

AN PHOBLACHT Republican News

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING
POLITICAL WEEKLY



Sraith Nua lmi 10 Uimhir 35 1 Mean Fomhar Thursday 1st September 1988 (Britain 35p) Price 30p

SHOT ON SIGHT

SAS KILLS THREE VOLUNTEERS

THREE YOUNG MEN in the front line of the struggle for a free and peaceful Ireland paid the ultimate price for their dedication to their people when they were mown down by an SAS death squad. IRA Volunteers Brian Mullin, and Martin and Gerard Harte died near their own homes in what was a carefully-laid ambush.

The gunfire had hardly ceased in Tyrone on Tuesday when unionist politicians were crowing over the deaths of the Volunteers and calling for more of the same. From other quarters, including the SDLP and the Dublin government, polite questions were raised about the circumstances of the deaths, but there was none of the moralistic and generalised condemnations of violence which follow IRA operations.

From the British government itself — the government which ordered the killings — there was a studied silence. It was a silence shared by the faceless foreign gunmen it sent into County Tyrone to remove three more young Irish people whom it considered a threat to its rule in this country.

By such actions in its overt and covert war in the

Six Counties, the British establishment hopes to shock and terrorise the nationalist people into submission. It knows it can never defeat the republican soldiers of Oglagh na hEireann. But it does believe that it can contain their resistance and that of the people whose army the IRA is. By so doing the British condemn the people of the Six Count-

ies to further years of war and death.

The circumstances surrounding the shooting of the Volunteers at Drumnakilly in County Tyrone are still not clear and the full truth will probably never come to light. The IRA in Mid-Ulster saluted its fallen comrades, saying:

"Brian Mullin, Gerard Harte and Martin Harte were Volunteers of the Irish Republican Army. They were killed on active service. We salute their courage and extend deepest condolences to their families."

FEW WITNESSES

There were few witnesses to the events on the Long Bog Road at Drumnakilly, four miles outside Omagh. They told how they heard bursts of heavy gunfire minutes before they saw four or five men dressed in jeans jump on board a helicopter. It had landed in a field close to the scene very soon after the shots were heard. Uniformed RUC and British army units also

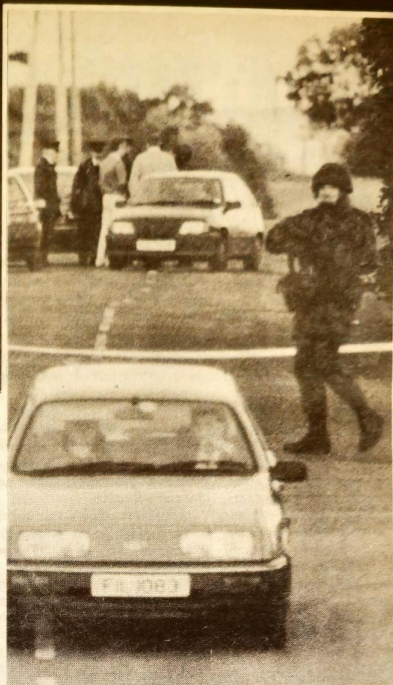
arrived just as the shooting ended.

The three Volunteers were travelling in a commandeered white Ford Sierra and were thought to be carrying a number of weapons. They were driving along the main Omagh to Carrickmore road at 4pm when they were ambushed by the SAS. A hail of bullets tore into the rear offside of the vehicle, instantly killing all three men. The entire area around the shooting was immediately sealed off and the bodies were left at the scene until well into Wednesday afternoon.

One of the first people to get access to the scene of the shooting was a local priest. He was obviously badly shaken by what he saw and commented to waiting news reporters: "There would appear to be a considerable number of bullet holes in the car... It was quite horrific."

THERE IS ANOTHER WAY

Reacting to the shootings,



Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams demanded that the British reveal full details of how the men were killed and said:

"There is another way out of this war and it is the way of negotiation and dialogue towards peace. But Mrs Thatcher refuses to talk. Yesterday, not for the first time, we saw the way that the debate is to be conducted."

COMMITTED

As dedicated IRA Volunteers, Brian Mullin and Gerard and Martin Harte were committed to the fight to force Britain to the negotiating table. 46 years ago this week, IRA Volunteer Tom Williams, in his last message to his comrades before he faced a British hangman, urged them to carry on no matter what the odds. The Volunteers of today have shown by their courage and sacrifice that the vision of Williams and countless other people will be realised in our day.

"The road to freedom is paved with suffering, hardships and torture. Carry on my gallant and brave comrades until that certain day."

WAR NEWS

200 ATTACKS IN 24 HOURS

SUSTAINED and hard-hitting attacks against the crown forces have left a number of British casualties this week. Republicans were once again faced with the terrible reality of the cost of British occupation when three Volunteers of the Mid-Ulster Brigade IRA - Brian Mullin, and brothers Gerard and Martin Harte - died in a hail of SAS bullets whilst on active service. And in a tragic accident in Derry, two people were killed when a booby-trap bomb was triggered.

The Dublin government's handing over of Robert Russell to the RUC in the early hours of Saturday, August 27th, was followed by an unrelenting and widespread series of attacks throughout the Six Counties which stretched crown force personnel to their limits. Over the 24 hours following Russell's extradition, more than 200 attacks were launched against the British crown forces, including 17 bombings and 23 shootings. Eleven RUC men and one British soldier were injured.

BELFAST

Shortly after noon, angry local youths hijacked and set fire to a number of vehicles throughout West Belfast, blocking many of the main roads in the area. Volunteers of the Belfast Brigade availed themselves of the opportunity provided by this popular reaction to Russell's extradition and carried out the following attacks.

At around 1pm, Belfast city centre was rocked when a van-bomb exploded outside City Hall. Volunteers placed the bomb in a Royal Mail van commandeered earlier. A warning had been given and there were no injuries.

A second van-bomb exploded outside Springfield Road RUC Barracks; again, no injuries were reported.

On three separate occasions within the space of an hour, a British army/RUC patrol which had set up a roadblock at the bottom of Broadway came under attack. IRA Volunteers fired 14 shots at the patrol, two grenades were then thrown, and later a further 12 shots were fired.

In the St James's area, a grenade was thrown at a British army patrol in Rodney Drive. A second grenade was thrown in Rodney Parade, wounding a British soldier.

At the bottom of the nearby Donegal Road, a van-bomb which was parked just inches from a British army Saracen exploded, causing some injuries.

Two British soldiers were hit when Volunteers detonated a 20lb landmine on the Glen Road.

Volunteers fired on a British army patrol in Lenadown.

Two shots were fired at a British army foot patrol in Forfar Street.

Eight shots were fired at a British army foot patrol in Cavenish Street.

Twenty-five shots were fired at the British army observation post on Broadway Tower.

A grenade was thrown at a British army patrol on the Springfield Road.

Twenty shots were fired at Grosvenor Road RUC Barracks.

In four separate attacks, IRA snipers fired single shots at crown forces foot patrols/roadblocks in Westrock, Whitecourt, Ballymurphy and Springhill.

Volunteers using a light machine-gun fired more than 100 rounds at the Henry Taggart Barracks.

Ten shots were fired at the British army post at the top of Templar House flats in the New Lodge.

Shortly after midnight, Volunteers fired 20 shots at a British army sangaar at the Antrim Road/New Lodge Road junction.

On Sunday night, a grenade exploded at Springfield Road RUC Barracks and another was thrown at a British army patrol in Kells Avenue, opposite Woodbourne RUC Barracks.

Belfast Brigade later issued a statement regarding the hijacking of vehicles:

"Whilst accepting that many people within nationalist areas were inconvenienced by the spate of hijackings which were precipitated by the 26-County government's decision to hand over local man Robert Russell to the RUC, we feel that the vast majority of our community will have perceived the actions of local youths as a justifiable venting of understandable anger."

In a further statement, the Belfast Brigade referred specifically to the wounding of a two-year-old child, Michael Mahon, who was grazed by a splinter from a bullet which smashed the rear window of a car parked in Broadway. The IRA accused the British army of firing indiscriminately on at least four occasions in the Broadway/St James's area on Saturday, August 27th:

"The actions of the crown forces placed local people at grave risk. In one incident a number of our Volunteers launched a blast-bomb attack on a crown forces patrol. Members of the patrol immediately opened fire without identifying any specific target. Without substantiating the facts, the press accused our Volunteers of having injured two-year-old Michael Mahon, who was hit by a bullet at that time. However, while our investigation into this incident is ongoing, our preliminary inquiry leads us to believe that it was a British soldier who fired the shot which injured this child."

DERRY

In Derry on Saturday morning, Volunteers placed a bomb outside the Bank of Ireland on Spencer Road. The bomb exploded

ed shortly after 10.20am, wounding one RUC man.

Half an hour later, a second bomb exploded in a van on the new Foyle Bridge. No one was injured. A series of hoax bombs and hijackings throughout Derry brought the city to a virtual standstill.

INLA/IPLO ARMS DENIAL

The IRA has denied a report in the Irish Press claiming that the IRA had "supplied guns and explosives to the INLA and IPLO". In a supplied statement the IRA said:

"This story is a complete fabrication. We take this opportunity to call on those groups mentioned to disband."

COLLABORATORS WARNED

The IRA has reiterated its warning to those civilians assisting British crown forces in building contract work or in supplying fuel:

"The shooting in Belleek at the start of August of two contractors who had been working on five bases was evidence of our commitment to take action against these collaborators. We now have further detailed intelligence on those fuel companies, their managers and drivers, supplying British army and RUC depots. There can be no subsequent claim or complaint that they did not know why they were attacked."

NORTH ANTRIM

On Sunday, August 28th, a bomb concealed at the British Ministry of Defence firing range at Portballintrae in North Antrim was detonated by a wandering farm animal. In a supplied statement, North Antrim Brigade IRA claimed responsibility for the bomb:

"Portballintrae is used on a regular basis by the British army and senior RUC personnel for training purposes and for the testing of new armaments."

"Our Volunteers had been observing the activity at the range for some time and were fully aware of security procedures, including the operation of an infra-red alarm system controlled from a mess/store building on the site."

"An active service unit succeeded in concealing a pressure-plate bomb containing 7lbs of Semtex and 14lbs of shrapnel in

one of the seven shallow firing ditches on the range."

BELFAST BOMB

The Belfast Brigade has claimed responsibility for a 400lb bomb at North Howard Street British army base on Tuesday night, August 30th. In a supplied statement the IRA said:

"Contrary to RUC claims, subsequently repeated by the media, the bomb, which had a 15-second fuse, was not a proxy one but was placed at the base by our own Volunteers."

The bomb failed to explode and was later defused.

On Friday, August 26th, Derry Brigade Volunteers placed a bomb at Bishop Street Courthouse. The bomb later exploded, causing damage to the courthouse. The same day, a border customs post on the Letterkenny Road was demolished by an IRA bomb.

SION MILLS

A member of the crown forces narrowly escaped death when he spotted a booby-trap bomb which had been attached to the underside of his car in Sion Mills on Friday, August 26th. The bomb, which contained 31lbs of Semtex, had been placed there by Volunteers of the West Tyrone Brigade. It was later defused.

POLEGLASS

In a supplied statement on Wednesday, August 31st, the IRA's Belfast Brigade issued a warning to car thieves and joyriders, particularly those in the Poleglass area. The statement said:

"On Wednesday morning, the Belfast Brigade of the IRA carried out the punishment beating of a man from Colinstown, Poleglass. He had ignored persistent warnings to cease his joy-riding activities."

"Also on Wednesday morning, the IRA was responsible for arresting and questioning two

"Twinbrook men about their social activities in the area. Two men were released with a warning."

"In recent weeks, car thefts and joy-riding have escalated in the Poleglass area after previous IRA actions had resulted in a lengthy lull. We now serve warnings that Wednesday's actions will be followed shortly by severe punishments against a number of individuals known to us to be orchestrating these activities."

