



REPUBLICAN NEWS

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WHO'S WINNING!

After weeks of intolerable harassments, and British Army offensives against the Irish Resistance in the Six-Counties, and high-level incursions by the sectarian para-military RUC into Republican and nationalist areas, following the loyalist strike, the People and the Irish Republican Army have once again stood up to and faced the Repression. And the People and the Irish Republican Army have once again won.

Last Thursday Volunteers of the East Tyrone Command patiently lay in wait for at least 12 hours at Carnan Crossroads. An RUC patrol, representing British law in a Republican area, turned into the district. The Volunteers opened fire with Armalite and AK47 rifles, killing three RUC men. They escaped into the local terrain with which they are familiar and among the sympathetic population.

It is well known that rural guerilla units of the IRA lie out for days waiting for British Army and RUC incursions, particularly in border areas. It is this determination and constant vigilance which gives republicans control of many areas.

On Tuesday Volunteers of the Belfast Brigade took up ambush positions beside Andersonstown RUC barracks, so close to the billet that the British Army/RUC looked ridiculous. After an overnight wait the Volunteers sighted a plain-clothes RUC patrol which they attacked, seriously injuring one of the occupants.

The RUC have been heavily relying on the British Army for softening up Republican ghetto areas; but the British Army hasn't had an easy time of it either!

On Monday afternoon a British Army patrol

stopped in the Cullingtree Road (near

Divis Flats, Belfast) to read a newly erected poster on the blocked-up window of a derelict house. About the second sentence the poster blew up (command-detonated by IRA Volunteers) and, as our photograph shows, the British Army in their statement that "a soldier suffered slight shock" were blatantly lying.

In Ballymurphy on Tuesday afternoon a sniper hit a soldier and eye witnesses stated that he was seriously injured. In Turf Lodge on Tuesday night two soldiers were blown up by a strategically placed landmine. The explosion was heard in the far-side of the city and again we had an immediate British Army statement of "slight injuries" received.

Heavy Brit reinforcements were rushed to the scene and local people mobilised against the large-scale invasion. Militant mothers and youths who took to the streets harassed the Brits and sent a few to hospital.

The Brits have also come under gun-attacks in Derry City, Strabane, and twice in South Armagh last week. The Belfast Brigade IRA also carried out a number of bomb attacks. Strathmore Inn, Cavehill Road, which was a popular haunt of the RUC Special Branch was wrecked in an attack on Tuesday.

The Republican people can take heart that the rebellion against British Imperialist occupation is gaining momentum on a scale the height of which hasn't been matched for several years.

The confidence and prestige inspired by the military successes must now be transformed into mass street mobilisations of the People in support of P.O.V. status for our prisoners



and into important issues concerning the social and economic welfare of the Irish working-class.

It is the duty of every Republican to involve himself with the People's War of Liberation.

Above - the derelict house on Belfast's Cullingtree Road where a British soldier "suffered slight shock"

Beechmount bombing

Despite the fact that a Shankill Road UDA man, Edward Lacey of Battenberg Street, has been charged with the murder of 10-year-old Kevin McMenamin in Beechmount Avenue on Easter Sunday, the Republican Clubs have refused to retract their accusation that the Irish Republican Army bombed them.

It was the Sticks lack of political acumen to see the significance of the timing of the bombing which precipitated a feud situation in Belfast last April.

Following the bombing the Sticks shot two civilians at the gate of Milltown Cemetery, which they later denied. They have shown themselves completely negative, counter-revolutionary and totally irresponsible.

DERRY OPPOSES JUBILEE

In order to celebrate the Queen's diamond jubilee anniversary all schools in Derry were ordered to close down for the day. This was reinforced by a statement from D.E.S. stating that the holiday would be "non-transferable", attempting to ensure that Irish People would be forced to bend their knee to the English queen.

Although "officially" closed some school remained open as a protest against the dictatorial attitude of the British officials. As a show of solidarity with this protest all schools in the Republican areas of Derry were picketed by Sinn Féin and members of the Irish Front.

Also picketed were the parochial house in Pennyburn and the residence of the Bishop of Derry. All the anti-imperialist groups in Derry supported this action against "psychological" imperialism in forcing teachers, children and parents to celebrate 25 years of torture, intimidation and murder.

Today the British people are celebrating the anniversary of their queen. It is ironic that Irish people are commemorating another anniversary - that of Michael Gaughan who suffered and died in an English prison three years ago. It is also ironic that an Irishman will be spending this day and many other days in a Derry Hospital, disfigured and blinded for life by the Queen's representatives in Ireland.

As we are forced to remember this day by the English through their enforced closure of schools and administrative building let us remember what the Queen really represents in Ireland: REPRESSION, INTIMIDATION AND MURDER. So as this day has been set aside for the English Queen let us not make it a joyous occasion but a day of mourning in memory of the evils that the British occupation of Ireland has created.

P. R. O.
Wolfe Tone Cumann, Derry.

PORTLAOISE PRISON

AN ANSWER TO Mr. COONEY

The Minister for Justice, Mr. Cooney, T.D. has refused an independent public inquiry into conditions in Port Laoise Prison. Many individuals and organisations, including Amnesty International have called for such an inquiry.

During the recent hunger strike the Minister, in his statement of March 28, 1977, which he issued to members of the Dail and Senate, City, County and Urban District Councilors, and national and local newspapers, stated that allegations about conditions in Port Laoise were "totally false and without any foundation whatever".

In order to highlight the need for an independent public inquiry we believe it necessary to deal in some detail with this particular Ministerial statement.

STRIP SEARCHING

In his statement of March 28th, the Minister stated "Firstly it has been alleged that in strip searching the prisoner's anus is probed with an instrument. This is untrue. Instruments are not used".

It should be noted that the Minister does not deny that the prisoner's anus is probed by warders during strip searches.

We are not aware of any allegations that an instrument was used. The Minister stated that such an allegation was made last July. Last July Councillor Joe O'Neill, in a signed statement, stated that the warders made him bend over and pulled "my buttocks apart with their bare hands so that they could inspect my anus". Councillor O'Neill did not allege that an instrument was used. Fr. Piaras O'Duill in his leaflet "Port Laoise Prison-Can we remain silent?" said that during strip searches the prisoner is "physically searched and his private parts explored by these warders". "Prisoners have been turned upside down while their cheeks are pulled apart and the prison warders probe the prisoner's anus". It was not alleged in this leaflet that an instrument was used.

In the same statement of March 28th, 1977, the Minister stated that in addition to periodic strip searches, the prisoners were searched before and after visits to Court, to the hospital and before and after legal visits. However in his statement of February 2, 1977 the Minister stated "occasionally it may happen that a particular prisoner may be required to undergo two

or even three strip searches in a short space of time". We would suggest that it is unlikely that any one prisoner would visit the Court, the hospital and have a legal visit all in "a short space of time".

Therefore it is not unreasonable to suggest that there are other occasions, not mentioned by the Minister, when the prisoners are strip searched. It is our information that all the prisoners are strip searched on at least one morning per week; every evening prisoners

period of solitary confinement, a prisoner is allowed no communication with the other prisoners, he is allowed no letters, no visits, no newspapers, no radio, no hobby or handcraft material. He is confined to his cell for 23 hours-during the period of exercise he must walk alone in the exercise yard. When in solitary confinement the prisoner's shoes are taken from him.

OUTDOOR RECREATION.

In his statement of March 28, the Minister

the news, could be fairly described as children's viewing time.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES:

The Minister in his statement of March 28th omitted any reference to educational facilities.

