

# An Phoblacht

## REPUBLICAN NEWS



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# LYING IDLY DOWN

SO JACK LYNCH has resigned as Fianna Fail leader and Free State premier — supposedly to allow his successor time to lead the party into the next Leinster House general election in two years time. Well, lying idly down is at least a novelty compared to ten years of standing idly by!

The reason for Lynch's departure was his increasing incapacity to give any sort of leadership. Fianna Fail's social and economic policies have hopelessly failed either to satisfy capitalism or to provide for the needs of working-class people. Lynch suffered a personal humiliation in the two Cork by-elections, but it is the policy differences over the party's response to the permanent crisis of the national question and collaboration with the Brits which will have determined the outcome of the leadership election on Friday.

Good riddance to Lynch! He certainly stood idly by, except when the nationalist people of the North took Irish resistance to a pitch where it shook the British hold on our country, and then Lynch joined in repressing republicanism.

It was, and is, the task of Republicans throughout the thirty-two counties to actively resist British repression and ensure that the question of this country's freedom is an issue, even for the Free Staters, who prefer to see it buried.

The 'dirty war' which the British and support-

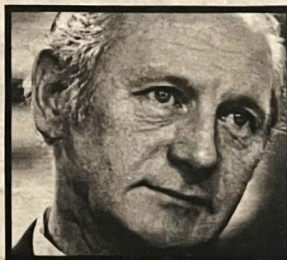
ers of the British connection, wage against the nationalist people takes many forms.

Whilst there is a consistent level of obvious Brit repression, occasionally flaring up into peaks, there is also the crown/loyalist connection which sometimes comes to the surface.

Last Tuesday just such a rare insight emerged. During a bail application it was revealed in court that five RUC men carried out the sectarian bombing of the Rock Bar in Keady three years ago in which seven people were injured.

Yet, it is not condemnation of the RUC which comes from the Dublin government but news that Justice Minister Gerry Collins, on behalf of the RUC, will sanction the cross-border prosecution of a Free State prisoner over an incident in Keady when British soldiers shot and killed a County Armagh man! The contradiction and collaboration is blatant.

The RUC have been found guilty of torture by the Strasbourg Human Rights Commission; fourteen attempted strangulations of RUC interrogation victims were reported last year by Amnesty International; and the RUC also soon



Lying idly down is at least a novelty compared to ten years of standing idly by!

face embarrassing court cases about kidnapping a priest and the murder of a Catholic shopkeeper in Ahoghill.

Yet this week the Fianna Fail administration have signed a new European convention on the 'Suppression of Terrorism' supposedly facilitating RUC prosecutions in Southern courts!

Added to the litany of attacks are the activities of the loyalist UDR — 'B' Specials in British army uniforms. A week ago nearly ten thousand pounds damages were awarded to seven people from South Derry who were assaulted and terrorised by the UDR.

And loyalist assassinations continue, the latest victim being shot dead in Belfast on Monday.

All this violence on behalf of the Northern state gains little publicity from the establishment, north or south because to explain it involves a truthful assessment — the Republican view — of the six-county state as illegitimate and sectarian.

Such news is conveniently ignored by the British and Free State governments.

Last Monday direct-ruler Atkins publicly condemned the IRA execution of a senior prison warder and never even mentioned the loyalist killing!

British violence has been systematically ignored by Fianna Fail politicians and when it is taken up it is opportunistically taken up, not because of Britain's innocent victims, but because of the Free State need to undermine the spread of republicanism, which has never stood idly by.

## 'Warders not hit hard enough'

THE ABILITY of the IRA to counteract any security measures taken for and by prison warders was demonstrated in last Monday's attack in Belfast when the Chief Prison Officer of Crumlin Road jail William Wright was shot dead.

Following a spate of attacks on prison warders the British government promised increased protection which included the deployment of under-cover patrols around the vicinity of the jail. But successful IRA operations continued and warder Wright then took over responsibility for new 'security measures', the failure of which was aptly demonstrated by the IRA's ability to execute even him.

Ten days previously the killing of a Long Kesh prison warder almost caused a strike in the camp but for some fast talking by top officials.

The IRA's consistent attacks are bound to be eroding the morale and confidence of the warders, but as if to repudiate this the Prison Officers Association issued a statement on Tuesday evening declaring that the attempts to get them to withdraw from the H-Blocks would not work. However, this is the first time that they have publicly acknowledged the rationale behind the attacks — their implementation of the British government's 'criminalisation' policy — and the IRA was quick to respond.

They said the association's statement was 'extremely ill-considered' and went on: "But if this hard line statement from the association represents the views of all prison officials then obviously we are not hitting them hard enough and we can assure them that we can inconvenience them even further and the only safe place for them to live will be in jail."

## Sinn Fein on Lynch

Welcoming the departure of Jack Lynch, Sinn Fein in a statement said that he has been completely out of tune for a long time with the aspirations of the Irish people who favour a British withdrawal from Ireland. His defence of the British presence made his downfall inevitable, they said.

Sinn Fein president Ruairi O'Bradaigh has also issued a statement on the resignation. "Mr. Lynch will be remembered by Republicans as the man who announced in August 1969, that he 'would not stand idly by' as the nationalist people of the North came under attack from pro-British violence", he said.

"He promptly proceeded to do the opposite — refraining from giving assistance to the oppressed people and collaborating to the fullest with their oppressors. This collaboration had reached its worst level ever at the time of his retirement. He also brought the twenty-six county state into the monopoly capitalist EEC, the long term effects of which Republicans believe will be disastrous", he concluded.

Gerry Adams, vice-president of Sinn Fein, described Lynch as departing as a failed leader. "It will be interesting to see if Fianna Fail comes under a leadership more representative of the overwhelming nationalist feelings of the majority of the Irish people or whether they will continue with their repression and censorship of republicanism, as epitomised by the use of the Special Criminal Court and the RTE ban on 'Sinn Fein', he said."



There is a consistent level of obvious British repression, such as RUC harassment in the streets, as pictured here. There is also the loyalist paramilitary connection with the state forces which sometimes comes to the surface as it did in a Northern court on Tuesday when it was revealed that five RUC men carried out the sectarian bombing of the Rock Bar in Keady, three years ago.

# TROOPS TO BE USED AGAINST ROBIN HOOD'S MEN?

BY PAUL ROONEY

IF ANY SECTOR of the work-force should get preferential treatment it is that which has the most unpleasant jobs to perform. But these are the very people who are usually treated most shabbily and Dublin's dustbinmen are no exception.

Over the last year both Dublin Corporation and County Council binmen have been involved in lengthy industrial disputes and this week has seen another strike by four hundred Dublin County Council binmen, all members of the Automobile Union, AGEMOU.

The, so far, unofficial strike escalated last Sunday when more than three-hundred workers came out in support of seventy of their work-mates who had been on strike since Wednesday 28th November at the Robin Hood depot in Clondalkin. The dispute arose when the County Council extended refuse collection routes four weeks ago without any consultation of the workers. One crew refused to service a school which had been arbitrarily attached to their route and the seventy men began a work-to-rule. The County Council first suspended the men from the payroll (presenting them with a nominal one-penny cheque in their wage packets) and then dismissed the seventy men involved.

The County Council obtained an injunction in the High Court on Tuesday to stop picketing at depots and tip-heads, and they have also put out scare stories of sabotage on the related areas of sewage and water supplies by the strikers — accusations which are vigorously denied by the men. Michael Keating, industrial officer of AGEMOU has classified the Council's behaviour so far as deliberately provoking an escalation of the dispute.

Meanwhile the Fianna Fail government have put troops on stand-by to take over water and sewage if the dispute effects these areas, and, in the event of a lengthy stoppage, are likely to use troops once again to collect refuse as in the Corporation binmen's strike last summer.

The readiness to use troops as strike breakers in disputes in the public sector has been seen this year in the Dublin bus strike, the post office strike, the Dublin Corporation bin strike and now looks very likely again. It becomes easier each time to use this particular brand of uniformed scabs and the official trade union movement has so far failed to take on this threat, satisfying itself with mere statements of protest.

The union involved in this dispute, AGEMOU is not affiliated to the ICTU — and so will have difficulty in gaining support against such a threat from other unions, if they decide to give the strike official backing.

Meanwhile the strikers have outlined conditions for a return to work including re-instatement of the seventy binmen who were dismissed, payment of pay withheld, and consultation on any route extensions.



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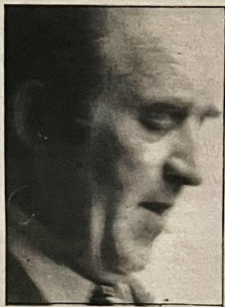
DONEGAL POLITICIAN Neil Blaney has this week continued to expound his views on the North, this time to an American audience. Speaking in Chicago, during a ten-day tour of the United States, he said that he can not see Margaret Thatcher — 'a thrifty national housekeeper' — stomach for too much longer the annual one-and-a-half billion pound cost of the British presence in the North. He sees 'priggish remarks' about refusing to talk to 'people who have bombed their way to the negotiating table' as unrealistic in the light of the way Thatcher has dealt with Zimbabwe.

A declaration to withdraw by Britain could be effected within six months to a year, he said. 'Side by side with a British declaration there would have to be a general amnesty for political prisoners held in Ireland and Britain', he added.

However, he sees a solution in a federal link between two assemblies, one, for the six counties, in Belfast, and another, for the twenty-six counties, in Dublin, with an all-Ireland central authority con-

## Blaney Manoeuvres into Position?

BY KEVIN BURKE



NEIL BLANEY

trolling 'security' — the armed forces (the UDR to be disbanded), an unarmed police force, and the judiciary — as well as foreign affairs.

This authority would have twenty members from the Belfast assembly and twenty members from Dublin,

The chair would rotate each six months. He sees no point in wooing Unionists in present circumstances but would make concessions in the context of these new bodies to the extent that he would not object if all the twenty members from the Belfast assembly were loyalists (or in that context ex-loyalists).

He said that he expected finance to support such a solution to come from Britain, the EEC and the United States.

The policy of the Republican Movement would of course, be in complete disagreement with this federal solution of Blaney on the grounds that it would obviously continue partition and with it loyalist privilege. Also his expectation of financing by the major capitalist countries would hardly hold out much hope for the 'ownership of Ireland by the people of Ireland'.

The recent strong public statements of Blaney which have underlined his 'republican' aspirations

coupled with announcements that he is considering the formation of a new thirty-two county party (together with the six-county-based Irish Independence Party) are probably not unrelated to the (now announced) resignation of his old enemy Jack Lynch from the Fianna Fail leadership.