DERRY BOMB

The IRA in Derry has extended its deepest sympathy to the families of Sean Dalton and Sheila Lewis who were killed on Wednesday, August 31st, when an operation went tragically wrong. The two people died after a bomb exploded in a flat in Craggan.

It is believed that Volunteers had been holding the occupants of the flat from the previous Thursday as they expected the flat to be raided by crown forces. Noting the absence of the occupant, Sean Dalton went to check on him and entered the flat through a window. He opened the front door where Sheila Lewis was waiting and triggered the booby-trap intended for British forces. The IRA's Derry Brigade said in a statement:

"This operation was designed to inflict casualties on members of the British army search squad who were in the area this morning."

"Although the operation was carefully planned it went tragically wrong. At no stage, unfortunately, was it anticipated that a member of the public would enter the flat through a front window and open the booby-trapped door, killing himself and a woman standing on the balcony."

"We extend our deepest sympathy to the friends and families of those killed and injured."

McGUINNESS STATEMENT

FOLLOWING the tragedy in Derry city, Sinn Féin's Martin McGuinness said:

"I will not join in any British-orchestrated condemnation of the IRA, but I do have a responsibility to criticise individual IRA operations that result in civilian deaths. This tragic accident raises a number of questions that the IRA itself must answer."

"The tragedy of this war is that IRA Volunteers, British forces and, sadly, also civilians will continue to suffer and die as long as Britain refuses to accept its fundamental responsibility for what is happening in our country. While the freedom struggle goes on the IRA has a responsibility to ensure as much as humanly possible that civilians are not endangered."

"On behalf of the Republican Movement I extend my deepest sympathy to the families and friends of the deceased and injured."

SAS ON FALLS ROAD

AS AP/RN GOES TO press (10.30pm, Wednesday), West Belfast has once again been brought to a virtual standstill with over 30 hijacked and burning vehicles blocking the Falls Road and the Whitecourt Road.

Earlier in the day, local residents in the Upper Falls/St James's area had seen a number of strangers cruising the area in unmarked cars. Although details of the incident are scanty, it is believed that two men got out of one of the cars at the Donegal

Road/Falls Road junction. When challenged by locals, they produced weapons and fled down the Falls Road, where they were picked up by a military vehicle. A number of weapons, balacavas and radio transmitters were retrieved from their abandoned car by local people and spirited away.

The St James's area was immediately cordoned off and saturated by crown forces personnel, presumably to recover the missing weapons. The area is still sealed off as AP/RN is being printed.

When the news spread that

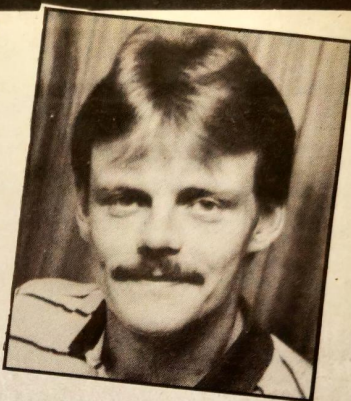
undercover British soldiers were on the Falls Road, local youths began to set up barricades with hijacked vehicles to prevent the SAS from having easy access to the areas and to protest at their presence there.

Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams has appealed to nationalists "to be extremely vigilant but to remain calm". He continued:

"I am at one with local people in believing that these heavily-armed men were SAS squads intent on gaining more victims like yesterday's."

EXTRADITION ROUND-UP... EXTRADITION ROUND-UP

THE BETRAYAL OF ROBERT RUSSELL



THE LONG CAMPAIGN of Robert Russell against extradition finally ended at the weekend when he was delivered to the RUC by order of the Fianna Fail government. Just days later the nature of the British judicial, political and military system in the Six Counties was tragically illustrated with the SAS killings of three IRA Volunteers in County Tyrone.

In extraditing Russell the Fianna Fail government gave a vote of confidence to the administration of 'justice' by Britain in

the North. Wherever around the world British policy in Ireland is criticised that government can point to the operation of extradition by the 26-County state to excuse its actions.

Robert Russell appeared at Lisburn Magistrates Court on Saturday, August 27th, after being flown in a British army helicopter from where the

gardai had handed him over to the RUC. He faced the seven charges for which he was extradited, all relating to his escape from Long Kesh in 1983.

RUC CHALLENGED

In court his solicitor challenged RUC Detective Thomas Waring on the fact that the prisoner was arrested by him not at

Carrickarnon but at Foughilletra. The RUC man claimed that it was the same place. Counsel for Russell then asked the crown to state in what category Russell would be held. They said that Russell would be held as a sentenced prisoner in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh — even though there was no extradition warrant seeking him to serve the remain-

der of the sentence from which he escaped.

Russell is in H-Block 8 courtesy of Charles Haughey and the Fianna Fail government. If the Extradition Act is not defeated he will be just the first of many.

In pages 3,4,5,6 and 7 AP/RN tells the dramatic story of Robert Russell's betrayal.

Haughey's compliment to Russell

TO PLACE ONE MAN in the hands of the British authorities it took a force of over a thousand gardai backed up by hundreds of Free State soldiers and an elaborate, expensive hoax. It was a ringing, if unintended, compliment from the Haughey government to Robert Russell. During the spectacle, the Killen area came under a form of military occupation while gardai joked and chatted with their RUC colleagues.

At the Free State customs post, coachloads of gardai began arriving in the late evening. As night fell, clouds covering the peaks of the Cooley Mountains and Slieve Gullion descended until they almost covered the roadway. Gusts of rain, carried on a biting wind, soaked the protesters again and again throughout the night. In the intervals between the showers it seemed to them that the rain had stopped, until they looked into the beam of a spotlight erected by gardai where drizzle could be seen swirling in the air.

Behind a Garda barrier, mounted just before the customs post, gardai waited as they were joined by more and yet more of their colleagues from Dublin and the border counties marching in military style through the ever-increasing group of protesters. In gullies beside the road and from vantage-points in the forests overlooking it, hid groups of Free State soldiers.

DARK PRESENCE

A mile north of the customs post, the border is marked by a tiny stream running underneath the road, nearly invisible to the passing traveller. By early Saturday morning almost the entire distance was lined by gardai on either side. Their presence in the darkness and that of their army colleagues, who could sometimes be heard behind the hedges, seemed to suggest that a portion of Free State territory had been leased to

Britain for the occasion. This eerie feeling was emphasised when, round a turn in the road, a powerful searchlight blinded people walking towards the border.

This area was out of bounds to all but journalists, but gardai were anxious to herd as many as possible of these to a fenced-in observation-post at the border. Members of the press were promised that Russell's hand-over would take place within feet of this point. The move was part of a pre-arranged plan which became evident later in the morning. The authorities wanted to have as little press coverage as possible for the real hand-over and for the baton-



Exchanging notes — RUC meet gardai

charge they were to mount on the protesters. Journalists at the border viewing-point were forbidden to return to the main protest.

ARROGANT SMILES

Corralled by the gardai, the journalists were face to face with

the heavily-armed British forces who gathered in the early hours within feet of them. Cynical, arrogant smiles creased the faces of the RUC as gardai tried to engage them in banter. They nonchalantly took part, often looking askance at their Southern counterparts. At one point, an RUC video unit began to film the Garda presence and the waiting press. Strangely neither group made any protest.

The journalists were starved of any information by the gardai and only heard of Russell's departure from Mountjoy Jail when one of them was contacted by his office on a portable telephone. The news was followed by some jostling for position as the photographers and camera crews sought the best positions for the shots they expected to take.

Suddenly and with a thunderous roar a British army Puma helicopter veered across the road, scattering many of the journalists as they dived for cover. The aircraft seemed to be flying at about 20 or 30 feet, the pilot's fear of being shot down being obviously greater



British army spy

than his fear of crashing into trees.

Within minutes a further telephone call informed the journalists that their long wait had been in vain and that Russell had already been handed over in the Foughilletra townland. He was picked up by the very helicopter which surprised them minutes earlier. The fact that many of the journalists did not witness the gardai attacking the demonstrators didn't stop them from reproducing in detail the Garda version of the event.



Protesters wait in the wet darkness

EXTRADITION ROUND-UP... EXTRADITION ROUND-UP



● Anti-extradition protesters wave to republican POWs from beyond the walls of Portlaoise Prison

MESSAGE FROM PORTLAOISE PRISONERS

"Someone's knocking at the door, someone's trying to get in... Do me a favour, open the door, let 'em in." Paul McCartney and Wings? No — just the pleading of the gardai and screws, on the Monday and Tuesday morning of last week, as they tried unsuccessfully to gain entry to our cells.

They spent over an hour on one cell door trying to open it with one tool after another while inside the occupant (Big Dee) sat doing a crossword. His only complaint was the noise they made. Eventually they had to consult with the O/C before gaining access to our cells. The gardai and prison officers, on the pretext of looking for guns and explosives, resorted to their old habit of forcible strip-searching.

It was to be of no avail and we were determined to continue our protest. It was designed to express our solidarity with Goose and our opposition to the latest sell-out of the Irish people by Haughey.

Every night from 11.55 to midnight we banged on our doors. We then held out burning torches from the windows followed by half an hour of chants "No extradition", "Five days to go", "Release Goose Russell" and finished off with ten minutes on the doors. A special word of thanks is due to the social prisoners in 'D' Block who gave their full support at all times.

ENCOURAGEMENT

Throughout the week we were heartened by the presence of the anti-extradition vigil at the main gate. Their shouts of support and encouragement gave us all a great boost. They mustn't have got a wink of sleep at all because there wasn't a morning passed that they didn't beat the early bird. Sincere thanks to all

those who for us were brave faces at a distance.

On Wednesday night of last week we held a social evening/oiche airneain. It was Goose's night. Angelo Fusco presented him with an engraved silver tray on behalf of the Belfast Volunteers. The O/C, Martin Ferris,

then presented Goose with a plaque on behalf of the unit. On it was a picture of the exercise yard and the inscription "Despite your bars we are stronger".

The O/C paid tribute to Goose for his unwavering courage and steadfastness and the inspired way in which he fought

his extradition. It was a rough and emotional time for us all. It was hard to believe that Goose, who had become a close friend and comrade to us all, was now to be betrayed by Haughey for the sake of political expediency. Goose Russell epitomises the unconquerable spirit that people

have come to expect from the volunteers of Oglagh na hEireann.

STRENGTHENED RESOLVE

Although we are deeply saddened by your extradition, your resolve to bring this final phase of our struggle to a successful conclusion.

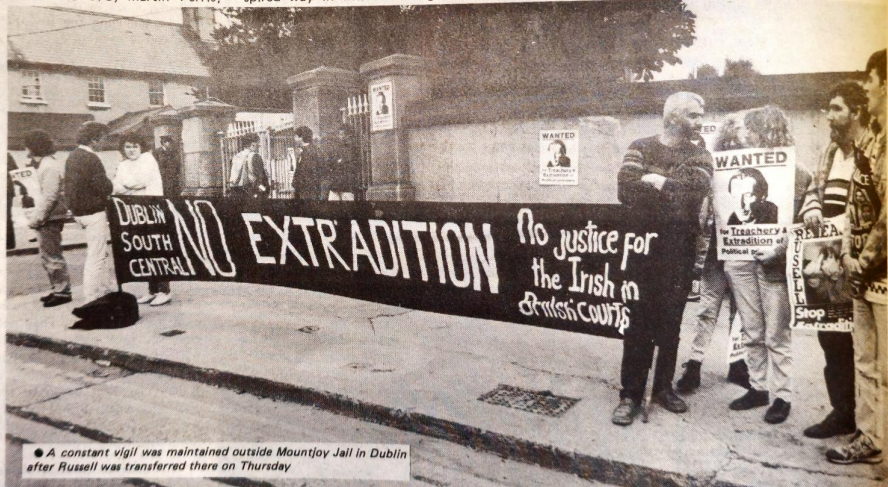
During the midday lock-up last Thursday, they sneaked Goose away from here, in spite of the fact that the governor indicated this wouldn't happen. Our last glance of Goose was as he crossed the yard, his hand cuffed to a screw, while other raised in a defiant clenched fist.

