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SDLP COLLABORATE WITH R.U.C. AS

TORTURE CONTINUES

As 64-year-old Mr. Peter McGrath was being rushed to a mental hospital in Omagh last Monday night local SDLP man Austin Currie was having tea and cakes with RUC Leader Kenneth Newman. Currie, Gerry Fitt and other SDLP collaborators were discussing with Newman further ways and means of reintroducing the hated RUC into Republican areas. MR PETER McGRATH.

Mr. Peter McGrath and his son Thomas of Derryvarren Road, Coalisland, Co. Tyrone, were arrested at their home at 6a.m. on Monday 13th June. Mr. McGrath was held on a seven-day detention order but after 24 hours of interrogation he was taken from Belfast to Dungannon to be charged with "withholding information". This type of charge (and harbouring/supporting members of proscribed organisations) is being used increasingly more often by the RUC and it is aimed at intimidating Republican supporters. However,

when the station doctor at Dungannon saw how serious Mr. McGrath was he ordered him to be removed to hospital. He was taken under guard back to Belfast, 40 miles away, and admitted to Musgrave hospital, still under military custody. He was suffering from serious shock and withdrawal and has been unable to recognise members of his own family.

Then on Friday Mr McGrath's son Thomas appeared at a specially convened court in Cookstown charged with killing the three RUC men at Carnan Crossroads two weeks previously. Mr. Arthur Byrne, his solicitor, told the court that after being beaten and tortured in Castle-reagh RUC interrogation centre his client had been forced into signing a statement.

CHURCH REACTION.

On Sunday Catholic Clergy in the East Tyrone area condemned the brutal treatment of Mr. Peter McGrath and many other of their parishioners who had been arrested and tortured in

recent weeks. The Republican Movement welcomes this belated condemnation. But to offset their criticism and to keep in with the British administration and Unionism, the Clergy put on record for the millionth time their total opposition to the war of Resistance.

Against British Imperialism's conquest of Ireland they have no solution to offer, bar surrender.

With torture and harassment the daily routine in Republican areas, those other British licksplittles the SDLP were busy collaborating.

THE SDLP. To facilitate the RUC into crushing Republican resistance, and in the process giving themselves unchallenged control for a final sell-out, SDLP leader Gerry Fitt has started using Brit terminology.

Interviewed on BBC (21.6.77) he spoke of RUC "successes" and he described Irish Freedom Fighters as "criminal elements". He dismissed many of the allegations of RUC torture as mere Republican propaganda.

RUC successes, as people who are arrested and terrorised know, are based on forced and mostly false "confessions" in the form of signed statements. In this last year statements alone have superseded REAL EVIDENCE (people caught in possession of firearms or explosives, or in the act of committing a felony) and have been responsible for about 80% of convictions.

In the space of ten days three people were acquitted in Belfast courts because the RUC could not suppress the medical and photographic evidence of extreme physical brutality. RUC BURNED HIS BACK.

On June 8th the "confessions" of Terence Magill were shown to have been extracted under torture. During the interrogation the 21-year-old man had been burnt over the back and on his right arm with cigarettes. He was also punched and slapped and threatened with electric shocks. Special Branchmen said they would throw

him to the UVF for assassination.

He was interrogated for 19 hours by 12 Detectives working in six teams. The latest tactic of the Branch is the "screaming interrogation"-so-called because for hours on end the teams shout and scream at their victim, in between times beating the person until he/she is a physical wreck.

One of the Branchmen who took part in the torture of Terry Magill was later executed by the Irish Republican Army.

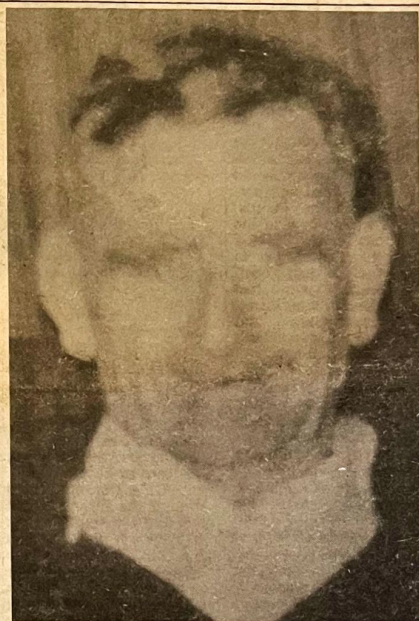
On June 17th, doctors gave evidence in the case of Francis Bannon and Colm Caughey, two young lads from north Belfast. They were acquitted after proof of beatings was provided.

However, the hated RUC aren't usually so crude about leaving burn marks and black eyes on their victims; and hundreds of other people who signed false statements are now serving heavy jail sentences because they cannot prove brutality.

Mr. McGrath now lies seriously ill in an Omagh Mental hospital. After he was held under military custody for seven days without being charged his solicitor served a writ of habeas corpus on RUC leader Kenneth Newman. Faced with a public appearance in court on Thursday Newman withdrew the military guard.

Mr. McGrath's mental deterioration is undoubtedly due to his arrest and interrogation. The RUC believe that the population in Republican areas will be demoralised and frustrated by continued arbitrary arrests, tortures (about which nothing is being done), large scale court convictions, British Army harassment, and the confusion encouraged and instilled by the SDLP and Gerry Fitt that the RUC are "an acceptable and fine force of men".

On the contrary, as the link-up between the RUC and the SDLP leadership becomes more critical, anti-SDLP sentiment (lack of which in the past has precluded action) in the areas has



increased considerably.

The SDLP leaders are Brits without uniforms or SLR's; but Brits all the same.

Pictured above, Mr. Peter Mc. Grath, now seriously ill in Omagh Mental hospital as a direct result of RUC torture.

In a statement issued by the John Haughey Sinn Féin Cumann Coalisland late on Wednesday afternoon, the opportunism of the SDLP was condemned and the Cumann pointed to the case of Mr. Peter Mc. Grath as evidence of the continuing policy of the RUC to torture political prisoners. If Gerry Fitt was in any doubt as to the acceptability of the RUC, the people of Coalisland were not.

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This week comrades politics takes a back seat as we are covering the cage Sports Day. Always an important date in the cage calendar.

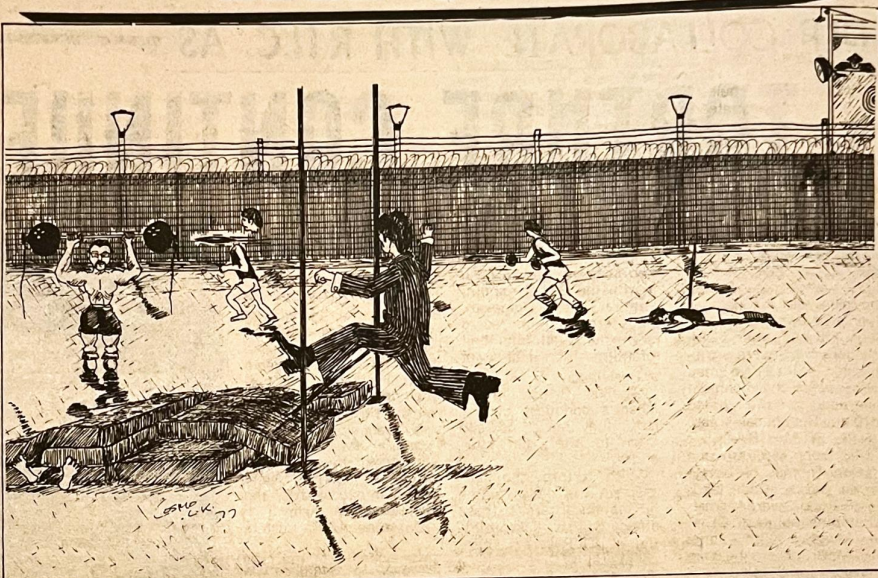
The events included in our Sports Day are not unlike any events you would find at any sports meet (Athletics talk), one notable exception being the cross-country run, not (may I add) for the want of entrants. The screws take a dim view of any such requests and alas comrades pole-vaulting is also eliminated from the list of events. Pity!

From early morning on the chosen day preparations were made, courses marked out, apparatus assembled, men tossed out of bed their mattresses were needed to make a landing pit for the various jumping events, which is where our coverage begins.