Shrewd politician that he is Blaney has obviously seen the need to flex his political muscle and publicly redefine his 'republican' position in preparation for negotiations with a new leader (he hopes Haughey) for his re-entry to the Fianna Fail party.

He has said that he would not be attracted back unless his beliefs on the Republican issue are absolutely fulfilled. He seems to be making sure that if he does make some arrangement with a new leader he can show his own followers that there is plenty on recent public record of what those beliefs are.

## Clones and Athy Councillors

SINN FEIN's chairman of Clones Urban Council, Frank McCaughy, defended the painting of political slogans on walls in the town, at last week's council meeting after 'outraged' councillors had complained about the slogans. But McCaughy cleverly outmanoeuvred them. He pointed out that this was one of the few means that Republicans have of getting their message across and he then proposed a motion calling on the Free State Minister of Posts and Telegraphs to allow Sinn Fein spokesmen on TV and radio. One of the strongest critics of the slogan-painting found himself seconding this proposal, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Meanwhile in Athy, Co. Kildare, Paddy Wright, the Sinn Fein councillor who topped the poll at last June's elections, was acquitted of a charge of writing 'Brits Must Go' on a wall belonging to the Duke of Leinster. In court Wright told the judge that he opposed the British presence in this country.

## Dublin Housing

THE NEWLY FORMED Dublin Housing Action Committee has announced six agreed demands for its demonstration in the city on Saturday 15th December.

These are:-

1. The declaration of a housing emergency
2. Statutory control of land prices.
3. The formation of state building agency.
4. A state investment body for housing.
5. A programme of renovation.
6. Community planning.

The Dublin No. 2 Branch of the Irish Post Office Engineers Union has provided a lead to all those in support of the DHAC, by passing a formal motion of support of these demands at its last meeting and on the December 15th demonstration and calling on its representatives at the Dublin Congress of Trade Unions to do the same.

## Cork Students

LAST WEEK a series of activities took place in Cork city as part of the Union of Students' campaign to focus public attention on the lack of financing of third level education in the Free State. The main aims of this campaign include an end to the ever-increasing 'fees spiral'; an index-linked grants scheme; the abolition of the means test and of the 'four honours' requirement in order to obtain a grant; provision of student facilities and accommodation; and increased staff-student ratios.

During the week, houses in the city were leafleted by students from the city's colleges who were publicising their case.

On Wednesday a march and rally in the city centre was attended by almost two thousand students, and the following day a picket was placed on the City Hall in protest at the lack of local planning on student accommodation. Over the weekend student leaders lobbied Leinster House members.

## E.E.C. Convention on Terrorism

AN AGREEMENT to extradite or put on trial anyone accused of a political offence was signed in Dublin last Tuesday by the nine EEC governments. This new 'European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism' obliges any state refusing extradition on political grounds to put the accused on trial. Each government now has to pass enabling legislation in its own parliament to bring the agreement into effect.

This latest convention extends the Free State's Criminal Law Jurisdiction Act of 1976 to include all EEC countries as well as Britain, and it will also mean that proceedings have to be brought against an accused automatically on the refusal of extradition, the present Act requires the British government to request prosecution.

No prosecution has yet been brought under the CLJ Act in the Free State but Fianna Fail's Justice minister, Gerry Collins revealed this week that papers for the first case have been lodged and he believed a second case was also to be taken.

The British government in the past appears to have left the Act unused in order that the accusation against the Dublin government of 'harbouring terrorists' in their midst could be used as a lever for further collaboration. Recent agreements between Lynch and Thatcher on anti-republican measures including the signing of this latest convention, seem to have ended the need for this lever, and further prosecutions of republicans by the British Free State courts can be expected.

## DUBLIN H-BLOCK CONFERENCE

1p.m. to 6p.m. Sunday 16th December  
Round Room, Mansion House

open conference to elect a southern-based sub-committee  
of the national 'Smash H-Block' committee

# CHIEF PRISON OFFICER EXECUTED

AFTER A SUSTAINED SPATE of successful IRA commercial bombings at the end of last week, and over the weekend (and also a successful landmine attack against a Brit land-rover in County Fermanagh) on Monday the IRA's Belfast Brigade shot dead William ('Punchy') Wright, the chief prison officer and second-in-command to the governor at Crumlin Road Prison.

Ironically Wright was in charge of all 'security' at the prison including 'security' for prison warders. He was the eighth prison warder to be killed this year. Despite their vain claims of having increased their guard on prison warders, the British continue to cynically place the vulnerable warders in the front-line of their doomed campaign to 'criminalise' Republican prisoners.

## WEDNESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER Dungannon

Seven bombs were planted during the evening at a large timber yard in Dungannon; Dickson's at Milltown. At least three of the bombs exploded causing considerable damage; however, the ensuing fire was quickly extinguished.

**Coalisland**  
McAvoy's timber yard near Coalisland was another IRA bomb target. A portable office was successfully destroyed in a blaze sparked off by a bomb.

**Ballygawley**  
A third successful commercial attack was carried out during the evening in County Tyrone. Damage was caused to Dunlop's Furniture Store in Ballygawley in another blaze sparked off by a bomb.

## THURSDAY 29TH NOVEMBER Kinawley

Two Royal Marine vehicles were travelling along a road between Stragowna Cross and Batts Cross in the Kinawley area of County Fermanagh when ambushed by the IRA. A land-mine packed with several hundred pounds of explosives blew a land-rover into the air. The wrecked vehicle landed in a huge crater at the side of the road.

Two Brits were seriously injured in the well-executed IRA operation and another Brit and two RUC men were slightly injured. The IRA active service unit returned safely to base.

## FRIDAY 30TH NOVEMBER Derry

Three bombs were planted at a commercial target in Derry: a builder's supply yard in Hillview Avenue, Waterside. The ensuing explosion started a fire causing slight damage. A telephoned warning ensured there were no civilian casualties.

## SATURDAY 1ST DECEMBER Rathfriland

Nine buses were destroyed in a daring IRA bomb attack on the Ulsterbus depot in Rathfriland, County Down. Two IRA volunteers crashed a commandeered car through the re-inforced doors of the bus depot at Downpatrick Street at quarter-to-seven in the evening.

The volunteers placed several bombs on buses before making good their escape in another commandeered car. The bombs exploded twenty minutes later destroying nine buses and the depot itself. Only three buses in the depot escaped damage.

**Newtownards**  
Six bombs were planted at a

commercial target in Newtownards: the Woolworths store in Conway Square. Adequate warnings were given to clear the area of civilians. Four bombs were defused by the military but two later exploded causing damage to nearby goods.

## SUNDAY 2ND DECEMBER Castlewella

Two bombs were planted at a commercial target in Castlewella: Wallace Shaw's shop in Upper Square. Extensive damage was caused to the shop when the bombs exploded at 6.50p.m.

**Newcastle**  
A fire was started after a bomb was placed at a furniture store. The bomb exploded at 7.25p.m. The store, which is housed in the former Ritz Cinema building behind Kemp's amusement arcade was slightly damaged.

**Cullybackey**  
In Cullybackey, County Antrim, the local RUC post was struck by forty-one bullets in a gun attack launched by a mobile IRA active service unit at just after quarter-past-ten in the evening. There were

no hits on RUC personnel and there was no enemy fire returned. The IRA unit returned safely to base.

## MONDAY 3RD DECEMBER Belfast

Shortly after 5p.m. the much-hated Chief Prison Officer 'Punchy' Wright left Belfast's Crumlin Road Prison for the last time after a day of 'sticking the boot' into Republican prisoners. When he parked his car in the driveway of his Lyndhurst Drive home in North Belfast less than an hour later, IRA volunteers were waiting in ambush. One volunteer opened fire on Wright from a few feet away shooting him six times before making good his escape.

Wright died less than thirty minutes later. A former Royal Marine commando he had spent thirty-four years as a prison warder for which he had received the British Empire Medal. A year ago he survived an IRA assassination bid when volunteers fired shots at him on October 24th as he drove home from Crumlin Road Prison.

## WAR NEWS

All the operations referred to here were claimed in supplied statements by the Irish Republican Army.

## FLOURISHING MYTHS

THE SUNDAY TIMES chief reporter Will Ellsworth-Jones who has been reporting on the North of Ireland for more than ten years, warned last Sunday, that a 'flourishing crop of myths' has grown up in Britain - particularly because of lack of interest there, in the war.

From the British point of view he considers the most 'dangerous' myths to be: "that the Provisional IRA survive only by intimidating the population of the Catholic ghettos; that direct rule has ended job discrimination against Catholics; that an unchanging bi-partisan policy faced with lots of government money, will one day bring a 'solution' to Ulster's desperate problems." In reality, Jones concludes: "There is no end in sight to the IRA. Despite massive advances in housing, Catholic employment aspirations have hardly been to be fulfilled. Any political initiative within the self-imposed limits laid down by the government has no better chance of working now than at any time during the past 10 years."

Jones' concern reflects a growing realisation amongst the British ruling class that their policy-makers (politicians, civil servants, and military chiefs) should not be confused by the 'Brit victory' propaganda prevalent during Mason's term of office as direct-ruler. The Sunday Times is well aware that only a realistic assessment by the British of the balance of forces, and developments in Ireland can result in realistic policy-making for suppressing Irish Republicanism.

## IRA Brownlow Denial

ON THE NIGHT of Wednesday 28th November hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of fire damage was caused in a petrol bomb attack on Brownlow House in Lurgan - the Orange Hall which is also the headquarters of the Royal Black Institution. In a supplied statement the Irish Republican Army denied any responsibility for the attack.

## Tout tracing

THE RUC confidential telephone system has been fitted with equipment to allow anonymous touts to be traced, even if the caller hangs up quickly, according to a report in last week's Dublin weekly *Hibernia*. The nineteen telephone numbers for touts throughout the six-counties are apparently permanently monitored by the RUC Special Branch who can hold and trace a call even after the anonymous tout has replaced his or her telephone.

This tracing facility also exists (even though exchanges are automatic) with calls made to an operator and 999 emergency calls. The RUC initially used the facility to hold bomb hoax calls for tracing. After the Belfast department store of Anderson, McAuley, Ltd. had been repeatedly evacuated because of false alarms, the firm was given the facility of holding incoming calls. Later a girl, previously employed at the store, was charged by the RUC with making hoax calls from the office where she worked.

## Three-in-one

ON ONE DAY, last Friday, three different Northern courts dealt with serious assault cases involving the three main branches of the repressive state forces: the British army, the RUC and the UDR. So much for the law-abiding qualities of the so-called forces of 'law-and-order'!