WE'LL MISS YOU

So now Goose, sorry if this sounds like an oration for you, but your extradition left us all with a lump in our throats much. But, as you say yourself, our day is coming. The fight against extradition goes on, the war goes on, and as Angelo said we'll miss you.

Haughey once said that he'd not extradite anyone. We knew better. This crowd here thought they could intimidate us. We knew better. They thought their new doors were "Provo-proof". We knew better.

The Brits and Haughey think that extradition will demoralise and help defeat the Volunteers of Oglagh na hEireann. They should know better. Tíocfaid ar la.



● A constant vigil was maintained outside Mountjoy Jail in Dublin after Russell was transferred there on Thursday

THREE DAYS OF SHAME

THREE DAYS OF DRAMA for Robert Russell and three days of shame for the Fianna Fail government began early on Thursday afternoon when they took their prisoner out of Portlaoise during lock-up and brought him in convoy to Dublin.

The surprise removal to Mountjoy Jail marked the end of the long vigil outside Portlaoise which had begun the previous Saturday. It was also the first of three elaborate operations designed to sneak Robert Russell to his final destination and to avoid the hundreds of demon-

strators who gathered to express outrage at the Dublin government's actions.

When the people outside Portlaoise realised what was happening some of them tried to block the road but were dragged away by the gardai. The convoy then sped off and Russell got his last glimpse of the grim prison

where he had spent the last four years.

At this stage there was confusion as to whether he was being taken to the border or to Mountjoy. It soon became clear however that the Dublin government intended to keep him in jail in the city while the massive security operation, carried out jointly with the British crown forces, was put in place along the border.

As soon as it became known that Robert Russell was in

Mountjoy, people began to gather outside and the vigil which had ended at Portlaoise resumed outside the main gate on the North Circular Road. The watch was maintained by anti-extradition protesters round the clock and was supported by many Dubliners who came to lend their encouragement and by passing motorists who sounded their car horns.

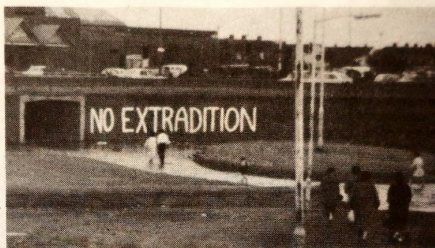
On Thursday afternoon a family friend of Robert, and

EXTRA

OUND-UP... EXTRADITION ROUND-UP



● (Left) One of the early arrivals at Carrickarnon on Thursday night; (above) protesters are caught in torrential rain at the border on Friday night/Saturday morning and (below) one of the many anti-extradition slogans painted in recent weeks, this one in Coolock



the numbers at the prison were smaller than might have been expected, never reaching more than about 150.

As the night wore on the picketers chanted slogans and lit improvised lamps along the roadway out from the main gate. Groups were sent to watch each gate of the prison where armed Special Branch and uniformed gardai were on guard. There must have been several hundred gardai involved in the operation and cars and van-loads were coming and going all night.

It was not until 4am that the vigil got word on the radio that Russell was to be moved out within the hour. Tension increased as the protesters watched for any sign of movement around the prison. Then Garda vans were seen approaching the main gate and sirens were sounded from loud-hailers to summon those watching the gates.

FALSE ALARM

The protesters blocked the road but the vehicles forced their way through. A succession of motorcycles and cars came and went, fuelling the belief that the convoy would emerge any minute. Activity at the side gate sent people dashing to block the approach with barriers. Again it was a false alarm.

In front of Mountjoy's main gate the protesters sat down in the roadway, forming a human cordon. A force of gardai in full riot gear marched up and immediately began dragging and kicking the people sitting on the road in an apparent attempt to clear a passage. In spite of batons and kicks the protesters refused to budge and began defiantly singing "We shall not be moved" and "We shall overcome". The gardai continued their attacks until they saw they could not move the demonstrators short of a full baton-charge.

It was obvious that that was what the gardai wanted and that only the presence of the press and TV cameras held them off. As it was a number of them had to be restrained by their colleagues from weighing into the crowd. Several people were injured with batons and received cuts to the head from the Garda rioters.

VIOLENT DIVERSION

As gardai began to move back it was realised that their tactics had been a violent diversion from what was happening at the back of Mountjoy. They had sneaked Robert Russell out the back gate and as the riot squad slunk away, denied the pleasure of smashing heads, the convoy rushed to the border to rendezvous with the RUC.

Speakers then addressed the crowd and Michael Mac Donncha of the IAEC said that the protests were a defeat for Fianna Fail:

"They had to sneak him out the back of Mountjoy because the people of Dublin came out to show their opposition."

Defiant and unbowed after their long vigil the crowd then stood to attention and sang *Amhrán an bhFiann*.

sister-in-law of his Portlaoise comrade and potential extraditee Angelo Fusco, obtained a visit. In a totally unnecessary and petty act the prison authorities subjected Gretta Fusco to strip-searching before allowing her to see the prisoner.

As the evening wore on the demonstration outside the main gate swelled in numbers. Several protesters went to the back of the prison to the lock gates on the Royal Canal. They were able to shout over the walls through a megaphone and prisoners inside responded by shouting and banging their doors. They indicated that Russell was able to hear the protest though he was in a high security section of the jail near the ground floor.

The Mountjoy vigil continued through Thursday night and Friday morning when word came that Russell's lawyers were considering legal moves to make a final challenge in the courts.

PRESS CONFERENCE

In Buswells Hotel, on Friday morning, the Irish Anti-Extradition Committee (IAEC) called a press conference with Tony Gregory TD, Fr Dennis Carroll, Kevin Boland, Nora Comiskey, and Jean Russell as speakers. Jean Russell appealed for the release of her brother whom she said would never have been in prison but for the political situation and she repeated her fears that he would be ill-treated in the Six Counties. Fr. Dennis Carroll said that he was morally opposed to extradition and to all forms of violence including state violence of which Robert Russell had been a victim from his youth.

Kevin Boland, former Fianna Fail cabinet minister, said that the media had ignored the opposition to extradition and that it was extraordinary that Haughey had been allowed to get away with his U-turns on the national question. This was echoed by Dublin TD, Tony Gregory, who described extradition as the "ultimate betrayal of the republican tradition by Fianna Fail". He said he "does not believe in coincidences" and saw the visit of Fianna Fail TD David Andrews to the Birmingham Six that day as a publicity exercise to coincide with the Russell handover. It was the height of

hypocrisy, he said, for Fianna Fail to be extraditing citizens to the system that framed the Birmingham Six and then calling for their release. (On his return from the visit David Andrews spent more time replying to Tony Gregory and condemning recent IRA actions than he did talking about the Birmingham Six.)

PRINCIPLES BETRAYED

Nora Comiskey said that it was not she and other members of Fianna Fail who had gone outside the party but the leadership which had betrayed the founding principles of the organisation.

In a statement, issued at the press conference, the IAEC said that "the decision to send Robert Russell back was a political one taken at the highest level in the Fianna Fail cabinet and in the teeth of widespread opposition... That the government chose to ignore the opposition to its policy on this issue is a measure of the extent to which it will go to forfeit Irish sovereignty and the rights of Irish citizens to further its relations with the British government."

The press conference over, Jean Russell went to Mountjoy to visit her brother. After much delaying by the prison authorities she was finally allowed the visit along with Sinead Comiskey of the IAEC. Robert gave the following message to his visitors to convey outside:

"I am appalled by the extradition treaty and the lack of justice for Irish people in British courts and jails. In British courts the law is consistently bent to ensure convictions."

"I am what I am — a republican political prisoner. Our day will come."

INJUNCTION SOUGHT

While Jean Russell was visiting her brother his legal advisors were making a final bid in the Dublin High Court to prevent the extradition. Solicitor Elio Malocco sought an interim injunction to prevent the extradition while the Minister for Justice considered a fresh application to him to use his powers under Section 50 of the Extradition Act to release Russell. The solicitor argued that the minister had wider powers than he indicated in his letter of rejection of the first Section 50 application. He asked Judge Hamilton to stop

the extradition until the issue was decided.

The judge rejected this application and a second separate application from Bernadette Mc Aliskey challenging the legality of Russell's detention.

The only question now remaining was how the gardai proposed to get Robert Russell to the border. Already, from 7am that day, a massive security operation had been mounted with the main Dublin to Belfast road sealed off for five miles back into County Louth from the designated handover point at Carrickarnon. There was still speculation that the handover might take place there at any time from midnight.

VIGIL CONTINUED

Outside Mountjoy the vigil continued and increased in number as darkness fell. However, many people travelled up to the border from Dublin and



● The press conference of the IAEC in Buswells Hotel, Dublin on Friday, August 26th

EXTRADITION ROUND-UP

Night watch on the Border

THE ROAD through Ravensdale Forest, from the Garda checkpoint at Ballymascanlon, was pitch dark and lashed with continuous rain on Friday night. At intervals all along the road, groups of people walked quietly, but determinedly, towards the border more than four miles away. The buses and cars which they had travelled in were back at the Ballymascanlon road-block, stopped by gardai.

The only breaks in the silent darkness were the flashing lights of several more Garda and Free State army road-blocks along the road.

Suddenly, around a corner the skyline was lit up by a powerful searchlight where a huge force of gardai had erected a barrier, preventing the hundreds of protesters who had already gathered from reaching the Carrickarnon border crossing where Robert Russell was, by order of the Dublin High Court, to be handed over to the RUC. Some of them had been there since Thursday afternoon, sleeping in fields at the roadside.

All through the night, more and more people swelled the crowd until well over 1,000 lined the road up to the barrier. Many had walked from Ballymascanlon, along the road. But groups of people had also made their way over the Cooley Mountains, or through Ravensdale Forest, or across fields to get there. Some were fortunate enough to have got the whole way in cars or buses, guided by local people through the maze of country lanes and side roads.

TREMENDOUS FEELING

It was a tremendous feeling to be part of that crowd, summed up by one woman who had walked through the forest. "I am proud and glad to be here to watch through this night with Robert Russell."

From Monaghan alone, 250 people came to the border, most walking nearly eight miles from where their buses were stopped.

Although there was a great deal of real anger and resentment, the crowd were discipli-



● Baton-wielding, gardai launch into protesters at Carrickarnon

lined and dignified in their protest against extradition.

GARDAI IN RIOT GEAR

Several times, gardai in riot gear marched through the crowd up to the border. In spite of the restraint of the crowd and the efforts of the stewards, provocation from gardai and Free State soldiers almost caused riots twice during the long night. At about three o'clock in the morning, a huge lorry carrying Free State soldiers came racing through the barrier without warning. It veered left, directly into the crowd, making for a side road. Only quick action by the stewards and arpeals from Gerry Adams for calm denied the gardai an excuse to attack.

But just as light was break-

ing, a force of gardai came marching up the road. Frustration spilled over and verbal abuse was hurled at them. As they reached the barrier and were let through by gardai already there, a few stones were thrown. Immediately, the gardai drew batons and charged deliberately picking on the very people who were trying to defuse the situation.

Sean MacManus from Sligo and Paul Corrigan, Fermanagh Sinn Féin councillor, who were stewards, had their backs to the gardai, pushing the crowd back when they were attacked from behind. Both men were hit on the head. Paul Corrigan had to get six stitches to the wound, Sean MacManus got five stitches, his nose was split and his face badly bruised.

Monaghan Sinn Féin Councillor Caoimhghin O Caoilain put up his arms to protect his face as he was attacked. The blow landed on his elbow, almost breaking his arm. Also in need of hospital treatment after the attack was Celine McGuigan from Dundalk, batoned while she tried to protect another woman. She had stitches to wounds on her hand and leg.

Annette Cassidy, also from Dundalk, suffered two broken fingers and needed four stitches to her head when she was savagely beaten by gardai. Breige Duffy was taken to hospital suffering from concussion and many more people suffered bruising and cuts from baton-wielding gardai.

