant Unionist MP, the Rev. William Beattie, who is also contesting North Belfast, laid the blame on the Army.
The families who moved out of their Chief Street homes are refusing to return and are demanding to be rehoused elsewhere. They are being accommodated in the Holy Cross Boys Primary School where children were given the day off while the families moved in, bringing furniture and personal belongings with them. Chairman of the reconvened Ardoyne Relief Committee said, "Our people definitely won't return to their houses. Many of them moved out last August and they were away from their homes for anything from a few days to six weeks. "We got the people to return then but we can't ask them to go back now. We want them rehoused."
One local clergyman, the Rev. Henry Heatley, who tried to get the rioters under control, said, "many of the people involved were young and came from the lower Shankill district. They were antagonistic towards the police and army because the parade was rerouted at Tenant Street. They expected it to go past Disraeli Street and they took great exception to it being diverted."
Rev Beattie said he did all he could last night to get the Army officers to "have some sense" and allow him to get the crowds under control. "Each time I brought the situation under control the Army roared through the Protestant crowd, scattering them and raising tensions. I saw six soldiers kicking a ten-year-old boy senseless and other atrocities, which I shall be taking up at Stormont."
Mr. Paddy Devlin, MP for the Falls, said today that last night's rioting was another grim warning of what would happen unless a more helpful and sensible response was given to the plea for voluntary acceptance by everybody of limiting marches and demonstrations.
But the disturbances last night will not alter in any way the plans for the twelfth demonstrations, said the Grand Secretary of the Lodge in Belfast. "Suggestions that the Twelfth should be cancelled are ridiculous," he said. "All the parades will be taking place. Our plans have been finalized."





**Wednesday 3rd June 1970**
**CS gas – not cause of boy's death**
Large quantities of CS gas, used by riot troops in early April at Ballymurphy, did not cause the death of a two-year-old boy an inquest in Belfast was told today. The state pathologist said that in his opinion, which is based on the child's medical history and post mortem results, that the child, Francis John McGuigan of Ballymurphy, died of acute adrenal failure and not the exposure to CS gas.

**Wednesday 3rd June 1970**
**Assault on three RUC men**
A 29-year-old Lance Corporal in the 2nd Battalion of the Queens Regiment went berserk when he was arrested. The soldier was stopped in Castle Street and was taken to a local barracks. On arriving there he was being taken out of the Land Rover and went berserk and attacked the policemen. In Court he pleaded guilty to assault and dangerous driving and drunk driving charge and was fined and banned from driving for one year.

PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM
Two exhausted soldiers have a sleep after the rioting on the Crumlin Road.
Burnt out cars on the Crumlin Road.

**Thursday 4th June 1970**
**Hunt for gunman**
The army and RUC are still searching for a gunman who opened fire on a Protestant crowd off the Crumlin Road last night and wounded a civilian. His description is between 5ft 4ins and 5ft 6ins, aged 45 to 50, grey streaky hair, wearing a cap, a dark baggy suit and red tie.
A Corporal grappled with the man and disarmed him after he fired into Bray Street, but he escaped into a crowd in Herbert Street after the officer tore the revolver from his grasp. The man who was shot in the leg is in hospital and his condition is described as comfortable.

**Thursday 4th June 1970**
**Pigeon Society and school bombed**
Two explosions rocked different parts of Belfast during the night. The first, at a partially built school at Monkstown occurred at around 12.30pm caused damaged to the roof of the building. The second bomb, which consisted of 1 lb of uncase explosives, exploded at 2.00am at the premises of the West Belfast Pigeon Society at Bootle Street in the Shankill district. Very little damage was caused and no one was injured.

**Thursday 4th June 1970**
**Fireworks ban to be permanent**
A permanent ban on fireworks is soon to be introduced in the North. It will be introduced under the 1970 explosive act before the summer recess and should be in force by Halloween. A temporary ban on fireworks was introduced last October because of the tense political situation. However, the permanent ban is being implemented in order to prevent the many injuries to children.

**Friday 5th June 1970**
**Prime Minister backs official Unionist Candidates**
The Prime Minister, Major Chichester-Clarke, today gave his backing to all 12 official Unionist candidates in the General Election – without stipulating that they should declare their support for all the policies of his Government. He stepped into the row which has developed over whether or not he is backed by the South Antrim Candidate Mr. James Molyneaux, with a statement saying: "The candidates are democratically selected nominees of their respective associations, each of which is properly representative of Unionist opinion in the constituency."

**Friday 5th June 1970**
**Dublin based campaign for peace**
A wealthy Dublin businessman and member of the national Executive of Fianna Fail, has launched a campaign to try to rally moderate people in the Republic behind the cause of peace in the North.
Mr. Dermot Ryan, chairman of Ryan Tourist Holdings has, since last August, been very active in relief work. The organization, which he set up then, the 'Northern Inter-Denominational Distress Organisation', distributed over £20,000 in cash and goods to families who had lost their homes and belongings in the riots.
Now Mr. Ryan and a number of his friends have formed the 'Voice of Peace Committee', aimed at getting support for the Republic's Premier's policy of peaceful co-operation with the North.

**Friday 5th June 1970**
**Expulsion puts Lynch's future in doubt**
The expulsion of the rebel ex-Minister Mr. Kevin Boland, from the Fianna Fail parliamentary party was being interpreted in political circles in Dublin today as the beginning of the end for the Government of Mr. Jack Lynch.
Opposition Deputies were convinced a general election was imminent but Fianna Fail Deputies were hopeful that the government would remain in power







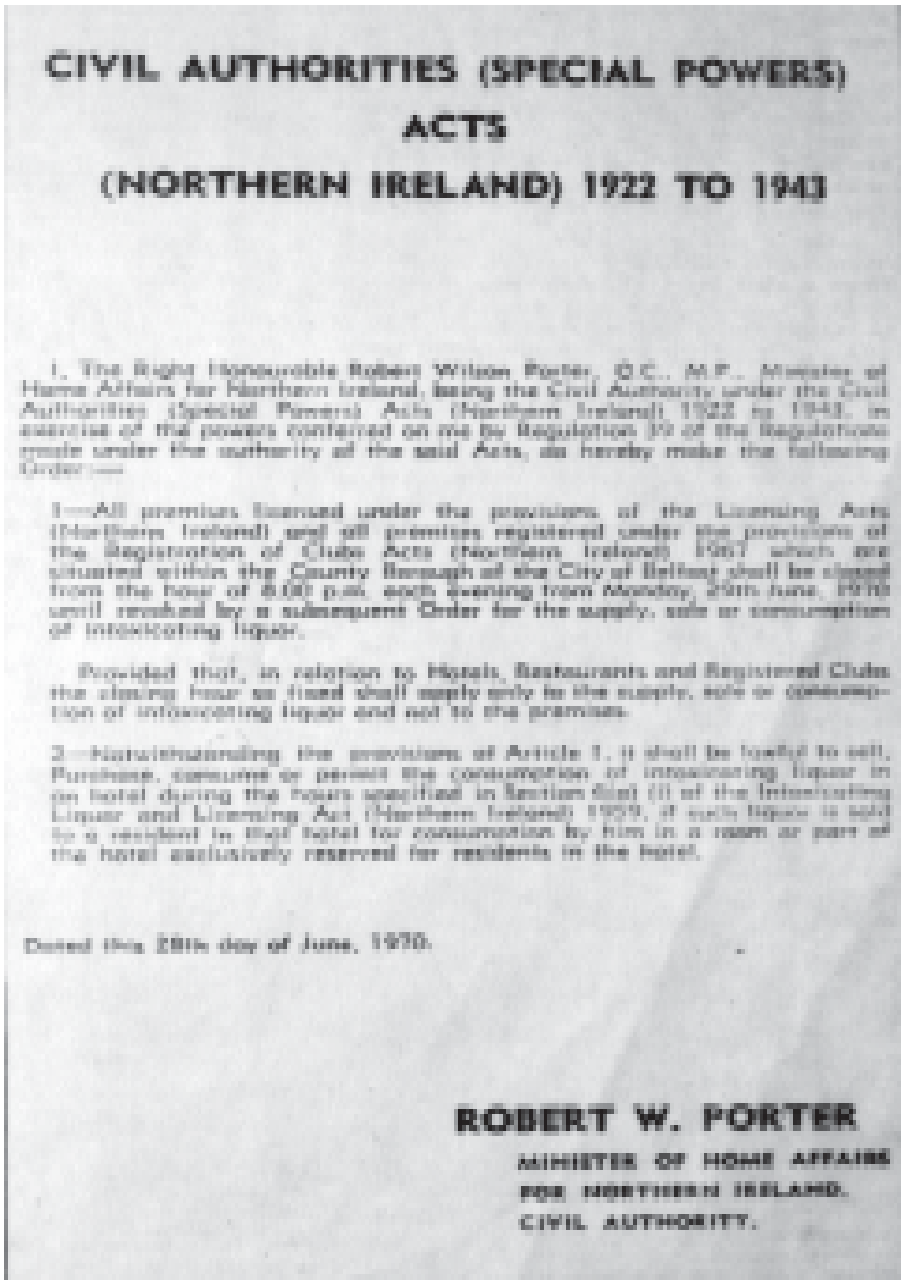



PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM
Riot troops move up the Springfield Road
Troops come under attack in Ballymurphy
Barricade on the Oldpark Road
Burnt out car on the Crumlin Road

until the autumn. The premier did his utmost to hold his crumbling party together at last night's meeting by giving Mr. Boland a second opportunity to withdraw his accusations of felon setting and treachery. But he was only prepared to make a partial retraction and in the end Mr. Lynch was forced to make a head count among his Deputies. This resulted in 60 of the 72 Deputies present voting in favour of Mr. Lynch's proposal to withdraw the whip from Mr. Boland.