In Lisburn two British soldiers were fined for assaulting two RUC men in a drunken rampage last May, which included a deliberate attempt by one of the Brits to break the arm of an RUC man who had to smash a car window to free his arm which was trapped by the Brit.

In Magherafelt seven people including folk-singer Francis Broily were awarded a total of £9,400 damages for assault by members of a UDR patrol on a lonely road in County Derry three-and-a-half years ago. The UDR patrol had beaten and threatened to kill their seven victims. Subsequently UDR officers refused to serve summonses on members of F company, Magherafelt.

In Belfast, RUC constable Colin Campbell - who attempted to murder Gerald McLaverty, the chief witness in the Shankill butchers' case, by shooting him in a Belfast street in January (shortly before the case) - was found not guilty of eight charges including malicious wounding, false imprisonment, assault and causing criminal damage. RUC man Campbell was said to have been both drunk and suffering from concussion at the time. This apparently justified his murderous activities.

## RUC Man Attacks Woman

A TWENTY-ONE-YEAR-OLD RUC constable, Francis James Lattimer of Gough barracks, Armagh, savagely attacked a twenty-seven-year-old housewife at her Hartfield Square home in Portadown on Saturday. She was taken to hospital where she was treated for severe internal injuries. The RUC man appeared in a special court in Portadown on Sunday charged with causing grievous bodily harm to his victim. He was remanded in custody to Belfast magistrates' court on Friday.

## Brits Bale Out

A SPY NEST of British gunmen was discovered by a Tyrone farmer whilst using his forklift to move a stack of hay bales last week. Malachy Kernan of Benburb was working in his farmyard at the hay bales when a red-faced Brit fell out. Five more Brits emerged sheepishly from the hay and beat a hasty retreat.

These sinister intruders were members of the 1st Battalion of Gordon Highlanders. A Brit spokesman later claimed that they had been returning from Dungannon barracks. Sinn Fein's South Tyrone Comhairle Centair pointed out that people should be 'on their utmost guard' and should check their outhouses etc. for signs of these 'terror gangs' and that they 'treat with contempt the feeble attempt by the British administration and their news media to cover up what in fact was a stake-out.'

## Police Teargas Brit

A BRITISH military armoured vehicle careered through the town of Paderborn, West Germany last weekend, after an accident. Police cars set off in pursuit of the berserk driver after he had crashed into a moped seriously injuring the driver. The Brit vehicle zig-zagged crazily across the road as the police vainly tried to overtake it. When the police did manage to pass it, they sprayed a form of tear-gas through the turret and succeeded in stopping and capturing the driver.

Just because British army drivers can get away with murder (literally) in the North of Ireland they think that they can do likewise in West Germany but at this particular Brit found to his cost, this is obviously not the case.

## Workers Block Road

ON TUESDAY MORNING fifty workmen using mechanical diggers and lorries blocked the intersection of the Crumlin Road, Twaddell Avenue and Woodvale Road, in north Belfast, for over an hour, in protest at the arrest by the British army of one of their workmates. The workers from two building sites in the nationalist Ardoyne area went on strike following the arrest of Joe Lynch, from the Jamaica Street site. He was repairing one of the old houses in the area when he was arrested by the Brits and taken to their base at the Grand Central Hotel. He was released a short time later.

A spokesman for the strikers said they were sick of the Brit harassment which is almost a daily event. The Brits constantly walk through the building sites and their presence delays the work on much-needed houses. The spokesman warned that they will continue to use the road-blocking weapon when any of the work-force is arrested.



Nine buses were destroyed in a daring IRA bomb attack on the Ulsterbus depot in Rathfriland. Two IRA Volunteers crashed a commandeered car through the re-inforced doors of the bus depot and placed several bombs on buses.

# LOYALIST ASSASSINS ON THE PROWL

## Tenth victim shot in Belfast

THE TENTH Catholic victim to die at the hands of loyalist assassins in recent months, met his death in the confines of his own bedroom, when gunmen sneaked into the West Belfast home of thirty-seven-year-old David White and shot him in the head last Monday morning.

The style of the killing marks an even more frightening and sinister development in the current murder campaign which to date has followed the traditional pattern - the killing taking place either at the victim's door-step or on the streets.

This latest assassination took place in the Ladybrooke estate close to the loyalist Blacks Road and Suffolk estate.

News of the killing broke when the so-called Ulster Freedom Fighters (a pseudonym often used by the

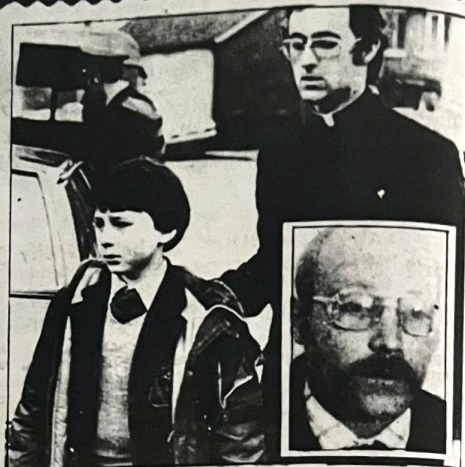
UDA) rang *Downtown Radio*. They erroneously claimed that their victim was a quartermaster in the IRA. (In fact he was not connected).

The gunmen had gained access to the bedroom via an unlocked ground-floor window at the rear of the house. Evidence was later found of a scuffle in the bedroom and several live rounds of ammunition from the assassins' gun were strewn around the floor.

A clue to the exact time of the

attack is provided by David White's wrist watch which stopped at five-to-ten when struck by one of the assassin's bullets.

Although the killing bears the hallmarks of a loyalist killing the possibility of direct Brit involvement can not be totally ruled out. David White suffered considerable harassment from the Brits/RUC and only last Saturday while he manned his Castle Street stall, British soldiers tried unsuccessfully to photograph him and took his name and address.



Twelve-year-old Gerard White numbed with shock at the assassination of his father David White (inset).

## Gunmen caught in Leitrim

THE ARREST of two Belfast loyalists on their way to Ballinamore to assassinate the man acquitted of the execution of Lord Mountbatten illustrates a number of points about the workings and mentality of the UDA. Albert Taylor and Thomas Mullen were arrested south of Swanlinbar on the Fermanagh/Leitrim border.

On Wednesday and Thursday of last week in a hired northern car they had crossed the border on a number of occasions via a permanent garda checkpoint on their way to and from Ballinamore where their intended victim, twenty-four-year-old Francis McGirl, lives.

### HAIR-BRAINED

The scheme appears to have been particularly hair-brained and drawn up in haste - McGirl was only acquitted five days before - and shows that loyalists, more at home when butchering innocent Catholics, have little experience in the sophistication necessary to carry out a detailed operation. Nevertheless, the proposed assassination of McGirl was a discriminate attempt on a relatively 'prestigious' target and no doubt UDA supreme-commander Andy Tyrrie had an anxious day on Thursday impatiently

sitting by the phone waiting to make the 'claim'.

The UDA gunmen were probably billeted in a loyalist area of Fermanagh and it appears they had no base in the Leitrim area, since it is thought they intended to flee across the border after the killing. When stopped by gardai they said they were undercover British soldiers on patrol and produced identification.

They also gave telephone numbers for the British army's Thiepval Barracks in Lisburn. But they were arrested under the Offences Against the State Act and two firearms, maps and documents were discovered in the car.

### SLAVES

The choice of McGirl as a target shows that despite all their fine talk of an 'independent north' and 'progressive thinking' the UDA are still basically slaves to British imperialist values. The UDA have recently denied being involved in sectarian assassinations (ten Catholics have been murdered in recent months) but there is mounting evidence that under the cover of the so-called Ulster Freedom Fighters, they, along with a section of the proscribed UVF, are behind the killings.

The purpose of their sectarian killings is to force the nationalist



## Welcome Home!

On Friday 23rd November amid a blaze of publicity, Francis McGirl of Aughnasheelin, Ballinamore was acquitted of the charge of killing Mountbatten. The tremendous interest with which the case was followed, particularly in the Ballinamore area, occasioned widespread joy and celebrations, following news of the acquittal.

On Friday evening the car taking Francis home was met by a large fleet of cars at Killesandra and escorted in cavalcade

to Ballinamore, where a large crowd of well-wishers had gathered and where a large bonfire blazed.

Amid a cheering crowd, Francis was welcomed home by Sigo Republican P.J. Kearney who said the crowd and their enthusiasm, was ample answer to those who had spread vile anti-Republican propaganda. Local veteran Republican John Joe McGirl, the uncle of the acquitted man, thanked the crowd for coming out at very short notice and showing their solidarity with Francis.

people to abandon resistance and cease supporting the IRA. Such killings would have added spice were Republicans to be provoked into indiscriminate retaliation, in that the Brits could then project their occupation of the north as one of 'security forces keeping two warring religious communities apart'.

### SINN FEIN

Following the attempted murder bid on Francis McGirl and the arrest by

gardai of the two UDA men, Leitrim Sinn Fein issued a statement recalling the treatment of similar gangs arrested in the Free State.

In 1973 six members of a fully-armed SAS squad were arrested at Clones but later released across the border, and in 1977 eight members of another SAS squad whose weapons this time included shotguns, were fined a derisory £100 in the Special Criminal Court in Dublin.

"However", the statement says, "every week that passes, nationalists are given the severest sentences by this court -

one law for the oppressed Irish and another for their British oppressors". They also point out that Sinn Fein has had more specific reports of recent under-cover activities in their area by SAS-type groups from across the border. "People in Leitrim and other border areas are alarmed at the continuation of such terror type activities by British forces and their related bodies. Just how long does the twenty-six county state intend to connive at their repetition?", the statement ends.

## UDR Mutiny at Magherafelt

A NORTHERN County Court judge has expressed strong condemnation of the UDR for their refusal to co-operate with the RUC in their investigations of an attack by members of the UDR on seven occupants of a car stopped by them outside Bellaghy three-and-a-half years ago.

At Magherafelt County Court on Wednesday 28th November the judge stated that officers of the UDR's F Company, Magherafelt, had refused to serve summonses on members of the company to attend court not only on this occasion, but in October when the case first came before the court. In fact this action (or rather, refusal) of the UDR officers could well be described as mutiny.

One of the occupants of the car, well-

known folk-singer Francis Broily of Dungannon, said he was convinced by the attitude of the UDR patrol towards them at the time, that they were going to meet the same fate as members of the Miami Showband, only for another car coming on the scene.