There are no educational facilities provided nor are the prisoners permitted to supply their own. Perhaps this explains the Minister's omission.

VISITS:

A prisoner is allowed one visit of 20 minutes per week. In order to obtain a visit to a son or husband, a wife or mother must write to the Governor. A passport presented at the jail is not accepted as proof of identity. It has taken two or three weeks in some cases for the Governor to allow a visit-this delay would occur during the pr-

through the wire and children cannot recognise their fathers and become frightened by the caged appearance of the room. Two warders supervise the visit and one warder records the conversation. If any mention of conditions in the prison is made the visit is ended.

One visit was stopped because the mother spoke in Irish. Other visits have been stopped, for example, one woman said to her husband "you look pale, are you getting any exercise?" and the warder said they were talking about conditions; another man told his wife that he had been beaten and the visit was stopped. Regularly the warder accuses either the visitor or the prisoner of not speaking loud enough or of speaking about prison conditions. Visitors are in constant dread of not only causing their visit to be ended abruptly but of causing their husband or son to be deprived of further visits for a month or more; or as happened in three cases of which we are aware, the visitor has had permission to visit husband and son withdrawn by the Governor.

The Minister in his statement of March 28th did not refer to the above details of a visit to Port Laoise Prison.

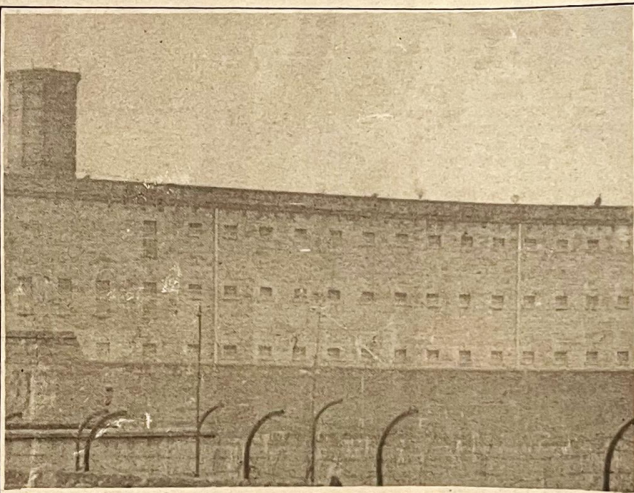
In conclusion it is worthy of note that in February this year when the Irish Times reported allegations of police brutality against members of the Gardai investigation squads, the same Minister in an RTE Television interview claimed that a consultation with the Garda Commissioner, Mr. Garvey about these allegations was not necessary because such complaints were beyond comprehension.

In March the same Minister, when dealing with allegations of irregularities in fingerprint evidence, reported by the Irish Times stated, in reply to a Dail question, that after the inconclusive identification of a fingerprint in the British Ambassador's case no more definite information was given to his Department.

The Minister now says that there is nothing to inquire into in Port Laoise Prison.

We submit that conditions in Port Laoise Prison warrant an independent public inquiry and that any analysis of the content of the Minister's statement of March 28th, its omissions and a comparison with the Minister's previous statement of February 2nd, serve to highlight the urgent need for an independent public inquiry.

Issued by THE PRISONERS WELFARE ACTION GROUP c/o 2 Benseavin Park, May, 1977. Dublin 11.



Portlaoise

are picked at random and are strip searched; prisoners in solitary confinement have been strip searched; they are also strip searched if they use the workshop.

SOLITARY CONFINEMENT.

In his statement of March 28th, the Minister states that the term solitary confinement is itself misleading because prisoners "being kept apart could at any time associate among themselves".

In his statement of February 2, the Minister stated that during a period of "segregation" from the other prisoners they must take outdoor exercise every day on their own and remain in their cells for the rest of the time".

In his statement of March 28, the Minister stated that men being kept apart from the general body of prisoners "are locked in their cells save for recreation". It should be noted that in this statement the Minister refers to outdoor exercise as "recreation". In fact prisoners are allowed no period of indoor recreation during a period of solitary confinement. During a

period of solitary confinement, a prisoner is allowed no communication with the other prisoners, he is allowed no letters, no visits, no newspapers, no radio, no hobby or handcraft material. He is confined to his cell for 23 hours-during the period of exercise he must walk alone in the exercise yard. When in solitary confinement the prisoner's shoes are taken from him.

INDOOR RECREATION.

In his statement of March 28th, the Minister stated "at indoor recreation they can play cards, chess, draughts, table tennis, watch television and have four pool tables". The Minister omitted to say that the recreation room is approximately 15ft. x 45ft. and that 60/70 prisoners use the room at the same time. Television viewing is available from 6.00p.m. to 7.00 p.m. which, save for

isoner's remand period and therefore while on remand he may be in receipt of no visits. While a waiting room is provided the visitors-women and children, young and old-are kept waiting outside the gates of the prison standing in rain and cold, never sure whether in fact they will get a visit.

They may be called within an hour or two. They may have to wait through lunchtime from 12 noon to 2.00 p.m. or risk losing their chance and thus forfeit their chance of a visit after lunch. When finally called they are searched in a caravan before being allowed into the waiting room. They are searched again before being allowed through to the visiting box. The visiting box is approximately 18 ft. long but only one prisoner and his visitor/s is permitted. The prisoner and visitor are separated by a black double wire grille, lined on both sides with perspex rising 18" from table level. No physical contact of any description can take place; it is difficult to see

BIG WELCOME HOME FOR DERRY PRISONERS

Four young Derry Prisoners of War, released from Jails this week, received a tumultuous Reception in their home areas of Bogside and Creggan.

A Cavalcade of vehicles, with horns blaring, escorted Rose Sheerin and Molly Roberts into the Bogside, where a large crowd banged bin lids, blew whistles, beat on drums and literally brought the house down when the girls arrived, on Tuesday afternoon.

Similar scenes happened in Creggan, for Eddie O'Hagan and Artie Palm-

er, and both areas were bedecked with bunting and national flags.

On Tuesday night, the Bogside Inn echoed to the singing and dancing of nearly two hundred people celebrating the return of the former prisoners.

Teas, sandwiches, cakes "and other refreshments" were served and a good time was had by one and all. "Welcome home, boys and girls may many more soon follow you".

Bogside IRISH FRONT COMMITTEE.

Brits attack 'Derry man'

On Friday Night the British Army attacked a Mr Samuel Robinson a father of 14 children while he was passing through a

check point at Waterloo Street Derry. During the attack the British Army soldier fired a rubber bullet at point blank range

at Mr. Robinsons head. As a result of this Mr. Robinson lost an eye and had his nose broken and now lies seriously ill in Hospital. A friend who was with him was knocked unconscious. Another friend who attempted to get an ambulance was told he would be shot.

BRITISH DUPLICITY

P.R.O. RELATIVES
ACTION COMMITTEE.

The Central Relatives Action Committee notes that the Belgrade conference, which will be attended by 35 states will discuss the question of Political Prisoners, and the whole question of Civil Liberties. It is to be hoped that the British Government will face international censure about it's disgusting treatment of Political Prisoners, and about it's dismal record in the manner in which the Nationalist minority have been denied their civil liberties in the 6 counties.