47 enrolled for the high-jump, 33 Fosbury floppers, and 14 orthodox straddlers, who when all was said and done turned out to be 47 frenzied, eyes closed leapers. Technique did not play an important part in any of the jumps, caution was thrown to the wind and panic took a firm grip. 3 managed to clear the 3 foot obstacle. The first round had ended leaving Peter Connolly, Bap McGreevy and Alec Crowe in contention and 4 others in an Intensive Care Hospital. Peter's second jump was a beauty. He rose from the landing pit (mattresses) brushed the creases in his pin-striped suit and sauntered arrogantly to the winners rostrum. Bap (next to go) began his unusual run-up before jumping, unusual in that it took 3 laps of the cage. He started and the tension was unbearable. On he came relentlessly towards the ultimate goal. 3 laps completed he headed for the bar. The audience stood on their seats. Suddenly!! Bap with only 2 strides to go stopped. 4 men fainted. Bap dropped his head into his hands and yelled, "I can't do it. It's too high". He walked up to the brush-shaft cum bar perched 3 ft 6 inches above the ground and with his boot sent it flying into the blue, winning for himself first prize in the javelin.

SPORTS DAY

---- CAGE 11



Alex Crowe (The final jumper) took up his position. He's off. He's up. He's over. He missed the landing pit. His head hit the tarmac first (luckily). His calliper flew off, soared through the air and caught Jim McCann square on the chin (which if you knew the size of McCann's chin is 'nt that surprising). Alec could'nt make the next round. His tea leaves a lot to be desired also. (I've tried it. Yeuk!). Peter Connolly was acclaimed the winner.

The presentation was a quick one as the next event was beginning. The tea-bag and plastic-spoon race. It was supposed to be an Egg and plastic-spoon race but Mal McCarry and Bobby Darling those well known vegetable, vegetar, vegictar, (Damn it) greens-eaters had all 12 eggs in their

salad. It's a bit much, but not it would appear for Mal and Bobby.

The race itself was anybody's until someone told Tommy Carroll that the winner kept the tea-bag. Well, comrades you can believe me the others didn't stand a chance when Tommy heard that. Tommy would have a dig at the Grand National for those stakes.

The walking race meanwhile was nearing its conclusion Honky was way out in front. Two walkers were caught running and received their marching orders. 3 others made a late bid for the lead but Honky saw the danger and played a cat and mouse game with them. Their bid for glory ended after three laps, leaving all three lying in an exhausted heap. Brendan Curran emptied 2 bottles of quick-setting glue over their bodies, thus, completing the final fence of the Steeple-chase course.

Honky won the walking race in a canter, not really a canter as a walker can also receive his march-

ing orders for cantering in, a walking race. Phew!

Tony McGuinness took first prize for the discus (a four week old apple cake) but was immediately apprehended and made to hand it over to the winner of the discus, Shuglie Feeney.

The hop-skip and jump event which looked remarkably like the jump-jump and jump event was next on the programme. That well known leaper Micky Bradley was favourite. Micky had as an advantage over the rest of the entrants his own landing pit-His bed-which is never off his back. A complaint was lodged about his advantage to the Steward Dulce McMullan who agreed that it was an unfair advantage.

Micky shrugged his shoulders and went back to his bed which is never very far away. His disqualification was academic for a heavy shower of rain rendered the jumping area too dangerous for landing. The remaining Triple-jumpers drew lots to see who would take first prize. (An all-day lie-in). The winner was Chris Black who incidentally cheats at Chinese Patience. Imagine thousands of people knowing you cheat at Chinese Patience.

The Steeplechase, was the last event on the card and consisted of 15 laps of the cage (equivalent to 3 miles). There were 5 obstacles; a table; Abunk-bed; 3 heavily-glued wal-

kers; a water-jump. Every cage has a water-jump. You just step out of the hut and you're into it. Lastly, we had the high hurdle which we didn't actually have but who-ever heard of a steeplechase without a high hurdle.

Of the 22 intrepid steeplechase who set off on that arduous endurance test 6 were still going at the third of the way stage. Seven laps completed the ranks by two depleted, 5 laps to finish and the line-up was further diminished.

The penultimate lap was fought out by Joe Barnes and Bloggs. They heard the bell (what bell? Where did the bell come from? O.K. I made that up. Solon) Both men tore down the last lap. One had to lose and it was Bloggs who faltered leaving Joe to win by a hair's breadth (Esoteric joke).

The final presentation having been made, the apparatus was removed and mattresses were returned to their rightful owners. (De Facto, cause we are in goal), and our Sports Day was over for another year. Tired bodies climbed into beds all over the cage. The sun sunk behind the mountains and once again peace reigned.

BY SOLON

Long Kesh

DassvadanJa, Beir Bua.
SOLON. L.K.

ECONOMIC PRAGMATISM OR NATIONAL IDENTITY?



by
Vindicator

There is little doubt that the British government is concerned about last week's election victory of Fianna Fail. Their concern is not generated by any apprehension about their ability to maintain their neo-colony in the 26 counties. It is generated by an awareness that the Free State election was not fought solely on economic issues (about which there was obviously a great deal of public concern), but also on a second, major underlying issue—the issue of National Identity. The result was a clear rejection of the ultra pro-British Coalition which had fought for four years to suppress the political, economic and cultural identity of the Irish people with an arrogance which reflected the neo-colonial slave mentality of O'Brien, Fitzgerald and Cosgrave.

There was little attempt by Fianna Fail to 'play down' its 'republican' image particularly as the

smacked of undisguised Nationalism with its green, white and orange posters and vans with the faces and names of prospective Fianna Fail TDs superimposed.

It is somewhat paradoxical therefore that in the wake of the election campaign, as sooner political commentators acknowledged its Nationalist overtones, that Jack Lynch should seek to give assurances, not to the hard pressed Nationalist people of the occupied six counties, but rather to the British government and its loyalist allies, (who have recently reaffirmed their determination to accelerate their repression of the people of the Nationalist ghetto areas), that he will not 'interfere' in the affairs of THE NORTH but that he will seek a new BRITISH 'initiative'.

The Nationalist people in occupied Ireland have come to expect such a response

later practically nothing has changed. While successive Free State governments continue to suppress Republicans and Socialists, the soldiers of Oglagh Na h-Eireann continue their defense of the Nationalist ghettos.

Unlike 1921/22 however the Nationalist people in the occupied six counties will not be defeated or demoralised, but will continue to resist with ever increasing determination the failing efforts of the British war machine. Their confidence lies not in any Free State 'government' but in the strength of the Irish people as a whole, and their vanguard, the Irish Republican Army. The election 'victory' of Fianna Fail makes no difference to the war of national liberation being waged by the Irish people by whatever means is at their disposal.

It is not enough however to recognise the

People's Assemblies. The opportunity of political consolidation will not last indefinitely. With Fianna Fail waving the 'republican' banner in the Free State sapping the Nationalist militancy of the people and a fresh regrouping of pro-imperialist organisations in the occupied North, the Republican Movement cannot any longer afford the luxury of political complacency.

DIARY OF EVENTS

Wednesday, June 8

21-year old Turf Lodge man, T.P. Magill, who signed a statement under torture, was acquitted at a Belfast Court. He had been beaten, burnt with cigarettes, threatened. One of his two torturers has since been executed by the IRA on the Springfield Road Belfast.

This week's Diary of events covers the 2 weeks beginning Wednesday June 8th.

A soldier from the Royal Irish Rangers is jailed for 7 years for having stolen arms and ammunition from his barracks to pass them on to the UVF.

Newry and Mourne Council members are to pass on to authorities North and South the numerous complaints they have received of ill-treatment of South Armagh prisoners, both in H-Block, Long Kesh and in Portlaoise Jail.

London School of Economics lecturer Mr. Adam Roberts, in an article published in the magazine New Society, about "Northern Ireland's economic dependence on the U.K. indicates that in 1969-70 Britain poured £74 millions into (or on behalf of) the 6 counties, and in 1976-77 this sum had increased to £603.3 millions this does not include Army costs.

John A. Robb, of the new Ireland movement, at a meeting in Dun Laoghaire, calls for a British confederation including the 26 Cos, so is this where the Peace People stole the idea?

Thursday, June 9

In the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast, the two main trade-unions agree on a 30 minute silent protest tomorrow. G. Tucker, the UDR man shot dead yesterday, was once charged with a 'murder' in a UDA club, (the charge had then been withdrawn). He was carrying a weapon when he was shot.

John Hume praises the attitude of 4 American politicians (Kennedy, Moynihan, Carey, Tip O'Neill) on "Northern Ireland". A great help, says John Hume.

Belfast ringroad inquiry: Protesters go to Stormont. A UDA-man crippled in a loyalist shooting, receives £70,000 compensation.

19 year old Brenda Murray from Mountpottinger Road, Belfast, is acquitted of bombing charge after retrial. She was serving a 15 year jail sentence for the charge and has spent one year in jail, (she had signed a statement after beatings and threats).

Friday, June 10

A Screw is attacked on a street near Crumlin Road Jail by UDA members.