**Friday 5th June 1970**
**Club at Unity Flats rejected**
Belfast Corporation Estates Committee yesterday turned down a request from the Army for the use of a vacant shop at Unity Flats for a youth club. The club would have been run by the army for the area's young people. The committee rejected the request without discussion. The deputy chairman of the committee said the reason the request was turned down was that this was a valuable shop property and the only reason it was empty was because of the troubles. "That is the only reason that the Army's request was turned down." This was a valuable shop property and should be leased on behalf of the ratepayers.

**Friday 5th June 1970**
**Boys find Ammunition**
Twenty-eight rounds of live ammunition were found by two boys on a rubbish dump behind a house in Montreal Street, off the Crumlin Road in Belfast. The discovery came an hour after the end of one of the biggest arms searches carried out by the army in the Crumlin Road area.
More that 500 troops, backed up by armoured cars, searched seven houses in four streets for guns and explosives. The door of one house was forced open by the troops when they found the occupant out. Minutes later a joiner was called in to repair the damage.
Among the streets sealed off on the Protestant side of the Crumlin Road were Disraeli Street, Leopold Street and Ohio Street, the scene of clashes between troops and civilians this week. After the search a senior Army officer confirmed that the troops had found nothing. It was about an hour after this that the ammunition was found in the area.



CIVIL AUTHORITIES (SPECIAL POWERS) ACTS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1922 TO 1943

I, The Right Honourable Robert Wilson Porter, Q.C., M.P., Minister of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland, being the Civil Authority under the Civil Authorities (Special Powers) Acts (Northern Ireland) 1922 to 1943, in exercise of the powers conferred on me by Regulation 23 of the Regulations made under the authority of the said Acts, do hereby make the following Order:—

1—All premises licensed under the provisions of the Licensing Acts (Northern Ireland) and all premises registered under the provisions of the Registration of Clubs Acts (Northern Ireland) 1927 which are situated within the County Borough of the City of Belfast shall be closed from the hour of 8.00 p.m. each evening from Monday, 29th June, 1970 until revoked by a subsequent Order for the supply, sale or consumption of intoxicating liquor.

Provided that, in relation to Hotels, Restaurants and Registered Clubs the closing hour as fixed shall apply only to the supply, sale or consumption of intoxicating liquor and not to the premises.

2—Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 1, it shall be lawful to sell, Purchase, consume or permit the consumption of intoxicating liquor in an hotel during the hours specified in Section 6(a) (i) of the Intoxicating Liquor and Licensing Act (Northern Ireland) 1959, if such liquor is sold to a resident in that hotel for consumption by him in a room or part of the hotel exclusively reserved for residents in the hotel.

Dated this 28th day of June, 1970.

ROBERT W. PORTER
MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND.
CIVIL AUTHORITY.

**Monday 8th June 1970**
**Bomb under stairs wrecks home**
Explosive experts investigating the weekend explosion at the home of a Belfast man, who is on remand in Dublin on arms conspiracy charges, believe a bomb was placed under the stairs. The explosion wrecked the interior of the house in Adela Street, near Carlisle Circus. Streets were sealed off after the blast which occurred just after 2am. No one was injured. The house had not been lived in since last August. Up to ten pounds of explosives were used, blowing away part of the stairs, widows were shattered and a large hole was blown in the wall. Neighbours said they heard a car speeding away from the house just before the explosion.

**Thursday11th June 1970**
**UDR man Sacked**
A member of the Ulster Defence Regiment has been discharged from the force after incidents at an election meeting in Fivemiletown last night. The part time soldier, who was in uniform at the time of his arrest, was dismissed after an investigation by the Army today. He and other members of the UDR at Fivemiletown had been given an order an hour earlier not to get involved in any incidents at the meeting. It is understood that the UDR man was discharged because he disobeyed an order, but police are also considering taking action against him. "He has been disciplined by the Army and it is now up to the police to decide what further action, if any, will be taken."

**Friday 12th June 1970**
**'Election Pact' row**
A new storm erupted in Ulster politics today when Rev. Ian Paisley alleged that after talks "at the highest level" he had reached a pact with the Unionist Party, not to put up Protestant Unionist candidates in South Down, Armagh and Derry. Approaches had been made to the Protestant Unionist Party he said, by top men in the Unionist constituency associations, and by the party secretary and other prominent Unionists. Mr. Paisley claimed that the Prime Minister was also aware of this. His allegations made at a Stormont press conference following a statement by the Premier denying any deals with the Paisleyites.

**Friday 12th June 1970**
**Postal votes for the dead**
Postal votes for next Thursday's General Election have been obtained in West Belfast for at least 10 people who are dead, it was claimed today. The allegations made today by Mr. Gerry Fitt, Republican Labour candidate, who lodged a formal complaint with the returning officer. Mr. Fitt said: "The death certificates for these 10 people can be produced. "I expected this to happen " said Mr. Fitt. "It happened in Dock in 1952 and in 1958. It really

is personation before polling day and something will have to be done to stop it."

**Saturday 13th June 1970**
**Arms search on Falls**
Backed by police, men of the Royal Scots swooped on Hugo Street, off the Falls Road early today and searched a number of houses. The street was sealed off to traffic during the search. It began shortly after 8am and ended at 10.30. An Army spokesman said nothing had been found.

**Saturday 13th June 1970**
**Remand for five in rifles case**
Four men and a woman were remanded in custody for a week at Belfast Magistrate's court on charges arising out of a joint Army–police search of an itinerant camp at Ballysillan early yesterday. Each of the men were charged with possession of a .22 air rifle, while the woman was charged with possession of two .22 air rifles. The court was asked to remand the accused in custody.

**Saturday 13th June 1970**
**Cement Lorry bombed**
A lorry, one of a fleet used for transporting cement from Northern Ireland to the Republic was destroyed in a bomb explosion in a yard in Dundrum. Windows were smashed and the blast ripped through the body of the five-ton truck but no one was injured.

**Monday 15th June 1970**
**Minor clashes in Dungiven as 2,000 Orangemen March**
Eight people were arrested, one of them a juvenile and eight police slightly injured during minor clashes in Dungiven yesterday between security forces and local youths as about 2,000 Orangemen marched to a drumhead service on the outskirts of town; two helicopters, one of them carrying the Chief Constable of the RUC circled overhead, while on the ground 600 hundred police and 550 soldiers completely sealed off the predominantly nationalist town for the march organized by Dungiven Orange Lodge. All eight were charged with disorderly behaviour.

**Monday 15th June 1970**
**300 at Wolfe Tone Ceremony**
Twenty bus loads of Republicans from Northern Ireland, mainly from Belfast, Derry and Armagh were among the crowd of 3,000, which attended the Wolfe Tone Commemoration Ceremony at Bodenstown Cemetery yesterday. The ceremony was organized by the Provisional Council of the IRA and the caretaker executive of Sinn Fein, which broke away from the mainstream of the Republican Movement about six months ago. Mr. David O'Connell, secretary of the North West Republican executive, gave the graveside address.

**Monday 15th June 1970**
**Army probed bomb blast**
An Army ammunition expert is investigating the cause of an explosion at unoccupied premises in Duncairn Gardens early this morning. The blast caused a fire in the wooden building, which is used as a joinery shop.

**Tuesday 16th June 1970**
**Grenades found**
Police and Troops searching a derelict house near the Dundrod racing circuit today discovered another arms cache, including a number of 'live' grenades. Eight other grenades, normally used for military training purposes were also found. The weapons were: 18 live anti-personnel grenades, seven other training grenades a third type of grenade, which resembles a mortar bomb.

**Wednesday 17th June 1970**
**City café wrecked by blast**
A four-pound homemade bomb wrecked a city centre café in an explosion early today – the fifth in Belfast since the start of the month. Army explosives experts and forensic scientists are still trying to find clues to the blast, which caused £4,000 worth of damage at Ken's Barbecue just before five o'clock. The explosion hurled debris from the café into the street and windows within 150yards radius were shattered. The £10,000 reward offered by the government for information leading to the conviction of the mystery bombers still stands.

**Wednesday 17th June 1970**
**Copter noise protest – by jury**
A murder trial jury complained today about the noise from a helicopter, which had been flying over the courthouse in Belfast for the last two days. The complaint came from the foreman of the jury, which is hearing a case of capital murder against three men accused of killing Constable Victor Arbuckle. A spokesman at Army headquarters said they had received a complaint and it was being dealt with.

**Thursday 18th June 1970**
**Election day**
More than 1,000,000 people, from 18 years of age upward, have until polls close at ten this evening the





PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM
Burnt out buses in the Ballymurphy Estate

opportunity to make their choice. They have been told from all sides how crucial the election is and a heavy response is expected in the polling booths. This morning, however, voting started slowly.