Angela McAteer (17) from Killeavy in South Armagh was standing near the Garda barrier when they came charging through. She ran towards a side road to get out of the way but was hit on the head with a baton. She woke up in Louth County Hospital. She said, "He aimed for my face but I ducked my head. When I was x-rayed they found I had a fractured skull." She was detained in hospital until Sunday when her father signed her out and took her home.

CONVOY APPROACHING

The line of protesters was quickly formed again and the stewards announced that Robert Russell was at that moment approaching the border in a convoy of Garda vehicles. Gerry Adams took a loud-hailer to address the crowd, asking agreement for a token sit-down at the Garda barrier. 15 people sat on the road, including Gerry Adams

and Robert Russell's sisters, Roslynn and Jean. The press had started to gather, joining photographers at the barrier, desperately trying to find out where Robert Russell was.

As the crowd shouted anti-extradition slogans, a British army helicopter could be seen coming in to land in a field about half a mile back towards Ballymascanlon. Lights went up in the field and a few minutes later the helicopter took off. Robert Russell had been handed over to the RUC in the corner of an Irish field just after dawn on August 27th, 1988. The gardai, ashamed, embarrassed and afraid of the peaceful protest at Carrickarnon had sneaked him out of a back-gate at Mountjoy and ignored their own court's order about the hand-over point.

Wet, cold and hungry after their vigil, the people gathered round Gerry Adams who confirmed what most knew already. Charles Haughey had delivered Robert Russell into the hands of the RUC and sent him back to the notorious H-Blocks. Gerry Adams spoke briefly, saying he was proud to have been at the border that night and paid tribute to the people who had come to express their opposition to extradition.

Roslynn Russell spoke then, her voice low but steady, telling us all that the fight against extradition was not over and thanking us on Robert's behalf. After singing *Amhrán na bhFiann*, the crowd quietly left, walking in silence past the spot where Robert Russell had been handed over. That long night had only served to strengthen the resolve of people opposed to extradition.



● 15 people stepped forward and sat on the road as Robert Russell arrived at the border

HAUGHEY EXPOSED



Protesters march through Dublin on Saturday night after Fianna Fail's betrayal of Robert Russell

"UNFORTUNATELY, many people didn't believe that Charlie Haughey would actually extradite an Irish political prisoner to the British. But the television footage of gardai handing over a young Irishman in the corner of a field, and being dragged along the ground into a British army helicopter, has woken them up," Micheal Mac Donncha, of the Irish Anti-Extradition Committee, told a 300-strong crowd on Saturday evening.

At the hastily-organised march and rally in Dublin's Mount Street, Richard Greene, also of the IAEC and a member of Fianna Fail, said that Charles Haughey had betrayed those party members who had put him in power. He had tricked them into believing he was a republican but had now exposed himself. "Those of you who stay in Fianna Fail," he added, "must now work to destabilise him and his leadership."

The march, which was only called by the IAEC that morning, after Robert Russell's extradition, started off from GPO and made its way to Mount

Street. Many Dubliners swelled its ranks as it went through the city, led by the Tom Smith Band.

Philip Ferguson of the IAEC, who chaired the proceedings outside the Fianna Fail headquarters, ended by calling on those present to continue to show the same determined opposition as he had seen that day.

The marchers then made their way around Saint Stephen's Green to the park's Traitor's Gate entrance where, it was suggested, the name of Charles Haughey should be added to the list of those who had loyally served Britain.

EMBASSIES GET THE MESSAGE

THE DUBLIN government's embassies in London and New York were the scene of demonstrations against extradition on Saturday, as Irish people abroad marked Fianna Fail's day of betrayal of Robert Russell.

In New York, 250 people took part in a picket of the Irish Consulate Office on Madison Avenue. The protest was organised by Irish Northern Aid and supported by other Irish organisations. Addressing the crowd Martin Galvin said that following Robert Russell's extradition there would need to be a strong campaign in the United States. Levels of collaboration with British rule would continue to grow unless Haughey was stopped from the US.

In London, the 26-County embassy was picketted by the Troops Out Movement, the Irish in Britain Representation Group and the Wolfe Tone Society. The protest at the building in Grosvenor Square was held at 1pm on Saturday afternoon.

In Australia telegrams of protest were sent from Irish organisations and from trades councils to the 26-County embassy.

DOWNING STREET DEMO

TWO DAYS before her agents took Robert Russell into custody, Margaret Thatcher's London residence at

Downing Street was picketted by anti-extradition protesters.

The picket, called in response

to an appeal from the Irish Anti-Extradition Committee for solidarity, was organised by the Fight Racism, Fight Imperialism group and was supported by several other organisations. The picket was continually harassed by the police and one demonstrator was threatened with arrest for referring to the British government as "murderers".

Andy Pacey, speaking for the RCG, criticised the Fianna Fail government for allowing the British government to criminalise the nationalist struggle and called on people in Britain to build solidarity with the struggle in Ireland.



UNITED STAND IN CAVAN

OVER 200 PEOPLE participated in an anti-extradition march and rally in Ballyconnell, County Cavan on Wednesday night, August 24th. Organised by the local anti-extradition committee, the marchers were led through the town by St Mary's Mountain Road Pipe Band.

The meeting in the main street was chaired by Christina McDwyer, secretary of the organising committee and a member of the local Fianna Fail cumann. She emphasised the unity of all in attendance on the extradition issue. She hoped that despite the short time remaining that they could still appeal to Haughey to release Robert Russell, then due to be handed over in three days.

The main speaker was former chairperson of Fermanagh District

Council, Paul Corrigan. Councillor Corrigan, while praising those Fianna Fail members in attendance, added that it was no less than what people should expect:

"There should be far more members of Fianna Fail here tonight. Where are their elected representatives? Clearly the fear of non-endorsement by central office for future elections has cowed many of them into silence."

He also appealed to the gardai

present not to align themselves to Haughey's treachery, concluding his address by reiterating Christina McDwyer's appeal for national unity in opposition to extradition.

Also present at the rally were Peadar Neary, chair Ballyconnell Anti-Extradition Committee; Frank O'Reilly, chair of Swanlinbar Fianna Fail cumann and honorary president of West Cavan Fianna Fail comhairle ceantair; and Sinn Féin Ard Comhairle members Pat Delaney (Leitrim), Joe McAtackney (Cavan), and Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin (Monaghan).

The meeting concluded with Amhrán na bhFiann.

NOTES

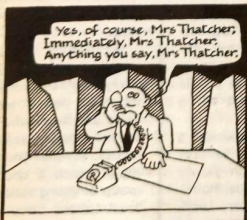
in a free state

© CORMAC

What's that, Mrs Thatcher? You want some more Irish citizens handed over to British Justice?



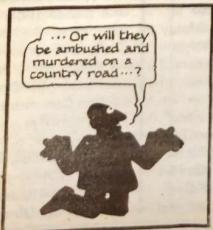
Yes, of course, Mrs Thatcher. Immediately, Mrs Thatcher. Anything you say, Mrs Thatcher.



There's just one thing - and please understand, I mean no criticism - I only ask for curiosity's sake... Will these Irish citizens be tried in one of your courts...



...Or will they be ambushed and murdered on a country road...?



You're quite right, Mrs Thatcher... It's none of my bloody business...



One of the pervading myths of the last 20 years of continuous struggle is that in 1968 the issue of Civil Rights exploded across the Six Counties like a time-bomb — that the frustration, resentment and anger caused by 45 years of anti-Catholic discrimination just suddenly burst its banks. But it was people who started the struggle by refusing to accept oppression. In this, the first of two articles on the social agitation in Derry city in the mid-'60s, Kevin McCool looks at how a small group of housing activists, determined to highlight the appalling housing conditions in the city at the time, helped bring the issue of civil rights for the nationalist people of Derry to the centre-stage.

DERRY IN THE mid-'60s was a graphic illustration of the nightmare of Northern nationalists. In a city with a two-to-one nationalist majority all power was concentrated in the hands of the unionist minority population, and those of its political leaders.

A blatant system of gerrymandering — the juggling of ward boundaries — ensured that nationalists (who lived mainly in the South Ward, comprising the Bogside and Creggan) could only elect eight representatives to the local corporation, while unionists could elect 12 councillors from the North and Waterside Wards where they outnumbered nationalists by slim margins.

With power over local government permanently under their control, the unionists on Derry Corporation systematically discriminated against the majority of Derry's citizens in the areas of employment and housing to keep them politically powerless. In 1967, unemployment in the city stood at 20%, as it had done for generations. It was part of corporation policy not to employ Catholics at the Guildhall.

It was the unionist mayor of the city, and he alone, who decided who should get a house. While 1,500 homeless Catholic families languished on the housing list in 1967, not a single house was built by the corporation (in the previous three years only 12 had been built) because new householders immediately acquired a vote in local government elections. The direct result of this was massive overcrowding in the Bogside — the South Ward — where the Corporation and Housing Trust had built upon every available space rather than build outside the ward and upset the sectarian arithmetic. The consequences of this deliberate policy, in terms of human suffering, were immense.

This discrimination against Catholics was underscored by the social and economic policies of the Stormont government. In the early '60s three economic reports were published which accentuated the plight of the beleaguered nationalists of Derry. The *Benson Report* advised the closure of the railway line, stripping Derry of its only efficient transport system. The *Matthew Report* recommended the development of a new city, Craigavon, with a massive injection of capital as an alternative focus to Belfast. Derry, the second city of the Six Counties was completely ignored. The *Lockwood Report* advocated the siting of a second university for the unionist state, again not in Derry where there already was an old-established university college, but in Coleraine, a small loyalist town.

STARVING THE CITY

The unionist leadership, even those native to Derry, were prepared to slowly starve the city (which held a central place in their mythology) of resources,

no matter what the consequence, to keep it firmly in minority hands. It was one of the absurd twists of loyalism's siege mentality.

Yet generations of systematic disenfranchisement and discrimination produced not rebellion among Derry nationalists, but apathy, as Eamonn McCann points out in his book, *War and an Irish Town*:

"There was no revolutionary ferment rising from it all. There was no swelling outrage about it. It was the way things had been for as long as anyone could remember, and no one could see quite how it would be changed."

RESIGNED TO FATE

Despite all the injustices directed against it, Derry in the mid-'60s was not a city where revolution was about to break out. Rather it seemed resigned to its fate (emigration statistics show that 12.6% of Derry's population left the city between 1951 and 1961).

This was the perception of the six or seven dedicated young republicans who formed themselves into the Young Republican Association (YRA) after the 1966 Easter commemoration (the largest in many years), and began to become involved in social agitation over housing and unemployment. Johnny White, one of the YRA activists, a 17-year-old at the time, recalls:

"There was near enough total apathy and a total lack of interest in anything political. People were obviously aware for many years that they were discriminated against because they were Catholics/nationalists. They realised that the best jobs and houses went to Protestants as a general principle. But if you talked to people at the time about gerrymandering, it wasn't that they didn't care, they just weren't fully aware of the situation, or fully aware that there wasn't one person/one vote or that there were property votes. People just weren't completely aware of the situation."

Johnny White has a particularly vivid memory of pickets. Derry republicans held outside the Guildhall throughout 1966, to

protest against the draconian Special Powers Act (SPA):

"Our protests against the SPA were largely ignored by the populace and laughed at and scorned by most people at the time because the only people who were directly affected by the SPA were the few people involved in the Republican Movement. There just wasn't great awareness of the Special Powers Act."

This general apathy and lack of political awareness among Derry nationalists affected every area of life, to the extent that people did not even use the official channels for complaint when they came up against discrimination. They knew they were being treated badly, but they believed there was nothing they, or anyone else, could do about it. The nationalist people of Derry were, in effect, passively accepting their own oppression.

GRADUAL CHANGE

The first signs of a gradual change in this attitude only came after an energetic campaign by the YRA, for better housing conditions in the city, began to achieve results. In the summer of 1966 the young republicans carried out a survey of the private flats in Derry to find out exactly how many there were and what conditions people were living under.

