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I.R.A. BOMB BARRACKS

Volunteer Seamus Woods killed in action

AN IRA VOLUNTEER was one of three people killed in tragic circumstances during the past week (See pages 2 & 3 for full details).

Twenty-three-year-old Seamus Woods from Limehill, Pomeroy, was attached to the East Tyrone Brigade and was killed instantly when mortars he was preparing for an attack on nearby Pomeroy Barracks exploded.



DEFINITELY NO SAFE HAVEN

NINE BRITISH SOLDIERS were injured and up to 60 other military personnel narrowly escaped with their lives when two powerful IRA bombs exploded at a British army barracks in West Germany.

The attack began shortly before 3am on Wednesday, July 13th, when IRA Volunteers cut their way through a patrolled perimeter fence at Glamorgan Barracks, Duisburg, West Germany. The base's eight-foot high wire security fence is guarded by armed sentries and military police who observe strict precautions at all times.

The devices were each made up of 50lbs of Semtex plastic explosive and were placed against the wall of the sleeping quarters. It is understood that they were linked by Cortex detonating cord and exploded simultaneously, blowing a 15-foot section of the barracks wall and part of the roof into the main street over 150 feet away. As the Volunteers left the area, which is heavily guarded by both the British and Germans, an att

empt was made by German police to intercept their vehicle but the IRA unit scared off the patrol by firing warning shots from an AK47 rifle.

Security was tightened at British army bases last April, after bomb and gun attacks in Holland when three RAF men were killed. This latest breach — and its deadly potential — has seriously embarrassed the British military establishment.



Only last week, the 400th soldier to die as a result of British oppression in Ireland was killed in a booby-trap bomb attack outside the Falls Baths in West Belfast

Commenting on this fatality, IRA Headquarters in Dublin said:

400th BRITISH SOLDIER
"The death of Warrant Officer

hn Howard in Belfast early today, marks the 400th British army fatality as a result of attempts by successive British governments, particularly since 1969, to maintain their control over the Six Counties.

"When the first British soldier, Gunner Robert Curtis, was killed by an IRA sniper in February 1971, British ministers were to claim later that year that they had the IRA "on the run". Seventeen years later, the death of Warrant Officer Howard shows the failure and political bankruptcy of British rule in Ireland.

"The Irish Republican Army calls upon the British government to give Ireland peace, to withdraw and end the ongoing tragedies. Must it take the deaths of another 400 soldiers before the British government realises it is time to go?

"We urge the British people to press for troop withdrawal from our country and thus make a major contribution to peace in Ireland now."

FALLS ROAD TRAGEDY

BY EAMON TRACY

TWO WEST BELFAST PEOPLE were fatally injured on Thursday evening, July 7th, when an IRA Volunteer accidentally triggered an anti-personnel bomb on the Falls Road. The two who died were Elizabeth Hamill (aged 60) from Clonard Rise and Eamon Gilroy (aged 24) from Lady Street.

Several hours before the explosion, which occurred shortly after 7pm, IRA Volunteers had taken over the Falls Baths. A small anti-personnel mine was placed against a side wall of the Baths at



● EAMON GILROY

North Howard Street which leads to a major British army/RUC barracks. The stated intention of the IRA was to attack one of the several crown force's foot patrols which regularly leave and enter the barracks along that route.

A few minutes after 7pm, the bomb detonated hurling pieces of masonry in all directions. Eamon Gilroy and Elizabeth Hamill



● ELIZABETH HAMILL

were critically wounded and several others slightly injured. The two died later in hospital.

The IRA, in a statement released the following day, accepted responsibility for the attack "which went tragically wrong". The Belfast Brigade explained that "A Volunteer in control of the small bomb accidentally detonated its charge". The IRA extended its

"deepest condolences to the relatives of the two who died". The West Belfast MP and Sinn Féin President, Gerry Adams, expressed his shock at the tragedy. He said, "I regret very much the fact these two people were killed. I have been asked to condemn the IRA. I have to point out that regardless of how critical I would be, deminations... the sort of ritualistic atrocity."

"For me to condemn the IRA would be to suggest I don't understand. I do understand. My concern is with the families of those killed and for the consequences of such operations on the overall struggle."

He added, "What happened here on the Falls Road would be and should be a spur on public representatives to bring about a permanent end of the conditions which create all of these tragedies."



● Seamus Woods' girlfriend places a wreath on his coffin

DEDICATED VOLUNTEER KILLED IN ACTION

IN PAYING TRIBUTE to IRA Volunteer Seamus Woods, tragically killed on active service on Thursday night, July 7th, the East Tyrone Brigade of the IRA has stated its determination to continue the struggle for which he gave his life.

Volunteer Seamus Woods, from Limehill, in Pomeroy, County Tyrone, was engaged in a mortar and gun attack on the Pomeroy barracks. It was characteristic of his bravery that he had taken responsibility for carrying out one of the most dangerous aspects of the operation — driving the mortars, positioned on the back of a tractor, to within yards of the heavily fortified barracks.

He was tragically killed while withdrawing from the mortars. During a subsequent search by the crown forces his body was recovered around 8 o'clock the following morning lying in a field at Edenbank Road.

IRA TRIBUTE

His death comes just over a year since the death of eight of his comrades at Loughgall, an event which deeply affected Seamus Woods and strengthened his commitment to the struggle.

At approximately 5pm on Friday afternoon, July 8th,

Volunteers of East Tyrone Brigade IRA secured a position in the Pomeroy area and fired a sustained volley of shots over a simple memorial to their fallen comrade which consisted of his beret, gloves and a Tricolour. The volley, fired by four Volunteers, was timed to coincide with the release of his body from Craigavon Hospital.

In a supplied statement the IRA said this was their final tribute and took away any pretext for the crown forces to either harass the Woods family or brutally attack mourners, as they have on numerous occasions.

The IRA's tribute was followed by the thousands of mourners from Tyrone and elsewhere who turned out on Sunday to bury this brave and unselfish Volunteer. Many mourners from outlying areas were stopped by the crown forces on the way and in Pomeroy itself (which is 95% nationalist) the RUC allowed an Orange parade to march through the Head of the Town area, past



● Some of the thousands who paid their last respects in Pomeroy

the road leading to Volunteer Woods' home. As a result, mourners had to wait until the area was cleared.

A line of RUC Land Rovers blocked the road approaching the Woods' home and the lane ways either side. Although there was a substantial crown force presence, they did not, as on so many other occasions, attack and jostle mourners to surround the hearse. Instead, mourners stood in dignified silence as the

Tricolour-draped coffin was removed from the family home and began its one-and-a-half-mile journey to the Church of the Assumption for 12.30pm Requiem Mass. Black flags flew from telegraph poles along the route and the cortege swelled in numbers as it turned right into Pomeroy's main street.

The coffin, still draped with the Tricolour, was carried into the chapel, the parish priest, Fr Michael McGirr, according to a

request from the Woods family.

After Mass, the coffin was carried the short distance to the adjoining graveyard. Every movement of mourners was videotaped by the RUC Special Branch and watched by a ring of RUC, who surrounded the cemetery.

HALF MAST

Volunteer Seamus Woods is the first IRA Volunteer to be buried in the Republican Plot in Pomeroy. The Tricolour flew at half mast as the brief burial ceremony was conducted.

Sean Begley, Sinn Féin's constituency representative for Mid-Ulster, chaired the graveside ceremonies and, in extending sympathy from the Republican Movement to the Woods family, said that Volunteer Woods "was a respected, dedicated and intelligent Volunteer, who was popular and well-liked by everyone who knew him. We, the republican family, share this loss with the Woods family."

Without the intrusive noise of low-flying British army helicopters, the minute's silence which followed in tribute to Volunteer Woods was exactly that — a silence in which only the flutter-

Volunteer Seamus Woods

TRIBUTE FROM A COMRADE

EAST TYRONE has long since been hostile territory for the British crown forces, and for the last five years of his young life, Volunteer Seamus Woods (23) played a most prominent role in making this so.

The second youngest of eight children, Seamus grew up in the townland of Limehill, a mile or so outside Pomeroy. It was at the age of 18 that Seamus joined the Irish Republican Army, feeling as he did, that this was the only course of action open to him if he was to play a part in the struggle for national reunification.

A highly intelligent young man Seamus was educated at St Mary's Primary School, Pomeroy, and later at the Dean Bryan Maguire Secondary School in Carrickmore. In addition, he studied electronics at the Belfast College of Technology.

Seamus' political education came in the form of repeated harassment from British forces which was directed largely against himself, most of his young Pomeroy friends and members of his family. Seamus was still at primary school, when a neighbour, Patrick McElhone was taken out into a field and shot dead in cold blood by British soldiers, who were never brought to justice. Seamus was also deeply affected by the deaths on hunger-strike of ten Volunteers in 1981, among them Martin Hurson from neighbouring Cappagh and by the deaths of the Loughgall Martyrs in May of last year, several of whom were his

close comrades. These events confirmed the true nature of British imperialism.

IMMENSELY POPULAR

On a personal level, Seamus had a wide social circle and was immensely popular. He was nicknamed "Sponge" by his friends who loved him for his wit, and for "the crack". As a Volunteer, he was very experienced and took part in numerous operations. It was said that Seamus had access to more safe houses than almost anyone else. He had an ability to strike up a favourable rapport instantly with whomever he met and, as a friend said, "to know him was to like him".

Seamus' knowledge of the local Pomeroy terrain was of great benefit to his unit and helped to secure many retreats from successful operations. He was particularly good with the younger and newly-recruited Volunteers and spent much of his time showing them the ropes. He derived great satisfaction and pleasure from going to and taking part in operations wearing his wellingtons, a source of constant amusement to his comrades who will miss his operational know-how, his calm and his unequalled 'mickey-taking'.

A week before his death, Seamus was arrested and detained



● Volunteer Seamus Woods (right) marching back from the republican memorial in Cappagh after the firing of a volley of shots in honour of the Loughgall Martyrs

in Gough Barracks, Armagh, for the first time. For quite a while, he had managed to remain unsuspected, but his intense level of activity was unavoidably putting an end to that.

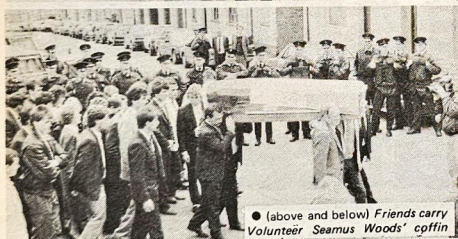
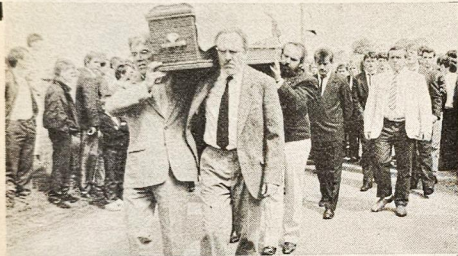
EXILE AND RETURN

Seamus had spent a short while in America, one of many exiled Tyrone people, forced to emigrate as a result of poor employment

opportunities. But he returned and immediately reported back to the IRA for active service. He and his family suffered a personal tragedy just two months ago with the death of their mother, Mary.

So, then Seamus of the ready smile and joke-a-minute, you are gone from us but never forgotten. Fond are the memories, silently kept, comrade.

I measc laochra na nGael go raibh a nam usal.



● (above and below) Friends carry Volunteer Seamus Woods' coffin



● Seamus Woods' funeral cortege

ing of the Tricolour could be heard catching the wind which swept over the surrounding Tyrone hillside.

Wreaths were laid on behalf of Tyrone Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, the Woods family, Mid-Ulster Comhairle Ceantair Sinn Fein, South Tyrone Comhairle Ceantair Sinn Fein, Martin Hurson Sinn Fein Cumann, Pomeroy, Tyrone National

green hills of Tyrone and build the only fitting memorial for Seamus and all our fallen comrades in arms."