In addition to Francis Broily, the other occupants of the car (who together were awarded £9,400 damages, which the judge suggested should be recovered from the UDR) were his wife Anne, her sister Maurea Corey, Laurence Mulholland, William Craig, Patrick Kealey and Patrick O'Neill. They were attending a function in the Bellaghy GAA Social Club on the night of April 4th 1976.

On coming out of the function they discovered tyres on several cars had been slashed (as it later turned out, probably by the UDR). The seven of them got into William

Craig's car, which had not been immobilised, and after travelling some distance out of Bellaghy in the direction of Gulladuff they were stopped by UDR men with blackened faces.

Laurence Mulholland was taken out of the car. He was hit with a baton. Two UDR men started to pull him up the road. They kept poking him in the stomach with the barrel of a rifle. Several shots were fired behind his back and one of the UDR men said, "The next will go through your head, you bastard".

Mulholland was on his knees and was kicked and hit with rifles on the back. The UDR men threatened to spread his guts as they in fact beat him nearly unconscious, breaking one of his ribs. (Afterwards he was in agony for about a fortnight.)

Meanwhile Patrick Kealey was also taken

from the car, verbally abused and struck on the shoulders by a rifle butt. A rifle was cocked behind him. He was kicked by one UDR man while another hit him across the side of his head with a baton cutting his scalp open. (He later needed five stitches.)

The other five occupants including the two women had been lined up facing a ditch whilst they were subject to continued verbal abuse, and rifles were cocked behind them.

When William Craig moved he was struck on the shoulders by the butt of a rifle and thrown back into line.

Just when it seemed that they really might all be shot another car came along the lonely road and the UDR men hurriedly ordered them to get back into their car and in a very frightened state they drove home to Dungiven.



## RUC PUB BOMBERS

FURTHER REVELATIONS of the murderous sectarian activities of the RUC were made in the Belfast High Court on Tuesday when thirty-year-old David Wilson, a full-time RUC man was granted bail. Wilson was making his second application for bail on a charge relating to the bombing of a Keady pub on June 6th 1976.

The court was told that at 10p.m. on that day a bomb was thrown into the Rock Bar near Keady by three masked men. In a combined bomb and gun attack seven customers were injured. Five RUC men have reluctantly been charged by their comrades-in-arms with mounting the attack.

Wilson's apparent role in the attack was that although he knew of the bombing in advance — in that he was asked to take part — he did nothing to prevent it.

## Anonymous Brit Assassins

PLAIN-CLOTHES SOLDIERS who murdered a twenty-one-year old Derry man, Denis Heaney in cold-blood in Derry in 1978, had the blessing of the British Ministry of Defence when they refused to turn up at the inquest on Tuesday, 27th November. They also had the collaboration of the RUC who kept their identities anonymous.

On June 10th 1978 Denis an IRA Volunteer, was standing in front of Derry's 7/20 bar when two cars sped by him. The first shot fired from one of the cars hit him a crippling wound in the leg and four other shots in the back killed him. The car then sped down Chamberlain Street and disappeared.

The assassination followed several sinister incidents in the Derry area involving British SAS soldiers. Seven months earlier, in late 1977, Brits attempted to kidnap two Derry men returning from Buncrana; in December, IRSP member Colm McNutt was shot dead not far from Chamberlain Street; then in January 1978 a Brandywell man was chased and almost captured; and in March a youth walking along the Inishchairn Road was fired at from a car which sped off to Piggery Ridge Brit Camp.

At Tuesday's inquest on Denis Heaney, the coroner caused a stir by refusing to accept written evidence of the soldiers who were not in attendance at the inquest and who were not named. They were referred to as soldiers 'A', 'B' and 'C'. The inquest was also told that the Director of Public Prosecutions had directed that there be no prosecution in this case. An open verdict was returned.

The dead man's brother, Seamus, later told An Phoblacht/Republican News: "It was a terrible insult to my brother that his life was so cheap in their eyes, they didn't see fit to even turn up for the inquest."

# SDLP TO CAPITULATE

IT WILL COME as no surprise to Republicans if John Hume, leader of the SDLP, announces next week the party's willingness to participate in Atkins' four-party conference and of how against 'incredible odds' they have bargained for, and secured the inclusion of, the 'Irish Dimension'.

For if at that stage Paisley is still involved in the conference then for sure the SDLP will once again have sold out and capitulated, for last week Paisley's DUP said, "There's no possibility of Mr. Atkins changing the agenda. Neither Mr. Atkins nor we in the DUP would agree to widen the range of discussions to include debates on a united Ireland."

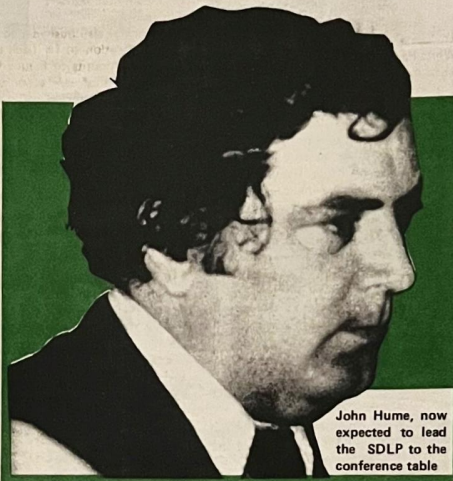
S.D.L.P.

The equivocation of the SDLP has been described by one commentator as "their little game of allowing themselves to be courted by Humphrey Atkins."

Hume after his election as party leader, reaffirmed that the party was 'committed to dialogue', which is no understatement given their six years of nattering which has shown no results, their lack of protest over British oppression, and their lack of action over pursuing genuine nationalist demands. Thus last Tuesday Hume traipsed up to Stormont Castle

for talks which are to be resumed with Atkins on Monday. In his 'progress report' to the British parliament Atkins said that

at the conference references could be made "to aspects of the topics under discussion which may lie beyond its strict terms of reference".



John Hume, now expected to lead the SDLP to the conference table

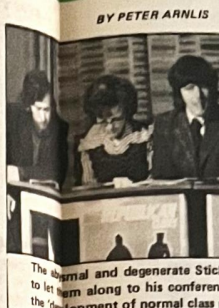
ence". Brit sources and an amenable media then blew this up to a major concession to the SDLP with Fianna Fail's Irish Press announcing 'No Ban on Irish Dimension'.

But the magnanimity of Atkins stretched no further than discussions of cross-border topics like "transport matters, animal health, sport and energy" — and he had Paisley supporting this proposal which allowed Paisley to pose as being a 'moderate' loyalist in comparison to the intransigent Official Unionists!

But no matter how the SDLP phrase their capitulation, talks on cows and kilowatts are certainly not what they mean, nor what the nationalist people understand, by the 'Irish Dimension'.

STICKS

The position of the Sticks also deserves examination. Where they lack SDLP power to sacrifice and set back the aspirations of the nationalist people, they make up for that by the degree of their political degeneracy. They have welcomed the White Paper, condemned the Official Unionists and SDLP for their threatened boycott and have asked Atkins to let them along because of the offer of "democratic devolved government" and the "develop-



The abject and degenerate Sticks to let them along to his conference the 'development of normal class politics'?

ment of normal class politics? They are not in favour of British withdrawal because they do not believe Britain should "abdicate political responsibility here". No doubt they see Paisley's support for the conference as a DUP shift to the left!

PAISLEY

Paisley's interest (his conditions for participation having been satisfied), is in obtaining a constitutional section at which he believes he will be able to wipe-out and re-populate the remaining Official Unionists before calling the real top. His chances of success are even enhanced all the more by the hook which the Official Unionists are hung on. They are certainly going through



On the Friday of the EEC summit the National Smash H-Block Committee held a picket (pictured above) outside Dublin Castle following a march from Trinity College. There was a sizeable contingent from Belfast at the march including relatives of H-Block prisoners and former blanket man Ned Flynn. Placards carried by the picketers drew attention to the conditions in H-Block and slogans were chanted loudly.

Gardai were particularly rough with the women on the picket, attempting to push them into a corner in order to confine the protest, and at this stage Sheila McVeigh, Organiser of Belfast Sinn Féin, was dragged away by gardai and later charged with assault and obstruction.

The day before, Dublin Sinn Féin had also held pickets in support of the prisoners in H-Block during the EEC meeting at the Castle.

Two Breton groups also used the occasion to publicise the plight of their political prisoners, in particular the plight of twenty-two Breton nationalists who received savage jail sentences in France. Four members of the Breton Rights Committee of Ireland held a hunger-strike (pictured left) preceding the summit and a picket was also held by them at the Castle. Another Breton group held a press conference to announce the launching of a European Committee for Human Rights in Brittany at which they outlined the repression of national minorities by the French government.

LAST WEEK'S EEC summit trend of EEC policy for Ireland. There is no doubt over by the big four, very firmly on the side

Thatcher's domination meeting and her demand change in the rules — to — ended in failure. She of getting the £1,000 million, but what is clear is that there will be a — into strengthening of heavy industry in the Britain will benefit there of anything that is left grants for the deprived at the greater expense sectors.

The half-hearted battle regional and social funds, government was loudly chanted at the beginning of this Agricultural Policy, from v

# ITULATE AGAIN?

BY PETER ARNLIS



Enoch Powell and James Molyneux have welcomed the Atkins' White Paper and have asked Atkins to join along to his conference because of the offer of 'democratic devolved government' and 'development of normal class politics' heralded by the paper.

normal class politics? Or in favour of British because they do not should "abdicate responsibility here". No see Paisley's support conference as a DUP let!

PAISLEY

interest (his conditions tion having been sat- in obtaining a con- dition at which he will be able to wipe- up the remaining onists before calling rna. His chances of even enhanced all the hook which the onists are hung on. tainly going through

a period of anxiety, Paisley having effectively out-flanked what they thought would have been an unassailable, intransigent 'boycott' position.

## OFFICIAL UNIONIST

This boycott also suited the party's growing trend, under Enoch Powell's influence, towards demanding integration with Britain. However, the leadership under considerable internal criticism has had to circulate party branches with propaganda leaflets to assuage the growing doubts, some of which surfaced openly a week ago with William Craig threatening to resign if the party does not attend the talks.

And on Tuesday Craig's Vanguard Association officers and

members met privately and threw down a 're-think your tactics' challenge to party leader James Molyneux. The implications of the challenge are clear. If the party leadership clings to its boycott policy then the Vanguard pressure group could break away and re-form as a separate political grouping.

## FIANNA FAIL

Meanwhile, Fianna Fail's belated response continued at the weekend when Minister for Foreign Affairs, Michael O'Kennedy, spoke about the British White Paper.