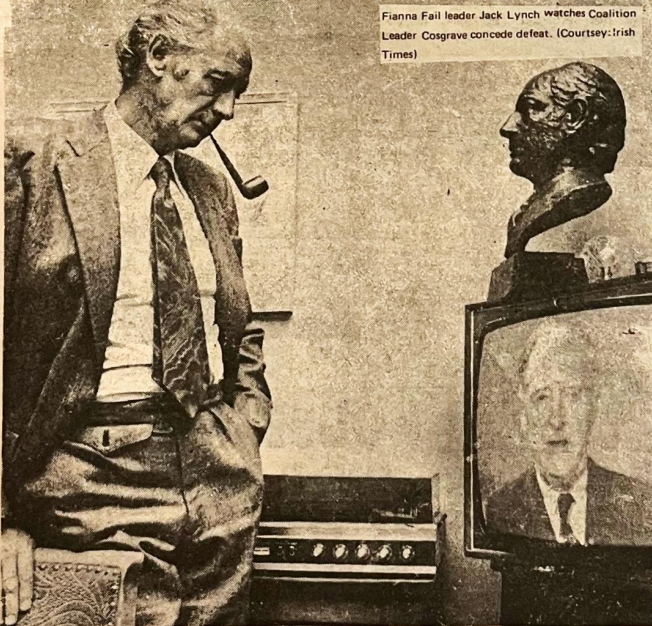
Funeral of the second UDA man to die after Cookstown house fire four weeks ago (during UUAC stoppage—the two loyalist were making petrol-bombs).

The Tyrone man whose family was held hostage while IRA unit was waiting for RUC patrol on June 2, is charged with withholding information from RUC.

Belfast Brigade, Provisional IRA, warns that as long as the Royal Victoria Hospital is used by the Brits as a post, it will be subject to attacks.

Newry and South Down Anti-Internment Committee condemns the British Army for daubing Newry Cathedral with offensive slogans. Slogans are later removed.

Continued on page 10



Fianna Fail leader Jack Lynch watches Coalition Leader Cosgrave concede defeat. (Courtesy: Irish Times)

issue of "THE NORTH" raised its head during the closing stages of the campaign. Admittedly it was not just this factor in isolation which gained Fianna Fail its success. It did run a very professional "Americanised" campaign adequately backed by substantial capitalist interests, (who will, no doubt, be adequately rewarded in due course), but even so its political campaign, overall,

from the neo-colonial administrations which have controlled the Free State since 1921/22. Then, in the wake of British withdrawal from the 26 counties the Nationalist ghettos of the North, in particular Belfast, were abandoned to the mercy of marauding sectarian, paramilitary, orange forces, combat only by the resourceful volunteers of the Irish Republican Army. To-day, over 50 years

finer political implications of the Free State elections and the danger to British imperialist and local capitalist interests of a revitalised National spirit. The Republican Movement must move quickly to fill the political vacuum of Northern politics in the ghetto areas. Despite repeated advocations since the beginning of this year no apparent significant progress has been made on the programme of

A GENUINE AND SUSTAINED CESSATION OF VIOLENCE

Over recent months there has been much talk by the media about a Provo truce with the Brits. However, repeated denials by the Republican Movement dictate that there can be no question of another truce in the near future.

Even so, it is still worth taking a look at some of the questions raised by the last truce. In particular, what were the Brits up to?

For a start it is obvious that any truce is just another stage of the struggle. The Brits see any truce as a potentially useful step towards their aim of pacifying Ireland by one means or another.

While for us, a truce forms a potentially useful plateau on the road to kicking out the Brits and setting up a Socialist Republic.

TUG OF WAR.

Obviously the parties to any truce continually try to improve their situation. Both at the bargaining table and on the ground they seek to alter the balance of forces in their favour.

The war goes on. The form of combat is different. The battle for 'hearts and minds' reaches a new pitch.

Meanwhile the guns are oiled, the bombs are primed but negotiations continue. "Peace" persists while both parties seek some gain.

A tug of war goes on. Both trying to better the other in many fronts. For the Brits a truce does not indicate that they have seen the light of day. They are not saying: "Oh, so sorry! We have done you wrong for hundreds of years. We repent. Provo rule now OK!"

When the Brits slacken the repression and stop the killing, it just means one thing. They are trying to use different means to keep "the natives" down.

Such a choice is dictated to them by the success of the resistance struggle. Instead of smashing the resistance head-on, they seek to co-opt and divert the revolutionary temper of the people.

NORMALISATION.

So in 1975 what were the Brits after? For them the Truce provided a welcome drop in casualties and compensation. It also made British cities—especially London—safer places once more.

But what was of central importance was that it provided an opportunity to rebuild political all-



INSTEAD OF SMASHING THE RESISTANCE HEAD-ON THEY SEEK TO CO-OPT AND DIVERT THE REVOLUTIONARY TEMPER OF THE PEOPLE

iances on moderate ground. And it provided a chance to set some traps for the Provos. To apply some sophisticated counter-insurgency techniques.

The general approach of the Brits was to try to "normalise" the six-counties. They wanted to cool things down.

Remember Rees behaving like a parrot with hiccups. He continually called for a "Genuine and Sustained Cessation of Violence".

MAY CONVENTION.

The UWC stoppage had brought down the Assembly and smashed the Sunningdale Agreement. In late '74 and early '75 the Brits had hopes of fudging-up another "moderate" alliance at the Constitutional Convention in May '75.

They wanted a "power-sharing" government of UPNI, Alliance and SDLP. They were attempting to resurrect the Assembly. Although this time, in order to placate the Loyalists there would be no 32-county implications like the Council of Ireland.

The Brits wanted to chop-off both Loyalist and nationalist "extremists". To bolster the middle ground of establishment politics.

In order to do this they were prepared to make some concessions to the nationalists and their vanguard, the Provos, in order to gain a truce.

MODERATE ALLIANCE.

Brit thinking was that a "Genuine and Sustained Cessation of Violence" would benefit the moderates on both Unionist and nationalist sides.

On the Unionist side, if the IRA were no longer fighting then the central demand of Loyalist "extremists", to exterminate the IRA, would not possess the same driving force. This would strengthen Unionists "moderates".

On the nationalist side, if the IRA were no longer fighting then "moderates" might also come to the fore. "Real" politics, that is, pro-Brit constitutional politics, would prosper.

Forging a "moderate alliance" would be a much easier task. So the Brits thought!

CARROTS AND TRAPS.

This was the Brits tactic then. Offer the Provos and their base of support some attractive "carrots". Some concessions and some future promises in exchange for a halt to the fighting. Thus try to separate the guerillas from the people. Divide the "extremists", who might carry on regardless, from the "moderates" who might get hooked on "carrots".

But every concession offered by the Brits was two-sided. On the one hand it could under-cut the Provos. On the other hand it might increase their

strength. Every trap could be turned against the imperial hunter. Concessions could be a spring-board to bigger republican successes. The best of plans can go wrong. As the Brits were soon to find out.

This tug-of-war between the forces of imperialism and of republicanism took place in different fields. Next week in 'Truce 75' a look will be taken at the role of the Truce Incident Centres and the effect of ending intern-

by
Peter Dowling

Over the next three weeks our correspondent Peter Dowling, makes a personal analysis of "Truces" in general, and the 1975 "Truce" in particular.

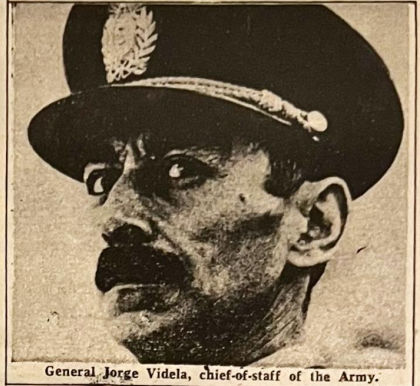
HOUSE WRECKED BY SARACEN



A house in the McDonnell street area of Belfast wrecked by a British Army saracen as it sped wrecklessly through the Lower Falls.

REPRESSION IN ARGENTINA

JUAN SOSA



General Jorge Videla, Chief-of-staff of the Army.

Since last year's military coup the level of repression in Argentina has reached a new depth of barbarism, beyond that known for example in Chile after the bloody coup of September 1973. Under the rule of the supposedly moderate President Videla, between 5,000 and 15,000 people have disappeared - kidnapped from their homes or in the street by armed civilians. The authorities claim to 'know nothing about' the detentions, and attempts by the victims' families to trace them usually get nowhere. Journalist and writer Rodolfo Walsh calculated that, 'More than 7,000 writs of habeas corpus have been refused during the past year. In thousands of other cases of disappearance, no habeas corpus petition has been presented either because it seemed useless or because no lawyer could be found to take the case. This is not surprising because 50 or 60 of them have themselves been kidnapped for intervening in political cases.'