Sean Begley then introduced Sinn Fein's National Director of Publicity and Ard Chomhairle member, Danny Morrison, to give the oration.

He spoke of the personal tragedy of the Woods family and the collective loss to the republican family at the tragic death of Volunteer Woods. It was always a sad responsibility, he said, to address a republican family in mourning and republican mourners who had seen so much suffering over the last 20 years. In this case "it is particularly poignant, especially since the Woods family, just a few short weeks ago, buried their mother, Mary. It is also a major tragedy given the fact that the East Tyrone Brigade IRA has lost so many Volunteers in such a short space of time."

He said that there are those who would criticise Seamus Woods and the national liberation struggle but if any criticism could be levelled "it was because Seamus Woods had a far bigger conscience than many of the people who would claim to rule us, to run our lives or to give us moral leadership."

"What was wrong with Seamus was that he could not stand idly by and watch what was happening to his native people. When we consider all that has happened over the last 20 years, what Seamus and young people like him saw, is it any wonder that they felt that they had to take up a gun against the British occupation forces and all that they have forced on us?"

LOYALIST ARROGANCE

He turned to the loyalist march prior to the funeral procession, saying "today we saw an example of the alleged improvements in our society



● The Tricolour draped coffin being carried from Pomeroy church

under the Hillsborough Treaty, when loyalists again had the effrontery to march through a 95% nationalist part of Pomeroy. Yet when nationalist people marched through the 100% nationalist Bogside area of Derry it meant 14 people getting shot dead. For our people who marched through republican West Belfast it meant attacks by plastic bullets, boots and batons. There is no change in our society. Young Seamus saw all of these things happen. He saw how a neighbour, Patrick McElhone, was taken out by the paratroopers and shot dead. Nobody was ever brought to justice for that. There is no justice in our country and that is why young people find it necessary to fight and to take up the struggle passed on by previous generations."

But in spite of the tragedy of the death of Seamus Woods and his comrades at Loughgall, Morrison added that, the predominant feeling among republicans in Tyrone was that they would draw strength from his sacrifice. "They are saddened but not demoralised. They will continue where Seamus left off. This is a message which we must deliver to the British government and to the British government's hired hands who surround us here. We tell them, Britain, your days in Ireland are numbered. We are not going to stop. We have the

will, the determination and the courage to continue."

Emphasising the resilience of the nationalist people and the IRA, he outlined events since the death of Volunteers Brendan Burns and Brendan Moley in South Armagh, the three IRA Volunteers assassinated by the SAS in Gibraltar and the subsequent events, which left two more Volunteers and two nationalists dead. In many other situations the spirit of a people would have been broken by such events.

ANOTHER 400?

Last Friday night in Belfast, he continued, "another tragedy occurred, when two civilians were tragically killed and others injured in a bomb attack. Later that evening, the fourth hundred British soldier to die in Ireland lost his life. And the IRA issued a message to the British government asking must another 400 soldiers die before you are forced to withdraw from our country. Britain will have to leave. That is the simple message."

In conclusion he turned again to the personal loss to the Woods family saying, "Seamus buried his comrades who were killed at Loughgall and he was not deterred. We have to admire his courage. We have to look and see what we can do to redouble our efforts in this struggle to ensure there will be peace."

"Our community, the Woods family, have paid a very, very heavy price. The cost has been tragic and has continued for 20 years. But, because the cost has been high and because of that determination, the rewards of peace will be great. And on this sad, wet day, that is what we can offer the Woods family — to know Seamus had a conscience, Seamus was right, Seamus fought and upon Seamus' death and the sacrifice of his comrades we will have a real and lasting peace for our children."

FITTING MEMORIAL

"We take this opportunity to state our determination to drive the occupation forces from the

OPINION

ROAD TO NOWHERE

IT IS FITTING, now that the dust has settled on another Twelfth of July, to look to the phenomenon of loyalism and its place in the political situation in Ireland. For thousands of nationalists all over the Six Counties this period is marked by insults, intimidation and often real fear for their safety as they experience the 'celebrations' at first hand. The Twelfth is all about the assertion of supremacy, of the display by one section of the community that their neighbours are regarded as second-class citizens. It is meant to show the world that the sectarian niche of privilege carved out for loyalists within the Six-County state is not about to be abandoned by them.

But behind all the triumphalism and the shows of strength by Orangemen lurks a deep insecurity. That insecurity lies at the heart of loyalism. It has been said of loyalism that it knows what it does not want but not what it wants or where it is going. One of the fundamental reasons for that is that loyalism is dependent. Self-reliance is supposedly one of its watch-words but in reality loyalists are hopelessly reliant on Britain and the British connection. Thousands of them paraded this week to celebrate the victory of one foreign king over another on Irish soil at the Battle of the Boyne. The most central symbol of loyalism is the British crown, yet their relationship with the monarchy and the British establishment is full of contradictions.

While loyalism is a long-established reality in Ireland it is a creation of British interference and has been used historically to serve British interests. Loyalists may express their loyalty to the British crown but the British have no loyalty to them. They are to be used and, like the rest of the Irish people, are seen in terms of their place in the political and strategic interests of British imperialism.

When Britain sees that it is in its interest to leave Ireland it will abandon the unionists as quickly as it abandoned those loyal to it in its other former colonies around the globe. In the meantime the lives of loyalists in the Six Counties will be put in the front line in the British government's war to maintain its strategic foothold in Ireland. It suits the British government to let the RUC and UDR bear the brunt of casualties. They are of less account than soldiers from Britain to the military strategists who run war because their deaths have less impact.

The unionist and loyalist community have a place and a future in Ireland. They are Irish people and like the rest of the Irish people are products and indeed victims of the historic experience of the Irish people. They have no future with a foreign power which has used them and moulded their political development to impose the artificial partition of our country and to excuse its disastrous interference.

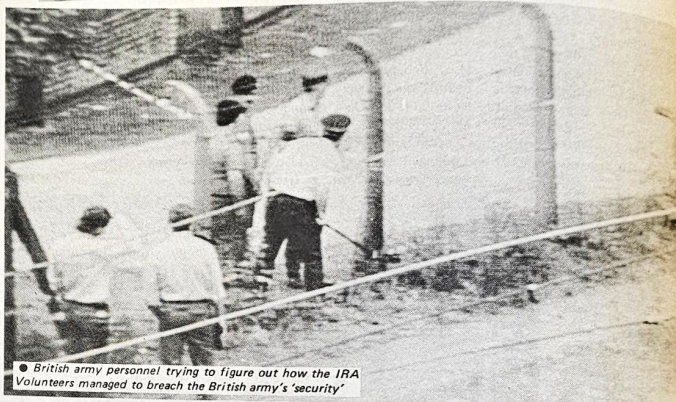
The last thing that republicans want is a 32-County Free State. Full civil rights and religious and civil liberties for all the Irish people is the basic aim of republicans. We have had too many years of sectarianism to want any remnant of it to remain in the new Ireland. We are not about dispossessing loyalists. In fact a free Ireland offers them real security based on equality rather than on discrimination and injustice which must end sooner or later.

The marginal privileges enjoyed by Protestants in the Six Counties are bitter fruits. They were won at the expense of the long-term prosperity of the Irish people as a whole, including loyalists. For the large numbers of unemployed and those who emigrate those privileges are largely notional.

As long as loyalists follow their leaders who want to turn the clock back they are on the road to nowhere. Britain is fighting a losing war. Some day loyalists are going to have to sit down at the negotiating table and work out their future with the rest of the Irish people. For their own sakes the sooner that happens the better.



● The damage caused by the IRA bombs at the Glamorgan British army barracks in Duisberg, West Germany



● British army personnel trying to figure out how the IRA Volunteers managed to breach the British army's 'security'

Widespread IRA attacks

APART FROM the IRA bomb attacks in Germany and Belfast, reported in pages 1 and 2, IRA Volunteers carried out attacks across the Six Counties.

Last Thursday night, Volunteers of the East Tyrone Brigade IRA used vehicles to seal off the road through Stewartstown village to launch a mortar attack on the joint Army/RUC barracks. Two bombs were fired, one exploding in waste-ground, the other hitting the barracks but failing to detonate.

It was at this time that in another part of Tyrone, Volunteer Seamus Woods tragically lost his life when a mortar bomb exploded in its tube. Another mortar did discharge and hit the barracks, causing some damage. Volunteers then opened fire with a machine-gun before withdrawing from the area.

BELFAST ATTACKS

In Belfast, there were a

number of gun attacks on crown forces. In the early hours of Saturday morning, at the completion of a British army operation in the St. James' area, the IRA appeared on the streets and using a light machine-gun and G3 rifles, fired over 80 shots at the British army observation post and billet on top of Broadway Tower nurses' home. The British army returned fire.

On Tuesday evening, again in the west of the city, an IRA unit drove up to the front sanger of Springfield Road Barracks and fired 20 high-velocity shots into an opening. The car then drove off at speed. No hits were claimed.

DERRY

In Derry, IRA Volunteers attacked RUC personnel at

WAR NEWS



Castle gate on Tuesday. Two grenades were thrown, one of which exploded. The following day, IRA Volunteers breached the tight security around the RUC's Strand Road Barracks and threw two grenades. One of the grenades exploded inside the recently erected barriers causing some damage.

LOYALISTS STRIKE IN SOUTH BELFAST

DEATH THREAT CARRIED OUT

A CATHOLIC MAN from the nationalist Markets area of South Belfast was the target of a loyalist assassination attempt on Thursday afternoon, July 7th, which left him seriously injured.

27-year-old Patrick Fitzpatrick was getting out of his car at around 4pm to pick up two women and their children at Dunnes Stores when the loyalist gunman struck. He ran at Fitzpatrick across a car park, firing several shots at his victim, who fled for his life but stumbled and fell to the ground.

The gunman stood over him and coolly fired several more times, at point blank range, before he ran off in the direction of the Ormeau Park. Fitzpatrick was shot in the face and wounded in both arms. He was rushed to hospital, where surgeons were unsuccessful in saving the sight in his right eye. His overall condition is described as serious but stable.

Fitzpatrick was shot at the same spot where Catholic Dunnes Stores worker Charles McGrillen

was assassinated three months ago. His assassination was claimed later by the loyalist UFF murder gang.

On July 7th last year Patrick was taken in an RUC Land Rover to Dee Street in loyalist East Belfast, where a gun was placed in his mouth, he was threatened with death and told that "If we don't get you, the UDA or UVF will". A complaint was lodged about this incident to his solicitor. On Thursday, the day he was shot, the RUC got in touch with the solicitor to arrange an interview with Pat regarding the incident.

HEIGHTENED TENSION

This most recent attack comes after several months of heightened tensions in South Belfast. Not a week has gone by without



● Patrick Fitzpatrick being carried wounded to a waiting ambulance

Catholics being attacked by loyalists in the Ormeau Road area. In recent weeks, homes have been attacked by roaming bands of loyalist thugs. People have also been attacked while simply walking between the Markets and Lower Ormeau Road. These attacks have been taking place

because of the UDA's declared intention to step up their terror campaign upon Catholics.

Sinn Féin Councillor Sean McKnight commented:

"The people of this area know they live in constant fear of their lives, but I would plead with people again to be extremely

careful when going about their day-to-day lives. I believe that Pat Fitzpatrick was shot by a loyalist gunman, who was waiting for anyone who could have been identified as a Catholic. Had he not been the target, there is no doubt some other innocent party would have fallen victim."

TALKING TO THE SDLP

THERE HAVE BEEN MANY gains from the Sinn Féin/SDLP exchanges which have continued for almost six months. The process has given Sinn Féin an ongoing platform from which to promote *A Scenario for Peace* and the republican demands for a British declaration of intent to withdraw, recognition of the Irish people's right to national self-determination, and an amnesty for all political prisoners.