**Thursday 18th June 1970**
**Unionist election HQ bombed**
Two bomb blasts damaged property in Belfast early today – one of them at the Shankill Road election headquarters of Mr. Brian McRoberts. In the other attack the windows of a private house were shattered. The first explosion took place at 1.20am at the campaign headquarters of West Belfast's official Unionist candidate. A plate glass window in the building was broken. In the other explosion the only damage was shattered windows at the back of a house in Donegal Avenue. The blast happened at about 4am at the rear of the house where the couple live. They are of Catholic-Protestant marriage. An Army spokesman said the explosion was probably caused by a small charge being thrown over the fence at the rear of the house, which is off the Donegal Road. No one was injured.

**Thursday 18th June 1970**
**Re-Route lodges, CRA ask Army**
The North Belfast Branch of the Civil Rights Association has asked the Army to re-route lodges and bands making their way down the Crumlin Road to the assembly point for the parade. In a letter to the Army commander of the Ardoyne area they have requested that the parades be re-routed down Woodvale and Cliftonville Roads. The branch also disclosed that it had over 500 signatures to the covenant for a Bill of Rights in the North Belfast area

**Friday 19th June 1970**
**Falls man hands in gun**
Following an interview between troops and a resident in Balkan Street off the Falls Road, a man went to Springfield Road police station this morning and handed in a shotgun and 109 rounds of ammunition. A spokesman at Army headquarters said, "We obviously cannot release the man's name but he told us he wanted to get rid of the gun and ammunition because of the present situation.

**Saturday 20th June 1970**
**Protest at Aer Lingus**
Six young men occupied the offices of Aer Lingus in Birmingham City Centre today. The men, members of Clann na h-Eireann, which they describe as the political arm of the IRA in Britain, moved in with food, preparing for a long stay. They lashed the door handles with rope.
Outside the offices in Bennetts Hill, a demonstrator handed out leaflets to passers by saying they were protesting at collaboration between the Irish Republic and British police last year when four Irishmen were jailed for offences involving firearms.
An employee working in the firm's reservations office said that two sales girls were locked in with them.
The employee added that the men had put a poster in the window saying "Free Irish Prisoners from British jails."
The employee said that when the men moved in at 10am they let a customer in the office go, and a supervisor who was present was left to police. The men later left the offices with police.

**Saturday 20th June 1970**
**Soldier seriously ill**
A young Scottish soldier is seriously ill at the Royal Victoria Hospital after a shooting accident at an Army company headquarters in Belfast. The soldier, a member of the 1stRoyal Scots Regiment was shot in the throat at about 10.20pm last night when another soldier's gun accidentally discharged. The accident occurred at a Royal Scots company headquarters at Paisley Park and he was immediately rushed to hospital. An Army spokesman said they are carrying out an investigation into the accident.

**Saturday 20th June 1970**
**Gelignite found at Belfast Dam**
Police found a quantity of gelignite at a dam in the Ligoniel area of Belfast last night and a bomb was thrown from a car in the Ormeau Road area. The eight sticks of gelignite, contained in a glass jar, were found by police shortly after 10pm near Ewart's mill. Police said that the gelignite was in a poor condition and was later removed by the army.
In the other incident a bomb was thrown from a light coloured Ford car in the Ormeau Road near Essex Street. It landed on the roadway a short distance from licenced premises but there was no damage and no one was injured

**Saturday 20th June 1970**
**Victory fires - Election celebrations**
After Thursday's General Election there were victory celebrations on the Falls And Shankill Roads by supporters of Mr. Fitt and Mr. Paisley. Thick palls of smoke could be seen rising over Belfast last night when both sides of the peace line celebrated their victories. The celebrations all passed off with out incident. Speaking of her electoral victory in Mid Ulster Miss Bernadette Devlin said, "The majority of the 37,000 who voted for me may not be Socialists, but they have a Socialist Member of Parliament."

**Monday 22nd June 1970**
**Bernadette loses appeal**
Mid Ulster M.P. Miss Bernadette Devlin today lost her appeal in the High Court, against a six months' jail term imposed following riots in Derry's Bogside last August. Her council is now making an appeal to the House of Lords. Miss Devlin was released on continuing bail.

**Tuesday 23rd June 1970**
**Letter bomb blast**
A four-pound bomb pushed through a letterbox at the home of a butcher early today, blew out the front door and shattered windows but no one was hurt. The explosion shook the home in Donegall Park Avenue off Belfast's Antrim Road shortly before 2am. The door was wrecked and the vestibule was badly damaged. Police forensic experts were called in but the RUC said that there did not appear to be an obvious motive.

**Tuesday 23rd June 1970**
**Shooting incident at Carrick Hill**
Police and Army are investigating a reported shooting incident near Unity Flats at Carrick Hill today. Two men, who live in the flats, said several shots were fired at them from a car as they were walking home. But an Army spokesman said, "So far there has been no confirmation that shots were fired. None of our troops in the area have found any evidence."

**Tuesday 23rd June 1970**
**Stone throwing at victory parade.**
A stone was thrown at Andersonstown RUC station as the parade of Mr. Gerry Fitt, MP for West Belfast, was passing. A window was broken, but police said that no one was injured and no arrests were made. In another incident a police vehicle was stoned at the junction of the Whiterock and Springfield Road by a group of youths waiting on the parade. One window in the vehicle was broken but no one was hurt.
Mr. Fitt's parade lasted over four hours and covered a route from Unity Flats to Turf Lodge. His victory, he said, had proved the people of West Belfast totally rejected unionism.

**Tuesday 23rd June 1970**
**CS gas probe team to return**
An independent committee will visit Belfast and Derry, in the near future, to carry out the second part of its investigation into the after effects, if any, of CS gas.
The first part of the report by the committee heard that the gas was not a hazard to health. In the first part of the report the committee said that troops in Northern Ireland would have had no choice but to open fire if they had been refused permission too use gas. They added they did not find any evidence that, even among those most heavily exposed to the gas, was there any incapacitation which would prevent them getting away to a clearer atmosphere.
In the case of people already in ill health before exposure to the gas, the team accepts that it as a possibility that this could lead to an acute asthmatic attack or acute bronchitis, but in neither case was there any evidence that such attacks varied from those attributable to natural causes.

**Tuesday 23rd June 1970**
**Orange lodges back plea on pubs closing**
The County Grand Lodge of Belfast, representing 300 lodges, welcomes the suggestion by the New Ulster Movement that public houses be closed on July 13th, when the "Twelfth" demonstrations will be held.
The Belfast County Grand Master the Rev Martin Smyth said that the Belfast Lodges would not object to the public houses being closed on that day and indeed stressed sobriety in the ranks. A spokesman

for the order said that "Only 20 lodges in the Belfast demonstration had applied for permission to bring up to two bottles of beer per member to the field at Finaghy. Many of the lodges in Northern Ireland are temperance or total abstinence lodges. We have not issued and do not intend to issue stricture or remind brethren of their responsibilities. It is to be found in our laws and constitution."

**Wednesday 24th June 1970**
**Hate-mongers warned**
New anti-hate laws are on the way in Northern Ireland. The Government today gave notice that it intends to strike out firmly at the hate-mongers in the community by presenting a Prevention of Incitement to Hatred Bill in the Commons at Stormont. The details will not be known until publication of the text of the legislation but there will be stiff penalties for those who stir up hatred on religious or other grounds. And the circulation of false statements and reports, which could lead to strife, will be a punishable offence. It is thought this may include publication and broadcasting of mischievous information, which could cause religious clashes in the community.

**Wednesday 24th June 1970**
**Biggest security drive ever under way**
The Ministry of Defence announced that a further 3,000 troops are to be drafted into Northern Ireland to cope with the possibility of trouble over the Twelfth brings the strength of the security forces for the July period to a staggering 17.500.

**Wednesday 24th June 1970**
**Fish and Chip shops to close early**
Fish and Chip shops in Derry, which have been described as "potential trouble spots" by the city's Security Committee, are to close earlier at night. A deputation from the Fish Friers Association have told the development commission that they did 60pc of their trade between midnight and 3am. The majority of their clients were mainly dancers and others out at late night entertainment. But now in the interests of peace it has been decided that cafes should close at 1am from Monday to Friday. Starting next week.

**Thursday 25th June 1970**
**Blast at bookies**
An explosion in an alleyway blew open a door in the premises of a Belfast bookmaker early this morning. The blast occurred about 5am in an alleyway beside the premises of Hugh McAlevey Ltd., off York Road. A door was blown open and some windows shattered. An Army spokesman said that about four ounces of gelignite was probably used. Only slight damaged resulted and no one was injured.

**Friday 26th June 1970**
**Bernadette for Jail**
Miss Bernadette Devlin is going to Armagh Prison to serve the six months sentence imposed for her part in the Bogside riots in Derry last year. The 23-year-old Mid Ulster MP's last legal move failed today when the Court of Appeal turned down her application for leave to appeal to the House of Lords. Miss Devlin later told a press conference at Victoria Police Station in Derry between 7 and 8 tonight.

A warrant for her arrest would then be served and she will probably be taken to Armagh prison later tonight. Her solicitor said, "There is no legal move we can make now. We can only apply for a free pardon." But he didn't indicate that this would be done. Two hours after the Courts decision became known it was announced that a meeting in the Guild Hall Square was being organized to protest about Ms. Devlin's imprisonment. A spokesman for the protestors said the meeting was being organized "by those people who helped Miss Devlin to help organize the defence of the Bogside last August."