The day after Walsh had written an open letter to the military junta, in which he gave these and other statistics about the repression and the effects of one year of military rule in Argentina, he himself was kidnapped.

Despite massive international protests, he has not reappeared. The kidnappings torture and murders which have become a part of every day life in Argentina are



not carried out directly by members of the armed forces in uniform, or even by an acknowledged secret police force, like the Chilean DINA. The repression is done by so-called 'right wing terrorists' organised in death squads and mysteriously outside the control of the military

authorities despite the fact that they operate in broad daylight, often within sight and hearing of the official armed forces.

The result of their assassinations is to strengthen and support the state, as with UDA/UVF terror in the six-counties. It has long been obvious that

these anonymous death squads operate with the full knowledge, if not the direct authorisation of the government. One example among hundreds: the case of the Irish worker priest, Patrick Rice. He was kidnapped in October in the street in a working class area of Buenos Aires, by a group of armed 'civilians'. He was taken to a police station, and then to army barracks, where he was tortured. He was finally released by the armed forces in December, even though he had never officially been arrested, let alone charged.

The government has never released lists of political prisoners it is holding. Amnesty International, whose team made a visit in November 1976, calculates that there are probably between 5,000 and 6,000 prisoners. Other sources, such as the Argentine Commission for Human Rights (CADHU) put the figure higher, at about 10,000.

Although there are no official lists, and no way of keeping a check on the situation of the prisoners, there are frequent and well-documented reports of

the killing of prisoners within the jails. A document smuggled out of the Sierra Chica prison described in detail how prisoners had been taken from their cells to be transferred to another jail. On the journey the prisoners were shot 'trying to escape'. In another, case in January, at the Jail of La Plata, 40 prisoners from the guerrilla organisations were put in a separate wing of the prison and told they were hostages in the event of any reprisals by the guerrillas for the killing of two other prisoners. Although this information was smuggled out and published abroad, (including in the Times), three of the prisoners were found dead in their cells. 'Suicide' said the authorities, but they refused to give the bodies to the families of the victims. Accounts of guerrillas killed in shoot-outs with the security forces appear regularly in the Argentine and international press. Almost invariably the 'guerrillas' are either prisoners, or victims of the death squads.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Bláth an náisiúin

MY MAIN impression of Bodinstown, 1977, was one of triumphant youth, buoyant youth, defiant youth, dedicated youth.

Maybe the prospect of a repetition of the previous day's weather - which didn't materialise - kept the veterans away. But, whatever the reason was, youth dominated and the veterans could not have wished for anything better.

For the certainty of our victory, of our steadfast dedication to the ideals of Theobald Wolfe Tone, breaking the evil connection between Ireland and England, and substituting the common name of Irish men and Irish women for the divisive rallying calls of Catholic, Protestant and Dissenter, was guaranteed by the magnificent turnout and bearing of our young people, in Cumann na gCailini, in Fianna Eireann, Cumann na mBan, Sinn Féin and, of course, in the token representation of Oglagh na hEireann.

The estimated attendance was 12,000, somewhat down on last year's figures, but understandable in view of the situation of the country. But it was a magnificent 12,000 and the organisers expressed themselves well satisfied at the spirit of the boys and girls, their discipline and the efficient handling of the parade in general.



Volunteer laying a wreath at Tone's grave, June 12th.

(Compliments of An Phoblacht)

TO JUBILEE OR NOT TO JUBILEE

By SCOPOLI,
DERRY.

If Elizabeth's (Mark II) Silver Jubilee has done anything it has shown once again the contradictions that exist within her ruling class, and has given a focus to all those against monarchy who see in these celebrations an affront to the working population at a time of falling living standards. In fact for many in Britain and elsewhere, "To Jubilee or not to Jubilee"?, has been the question. At a time of cuts, many ordinary working people see all this fuss as mindless extravagance, and many have gone to great lengths, and with a high degree of courage, to say so in more ways than one.

When travelling through England recently, preaching the Gospel according to Wolfe Tone, I was delighted to see slogans freshly painted on roads, monuments and public buildings, which were far from complimentary, and would surely have brought the old Victoria's typical response, "We are not amused!", to the lips of the Palace inmates. In the northern cities and midlands, the hard headed proletarians gave little outward sign that this was Lizzie's 25th anniversary as Queen of the Castles. However on arriving in London itself, and even when having a pint, the Butchers' Apron was everywhere, even decorating the lounge counters. Liz and Big Greek Phil were hanging from the walls...sorry...just their photographs were hanging from the walls... (unfortunately). An odd one of Maggie, (the one time wife of that snappy fella Tony Armstrong Jones), Charlie (of hello sailor and Cherry-Brandy fame) or the horsey girl herself mark you would be jumping out of the wallpaper, catching the eye and ruining a quiet pint of the brown stuff. It was all too much for a wee Fenian Bog-trotter from Derry, so cursing under my breath I swore that the only decent place for an Irishman to be was in the thirty-third county of Ireland, KILBURN. So catching the tube, I got off at Kilburn High Street, headed for Biddy Milligans, walked in broad southern Irish accents, supped a few of the stuff that 'is good for you', crossed the street to the Black Lion and listened to a Strabane lass singing about her 'Lagan Love', and later wandered down 'round the corner where a ceili band was thumping it out good and proper. No doubt, this was Kilburn.

I bumped into a few old cell mates, who chatted about 'the Crum', 'the Joy', Limerick and 'the Bog', the latter I was pleased to inform them I had never graced or tested its menu as a guest of the state. We yarned away an hour or so, telling funny stories, each one funnier



my path as I spotted the occasional person wearing a badge which either said, "Abolish the Monarchy", or bore the blunt but simple message, "Stuff the Jubilee". The Fleet Street press I began to avoid like the plague, with all its gust and royal slush, preferring the socialist papers instead, sold outside the shopping centres or at the tube stations daily. On such publication remarked:

"There are no scandals, no hidden profits being made, says Chris Green, Head of Communications for the London Celebration Committee for the Queen's Silver Jubilee. All our funds are completely open to inspection. The only thing I can't tell you is how much the individual subscribers gave." Which is a pity! When next year's honours lists are announced, it would be fun to compare the winners of MBEs or Knightships with the names of the Committee's big contributions. Not that anyone is suggesting that any of the Committee had anything more in mind than a desire to celebrate the 25th year in office of Europe's richest woman."

While the pro-Monarchy elements were industriously ringing up massive profits on china mugs, plates and even jubilee panties, and what have you, an entirely other industry was moving into full gear producing a very different view. Badges, car, window, and wall stickers have been printed by the tens of thousands, informing the masses that it costs them £5 and a half millions annually to keep the Royal Family, which is almost exactly what it would cost to build a new public hospital. The British media however ignored studiously the activities of the anti-monarchists, in spite of the fact that there were demonstrations at every major town in Scotland that was polluted with her presence. Residents living along the route taken played "The Internationale", or like Dundee spray-painted the roads prior to her visit. In London poor Liz got a terrible barracking from people, very angry that in 1977 a year of worsening economic crisis should be seen as a time for celebration. Even her Ma Ma has been getting a bit of stick(er), being described as the world's richest pensioner who got 47% rise, while the rest of the country's O.A.P.s got a measly 7%. Meanwhile Big Phil was at it again, dropping his usual royal clangers. Dukey Boy had this to say to the old-school tie brigade when writing for THE DIRECTOR, a mag for the magnates (Jan. Issue). "We must not concentrate so heavily on the unsuccessful and unfortunate and the underprivileged, but try to create a situation where the enterprising can make their contribution." Little wonder that all the maggots (sorry magnates) are going to become unstuck when socialism dawns.

This year has seen the formation of the Movement Against a Monarchy (Ma'am - you dig it?) and their aim has been to stickerise London showing Liz being unceremoniously discarded in a dustbin. Another walk that came to light concerns Lizze's visit to Glasgow. While on her walk-a-bout she remarked on the pleasant flowers and greenery in the council house gardens. So were all the residents remarking, when the Council workmen had dug the grass and flowers up in a local park and transplanted them the previous day. After Liz went home to see Big Phil the Greek and 'the wancs' to her own council house on THE MALL, the entire display was dug up again and taken back to the park - lock, stock and tulip.

I must end now, the butler has reminded me that its feeding time for my seven dogs, six corgi, twenty horses and twelve ponies, then dinner will be served, bangers and mash, yum! yum!

KNOW THE

The regionalisation programme of the Republican Movement ensures the democratic exercise of power by the people of Ireland at community level. It will correct the disastrous economic imbalance between the eastern and western parts of this island (disintegration is a like west of the Shannon and west of the Bann). But, of most immediate concern, in today's turmoil in the 6 Counties is that our system of new political structures is the only reasonable solution to the national problem.