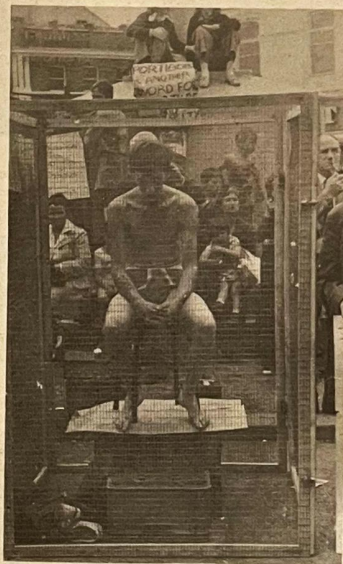
It has been quite astounding how the so-called liberal conscience of Britain agonises over the question of prisoners in Russia and Eastern Europe, and yet remains totally silent about the brutal torture inflicted on the prisoners in H-Block Long Kesh, C Wing Armagh Jail, and B Wing Crumlin Road Jail. In the past Britain has condemned the legal processes of other countries. However, it has brought into being the Diplock Courts, which convict people on con-

fessions extracted by brutal torture by the R.U.C. During the period of the last week a Republican prisoner was sentenced to 18 years for the alleged possession of documents, while loyalists have received lesser sentences for some of the most sadistic murders. This indicates that not only are the Diplock Courts glorified sentencing tribunals, but also that it is still the case that there is one scale of law for Loyalists, and another for Republicans.

The Central Committee R.A.C. intends that there will be an intensification of the campaign to defend the special status of Republican and Socialist P.O.W.'s. The Relatives Action Committee will make every effort to ensure that the countries attending the Belgrade Conference on June 15th are made aware about the disgusting treatment of the Republican and Socialist P.O.W.'s. Britain must not be allowed to hide behind a smokescreen of white wash and double talk.



Sinn Fein demo in Derry



On Saturday afternoon 28th May Derry. A civic week parade was held, and it passed the place where Sinn Fein have been holding regular meetings in support of Political Status. Members of Sinn Fein blocked the parade in support of the Prisoners. (note the R.U.C. on both sides of them.)

One of the photos shows a member of Sinn Fein sitting naked in a mocked cage. He was showing to the 600 people that attended the protest, what conditions are like in Prison.

Bodenstown Night.

Ceili and Ballads
Clare Manor Hotel; Coolock
featuring
Fodhla Ceili Band and the
Liberties
8 p.m. to 1 a.m. (bar
extension)
ADMISSION....£1.75

BODENSTOWN

SINN FEIN-LURCAN.
Buses to Bodenstown on
Sunday June 12th will
leave Shankill St. at 9.00
a.m. Fare £3.00
Tickets now available from
any member of Sinn Fein.



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MORE ON MERCENARIES



by **DHEARG DOOM**

Material from a variety of sources including "The Leveller" magazine and the "Whores of War" by

Burchett & Roebuck's new, (and recommended), Penguin book.

Major Lamprecht of Army HQ, Salisbury, Rhodesia is the man responsible for recruiting mercenaries for Smith. So far he has recruited over 250 Americans mostly US Army rejects from Vietnam, as well as assorted Greeks, Portuguese, Australians and Brits. The American Government, while officially deploring Americans going as volunteers to fight for the racist Rhodesians have done nothing to stop the trade, which is openly organised by Lt. Col. Robert K. Brown, ex-Special Force 'A' Team Leader in Vietnam. He edits 'Soldier of Fortune,' the best known mercenary paper and still has very close links with the military, indeed there is evidence that some mercenaries bound for Rhodesia have been trained at a Marine Corps base in Quantico, Virginia. Moreover, American officers and men from special forces units have been given indefinite leave and special training in Fort Benning, Georgia prior to mercenary work, first in Angola and then, after their rout there, along with Callan and his murderous clowns, in Rhodesia.

to have around. The Government can let them spout off on TV while the really shadowy figures operate in secrecy and with government complicity.

These men are the respectable, well connected members of the officers clubs in London. They have friends in Parliament and in big business. Right wing fanatics like Colonel David Stirling, original founder of the SAS who has been involved in providing mercenaries in the middle east and Africa with fascist organisations such as Capricorn (Africa) and watchguard (Saudi Arabia). Both those organisations have collapsed, as, apparently has Stirling's GB75 but men like Stirling and General Sir Walter Walker, former C in C Allied Forces Northern Europe who formed a similar group called Unison in 1973 are still around.

Even more hypocritical

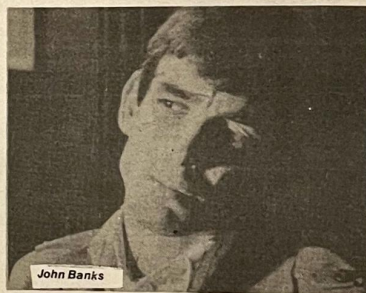
and murderous is the role played by the British Government itself. On 25th November 1975 Roy Mason, the paranoid dwarf who longs to be Charles Atlas, admitted that "206 members of HM Armed Forces are currently serving on loan with the Sultan of Oman's armed forces. In addition, a limited number of HM was given leave from their regiments in Dhofar in support of the Sultan's forces. It is not the practice to give details of operational deployments. 523 members of HM forces are also serving on the RAF staging post on Mas Irah Island and four are on the permanent staff of HM embassy, Muscat."

The Sunday Times of 4th July 1976 updated these figures "In Oman about 360 officers and NCO's were serving the Sultan, of whom about one-third were under contract. No distinction is made between contract and sec-

onded soldiers in fighting the left-wing rebels. Over the past two and a half years. Allied (Omani Iranian & Brit) casualties have included 500 dead. During the past 5 years 11 members of the SAS have been killed in action".

If you want to look at the biggest mercenary recruitment agency in Britain, you can forget

Aspin and Banks, just look to Millbank Technical Services, the British Government owned company. They can supply, along with all the latest bombs guns and gas you need, up to 400 military specialists and experts. War is good business. Invest your son! And don't expect Brit hypocrites to do anything about mercenaries!



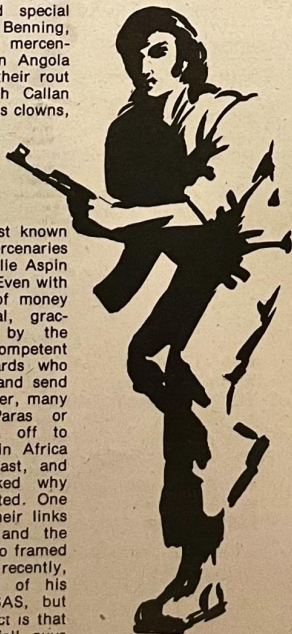
BRITISH ARMY HARRASS PENSIONER



An O.A.P. Mrs. Mary Fitzsimmons (67) and her family from the St. James's area of Belfast has recently been subjected to a reign of terror by the British army. As well as a brick thrown through her window, her family has been subject to general harassment including obscene letters, delivered by hand, and foul language. This behaviour is typical of a demoralised mercenary force and must be seen as a reaction to the continuing military success of the Irish Republican Army.

Mrs. Fitzsimmons pictured at the window broken by the Brits.