**Friday 26th June 1970**
**Orange March goes ahead as planned**
The Orange parade, which takes in some predominantly Roman Catholic areas, is going ahead as planned tonight.
But following an agreement between the police and organizers of the peace line parade by the Orange Order in the city tomorrow, the route has been slightly altered. It became increasingly clear this afternoon that the police will not attempt to re-route the march by LOL 1216 which starts tonight at Snugville Street and goes via Shankill Road, Peter's Hill, Royal Avenue, Donegal Street and Crumlin Road by way of Ardoyne. The officers and members of the lodge have already said they would not accept any re routing the "minor alteration" in tomorrow's march by an estimated 2,500 Orangemen will eliminate part of Cupar Street and a section of the Springfield Road.





PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM
An injured soldier is given first aid during rioting in Derry.
Rioter use wheelbarrows to carry broken paving stones to the front line.

**Friday 26th June 1970**
**MP's fear mini twelfth**

Fears about the possible outcome of Orange parades in Belfast tonight and tomorrow were expressed by opposition MP's at Stormont yesterday Mr. Paddy Devlin, Labour, Falls, said he was fearful of what might happen if the parades were not either re-routed or restricted. There had been a change in climate in some areas where the bands used to go through without incident. This year there was a danger that, with bands playing in a provocative way, the situation could escalate and envelope the whole city.

**Saturday 27th June 1970**
**Fierce rioting in Belfast and Derry**

Fierce rioting returned to the streets of Derry and Belfast last night as Miss Bernadette Devlin, MP for Mid Ulster began her six-month sentence in Armagh Jail. More than 120 soldiers, 24 police and over 50 civilians were hurt in the clashes

Derry was once again a scene of the worst rioting as petrol bombs and other missiles rained down on the troops from behind newly built barricades in the Bogside. The Army said 141 petrol bombs were thrown at the soldiers who replied with a massive tear gas barrage. A total of 478 CS Gas cartridges and 50 grenades were fired in the seven hours of rioting. The trouble started after a 2,000 strong crowd broke up after attending a protest rally in the Bogside against Miss Devlin's sentence, and youth's at the front of the crowd began stoning soldiers behind a barbed wire barrier in Little James Street. Miss Devlin was to have addressed the rally before going to jail but her car was stopped at a road block three miles from the city where police served her with the warrant for her arrest. She was transferred to a police patrol car and driven under escort to Armagh jail. Trouble in Belfast was sparked off as stones were thrown from Kerrera Street off the Crumlin Road while an Orange parade was walking towards Ardoyne.

And in Armagh windows were smashed as rival crowds gathered outside the jail where Miss Devlin was beginning her sentenced.







**Saturday 27th June 1970**
**RUC are silent on Miss Devlin's arrest**

Why was Miss Devlin arrested at Drumahoe, three miles from Derry? An RUC spokesman today would not make any official statement on the matter but said that once the warrant had been issued she could have been arrested anytime. It is thought the decision to arrest Miss Devlin rather than wait until she appeared at Victoria Sq. station in Derry, was to try and avoid trouble outside the station. Miss Devlin was arrested at around 7.30pm and was put in prison at 9.30pm

Mr. Ivan Cooper, MP, says he is convinced that certain information, which passed between himself and Miss Devlin, resulted in her early arrest at Drumahoe. "I am convinced once and for all that phones, particularly my own, are a direct ear from the RUC", he said. He said he met Miss Devlin in Dungiven on her way to Derry and they talked for about three quarters of an hour about the management of her Mid Ulster constituency while she was away.

"We left Dungiven at 7.10pm and accompanied her in the car. There was a lot of police activity on the way in and we could see them using their radios.

"At Drumahoe we saw four police land rovers, about 30 policemen, a police woman and an inspector. They had a white police patrol car with them. The Inspector approached me and asked me to let Miss Devlin out of the vehicle. I refused unless he produced a warrant card. It was produced and I talked the matter over with Miss Devlin. We decided that she should get out."

Mr. Cooper added: "Before leaving the car Miss Devlin told me to go into the Bogside and tell the people it was not the ordinary Protestant who were to blame for this. She then got into a police car and was driven off."

And at the Bogside meeting Mr. McCann told the crowd that before she was taken into custody Miss Devlin released Mr. Cooper from the pledge he gave after her Derry court appearance that he would resign his Stormont seat if she went to jail.

PICTURES - FROM TOP TO BOTTOM
Rioters attack troops and police in Derry.
Burtons store in Belfast's High Street in flames after an incendiary device exploded.
Rioters confront troops in Derry.

**Saturday 27th June 1970**
**Tyrone RUC station stoned**

More than 2,000 took part in a victory rally last night for the newly elected MP for Fermanagh South Tyrone, Mr. Frank McManus

A scuffle broke out and stones and bottles were thrown at the police barracks. A brick was tossed through the window of the living quarters of one of the Inspectors. Earlier a parade through the town was headed by two bands and the tricolour was carried. Several speakers, including Mr. McManus, addressed the meeting in the square after which the crowd marched to the police station where Mr. McManus handed in a protest against the imprisonment of Bernadette Devlin.

**Saturday 27th June 1970**
**Club at Unity Flats**

The Army is being allowed to operate a youth club at a vacant shop in Unity Flats after all.

Originally the Estates and Markets Committee turned down the idea but following talks with the Army this week, the committee, at a special meeting yesterday agreed unanimously to let the club go ahead.

They have also approved a second youth club at the old Brown Square police station.

**Saturday 27th June 1970**
**Mine goes off at transformer**

Newry was rocked by a loud explosion shortly after one o'clock this morning. It was caused by a land mine at a large electricity transformer on the Rathfriland Road just on the outskirts of the town.

It did little damage to the installation but many windows in the area were broken by the blast and included some in the home of the local superintendent of the RUC. The electricity supply was not affected

Police sealed off the area and security measures by the Army and members of Newry C and D companies of the UDR. There was a UDR guard at the time on another transformer at Monk's Hill, less than a mile away.

**Saturday 27th June 1970**
**30 children evacuated**

Children were evacuated from the Crumlin Road area of Belfast last night at the height of clashes between rival mobs on both sides of the road.

About 30 were evacuated from the Flax Street and Crumlin Street after troops fired tear gas to disperse rioters.

The trouble brook out as a parade, organized by LOL 1216 was passing Hooker Street. Stones flew from the Catholic crowds gathered in Kerrera Street after the parade passed the rival crowds battled with each other across the road.

Men of 45 Commando Royal Marines came under heavy attack, and eventually had to use tear gas to disperse the attackers. In the maze of streets off the Crumlin Road, - Chatham Street, Butler Street and Hooker Street – troops again came under attack.
The RUC stopped a Protestant crowd crossing the road from Disraeli Street to enter Hooker Street.
As the parade came up the road the Irish tricolour was flown by a youth from an Army lorry.
Eventually the protestant crowd was contained at Disraeli Street where they sang party songs and then some of them threw bottles and other missiles at police and soldiers. A press photographer was kicked and beaten and had his camera smashed.
About 7000 troops were on duty in the area during the night. Later when trouble broke out in Louisa Street, tear gas was again used to disperse rioters.

**Saturday 27th June 1970**
**Four die in Derry fire**

Four people, two of whom were young children, died in a fire in Derry's Creggan estate early today. They were Mr. Thomas McCool (40) of Dunree Gardens and his two daughters Bernadette (9) and Carol (4) and Mr. Joseph Coyle (aged 40). The two adults and one child were dead on admission to Altnagelvin Hospital the other child died there later.
Forensic experts are investigating the blaze, which caused severe damage to the kitchen and staircase. The fire is believed to have started in the kitchen and involved bomb making.

**Saturday 27th June 1970**
**McAteer Funeral blocks the Falls**

Traffic was blocked for more than half an hour on the Falls Road, Belfast today, as thousands gathered to watch the military style funeral of former IRA Chief of Staff Mr. Hugh McAteer to Milltown Cemetery.
In the parade was a guard of honour of nine former comrades who served political sentences with Mr. McAteer in Belfast Prison, and a contingent of about 300 strong in strict formation, taking orders from a commanding officer. The guard wore black berets and black gloves and were commanded by another officer.
At the graveside, tributes were paid to the one time "pimpernel", who became almost a legend for his prison escape exploits and other activities in the IRA.
A religious service was conducted at the cemetery by Father Hugh McAteer, the son of Mr. Eddie McAteer, president of the Nationalist Party and brother of the former Chief of Staff.
Mr. McAteer and other relatives carried the coffin from the dead man's home in Crocus Street, along the Falls Road to Milltown Cemetery.
Walking in military formation immediately behind relatives in the cortege were members of the IRA Provisional Council, members of the Felon's Club and other former IRA men. A spokesman said there were also present active members of the IRA from the Belfast Brigade and from throughout the North. The last post was sounded as the coffin was lowered into the grave.