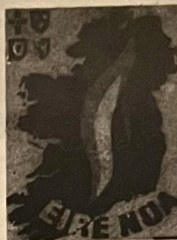
We do not speak of achieving a "United Ireland" anymore because of its unpleasant connotations of forfeiting all the advantages of breaking the connection with Britain by turning around and trying to enhance the authority of the corrupt Leinster House puppet regime by giving it power over the liberated 6 Counties. In Ruairi O'Bradaigh's classic assurance to the northern



than the last, and homeward bound I left them wiping the tears of laughter away, and holding my stomach which had become pained from such merriment. In the days that followed, here and there a ray of joy crossed



W YOUR EIRE NUA NEW ULSTER



BY CHRISTENE N. ELIAS

(Comhairle Chuige Laighean)

people, he said: "We would never ask you to join the 26-County State - we are trying to escape from it ourselves."

Regionalisation would grant the same political structures to the province of Ulster as to the other three provinces. District Councils would be formed, four Regional Councils are proposed, and proportional power defined by the New Constitution at the national level would be guaranteed to the people of Ulster.

However, the most exciting aspect of regionalisation in Ulster will be the creation of a Parliament of Ulster, or Dail Uladh, to legislate for the province. By establishing this Parliament to govern the historic nine counties of Ulster within the New Ireland, the partition system would be disestablished, the problem of the border removed and the fears of domination from Dublin eradicated. In addition, the formation of this new all-Ulster structure

would represent the end of that most insidious tool of colonialism - sectarianism. Imposed on the people of the North by the interests of British domination over the resources of this country, sectarianism divided the poor and divided the working classes. In the 6 Counties, religion was used to keep people apart in the same way that colour was used to divide the Negroes and poor whites in the United States. It enabled foreign and native collaborationist interests to exploit the people and force them to become partisans of British domination. With sovereign independent federal Ireland, the essential raison d'être of sectarianism will be removed and it will disappear. There will be no place for sectarianism in the New Ireland.

The democratically-elected Ulster Parliament would be representative of Catholic and Protestant, Orange and Green.

The ex-Union-

ists would have access to real power within Ulster but there would be a sufficiently strong opposition with a 9-County set-up to ensure that they could not abuse their power. The population divide in the 6 Counties is roughly 64% to 36%. In the 9-county Ulster, Unionists would still constitute 56-58% of the population while the other side would be within reach of power with 42-44% support assuming that voting continued along traditional lines. Thus, the ex-Unionists would still have a working majority within the province and would, therefore, have considerable control over their own affairs, but the rights of the less pronounced Nationalist minority, would be protected by the New Constitution and Charter of Rights. That power that would still be available to the ex-Unionists would be the surest guarantee of their civil and religious liberties in

the New Ireland.

So, an essential cornerstone of our proposals for the New Ulster is that our programme offers to the people of Ulster, all the people of Ulster, power within their own province. It offers them more authority, in fact, than was ever really granted to them by Westminster in the false security of an ultimately ineffective Stormont or, of course, than is granted to them today under the N.I.O.

It is sad and ironic that Fintan Lalor's caution to the Irish landlords 'way back in 1847 is applicable to the so-called 'Loyalists' of today. He said: "Refuse it (to be Irishmen) and you commit yourself...to the mercy of English Ministers and English members; you throw your very existence on English support, which England soon may find too costly to afford...."

It is true that many of the would-be ex-Unionists do

not deserve to wield their portion of power in the New Ireland, so long have they permitted themselves to be used to further British interests in this country.

But when we have finally defeated British Imperialism in our country and the Brits are finally leaving Ireland somebody will have to start picking up the pieces. In other words, there will have to be somebody to devise the political structures based on the socialist principles enshrined in the 1916 Proclamation, that will allow us all to live in peace as equal citizens on this island...

When the Brits get out, the Republican Movement is confident that the structures of a 4-provinces federal Ireland are the most realistic way to a lasting peace and prosperity.

Christene N. Elias
COMHAIRLE CHUIGE
LAIGHEAN



"The Queen is in the counting house,
Counting all her money.
The Souvenir touts in Oxford Street
Are eating bread and honey.
The rich men queue at County Hall
To join the honours roll.
And meanwhile 1,500,000 of us
Are starving on the 'dole'."

BRIGADE STATEMENT ON R. U. C.

Belfast Brigade,
Irish Republican Army:

Since the ending of the Loyalist stoppage attempts have been made by the SDLP to have the RUC pushed back into all Republican areas in the hope of receiving from the British Government a boost to their political fortunes. Forgetting its historical role as the armed wing of orangism and indeed its more recent history of torture and

murder of Political suspects. The SDLP have set themselves the task of whitewashing the RUC.

The Belfast Brigade will not allow the RUC back into Republican areas and it will continue to launch its military operations against all those involved in and with the RUC in its role as servant to British Imperialism. Sean O'Neill...Belfast Brigade.

ONE OVER THE EIGHT

BY SCOPOLI, DERRY

Nine months ago, after a series of discussion-type meetings by the various revolutionary groupings, anti-imperialist unity, the dream of many, became a living reality, in Derry at least. This unity took an organisational form in the formation of the Irish Front, which today embraces six organisations and is based on a common agreement to struggle for four basic demands. The organisations include, The Republican Movement, The Irish Republican Socialist Party, the Nationalist Party, The political Prisoners Action Committee, the Prisoners Dependents Fund, and the Magilligan Prisoners' Welfare Committee. The four demands are: (1) An end to harassment, torture and intimidation.

(2) Full support for the political status campaign, leading to an unconditional general amnesty.

(3) Repatriation of all Irish political prisoners.

(4) Withdrawal of British troops and an end to British interference in the political, cultural and economic life of Ireland.

The emergence of the Irish Front is indeed a major progressive landmark on the local political scene and has been closely watched by all the major political groupings throughout Ireland. In recent years the struggle against imperialism has been marred by division, defeatism and apathy, and following the eclipse of the civil rights movement more than six years ago, there has existed a clear lack of political direction. Over recent months the Irish Front has taken a stand on several issues, and its real strength lies in the fact that a small number of dedicated activists are prepared to daily carry out the many organisational tasks on a voluntary basis, and have been highly successful in mobilising local support. The Front has carried out regular pickets, held demonstrations on the question of the prisoners as on St. Patrick's Day when upwards of 10,000 took to the streets, blocked roads to expose the tortures taking place in Strand Road and Castle-reagh R.U.C. barracks, sent telegrams to various prominent people including

Declan Costello at the Strasbourg Human Rights Court, and its members have used their vacation periods to put across the republican side of the argument when visiting in Britain, Europe or America. The collective im-

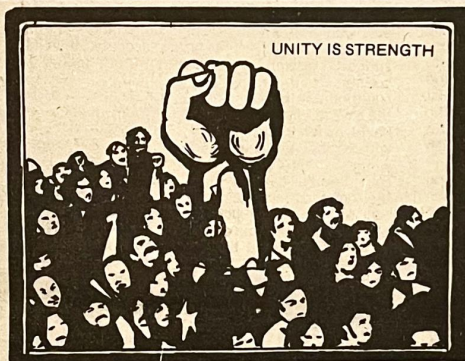
the British authorities are far from pleased at this new found unity, and are anxious to do all in their power to sow the seeds of division, which is successful will give them added strength. The Front has been active in prom-

The concept of the Broad Front is closely linked to the debate which has taken place within the pages of Republican News in recent times on the question of the People's Assemblies, which one could equate with popular

organisation was attained, a great weapon in the struggle against repression would have been created. The need to combat redundancies, low wages and poor conditions at work would become part and parcel of the overall struggle, and workers would be given a voice within the broad front during this process of evolution. The fact that many community bodies and tenant associations are riddled with pro-establishment boot lickers, as is the case in the Creggan Estate where deputations have recently met and discussed 'policing' with the infamous RUC is clear evidence that the anti-imperialist forces cannot afford to ignore these bodies. Our aim must surely be to mobilise tenants against these unrepresentative individuals, and hammer out a policy whereby the security of the estates is handed over to the people in conjunction with the anti-imperialist forces.

Certainly from these remarks, many will agree that we have a long way to go, but every day that we delay in tackling the need to build unity, and get down to the problems of the people at grass roots level, in the place of work and in the estates, is a day lost in forging popular power. The conscious participation of the working class people in the revolutionary struggle, is a pre-requisite to a successful and victorious conclusion to our struggle. When such popular power is realised, we can then set about building up alternative institutions to those already in the hands of the imperialist forces. Only by such a creation can it be said that we as a people have totally rejected the present state structures, and unless we seriously consider the road forward at this juncture the Eire Nua (New Ireland) of our dreams could remain an abstraction.