Whilst maintaining his party's criticism of the absence of a formal reference to the 'Irish-Dimension', part of his speech read like Atkins' address to the House of

Commons when he spoke about a geographical and economic dimension.

The nationalist people are being asked to swallow this as the substance of their aspirations while the loyalists, evidently obvious from Paisley's composed response and from his strategy, can appreciate its emptiness since all states with common borders have such dimensions.

O'Kennedy also pushed mention of re-unification so far back that it clearly amounts to Fianna Fail abandonment of this supposedly basic tenet. (Although after the resignation of Lynch this remains to be seen.)

In his overtures to the loyalists O'Kennedy was deliberately vague when he said: "If there are matters they would wish to have us change the government are not only ready, but most anxious, to develop our dialogue..."

It was not clear whether this statement is an intimation of Fianna Fail's preparedness to consider dropping the constitutional claim over the North.

So, the saga continues and against a background of collaborationist party chiefs resigning, RUC pub-bombing, UDR assaults, British army harassment, and loyalist sectarian murder, the only guarantor of nationalist aspirations, as always, remains the Republican Movement.



Enoch Powell, with party leader James Molyneux behind him, steering the Official Unionist Party towards integration — or more likely towards disintegration at the hands of Paisley's ridiculously misnamed Democratic Unionist Party

# PROTESTS at E.E.C. SUMMIT

WEEK'S EEC summit held in Dublin gave a clear indication of the trend of EEC policies, none of which hold any comfort for any part of Ireland. There is now no doubt that EEC finance is going to be squabbled over by the big four, Germany, France, Britain, and Italy, and the rest are firmly on the sidelines.

Irish domination of the two-day summit and her demands for yet another change in the rules — to Britain's advantage — ended in failure. She never had a chance of getting the £1,000 million which she was asking for, but what is clear from the meeting is that there will be a re-direction of funds into strengthening the existing areas of heavy industry in the community (and which will benefit there) to the detriment of anything that is left of the minimal funds for the deprived areas, and of course at the greater expense of the agricultural sector.

half-hearted battle for increases in the social and social funds, which the Free State Government was loudly championing last year, was the beginning of this year. The Common Agricultural Policy, from which the twenty-six

counties gets 93% of its EEC aid, has brought the Community to the verge of bankruptcy and will be savagely cut-back. The days of price-support systems and surpluses, on which the big farmers did so well, are very nearly over and that leaves no other benefits to be gained.

During the summit various groups took the opportunity to stage protests both outside Dublin Castle where the meetings took place and elsewhere around the city.

Sinn Féin and the National H-Block Committee held pickets in support of the 'blanket men', two Breton groups held various protests on behalf of their political prisoners, anti-nuclear energy protestors occupied the EEC Commission's office in the city, workers from sugar factories marched in protest about EEC proposals to cut the twenty-six counties sugar production quota and another group, Revolutionary Struggle, held a final anti-EEC march and rally.



Anti-nuclear demonstrators occupied the offices of the EEC commission in Merrion Square (above, top) on the eve of the EEC summit meeting, other supporters demonstrated outside the building. The occupation was in protest at the EEC policy which aims to provide half the energy-needs of the Community from nuclear power by

1985, and is pressuring its members to build nuclear power stations. The demonstrators also drew attention to the intended mining of uranium in Donegal and the dangers this entails.

Uniformed gardai and special branchmen smashed down the doors of the occupied office and dragged out the protestors, sup-

porters outside were also attacked by gardai (above, bottom) and a total of nine people have been charged arising out of the incident.

On the following day anti-nuclear demonstrators held a picket outside Dublin Castle during the EEC meeting.

# DIVIS MILITANTS CHARGED

THE RUC unwittingly gave a welcome boost to the campaign for the demolition of Divis Flats in Belfast's Lower Falls, ten days ago, when they arrested six members of the Divis Demolition Committee and charged two of them with conspiracy to cause £25,000 worth of damage to Housing Executive property.

The arrests and charges arose out of the well-publicised tactic by the committee of systematically making vacated flats uninhabitable and thus furthering, in practice, the demolition campaign.

The initial scheme was slightly revised so that where an inhabited flat was in an even worse condition than a vacated flat, the tenants were rehoused and the worst flat was wrecked. So far about twenty flats have been wrecked.

Around 'Six' programme about one month ago in which he explained the flat-wrecking plan. The RUC are alleging that Stitt's comments are self-incriminating and are using the interview as evidence of conspiracy.

If Sean Stitt is convicted it will be the first time that anyone has been convicted in the North on 'televised' evidence. (A previous case which failed dismally for the RUC was that against Sinn Féin Vice-President Gerry Adams, last year when a charge of IRA membership against him, based on his filmed Ard Fheis speech, was dismissed.)

BY PETER HAYES

Last week, obviously unwilling to risk confrontation with the militant nationalist residents of the Divis flats the RUC (with the help of heavily-armed British soldiers) used stealth plus the customary early morning knock-on-the-door to arrest the committee members.

At half-past eleven on the morning of Wednesday 28th November RUC and Brits entered and searched the Divis flats community centre. They confiscated all the documentation which the demolition committee had at great pains built up over the last few months including a 'demolition' petition with over ten thousand signatures.

That same afternoon Sean Stitt was pounced on and arrested as he left a Belfast court-room.

In the early hours of the following morning another five people were arrested: Frank and George Gillen, Joe Rush, Bobby Anderson, and Eileen Hughes.

The demolition committee pointed out that "this action, which was obviously taken at the direction of the Northern Ireland Office and with the collusion of the Housing Executive, demonstrates clearly the effectiveness of our campaign and the fear with which the demolition committee is held in establishment circles."

Belfast Sinn Féin condemned the arrests and harassment of the committee; expressed their support for the committee; and pointed out that such heavy-handed action will achieve nothing for the Housing Executive in that it will only increase the frustration and bitterness felt by the residents of the flats.



SEAN STITT, THE GILLEN TWINS AND EILEEN HUGHES - Four of the six members of the demolition committee who were arrested

## CASE

The case against Sean Stitt, PRO of the committee and Frank Gillen, Treasurer, is sure to be strongly countered with solidarity coming from the numerous housing action groups in West Belfast who recently founded an umbrella organisation to pressurise the Brit direct-rulers to reverse their policy of cutting back public housing.

The case will also attract considerable interest, not only because of the issue itself, but because of the form of the evidence being used against Sean Stitt. It appears that the RUC have video-taped (as is their practice with TV news and current affairs programmes on Ireland) an interview by Stitt broadcast on the BBC 'Scene

## MEDIA

The case against Frank Gillen is also based on media-gathered evidence. It centres around a photograph of him and Sean Stitt standing in a damaged flat, and which includes a statement explaining the committee's reasons for damaging the flats.

Another unique aspect of this case is the charge, which means that if the defendants are found guilty the judge will be setting a precedent which could either amount to a £1 fine or a hefty gaol sentence. However, if sufficient opposition (protests and publicity) is mounted the state is unlikely to want to create two housing martyrs.

## BRIT VICTIM



Bad housing conditions are of course not the only hazard faced by Divis Flats residents. Marauding British soldiers are another.

Fifty-nine-year-old Margaret Darling from Divis Flats has been confined to bed since Sunday when she was struck by a Brit with his rifle. She was bruised on the chest and had her right ear cut (see photograph) when she objected to the harassment of her twenty-six-year-old son Robert outside their home. Mrs. Darling, who suffers from epilepsy, collapsed after being struck, and was taken to the city hospital.

Her daughter Margaret, who ran to her assistance, was dragged by the hair by a Brit and had her arm injured.

Robert Darling was also attacked when he tried to go to his mother's assistance. He was arrested and held in Castlereagh RUC barracks for twenty-four hours, before being released without charge.

# Bliain Idirnaisiunta an Phaiste

SEO BLIAIN Idirnaisiunta an Phaiste. I rith na bliana thug na polaiteoirí oráid faoi chearta an phaiste agus dhein siad tagairtí do staid dhaoine ins an Airtintín, ins an Afric Theas agus ins an Chambóid. Ach tá droch staid a fhulaingt ag páistí in Éirinn chomh maith.

Ní sa tréid oomhain amháin a fhulaingíonn páistí mar gheall ar ocras, bochtaineacht, dí-fhostaíocht, droch-oideachas agus easpa chearta. Imrítear brúidiúlacht ar pháistí sa tír seo leis.

Is de dheasca an imiríúilachais agus an chaipíteilachais a fhulaingíonn na páistí. I gceanntracha bochta sna cathracha tá ganntanas próitéin sa bhia a itheann tromlach na bpáistí. Ní bhíonn na tuismitheoirí in achmhain bia ceart a cheannach.

## PLÓDÚ

Tá cead codán an-ard do dhaoine óga (18 - 21) gan obair toisc an ganntannas oibre. Fágtar iad gan dóchas. In áiteanna sa Tuaisceart mar Bhaile Uí Mhurchú, Baile Andarsain agus Bóthar na bhFál tá suas le leath na daoine óga gan obair.

I gceanntracha an lucht oibre



bíonn suas le ceathrar déag (nó níos mó) ag cónaí in son teach amháin. Go minic freisin bíonn an leithreas leasluigh sa chlois agus ní bhíonn seomra folcra sa teach in son chor. I suirbhé a deindeadh le déanaí leiríodh go raibh an tríú chuid des na

## GUNNAI AG BAGAIRT AR PHAISTI

tithe i gceanntracha an lucht oibre i mBéal Feirste neamh oiriúnach le cónaí iontu. Tá páistí ag cónaí sna tithe sin agus tá siad ag fulaingt dá bharr. Chomh maith le sin go léir, luíonn na Sasanaigh agus an RUC go trom

ar na hógánaigh ag iarraidh teacht ar eolas mar gheall ar Óglaigh na hÉireann agus na Fianna Éireann.

Is minic a gortaítear daoine óga nuair a bhíonn siad a cheistiú ag an RUC. Cuireadh a lán daoine óga i bpríosún de bharr ráiteas a shíniigh siad faoi bhrúidiúlacht an RUC. Is léir ó Thuaisceart Amnesteí International go bhfuil a bhfuirmhór neamhchiontacht.

Ógánaigh ab ea furmhór na bhfeair pluid nuair a cuireadh i bpríosún iad. Léiríonn cás Clárán McGillicuddy an slí ina bhfuil cúrsaí. Gabhadh é nuair a bhí sé cúig bliana déag d'aois. Daoradh é i gCúirt gan giúiré nuair sé sé bliana déag d'aois agus anois in aois a seacht mbliana déag d'aois dó, tá bliain caite aige ar an bpluid san Blocanna H.