**Monday 29th June 1970**
**Six dead and 276 injured in riots**

Six people died in and a total of 276 people were injured during the weekend rioting in Belfast and Derry, it has been officially announced. The figures released by hospitals in the two cities show that 62 civilians – six of whom who have since died – received gunshot wounds. Seven were affected by gas and 1165 received injuries in other ways. On the police side no one was injured by gunshot or gas.
Early today a Roman Catholic man died in the Mater Hospital from injuries received on Saturday night. The man named as Mr. Henry McIlhone, 33-year-old father of six, of Sheriff Street, off Seaforde Street, scene of bitter clashes between civilians and troops. The other five who died were all Protestants shot in East Belfast and Crumlin Road.
One of the widows is expecting a baby.
At least two of them were members of the Orange Order, three were married and he remaining two were bachelors.
Three were shot in East Belfast where gun battles still raged at dawn yesterday, and the remainder on the Crumlin Road near Hooker Street
A seventh man, a member of the Orange Order is reported to be in a "critical condition" after he was shot at the junction of Central Street and Newtownards Road.
The names of the others who died are Mr. Robert Neill (38) who shot at the corner of Central Street and Newtownards Road about 2.am yesterday. He was a single man.
Mr. James McCurrie died after being shot in nearby Beechfield Street. Mr. McCurrie was a member of the Orange Order, was unemployed and had a family of three.
Mr. William Kincaid (aged 28) was shot in Disraeli Street. He was married with two young children aged two and one. He was a member of the Orange Order.
Mr. Daniel Loughins was shot just off Palmer Street. He was aged 32. He had two sons and his wife is expecting their third child.
Mr. Alexander Goulde, an unemployed Protestant, aged 18 was shot in Disraeli Street on Saturday evening.
The old trouble spots of Ballymurphy, Crumlin Road and North Queen Street were once again the battle-grounds of the rioters, but the worst shooting incidents took place in the previously peaceful East Belfast.
In the Newtownards Road area, there was sporadic gunfire from midnight until daybreak.
Earlier in what police called "a pre arranged plan" arson attempts were made on large city centre stores including the High Street Branch of Woolworth's, which was badly damaged on two floors.
Sophisticated battery devices were used to start some of the fires.
The first rioting began on Saturday afternoon when stones were thrown at the junction of Mayo Street and the Springfield Road as the 2,500 strong Orange parade passed.
Almost immediately the missiles were returned and soon both Orangemen and the rival Catholic crowd were locked in a bitter confrontation.
Men were carried away, badly bleeding and eventually troops, who were hard pressed to restore order, fired CS gas. The crowd with the parade panicked and ran shouting and screaming.
A bakery shop at the corner of Elswick Street and a chemist's shop were set on fire. The Protestant crowd grew angry after the gas was used, but troops and military managed to control the rioting.
The atmosphere in the Shankill area was tense after this and extra troops were called in to guard Unity Flats. Then after rival factions gathered on the Crumlin Road at Hooker Street and Disraeli Street, the first shooting began. Snipers fired at each other across the roadway, sending people running for cover. In between were the men of 45 Commando Royal Marines in full riot gear. The snipers stepped out from the street corners and fired over the heads of troops.
There was confusion because no one knew where the next shots came from. The Army returned fire once when shots were fired towards a soldier. As the shooting died down, Saracen armoured cars began searching the area for arms.



PICTURE
A British soldier in full riot gear pictured in Flax Street in the Ardoyne area of Belfast.

BELFAST TELEGRAPH, 29th JUNE 1970

# A personal report from the battlefields of Belfast by Desmond McMullan, Chief Sub Editor, Belfast Telegraph

Shots from automatic rifles and revolvers rang out every minute for at least three hours. Women screamed intermittently. Gunmen lurked in and out of shadows. And all the while in the pitch darkness came war cries like those used by Red Indians in Hollywood films.

That was the Newtownards Road in the early hours of yesterday. In our city of Belfast.

I went there, with three journalists from London newspapers, just after 1am. Earlier in the night we had been to the Shankill Road, where huge mobs, crazed by a vicious combination of drink and hatred, roamed the streets searching for anyone or anything to attack with whatever missile came to hand.

There I saw a group of about 20 drunken juveniles hijack a Corporation bus. As they did so, they were cheered on by flag waving teenage girls. Respectable looking middle-aged and elderly couples looked on with obvious approval.

"They're taking it up to Disraeli Street," a well dressed man said to me. "Are you going with them?"

When I said I wasn't, he replied: "What's wrong with you? Are you afeared?"

Later we saw the bus straddled across the top of Disraeli Street, facing Hooker Street, where in broad daylight Catholics and Protestants had fired shots indiscriminately across the Crumlin Road.

A few yards from there, at the mouth of Chief Street, there was still, at midnight, a pool of blood in which, soldiers said, a man had died from gunshots.

Marine commandos, fearsome in their cool professionalism, had sealed off this area. For half-an-hour I watched them beat off a succession of attacks from a mob in Disraeli Street.

It was a kind of ritual: The mob, flaunting Union Jacks and hurling a torrent of stones, were allowed to advance to within 30 yards of the silent gas-masked troops.

Then an armoured car flashed on its searchlight, gas was fired and a snatch squad dashed into the retreating mob. At least two rioters were captured in each of these battles.

The prisoners, who before capture had been shouting "English bastards" and "Fenian lovers," were remarkably quiet as the troops hurdled them away into trucks. Even taunts of "Up the Republic" from otherwise silent (at this stage) Hooker Street had no obvious effect on them.

Further down the Crumlin Road a car raced towards the troops cordon, and turned right into a side street as one of its occupants shouted: "Go home English ******."

I asked a young marine how he felt about the abuse from both sides. He laughed and said: "I didn't think much about religion before I came here. But now I'm a confirmed atheist."

We were heading off to Ballymurphy, where we heard the Catholics were going mad, too, when a report reached us that there was a gun battle in Seaforde Street, Newtownards Road.

When we arrived at Bridge End, we found that troops had set up a sort of HQ on waste ground. And the reports had proved correct.

If what we had seen earlier was a living nightmare, then this was hell itself. Army riflemen, crouching behind a gable wall, told us that there was, indeed, a gun battle going on and in five minutes we heard at least 100 shots. The troops said they thought there were snipers in St Matthew's Roman Catholic Church.

Armoured cars were waiting to rush into the area when the situation became clear.

"Lets go and see for ourselves," said one of my companions, Alex Lindsay, of the Sunday Express. "You're married and I'm not, so I'll go first." I didn't argue.

We crept up the right hand side of Newtownards Road from doorway to doorway, Alex leading.

From further up we could hear the Indian war cries and women's screams. But at first, in the utter darkness, we could see nothing.

At the junction of Seaforde Street I saw two men crawling on their hands and knees towards the main road. Two shots hit a window behind me and I heard a shout of "Who are you?"

I ran across the opening into the street and hid in a doorway.

The shooting and the war cries increased. I saw two men running down the Newtownards Road towards us. Calling to Alex to follow me, I ran back towards Bridge End and the protection of the troops. As I did so, a shot whined off the pavement behind me and then one of the two men fell, screaming with pain.

One of the soldiers at the gable wall was about to open fire when he saw the man fall. Instead he dropped his gun and, covered by another rifleman, he ran out to help the wounded man to safety.

The shot man's companion wasn't exactly grateful. Shouting "Where have you bastards been," he battered the rescuing soldier with his fists and had to be restrained by other troops.

The wounded man, blood oozing from his leg, was given first aid at the makeshift HQ and sent to hospital by ambulance.

Ten minutes later, the armoured cars roared up the Newtownards Road and the shooting gradually died down.

That was Belfast on a warm, wet, Sunday morning in June. It's a memory that will haunt me forever.

The injured were taken to hospital in a fleet of ambulances, as troops struggled to gain control of a situation, which was completely chaotic. It was in this period of shooting that three men received fatal wounds. At the same time the first arson arrack sent eight fire engines racing to High Street where a passer-by had spotted smoke coming from the upper floors of the Woolworth building.
The fire started by a battery operated incendiary device, caused extensive damage to the first and second floors. Damage is expected to run into thousands of pounds.
Almost simultaneously, incendiary devices were found in Robb's' in Sinclair's of Royal Avenue and the Spinning Mill. A petrol bomb was thrown at the Co-op building in York Street. Firemen were on full alert in the city. As it grew dark, more buildings caught fire. A fire at Rank's Mill in Northern Road in Duncrue Street kept them busy until dawn yesterday.

For the rest of the night, East Belfast, the Shankill, and Ballymurphy continued to be the main trouble spots. But there was shooting in the North Queen Street/Duncairn Gardens area and a number of public houses and other businesses were attacked. Bars near York Road railway station were also set on fire.
Violence erupted about midnight when mobs charged towards the "peace line" near Mayo Street. Petrol Bombs set a factory on fire and CS gas had to be used by troops on a 500 strong crowd at March Street. Other buildings were set on fire.
Tennent Street RUC Station, which houses both police and troops, was besieged by a mob who set fire to an off-licence and a tyre firm. The Army opened fire on snipers in the street. Eventually the mobs were cleared.
Yesterday morning at Ballymurphy people walked to church past the burnt out hulks of buses, lorries and shops.

A constant barrage of CS gas failed to deter the crowd of 400 youths who stormed the Alverno Hotel on the Springfield Road during the nights clashes. The hotel, where two wedding receptions would have been held today, was completely ransacked. Corporation buses were commandeered, set on fire and used as barricades.
The rioters set fire to a large furniture lorry and tried to ram Army lines but it ran out of control and crashed into the roadside.
An excavator was also used to attack troops, who scattered and watched as it crashed through the rear wall of Whiterock Road Post Office. Two people asleep in an upstairs room escaped unhurt.
The rioters unleashed a hail of missiles and petrol bombs. Earlier they attacked the army post at Springfield Road Presbyterian Church and took two vehicles.
The soldiers inside the church hall, the 2nd Battalion Queens Regiment charged the mob, driving them back up the road, as the air filled with tear gas and flying missiles.