PEOPLES



POWER

pact of all these activities has given the anti-imperialist forces a new co-operation which has led to friendships developing on a basis of trust, which has replaced much of the former suspicions. The Front has given the people a new focus, and has resulted in many coming back into the struggle who were disillusioned at the former divisions between the republican forces. Its Central Committee, composed of representatives of the organisations involved, acts as a platform to discuss any difficulties that emerge, and at the same time co-ordinates common activities, which in turn has resulted in bringing numbers of people into open resistance to imperialism.

All this activity has resulted in a stepping up of harassment against prominent Front members, with almost half of the Central Committee having been arrested and questioned, some members on more than three occasions. It is obvious from the line of questioning, that

oting anti-imperialist unity in different parts of the country, and has brought on to its platforms a cross section of public figures who agree with its aims and basic demands. These have included, Frank McManus, Seamus Costello (I.R.S.P.), Anthony O'Malley Daly (Sinn Fein), Eddie Mc Ateer (Nationalist Party President), and others from outside Ireland such as members of the Troops Out Movement. Its Central Committee members have accepted invitations to speak all over Ireland to any group, no matter how small to outline the policies of the Front, and to advocate anti-imperialist unity among all groupings who could be drawn together on a similar platform. The result of such meetings, together with visits to cities outside Ireland, has resulted in opening up new contacts and counter-acting the Brit Black propaganda machine, and its allies in the 'peace movement'.

power as was illustrated in the events of other revolutionary struggles, particularly Portugal. The creation of such bodies as the People's Assemblies can only be realised if broad front unity is initially achieved as the foundation for such. The Broad front must be seen as the vehicle to take us further along the road to popular assemblies, and it is clear that in addition to the four demands already stated, that a gradual involvement of the people must be sought after, particularly in work-places, and within housing estates. Imperialism has many facets, the most obvious one being the repressive role of its troops and agents which we daily witness, but its more shady side, economic exploitation is as equally important, therefore the needs to organise workers on a factory basis to take the struggle into the broad labour and trade union movement. If such a degree of or-



ON TO THE SOCIALIST
REPUBLIC!!!!!!

BRITS DIG UP GRAVES



One of the City cemetery graves vandalised by the British Army.

We are always hearing, and reading about the children of Ballymurphy, Belfast, desecrating the graves in the city cemetery. We do realise that there is a certain amount of vandalism being carried out in the cemetery but where there are very little facilities for children to play there will always be mischief. But only last week members of the British Army, were seen digging up various graves, and no one seems to

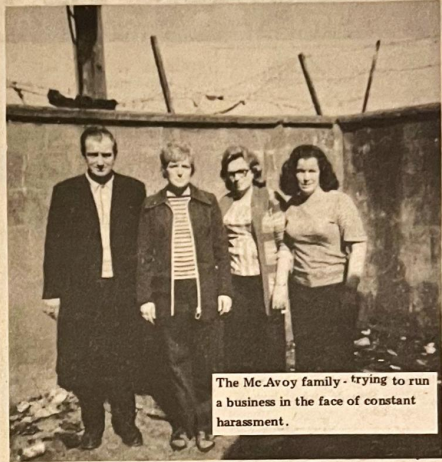
care what damage they do, or is there a law for the children of Ballymurphy, and another law for the British Army. We enclose a photograph of the grave which the British Army desecrated, and we hope very much that you will print it, as the children of Ballymurphy have been getting all the blame for far too long.

JOHN GLENNON,
SECRETARY.
Liam McParland Sinn Fein.
Cumann, Ballymurphy.

CAMPAIGN OF HARRASSMENT AGAINST FAMILY CONTINUES

On Friday last the British Army carried out a search of McAvoy grocers shop at the junction of Belfast's Whitelock and Springfield Roads. Nothing was found and a search certificate was issued to the shop owners. A short time later a second search party arrived again searching both the shop and the local Sinn Fein Advice Centre (which is located directly above the shop). This second group reported a "find" and four of the McAvoy family were subsequently arrested.

When queried about the results of the first search and the clearance certificate the second group became very aggressive towards both owners and customers alike. As a result of their attitude a confrontation developed during which several customers were burnt including the husband of one of the family who was later taken to hospital by ambulance. Mrs Bridie McHugh, a co-owner, was also detained in hospital suffering from slight concussion as a result of being struck with a baton while entering a British Army Saracen. Other members of the family were detained for 12 hours at Castle-reagh Holding Centre but were released without any



The McAvoy family - trying to run a business in the face of constant harassment.

charges being preferred.

This incident, reported to "Republican News" by the local Liam McParland Sinn Fein Cumann, is only one of a series of such incidents in which the Mc

Avoy family have been involved, and the Cumann claims that the local British Army unit is deliberately directing a campaign of escalating harassment against the family.

BALLYMURPHY CHILD INJURED BY BRITS

On Sunday last 19th June, Eoin Stewart age 5 months, was in his pram outside his home at 82 Ballymurphy Road. As a British Army foot patrol passed the pram was deliberately upended and Eoin fell into the street sustaining facial and head injuries. He was immediately taken to hospital for treatment and was later examined by the family doctor. Eoin has already been attending the hospital because he suffers from Spinobifida.

A formal complaint has been made by the Stewart family through their solicitor.

The local Liam McParland Sinn Fein Cumann have called on the people of Ballymurphy to harass British Army patrols as the people of Turf Lodge, St. James's and Beechmount are doing to prevent a repetition of such an incident.



Five month old Eoin Stewart is comforted at home by his mother.

IN MEMORIAM

CARTY/CRAWLEY/LOUGHRAN
In Proud and Loving Memory of Our Dear Comrades
LT. PADDY CARTY
LT. DERMOT CRAWLEY
LT. SEAN LOUGHRAN
(killed in action 25th June 1973)
Always Remembered by Their Friends
And Comrades East Tyrone Brigade

1st BATT. EAST TYRONE BRIGADE
A.B. and C. COYS. EAST TYRONE BRIGADE
Also Remembered by Their Comrades In
MAGILLIGAN, LONG KESH, CRUMLIN ROAD JAIL.

4th Anniversary.
In proud and loving memory of
Lt. Patrick Carty
Lt. Dermot Crawley
Lt. Sean Loughran
1st Battalion East Tyrone
Always remembered by the
Officers and Members of
Carty, Crawley, Loughran
Sinn Fein Cumann
Dungannon.

SEARCH DAMAGE CLAIM FORM (2nd Issue) A 162200

1. To: Ministry of Home Affairs or The District Manager
Londonderry House Northern Ireland Housing Executive
21/27 Chichester Street BELFAST BT1 4JX
Tel: Belfast 72233

2. This is to certify that:
a. SEAN LOUGHRAN (Name)
SEAN LOUGHRAN (Address)
was entered for the purpose of searching on 17.6.73 (Date)
b. The search began at 17.6.73 (Time) and ended at 17.6.73 (Time)
3. During the search-party no damage was caused the following damage was caused by SP (insert in as much detail as possible):
DAMAGE TO SP: TO SP: 1st Floor Office
DAMAGE TO SP: TO SP: 1st Floor Office
DAMAGE TO SP: TO SP: 1st Floor Office
DAMAGE TO SP: TO SP: 1st Floor Office
4. This is a private/publicly owned house (delete as appropriate)
5. Signature of IC Search Party: SEA (Name Initials)
Signature of Property Owner: SEA (Name)
I agree that the above is an accurate record. Signature of Search Party: SEA
6. Certified that the Search Party was searched before and after the house search.
Signature of IC Search Party: SEA
Signature of Property Owner: SEA
7. Date: 17.6.73
8. See NOTES OVERLEAF

The clearance certificate left by the first search party.

'BLANKET' PRISONER REFUSED PAROLE

Young Gerry Hodgins, who is serving 14 years in Long Kesh, was given permission to visit his father, who was seriously ill in hospital.

As he was about to leave, he was told that his visit had been cancelled.

Mr. Hodgins died last week.

The prison authorities told Gerry he could go to the funeral IF HE GAVE UP HIS FIGHT FOR POLITICAL STATUS.

This is just another example of the torture treatment being meted out by the N.I.O.

We ask all to support the National demands, and join the fight for Political Status.

We also offer our sincere condolences to Mr. Hodgins' wife, Eileen, and their other young son, Eamon.

An extract from the VOICE issued by the O'Rawe/Bryson Cumann, New Barnsley, Belfast.

Gerry has been wearing a blanket since he was sentenced last year.