"There were actually situations where young married couples were crawling over beds to get into a bed", Johnny White recalls. "There were four and five of a family living in one room and paying exorbitant rents to private landlords. Out of the survey we formed the nucleus of a housing group made up of young people prepared to do something about it."

The first action the YRA took part in was preventing the eviction of Nelly McDonnell and her teenage son and daughter from Harvey Street. The young republicans barricaded the McDonnell home and resisted the eviction for six weeks. The family were eventually allocated a house in Creggan.

This direct action tactic was completely unheard of, as Johnny White explains: "People in Derry at the time were surprised at it because they had never been confronted by this particular

TAKING ON THE L



type of action for a long time. People then began to take notice of us and change their attitude towards us. They no longer looked upon us as people who just went around selling papers."

From late '66 onwards, a growing resentment towards the housing situation slowly built up in the Bogside. Homeless and destitute Derry families regularly sought the assistance of the YRA whose attitude, according to Johnny White, was, "If you're prepared to take action yourself we'll support you, and out of publicity or one thing or another, we'll get you a place". This they did throughout 1967, highlighting the plight of scores of homeless Derry families through occupations of Derry Guildhall, street pickets and

weekly publicity in the local press.

As well as attracting the attention and support of the Derry public because they were the only people seen to be doing anything about the city's serious housing problem, the tactics of the young republicans struck a chord with a group of young socialists in the local Labour Party and other concerned individuals. Towards the end of 1967, members of the YRA, the Derry Labour Party and several others, such as Brigid Bond, came together to form the Derry Housing Action Committee (DHAC).

HOUSING ACTION

The DHAC continued the fight for better housing conditions and fairer rents.



LOYALIST STATE — DERRY 1968



Beattie, at a ceremony to open a lower deck to Craigavon Bridge. When the seven were prosecuted, and two of them sent to jail for refusing to sign bonds to keep the peace, the result was more publicity and more support for the DHAC.

SHEER CHEEK

"A lot of the attraction to people was the sheer cheek of it", Eamonn McCann explains. "People in the Bogside hadn't been used to anyone being this cheeky with the corporation, or interrupting government ministers and asking them what they were going to do about the unemployment situation, etc. It demonstrated to ordinary people that they didn't have to kowtow to these people, that you could actually get away with being cheeky with them. That gave people a little self-confidence."

Gradually, through this frenetic round of demonstrations, squatting, corporation take-overs, the issuing of leaflets and local bulletins, etc, the momentum for mass protest was building up. Confrontationist tactics were being seen by many to be successful — the blocking of roads was achieving far more than any polite petitioning by Nationalist Party politicians. By giving people something to do and somewhere to direct their anger, even if it was only kicking the mayor's car, the DHAC was gathering behind it the growing frustration in the Bogside and Creggan.

A clear political message was getting across to people and a politicisation process was underway, as Johnny White explains. "In our publicity, we brought in the Special Powers Act, we brought in the gerrymandering, who controlled the allocation of housing and how there was a nationalist majority in Derry and a unionist majority on the corporation. We brought in all these things and a lot of people — particularly young people — began to become more interested and questioned what was happening. They didn't just take things for granted anymore."

The message that the DHAC

was communicating, and communicating successfully was, as Eamonn McCann points out, "that people didn't have to stand for it anymore and that if they stood together they could come out with confidence and oppose the sectarian statelet in the north".

Which is exactly what 400 Derry people did, on October 5th 1968, after the DHAC invited the Civil Rights Association (CRA) to hold its second march from Duke Street in Derry. When the CRA attempted to call off the march after its banning by Stormont, the DHAC made it clear that they were going ahead regardless.

That directly confrontationist approach was characteristic of the young republican and socialist activists in the DHAC throughout the summer of 1968. It was the logical next step for them to organise a march into the sacrosanct city walls, which, because it was completely forbidden for nationalists to do, was guaranteed to send shockwaves through the entire unionist establishment.

DETERMINATION

There was nothing inevitable, however, about October 5th itself. Its catalyst was not the generations of discrimination silently suffered by the nationalists of Derry, nor was it the fact that the city had been denied a university in the early '60s. That is the way things had always been and it was what people had come to expect. The real catalyst for the October 5th march across Duke Street was the work of a small group of determined activists on the ground, who took matters into their hands, and took to the streets to expose the manifest injustices in their native city.

What certainly was inevitable, was that as soon as nationalists did begin to appear in large numbers on the streets to demand even the most basic civil rights (and 400 was a large crowd in 1968), then they were going to be faced with the full fury of the loyalist state. And they were going to be forced to fight for those rights, with more than just marches and songs.

activities included organising pickets of the Housing Trust offices and encouraging individuals to stand up to the local bureaucracy, picketing the homes of exploitative private landlords and exposing them in the press, squatting in empty houses, and engaging in any activity at all which would draw attention to the housing problem. The DHAC also campaigned on unemployment, and most important of all, it targeted the gerrymandered corporation and set about the systematic disruption of its business.

Eamonn McCann, one of the Labour Party activists on the DHAC, explains the thinking behind it. "The feeling was completely spontaneous, none of us had any great long-term perspective of it fitting into some masterplan which would bring about revolution."

"The real motivation, initially, was the genuine desper-

ation of people who were living in absolutely horrendous circumstances. The problem as we saw it was people's passivity, that they voted for the Nationalist Party and just left it at that and nothing else ever happened. We believed it was important to get people out onto the streets doing things for themselves. We knew that people would gain enormously in self-confidence and begin to think about political ideas when they were doing things for themselves."

In the spring and summer of 1968, several corporation meetings had to be abandoned after activists from the DHAC invaded the corporation chambers and began protesting about the lack of housing and lack of democracy on the corporation. On the 22nd of June 1968, several members of the DHAC pushed the tiny caravan in which John Wilson and his family were being forced to live because they could not

get a house, to the Lecky Road and blocked all traffic. Hundreds of people turned out to give their support and the protest was widely reported in the Sunday papers, local radio and TV. When the DHAC threatened to bring the caravan into the city centre the following week, the Wilsons were offered a house within hours. Upwards of 150 people turned out for an unemployment march that summer, to the dole office in Bishop Street.

The DHAC were cleverly seizing every opportunity which arose to publicise the injustices of minority rule in Derry. Not a week went by without them being involved in some protest action on the streets. For example, on July 3rd, seven DHAC activists, among them Finbar O'Doherty, Roddy Carlin and Neil O'Donnell, sat down with placards and blocked the path of the unionist mayor of Derry, William



RIOTS AS RUSSELL IS EXTRADITED



THE EXTRADITION by the 26-County government of West Belfast man Robert Russell led to riots and unrest in the Six Counties on a scale not seen since the hunger-strikes of 1981.

A wave of hijackings swept Belfast, Derry and Newry, the three main nationalist towns in the Six Counties, as nationalist youths vented their anger at the extradition of Russell into RUC hands.

Rioting erupted throughout nationalist areas as the news of

Russell's extradition broke. Within hours, scores of blazing vehicles blocked all the main entrances to nationalist estates in Belfast. Throughout the day and into the early hours hundreds of youths mounted brick and petrol bomb attacks against British army and RUC patrols and bases. In all there were over 200

separate attacks on RUC and British army personnel and over 60 vehicles were hijacked and set alight.

Street confrontation and hijackings were inevitable given the highly emotional atmosphere created by Russell's hand-over. The scale and intensity of the unrest however surprised most people, with virtually non-stop hijacking and rioting continuing for 48 hours.

AMNESTY INVESTIGATES TORTURE CLAIMS

AN AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT detailing number of recent cases of torture in RUC interrogation centres has been released amidst speculation in the press that the British government are considering extending the period of detention in RUC hands to 30 days.

The report, entitled *Northern Ireland: Recent cases of alleged ill-treatment*, gives details of two cases in particular which relate to assaults which were inflicted on people in RUC custody in January of this year. As Amnesty's report pointed out in its introduction, "Detailed medical evidence is available to Amnesty International in both cases."

Amnesty goes on to point out that they have received numerous reports of cases in recent years where detainees claim to have been, "slapped around the head, kicked between the legs, made to stand for long periods while being interrogated and subjected to various other forms of physical and psychological abuse." They continue: "Threats by interrogating police officers that the suspect would soon be killed or that his/her name would be given to armed opposition groups are commonly alleged, as are threats that members of their

families would be arrested or subjected to abuse."

ILL-TREATED

Two cases are covered in detail by Amnesty: Arthur Forbes, arrested on January 14th 1988 was detained in Strand Road RUC Barracks, Derry, under Section 12 of the PTA; and Brian Gillen was arrested on January 27th 1988 and detained under Section 12 at Castlereagh Barracks in Belfast — see *AP/RN*, February 4th 1988, for details. Doctor Nanko Doornbos, a Dutch police surgeon, examined both men within weeks of their release and concluded that his findings, "were compatible with the alleged ill-treatment," and stated that he found it "extremely hard to believe" that the injuries could have been self-inflicted.

Amnesty's report coincides with the release of official British government figures on the



● Castlereagh interrogation centre, Belfast

number of people detained under the PTA in the Six Counties. Alarming statistics are contained in the Northern Ireland Information Service document which shows that in a 91 day period from April 1st to June 30th 1988, 394 people were held under the PTA with only 93 ever appearing before a court on any kind of charge. That figure alone means that for every day of that period three people were arrested without any

view to prosecution.

The figures which cover the period from the PTA's enactment up to June 1988 show that on average over 80% of all detainees are subsequently released without charge. The figures also show that in the first two years of the operation of the London/Dublin Deal, twice as many people were arrested and detained than in the two years preceding the signing of the pact. From January last up

until June of this year, 2,264 people were held under the act.

In view of the large numbers of people held under the present legislation and bearing in mind the already high level of brutality and ill-treatment inflicted on detainees, it is a cause of extreme worry that the British government is even considering extending the length of time for which people can be held in RUC torture centres.

RESIDENTS of Belfast's Bombay Street, which backs onto the 'peaceline' with the Shankill Road, have suffered a seven-day barrage of bricks and petrol bombs which have rained down on their homes.

People living adjacent to the 'peaceline' in homes which were built following the razing to the ground of previous dwellings during the 1969 pogroms, have reported how life is being made intolerable by gangs of loyalists who converge just over the 'peaceline' to launch attacks on their homes.

One elderly couple, Hugh and May Canavan, whose home was scorched by flames in an attack on Monday evening, August 22nd, told how a virtually non-stop stream of petrol bombs crashed into the protective wire screening around the

back of their home, while showers of petrol bombs turned Bombay Street into a sheet of flame.

May Canavan said: "It was sheer hell here, I had to flee my home as the fire brigade fought to control the flames from the street." Fire-fighters were unable to put out fires on the roofs as they came under constant attack at every attempt.

Another neighbour reported how she had vainly tried to summon the RUC for the better part of four days:

"You can rest assured if

the petrol bombs were to fly in the other direction that the RUC would be able to make a very speedy response. But their attitude hasn't changed since their fore-runners entered these streets at the head of burning Paisleyite mobs — to them we're still just Fenians."

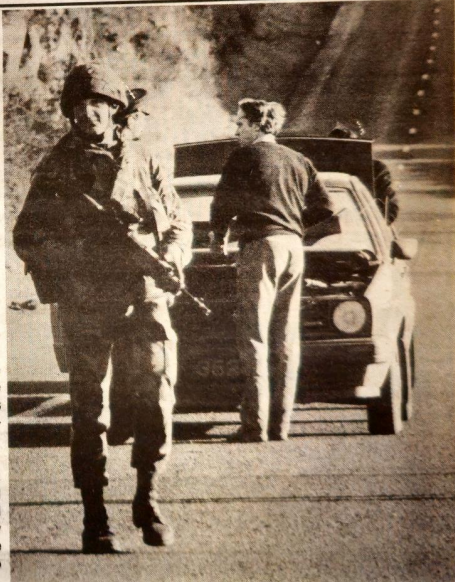
Local Sinn Féin Councillor Fra McCann, who has often sought for more adequate protective walls and fencing for exposed nationalist homes, has again repeated his calls. He said: "The RUC are either unable or unwilling to do anything about these non-stop attacks. Responsibility therefore rests with the statutory bodies to afford adequate physical protection to these vulnerable homes."