The crowd seemed to go mad as they retreated, wrecking cars and shops. They set fire to a lorry and burned its load of hay in the roadway to stop the advance of troops.
Still the CS gas poured out from the Army ranks. By morning the total amount of gas used in the city from mid-day on Saturday was the biggest ever total of 264 grenades and 1,331 cartridges.
The situation got so desperate that the Army opened fire with machine guns on armoured cars over the heads of the mob.
The recently opened RUC post at New Barnsley was wrecked.
Firemen, some of whom were shot at, could not reach many of the fires that were reported in the city.
The heaviest shooting came from St. Matthews R.C. Church and also in the Seaford Street area. It was impossible to get a clear picture of what was happening.
Belfast woke to grey skies and the aftermath of one of the most troubled nights in the city's history. It had been to the brink of disaster and only just staggered back.

**Monday 29th June 1970**
**Anti sectarian Holiday Camp**
Despite the present troubles a summer camp for more than 90 boys from the Shankill and Falls areas is to go ahead today as planned.
The boys aged 14 – 15, will go to a one-week camp at Castlerock, County Derry. Youth leaders think that once the boys get out of their own environment they will settle down together.
The camp was planned to make an important contribution towards improved community relations in Ulster. The camp was organized by the Presbyterian Youth Secretary, who was assisted by Roman Catholic and Protestant clergymen as well as youth leaders. The Government and Army authorities are helping with the camp. The Ministry of Education has provided a full time youth leader and the Army are providing tents, cooking utensils and a youth team to organize various projects for the boys.





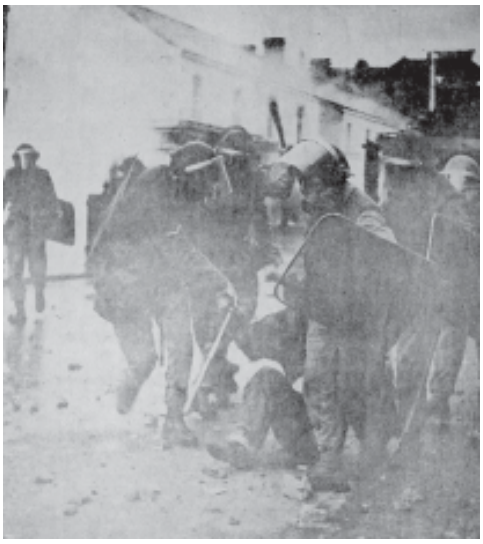
PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM
Troops move in to close off Derry's William Street after a night of rioting.
Troops charge down Chief Street off the Crumlin Road in pursuit of rioters.

**Monday 29th June 1970**
**Arms found by Army**
Army headquarters reported today that they seized three guns and a quantity of ammunition in a Dungannon house during a series of arms raids in the district over the weekend
Throughout the weekend patrols have been mounting raids on houses in the area and this morning they were combing the Coalisland district. The arms seized were a .303 rifle, a .45 revolver, a browning automatic pistol and 38 rounds of ammunition. A man is due to appear in court later today.

**Monday 29th June 1970**
**Trouble spreads to shipyard**
Trouble spread to the Belfast shipyard today when all Roman Catholics, estimated to number about 500, were forced by a group of Protestants to leave their work.
The Roman Catholics, who make up only a small section of the total force began to leave immediately and claimed that they were told that those there after lunchtime would be shot.
There were no reports of violence against those leaving at once and it was understood from those who left that the entire Roman Catholic body of workers were abandoning their jobs under the threat, but this could not be confirmed.

A management spokesman confirmed that a group of Protestants had told Catholics to go home – "how they put it to them I don't know" he said. The Harland and Wolff spokesman said a shipyard director had a meeting with the Protestant group that had issued the warnings. "He received an assurance that it is their intention that there should be no violence in the yard. The managements attitude is that Catholics will have to look at their position, on whether to leave work, in the light of the circumstances." Said the spokesman.

One Catholic described what happened this morning. He said there was no trouble until the 10.30 tea break when a group of Protestants, mainly stagers, went to the new dry dock and told the Catholics to get out of the yard. Then the group, about 200 – 300 strong went to a bulk carrier, Sydney Bridge and the ESSO tanker Ulidia, fitting out at present and gave the same order. The worker, who did not wish to be identified, said management provided transport for some men and he saw about 40 others leave the area. Apart from Roman Catholic workers being advised to go home, work is continuing as normal in the yard.





**Monday 29th June 1970**
**Gunmen to be shot on sight**
A warning went out from General Sir Ian Freeland yesterday that anyone seen carrying firearms or using them in any way was liable to be shot without warning.

And the Security Committee issued a statement emphasizing that Sir Ian expected the people of Belfast to conform strictly to all instructions issued. "They should not make any unnecessary journeys by car or on foot and details of restrictions on the movement of persons and vehicle in certain areas will be issued later," it said pointing out that routes into the city will be under tight control until further notice.

The Ulster Defence Regiment is helping the Army and RUC to carry out protective measures, including the guarding of key points. And the carrying out of extensive patrols in Border areas



**Monday 29th June 1970**
**Troops hit by shots from Car**
Two soldiers were wounded by gunfire on the Springfield early today, only a few hours after troops had again used tear gas to quell violence in East Belfast and Ballymurphy.
During the night an oil warehouse, owned by Munster Simms, in Great Georges Street, off York Street was damaged by a fire after an explosion
And earlier windows in Andersonstown were smashed by a crowd who had besieged the building for almost half an hour.
Yesterday's trouble started when troops were twice showered with stones and bottles by crowds in Ballymurphy. CS gas was fired to disperse the crowd and the area was sealed off.
Then, at about 9 pm, crowds assembled on the Newtownards Road and threw stones and bottles at troops who were guarding St. Matthews Roman Catholic Church. There had been reports of a sniper in its tower the night before
The crowd grew to about 1,000 and CS gas was fired several times as they attacked the troops with bottles and stones.
Soldiers sealed off the city side of the Newtownards Road and drawn three Army one-ton personnel carriers across it.
Each time the crowd moved in, throwing the missiles, the troops fired gas and one man was arrested in a follow up snatch.
Lipton's supermarket, off the Newtownards Road, was set on fire and an army personnel carrier had to escort a fire engine to deal with the blaze.
At Andersonstown police barracks the crowd managed to break down the main door. Eventually they commandeered a bus and drove off down the Falls Road, but not before several police cars were damaged. By 11pm all was reported quiet at Ballymurphy. An estimated crowd of 3,000 was reported to be on the march up the Shankill in the direction of Tennent Street and there were reports of missiles being thrown
Two soldiers were wounded at about 2am on the Springfield Road. Six shots were believed to have been fired from a passing car. The soldiers of the 3rd Queens Regiment were not seriously injured.
A shot was also fired at a group of people in the New Lodge Road but there were no casualties. An Army spokesman said the shot was understood to have come from a car.

**Monday 29th June 1970**
**Orange Lodge's Gaelic banner**
An Orange banner will make history when it has its first airing at the Belfast parade on the 13th July. Inscribed in Gaelic, it is painted with Celtic crosses and the emblems of the four provinces of Ireland.

PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM
An army snatch squad captures a rioter on the Newtownards Road.
Close combat between troops and rioters in William Street, Derry.
An army snatch squad captures two rioters in Ballymurphy after CS gas is fired.

The banner, which belongs to LOL 1303, "Ireland's Heritage", was unfurled and dedicated at the Presbyterian hostel on Saturday night.

The centrepiece is a harp surmounted by a crown. Above the crown is a Tara brooch and on the reverse side is the map of Ireland with the text: "Occupy till I come".

The lodge was formerly called St. Mary's Churchmen's Fellowship" and was changed to "Ireland's Heritage" last December with the permission of the Grand Lodge of Ireland. There are no Gaelic speakers in the lodge but its chaplain, Mr. William McGrath, said today "Our object is the reclaiming of our Irish heritage. This is a teaching lodge. We are very proud to be Irish and we want to bring a strong Irish element into the lodge." The lodge, which meets at Clifton Street Orange Hall, has members from all parts of Belfast.

**Tuesday 30th June 1970**
**Sniper claim is denied**

The Central Citizen's Defence Committee, in a statement today, denied that a sniper had fired from the belfry of St. Matthews Roman Catholic Church during the Saturday night gun battles in the Newtownards Road. But an army spokesman could not confirm that troops have established this was the case.

**Tuesday 30th June 1970**
**Belfast quiet**

Belfast was comparatively quiet last night with only three premises on fire and a few minor incidents. Two cartridges of CS gas were used.

At Ballymurphy, housewives tired of CS gas seeping into their homes as a result of rioting, chased a crowd of youths from the top of the estate. The group of about 100 youths made their way to the bottom end and attacked men of the 3rd Battalion of the Queen's Regiment with stones and bottles. They were warned about their behaviour and then two cartridges of CS gas were fired and the youths dispersed. Then another 40 housewives formed a barrier across the road to prevent any further incident. Youngsters smashed windows in the back of the Ballymurphy clinic but the groups gradually broke up and returned home. The "peace keeping" force of women, who often provided the soldiers with cups of tea, had refreshments provided by the army on this occasion.