DIARY OF EVENTS

Continued from page 3

7 USC men are fined in Cookstown for illegal road-block last January. It is now known that the UUC stoppage, has costed near £2 million to the economy of the 6 Cos. of 87 companies in the industrial sector, 8 lost more than £100,000, 13 lost more than £25,000, and 45 lost up to £25,000. IRA Volunteers launch a shooting attack on Woodburn Brit. Army post, near Lenadon estate, Belfast. Two shops in Bow Street, Lisburn are destroyed by fires caused by incendiary devices. Belfast Brigade IRA claims responsibility.

Saturday, June 11.

In a statement, commenting on Mason's latest measures, the IRA says that it proves that it's Volunteers are successful. The IRA also warns that non-uniformed civilians working for the RUC (Mason's new scheme to relieve RUC men of their clerical duties) will be considered like all RUC personnel as legitimate targets.

Belfast Brigade, IRA warns that it will attack derelict buildings used as look-out posts by the Brits. In Republican areas. Belfast Brigade claims responsibility for the two attacks of such posts this past week, one in Turf Lodge, the other in the Lower Falls area. Sinn Fein in North Belfast accuses the Brits of deliberately delaying the redevelopment policy to use derelict houses for their own purposes.

Sunday, June 12.

In Bodensdown, thousands of Republicans attend the annual commemoration. The Peace People claim to have started a campaign in the USA to divert Irish American money from the IRA. Ciaran MacKeown's booklet is in the US Congressional record (they can keep it). The magazine "Peace by Peace" will be widely distributed—probably the thousands of copies they were unable to sell here.

Monday, June 13.

Two Amnesty International delegates arrive in Dublin to start an investigation into jail conditions and allegations of Garda brutality in the 26 Cos.

At spar supermarket, Newry, an incendiary device is planted, causing some damage. The South Down command IRA claims responsibility.

Several Clonard associations (RAC, Women's Action Committee etc) call on Stickie members to cease their attacks on the people of the area.

Belfast RAC calls on Amnesty International to probe into conditions at long kesh and Armagh jail.

At a Cork electoral meeting loud heckling when Cosgrave hits out at critics of Portlaoise conditions.

The UDA man who planted the bomb in Dublin at Easter is refused bail at a Dublin court.

In Jonesboro (South Armagh) A British Army foot patrol

is fired at.

13 UDA men are arrested in Dublin. They said they had come to the trial of above mentioned colleague.

Tuesday, June 14.

Former UDA man Tommy Herron's widow, has decided to join the "Peace" Movement. SDLP is to start talking to K. Newman about SDLP-RUC relations, in view, says the SDLP of "increasing evidence of improved impartiality of the RUC".

In Dublin, the 13 UDA men are held at the Bride-well. Meanwhile in Belfast, Provisional Sinn Fein in a statement, recalls the counter-revolutionary role of these British agents (re December 72, Easter 77 etc).

The UDA men are later released, amidst total news black-out Cosgrave is probably waiting now for a few extra-votes next Thursday.

In Belfast, two bombs are planted in a shoe warehouse in Union Street. Belfast Brigade IRA claims responsibility.

A British Army helicopter lands on grounds of Monaghan Army Barracks for refuelling.

Bomb at Union St wholesale shoe shop is claimed by Belfast Brigade IRA.

An RUC patrol is shot at near Pomeroy, Co. Tyrone.

Wednesday June 15.

Eve of the polls in the 26 Cos: Coalition victory is predicted.

Today, the Eleven-Plus is out.

M.P. Frank Maguire calls on Mason to release 64 year old Peter MacGrath from Co. Tyrone, who was so ill after interrogation by the RUC, that he had to be brought to Musgrave Hospital. His relatives are not allowed to visit him.

Fr. Faul protests over reports of beatings inflicted on two more men lifted in East Tyrone this week.

Some Eastwoods strike pickets are lifted by the Brits (see Rep News 18.6.77) Sinn Fein acc uses the Brits of using repressive laws against workers fighting for their union rights and calls on Trade Unions to protest.

Hundreds of workers march in support of Eastwoods strikers in the Falls area, Belfast. Four unions also pledge support. The demonstration,

was called for by the Belfast Unemployment Action Committee.

Belfast Relatives Action Committee occupies American Consulate in Belfast for half an hour, to protest against Edward Kennedy's recent comments on the Irish situation, and also to highlight the plight of Irish political prisoners.

A British Army bomb squad driver is up in court for receiving stolen money. Comment of the Judge: 'You are not 100% honest'.

A bomb damages a shop in Donegall Square, Belfast. Belfast Brigade IRA, claims responsibility.

In Dublin, Fr. P. O'Duill is arrested and questioned by the Special Branch. He had been helping the Amnesty International team who are at present in Ireland to carry out a survey on Portlaoise conditions and on Garda brutality allegations.

The RUC denies having ill-treated 64 year old Tyrone man Peter MacGrath!

The ALIn a statement, attacks 'apologists for the RUC', and warns of continuous reports of 'ill-treatment during interrogation'.

The Brits defuse a big lammine in Co. Armagh and a bomb in a Belfast garage.

Friday, June 17.

A big fire starts in Housing Executive central office in College Square East, Belfast. It was caused by several incendiary devices and the damage is estimated at £100,000. Belfast Brigade IRA claims responsibility.

'The Butcher Gang' cases: more charges are preferred against two loyalists.

Two Belfast teenagers are cleared of a murder 18 months ago, because of evidence of torture during interrogation.

M.P. Frank Maguire protests at the vindictive treatment meted out to sentenced prisoners, especially the refusal of parole to the men on

politicians show a wide spectrum of emotions, from unease and fear to anger. Paisley accuses Fianna Fail to be 'full of ex-IRA members'!

Bomb planted at Eason's wholesaler on Boucher Road, Belfast. Belfast Brigade, IRA claims responsibility.

Shots are fired at a British Army patrol in the Suffolk area of Belfast, Belfast Brigade IRA claims responsibility. IRA Volunteers launch a shooting attack on an RUC jeep at the Falls-Whiterock junction. Belfast Brigade claims two RUC men were hit.

Saturday, June 18.

Official Unionist Jean Coulter claims that UDR and RUC Reserve members employed in Belfast Royal Victoria Hospital have been transferred to other hospitals.

Final results of 26 Cos elections. Fianna Fail 84 seats (69 after 1973 elections, 66 before dissolution of Dail).

Fine Gael 43 seats (54 after 1973 elections, 55 before dissolution of Dail).

Labour 17 seats (19 after 1973 elections, 20 before dissolution of Dail).

Others 4 seats (2 after 1973 elections, 3 before dissolution of Dail).

Anti-apartheid demonstration in Corn Market, in support of Soweto students, organised by the South Africa Solidarity Committee.

Sunday, June 19.

Ulster Executive Sinn Fein denounces the 'upsurge in repression in Nationalist areas' and especially the increase in the number of teenagers detained and forced to sign incriminating statements through intimidation or ill-treatment.

MP Frank Maguire, will go to Dublin this week in the hope of asking J. Lynch to raise the matter with British P.M. James Callaghan later this month.

Several hundred people attend rally in the markets, Belfast, organised by the Relatives Action Committee in support of political status.

In Turf Lodge, Belfast a women's meeting takes place at the initiative of the Socialist Women group and other Andersonstown groups.

Meeting held by Sinn Fein in Newington, Belfast demonstrators are addressed by speakers of Belfast Comhairle Ceannair, who call for an All-Ireland vote on the issue of national unity and independence.

Belfast lawyers protest at the backlog of cases in six courts. Cases are quoted of people who after having awaited their trial for months and having been refused bail on several instances, have seen charges against them dropped. There are also complaints about the long delay in obtaining signed papers from British Army personnel. There are presently 668 remand prisoners here, of whom two thirds are in Crumlin Road Jail, Belfast.

Monday, June 20

The new U.S. Ambassador in London makes his first visit to Belfast, and launches the usual attack on Irish American fund raisers.

SDLP leader Gerry Fitt announces that his deputation will meet RUC Chief Constable tonight. In a statement, the Belfast Brigade, Provisional IRA, says that the SDLP is attempting to whitewash the RUC, and stress that the RUC will not be allowed back into



Republican areas.

An incendiary device causes widespread damage in a Derry shop.

Fr. Faul exposes the case of a man who was assaulted and severely bitten 5 times by a British soldier while being lifted (the man had to receive a tetanus injection later).

Judge James Brown, advised judges that they should 'harden their hearts' and give stiffer sentences to young people to keep them from violence.

A Writ of Habeas Corpus has been issued against RUC Chief Constable about the detention of 64 year old Tyrone man P. McGrath.

A Loyalist is charged with the car bomb planted last April in Ardoyne, Belfast, at the funeral of Trevor McKibbin. The bomb had caused the death of two 19 year old boys.

Tuesday, June 21.