As soon as they got back into the car the soldiers demanded for a third time that they get out and open the boot.

Fergal refused, saying they were being deliberately harassed. Suddenly, one of the soldiers smashed in the windshield with his rifle butt. The brothers were bodily dragged from the car and about four or five soldiers set about them with rifle butts, boots and fists.

Both brothers were severely beaten before being pinned against their car. Luckily a local priest, Fr Donal Sweeney, arrived on the scene. Minutes later the RUC arrived by helicopter. The priest attempted to intervene but was told to mind his own business. The soldiers continued assaulting the Kiernans, then dragged them across a nearby field to a waiting helicopter.

They were flown to Bessbrook Barracks where they were detained for four hours before being charged with assaulting the soldiers. They both received treatment for severe bruising and both fully intend to charge the soldiers with assault.



TWO BROTHERS, Fergal and Tony Kiernan of Ardross, South Armagh, were driving along the Culoville to Crossmaglen road on Saturday evening, August 27th, when they were accosted by a British army patrol.

Fergal Kiernan told *AP/RN*: "We were making our way home from a day out in Carrickmacross when the Brits stopped us. They were aggressive and abusive from the outset."

Having searched the brothers and their vehicle thoroughly, one of the soldiers demanded that the car boot be opened for a second time. The two men got out of the car and again opened the boot.

Téigh sa
seans
agus bíodh
an t-ádh
ort

Has your area ordered tickets in this year's 10-week Sinn Fein National Private Members Draw. If not, order your tickets immediately from: Sinn Fein National Finance Committee, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.

Subscription is £10. It can be paid in full or £1-a-week.

Draw commences on Saturday 24th September and concludes on Saturday 26th November.

Star Prize
CAR
(OR IR£5,555)

WEEK 10

1st prize: Car
or Ir£5,555



2nd Prize: Video Recorder: 3rd Prize: Portable Colour TV: 4th Prize: £250:
5th Prize: £200: 6th Prize: £150: 7th Prize: Clones Crystal: 8th Prize: £100: 9th and 10th Prizes:
£50

★ ★

Derry youths beaten by RUC

THE RUC in Shantallow, Derry, viciously beat a number of youths in an orgy of sectarian violence aimed at terrorising the nationalist people of that area.

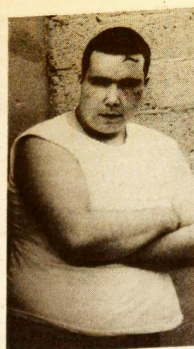
The attacks happened after a large force of RUC men entered Carabane Walk at 1am, on Saturday, August 20th, where they proceeded to beat anyone who happened to be in their way.

An 18-year-old youth, John McGinley, was savagely beaten by four baton-wielding RUC men. McGinley was carried by local people to a nearby house and was later rushed to hospital where he received 14 stitches to his forehead and left eye.

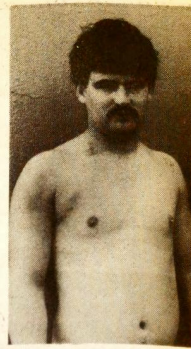
Another youth, Paul McMonagle of Carabane Walk, was also hospitalised after being attacked by the same RUC men. He received medical attention for a fractured rib and bruising to his chest.

Christopher McCallion, also of Carabane Walk, was chased and set upon by six RUC men. At one stage he was surrounded by 15 RUC men who stood kicking and punching him as he lay on the ground. He was then arrested and while in custody, received further ill-treatment.

He was later released without charge and had to receive treatment in hospital for his injuries.



● JOHN MCGINLEY



● PAUL MCMONAGLE



● John Dignam showing the Sympathy Card sent to him by the UDR

PORTADOWN FAMILY THREATENED

A YOUNG Portadown family from Ballyoran Park, John and Claire Dignam and their two small children, were assaulted and threatened twice last week when their home was raided by joint British army/RUC patrols.

During the first raid, Claire Dignam was struck in the face when she asked to see proof of identification. Her two-year-old child was knocked to the ground, hitting his head on the fireplace.

In the second raid, a hat, scarf and gloves belonging to Claire were confiscated and the squad also snatched personal belongings and documents of John's. An RUC sergeant told them, "We're going to take something else every week. We'll be back next week." John's home has been raided five or six times since he was released from Magilligan Prison in 1984.

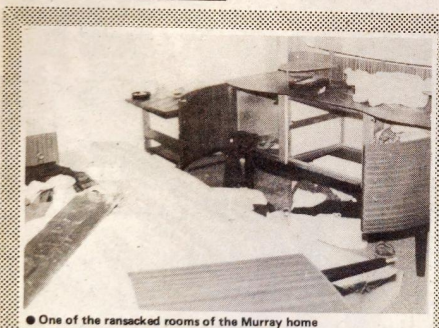
MOCK SYMPATHY CARD

Last Thursday, the day after the second raid, he received a mock sympathy card signed by "your local UDR regiment". Under

the printed message was handwritten "We will get you."

More sinister, however, is the collaboration he suspects between the RUC and loyalist assassins. In a raid last summer, several articles of his clothing were confiscated "for forensic evaluation." Some time later he received a phone call from a man purporting to be a member of the RUC who said that John could collect his clothes. "Don't go to the barracks, the man said, 'meet me at Shillington's (a local hardware store) instead."

Suspecting a set-up, John rang the barracks. He was told that no one had phoned him and that his clothes were still not ready to be returned. "How would loyalists have known about my clothes unless the RUC told them?" he asked.



● One of the ransacked rooms of the Murray home

PORTADOWN RAIDS

IN THE latest in a series of raids on the small nationalist estate of Garvaghy Park, Portadown, four carloads of heavily-armed RUC men smashed their way into two houses at 2.30pm on Friday, August 26th.

At the home of Marie Therese Murray, who was on holiday, the RUC ransacked rooms and tore up floorboards during two

hours of destruction. Relatives who arrived on the scene, including Marie's father, were denied access to the house by the RUC. Other local residents were verbally abused by RUC men.

Over the past fortnight, the RUC and British army have been carrying out a systematic series of raids on the estate.

Cross-border immunity for Brits

ARMED SAS MEN who cross the border into the 26 Counties are now being quietly let return to the North by the gardai. An *Phoblacht/Republican News* has intercepted a top secret British army document which proves that all that British soldiers must do when stopped by gardai is flash their identity cards — then they will be allowed to continue with their "map-reading error".

The document, which is coded 71187 and has the word "restricted" printed on the top and the bottom of each of the four pages, makes it clear that the Dublin government has done a secret deal with the British which guarantees total immunity from arrest or prosecution for any British soldier caught in the South.

The document contains instructions to any soldier found by the gardai in the 26 Counties. They should contact their own unit by radio, demand to see the gardai's identity card, flash their own ID card, and give their name

and section. "This sequence should result in your being released by the Irish SF [Security Forces] and allowed to return, with your vehicles and equipment, to Northern Ireland," it concludes.

REFUSE

But there is a special section for British operatives who the "Irish SF are still suspicious of". They must "decline to give any information about [their] operational duties", refuse to hand over their weapons, refuse to be photographed and refuse to be fingerprinted.

<p>RESTRICTED</p> <p>You should say that you have crossed by error into the Republic and request that you be permitted to return to Northern Ireland.</p> <p>a. You should ask the Irish SF to report to the RUC at once that they have stopped you to see on your particular.</p> <p>b. If you have not already contacted your unit by radio, you should ask the Irish SF if you can use it if they give permission you should tell Headquarters and send your own.</p> <p>2. This sequence should result in your being released by the Irish SF and allowed to return, with your vehicles and equipment, to Northern Ireland.</p> <p>THIS IS MOST IMPORTANT</p> <p>4. If the Irish SF are still suspicious of you they may remove you to a Police Station or Army post. In these circumstances you must co-operate with the Irish SF but the following rules should be taken.</p> <p>4. You are immediately to ask the Irish SF to accompany you to the British Embassy in Dublin (Tel. No. 01605213) in accordance with the terms of the Convention on Consular Relations (1963). If permission is given you are to inform the Embassy right away and any other necessary arrangements should be made. You should have any grounds given to you by the Embassy.</p> <p>RESTRICTED</p>	<p>RESTRICTED</p> <p>b. If questioned you should decline to give any information about your operational duties beyond explaining how you came to cross the border accidentally.</p> <p>c. You are to decline to hand over your weapons, be photographed or fingerprinted. However, if the Garda insist, you should agree. If you are charged with an offence you are immediately to seek representation from the Embassy for this fact so that a lawyer can be obtained for you.</p> <p>USE OF WEAPONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND</p> <p>5. You may only fire your personal weapon if you come under attack and there is no other way to protect yourself from death or serious injury.</p> <p>RESTRICTED CODE 71187</p> <p>INSTRUCTIONS TO SOLDIERS WHO MAY ACCIDENTALLY CROSS THE BORDER INTO THE IRISH REPUBLIC WHILE ON DUTY</p> <p>RESTRICTED</p>
---	---

Tribute to Vol. Brendan Davison

A COMMEMORATIVE FUNCTION was held in the Short Strand area of Belfast on Friday, August 19th, to pay tribute to Vol Brendan 'Ruby' Davison, who was murdered by the UVF on July 25th this year.

The main speaker was Belfast Sinn Féin Councillor Sean McKnight, who said:

"There is nothing that I could say here tonight that would change anyone's opinion of Brendan Davison. The fact that so many turned up here tonight and at his funeral to say their last farewell is an indication of how much the man was loved. He was a gentle and caring man. It was not unusual to see him surrounded by half-a-dozen playing children, or to see him carrying his niece Aine. Since his death, many older people in the area have said how much they will miss him and how they felt secure when they looked out and saw his unmistakable figure walking up the street.

"Brendan Davison was murdered by forces of British imperialism after

at least five attempts on his life. He was murdered because he was feared by the forces of occupation. His record as a Volunteer in the IRA was second to none. He achieved this by not being rushed or careless. His thought for the welfare of his comrades earned him the respect and allegiance of each and every one of them.

"They say that imitation is the highest form of flattery. To imitate him would be very difficult, but I believe that each and every one of us owes it to Brendan Davison to ensure that his death and the death of so many others is not in vain. The Irish people are fighting and dying for peace — but not a peace at any price. We have had those

situations before and they do not redress the problem. The problem is the British occupation of Ireland and until that ends it is Britain who perpetuates violence in Ireland.

"Brendan is buried in the Republican Plot in Milltown Cemetery. He was buried there with honour and dignity, laid to rest with his friends Dan McCann, Bobby Sands, Tony Nolan and Joe Downey.

"Only his body lies there, his memory is with each and every one of us and will never fade. His spirit lives on in the streets of the Short Strand, Ormeau Road, Ardoyne and the Markets.

"My memory of him in the Markets is of him surrounded by children at the corner of Friendly Way and I am sure that you all have a personal memory of Brendan that will remain forever with you because Brendan Davison was not a man that any of us could ever forget."



1988 slógadh shinn féin

14/15ú Deireadh Fomhair

Óstán Lawlors
DUNGARBHÁN

Contae Phort Láirge

Tuilleadh eolas ó: Gearóid Ó hEara, 16 Sráid an Chábla, Doire, Fón: 368926/361949, nó: Bairbre de Brún, 147 Bóthar Andarsain, Béal Feirste, Fón: 301719/301939.



COALISLAND/ DUNGANNON MARCH

THE BELFAST '68 COMMITTEE is organising a commemoration of the Civil Rights struggle which began 20 years ago and is calling for civil rights supporters throughout Ireland to assemble at Coalisland, County Tyrone, on Sunday, September 4th, for a repeat of the

historic Coalisland to Dungannon march.

"20 years on, with threats of internment and extradition a reality, the need to fight for basic civil rights is as great if not greater than it was in '69," says committee spokesperson Fergus O'Hare.