On the Newtownards Road rotten cabbages were thrown at troops guarding St Matthew's Roman Catholic Church. Soldiers in the area were jeered by small groups of youths and one or two bottles were thrown. Four teenagers who sat on the roadway were quickly forced to move out of the way by Army vehicles. About 50 people who tried to storm a wine store in Templemore Street were driven back by police and troops. A heavy concentration of troops in the area was reduced as the night progressed and the army later handed over security to the RUC. Small crowds were still on the street at 1am. A report of shooting was found to be only fireworks.

The fire brigade was called to attend a small shop on the Newtownards Road which was badly damaged by fire and also an overturned car at the mouth of Lord Street, off the Albert Bridge Road, which had been set on fire.

Elsewhere in the city the brigade was kept busy with a derelict building in Henry Street, off York Street, gutted early in the evening. Four jets and a turntable ladder were used to tackle the blaze at the premises, which were formerly used by J.P. Corry and Co., timber merchants.

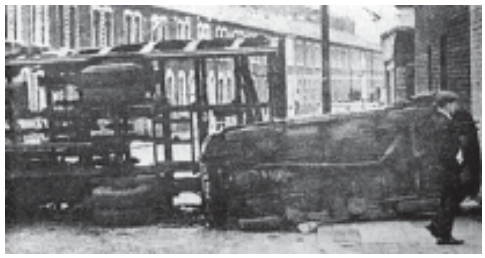
On York Street itself Piddington's Cycle Shop was slightly damaged by fire. Forensic experts were called to both outbreaks.

About 400 Belfast Corporation buses from the Falls, Ardoyne, Short Strand, and Mountpottinger depots were taken to Sydenham airfield for safety reasons because of recent hi-jackings.

Public houses were all closed at 8pm and traffic and people entering Ardoyne, Ballymacarrett and Ballymurphy were subject to stringent security checks. There was a checkpoint on the Queen's Bridge and soldiers searched many vehicles.

An Orange parade from Upper Merview Gardens in the Duncairn Gardens area to Grove swimming pool on York Road passed off peacefully.









PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM

Rioting in Derry's William Street.

Barricade across Ballarat Street.

Burned out shops on Seaforde Street.

Soldiers of the Light Air Defence Regiment guarding St Matthew's Church, Newtownards Road.







In Newtownabbey a petrol bomb was thrown at the Stella Maris Secondary School in Mill Road shortly after midnight. A window was smashed and flames scorched curtains and windows and cupboards. While a large force of troops stood by out of sight in Waterloo Place, stewards of the newly organized Bogside Peace Corps remonstrated with a crowd of youths who gathered in the Bogside area of Derry last night. They did not meet with immediate success but about 50 stewards continued talking to the youths in William Street who at one stage numbered 200. A couple of stones were thrown but the stewards gradually began to get the crowd broken up and by 1am the street was cleared without further incident.

**Tuesday 30th June 1970**
**Sword halts arms search**

Troops had to abandon an arms search at a house in the Shankill Road this morning after a 23 year old man, waving an Orange Order ceremonial sword, refused to allow them in. The incident occurred in Brussels Street, where the man, who is a lodger in the house, demanded a search warrant from soldiers and when it was refused he produced a sword and said they "would get that" if they came in. A large crowd gathered outside the house after the troops had been refused admission and an Army spokesman confirmed that troops did move out of the area in an effort to get the troops to disperse. The man said that "there are no guns in this house and I have never shot a gun in my life. It was a protest that the troops weren't searching the proper areas, like chapels and Seaforde Street". An Army spokesman said that troops did not require a warrant to search for arms as this was done under the Special Powers Act."

**Tuesday 30th June 1970**
**500 sign 'confessions'**

Nearly 500 signed "confessions" by persons claiming to have committed the same offence as Bernadette Devlin were collected in Newry on Saturday last according to an official of the local Civil Rights Association. They are to be forwarded to the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. Porter. Newry CRA chairman has proposed that prominent leaders and people who were active in last August's riots should by mutual agreement swear information against each other before magistrates in which event the law must inexorably take its course. The response in Newry indicates that a vast number of citizens wish to be identified with Bernadette's suffering.

**Tuesday 30th June 1970**
**Re -arm the RUC say Orange Leaders**

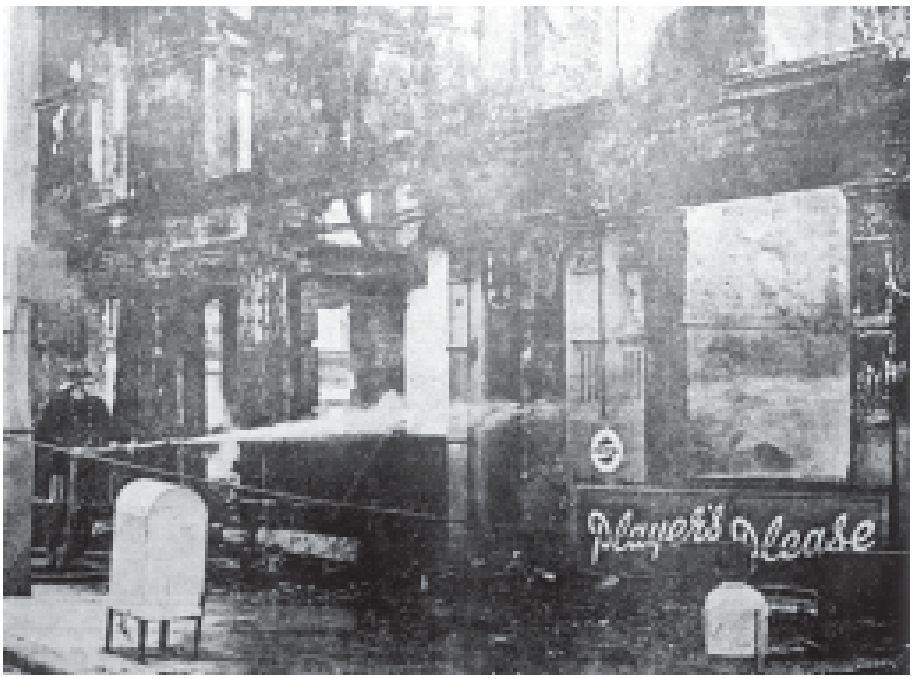
Orange leaders in Belfast demanded yesterday that the RUC be re-armed, and directed that private lodge parades between now and the Twelfth should be cancelled. A statement issued said, "While in no way accepting that Orange parades are provocative the officers of the County Grand Lodge of Belfast in consultation with district representatives direct that private lodge parades, except church services, be cancelled until the 13th July.
"We demand action in the suppression of subversive forces and the immediate re-arming of the RUC to perform their duties."

**Tuesday 30th June 1970**
**Donegal explosion – 3 badly injured**

Gardai in Stranorlar Co. Donegal were today investigating an explosion which two young men had hands blown off, another suffered eye injuries and the fourth is recovering from shock, after explosives they were packing into copper tubes blew up.
The four men were on the premises of Tool and Precision Engineering, Stranorlar, after working hours yesterday when the explosion occurred. They are in the County Hospital, Letterkenny, where they are said to be progressing satisfactorily. The explosion occurred shortly after 5.30 yesterday when the main body of workers at the firm had left.

**Tuesday 30th June 1970**
**More troops arrive**

More of Ulster's extra troops arrived by sea and air today, but the massive moving operation is not expected to finish until tomorrow. Men of the 1st Battalion of the Devon and Dorset Regiment flew into Aldergrove from Malta. A company of the 1st battalion of the Duke of Edinburgh's Regiment arrived by ferry from Yorkshire. A troop transport vessel, the Geraint, brought men of the 2nd Battalion, Scots Guards and an Army aviation unit. Also arriving today were men of the Green Howards from Germany. Sea ferries will bring in men of the 1st Black Watch, the 1st Battalion The Glousters and some other support troops tomorrow.




PICTURES - TOP TO BOTTOM
Burnt out shops on the Newtownards Road after a week end of disturbances.
Burnt out pub on the Newtownards Road.
Burnt out remains of the sexton's house of St Matthew's, Newtownards Road.
Burnt out pub on the Albertbridge Road.


BUSINESS
AS USUAL

# THOSE WHO DIED

**RICHARD FALLON**
**AGED 43**
**3 April 1970**
Shot dead during an armed bank raid in Dublin carried out by a left wing Republican group.

**THOMAS McCOOL**
**AGED 40**
**26th June 1970**
Thomas McCool was an IRA member who died when a bomb exploded at his home in the Creggan Estate, Derry. He had been making petrol bombs with two other IRA members, Thomas Carlin and Joseph Coyle when they went off prematurely. Also killed were Mr McCool's two young children, who died when fire swept through the house.