The figures best known for recruiting mercenaries in Britain are Leslie Aspin and John Banks. Even with the large sums of money at their disposal, graciously donated by the CIA, they are incompetent murderers. Cowards who take the money and send their cannon fodder, many of them ex Paras or discharged Brits, off to kill or be killed in Africa or the Middle East, and people have asked why they aren't arrested. One reason may be their links with the Army and the Police. Banks, who framed Eddie Higgins recently, boasted in court of his links with the SAS, but more likely the fact is that they are useful fall guys



Hapotoc accuses Amnesty International

Dear Sir:

In your issue of 5 May 1977, you report on the intervention of Amnesty International into the situation of Portlaoise Prison and related matters. Any help from any quarter for the Portlaoise prisoners is to be welcomed. But we presume you are well aware that the International Executive and Secretariat controlling Amnesty have scarcely hidden reasons for doing this. Among their many reasons are to boost the current Irish Amnesty effort to increase its membership, as well as to try and regain ground lost after it was made known last year that at least one Free State Government Minister and numerous deputies of the Coalition Government parties are members of Amnesty but their main reason is to forward British Government and NATO policies. As you know

well, the revelations made at Strasbourgh about British torture in Northern Ireland greatly embarrassed the British Government and received scant attention in the British Press. But when the Irish Times printed its revelations about torture and police brutality in Southern Ireland, it was blazoned across all British newspapers and TV screens because it was in the interests of the British Government policy to do so. One of the main sources of foundation income of Amnesty International is the Rowntree Trust. The A.I. money from this source comes directly from the British Government via British Intelligence. This helps to ensure that A.I. is a vehicle for furthering British Government interests. Currently, it is in the interests of the British Government to highlight repression in Southern Ireland, and

so Amnesty International is now being used to further this particular aspect of its policy. I am sure you are well aware that the Free State Government initiated the Strasbourgh case also to further its own interests, as well as to cover its own repression at home. But the overall enemy is the British Government, however bad the Cosgrave Government is. It is because of British Government policies past and present that the Free State Government exists, that repression of Republican prisoners & sympathisers exists, and that Occupied Ireland and its troubles exists. While it might be in the short-term interests of Irish Republicans and others in the South of Ireland to have repression there publicised, one should beware of letting oneself be used to further the interests of the

British government.

In your 5 May report on Amnesty, you mention its spokesman, Mr. Clayton Yeo. I am enclosing a copy of a newspaper article in which Mr. Yeo is featured in a not too heroic role. The matter concerned the case of Mr. George Lennox, the first prisoner we ever worked for. A resume of his case is enclosed, but the full 4000-word story of his case was published by Republican News just over 3 years ago. It was partly through the lies, cheating and abominable duplicity of the Amnesty Executive and Secretariat that the original George

Lennox, Support Committee became the nucleus of HAPOTAC in September 1974. While working for George Lennox we learned through our intensive investigations of a massive scandal involving the Wilson Labour Government and Amnesty International. This scandal was far bigger than the one in the USA which toppled Nixon. Briefly, from 1964 to 1966 reports

of British torture and brutality in Aden came flooding to the A.I. HQ in London. But no one took any notice. Then Swedish Amnesty sent a top doctor to Aden. He found all the allegations were true. His report to London was "stolen" at Amnesty HQ. But a copy sent to Swedish Amnesty was published. This brought down the wrath of the British government. They made Amnesty HQ shelve the Swedish report and bring out other mild and even falsified reports. Not satisfied with this they made the founder and President of Amnesty-Peter Benenson-resign, together with his secretary-general Swann. George Lennox, unknowingly, became part of all this. But the enclosed will tell you more.

To be forewarned is to be forearmed,

Hennie Mulder (Miss).

LETTER FROM ALBANY

A CHARA,

The following Republican POW'S are at present detained in Albany Prison: Sean Kinsella, Fr. Padraig Fell, Patrick Mulyan, Kevin Dunphy, Liam Baker, Busty Cunningham and Ray McLoughlin has just completed a long spell on punishment following the Hull riots. There are four other "political" prisoners, Billy Power, Hugh Callaghan, Sean Smythe & Pat Christie. We are segregated from the other prisoners for our visits. A policewoman searches our visitors and then assists in the supervision of the visit, obviously quite unlawfully. Since these visits are not in operation next door in Parkhurst, it must clearly be this Governor who is responsible. We still await Frank Maguire M.P. to fulfill his promise to investigate this and other complaints. Fr. Fell is going ahead with his solicitor to bring charges against the Home Secretary and certain prison staff for alleged assault and ill treatment following the incident last September. Some good news on that front is that deputy Governor Guinan who organised the brutality on that occasion has gone as governor to Chelmsford, no doubt to continue his bullying tactics.

Similarly a number of screws that were involved have also been moved—one notable villain named Jackson has gone to be a dog-handler—God help the dogs!

We extend sympathy to Terry Gavin (London Cumann Cabrach) on the death of her mother, Ar dhels De go raibh a anam. We also send greetings to all other POW's at home and especially our comrades in English jails, particularly those in 'solitary'. Never will the Brits break our spirit or our determination to fight on, on every front, until the just demands of the Republican movement are met.

Anyone willing to part with good Irish literature can find a most welcome home for it amongst the lads here. The library is not richly stocked with the sort of books that interest Republicans anxious to increase their awareness of Gaelic literature and culture.

Finally, mindful that it will soon be the annual commemoration at Bodestown again we re-dedicate ourselves to the ideals of Tone and renew our solidarity with the leadership of the Movement. We salute the many, many Republicans who will be present and urge them to resolve to press on even more relentlessly in the coming year, heedless of the traitorous fascists in Leinster house. Only by our united efforts shall we witness a just and lasting peace established in a free and Gaelic Ireland.

Signed: P.R.O.
ALBANY PRISON
ISLE OF WIGHT.



LETTERS ARGENTINA

Dear Republican News,

I am writing to you on the situation in Argentina so as to inform your readers. As you know British Imperialism since its invasion of Argentina in 1806 maintained us as an unofficial colony up to around 1930.

Today it is American imperialism which dominates our country together with the local military forces which have unleashed a fierce repression on the Argentine people. The military government which

came to power in March of last year, led by General Videla has in one year murdered 5,000 or more workers, artists, lawyers, teachers and others, and has placed 20,000 political prisoners in jail. These political prisoners are in constant danger of execution and constantly appear in the news as "shot trying to escape" or as "guerillas" killed in confrontations with the armed forces.

The popular masses of

Argentina brought down the last military government which came to power in 1966 and they will certainly bring down this murderous regime. There have already been many strikes, go-slows and sabotage actions in the car industry, the ports and the electricity generating industry. But the need for solidarity is urgent particularly around the political prisoners and here those engaged in the Relatives Action Committees in the occupied six-counties and in the Irish Civil Rights Association in the South, should make their voices heard. Imperialism is our enemy and yours, repression is too, and the freedom of political prisoners unites our two struggles.

Protest letters and appeals can be sent to President Videla, Casa de Gobierno, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Comradely greetings,
Juan Sosa
(Argentinian political exile)

FINE GAEL HYSTERIA

Dear Comrades,

Through your uncensored newspaper I would like to tell your readers about the fat Fine Gael Blue-shirts and what their reaction is to an enquiry into Portlaoise prison.

On last Saturday May 21st I attended a Sinn Féin picket on the Fine Gael Ard-Fels to demand that long awaited enquiry into Portlaoise prison. When we had marched outside the Mansion House for about 1 hour 60 or more fat, well fed Blue-shirt delegates came out of the Ard-Fels to see

us. They threw insults at us about being thugs, and uneducated louts. I started pointing out to them about the exploitation of our people, and our country. For all my "lack of education" I seemed to get the better of them. I went on and asked what about the enquiry into Portlaoise Prison when one of the Blue-shirt delegates shouted at me. "We should hang some of them Fenian Bastards in Portlaoise Jail".

This is typical of the Cosgrave "beat them into the ground order" which he has beat into his party. We must take heart from the Blueshirt-delegates comment and pledge our support to the political prisoners all over England and Un-Free Ireland. And never give up, until the fight for Justice for our soldiers in Jail has been won. Keep up the great work Northern Comrades. Victory to the Peoples Army.