In the long term, moreover, the precedent has been correctly established, initially with the SDLP but applying to the London and Dublin governments and the loyalists, of Sinn Féin's right to take part in talks without preconditions. To date it has been their policy to attempt to devalue and render second class the votes for Sinn Féin. This was summed up by party president Gerry Adams who said: "If someone is saying that one party can go to a conference because they have votes but that Sinn Féin can't, although it has votes, then that is committing, against the people who vote for us, the very same sin that successive unionist regimes inflicted upon anti-unionists since the state was established. The votes of those who voted for us are just as meaningful and as valuable as those who would vote for any other party."

BY PETER ARLIS

While the talks have had their gains, which has irked the British government and the loyalists, their confidentiality and protracted nature (and the history of recent political changes in republican strategy) have been seized upon by republican opponents to spread confusion.

Whilst the SDLP continues to take flak for talking to Sinn Féin, most recent media commentary has attempted to raise speculation of differences within the Republican Movement over the political/military balance. Some of the reports can clearly be attributed to the SDLP as part of a diversionary tactic or to justify their part in the talks. None of it, of course, is believed by the British government, the British army or the

RUC, who have been regularly issuing public warnings about the rising power of the IRA.

MEDIA FAIRY TALES

The first reports, penned by a well-known Workers' Party hack, came at Easter in the *Sunday Times* and *Sunday World*. Because Martin McGuinness was not a member of the delegation which met the SDLP, this, they said, meant that he was in disagreement with Gerry Adams. Clearly, they would like to dictate the composition of Sinn Féin delegations! When this mud didn't stick, the focus shifted on to the actual delegation and an attempt was made by the *Irish Times* to suggest differences of opinion among Sinn Féin members.

In recent days, the *Sunday Times*, *Sunday World*, *Irish Press* and the *Sunday Telegraph's* new reporter Chris Ryder (who was sacked by the *Sunday Times* for lying) have all regurgitated a variety of the hawks/doves line, "a councillor resigns", "Adams taking his Westminster seat", "the IRA bombing the talks", etc. There is a brilliant consistency about these reports — none of them are true!

There is no republican who believes that the British government can be talked out of Ireland. That Britain refuses to leave us in peace is an unfortunate fact of life which has created the necessity for an armed struggle, and not just an armed struggle but a freedom struggle which encompasses a

THERE is no republican who believes that the British government can be talked out of Ireland. That Britain refuses to leave us in peace is an unfortunate fact of life which has created the necessity for an armed struggle, and not just for an armed struggle but a freedom struggle which encompasses a proficiency in the art of politics.

proficiency in the art of politics.

The Sinn Féin Ard Comhairle will be the judge of the value of the talks with the SDLP and of how long they should continue. No-one in the media, nor political critics, will stampede that decision. When the process has been exhausted, when the SDLP agree or do not agree to take up republican

self-determination and on an international campaign against the British presence without placing preconditions on the Republican Movement, when Sinn Féin have comprehensively dealt with the SDLP's strategy, or lack of one, then and only then will the talks naturally conclude.

STEEL & CONCRETE BARRIERS CLOSE STRAND ROAD

RUC barricade Derry's main street

THERE WAS ANGRY REACTION in Derry last week when the RUC, without warning, erected steel and concrete barricades on either side of Strand Road RUC Barracks, closing off a 200-yard stretch of the road to traffic.

As well as being Derry's main thoroughfare to and from the city centre, Strand Road is also a commercial business centre for a high percentage of the city's trade. The closing of the road on Friday

morning, July 8th, is already causing major inconvenience to local people.

The barricading of Strand Road by the RUC follows the arbitrary closure of part of the Spe-

ncer Road in the Waterside in August 1986 and the permanent blockading of Butcher Gate and part of Waterloo Street with concrete bollards in December 1987. To date, upwards of 20 businesses have been forced to close down on Spencer Road alone.

Fearful that the same awaits their businesses, traders on Strand

Road have called for an emergency meeting of Derry City Council to see what can be done to reverse the RUC's actions. They described the closure of Strand Road as "the death knell of the city centre" and are treating claims by the NIO that the barriers are only a temporary measure with justifiable scepticism. (The same claim

was made about Spencer Road nearly two years ago).

Local Sinn Féin Councillor Hugh Brady has bitterly attacked the RUC's blockading of the road as "a futile so-called security exercise aimed merely at intelligence gathering and harassment of the nationalist people of Derry".

He added that the RUC's annual budget was supplemented by £2,200 million last year for the sole purpose of fortifying barracks and fortifications in nationalist areas and the barricades erected around Strand Road were part of that military strategy.

Nationalists under siege

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

THE MOST BLATANT example this year of loyalist triumphalism during this year's Twelfth of July period in the Six Counties was when the Orange Order was allowed to march through the nationalist Garvaghy Road area of Portadown twice within as many days.

Throughout the Six Counties, in the main cities of Belfast and Derry, in towns like Newry or the more exposed small towns and villages, nationalists were penned into their own areas by British forces. Many were unable to move in or out, their children were, for the most part, kept indoors, while those families who could do so left their homes altogether.

In Portadown this year, Orangemen were again permitted to parade through the predominantly nationalist Garvaghy Road area, firstly on Sunday, July 10th, then on July 12th. Much play was made of the fact that on July 10th the crown forces erected a barrier to the entrance to the nationalist Obins Street Tunnel area and the Orangemen were rerouted to Drumcree Church via Northway. This was heralded by some as a welcome and honest demonstration of the RUC's 'impartiality'.

The ludicrous contradiction of the whole matter however is that the RUC and British army had that day saturated the largest nationalist area of Portadown, Garvaghy Road, to accommodate the Orangemen coming back from

Drumcree via Garvaghy. Nationalists who made a token protest by sitting down on the road wearing prisoner-type uniforms — to show that they were virtual prisoners in their own district — were dragged off the road to allow the Orangemen access.

REPEAT PERFORMANCE

Two days later, on July 12th, there was a repeat performance, when the Garvaghy Road area was swamped by crown force personnel as thousands of Orangemen from outlying areas congregated at the Orange Hall to march via Garvaghy to the town centre. The more direct route, as on all occasions, was ignored, because the whole purpose is to fly the sectarian flag in nationalist faces.

Nationalists who tried to move from one point to another were harassed by the crown forces and P-checked. When the Orangemen began marching through Garvaghy the RUC donned riot gear and jostled local people back from the road.

The lesson to be drawn from this situation — which was reflected in so many other areas during the Twelfth — is that the state



forces and their political masters have not the political will to confront loyalism at present. The

logic behind not allowing Orangemen to march through Obins Street but through the larger

nationalist Garvaghy Road area is clearly one of contradiction and downright political expediency.

PRISONER ASSAULTED IN FRANCE

JAMES COLL, an Irish political prisoner jailed in France after the capture of the Eksund, was brutally beaten two and a half weeks after a serious operation in the prison hospital at Fresnes near Paris, because he refused to wear a convict's uniform.

In a letter recently received by his family in Donegal, Coll describes how, after an operation for gallstones at the end of May, a warder ordered him to put on a prison uniform before he would be allowed to take exercise. On Friday, June 17th, he was to be transferred back from the hospital to the main prison. Three warders

attempted to force the uniform on him but at first they were unsuccessful. The three then left the cell.

Coll told one warder who returned to plead with him to wear prison clothing: "I have nothing against the French state or its people but I'll wear no criminal's uniform."

Some time later, eight warders entered the cell and tried to force the prison jacket and trousers on him. They kicked him, pulled him and pushed him, causing a searing internal pain "with every twist and turn they gave me it got even worse," writes Coll. "They kicked me hard but this was nothing to the pain in my abdomen."

NEARLY PASSED OUT

He was handcuffed and thrown into a prison van. He was then

dragged by the legs to the front of the van. "Two or three times I nearly passed out with the pain", as the van took him back to the main building, where he was put in a waiting cell for 20 minutes. Despite the pain, he succeeded in getting off the trousers before the warders returned and he was then brought back to his own cell, where the rest of the uniform came off.

Coll immediately asked to see a doctor, who did not come until

Tuesday — four days after the assault. The internal injuries he received during the struggle made him vomit up blood as he waited over the weekend for the doctor to arrive. When he finally appeared, the doctor claimed everything was 'normal'.

James Coll's injuries seem to have healed since the attack and the pain has receded — no thanks to the French prison service which has still not succeeded in criminalising him. Like James Doherty and Gabriel Cleary, he has been held on arms possession charges for over eight months since the Eksund was seized. They are not likely to face trial for another three or four months.

Doherty had been held in virtual solitary confinement for most of this period at a jail some distance from Paris, while Cleary and Coll are at Fresnes.

GARDAI BEAT FAMILY IN DUNDALK

BY MICKEY MacCONKEY

GARDAI in Dundalk broke a man's arm in two places, shattered a young woman's jaw and assaulted a third woman, in what locals have termed "a disgusting display of violence" last Friday.

Paddy McCartney, his wife Janet and her sister Margaret O'Reilly were returning home early on Friday morning after a night out. Three Garda cars followed them and, as they reached their front door, one of the gardai leaned out the squad car window and shouted at McCartney to come towards him. The gardai asked him where he had come from, to which he replied, "You know rightly where I've come from, you've just followed me home."

Gardai leapt from the squad cars and began kicking and punching him. His left arm was twisted so badly that it was broken in two places. When Janet

McCartney tried to stop the attack, more gardai turned on her and began hitting her.

Janet McCartney's 16-year-old sister Margaret O'Reilly was then attacked and was punched in the chest. Another gardai kicked her legs, and a third broke her jaw as she screamed for help.

One uniformed gardai then tried to pull his colleagues off the young woman, yelling "Leave the girls alone." Paddy McCartney was bundled into the back of the squad car and driven off at great speed.

15 IN PROTEST

Several neighbours witnessed the assaults and 15 local families

have sent a letter of protest to the local newspaper.

At 5.30am Paddy McCartney was charged with assaulting the gardai and with behaviour likely to lead to a breach of the peace. When Janet McCartney went to Dundalk barracks to see her husband she too was arrested and charged with assaulting the gardai. The pair were treated in Louth County Hospital on their release. McCartney's condition was worsened by the fact that he is a chronic diabetic and needs regular injections of insulin.

"This attack was particularly vicious", he told AP/RN. "The gardai have not heard the end of this."



• PADDY MCCARTNEY



● Picketers outside Haughey's Kinsealy residence prior to his trip to Australia

Anger follows Haughey

THE ANGRY REACTION to the Fianna Fail government's sellout to Britain on extradition followed Charles Haughey to Australia this week, while at home his party is facing problems over widespread rank and file opposition to extradition.

Haughey travelled to Australia with the records of Irish convicts transported there by the British in the last century. This was his official state gift to mark the bicentennial of European settlement in the continent. His gift to Britain will be Irish political prisoners handed over for extradition.

On the day of the Fianna Fail leader's arrival in Perth, Monday, July 11th, he was challenged about extradition when he visited the Irish Club. A group of protesters and local secretary of the group, Jim Larkin, approached Haughey and asked him if he intended to extradite Owen Carron. Larkin was pushed away before Haughey could answer the question.

Angered by what was later described as "the Irish Club's own form of Section 31", protesters shouted at the Fianna Fail leader as his cavalcade left the Club.

In a statement from its Dublin

office, the Irish Anti-Extradition Committee challenged Haughey to explain to Australians how he can honour Irish people convicted of political offences and transported to Australia in the past "when he is preparing to return to British custody Owen Carron, whom he had talks with in government buildings in 1981 to discuss the Long Kesh hunger-strike".

CLARE PROTEST

Clare Anti-Extradition Committee held a very successful three-day protest at the Willie Clancy Summer School at Miltown Malbay last week.

During the three days, hundreds of signatures were collected expressing opposition to extradition. Leaflets were distributed to Irish and foreign visitors to the town. Prior to the protest, many foreign visitors were ignorant of the situation but, on reading the leaflet, they expressed their astonish-

ment at the servility of the Dublin government in extraditing Irish citizens to a system of justice where a fair trial would be impossible. Some visitors left contact addresses and vowed to raise the issue when they returned home.