**CAROL McCOOL**
**AGED 4**
**26th June 1970**
As above

**BERNADETTE McCOOL**
**AGED 9**
**26th June 1970**
As above



*Alexander Gould*

**ALEXANDER GOULD**
**AGED 18**
**27th June 1970**
One of three people shot dead by Republicans on the Crumlin Road after an Orange parade

**WILLIAM KINCAIRD**
**AGED 28**
**27th June 1970**
As above



*William Kincaird*

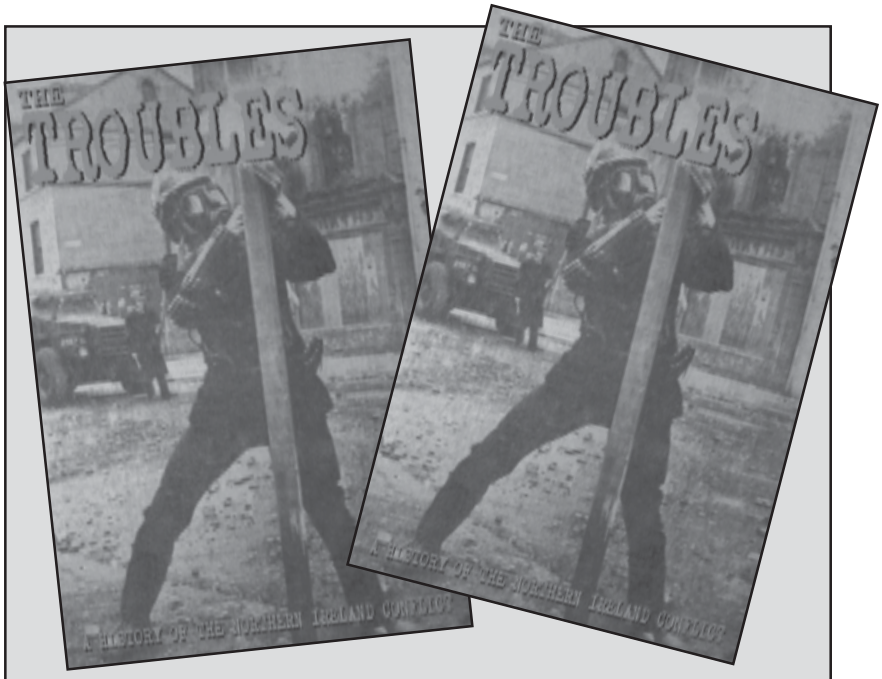
**DANIEL LOUGHLINS**
**AGED 32**
**27th June 1970**
As above

**ROBERT NEILL**
**AGED 38**
**27th June 1970**
Shot dead by the IRA during a heavy gun battle on the lower Newtownards Road.

**ROBERT McCURRIE**
**AGED 34**
**27th June 1970**
As above

**JOSEPH COYLE**
**AGED 40**
**27th June 1970**
One of the IRA men injured after making petrol bombs in the home of Thomas McCool the previous day. A third, Thomas Carlin, was to die on the 7th of July.

**HENRY McILHONE**
**AGED 32**
**29th June 1970**
Shot and injured during the gun battles on the lower Newtownards Road. He was assisting members of the IRA who were defending St Matthew's Roman Catholic Church from Loyalist attack and is the only non IRA member to appear on their Roll of Honour.

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## NEWSPAPERS

**BELFAST NEWSLETTER**
*Various issues for period covered*

**BELFAST TELEGRAPH**
*Various issues for period covered*

**IRISH INDEPENDENT**
*Various issues for period covered*

**IRISH NEWS**
*Various issues for period covered*

**IRISH PRESS**
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## INTERNET RESOURCES

**CAIN WEB SERVICE**
http://cain.ulst.ac.uk

**BBC ONLINE**
www.bbc.co.uk

**RTÉ ONLINE**
www.rte.ie

**ITN ONLINE**
www.itn.co.uk

**A STATE APART**
BBC Northern Ireland (CD Rom)

## PUBLICATIONS

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*David McKitterick, Seamus Kelters, Brian Feeney & Chris Thornton*

**BEFORE THE DAWN**
*Gerry Adams*

**THE SECRET ARMY**
*J. Bowyer Bell*

**THE PROVISIONAL IRA**
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*Anthony McIntyre*

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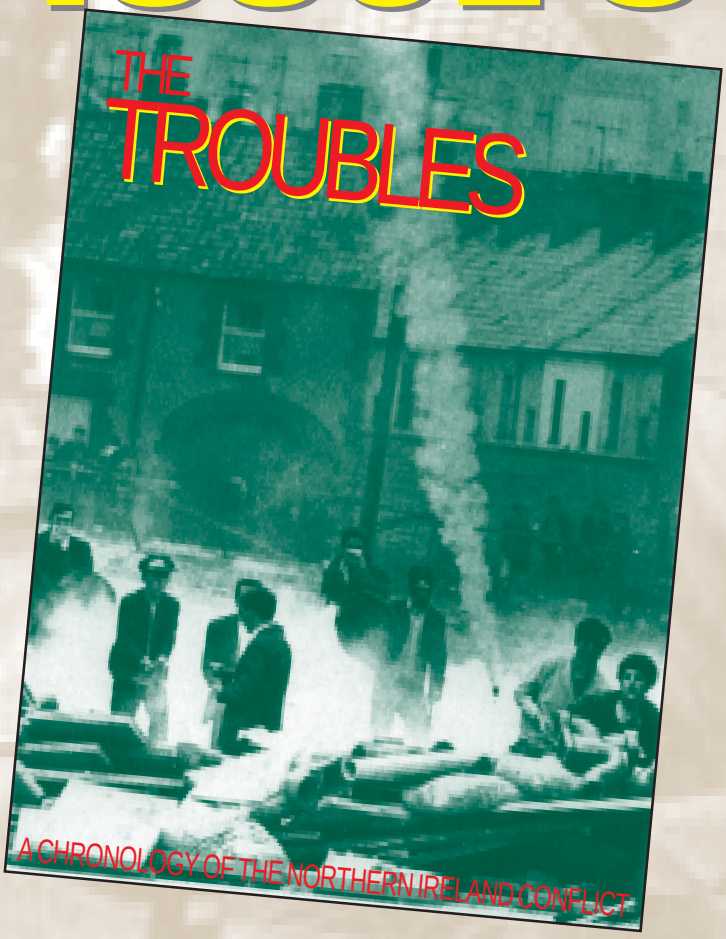
# ISSUE 3




**July 1970 - December 1970**

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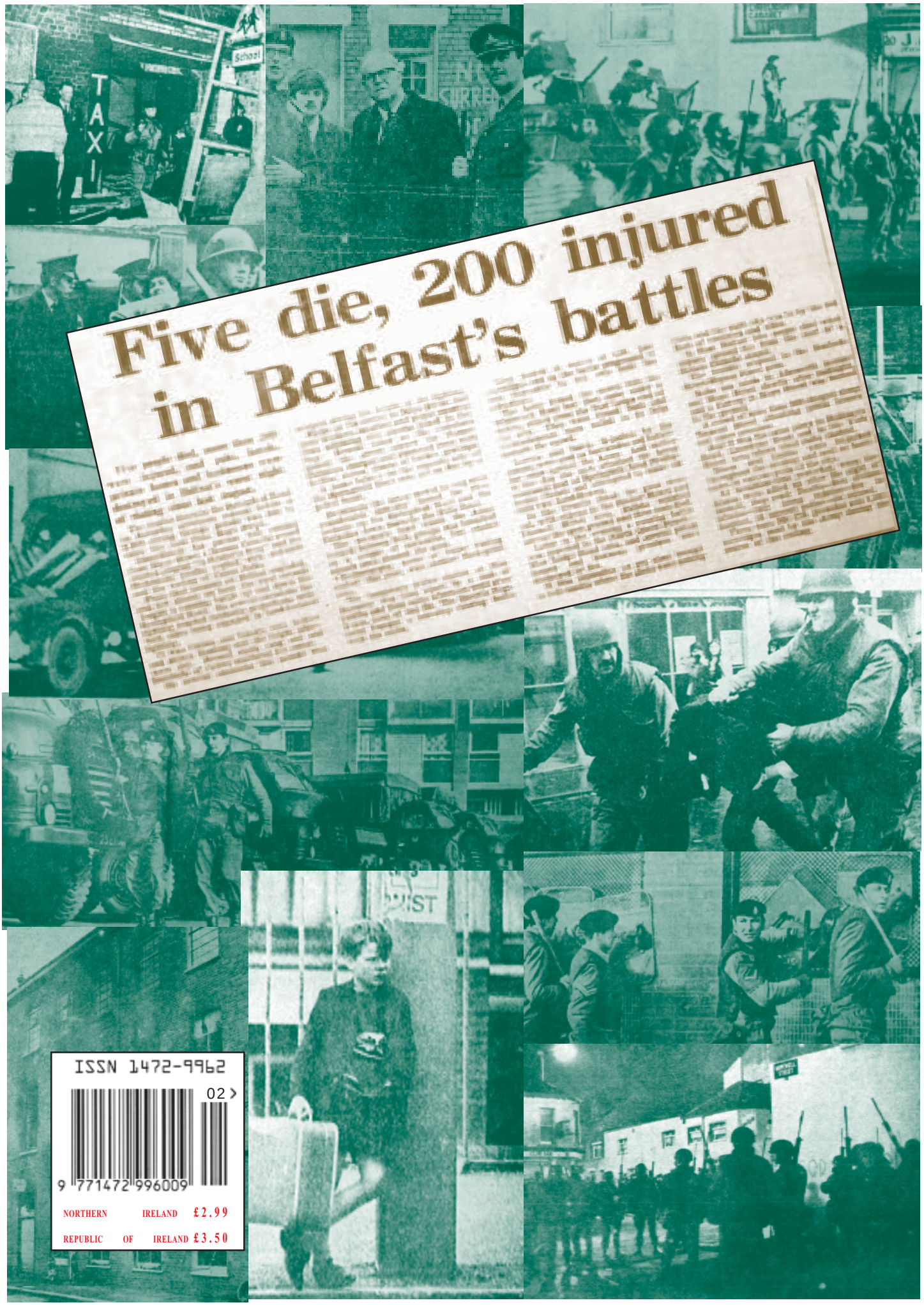


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