Yours Noel Wynn.
Dublin.

BREAKING FROM OUR CHAINS— BY PETER DOWLING

In recent weeks I have written about many different questions. From the Brits policy of "Ulsterisation" and their use of Loyalist counter-gangs, to the Sticks acceptance of partition. From "Bloody Sunday" in Istanbul, to the Orange splits and the Brits next moves.

This week's article will allow regular readers a respite from the usual heavy blast of political comment and analysis!

SLAVE MENTALITY.

The Brits do not only impose their army upon us. Pro-Brit "thinking" is also imposed. The core of it is to promote a lack of confidence in our own ability to control our own destiny.

It gives rise to political "thinking" which requests a paternal helping hand from Westminster. That we need a Bill of Rights policed by the Brits. Of course this is not so. In fact the struggle to break from this type of "slave" mentality is central to the struggle for a Free Ireland.

We are engaged in a war to throw off our chains. To smash the "subject" status of the Irish people. We are striving to release the creative potential of each individual and of the nation as a whole. To achieve self-determination as people and as a nation.

CREATIVE ENERGY.

Despite the grim reality of eight years of war there can be no doubt on one question. The Republican struggle stands as a tremendous tribute to what creative energy can be unlocked if the right keys are turned.

As well as the notable acts given publicity, many deeds of heroic resistance go unrecorded. Every day people exceed all expectations of what they can achieve.

By successfully organising together, people have grown in self-confidence, both as individuals and as communities. This process will need to continue. The working class people through all Ireland will need to band together. To kick out not just the Brits, but their way of life as well. To set up a Socialist Republic.

PEOPLES ASSEMBLIES.

This target means giving direction to the revolutionary temper of the people. It means attempting to make permanent gains from popular activity. It means having as many "grass-roots" organisations as possible.

This is the road to Peoples Assemblies. To channel the creative energy of the people into building alternative structures to the Orange power-structures maintained by the Brits.

But Peoples Assemblies are not the main point of this article. I want to point directly to the need to develop self-confidence and to use our abilities on more specific ground.

HEARTS AND MINDS.

The current war is being waged on many fronts. The military struggle, combined with the resistance in the streets, the countryside and the prisons, is central. The propaganda war is also a critical front.

The Brits wage a continual "hearts and minds" campaign directed at the nationalist people. They use every trick in the book. One day it's the "peace" people, next day it's the sticks, today it's the SDLP.

They expend enormous effort promoting their "acceptable" picture of why they continue to occupy the North. A picture projected here, to the South, to Britain and to the rest of the world.

Their superior resources do not mean we face defeat on the propaganda front. Many people, including both the Irish and British people have their own experiences of the lies of the media. When did a daily paper last support a progressive working class strike, either in Ireland or Britain.

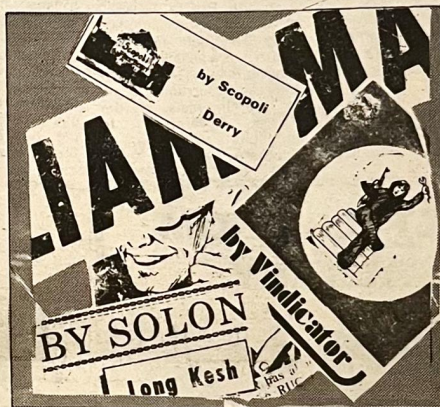
CRUEL TRUTH.

Fertile ground exists. Cultivation is necessary. We need continually to explain our actions to a wide audience. Truth is a very useful ally.

The Brits lies. They seem incapable of telling the truth. Either about their actions or the political situation. We need to continually expose the cruel truth of the naked brutality which lies behind the glossy cover of smug Brit hypocrisy.

It is on this front that volunteers are needed. Blasting the Brits continues to be very necessary but is not enough on its own. In order to beat the Brits the propaganda war must also be fought.

This means people writing. It means them writing for this paper. It means them selling this paper. It means them writing for existing local news-sheets and creating new ones.



REGULAR SCRIBES.

Myself and other regular scribes such as Peter Arnis, Vindicator, Brownie and Solon, have never written for any paper before this one. To my knowledge, none of us were even into letter writing—too much like hard work.

But between us we have now written many articles. Some not so good, some excellent. But generally the trend is for them to improve. But we are not a special elite. We are not the sole holders of the "truth" through the written word.

What we need is more people to write. No training is necessary. All that is needed is a bit of time and a pen and paper to help express your feelings and ideas.

ORGANISE AND CLARIFY.

There is no need to go away and read hundreds of books on the history of Ireland, strategies of guerrilla war, or how the Brits drenched the world in blood to build an Empire.

To record one's own experiences of the Brits, or of a meeting, and to organise existing ideas, is where to begin. Just to sit down and make a few notes on any particular point of special interest. Do not be afraid to 'lift' what has already been written. Ideas and words, whether spoken or written, should not be private property.

Writing a few notes can be a great help in clarifying one's ideas. Or even writing a letter. In fact this article was sparked off by just that.

ARMAGH PRISON.

A final point. One peculiar thing about this paper is that it is totally written by men! Given the central role of women in this war, how come this is so?

Armagh prison testified that a women's place is hardly restricted to the "kitchen sink". And why do we only carry regular articles from the Kesh?

Three years ago, Sinn Féin in Andytown, produced an excellent little pamphlet of prison writings from two comrades then in Brixton prison, now in Armagh. As one of them wrote then,

"At least our Volunteers know what they are giving their lives for, that's the difference between the idealist and the cannon fodder of the British Government."



BODENSTOWN

IRELAND HONOURS TONE

Sunday 12th June 1977
Oration : Jimmy Drumm
Chairman: Joe Cahill
Chief Marshall: Gearoid Mac Carthaigh

ASSEMBLE: 2.30p.m. Sallins

THE WESTS AWAKE

News from West Belfast

SPY NEST UNCOVERED IN TURF LODGE.

On Saturday last (4th June) an IRA Intelligence Unit uncovered a Brit army observation post within the Turf Lodge estate. Three members of the spy team, operating from the Fort Monagh post, were disturbed as they took pictures from the roof space of a block of flats in Ardmonagh Gardens. Luck was with the trio who were able to radio for help before positive action could be implemented against them.

Brit reinforcements raced to the area from both the Monagh Road and Henry Taggart forts. Over 200 troops were needed to extricate their frightened comrades from the roof space. The Belfast Brigade IRA have appealed to residents in the greater Andersonstown area to be extra vigilant, especially where empty houses/

Flats are concerned. Over the past seven years Brit spy teams have been operating from the roof spaces of flats and shops in the West Belfast area. On several occasions Brit raiding parties have held whole families hostage, at gunpoint, while upstairs rooms have been used to observe the homes of "suspects."

If you are suspicious of strange noises, movements, coming from vacant premises then notify any member of the Republican Movement who will investigate.



Above - A Brit. ration kit including, milk, matches, cigarettes, gum and can opener.

ANDERSONSTOWN BARRACKS BLITZED.

On Friday last an Active Service Unit carried out a grenade attack on the heavily fortified Andersonstown RUC Barracks. The barracks, which has a large Brit presence, has been attacked at regular intervals throughout the seven year war. The grenades exploded within the perimeter fence and several Brits were rushed to hospital by Red Cross Saracens.

DRUG BOSS PUNISHED.