And Fianna Fail leadership is

coming under increasing pressure from party members to drop extradition. A meeting of Fianna Fail members is to go ahead this Saturday in Dublin's Buswell's Hotel to rally support inside the organisation against the policy.

IGNORING GRASSROOTS

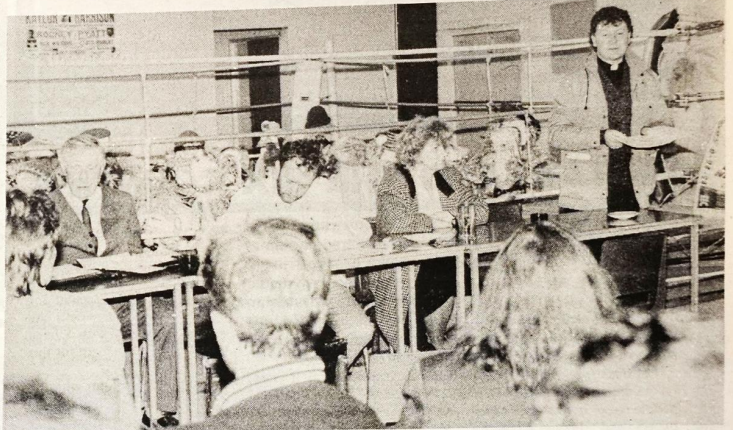
A prominent Fianna Fail activist in Dublin West, Richard Greene, said yesterday that there should be no extradition until the conflict in the Six Counties is resolved. He accused the party leadership of "ignoring the grass-roots" and described the British government 'safeguards' as meaningless.

Last Saturday anti-extradition campaigners in Dublin picketed Charlie Haughey's Kinsealy residence as he left for Australia. Over 30 people turned out to parade outside the gates with placards demanding the scrapping of the Extradition Act.

TALLAGHT COMMITTEE

A strong local committee was formed immediately after a successful public meeting in Tallaght last week. About 60 people heard Father Joe McVeigh of Fermanagh, Lily Hill, the mother of Guildford Four man Paul Hill, and former Fianna Fail minister Kevin Boland speak out against extradition. The group demanded that the practice be stopped without delay. The meeting was chaired by journalist Paddy Prendiville.

Anti-extradition campaigners have also been letting visitors to Dublin's historic Kilmainham Jail know about the plight of modern-day political prisoners. Leafletting and petitioning will be continuing at the prison during the summer.



● Fr Joe McVeigh addressing the Tallaght anti-extradition meeting

AUSTRALIANS HEAR SINN FEIN



● PAUL CORRIGAN

SINN FEIN'S Paul Corrigan is on an extended tour of Australia which is due to go on for five weeks and coincides with the state visit of Fianna Fail leader Charles Haughey. The reception accorded to the republican representative so far has demonstrated that the Dublin government leader is not having all the headlines to himself and the Sinn Féin view is being widely heard.

The Sinn Féin councillor from Fermanagh began his tour by addressing MPs in the State Parliament House in Sydney on July 4th. In an official address to the Upper and Lower Houses of the New South Wales parliament, MPs heard Corrigan speak on the situation in Ireland including partition, the plight of political prison-

ers and their relatives, Section 31 censorship and extradition. His address was warmly received and the MPs expressed disbelief at the use of Section 31 in the 26 Counties and at the Fianna Fail government's position on extradition.

State MP for Sydney, Wes Davorn, said that it was unbelievable that a country

would extradite its own nationals to a foreign jurisdiction. Franka Areana who is a member of the New South Wales Legislative Council sent solidarity greetings to the Republican Movement and expressed open and clear support for the Irish struggle. A message of support was also sent by another member of the Council, Brian Vaughan and, after an extensive question and answer session, the MPs present demonstrated their solidarity.

TRADE UNIONS

The next day, 400 delegates representing one million workers heard Paul Corrigan speak at the annual delegate conference of the Sydney Trades and Labour Council. The speaker gave a run-down on the history of the conflict in Ireland, discrimination against Catholics in the Six Counties and Sinn Féin's *Scenario For Peace* document.

Corrigan called on unions to pass motions on British disengagement from Ireland and his address was well received. At the end of the session the Acting Secretary of the Trades and Labour Council, Michael Easson, pointed out that in 1916 the body had adopted a resolution supporting Irish independence and British withdrawal. This motion still stands.

On July 6th, the Sinn Féin councillor met representatives of the Aborigine people. Tigha Bayles, one of the Aborigine leaders in New South Wales travelled to meet Corrigan, as did Nullie Tugram, who stood as a woman candidate for her people in recent elections.

Corrigan was taken on a tour of the Red Fern suburb of Sydney which is a deprived area with a large Aborigine community. The Sinn Féin visit will be continuing in the next fortnight.

BROADCASTING - BEFORE THE DELUGE

FOR PUBLIC SERVICE BROADCASTING in both the Six and 26 Counties the squeeze is on. Commercial television station owners, satellite and cable speculators, advertisers and right-wing governments seem set to change things for good, by suiting their interests, not ours. Decisions are being made without any reference to the people they will ultimately affect, the ordinary television viewer, and without thought for culture, minority interests, education or independent news and current affairs. Within 20 years our screens could reflect the situation in the United States with scores of channels and nothing to watch. Alex West and John O'Leary look at what the future holds.

BRITAIN AND THE SIX COUNTIES

SINCE Margaret Thatcher's Tory administration took office in 1979 there has been a high-powered, systematic campaign to undermine public service broadcasting in Britain. The campaign is being organised by media barons, in particular Rupert Murdoch, advertising companies and right-wing groups including the Conservative Party. All have a great deal to gain should they succeed in destroying public service broadcasting.

Politically, television is a vital medium. Fewer and fewer people read books and newspapers and there's an entire generation which deals with reality through the tube. Surveys consistently show that a majority of people, both in Ireland and in Britain, believe that news and current affairs on television is 'raw news', or uncensored. Far more people believe that they are getting the whole truth from the television than from a newspaper.

In Britain, 70 per cent of all daily newspapers are openly pro-Tory. Since the Conservative victory in 1979, Margaret Thatcher and the small group of loyal advisors and ministers that she has surrounded herself with have come to see the BBC as a constant thorn in their side. Norman Tebbit, in particular, has been determined from the start to undermine the BBC. Their view was summed up by Paul Johnson, writing in *The Spectator* in 1985:

"In the past, the Labour Party has been the natural ally of the BBC, and vice versa; indeed the thrust of the BBC's news and current affairs coverage has been to place the

Labour leadership, as it were, at the centre of the political spectrum, with the hard left and Arthur Scargill on the one hand, and the Tories and Mrs Thatcher on the other, as types of extremism. It is thus in Labour's obvious interest to keep the BBC in business at the public's expense."

Every member of the present BBC Board of Governors has been appointed by Margaret Thatcher. When the then Home Secretary Leon Brittan put pressure on the Board in 1985 not to broadcast the *Real Lives* programme (which included a long interview with Sinn Féin's Martin McGuinness), the board abandoned its pretensions of independence and voted to obey the government's dictate. Dame Daphne Park, a member of the board, was most vociferous in supporting Mrs Thatcher's view at the crucial meeting. On June 26th of this year the *Observer* newspaper exposed her as an MI6 member.

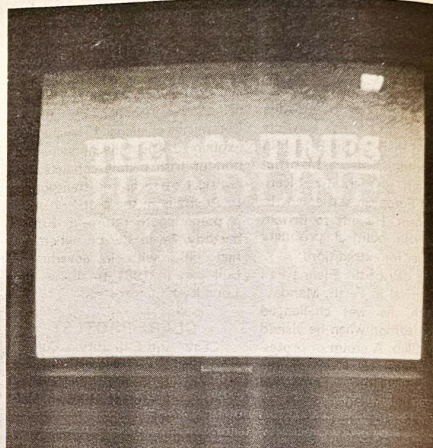
TEBBIT'S SLANDER

In 1986 Norman Tebbit produced a report claiming that the BBC's report of the

bombing of Libya by the United States Air Force was biased against the government. He singled out reporter Kate Adie for particular accusations of partiality. Last month she was recompensed with a large out-of-court settlement for this slander.

Tebbit also set up what he described as a "monitoring unit" at Conservative Party Head Office to check bias against the party. Other groups, allegedly independent, were set up to "monitor" the BBC. One styling itself the Media Monitoring Unit produced a study which "revealed" over 150 examples of "bias" in the BBC. The following day's *Evening Standard* carried a front-page lead about the report headlined 'YES, THE BBC IS BIASED'. The Media Monitoring Unit was eventually exposed by the *Guardian* newspaper as a right-wing front with close ties to the Tory party.

Rupert Murdoch, the Australian media baron who owns the *Sun*, *Today*, the *Times* and the *Sunday Times*, among other newspapers, also owns Sky Channel. Readers in parts of Ireland may have had the misfortune to have watched the station, which broadcasts repeats of 1970s American police shows, American rock promo videos and American sports for about 16 hours every day. The news is provided by the *Times*.



● Rupert Murdoch is bad news

Murdoch has a vested interest in smashing public service broadcasting. If broadcasting in Britain is deregulated it will follow the same pattern as in the United States — more channels, less choice. For Murdoch this would mean a huge increase in advertising revenue for his News Corporation.

In March 1984, the *Sunday Times* carried an opinion poll which reported that 42% of the public were dissatisfied with the BBC. In June the paper ran a story headlined 'Who should pay for the BBC?' and, from then on, there was a steady stream of anti-BBC stories. In January 1985, the *Times*' editorial demanded:

"... a more open, less monolithic system of broadcasting in which customers can choose what qualities they want from their television sets".

The director of the *Times* at that time was Marmaduke Hussey. In 1986, Margaret Thatcher appointed him chairman of the Board of Governors. Within a few months of Hussey's arrival at the BBC, the Director General, Alastair Milne, had been sacked and management at the station was completely 'reorganised'.

The drive to undermine the BBC has also come from another very powerful interest group — advertisers. Saatchi & Saatchi, the advertising agency that played such a key role in the Tory election campaigns of 1979 and 1983, has been to the fore of this push. In 1984 both Saatchi and another leading company published reports demanding advertising on the BBC. They used whatever influence they had to deny the BBC an increase in the licence fee.

In December 1984, Margaret Thatcher said in the House of Commons that the licence was "a sort of compulsory levy on the television viewer, irrespective of whether they watch BBC programmes a great deal", adding she might have to consider other methods of funding the BBC.

One month later, the Incorporated Society of British Advertisers persuaded MPs to establish a working party on advertising and the BBC. A senior member of Saatchi & Saatchi management was made a member of the group.

In March 1985, the Thatcher administration gave the BBC a licence fee increase, bringing the

colour far less experienced. But this was the BBC had added. It put the means to long-term ability with ITN was

On the same day, Leon Brittan, the House of Commons was to set up a committee to examine the BBC under Alan Pearson, a right-wing economist. He also appointed another, Samuel Brittan, who wrote for the *Times*. Reynolds, the chairman of Ranks Hovis McDermott, a company which had done 20,000 to the Tory Party (previous year), Judith Grieve, a broadcaster and member of the Conservative Party in North London, others with the same record of independence.

But the setting up of the Pearson Committee and its final report there was a change of Home Secretary. Opposition to advertising on the BBC is growing and the Committee report eventually suggested opening the introduction of advertising on television to a period of ten years. However, the report recommended that BBC radio should be privatised and Radio 1 & 2 should have advertising.

The significant of Pearson's recommendations was that television sets sold after January 1988 should have a decoder inside. This is to prepare for a situation when viewers have to pay for each programme they watch. The Thatcher administration is now set to introduce this system in 1991 and the Six Counties.

The Tory Party has now moved on to concentrate on the Independent Broadcasting Authority, a body which ensures relatively high standards of ITN programmes. Last month an exclusive London *Home Secretary* Douglas Hogg suggested that new channels are introduced which will be no need for the news. The BBC and other television stations should be controlled only by the courts.