IMEACHTAÍ

PUBLIC MEETING

"Internationalising Shoot-to-kill"
7.30pm Thursday 1st September
LIBERTY HALL
Dublin

Speakers: Relatives of the Gibraltar Three, Michael D Higgins, Fr Raymond Murray, Proinsias Mac Aonmháine and prominent Fianna Fáil member

ANTI-EXTRADITION MEETINGS

8pm Thursday 1st September
Three Ways Hotel
LETTERKENNY

8pm Thursday 8th September
Errigal View Hotel
GWEDDORE

7.30pm Friday 16th September
Abbey Hotel
DONESAL TOWN

Speakers include: Fr Des Wilson, Bernadette McAliskey and Neil Blaney
Organised by the Donegal Anti-Extradition Committee

IRISH FOLK NIGHT

Friday 2nd September
Highfield Social Club
ARDYOYNE

BELFAST

To commemorate the 46th anniversary of the death of Vol Tom Williams

ANTI-EXTRADITION FUNCTION

Saturday 3rd September

Dundalk Bar

Church Street

DUNDALK

Ceili agus craic

Taille €1

FUNCTION

Featuring: The Irish Brigade
8.00pm Saturday 3rd September
Carnegie Hotel
Malahide Road

DUBLIN

Taille €2

COALISLAND TO DUNGANNON MARCH

Assemble: 2.00pm, The Square,
Coalisland

Rally: 8.30pm Dungannon
Sunday 4th September

COALISLAND TO DUNGANNON MARCH AND RALLY

Assemble: 2.00pm, The Square,
Coalisland

Rally: 8.00pm Dungannon
Sunday 4th September

DUBLIN BUS

10.00am

from Dept. of Foreign Affairs
Stephen's Green

Fare €5

Bookings: Vincent Mac Donnell

Phone: 806700

IRISH NIGHT

Music by Fintan Tallon and
Tom Markey

Tuesday 6th September
Tom O'Connor's Bar
Barrack Street

DUNDALK

FUNCTION

Featuring The Irish Brigade
Saturday 10th September
WEXFORD INN

Dublin

Taille €2.50

Organised by the POW Department

COLE/COLLEY COMMEMORATION

11.30am Sunday 11th September
Assemble at Beaumont House

March to memorial at
Yellow Road, Whitehall

DUBLIN

GENERAL LIAM LYNCH COMMEMORATION

3pm Sunday 11th September
At the Memorial

Knockmealdown Mountains
Speaker: Rita O'Hare

REVIEWS

THE RIGHT RIDES AGAIN

BY JOE GABRIEL

BY FAR the most pressing issue confronting the media in general over the past few weeks has been whether or not internment should be introduced. The arguments have raged both for and against, in the print media, on radio and television, North and South, and on both sides of the water. One was firmly coming to the conclusion that it was not a matter of whether internment would be introduced but *when*, and what particular IRA action would precipitate it. But having read J. J. O'Molloy in last Sunday's *Tribune* that conclusion has been somewhat shaken.

J.J. O'Molloy does not exist in the literal sense of the word. He belonged properly in James Joyce's *Ulysses*. He was a character who wandered into newspaper offices, was often seen there, but actually did very little work. Throughout the last number of years, the *Tribune*'s O'Molloy has assumed different styles at different times. As one journalist remarked, "The real identity of J.J. O'Molloy remains the best kept non-secret in Irish journalism." However, of recent times, O'Molloy has become shriller and less tolerant than previously. Indeed, it was as if O'Molloy was echoing the ill-fated and erratic editorials of his own newspaper.

THE BAGGOT STREET BUNKER

Mr O'Molloy, from the relative safety of his Baggot Street haunt, said: "There must be an effective security dimension in dealing with the most relentless and durable terrorist organisation in the developed world [the IRA]...

harsher and, if necessary, more repressive measures [than internment] cannot be ruled out."

So much for the great liberal tradition supposedly pursued by Ireland's premier 'quality' Sunday newspaper.

Mr O'Molloy rounds off his crazed suggestion with the following: "The point, however, is that there is nothing inherently unacceptable about internment or even more rigorous forms of harassment in attempting to counter terrorism." In this more rigorous form of harassment, would Mr O'Molloy include effective internment via the legal remand mechanism, beating of IRA suspects, pursuance of a shoot-to-kill policy, and so on. Hate to tell you, Mr Molloy - they've already been tried. And they don't work!

TIGHTENING THE NOOSE

There's no doubt but that the loony right are in the saddle. The fact that the same newspaper keeps calling for Charlie Haughey to pull the financial noose tighter



● A Belfast boy flees the armoured cars of 1971. The *Tribune* wants a repeat

and tighter around the necks of those least able to fight back is also evidence - if any were needed - that their colours have been nailed firmly to the mast.

The *Tribune*'s sycophantic

attitude towards Fianna Fáil has also led to some speculation as to where the money came from to invest in the paper when it hit troubled waters a few years ago. But, as J.J. O'Molloy might say,

"That's the best-kept non-secret in Irish journalism."

Incidentally, the paper has just taken over *In Dublin* magazine, bringing the total number of titles it now controls to five.

DUIRI SIAD

If it really was the case that a small group of terrorists were preying upon an innocent community that felt a universal detestation for them then the British government would handle the crisis very differently. Known murderers would not be free.

Remember that the security forces know the names and recognise the faces of many IRA men. Do you suppose that the absence of proof beyond reasonable doubt would cut much ice with a community crying out to be rid of them? The public would demand that these enemies of humanity be interned. Information about the terrorists and their associates would pour in.

As for the idea that the murderers could control a political party, and that despite this knowledge many people would vote for such a party, that would be ludicrous. That so many people would vote for it that it could elect MPs to Westminster would be unbelievable. The Brighton racecourse gang was a formidable bunch of ruffians, but it did not run Brighton or elect its own MP.

One-time Labour MP and now right-wing *Sunday Times* columnist Brian Walden.

The moment the very name of Ireland is mentioned the British act either with the barbarity of tyrants or the fatuity of idiots.

— *Sunday Tribune* political writer JJ O'Molloy.

The British admit that their intelligence gathering operations have become increasingly ineffective throughout many of the affected Northern areas.

— JJ O'Molloy.

We weren't ashamed to attend commemoration services for Thomas Ashe or Martin Savage, or parades commemorating the Easter Rising though it seems now that Easter 1916 should be forgotten about.

— A former member of the Dublin LDF, Local Defence Force, interviewed in the *Evening Press*.

Ever since his choice of vice-president, the George Bush campaign has sounded like the Save the Quaysle movement.

— ITN commentator Ken Rees.

We have the airport, now we want the Sam.

— Some Mayo fans at the All-Ireland semi-final, their banner displaying, perhaps, some of the county's high-flying hopes.

Three IRA gunmen were shot dead yesterday when they walked into a carefully-laid SAS ambush... Government sources stressed last night there was no shoot-to-kill policy for the security forces in the province.

— *Daily Express*, front-page article.

The IRA godfathers will now know for sure that Mrs Thatcher means business.

— The *Irish Independent*'s 'news analysis'.

We are heading into an era of unrestrained mass-media influence, as international capitalism organises itself into bigger blocks, based on enrolling the whole world as consumers. All cultural differentiation, all particularity, will impede profit, and so the aim will be to make us all the same. If Ireland is to preserve any meaning then the State itself must have a vision of what our native culture is, and how it can be helped to endure. The Irish language, not as a backward-looking thing, but as a component of a future Ireland, is surely one of the fragments we could shore against such ruin.

— Nuala O Faolain, *The Irish Times*.

Mr Haughey should keep his nose out of British affairs.

— Ian Paisley on Haughey's call for a report from the British government on the killing of the three IRA Volunteers.

What a pity it is - and obviously it is not a coincidence - that this pre-emptive strike took place after the murder of the young soldiers rather than 10 days before.

— Unionist MP Ken Maginnis who personally gave Mrs Thatcher a death-list last week which included at least one of the dead Volunteers' names.

It was seen unofficially as 'sweet revenge' for the bus bomb outrage.

— *The Sun*.

OBITUARY

DESMOND GREAVES

AP/RN has received the following obituary from a friend of author C. Desmond Greaves.

THE CAUSE OF IRISH INDEPENDENCE has lost an irreplaceable advocate with the death of C Desmond Greaves.

A man of exceptionally powerful intellect, he devoted all his powers, from the early 1940s onward, to the one purpose — the advancement of the Irish cause in England, both among the Irish there and among the British trade union movement.

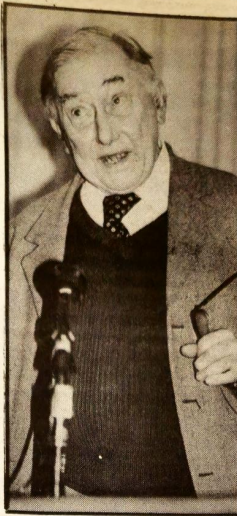
Desmond Greaves was well known as a lecturer, author and historian. His works *The Life and Times of James Connolly* and *Liam Mellows and the Irish Revolution*, are so outstanding in their political insight into those times that they have put all other histories of the period in the shade.

His book, *Sean O'Casey: Politics and Art*, is the most incisive analysis of the O'Casey phenomenon available, and apart from several important books on Irish political affairs, and a history of the early years of the Irish Transport and General Workers Union, he was a prolific writer in the columns of the *Irish Democrat*, month after month for forty years.

The *Democrat*, under the editorship of Desmond Greaves, and the Connolly Association, under his leadership, have sustained over the years an unrelenting and unwavering political campaign for Irish freedom within the context of the British political scene.

He upheld it as a matter of strict principle to refrain from "lecturing" people in Ireland on how to conduct their struggle, and at times when the Republican Movement was being denounced hysterically by the right-wing in England and talked to pompously by the ultra-left, Desmond Greaves resolutely refused to join in the chorus. On the contrary, he could be depended upon to use his eloquence and intelligence to denounce the denunciations on all occasions. His voice was always the voice of sanity and common sense.

Over the years he was responsible for influencing a succession of generations of young people in the Irish cause,



● C. DESMOND GREAVES

and there are very many indeed who will feel forever grateful to him for his sure guidance through the quagmire of ideological humbug that surrounds the left-wing movement in England in its attitudes to the Irish struggle.

HALL, Francis (15th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Francis 'Freddie' Hall, 1st Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, who died in an accidental explosion on August 30th 1973. Fuair se bas ag tróid ar son muintir na hEireann. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

H-BLOCK Martyrs (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vols Bobby Sands, Francis Hughes, Raymond McCreech, Patsy O'Hara (INLA), Joe McDonnell, Martin Hurst, Kevin Lynch (INLA), Kieran Devine (INLA) who died on hunger-strike in 1981. They paid the ultimate sacrifice on the road to peace with justice. To know you was my honour and to carry on your task yet unattained is my duty. May my actions pay tribute to your memory. My thoughts are with your families at this time. Always remembered by Gearoid Mac Domhnaill, POW, Leicester Jail.

KANE, Michael (18th Anniversary). In proud memory of Vol Michael Kane, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, who was killed on active service on September 4th 1970. Fuair se bas ag tróid ar son na saoirse. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

LYNCH, Kevin; DOHERTY, Kieran; McELWEE, Thomas; DEVINE, Mickey (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vols Kieran Doherty, Thomas McElwee (Oglagh na hEireann), Kevin Lynch and Mickey Devine (INLA), who gave their lives on hunger-strike in the month of August 1981. Always remembered by the McCreech family, Camblough, County Armagh, at home and abroad.

McKEOWN, Patrick (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Patrick McKee, who was killed on active service on August 27th 1974. Fuair se bas ar son na

saoirse. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the South (Down) Command.

MULVENNA, Patrick (15th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Patrick Mulvenna, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, who was killed in an ambush by British forces while on active service on August 31st 1973. "They may kill the revolutionary but never the revolution." Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

MULVENNA, Patrick (15th Anniversary). In loving memory of our beloved son and brother Vol Patrick Mulvenna who was killed in action on August 31st 1973. RIP. Our Lady of Heaven, pray for him. Always remembered by his Mother and Father, brothers and sisters and most of all his son Patrick.