On Tuesday, 2nd June, an Andersonstown man was kneecapped by an Active Service Unit, Oglagh na hEireann. The man had been found guilty of selling hard drugs to youngsters in the area. The punishment was the latest in the drive against drug rings in the West Belfast area. It is now thought that the organised gangs who once dominated the drug market in the area have been smashed, although several individual pushers may still be active. The First Battalion, Belfast Brigade, have reiterated their pledge to continue the drive against those people who are exploiting the war situation for private gain.

Cogadh na Friotaíochta an Triú Aghaidh

LEIS AN FEAR

Nílín fiorchintne de, ach ar scor ar bith rug me greim ar an rud a bhí mé a lorg. Teideal foirstineach. Ar a laghad tugann an ceann thuas tosu de shaghas eigin dom. Is deacair na sluaite a mhealladh chun suim a chur i nGaeilge go hairithe in alt ar an abhar cheanna. An rud a mhóthaion siad gurb eolach iad o bhíodar ceangailte le gunai a maithreacha. O's rud e gur bhain an teanga achan uair leis na limisteirí Caitliceacha Poblachta, ceantair an Mhionlaigh (ce acu teideal is rogha leat fein) nascann siad leis an "Ghleic" no na gníomhartha míleata in aghaidh na mBreatanach agus a n-udairis sna Se Chontae. Ar an taobh seo den Teorainn a luíonn mo smaointeacha anois - aiteanna mar Bheal Feirste, Doire, Ard Mhacha, agus ar ndóigh gach cuid den tír a sheas go míniúil leis an iarracht chun meannma agus sprid a mhuscailt inar muintir, an tsarthritis chun ar n-ionannas dúchúasach a athbheochan. Fasann friotaíocht sna ceantair seo againne, agus faigheann treise, ní amháin o'n troid míleata shóisialta, ach o'n troid ar an 'tríú aghaidh' fosta - athru teange, a mbíonn baint aige le hathru gníomhaíochtaí shóisialta cultúrtha. Ar chloisteail na teanga Gaeilge a labhairt faoin chathair, tagann amhras ar an mBreatanach i

daobh. Na 'leachtanna beaga' a bronnadh air sular thuirling se ar an talamh seo againne. An bhfeadann se a chreidiúnt go siúlann se fos ar thalamh Breatanach? Insíodh dóibh faoin 'chogadh sheiteach' ach buailéann spadhair iad (is feidir leo smaointeamh - nach feidir?) agus iad a fhiafraí díobh fein cen chuid den chogadh sheiteach is ea an ceol Gaelach, na rincoirí sin, na ceoltóirí dúchasacha san aonad shóisialta a chuidreáil siad an oíche faoi dheireadh.

Mar sin, seachas an rud soileir, (go ndéanaimid an Breatanach a eascoiteannu, ag leiriu gur gníomhaí do rialtas eigneach e) cuidimid le gach a ndéan na Gaill trí fhoreigean eanemaíochta, sóisialta, míleata, thar na haoiseanna, a scriosadh.

B'fheasach na Breatanaigh gur 'aontacht teange' an tsil le smacht righin a choinneáil ar na talite goldite. Narbh eolach iad freisin da mbeadh muintir na diaitile sin ag stealladh Bearla, narbh fhada go mbeadh siad ina gcomhlúadar ag déanamh athrise ar a saothluchtach agus ar a sli maireachtála.

Sna laethanta ata inniu ann feicimid toradh ansmacht chultúrtha Bhreatanach orainne. Go deimhin, is comhartha mhuintir faoi smacht an Bearla seo ar bheola in Eirinn. Leanfar de seo.

YOUTH 'DROPPED' IN LOYALIST STRONGHOLD

Once again Republican News has received details of an attempt by the RUC to ill-mine one of the Nationalist people. Only on Monday morning of last week a teenager from the Short Strand area was arrested at his home under section 10 of the P.T.A. by RUC Special Branch and a substantial back up of Brits. The boy was transported by the Brits to the "Torture Centre" on the Castlereagh Rd., where he was handed over to the RUC for interrogation. The interrogations began almost immediately with the 'Branch men' spending their energies trying to 'persuade' him to sign statements admitting being involved in a number of attacks on Brits and RUC carried out by the IRA over the past months. Fortunately, the lad refused to be cornered by their threats and bluffs (they told him if he didn't sign, they would charge him anyway with 'being a member of the Junior IRA') and resisted signing.

Exasperated and realising that they would not be able to 'con' this teenager the RUC consequently took a decision to repay him for his 'stubbornness'. He was taken from the interrogation rooms at around 4 o'clock and told he was being allowed to go home. But 'going home' apparently has a different

definition to the RUC, than it has for us. For rather than being left back to his home in the 'Strand' he was driven to an RUC patrol car to Willowfield St., in the heart of the Loyalist Woodstock Rd., and ordered to get out. At this the lad began to object strongly, to which one of the RUC replied "Get out you fenian bastard before we tell those lads at the corner where you come from." Trembling with fear, the lad got out of the car to find himself confronted by the group of youths at the corner. Luckily for him, though he had wits enough to start running before they had the opportunity to approach him and heading in the direction of the Short Strand (almost a mile away) he reached safety in a matter of minutes, no thanks to the RUC. This kind of story is nothing new to the people of the Short Strand, in fact Republican News reported a similar incident less than four weeks ago, only it was the Brits who made the 'drop off' in that case, not indeed to the people of Belfast in general. The RUC have once again made clear what they would do to the youths of the Nationalist ghettos should they have their way. It is up to the people to make sure they don't. **RUC OUT**



Funeral of Mrs Martina Gavin (who died on 17.3.77) to Glasnevin was attended by many in the republican movement and by Oglagh Na hEireann.

Fianna Cumann Na Mban Cumann Na Cailina And Clann Na nGaeil of whom Mrs Gavin was an associate member for many years. Prayers in Irish at Graveside recited by Fr. Pearse O'Duill and Sean Keenan (Derry) a friend of the dead woman spoke. Wreaths received were from the leadership of the republican movement Cumann Cabrac, Clann Na Gaeil, Cumann Na Mban, Prisoners in England and Oglagh na hEireann. Amongst others.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

The family of the late Mrs Gavin would like to thank the Republican Movement for their condolences and sympathy and the various Republican Groups who attended Mrs Gavin's removal to Gardiner St. Church and also the funeral to Glasnevin. Thanks to all who sent Mass Cards, Letters messages of sympathy and all who sent flowers. Mass will be offered for their intentions.

Terry Gavin.

From An Cumann Cabrac London Committee. In Memory.

In fond & Loving Memory of Michael Gaughan murdered in Parkhurst Gaol Isle of Wight 3rd June 1974.

Also remembered in our prayers, Praisias Stagg Chris Coughlan, Denis O'Donovan Noel Jenkinson, Derek Hightead.

DIARY OF EVENTS

Wednesday 1st June.

Out of 1,700 firms in the six counties, only 900 have signed the Fair Employment Declaration. Mackies and Short Bros., among others, have not signed it.

Some Presbyterians say that they won't attend the Thanksgiving service in Belfast on Sunday because of the presence there of a Catholic priest. Ballymena DUP Mayor won't attend another service because it takes place in a Church of Ireland.

At a London conference, four Dublin Church of Ireland members say they are sorry for the past treatment meted out to Irish Catholics by the Protestant ascendancy through the Penal Laws leading to the Famine.

The Inquiry into the building of a motorway through Belfast is disrupted by angry residents.