It is clear that the Conservative Party and other right-wing organisations are not satisfied with the way the BBC is already handling broadcasting in Britain. They aren't going to stop until public service broadcasting is completely destroyed. The BBC will be taken over by free-market of the almighty Rupert Murdoch. The majority of doct. of the Tory party, so pathetic to the BBC, the squeeze is on.

THE 26 COUNTIES

BY JOHN O'LEARY

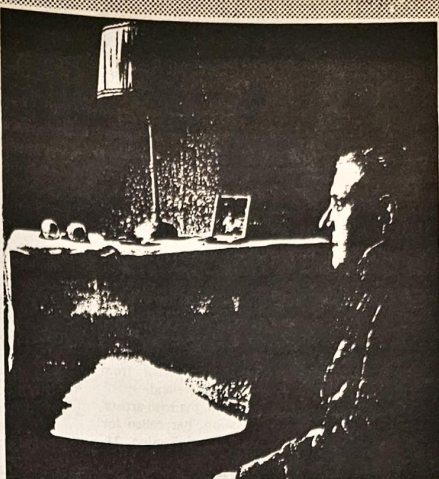
THERE HAVE BEEN a bewildering array of announcements on the subject of television and radio stations in the past year and a half. The Dublin government has sanctioned the diffusion of satellite channels to cable TV subscribers in urban areas.

Communications Minister, Ray Burke, has announced that those in areas not covered by cable will in future be able to receive the satellite and British channels through a system known as Multi-point Microwave Distribution System (MMDS). Another satellite system known as Direct Broadcasting by Satellite (DBS) — which can be picked up directly by a small rooftop satellite dish — is due to beam its wares to us in the next few years. New Irish radio and TV stations in legally-sanctioned competition with RTE are to be unveiled as soon as the Television and Radio Bill 1988 gets through Leinster House.

A new era of competition, offering "free choice" to consumers, giving them what they want to watch, is at hand... or is it? In fact what is happening is that a combination of new communications technologies and a desperate search for private profits in crisis-torn Western economies has eroded the concept of free provision of broadcast and other forms of information. In purely economic terms many of the new services are not free — you will have to pay extra to receive them. In some cases, such as in

this is a more democratic system, based on the market and 'consumer preference'. In fact it is a private enterprise preference. Cablelink, with 200,000 subscribers in the 26 Counties, carried out a survey of attitudes to the new channels in early 1987. They didn't release the results because reaction was overwhelmingly unfavourable. This has not stopped them, nor has it stopped Jim O'Shea's Cork Communications from charging extra for specialised channels such as Box Office and Cable Network News. The problem for the people of Cork is that they don't have a choice when it comes to their preference for simply receiving BBC or HTV. They have to pay over £150 a year to the legally-sanctioned Cork Communications. A much cheaper system of Ultra High Frequency (UHF) defectors would do the job for about £20 a year. But that choice is illegal. O'Shea was being legally harassed small community-supported UHF deflector operations in parts of Cork and Waterford. O'Shea was an early proponent of the proposed MMDS system for the same money-grabbing reasons.

In parts of the 26 Counties, there are UHF operations diffusing the British stations to the community. These have suffered uneven levels of state harassment over the years. Now they will be stomped on pretty severely in order to allow the new MMDS landlords of the airwaves free range over their domain. The minister is granting franchises in different parts of the 26 Counties. Subscribers will have to pay receiving equipment worth over 200 pounds and pay a set fee of over 100 pounds per annum. For this, rural subscribers will get the satellite sludge already re-



jected by their urban counterparts.

The MMDS proposal is an 'experiment' for a Canadian consulting company which will use the Irish system as an experiment to iron out problems before moving on to larger European markets. Fianna Fáil Communications Minister Ray Burke has doffed his cap to this notion in the hope that a foreign investor will manufacture the 'hardware' in Ireland. Most likely it will be another low-pay, low-skill, tax-free assembly operation if it ever happens. The MMDS system is due to carry the proposed new private TV channel.

PRIVATE TV CHANNEL

The strongest player in the running for the private TV franchise is Tony O'Reilly's Independent Newspapers — which is also strongly tipped to buy Cablelink from RTE. O'Reilly's *Irish Independent* has begun launching the same kinds of self-serving reactionary attacks on RTE that Murdoch's papers in England have launched on the BBC. The proposed TV channel was pushed originally by Strongbow/Green Apple, a film/video company run by a former RTE Controller of Programmes and a former RTE producer. Their reason for wanting to run a new channel are pure and simple. In the

political censorship and financial constraints which make it subservient to the government of the day. In the 1960s, RTE was fairly independent, even though then Fianna Fáil leader, Sean Lemass, called it "an instrument of public policy".

More than anything else, RTE's reporting of the crisis of British rule in the Six Counties caused governments to intervene to "tame" RTE's independence. The jailing of an RTE reporter and the sacking of the RTE Authority in 1972 because of their "failure" to fully implement Section 31 censorship were steps on the road to an all-pervasive self-censorship. Only the mediocre, the politically corrupt (mostly Workers' Party members) and the time-servers were rewarded, while those with independence and integrity were weeded out. An ideology of elitist professionalism from those in the know in Dublin 4 replaced concepts of real public service. In recent years this has changed under the hammer blows of Thatcherite economic ideas which the Irish establishment are now happy to copy.

From being champions of public service broadcasters RTE has adapted to the new climate. While being in permanent pensionable positions themselves, they have tolerated putting all new employees on short-term contracts. RTE management has fomented a situation of 'divide and rule' to break normal solidarity between RTE workers.

'Professional' broadcasters have suggested leaving general unions like the FUIW to set up their own elitist professional association. The situation has caused NUJ broadcasters to fail to defend Jenny McGeever, who was sacked when the words of Sinn Féin's Martin McGuinness were broadcast. The rest of the NUJ regard these RTE broadcasters with contempt for selling out on their elementary duty to a colleague victimised by management. 'Permanent' RTE employees justify McGeever's victimisation on the basis that, after all, "she is only on contract".

In a final twist, RTE itself has been obliged to help set up and subsidise new private film and video companies. Former RTE employees have been given golden handshakes of over £50,000 to set up in the private sector. RTE has been obliged to give a commitment to accept the 'rapid roulette' schlock which these video entrepreneurs produce.

In terms of political control, there will be just as much, if not more, government censorship. Section 31 applies to the new stations. It will make censorship even more pervasive, especially on radio. Local Sinn Féin members of community or sporting organisations will be witch-hunted off local radio if there is not a successful political fightback. This kind of extension of Section 31 is both a challenge and an opportunity to republicans and believers in the right to free speech. The demand must go out to make censorship unworkable in the communities.



● Time is running out for Channel Four

the provision of higher quality movie and news channels, the provision will be concentrated in higher income areas, since only they will be able to afford them.

The rich will receive the best and you and I will get the rest! The rest will consist of what is contained in Rupert Murdoch's Sky Channel: a series of old sit-coms and reactionary US cop shows.

The idea that television should be provided for the whole community for a set charge (the license fee), based on a democratically agreed (after a fashion!) set of criteria (the Broadcasting Act) and with a whole range of minority and majority programming — drama, current affairs, light entertainment, sport — is being steadily eroded. The concept of public service broadcasting represented by RTE in the 26 Counties and by the BBC in Britain is going to be marginalised. Did any of you out there vote for this?

NO CHOICE

Supporters of the new channels like to pretend that



● BBC — Will it be forced to run advertisements?

But this was the BBC had put the... and it put the... other... term ability... (TN) was... day, Leon... House of... was to set up... examine the... under Alan... right-wing... also appoint... committee, along... who wrote for... Reynolds, the... Hovis... economy which... 0,000 to the... (previous year),... a member of... Party in North... with the... of indepen...

the setting up... Committee and... there was a... Secretary... advertising on... grown and the... report eventually... the introducti... period of ten... the report re... BBC radio... privatised and... 2 should have... significant of... commendations... television sets... 1988 should... decoder inside... are for a situat... have to pay... time watch... administration is... reduce this sys... and the Six... Party has now... concentrate on... Broadcasting... body which... relatively high... TN programmes... ide an exclusive... Home Secretary... suggested that... channels are intro... be no need for... like the news... television stations... lated only by... at the Conserva... other right-wing... re not satisfied... hold that they... rer broadcasting... aren't going to... ic service broadc... ain and the Six... pletely destroy... by total control... by free-market... ke Rupert Mur... majority of... will be sym... Tory party. So... — the squeeze

SCRAP SECTION 31

CALL TO END CENSORSHIP

SECTION 31 should be completely scrapped and Sinn Fein members should be allowed to participate in the national debate over the future of our country, Labour TD Emmet Stagg told a public meeting last Thursday.

Stagg was addressing a gathering of over 200 at a meeting in Dublin's Liberty Hall organised by Media Workers Against Censorship. The group, which has many RTE staff members in its ranks, aims to bring about the repeal of Section 31.

Betty Purcell, a producer at Montrose, told of the difficulty programme-makers face having to work under Section 31. Censorship was being extended all the time, she said, as the delaying of Jim Doherty's *Irish American* Report and the censor-

ship of Noraid's Martin Galvin showed.

There is an air of paranoia in RTE about Section 31, the meeting heard, and all stories on the North or areas where there may be involvement by Sinn Fein members, such as the anti-drugs movement, are regarded with suspicion. Programme-makers who insist on covering such stories are quickly branded as having Provo sympathies, Purcell added.

Artist Robert Ballagh spoke of the "instinct in Ireland to exclude". Some

of the best literature the country has ever produced was banned in the 1950s, he said, and the censorship of intellectuals and artists continues today. This group of people, held in such esteem in other countries, were effectively excluded from the debate in Ireland.

Aosdana, the Irish artists' organisation, has called for the repeal of Section 31, Ballagh told the meeting, but this had gone completely unreported in the newspapers.

UNWANTED SECTION

Niall Meehan of the NIHE School of Communications said that every pub-



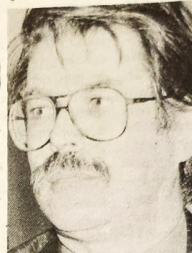
• EMMET STAGG



• NIALL MEEHAN



• BETTY PURCELL



• ROBERT BALLAGH

lic opinion poll taken has shown that the majority of people do not want Section

7-1 against its use in banning Sinn Fein. Within the political parties, he added, there is little support for Section 31. At the last Fianna Fail Ard Fheis a motion calling for all elected representatives to be allowed access to the airways was passed unanimously, and even the Progressive Democrats split 50/50 on the issue. The one place where there appears uniquely to be unanimous support for Section 31, said Meehan, was in Leinster House, where the TDs sit.

INTERPRETATION

He called into question RTE's interpretation of the ministerial order under Section 31, pointing out that only "spokespersons for or representatives of Sinn Fein" were banned, not ordinary members.

All of the speakers condemned the sacking of Jenny McGeever after she allegedly breached the Section last March.

The meeting was chaired by journalist and broadcaster Brendan O'Neill.

31. The last poll in the Dublin area showed 2-1 against Section 31 and over

HELP IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS



DRUGS FIGHT GOES ON

THE CONCERNED PARENTS AGAINST DRUGS has emerged from its Annual General Meeting more determined than ever to stamp out the drug problem from our streets, the organisation's PRO Brian Kenna has told AP/RN.

The AGM last weekend dealt with a number of issues, including the problem of addiction and the efforts of the CPAD to help addicts. Workers' Party leader Prionsias de Rossa came in for heavy criticism for what was described as his "scurillous" attacks on Le Patriarche, the treatment association in France used by the CPAD. An emergency motion from the Cabra area of Dublin defended the centre - which is sponsored by the French, Norwegian and Nicaraguan governments - and lashed de Rossa's "blatant political opportunism".

The organisation called for the introduction of the controversial 'free needle exchange' programme

to be introduced in Dublin. Delegates urged that the measure be brought in without delay to help combat AIDS among drug-abusers, but they insisted that the gardai should not be allowed to involve themselves in the scheme. The needle exchange programme should take place only under strict medical supervision, they said, and all groups concerned with the problems brought about by drug abuse should be allowed to play a part in the scheme.