Ó 1968 i leith maraíodh seachtar ball déag des na Fianna Éireann. Tá a lán ball eile i bpríosún de bharr ionsaithe an RUC. Sa Deisceart luíonn fórsaí an Stáit go trom ar na Fianna.

Caithfidh uile iarracht a dhéanamh ar staid phaistí a fheabhsú go mórthóir inár dtír féin.

Leagan ciorraithe d'alt le ball des na Fianna Éireann i mBaile Átha Cliath.

# A MASTER OF DISGUISE

**WHAT A BUSY WEEK!** When I got this Supremo job I thought it would only be a matter of sitting around Stormont Castle, giving people orders on the phone, and drinking the wine cellar dry. How wrong could I get! It's been all go.

Wednesday, for example, I had to fly down to Dublin to supervise the arrangements for security for herself. It was a tricky business. First of all, I couldn't find her. She wasn't at Sandyford as planned, and a panic ensued. The SAS men were running around in circles, bumping into each other, and shouting 'Geronimo' or some such nonsense and it was left to old Maurice to track the witch down.

I am, as you probably know, a master of disguise, and so it was, with little trepidation that I took to the streets of Dublin.

## BEGGAR WOMAN

It was a pleasant day as I strolled along O'Connell Street, remembering fondly how my M16 boys had bombed this very street on at least two occasions in the past five years, when I was approached by this dishevelled beggarwoman, whom I took for a gypsy. She was holding a beggling bowl and whining something about only needing £1,000 million or so, but the bluerine in her hair gave the game away. It was she! The Thatcher. She was clearly deranged and I had to summon two members of the Gardaí, (as I think the bogtrotters refer to their coppers), to take her away.

She hadn't recognised me however, and I was able to have the whole matter hushed up. This was handy, for, truth be told, I haven't exactly revolutionised the war since my arrival in the North. In fact, apart from ordering some soldiers to taxim ammo on those Falls Road taximen, I haven't come up with any good wheezes lately, and the mandarins have begun to ask questions.

## FRED

However, my successful use of disguise in Dublin prompted me to be more ambitious, and, on my return I sallied forth to the lovely little town of Coalisland. There, disguised as a dog called Fred, I posed for photographs with the 1st Battalion, the Gordon Highlanders - who are not quite so gay these days, by the way.

This scheme was the brain-wave of Major Malcolm Ross of their press desk, who has been rankling ever since the publicity given to the medal winning dog 'Rats' the soldiers' only friend in Crossmaglen. Accordingly, he contacted John Hack of the *Daily Mirror* and they concocted this yarn about the faithful dog Fred, their only friend, in Coalisland, who after nine years loyal service was being promoted to corporal.

I didn't like to point out that this might be misconstrued to imply that a mongrel dog has more brains than your average British squaddie, and so went along with the jape, posing, convincingly as the loyal

by Maurice

served his purpose and must get the push.

Unfortunately he has been privy to the odd bit of skullduggery that I've indulged in the course of my chequered career, and has now hinted that he may have to resort to a bit of the old blackmail. And so I agreed to meet him. The chauffeur drove me up the Antrim Road to the rendezvous, but, alas! I got there only to discover a charred ruin.

There was no sign of Fitt, and I must confess, the thought flickered across my mind that he might have been responsible. I soon dismissed it, of course. No matter how unhinged he has become of late, he would never burn down a bar. The RUC wouldn't let me in to view the wreckage because, they said, the army were 'doing a little job'.

Naturally, I assumed that they were looting the stock, and it was with some surprise that I saw two officers emerge, tenderly cradling in their arms the scorched wreckage of one of their £100,000 wonder robots. It transpired that the original bombs had done relatively little damage, but that Wonder-robot, sent in to defuse some unexploded incendiaries had managed to set them off, burn down the entire hotel, and self-destruct. The officers were in tears, but, somewhat tetchily, I had to turn down their pathetic request for a posthumous VC for their mechanical little chum.

## BROLLYS

And now to Judge William Doyle. What a scoundrel he is!

Three-and-a-half years ago a UDR patrol beat up and intimidated a bunch of teagues, including the folk-singing Brollys. And why not? I hear you ask. Isn't that what they're paid for. That and the odd Miami murder, theft, arson, rape etc etc.

So now what does Judge Doyle

do, but go and award the teagues £9,400 between them. Worse still, Brigadier David Miller, the C/O of the UDR had ordered, quite rightly, that the UDR men shouldn't be named, have to appear in court, or be charged with any offence, and what has Doyle done but to comment that the N.I.O. would be able to prevent the taxpayers having to pay the damages as they would be able to recover the money from the 'appropriate people'.

Is this pompous fool proposing that the gallant UDR men, some of Ulster's finest, should fork out the money themselves? It would seem so, and if this turns out to be true, you may rest assured that yours truly will have a word or two to say about it!

## LISBURN

And finally, a reprimand for Drivers Martin Paul Illing and Guy Robert Smith, both of 26 Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, stationed at Thiepval Barracks. Last May, apparently, they beat up two RUC men in the centre of Lisburn, while being the worse the wear for drink. Furthermore, when arrested and being taken in the squad car, Illing tried to break one of the RUC men's arms in the car window.

Naturally, as in all these cases, both men were of previous exemplary character, and so escaped with £100 fines, but, as I said to Brig. David Ramsbotham in the Thiepval Mess: "It's a poor show, attacking RUC men when they could have been out trying to knock down teagues and old age pensioners".

Next week I'll tell you all about SB man Colin Campbell, who tried to kill the witness who convicted the Shankill butchers, and got off.

Amazing. Bye.

Maurice

# duirt siad

"Q - If Gerry Fitt says there is now no difference between the SDLP and the Provos, and Paddy O'Hanlon claims that the party 'has lurched to the right' while at the same time Chief Constable Newman and Humphrey Atkins both maintain that the Provos are Marxist, what then does that make the SDLP?"

"A - The Republican Labour Party perhaps. (Now where have I heard of that name before?)"

Tom Luby column, Hibernia.

"It is a very serious weakness in your coverage of Irish affairs that you are a very poor judge of Irish Catholics. That gifted and talkative community includes some of the most expert comment and women in the world, and in this case I believe you have been conned."

The sectarian Conor Cruise O'Brien justifying to journalist Mary Holland and her sacking from the Observer, of which he is editor-in-chief, because she wrote an article explaining the case of the H-Block blanket-men.

"Please don't talk of the unification of Ireland."

Mairéad Corrigan's message to Americans, broadcast last Saturday night in a CBS television documentary on the children of Belfast.



"Your brief report in Friday's issue (November 16th) of my marrying in order to inherit £20,000 was misleading by omission. What may be of interest to Irish readers is that I intend to give most of the money to the United Troops Out Movement and other comparable organisations campaigning to get the British army out of Northern Ireland."

Letter from English pacifist Pat Arrowsmith to the Irish Times.

"During the past 16 months a team of provincial police officers has been investigating a staggering series of allegations made against detectives of the Metropolitan and City of London police forces. They range from bribery and corruption to robbery and even murder - more than 100 officers are under suspicion."

The Sunday Times on the much-tarnished image of the London bobby. Are no bastions of the British establishment secure?

"We have taken all precautions and are determined that these people will leave the country in the same condition as they arrived."

Objective Garda statement on European heads of state in Dublin.



"Corporal Fred of the 1st Battalion, the Gordon Highlanders, whose promotion might be misconstrued to imply that a mongrel dog has more brains than your average British squaddie."

# DUNDALK HOUSING CRISIS

**FRA BROWNE** was first elected to Dundalk Urban Council as a Sinn Féin councillor in 1974 and when re-elected earlier this year he topped the poll with 861 votes. An Phoblacht/Republican News recently talked to him about the pressing social issues that people in the town are faced with.

**DUNDALK** has a population of twenty-eight thousand and despite its image as a 'boom town', unemployment stands at over fifteen hundred and the town is very poorly off in nearly every sphere.

There are few re-training and apprenticeships schemes for the unemployed or the young; and there are no proper recreational facilities such as an indoor sports centre or a swimming pool.

## COXES DEMESNE

Coxes Demesne, the estate in which Sinn Féin councillor Fra Browne lives, is the biggest council estate in Dundalk. It houses six-hundred-and-fifty working-class families who, in addition to low incomes and bad housing, are faced with a wide range of problems which the council fail to cope with.

There are no children's play facilities; there is inadequate street-lighting; and broken foot-paths and damaged drains often lie unrepaid. Faced with this neglect the people got together and raised fifty-five thousand pounds through subscriptions and built a community centre. Fra Browne believes, that to coun-

ter some of these problems as well as people getting together themselves, private developers should be required to provide facilities on the estates they build. Facilities such as shops, schools, play-facilities and community centres. Speculators are making fortunes by merely providing the bare necessities.

It is housing which is the biggest problem in the town; there are over five hundred families on the waiting list.

Fra Browne accuses the council of



COUNCILLOR FRA BROWNE

not building half of what is necessary and points out that the town needs at least two hundred new houses annually to keep up with increasing demand — he favours an emergency building programme.

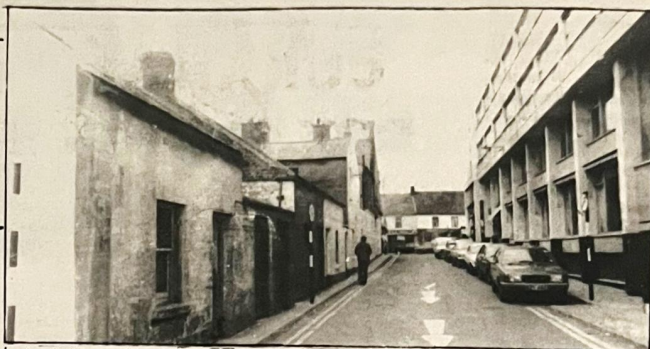
He currently has a list of over seventy families who have approached him personally for help in re-housing. One of the most needy cases is an old couple, seventy-eight-year-old Joseph McDonagh, and his sixty-seven-year-old wife, Bridget who are living in a 'one-up and one-down' in Market Street. (Ironically — and symbolic of Free State values — they live next door to the luxurious and modern Imperial Hotel.)

They first applied seven years ago to get out of the house, in which they have been for twenty-three years.

The house is falling down around them; the walls are rotten and damp; the roof is unsafe; they have no bath nor sink; and they have only a one-ironing camping-stove to cook on. To make matters worse, Mr. McDonagh is home-bound due to infirmity.

## OLD PEOPLE

There are three houses in the same street where old people live in similar awful conditions.