After Paisley's threats to bring in 10,000 Loyalists into Toomebridge to recover the tractors, the British Army move in and do the job free of charge. The farm equipment had been thrown into the river Bann by angry locals during the UUAC stoppage.

The Peace People's plan to recover guns in confidence is criticised by all political parties. Gerry Fitt claims the Peace People stole his idea.

The Belfast Republican Press Centre denounces the latest spate of criminal activities by members of the 'Republicans' Clubs in Belfast last weekend. (people attacked, shops and pubs made to close under threat, Republican News sellers attacked, etc.)

At night in Turf Lodge, Belfast, the Brits start a riot by abusing people and molesting children. A 11 year old girl is wounded by a rubber bullet. Turf Lodge mothers demand 'Brits Out'.

The EEC Commissioner is away after a press conference where he promised help. But money as usual will be poured only East of the Bann.

Official Unionist James Stewart is elected Mayor of Belfast.

A shop in North Belfast is destroyed by fire, probably started by a petrol bomb.

Thursday 2nd June.

In the early morning, shots are fired at a house in Carrickfergus. In Ardboe near Cookstown, Co. Tyrone, IRA

The Dunn/Donagan meeting - neo-colonial slave meets colonial master.



Volunteers lying in ambush kill three RUC men. Politicians react predictably: Gerry Fitt asks for people to inform.

In Belfast city centre, a warehouse is gutted by fire caused by a bomb planted by IRA Volunteers. The area had been cleared of the civilian population. An RUC man is treated for shock after the explosion.

On another trip abroad, in Hanover (Germany) this time, Betty Williams claims that 'Hamburg is an arms smuggling port for Northern Ireland'. Ciaran Mac Keown claims that 'all the IRA want is kill, kill, kill.'

Free State ex-defence Minister, now in charge of Fisheries, Mr. Donagan comes to Stormont to talk to Brit equivalent James Dunn, about fish, no doubt.

In Belfast, a Shankill Road Loyalist is charged with planting the Easter Parade bomb in Beechmount Avenue, bomb which killed young Kevin MacMenamin.

Near Dungannon, Co. Tyrone, IRA Volunteers attack Brit patrol, injuring one soldier.

In Newry, an off-licence in a supermarket is destroyed by a bomb. Warning had been given. No casualties.

A blast bomb is thrown at Andersonstown RUC Barracks Belfast. The rear of the station is damaged. The RUC claim no injuries.

Derry gets an SDLP Mayor, Doherty.

Meeting in Turf Lodge, Belfast, to discuss anti-imperialist unity.

In Strabane, the IRA punished a criminal.

Friday 3rd June.

An Irish Times opinion poll indicates Conor Cruise O'Brien as one of the least liked poli-

ticians in the south.



Yet another case of direct collaboration between the press and the Brits: the Belfast Telegraph prints the photos of three allegedly 'wanted men', implying involvement in yesterday's attack on RUC men in Tyrone.

Saturday 4th June.

In the South, the election campaigning is in full swing: Fianna Fail has launched an English style pop song to lure young voters; scuffles near Dublin when Cosgrave goes walkabout. Meanwhile international bankers state that they find Fianna Fail economic proposals acceptable.

In Belfast, Loyalist Councillor Frank Millar claims that he has got reports that the Special Branch in Castlereagh RUC station are using electric shock torture to extract confessions.

In a statement to the Sunday News, the UVF calls off their ceasefire to 'attack known Republican and IRA targets, which to them means Catholics and friendly Protestants.'

Tuesday 7th June.

The Free State Ambassador in the USA says he believes that the numerous visits of Ministers to the States and the influence of American Senators has brought a decrease in the flow of money to the 'terrorists' in Ireland.

In Belfast, IRA Volunteers lying in ambush attack an RUC car as it goes into Andersonstown RUC Barracks. An RUC man is shot and seriously injured. Belfast Brigade IRA claims that this RUC patrol was spying on Republican areas.

A British soldier is shot and seriously wounded by the IRA in Ballymurphy, Belfast. The British Army claims nobody was hurt in the attack.

Sunday 5th June.

At a meeting in Co. Fermanagh, Lord Brookeborough calls for internment.

A Ligoniel factory (Belfast) is burnt down. The fire was caused by a fire bomb.

On the Antrim Road, Belfast, an electric warehouse is badly damaged by a fire caused by a firebomb. No casualties.

Monday 6th June.

In Divis Flats area, Belfast, three British soldiers are injured (one possibly dead) by a booby trap bomb. The Belfast Brigade IRA claims responsibility.

A Cavehill pub, the Strathmore Inn, Belfast, is badly damaged by a bomb. Belfast Brigade IRA claims responsibility.

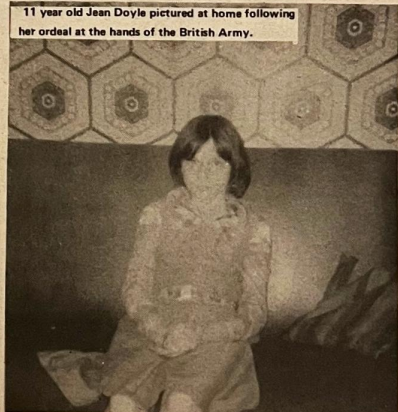
At night, a landmine explodes under a Brit patrol in the Turf Lodge area of Belfast. The IRA claims responsi-

bility, adding that two British soldiers were killed in the attack. The British Army claims that only one soldier was injured (minor cuts). More car crashes in Germany in the coming days...

In Strabane a British Army patrol came under fire.

WOMEN FREE BALLYMURPHY GIRL

11 year old Jean Doyle pictured at home following her ordeal at the hands of the British Army.



On Tuesday June 7th an attempt was made by the British Army to 'arrest' an 11 year-old girl Jean Doyle from a shop at the top of Whiterock Road, in the Ballymurphy area. The 'arrest'

was foiled however when local women intervened and rescued the little girl who, at this stage, was almost hysterical. In the face of militant Irish women the British War machine appears impotent.

LONG KESH



NOTE BOOK

weekly commentary
from
behind the wire

Alirey Neave, the Conservative spokesman on affairs in the 6 occupied counties of Ireland, in the House of Commons, last week made a statement which was not only ludicrous but also a tissue of lies.

Until recently he had been calling for new laws which would enable courts, those unstoppable instruments of British 'justice', to convict with far greater ease than they are capable of doing at present. That in itself was yet another violation of the fundamental rights of the individual but last week we saw him go a step further by calling for the reintroduction of internment without trial. He had the audacity to suggest that no more than 200 people would be affected by this. Is Mr. Neave so naive as to believe that he is fooling anyone with this statement? Does he seriously believe that the war would end because of his

hare-brained scheme? Does he not stop to think that, after he manages to intern the first 200, there will be another 200 to take their places? In point of fact, the situation would rapidly develop to such a stage where once again thousands would find themselves in the Concentration Camps by way of the R.U.C. "Interrogation" centres. Mr. Neave went on to state that a month's notice should be given to the Irish Republican Army and to the Loyalist Paramilitaries to lay down their arms and to surrender. That statement was made in the full knowledge that the I.R.A. will never surrender to the British or anyone else. Refusal by the I.R.A. to comply with this stupid demand would signal the opening of Mr. Neave's new initiative which would undoubtedly take the form of unleashing countless maniacal English gunmen on the minority population. Whilst in full knowledge

of the fact that the I.R.A. would never meekly surrender to the British Neave would try to gain credibility in the eyes of the world by stating that he had offered a 'peaceful' way out before he unleashed his onslaught. We, in the Republican Movement have only one thing to say to Mr. Neave and any other politician who advocates a continuation of the British presence in our country: the war will continue regardless of what you say or do. Any harassment of the population will be met with fierce resistance by the people themselves with the leadership and guidance of the Republican Movement. And, if you don't leave our shores while you still have the opportunity, you will be sent scuttling, like the animals you have proved yourselves to be, with your tails planted firmly between your legs.