Speaking afterwards to AP/RN, Brian Kenna voiced the CPAD's concern at the increased quantities of heroin arriving in Dublin in recent weeks. Irish addicts and pushers were travelling to London



• BRIAN KENNA

to receive treatment there, he explained, and they bring large amounts of the deadly drug back with them. There was a great deal of money to be made, he added, with £1,000 worth in London netting up to £5,000 in Dublin.

But he vowed that the organ-

ation would do "all within its power" to stop further supplies being sold on Dublin streets.

for Le Patriarche announced that the organisation couldn't continue to operate and be used as a political football. He said that no more addicts would be accepted from Ireland, adding that he couldn't understand why Prionsias de Rossa would want to damage Le Patriarche. The organisation had no interest in politics, he said, and was only committed to getting people off drugs.

The Concerned Parents Against Drugs yesterday said that they "deeply regretted" the decision by Le Patriarche not to treat any more Irish addicts, but said that it was "understandable under the circumstances". The CPAD spokesperson added that as the Irish embassy in Paris had played a part in the political wrangle over Le Patriarche - including ringing up the centre to ask if addicts wanted to go home - that the responsibility now rested with the government to act without delay on the drug problem in Ireland.

SHANNON SUPPORTS O'LEARY

SHANNON TOWN COMMISSIONERS slammed the imprisonment of Don O'Leary for possession of a poster at its July meeting and called for a judicial inquiry into the operation of the Offences Against the State Act.

Sinn Fein Commissioner Mike McKee told town commissioners that O'Leary's campaigning on community issues earned Sinn Fein enormous respect on Cork's Northside but it also generated hostility among the city's establishment politicians. "The authorities are clearly using the law for political purposes", he said. "There is no parallel for this type of action outside South Africa."

Dermot Hammond, a Fine Gael

Commissioner, supported the motion stating that the Offences Against the State Act "was being abused and clearly its existence was in question." Labour's Tom O'Shaughnessy said "It is amazing that anyone could be sentenced solely on the word of a Garda superintendent." The motion was passed by six votes to two and was circulated to all 26 County local authorities.

5 YEARS FOR POSSESSING A POSTER...

NO MORE GARDA FRAME-UPS



RELEASE DON O'LEARY

CABRA PLAY CENTRE UNDER THREAT CHILDREN WON'T GO AWAY

CORPORATION OFFICIALS have admitted that, despite the fact that "money is available", they will not implement the Summer Programme for young children at the Faussaugh Avenue Play Centre in Cabra. This position was stressed at a meeting between members of a local action committee, local elected representatives and Dublin Corporation on Monday last, July 11th.

The residents had forced the meeting on the Corporation when they occupied the Play Centre from July 4th to July 6th. The Corporation's Community Development and Youth Affairs Committee had arbitrarily decided to reduce staff numbers at the centre by 50% (from four to two) and to encourage voluntary workers to replace existing staff. This plan has been rejected by the staff at the centre, who have refused to be moved and have turn-

ed up for work at Faussaugh Avenue. The Corporation's response has been to lock out all staff there and instigate "hearings" against them.

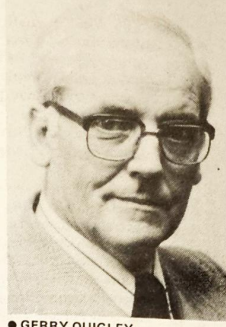
Local people have demanded that the centre be re-equipped and that services be extended to cater for young children who have no alternative facilities in the area. With children now well into their summer holidays there is no chance of them or their parents simply going away.

Fighting the British syndrome

UNION LEADERS discussed fighting the Fianna Fail government's Thatcherite programmes at the ICTU conference in Dublin last week — and then postponed the matter for another year. Like many before it the 1988 Congress was hot on rhetoric but on action it was deadly cold.

Many speakers made excellent points and important motions were passed but caution bordering on paralysis ruled on the conference floor while outside, the strength of the trade union movement is being continually eroded by demoralisation and emigration.

The new Congress President Gerry Quigley said that the ICTU does not want "conflict and confrontation between the unions and the government. We don't want the British syndrome." But the Leinster House government is preparing to cut public expenditure by £300 to £400 million in the next 12 months while one in every four children in the 26 Counties is living below the poverty line and one in every five workers is unemployed throughout Ireland.



● GERRY QUIGLEY

members of his union emigrated than in the previous 16 years.

Under the 'Programme for National Recovery' negotiated last year, the unions agreed to limit pay demands while the Fianna Fail government and employers promised increased jobs. But the jobs have not appeared and present government policies mean they won't appear in the foreseeable future. David Begg of the Postal and Telecommunications Workers' Union told delegates that the movement should "seize



● ICTU delegates being given leaflets outlining the case against extradition

the moral high ground" by accepting lower wage rises so as to shame employers and government into fulfilling their promises.

But, looking down from the high ground, a number of delegates could see bosses and politicians attacking workers' living standards below.

Both the government and the ICTU leaders were surprised by the strength of anger among the delegates. A motion calling for a further conference to reconsider

union participation in the programme was defeated by 170 votes to 109 — a margin much less than expected.

LOW PAY

There were other important debates. A comprehensive programme for fighting low pay was agreed and wages discrimination against women was clearly targeted. The executive reported that one in every four workers in the 26 Counties is now low paid and that 61 per cent of these are wo-

men. In the textile, clothing and footwear industries seven women out of every ten receive low pay.

The programme to fight low pay involves 21 goals and time-tables so that trade unionists can clearly judge how successful it has been and how much extra pressure to exert.

Women are also undervalued in the health service where May O'Brien of the ITGWU pointed out that the vast majority of those made redundant under the health cuts were women. Nollin Greene of the Congress executive reported that women also suffered unfairly when geriatric hospitals were closed and older patients were forced to depend on family members always unpaid and almost always women. On discrimination against Catholics in the Six Counties, conference passed a motion which further strengthened the stand it took last year in Cork when it adopted a plan to highlight the jobs bias. The motion from Derry Trades Council emphasised the importance of the plan but pointed out that to involve both nationalist and loyalist communities and to unite the working-class movement Congress "must speak out on issues such as the Stalker affair, Birmingham Six, the PTA" and other issues affecting the nationalist community on which trade unions had remained silent in the past.

EMIGRATION

If the 'British syndrome' means a savage attack on Irish workers' living standards, then we already have it, North and South. And it's haemorrhaging the workforce. Michael Brennan of the electricians' union, the EEPТУ, told the conference that in the first six months of this year more skilled

Bewley's excuses

BY TOM O'DWYER

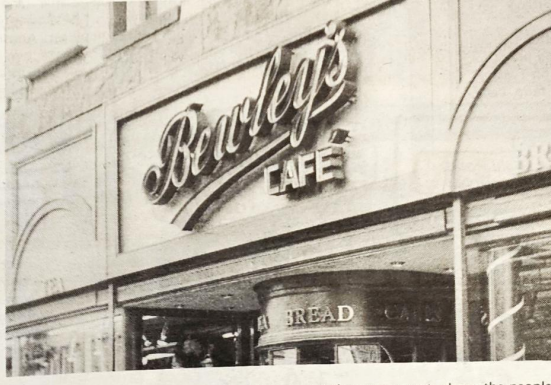
MANAGEMENT AT BEWLEY'S bakery in Dublin used a dispute over shift-working as an excuse to close the plant entirely on Monday, July 4th. The 23 members of the Bakery and Food Workers' Amalgamated Union and 17 other workers are due to lose their jobs.

For some time Bewley's has been trying to force through new shift times without proper consultation with the bakers' union. On June 28th they presented the workers with an ultimatum by announcing that work would begin three hours later than normal at 8am. Demanding that the employers go through the usual channels for such matters, the workers turned up at 5am to find that they had been locked out. Official pickets were placed on the bakery.

But the following Monday the employers suddenly announced that the bakery would close and that Bewley's traditional products, on sale at all its cafes, would be made by other firms. It now seems that they intended to close the bakery all along and that they provoked the dispute deliberately to make sure the workers were outside the plant when they did so.

● KERRY'S CONTRADICTIONS

The Kerry Group, flagship of the new privatisation drive among Irish companies and one of the country's most powerful dairy firms, can be quite contradictory.



On one hand, the Group boasts of projected profits which are expected to be in the millions of pounds in the next two years. On the other, it has told its workforce that it can't afford even the small wage increase planned this year under the 'Programme for National Recovery'.

Over 1,000 ITGWU members who work for the Group have threatened industrial action unless the company (formerly the Kerry Co-op) withdraws a letter demanding a 12-month wage freeze. For the past month, the company has been avoiding discussions in the Labour Court over the issue and the union believes the company is refusing even to discuss the dispute.

"I think they see themselves being

above the government, above the people, above agreements and above everything", says ITGWU branch secretary Andrew McCarthy. "They just don't want to pay their workers." Pointing to the contradiction between the firm's projected profits and its 'poverty' he asked, "Are they telling me lies or are they telling the public lies?"

When the Kerry company recently changed from being a co-operative into a private limited company, it started a wave of similar moves in co-ops throughout the 26 Counties. But, as EEC milk quotas are further and further reduced and as competition heats up between the newly privatised companies, workers are going to come under increasing pressure.

● SLIGO SWITCH-OFF

Workers at Goodwear Fashions in Finisklin, Sligo, were sitting in the factory canteen on the morning of Monday, July 4th, when managers suddenly turned off the electricity and told them to leave.

The German-owned firm manufactures women's clothing for the German market and orders have lately run very low, but the closure also came only six weeks after half the workforce joined the FWUI. The 26 workers have not received any redundancy payments at all.

The FWUI has set up the Workers' Unity Trust to help trade unionists set up co-operatives in similar circumstances and the Sligo workers are now approaching the trust for assistance. They aim to keep production going at the Sligo plant by setting up a workers' co-operative. Goodwear Fashions has been in operation in the area since 1975.

● CUTS AND VIOLENCE

A grim side-effect of the health service cut-backs was highlighted in the Waterford Circuit Court on July 4th when a nurse claimed damages against the South-Eastern Health Board. An injury suffered by nurse Michael Martin at St Otteran's Hospital in February 1982 was caused by cuts implemented by the Coalition government which meant that 25 mental patients, those most likely to be violent, were restricted to an upstairs ward, where they had no access to exercise or fresh air.

Martin was helping another nurse restrain a violent patient when he suffered a blow which broke one of his ribs. The court found in his favour.



THE COLUMN

FATHER BRIAN D'ARCY, the well known media priest, was on RTE radio on Tuesday talking about his Fermanagh childhood. "Of course the North was a much less complicated place then", he told the listeners.

He recalled the Twelfth of July. "It was always a very neighbourly occasion", he sighed wistfully. "We knew that the month of July was for the Protestants, and they would leave off having the crack with us and go off to practice the bagpipes. All through June and July you'd hear the sound of the pipes. On the Twelfth we'd mind the Protestant children while their parents were out marching..." and so on.

Yes, things were just idyllic. In fairness to Brian D'Arcy he's no doubt just getting nostalgic about his childhood, like we all do, and telling us all how great it was in the good old days. But his nostalgia is being used by the establishment to perpetuate their favourite political lie.

This is the line: The problem in the North is terrorism, the main terrorists are the IRA, so the IRA is the problem. In the good old days there was no IRA and there were no problems, see? Now let's get on with smashing the IRA and getting things back to normal.

★★★

AND WHILE I'M ON THE SUBJECT OF RTE and the Twelfth, this year's coverage of the Orange march in Donegal was of more than the usual cutesy calibre.