*Ironically — and symbolic of Free State values — old people live in deplorable conditions opposite the luxurious and modern Imperial Hotel.*

BY MICK SWEENEY



*Sixty-seven-year-old Bridget McDonagh, who together with her husband Joseph lives in deplorable conditions, has only a one-ironing camping-stove to cook on.*

The council, in fact, display a lack of interest in the old people in the town. Social services are inadequate, there are not enough social workers and no proper communal homes for those unable to look after themselves.

## LIMITATIONS

A local councillor, trying to solve some of these problems, finds himself hamstrung by the local government system, however hard he works. Even if local councils have the political will to act radically, they find themselves powerless to do so.

The council has no power to levy money from the area. It is financed by Leinster House grants which are 'totally inadequate', according to Fra Browne. There are also limitations put on how the money can be spent.

As Fra Browne points out it is the people getting together themselves who are most likely to get things done in their own communities. Only in encouraging people to take action on their own, on housing, local amenities, social services and so on, can Sinn Féin councillors play a meaningful role.

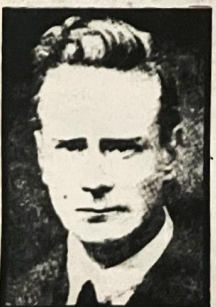


JOE MCKELVEY



DICK BARRETT

EXECUTED BY FREE STATE FORCES WITHOUT TRIAL, DECEMBER 8TH 1922



LIAM MELLOWS



RORY O'CONNOR

## LIAM MELLOWS AND THE FREE STATE

ON DECEMBER 8th 1922, fifty-seven years ago this Saturday (in the Catholic calendar the feast of the Immaculate Conception) four IRA volunteers Dick Barrett, Rory O'Connor, Joe McKelvey, and Liam Mellows were taken out of Mountjoy jail and shot by Free State forces without trial.

Whilst it has been said that the Free Staters ghoulishly made their choice on who to execute on the basis of taking one man from each province, it is more likely they were chosen because of their intimate knowledge of the Republican Movement — they were all IRB men who had left the fold, and above all they knew too much.

Perhaps the best known of those four was Liam Mellows. He was organiser of the armed rising in Galway supporting the Easter Rising in 1916, and afterwards held the position 'Director of Purchases' (that is, organiser of clandestine arms supplies) for the IRA. Repudiating the terms of the Treaty of 1921, he was a leader of the defence of the Republican-held Four Courts in Dublin against the Free State forces in 1922, and was taken prisoner after the garrison fell.

Mellows was a radical thinker and from his cell in Mountjoy jail he urged the

Republican leadership on the outside to mobilise the working-class in defence of the Republic. Fifty-seven years after the executions of Mellows and his comrades it is worth recalling some of his words on this issue and on that of the Free State.

## TREATY

Speaking during the Dail treaty debate he said: "I rise, to protest with all the weight and force of my being against any attempt being made to use the name of the Dail, which is the government of the Irish Republic, and its machinery, to set up a Provisional Government, to establish a Free State in accordance with a British Act of Parliament."

From his cell in Mountjoy jail: "The programme of democratic control (the social programme) adopted, should be transplanted into something definite. This is essential if the great body of workers are to be kept on the side of in-

dependence. This idea does not require a change of outlook on the part of republicans or the adoption of a revolutionary programme as such. The headline is there in the declaration of 1918. It is already part of the republican policy. It should be made clear what is meant by it... We should certainly keep Irish Labour for the Republic, it will be possibly the biggest factor on our side. Anything that will prevent Irish Labour becoming imperialist and 'respectable' will help the Republic..."

## FALLACY

On the Free State Mellows said: "It is a fallacy to believe that a Republic of any kind can be won through the shackled Free State. You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear. The Free State is British-created, British-controlled, and serves British imperial interests, it is the buffer erected between British capitalism and the Irish Republic."

"If the Irish people do not control Irish industry, transport, money and the soil of the country then foreign or domestic capitalists will. And whoever controls the wealth of a country and the processes by which wealth is created control also its government."

BHÍ na smaointe ag plódú isteach i mo cheann le linn an ranga anseo i gCás 11, sa Cheis Fhada ar maidin. Thosaigh mé ag machnamh siar breis is dhá bhliain ó shin. Rinne mé iarracht gach rud a chur in ord is in eagar chun pictiúr de shaghas éigin a tharraingt as.

I dtosach báire, bhual Roy Mason a bhí ina Rúnaí Stáit sa Tuaisceart ag an am isteach im' intinn. Ní gá dom a rá go raibh an nímh san fheoil ag Mason d'Oglaigh na hÉireann. Tar éis an tsaoil, i measc niose eile rinne na hOglaigh amadán de.

Dóirt Roy uilechumhachtach go raibh port na Sealdach seintne. "The net is tightening, the IRA are reeling. We're squeezing them like

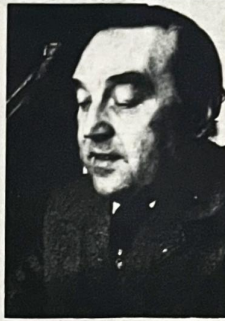
## CÚRAMAÍ ROY MASON

toothpaste from a tube." Más buan mo chiumhne chreid Roy bocht go raibh an clúiche thart agus na Sealdach fágtha fuar folamh.

Ach, mar is léir do ghach duine is a mhalairt a thárla. I ndeireadh na dála tá taobh eile dá phearsantacht a thaispeáint ag Roy. Is deas an radharc é, mas ceadmhach dom é a rá. Tá Roy, a bhí sotalach agus cróga ar an teilifís ag cnaimhseáil mar gheall ar an saol garbh atá aige.

Is deacair é a chreidiúint. Ba chóir, do dhuine éigin a chur in iúl dó ó tharla gur loisc sé an coinnéal gur chóir dó an t-órlach a loisceadh fosta. Mar a deirtear anseo sa Cheis Fhada "sin mar a phreabann an liathróid, a mhic ó."

Bhí sé sásta roth mór an tsaoil a chasadh sa Tuaisceart agus caithfidh sé na cúramaí a iompar go deo nó go nglaofar air.



IMNÍ AR ROY

### CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

All Christmas Greetings for prisoners should be in to the AP/RN office at either 44, Parnell Square, Dublin or 170a, Falls Road, Belfast by Wednesday 12th December.

#### WINSON GREEN PRISON Birmingham PICKET

1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday 15th December  
Political status for political prisoners!  
Repatriate Irish political prisoners!  
Organised by Birmingham Sinn Féin

#### WAKEFIELD PRISON PICKET

Saturday 15th December  
Political status and repatriation for POWs!  
Organised by Northern England Irish Prisoners' Committee

#### Film Show THE PATRIOT GAME Dominican Hall DUNDALK

8.30 p.m. Sunday 9th December  
Tickets £1.00

### THANKS

#### Markets Goods

The Donnelly family would like to thank those people in the Markets, Belfast, who were responsible for returning their goods.

#### Dublin Dockers

Noel Murphy of Ringsend, Dublin would like to thank AP/RN on behalf of himself and his family for the paper's support in the Dublin dockers' fight for a just wage increase. "The bitterest campaign against us was in the Independent newspaper group which also condemned the 1913 strikers. Things have not changed much for the workers of Dublin."

### SPONSORED SWIM

ONCE AGAIN on Christmas morning the sponsored swim in aid of An Cumann Cabhrach will take place at the third lock bridge, Inchicore, Dublin.

Last year a sizeable amount of money was raised at this event, but with greater support this could be greatly increased.

Sponsorship cards are available at the Sinn Féin POW department, No. 5 Blessington Street, Dublin and at the Christmas Sale of Work in the Mansion House this weekend.

It will be greatly appreciated by the organisers if all cards and monies were returned through the source, where the cards were obtained.

### DERRY CHRISTMAS POST

ONCE AGAIN this year Derry Sinn Féin is operating a Christmas postal service. Christmas greetings for the Derry city area will be accepted at any of the Sinn Féin advice centres in Creggan, Bogside, Brandywell and Shantallow, as well as at Sopa in Peshall, Rossville Street. Deliveries will commence on Monday 10th December and the last post will be accepted on Friday 21st December. The proceeds will go to the Prisoners Dependents Fund.

### LURGAN SINN FEIN

Anybody in the Lurgan area who wishes to join Sinn Féin should contact the Sinn Féin Advice Centre, 77 North Street, Lurgan. Telephone 6795.

### JOIN SINN FEIN

Anyone interested in joining Sinn Féin should contact their local Cumann; head office at 44, Parnell Square, Dublin; 85b Falls Road, Belfast; or 15 Cable Street, Derry.

I am interested in becoming a member of Sinn Féin

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....



## TREOIR

THE CHRISTMAS ISSUE of Treoir, the magazine of Irish traditional music, song and dance, has fifty-two pages of articles, songs, tunes and pictures, and includes full-colour for the first time.

Among the articles is one by the well-known Ulster traditional singer Len Graham, under the title of "Strands of Magilligan", dealing with the Magilligan area of Co. Derry and introducing us to some

of its songs and singers, past and present.

Uileann piper, Tomas O Canaínn leader of Na Fili, writes on the "Piping Times of Maurice Kennedy" who is one of the few remaining piper craftsmen in the country. Maurice Kennedy and his son Alf have a most impressive workshop in Cork and already a generation of pipers associate the name Kennedy with high class workshopmanship.

Other items include "A Famous

Belfast Fleadh Cheoil"; "The Harp Societies"; "The Bards of the Co. Armagh"; "Patterns and Wakes"; "Researching your Music"; "The Fiddlers and the Diddlers"; "Hunting the Wren in Kerry" and "An Píarsach agus An Claidheamh Solais".

Treoir is published six times yearly by Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann and is available from them at Monkstown, Co. Dublin.

## SOLIDARITY WITH THE PATRIOTIC FRONT

ON SUNDAY 11th November, over three thousand supporters of the Patriotic Front marched through the West End of London to a rally in Trafalgar Square, organised by the Zimbabwe Emergency Campaign Committee to demand that Britain keeps its troops and diplomats out of Zimbabwe.

That demand and the just claim that the Zimbabwean people be allowed to determine their own future free from imperialist interference must strike a sympathetic chord in every true Irish heart.

In fact a twenty-strong contingent from Sinn Féin marched behind the London Sinn Féin, High Wycombe Cumann and H-Block banners.

They were welcomed from the platform when they entered Trafalgar Square and a representative of the Patriotic Front came down from the platform to speak to Sinn Féin members. He made the point that the Zimbabwean people's struggle and the Irish struggle are one and the same and also that his people had many lessons to learn from the centuries old struggle of the Irish for their freedom.