MULVENNA, Patrick (15th Anniversary). In loving memory of our friend Vol Patrick Mulvenna who was killed in action on August 31st 1973. RIP. Our Lady of Heaven, pray for him. Always remembered by his friends Eugene Murphy, Martin and Rosie Walsh and family, Mr and Mrs Magee and family, and Mrs Parker and family.

PETTICREW, Ann Marie (18th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Ann Marie Petticrew, Mary, Queen of Ireland, who died on September 1st 1973 as a result of injuries sustained in an accidental explosion a week earlier. "As long as Ireland is unfree, the only honourable attitude for Irish men and Irish women is an attitude of revolt." Always remembered by her friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

WILLIAMS, Tom (46th Anniversary). In loving memory of Vol Tom Williams, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, who was hanged in Belfast on September 2nd 1942. "They may kill the revolutionary, but never the revolution." Always remembered by Joe Cahill.

ish Civil Wars. Remembered with pride by Von, Frank, Harry and Brendan London.

DONOVAN. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Paddy Donovan who died recently in London. From the Marron family, Belfast.

McDONAGH. Deepest sympathy is extended to Tom McDonagh and family on the death of his father. From Joe Lynch and family, Limerick.

McDONAGH. Deepest sympathy is extended to Tom McDonagh and family on the death of his father. From the Glynn South Sinn Fein Cumann, Limerick.

COMHBHRÓN

DAVISON. Condolences are extended to the family and friends of Vol Brendan Davison, killed by agents of British Imperialism, in memory of a soldier of the people. Don't mourn Brendan — follow his example. From Gearoid Mac Domhnaill, Leicester Jail, England.

DONOVAN. In loving memory of Paddy Donovan, Cionakilly, County Cork, who died in London on August 15th, veteran of the Irish and Span-

Beannachtaí

BIRTHDAY greetings to George McDermot (Portlaoise). From Pat Arthurs and Alice.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to all POWs with birthdays this month You are always in our thoughts and prayers not only on your birthday but every day. From Mike Duffy, Philadelphia, USA.

FUSCO, Angelo (Portlaoise). Happy birthday brother, hope to see you and all your comrades free soon. From John, Greta and family.

O'LEARY, Don (Portlaoise). Happy birthday Don on the 4th September. Thinking of you always. Remember who calls the shots. All our love from Mam and Dad. UTP.

O'LEARY, Don (Portlaoise). Happy birthday Don. Thinking of you always big brother. Lots of love. Tiofaidh ar la. UTP.

O'LEARY, Don (Portlaoise). Happy birthday uncle Don. Love Mairiad. UTP. xxx.

O'LEARY, Don (Portlaoise). Happy birthday Don. Love from Chris, Angela, Mandy and Michelle. xxx.

O'LEARY, Don (Portlaoise). Happy birthday Don on September 4th. Thinking of you always big brother. Bel bua. Carmel. UTP.

O'LEARY, Don (Portlaoise). Happy birthday Don. Always in my thoughts. Love Betty. xxx.

O'LEARY, Don (Portlaoise). Happy birthday Daddy. From Don and Ellis. xxx.

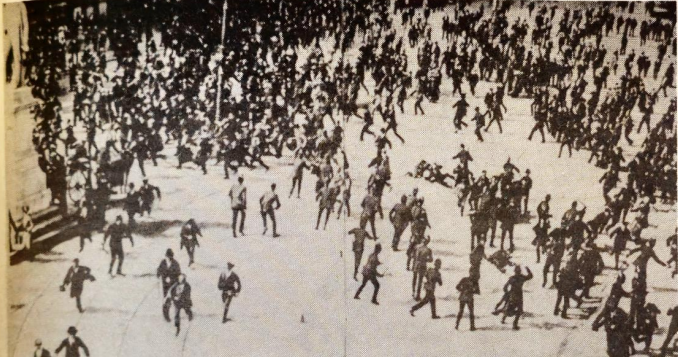
O'LEARY, Don (Portlaoise). Happy birthday Don. From Mrs Gannon, Philip, Mary, Leona and Richard.

O'LEARY, Don (Portlaoise). Birthday greetings big brother. We'll celebrate for you on the 4th. Bel Bua. From Emmet, Ruairi, Gearoid. UTP.

BUIOCHAS

A WORD of thanks to the Carrilher family from Crossmaglen, who travelled to the border with food for people, some of whom had been there since Thursday. Special thanks from Mary Fusco, Marie Ferris and the Kerry people.

REMEMBERING THE PAST



BLOODY SUNDAY 1913

In August 1913, William Martin Murphy, owner of the *Irish Independent* and a number of hotels and department stores, a controlling shareholder in the Dublin United Tramway Company and a leading figure in the 400-strong Employers' Federation, made a determined effort to smash the Irish Transport and General Workers Union (ITGWU), founded by James Larkin in 1909.

Murphy and the Employers' Federation, formed in 1911 to counter the growth of trade unionism, demanded from their workers a written undertaking that they would not join Larkin's, or any other, union. On August 21st 1913, one hundred workers were dismissed and five days later the ITGWU tramworkers came out on strike.

Elsewhere in the Murphy empire, ITGWU members were locked out of the *Independents*' distribution department. When Esson's continued to circulate the newspaper, the dockers refused to handle any goods addressed to them.

The employers, in turn, began to lock out ITGWU members and were out to break not only the union, but the right of workers to organise. Coal-owners, builders, timber and cement merchants, were followed by farmers, and by early September 25,000 workers were prevented from working. In all, 100,000 men, women and children in Dublin were facing starvation.

LARKIN ARRESTED

On August 29th, Larkin and four of his comrades were arrested and charged with seditious libel and

direction and were clubbed to the ground.

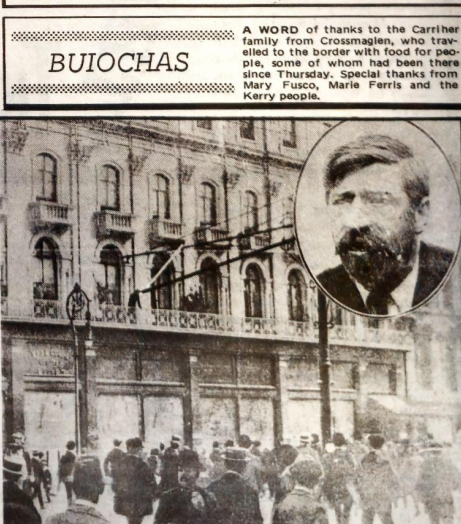
TWO DEAD

At the end of the day, which ever since has been known as Bloody Sunday, the casualties from the brutal baton charges by the police resulted in 43 civilians being treated in city hospitals for injuries, two of whom died.

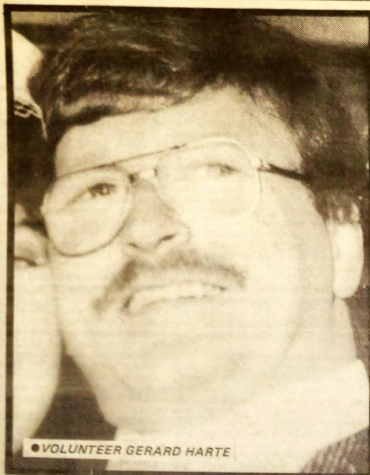
During the following months, as the lock-out continued, food ships sent by British trade unions arrived in Dublin and soup kitchens in Liberty Hall provided basic food for the thousands of starving Dubliners. However, when it became clear that the British unions were not prepared to extend their support to strikers directed at the Irish employers, despite the efforts of Larkin and James Connolly, it was obvious that the Dublin workers were doomed.

Nevertheless, resistance continued for six months, ending in February 1914 when there was a return to work on the employers' terms. As the months passed, however, it became clear that the employers had not won a total victory. Workers who had been forced to promise never to join the ITGWU slowly drifted back into the union and within a short period the ITGWU was once more the largest union in the city.

The savage attack by the police on Dublin workers took place on Bloody Sunday, August 31st, 1913, 75 years ago this week.



● Larkin (inset) speaking to the crowd in O'Connell Street from a balcony of the Imperial Hotel (now Clerys)



●VOLUNTEER GERARD HARTE



●VOLUNTEER MARTIN HARTE



●VOLUNTEER BRIAN MULLIN

Fuair siad bás ar son saoirse a muintire

VOLUNTEER GERARD HARTE, the eldest of the three close comrades who died in a fusillade of SAS bullets in the townland of Drumnakilly on Tuesday, August 30th, had been about to celebrate his second wedding anniversary only hours after foreign gunmen cut him down.

Gerard is survived by his young wife, Roisin, and his ten-month-old son, Colm. He was born on April 7th 1959, the third eldest in a family of four sons and two daughters born to John and Winifred Harte from the townland of Striff, not far from Loughmacrory in Mid-Tyrone.

He began his schooling in Loughmacrory Primary School before moving on to the Dean Brian Maguire Secondary School in Carrickmore. At the age of 16 he began to train as an architect and right up to the time of his death he worked in his chosen career.

Only this Easter, Roisin, Gerard and Colm moved into their family home designed and built by Gerard outside Loughmacrory. Gerard was a keen footballer who often took the field for his local GAA club, St Theresa's, Loughmacrory. He was a highly respected and well-known figure in his local community. His untimely death at the hands of faceless strangers has left a feeling of deep shock in the close-knit community from which he came.

VOLUNTEER MARTIN HARTE was 21 years old when he was shot to death not far from the family home in which he had been born and raised. His death

comes as a double tragedy to his grieving widow, **Briege, who also lost her brother, Brian, in the Drumnakilly shooting.**

Briege and Martin had recently celebrated the birth of their son, three-month-old Declan, and had also recently moved to rented accommodation in Briege's home townland of Foremass.

Martin was the youngest of the children of John and Winifred Harte. He was born on the

family farm at Striff on October 10th 1966. He attended the same primary school as his elder brother, Gerard, in Loughmacrory, before going to Carrickmore secondary school.

The two Hartes grew, not only as close brothers in a tightly-knit family, but as tried and trusted comrades in arms, who were to live, fight and die together in a cause for which they gave and cared so much.

Martin was also a keen Gaelic footballer who was still serving as captain of St Theresa's senior team at the time of his

death. Only last year he had been selected as 'Player of the Year', a title which he inherited from the previous year's holder, his brother, Gerard.

Martin was an earnest and hard-working son and husband. He was a joiner by trade and a familiar sight in his native Mid-Tyrone whether working at his trade, playing on the football field or working within the ranks of the Republican Movement. He will be sorely missed in the community which he had spent his adult life struggling for.

VOLUNTEER BRIAN MULLIN was 26 years old when he was cut down by faceless gunmen on the orders and in the pay of a foreign occupying power. He was born on December 21st 1962 on the family farm at Foremass near Sixmilecross in Mid-Tyrone.

Brian came from a staunchly republican family who are no strangers to the cost of British occupation. From an early age he was familiar with the sights and sounds of crown forces raiding parties at the family home. In common with his two close comrades, Gerard and Martin Harte, he was a constant target for crown forces attention, and had often seen the inside of British interrogation centres. His eldest brother, Pat, is serving a life sentence in Long Kesh Prison Camp.

He was the sixth youngest in a family of seven brothers and three sisters, all of whom survive him along with his mother, Cissie. Brian's father, Michael, died in January 1984.

Brian was educated at Altnamusk Primary School and then St Ciaran's Secondary School, Ballygawley, before leaving to take up the trade of bricklayer. He lived at the family farmhouse which has been the Mullin family home for several generations.

The family are well known and highly respected throughout the locality where the name Mullin is prefixed by the title 'Bard' in honour of Brian's paternal grandfather who is reputed to have been the last of the Tyrone bards.

Brian, like both his comrades, will be sorely missed by their own immediate families and by the wider Republican family of which they were such highly respected members.