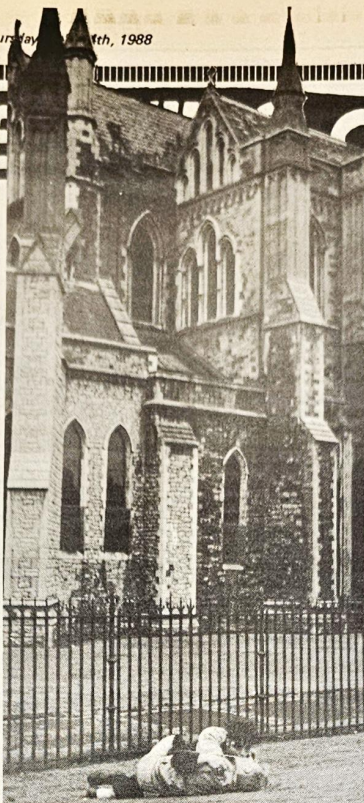
Not satisfied with a lengthy report on the parade by 1,000 loyalists in Rosstown — the 6,000 republicans who attended this year's Bodinstown were not deemed worthy of coverage by the RTE newsrooms — the camera closed in on a happy little teenage girl wearing a pretty dress and selling *Ulster* magazine.

Regular readers of *The Flying Column* will recall that *Ulster* is the magazine of the United Defence Association. One of my moles within the UDA sent me a copy of the edition in question...

Page four has a delightful little piece of intimidation. "The Portadown branch of Loyalist Prisoners Aid is disappointed that a well-known Spar garage on the Loughgall Road refused to donate towards the recent Cake & Gorgery Sale in aid of the LPA... It has not gone unnoticed that this same store stocks Brennan's Bread, hardly a loyalist product."

Later on, the magazine reports that "a number of IRA men" play on Magheramoney football team which plays its home games in "the loyalist Garryduff area". In the interests of "peace", the team should arrange next season's games on an "away-only" basis.

There's a long article on "Libyan dictator Colonel Gaddafi, the IRA's Godfather of Death" and praise for the British National Front. The "Loyalist Top Twenty" includes *We hate the IRA*, *Black skull flute band*,



UNDER THE EYES OF GOD... Two Dubliners who attended the free concert in Saint Patrick's Park on Saturday. Now that's what I call a lark in the park!

Highjack the Popemobile and my own favourite, *The Pope's a Darkie*.

The magazine's subscribers can also avail of a mail-order service. £8.00 for a Bible cover and £7 for a dog collar and £1.50 for a "No Surrender" tea-towel.

Now that's what I call news value.

★★★

IT MUST HAVE COME AS A GREAT SHOCK to the Save Ulster from Sodomy brigade (and on the Sabbath as well!), but there it was in black and white in *The Sunday Telegraph*: King Billy was gay — it's official!

The paper's unpredictable columnist, Auberon Waugh, revealed that King William was "the last practising homosexual, so far as we know it, to sit on the British throne".

Maybe the Belfast *News Letter* will run the headline "KING BILLY WAS A HOMOSEXUAL — SHOCK CLAIM". Maybe Ian Paisley will leave his homophobic rants behind. Maybe there'll be some new loyalist wall murals erected for next year, but don't hold your breath.

★★★

THIS WEEK'S WORLD VIEW gives a detailed account of the criminal career of recently-resigned United States Attorney-General, Ed Meese.

Our London readers will no doubt be delighted to hear that they can meet Meese in person this September. The disgraced Reagan sidekick will be the guest speaker at the Barbican's International Police Exhibition on the subject of International Crime!

★★★

MICHAEL RELTON, a London solicitor for the Police Federation, defended 36 police officers on criminal charges, 35 of them successfully. But he had an interesting sideline — laundering money.

Just last week, he was found guilty of conspiring with others to launder and reinvest £8 million of the Brinks-Mat gold bullion robbery. He bought property all over London and in Cheltenham with the stolen cash. He also owned a considerable amount of property in the Cayman Islands.

One of his co-conspirators, Kathleen McEvoy, bought a £250,000 mansion in Kent. The grounds of the house were patrolled at night by two Rottweiler dogs which she named Brinks and Mat.

★★★

ATTENTION to you anti-apartheid music-lovers who intend going to the Birthday Tribute to Nelson Mandela in Dublin's Olympia Theatre this Sunday.

So popular has the event proved, not just with the punters but with the performers, that the starting time has been changed from 8.00pm to 7.00pm. Doors open at 6.30pm.

Be there or be square!

★★★

WHO IS THIS MAN and why is he standing beside a member of the German SS? Yes, you've guessed, it's our very own Roy Beggs, the former mayor of Larne and the present Member of Parliament for East Antrim. The Arian beside him is Helen Carson of the Ulster Society, who claimed she was in fancy dress. Well fancy that!



DÚIRI SIAD

People wonder whether the information they give the Garda might end up getting suspects killed by the British forces. It doesn't stop us passing on the intelligence but it does create a problem in gathering it in the first place.

— A "senior Irish political source" quoted in the *Sunday Times*.

Clearly, the policy which has now been adopted is to take no IRA prisoners. In its battle with the IRA, the British government, which has always denied that it is fighting a war, has clearly decided to implement the rules of war.

— Irish Press editorial last Thursday.

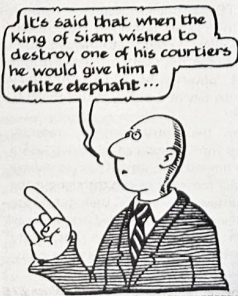
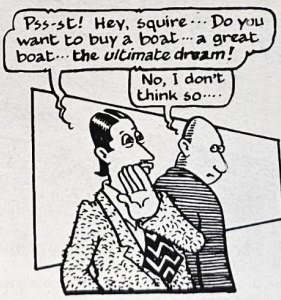
The reality seems to be that unless the [SAS] witnesses are screened, I may not have a meaningful inquest, and, of course, if screened it would be a flawed inquest in any case.

— The Gibraltar coroner, Felix Pizzarello.

Perhaps the problem is that a majority of the whites in Zimbabwe are of British origin. The British feel superior to all others wherever they are in the world — they have this British arrogance. But they must raise the Zimbabwean, not Rhodesian, flag, as loyal Zimbabweans.

— Zimbabwean Premier Robert Mugabe.

NOTES



REVIEWS

MEDIA

SKULKING AROUND ANTRIM

BY
JOE
GABRIEL

"CALM DOWN JOHN, there's no need to get het up." This was what the customs men said to farmer John James Wilson from County Antrim after they caught him with a load of poitin. Indeed, the phrase appeared to ring very hollow in Mr Wilson's ears as well, because he didn't respond in a very positive manner. Mr Wilson had been stung good and proper and was in no mood to be nice to the customs and excise men. *The Duty Men* on BBC 2 last Tuesday night followed their undercover operation on poor Mr Wilson.

It appeared that John James Wilson was the victim of an informer. But an informer would have made very little difference in Mr Wilson's case in any event. Sure wasn't he parked in the Market Square in Ballymena every Saturday selling the stuff out of the boot of his blue Mazda 2,000? The customs men estimated that the sime-looking John James was taking the revenue for a quarter of a million every year.

The cameras tagged along when the customs drove past the farm. This is where they would corner their prey. It would be far from the maddening crowds in Ballymena, where some people listening to Ian Paisley nearby might decide that arresting a poitin-maker wasn't a good idea. As the customs men browsed past the farm, they thought they had been spotted. "I can't see the old bugger's Mazda", muttered one customs man.

MOONLIGHTING
Back in the office, the hunters decided that the moon would be a problem when they went by night to snoop around the farm. They admitted there were problems. They might be taken for IRA members by the British army or the RUC or UDR. Or they could be taken for Brits by the IRA. And Mr Wilson had a shotgun and had applied for a permit for another weapon, and well, shucks, God only knew what he was going to think if he saw them slouching around outside his house in the middle of the night.

Already, I was on Mr Wilson's side. While the customs men were nearing the house to ascertain exactly where on the farm the poitin still was located, a shot rang out. Unfortunately, it was only a bird scare. I hoped that they might go back. Even bird scares have to get lucky sometimes. One customs knew in his gut that he still would be there the following Saturday when they raided. He just knew. Deep down, I had that sinking feeling that he was right. If there was any way I could have warned that old bugger...

John James Wilson was a man of habit - parked in the same place every Saturday and sold the stuff. Ian Paisley gave a spirited performance as John James did the real business with his flock. One man came over and passed £40 to John James and took six bottles of the special brew. They tracked the farmer back towards his farm. The customs men use a code to identify to all their units when they are moving in on the poitin-maker. The code was "Knock, knock, knock." I could have cried as I heard the word go out.

40 GALLONS
Mr Wilson wasn't pleased as his farm was searched. "Let him calm down", said one customs man, no doubt thinking of the sensitised feelings of John James at this point. They managed to come up with only a paltry ten barrels containing 40 gallons each. "It appears to be very, very good stuff", quipped one of the raiders as he sniffed the liquid.

But alas, all of the farmer's efforts were poured away. I was pleased to note that the geese went wild as this task was carried out.

Mr Wilson was then confronted by the six bottles he had sold earlier that day but he didn't respond positively to questions. He said nothing. Couldn't blame him really.

The Duty Men has followed some scary people - drug dealers and so on. No judgement was made on the use of resources - about twenty people for a week and more - for what was achieved. One thing that did come across was the absolute stupidity of the customs men as they wandered around in the middle of the night with the possibility that they could have been mistaken for people carrying weapons. And this you know, while all this was going on, Ian Paisley never noticed a thing.

Nonetheless the series is excellent. Even allowing for

the fact that the customs people will never be totally relaxed with cameras around, the series gives a fascinating insight into how they work and think. I did feel sorry for old John James though. I got the impression that everybody else - customs men included - felt the same way. The main lesson to be learned from all of this is that you should never ever buy poitin at the square in Ballymena from a man with a cap, who drives a blue Mazda.

BATTLE OF ALGIERS

Other highlights of the week included the brilliant *Battle of Algiers* on Channel Four on Sunday. In uncompromising and dispassionate terms this film described the brutal struggle between the Algerian freedom fighters and the French colonialists in the heart of foreign rule in their country. The parallels with Ireland were obvious, as were the questions it raised.

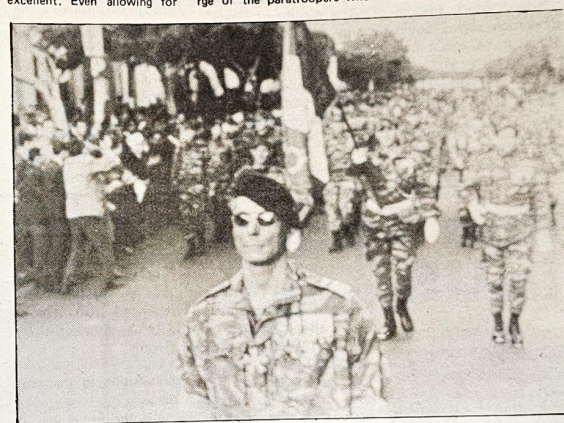
The French colonel in charge of the paratroopers who

spearheaded the counter-insurgency asked the \$5 dollar question. Did the French want to hold onto Algeria? If they did they must be prepared to use the 'necessary' methods to defeat the liberation struggle. It was a political decision.

KOREA

Another war of the 1950s is being chronicled in *Korea - the Unknown War* on BBC 2 on Sunday nights. Much of what is unknown of this war is about the bloody nose given to the US and its allies by the North Korean forces with the aid of the recently established Peoples Republic of China.

The last episode had a harrowing eye-witness description of the massacre of 100 children by the Americans. The soldiers herded the children into a room and threw grenades in the windows. This was done by the same people who had recently been trying Nazi war criminals in Nuremberg. Another series not to be missed.



French paratroopers march into Algiers

BY BETH RAINEY

REPORT

TRAINING FOR INEQUALITY

Women and the Need for Training was published in Belfast in January this year. It is the report of a study based on a survey of women between the ages of 25 and 50 in the Lisburn, Belfast, Coleraine and Craigavon areas, and a small number of interviews in Derry.