Of course, he was right, the most important lessons being that no compromise is possible with British imperialism or its agents and that only the armed struggle of the people can ensure victory and a lasting peace.

would wear would be their own. He went on to point out that the only people who could speak for the prisoners were the prisoners themselves.

With regard to Alderman Allen's remarks about H-Block slogans, it was pointed out, by a member of Sinn Féin, that the H-Block struggle got little or no coverage on R.T.E. or the media in general. He said that until the 'paper wall' around H-Block was taken down, methods of publicity such as slogan painting will continue.

There were many contributions to the general discussion along with questions to Kieran and Eugene. Among the suggestions for action were the start of a massive signature campaign and the organising of a public demonstration in the city before Christmas.

The meeting was part of the ongoing campaign against the H-blocks in the Limerick area. Last month saw the setting up of the H-Block committee, the showing by Sinn Féin of the film *Prisoner of War* at the National Institute of Higher Education, and a press conference on the issue.

### LIMERICK

## H-BLOCK MEETING

and called for unity on the issue of H-Block.

Fr. O Tuathail called on people to stand up and be counted on the issue of H-Block; and said that "if people could be so generous in their help and support for the suffering people of Kampuchea, then surely support should be forthcoming for fellow Irishmen suffering daily in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh."

When the meeting was thrown open to the floor, both councillors present gave their views.

Alderman Tommy Allen (Labour) said that having listened to the two former prisoners recount their experiences in H-Block, he was "horrified" at the conditions there. He called for full public debate on the whole question of H Block and political status. But,

he also went on to attack the painting of H-Block slogans around the city.

Councillor Tony Brommell also expressed his opposition to the conditions in H-Block. He went on to suggest that some sort of compromise might be worked out between people speaking on behalf of the prisoners and the British government.

He also suggested that political prisoners might be persuaded to wear a prison uniform which would be different from that worn by non-political prisoners.

He called on the meeting to discuss suggestions for highlighting the problem.

In reply to some of the points made by Councillor Brommell, Kieran Nugent said that the prisoners were not prepared to compromise on their demands. He said that the only clothes the men

MORE THAN one hundred people attended a public meeting on H-Block at the Royal George Hotel, Limerick on Wednesday 28th November. Among those present were two city councillors and a representative of the local press.

The meeting, which was organised by the Limerick H-Block Committee, was addressed by Eugene Burns and Kieran Nugent, two former H-Block prisoners, and An tAthair Antoin O Tuathail C.C., a member of the committee. The meeting was chaired by Gordon Hayes, a local solicitor and a member of the National Smash H-Block Committee.

Eugene Burns gave an account of his experiences from the time of his arrest to his release from Long Kesh. He spoke of what happened to him in Castlereagh, Crumlin Rd. Jail, and the H-Blocks.

Kieran Nugent gave an account of the grim conditions in the H-Blocks, the reasons for the blanket protest

## LONDON P.T.A. MARCH

A DEMONSTRATION to mark the fifth anniversary of the introduction of the notorious anti-Irish Prevention of Terrorism Act was held in South London on Saturday 24th November. The four-hundred strong demonstration from Kennington Park to Brixton prison was organised by the British left-wing group, the RCT. A rally was held before the march with speakers from RCT, UTOM, IRSP, Socialist Workers Party, Workers Power, Workers Socialist League, Women and Ireland Group and a former British soldier.



# Family Greetings

**BERRY, Liam, (H-Block)**

One year on the blanket. "Brother, we have kept the faith, comrades, we too stand ready to serve. For patriotism is at once a faith and a service. This the heroes have done for us; for their spirits dwell in the place where they lived and the hills of Ireland must be rent and her cities levelled and all her children driven out upon the seas of the world before those voices are silenced that bid us 'be faithful still' and to make no peace with England until Ireland is ours." - Oration given by Patrick Pearse at the Robert Emmet commemoration, 1914. Liam you have kept that faith in your first year on the blanket. Our blessings on you. From Nanny and Grandad.

**BOYLE, Dermot, (H-Block)**

Congratulations Dermot on completing two years on the blanket. "It is not those who can inflict the most but those who can endure the most who will be victorious". Love from the O'Neill family.

**CUNNINGHAM, Peter; McDOWELL, Mario, (H-Block)**

The Martin/Treacy Sinn Fein Cumann, Short Strand salutes Peter Cunningham and Mario McDowell on completing two years on the blanket. Time can never erase the pride we feel for the great efforts of Ireland. Bua dona fir pluid!

**GALLAGHER, Gerard; LUNDY, Matt; CHILLINGWORTH, Billy, (H-Block)**

The Turf Lodge RAC salutes Gerard, Matt and Billy on completing two years on the blanket protest to political status. They may break you in body but never in spirit. Victory to the blanketmen!

**GALLAGHER, Gerard; LUNDY, Matt; CHILLINGWORTH, Billy, (H-Block)**

Solidarity greetings to my dear son Gerard and his comrades Matt and Billy on completing two years on the blanket protest in England's monument of shame - the H-Block's Hell Hole. No one could be prouder than we are of

you today and this message comes to tell you we are behind you all the way. From Mum, Dad and the Gallagher family.

**GALLAGHER, Gerard; LUNDY, Matt; CHILLINGWORTH, Billy, (H-Block)**

Solidarity greetings to my dear friends Gerard, Matt and Billy on completing two years on the blanket protest in England's Hell Hole. God bless Ireland's fighting blanketmen. Gerard, Billy and Matt your fight is not in vain for one day you will be free and back home with us again. - From Kathleen Holden and family. Also your comrade Michael (H-Block).

**GALLAGHER, Gerard, (H-Block)**

Solidarity greetings to my dear grandson Gerard on completing two years on the blanket protest in the Hell Hole of Long Kesh. They lock you away, deny you your rights, but Ireland's brave sons continue to fight. God bless the blanketmen. From Charlie and Theresa.

**HURSON, Martin, (H-Block)**

Congratulations Martin on completing two years on the blanket. Victory to the blanketmen! Freedom for evermore. From the O'Neill family.

**KANE, Peter, (H-Block)**

Congratulations Peter on completing two years on the blanket. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for justice. You are always in our thoughts and prayers. From the O'Neill family.

**MCCHRISTAL, Marcus, (H-Block)**

Congratulations son on completing two years on the blanket. God bless you and all your comrades.

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**MCCHRISTAL, Marcus, (H-Block)**

soon for you and your comrades. From the Jim Connolly Sinn Fein Cumann, Ballyghy.

**MCVEIGH, Sean, (H-Block)**

Congratulations to you Sean on this your third year on the blanket. "They can break you in body but never in spirit." Our thoughts are with you always. From the Martin/Treacy Sinn Fein Cumann, Belfast.

**MCVEIGH, Sean, (H-Block)**

Solidarity greetings Sean on completing three years on the blanket. Keep your chin up. From your friend Arthur and from Deirdre, Shauneen and Michael Dermot.

**O'CONNOR, Seamus, (H-Block)**

Two years on the blanket. The James Connolly Cumann, Ballyghy salute you for courage and determination in the fight for political status. You and your comrades are an inspiration to us all.

**O'NEILL, Patrick J., (H-Block)**

Congratulations son on completing two years on the blanket. "No one could be prouder than we are of you today and this message comes to tell you we are behind you all the way." From your Mother and Father.

**O'NEILL, Patrick J., (H-Block)**

Big salute to you brother on completing two years on the blanket. "They may break you in body but not in spirit". From your loving sisters and brothers.

**O'NEILL, Patrick J., (H-Block)**

Congratulations to uncle Patrick on completing two years on the blanket. Victory to the blanket men! From Kieran, Donald, Shane, Paul, Catherine, Maura, Fiona and Sinead.

**RAMESEY, Gerry, (H-Block)**

Congratulations on completing one year on the blanket. We stand behind you all the way. God luck to you and all your comrades. Love from Mum and Dad.

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# MEMORIAM

**BATESON, John; LEE, Martin; SHERIDAN, Jim, (8th Anniversary)**

In proud and loving memory of Vol. Johnny Bateson, Martin Lee and Jim Sheridan who died 18th December 1971. Always remembered by the Ballygally Republican prisoners in H-Block, Crumlin Road, Long Kesh camps and Portlaoise, Mary Queen of Ireland pray for them.

**BRADY, Terry, (4th Anniversary)**

The Republican Movement, North Armagh, remember with pride their comrade Vol. Terry Brady, A. Coy., 1st Battalion, North Armagh O'ghaigh na hEireann who died on December 15th, 1975. "The only ones who are worthy of freedom are those who are prepared to go out and fight for it every day, and die, if necessary."

**BRADY, Terry, (4th Anniversary)**

In proud and loving memory of my good friend Terry, Volunteer, A. Coy., 1st Battalion, North Armagh O'ghaigh na hEireann who died on December 15th, 1975. "Six counties are in bondage still. Those men who died was their will! Until they're free and oppression cease, Only then will they rest in peace." Remembered always by Liam.

**BRADY, John, (7th Anniversary)**

In proud and loving memory of my dear brother Vol. John Brady 'B' Coy., 2nd Battalion, Derry Brigade, who gave his life for Ireland on November 28th 1972. "The dead who died for Ireland are beacons in our night. From the halo round their sacred graves we'll catch the holy light. That will beam on Mother Ireland when her sons no more are slaves. And the dead who died for Ireland shall sleep in freedom's graves." Wide away those useless tears and remember him with pride. Always remembered by his sister and brother-in-law Patricia and Mickey (Long Kesh)

**BRADY, John, (7th Anniversary)**

In proud and loving memory of my brother John, Volunteer, 'B' Coy., 2nd Battalion, Derry Brigade, who gave his life for Ireland on November 28th 1972. Always remembered by Hugh. "Lay him away on the hillside along with the brave and the bold, inscribe his name on the roll of fame in letters of purest gold."

**KENNEDY, David, (4th Anniversary)**

The Republican Movement, North Armagh remember with pride their comrade Vol. David Kennedy, 2nd Battalion, O'ghaigh na hEireann, Armagh City, whose sacrifice on December 10th, 1975, "Lay him away on the hillside along with the brave and the bold, inscribe his name on the roll of fame in letters of purest gold."

**NOLAN, Tony, (8th Anniversary)**

In proud and loving memory of Vol. Tony Nolan who died as a result of a shooting accident while on active service, December 8th 1971. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade. "Fair be his air son saoirse na hEireann."

**NOLAN, Tony, (8th Anniversary)**