SYDNEY REPORT

from Sydney, Australia

One of Ireland's democratically elected representatives visited Sydney on a trade mission during April. The fearless coalition T.D. was none other than Ireland's Minister for Industry & Commerce, Mr. Justin Keating (Lab.). Among the reception committee who welcomed Mr. Keating to Sydney were Mr. Jim Gallagher and Mr. Bob Cunningham who had fasted four days in token sympathy with the 20 Portlaoise Hunger Strikers. To show our visitor how much in touch the Irish in Sydney and the Sydney people are with the Irish political scene there were 600 signatures registered to present to Mr. Keating in protest at the treatment being meted out in Irish jails to Irish Political Prisoners. These signatures included Mr. Nevel Wrann Premier of N.S.W., Bishop of Sydney, Bishop David Crennan, Mr. Jack Birney (Lib) M.P., Sen. Tony Mulville (Lab.) and members of Amnesty International etc....

Also on hunger strike was 18 year old Dymphna Reeve of Sydney whose father comes from Co. Fermanagh and whose mother is from Belfast.

On the Ministers arrival at the Wentworth Hotel on a Sydney Sunday night Mr. Keating made a fast entrance to his luxurious suite and with eyes firmly focused on the concrete pavement failed to greet or see his fellow Irish men and women who so earnestly awaited his arrival. This did not deter the now cold, tired and hungry Irish citizens who stood under the southern sky thousands

of miles from their native land. They understood Mr. Keating and company were tired after their long trip and in the light of morning when well rested Mr. Keating, they felt, would see and talk to them and accept the petition.

Alas, this was not to be although assured by the commonwealth police (who were protecting our Minister) that Mr. Keating had agreed, at their recommendation, to meet two of the four Sydney hunger strikers on Monday night—after he had wine and dined with friends and guests of the import-export board. The hunger strikers

the life and death issue they wished to discuss with Mr. Keating.

Hopes were high among the fifty odd Irish people who had now assembled outside the beautiful Wentworth Hotel. Friends and relatives of Ireland's 20 Hunger Strikers were in small groups talking of things at home with emotion in their quietly spoken words as they eagerly awaited the return of Bob, Jim and Sen. Mulville who went through the glass doors at 8 p.m. accompanied by two commonwealth police and the hotel manager. The scene inside the grand hotel was anything but hopeful. After a twenty minute wait in a corridor it became clear to the deputation that the now well rested, well fed Mr. Keating was not going to meet them. This may have come as a disappointment to Bob and Jim but to Sen. Mulville it came with shocked disbelief as a request of this type had never been refused him before in his long political career. During this waiting (20 minutes) there was one tireless gentleman making trips into the lavish banquetting room to report the requests of the deputation to have Mr. Keating step out to the hallway for a brief moment. It was with apologies all around that this one tireless diplomat had to report to the deputation that under no circumstances would Mr. Keating meet them.

Nancy O'Donnell,
7/172 Old Kent Road,
Greenacre.
N.S.W.
Australia 2190.



Mr. Justin Keating
refused to meet Irish
delegation in Sydney.

who had stood orderly and patiently for 80 hours outside had no reason to doubt the word of the plain-clothes policeman who it seemed had become Mr. Keating's messenger boy. Senator Tony Mulville requested permission to accompany the two reps., who it was now agreed would be Bob and Jim, on this most important mission and to stress the urgency of

DEGRADING TREATMENT IN CRUMLIN RD.

New Governor

Willie John Kerr

taking hard line

A few weeks ago we submitted a letter to the press, outlining the conditions being endured by the anti-imperialist remand prisoners in Crumlin Rd Gaol. In that letter we attempted to show that the major problems giving cause for concern were a direct result of the prison authorities refusal to admit the failure of their policy to integrate prisoners. At this time all approaches both inside and outside the prison have met with negative responses. Furthermore it would appear in fact that the new governor "Willie John Kerr" is intending to take a hard line with all anti-imperialist prisoners with particular reference to the short term sentenced prisoners being held in B Wing. There are at present 5 prisoners being held in the wing who have refused to wear prison clothes etc. They are; J Duffy, G. Murray, A O'Reilly, S O'Hara and J. Maguire.

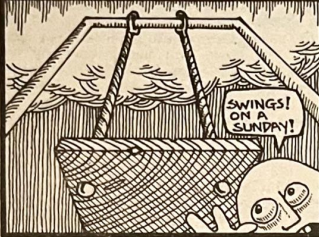
Everyone is by now well aware of the degrading treatment being meted out to our comrades in "H" Block Long Kesh. As

though this were not bad enough, Kerr has ordered that those men now in B wing must now be held completely naked in solitary confinement. They have also been paraded naked through the prison to the Governors office and have been refused permission to attend mass. We wish to highlight this increase in repression within the prison system in the hope that action will be taken immediately by all those organisations and individuals concerned with prisoners rights, to intervene on behalf of our comrades in B wing. We ask all those engaged in the struggle for political status to include the men in B wing in all future press releases and we appeal for an increase in political street activity around the issues of political status and repression. Finally we wish to extend our sincerest thanks to all those continually struggling on our behalf.

Signed
PRO, Republican and
Socialist POWs
Crumlin Rd Gaol.

THE CONSPIRACY by cormac

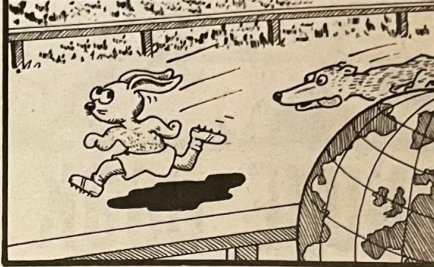
THE CIVILISED WORLD SINKS INTO A MIRE OF DEPRAVITY AND CORRUPTION !!!



DRINK-CRAZED CONTINENTALS REFILE THE SABBATH AND PLOT BLOODY REVOLUTION...



YES! THE WORLD IS GOING TO THE DOGS!!



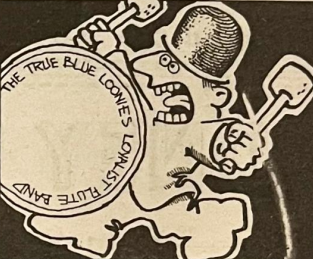
BUT BEYOND THE COASTS OF EUROPE — ON THE FRINGE OF THE GREY NORTH SEA — SHINES A BEACON OF HOPE



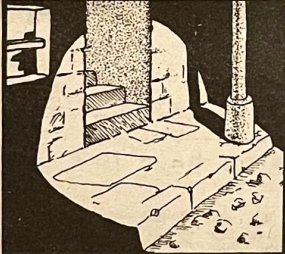
THE LAST BASTION OF CHRISTIAN MORALITY IN THE WORLD!!



ULSTER!!! [OR, TO BE QUITE ACCURATE] NORTH EAST IRELAND



BUT EVIL MEN ARE AT WORK TO TO DESTROY THIS PARADISE — THEY GATHER IN DARK AND SECRET PLACES.



WHO ARE THESE EVIL MEN WHO SEEK TO SUBVERT THIS PLEASANT LITTLE DEMOCRACY OF OURS??