While the scope of the project was necessarily limited, it does raise a number of important issues and sheds light on the significant disadvantages faced by women in the workforce and in the various training schemes that operate in the Six Counties. It also draws together information which, while available elsewhere, is not generally accessible to a non-academic reader. Included in this is a comparison of training schemes available in Britain and the 26 Counties with those in the North of Ireland.

The report lays to rest the idea that women work for 'pin money' and points out that many households depend on the income of women. "In Northern Ireland two-parent families accounted for only 20.8% of all households in 1981. If the definition is narrowed to married couples with two dependent children where the husband is sole breadwinner, then the figure in 1981 was only seven per cent. Good pay is therefore the major prior-

ity for women seeking work." Nevertheless, good pay is not something most women can hope for from their jobs.

Despite the increasing participation of women in the workforce, accounted for largely by an increase in part-time working by married women, there are many factors limiting the ability of women to get meaningful, well-paid jobs, or indeed any job at all. Most of the reasons are structural - lack of jobs, lack of training, redundant skills and lack of childcare provision. Women remain confined to low-pay, low-status job ghettoes, in a very limited range of occupations.

The report states: "There can be no ending of job segregation until women have access to the forms of training which will prepare them for new employment opportunities. It is especially important that such training should not merely reproduce or reinforce the present structures of gender inequality which exist in

INACCESSIBLE

Existing facilities are often unknown to women or inaccessible because of lack of childcare or transport; the overwhelming majority of women who do take up training opportunities are trained for what are traditionally considered to be women's jobs - that is, they are low paid, low status, and largely unskilled. Many of the courses for women are not geared to the labour market at all. Less than 10% of people in government training centres are women, and of these less than 1% are in apprenticeships, although the survey showed a high proportion of women were interested in training in non-traditional areas.

The report makes a strong case for policies which go beyond the formal expression of equal opportunities in legislation and for affirmative action to bring about real equality for women in the labour market. "Existing training programmes are tailored to fit male needs and the normal



male career. The differing life and working patterns of women have not received sufficient attention in existing training systems."

This is a report well worth serious study by all those who believe that all persons have a right to self-determination and

equality.

● *Women and the Need for Training. A Women's Education Research Report* by Mary McCorry. Published by the Women's Education Project, 143 University Street, Belfast 7. Price £2.50.

IMEAGHTAI

ANTI-EXTRADITION PICKET

5pm-6pm
O'Connell Bridge
DUBLIN
Every Friday

NELSON MANDELA

BENEFIT DISCOS
11pm-2am Fridays
15th, 22nd and 29th July
Dublin Resource Centre
DUBLIN

Taille E3 (£1.50 unraised)
Proceeds to the ANC
For further details contact
Eoin Keogh 773545
Eamon O'Mordha 693163

ANTI-EXTRADITION

DAY OF ACTION
12 noon-6pm
Saturday 16th July
Northside Shopping Centre
DUBLIN

PATRICK CANNON

COMMEMORATION
Sunday 17th July
Assemble 11.30am
Camelot Hotel
Malahide Road
DUBLIN
March to Balgriffin Cemetery

ANTI-EXTRADITION

LEAFLETING
3pm to 5pm Sunday 17th July
Kilmainham Jail Museum
DUBLIN

ANTI-EXTRADITION

PUBLIC MEETING
8pm Wednesday 20th July
Hynes Hotel
ARLROW

FUNCTION CANCELLED

Featuring The Irish Brigade
Friday 22nd July
Camelot Hotel
DUBLIN

BALLAD NIGHT

Featuring Shebeen
8'til late Friday 22nd July
Lacey's Nite Club
Carrickdale Hotel
CARRICKCARNON
Taille £2.50
late bar
Organised by the
Bennett/Boyle/Clearly
Sinn Fein Cumann

WHITE LINE PICKET

2.30pm Saturday July 23rd
Meeting points: Busy Bee, Whitewater,
Falls Road Junction and
Springfield Road Junction
BELFAST
Organised by the
Campaign for Lifes

FUNCTION

Featuring The Irish Brigade
8pm Saturday 23rd July
Hunting Lodge
Ballyfermot
DUBLIN
Organised by Dublin Sinn Fein

IRISH NIGHT

Featuring Bogside Paddy
9pm Saturday 23rd July
Dundalk Bar
Church Street
DUNDALK
No admission charge
Organised by An Cumann Cabhrach
Dundalk

EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

AUGUST
Wed 3rd-Fri 5th
Organisers' Seminar
Sunday 7th
One day Seminar (Tallaght)
Fri 12th-Sun 14th
New Members (Cork)
Monday 29th (9pm-5pm)
One day Seminar (Donegal)
SEPTEMBER
Fri 2nd-Sun 4th
General Seminar
Fri 9th-Sun 11th
General Seminar
Fri 16th-Sun 18th
Trade Union activists
Fri 23rd-Sun 25th
General Seminar
Contact Nicola King in head office
for details



WORLD VIEW

THE CROOKED PATH OF ED MEESE

ED MEESE, the US Attorney-General who recently ordered the deportation of republican Joe Doherty to Britain, ended a long but inglorious legal career on July 5th when he announced that he would soon resign over a corruption scandal which may still put America's top lawyer behind bars.

The future of Joe Doherty, hopefully the last victim of the man commonly known as 'Mr Sleaze' looked a little brighter when Rev Jesse Jackson, who recently came near to winning the Democratic nomination for US president, visited him in the New York House of Detention the following day.

Doherty escaped from Crumlin Road Courthouse in 1982 and was arrested by US authorities five years ago. Since then, he has been held in a tiny prison cell and has been denied exercise facilities. A federal court and an immigration appeal board ruled that he was a political prisoner and the campaign for his release has gained enormous support.

By visiting Doherty the day after Meese's announcement, Jackson boosted

the campaign and showed that many Americans resent Meese's efforts to please the British government by manipulating the law. The deportation order, which is being strenuously fought in the US courts, comes at the end of a long history of double-dealing and brutality in the 22 years since Meese was first hired by Ronald Reagan (then Governor of California) as his chief adviser on — of all things — extradition and clemency.

GAS CHAMBER

The quality of Meese's mercy was soon shown when he advocated the use of the gas-chamber for murder, something which had been banned in California for many years. Meese gloried in criticism of his hardness and even started a collection of porcelain

pigs to show how little he cared for protesters who compared him to that animal. He referred to supporters of civil liberties as 'the criminals' lobby'.

But, in Reagan's America, such gestures do not cause the downfall of a powerful politician. Meese, like many Reaganites before him, was brought down when his friends got their hands caught in the till. In 1981 he helped his pal, Bob Wallach, to get Defence Department contracts for the Bronx engineering firm Wedtech Corp. The New York company later collapsed in a major bribery scandal.

Four years later, he helped Wallach get government money for an oil pipeline between Iraq and Jordan through bribery. Through his influence the Bell Telephone Company benefited from government decisions while Meese owned 14,000 dollars' worth of Bell shares.

CORRUPTION

In June last year, Meese was forced to order



● The recently-retired US Attorney General Ed Meese, otherwise known as 'Mr Sleaze'

an investigation into his own dealings as corruption rumours grew and grew. Luckily for Meese, the special prosecutor (chosen by himself as Attorney-General) announced he could not find enough evidence to put Reagan's longest-serving aide in the dock with his friends. But the story isn't over yet and the man who tried to rush

through the deportation of Joe Doherty may yet find himself in a cell.

Rumours are that, just for now, the former Attorney-General will be given what seems like a very appropriate job: that of directing the Reagan Library and Trust, founded to boost the reputation of the man who ordered the bombing of Tripoli.

played throughout history in resisting the British occupation of their country.

Mairead Keane spoke about the present day contribution of women to that struggle. She said "Women are involved in all aspects of the liberation struggle in Ireland. They are involved in the armed struggle, they are political activists in Sinn Fein and they are the backbone of resistance in the face of British repression in the Six Counties."

She outlined the history of the Sinn Fein Women's Department and the role

of the department, both inside and outside the organisation.

While in Minnesota she met with the Irish community and community activists. The latter part of the tour was spent in New York and Boston. While there she spoke to women's groups, the Irish community, Puerto Rican communities and broad left groups. She also did a number of radio and newspaper interviews. During her visit Mairead Keane also spoke to republican prisoner Joe Doherty by phone from his cell in New York.

Sinn Fein woman in US



● MAIREAD KEANE

THE HEAD of Sinn Fein's Women's Department, Mairead Keane, has just returned from a two-week speaking tour in the USA, sponsored by the Irish Women's Studies Group.

The main focus of the tour was the annual women's studies association national conference at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. Over 2,000 women attended this conference and throughout the day women availed of literature on the national liberation struggle in Ireland and, in particular, women's

contribution to that struggle.

Mairead Keane met informally with women from different parts of the USA throughout the five-day conference. At a workshop titled "Women in the Irish struggle", a video was shown outlining the active role women

played throughout history in resisting the British occupation of their country.

Republican Publications has produced two new full-colour posters, 'We shall overcome' and 'Discover occupied Ireland', and have reprinted the full-colour posters commemorating the Loughall Martyrs and the Volunteer Mairead Farrell. 'We shall overcome' and 'Discover occupied Ireland' cost 80p each; and the Loughall Martyrs and the Volunteer Mairead Farrell posters cost £1 each.

Available from 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1, and 51/55 Falls Road, Belfast (all postal orders should include cost of postage) and from usual republican outlets. Bulk rates available.

Fifties Volunteer Remembered

ON A LONELY, windswept hill on the outskirts of Swanlinbar on the Cavan/Fermanagh border a march led by the 40-strong band of the Strabane Martyrs Memorial band made its way to the spot where Volunteer Pat McManus was killed on July 15th 1958.

The chairperson, Peter Albert McGovern, welcomed the presence of Volunteer McManus' mother and Dr McLoughlin, who treated the wounded and dying at the scene 30 years before. A special welcome was given to John Joe McGil of Leirtrim. He then paid tribute to those Volunteers of Ogligh na hEireann in County Fermanagh who gave their lives for Irish freedom. Dessi McManus of Swanlinbar read the 1916 Proclamation, followed by Gerry Bacon,

who read the County Cavan Role of Honour. This was followed by a wreath-laying ceremony at which wreaths were laid on behalf of Ogligh na hEireann, Swanlinbar Sinn Fein, County Cavan Comhairle Ceantair, and the Kinawley GAA team of which Volunteer McManus was a member. Finally the chairperson introduced Jim Gibney of Belfast, who has recently been released from the H-Blocks, to give the oration.

COLLABORATION

Addressing the crowd of over 300, Gibney reminded

the people that what Volunteer McManus died for in 1958 was even more relevant today. In the midst of mass emigration and the drastic reduction of living standards, the Southern government was spending millions of pounds propping up a British-imposed border which it claims it does not want and which the people say they do not want. At a time when the people are actively resisting the British war-machine in Ireland, the Dublin government is collaborating with the British as never before: by extraditing republicans into the hands of the British occupation for-

ces, using repressive laws against anyone who dares to speak out against the occupation of our country and condemning hundreds of young men and women to long terms of imprisonment for resisting the British thorn in our sides.

"There is only one force on this island that has a correct analysis of the situation. There is only one group of people who are prepared to put forward an alternative to the mess that exists North and South, and that is ourselves.

"None of this is easy. It takes its toll. But we have to cling tight to the enemy. They have been weakened by the last 20 years of pressure. If we are tired, our

enemy is a lot more tired. We have nowhere else to go, they have. We have no option but to resist them, they have the option. That is where our strength lies and our endurance, in our imagination, in our intelligence, in our ability to bring new forces into the struggle, North and South.

That is what our task is and if we don't want to go down in history as a glorious failure then that is what we must do. Build new alliances on this island with those who want national independence and dignity for working people now."

The ceremony ended with the National Anthem.



● Patrick McManus was killed in an accidental explosion in Swanlinbar, Co Cavan, on 15 July 1958.

The final salute Vol Seamus Woods