Unemployment in the 6 cos, is on the increase. There are now nearly 60,000 unemployed, 3,500 more than last month (an increase of 0.6% on last month figures), mostly due to school-leavers! It is an overall increase of 11.2% on last year's figure.

SDLP-RUC talks: Gerry Fitt announces that the time is near when the RUC will be totally acceptable (to them).

After the transfer of 64 year old Peter MacGrath from Musgrave Military Hospital to a Tyrone mental hospital, the writ of habeas corpus against RUC Chief is changed to a legal suit for assault and battery.

Incendiary device starts a fire causing widespread damage in Stewart's Supermarket on the Oldpark Road, Belfast.

Sinn Fein President Ruairi O Bradaigh announces a step up in the Brits Out Campaign.



Aftermath of Etna St. bombing

Thursday June 16

In Ardoyne Belfast a British Army post and sleeping quarters were attacked in the early hours. First a bomb was planted nearby, then shots were fired. The surrounding area had been cleared. The operation was claimed by Belfast Brigade IRA.

'blanket protest'. He accuses the N.I.O. of deliberately harassing these men.

As the counting of votes draws to an end in the South, Cosgrave & Co. appear to have got the boot. Lynch starts making statements, and announces he will ask to see James Callaghan as soon as possible. In Belfast, Loyalist

SEAL AR CUAIRT

R.A.C. RALLY IN MARKETS

TA AN FEAR TAR EIS CUPLA LA A CHAITHEAMH AR CHUIAIRT AG 'FORSÁI SLANDALA' NA HAITE SEO FA-ÓI CHOIMIRCE NA BANRIONA ELIS. FAGADH LEIS FEIN E CUID DEN AM AGUS SEO ABHAR A MHACH-NAIMH LENA LINN SIN.

Is ea; bhi a fhios againn go raibh cuairt i ndan duit. Is deacair a bheith i do 'Sheán Saoránach' nuair is Caitliceach nó 'Tadhg' thu i mBeal Feirste. Bíonn droch-bholadh ar leith ag baint leis na 'forsaí slandala' ag do dhoras chomh luath sin ar maidin. Ní an deanach istioche a bhi se? Ba chuma linn, ar scor ar bith, agus sinn ag brostu síos an staighre lenar ndoras sobhriste a shabhal; a choimead o a bheith i measc na mílte eile eileamh damáiste. Idir an ceathair agus an se a shíleam, agus ní ro-shasta a bhi mo bhean chelle agus i ag iompair linn.

Le bru borb agus clampar a thainn na Breatainaigh isteach, ag ra go raibh me ag teastach ag Springfield Road le roinnt ceisteanna a fhreagairt. Ag cloisteall rud éigin i dtaobh na 'Banriona' dom, bhi me, mar a deirfá, gafa. D'ins mairbh mo chelle cad a shíl sí faoi'n 'Banríon' cheanna agus bhi mo chailín ar aontuairt le. D'fhan me fein imo thost nó shíl me da mbéim imo 'bhuchall maith' go ligfí saor me i ndiaidh cupla uair. Is aisteach an rud, e ach thosaigh me a mhachnamh faoi chearta daonna agus i rith na dtí la is mar sin a lean me. Tig-leo teacht, duine a ghabhail, agus sin e! Cad chuige? nach bhfuil se leagtha amach doibh faoi na cumhachtaí speisialta? Ce acu síl is rogha leat fein, sin mar a tharlainn: Bíonn tu a do ghoid acu, imionn tu, nó bíonn tu a d'iompar amach acu. Do na 'Taidh' amháin a tharlainn se. An e seo an seict-eaghas a bhíonn faoi thracht i gconal ag na paipéir?

Go hadhuil shroich me beairc a 'morgachta' ar Bhothar Springfield gan cuairt a thabhairt ar a chomhÉireannaigh thuas an t'Seanchill' mar a duit an saighdiúir as Londain a raibh blas luith oibre agus. Buille anseo agus ansin mar is gnáth na síleann na 'fir' sna cúlacha (RUC nó Breatainaigh) gur 'terrorist' gach 'tadhg'. Ma's deacair sin a creidibheall, bí i do eochtrannach nó i do dhúine o'n t'Saorstát, agus i do Chaitliceach chomh maith agus foghlaiméidh tu cad is brí le 'fir' Phrotastúnach do mhuintir Phrotastúnach.

Agus tusa ag fail 'do chuid' bíonn an cuairt sna haiteanna seo suimilú - ma's faireoir thu! Is e an chéad rud a fhoghlaiméidh tu na go mbráitcheann se ort do neamhchiontach a chruthú. Níor rinne tu dáda - cen fath an cruthúna se?

An dara rud a cuireadh ina lú ort, go bhfuil tu ina gcumhacht ar fad, mar is leir o'n am sin a a thainn fonn sui ort, nó a theastaigh uait an tochas sin a leigheas nó an toitin sin a chaitheamh.

Is abhar iontais e nach bhfuilimid chomh follain agus a ba choir duinn a bheith. Ba choir do dhúine a bheith abalta seasamh, a sciathan agus meara ag bru i gcoinne balla agus a chosa scartha amach aige. B'fheidir gur bhain na buillí, puacanna agus eile an aial diot. Ar aon-nos, bíonn ceisteanna

seafóideacha, pearsanta agus polaitiúil, an Ceisteanna nó raitis? 'Iad uile ag baint leis an 'P'check' a sheambhuachail! Bhi me ar ti seile a chaitheamh i suil an fhir de'n chraobh speisialta a raibh blas Oxford aige ach chumhachadh me ar mo 'rosc catha' - 'bí i do bhuchall maith'.

Níorbh fhada go dtainn gluaislean na M.P.'s agus suas an t'Seanchill linn. Ghlánadar fuinneog an ghluaislean i dtobhsraigh agus thugadar mise agus mo phaiséir faoi churam an RUC (a ta athleasaithe arís anois).

Slogann Castlereagh, cosúil lena choras, thu agus deantar conatheadh eile diot istigh sna cillíní nua. Ag bairdeir an RUC atá i gceannas na haite droch-chluithí seo, ba F10 nó A10 mise. Duine de'n dream líonmhar me a ghlaicann a gcuid bia mar 'shicíní bataire' idir amanna ceistiúcháin.

Imionn an la le coisheimheanna ar an urlar lasmuigh de do chailín. Ait bhán dheirene i seo a dheanfadh geall diot, agus fuaim o na telitheoirí nach eol duit. Seo e am an duine bhoicht trasna an doichia anois. An fear a chuala me ag screadail sa tseomra ceistiúcháin eile? D'ins mo fhear o'n RUC dom nach raibh ann ach inneall chun eagla a chur orm - cleas do chineál éigin. An inneall é?

Nach eolach gach duine i dtaobh Chairt na Naisiún Aontaithe faoi chearta daonna - trialacha Strasbourg, Solzenitzin - agus nach n-aontaíonn cach leo?

Ní aontóidh an triúr fear sin o Naomh Seamus le seo afach. Tar eis meid níos mó na mise a fhuilgint agus iad faoi churam dochtúra, is doibh a ba cheart an t-alt seo a scríobh. Ach, síleann daoine go mbíonn an fhirinne a cur as a riocht nuair a chloiseann siad scealta mar seo. Guim nach bhfaighfidh na daoine sin an fhirinne amach, mar is rud míthaitneamhach í.

Is eol duit anois go bhfuil na trí la thart nó tugtar deis eile duit an 'admhail' a dheanamh; tugtar deis duit 'a lan' airgid, a thuilleadh duit fein agus do chailín; agus faigheann tu cuairt ar an dochtúir. I ndiaidh duit do fhainne posta agus uile a bhailiú bíonn suil agat, le cunadh De, go mbeidh duine as do 'thaobh' ag fanacht leat ag an ngeata.

Cuireann an 'chraobh' slán leat leis an eolas go bhfuil 'roinnt mhaith bílanta faoi ghlas i ndan duit'. Cuirtear ina lú go crua, ort ag duine de na cairde seo is cairdiúla, go bhfaighfidh tu 'do chuid', agus faigheann tu buille cairdiúil on te eile. Cuis mhachnaimh duit agus tu ag dul amach an geata ca mhead eile cuairt a bheidh agat.

Ar aon-nos, tar eis duit bliure bia a ithe agus focal i gcluas do bhanchéile, teann tu a lú agus na solais se. Is sólas duit go bhfuil na mílte eile leat ag fanacht ar an la sin a riarfaidh na daoine Éire agus nach mbeidh sna huirliú daor-machta, mar Castlereagh, Springfield agus an Cheis Fhada, ach cuid d'ar stair. Go dtí sin, fanfaidh tu as bealach an scata Breatanach sin le suil go gcafaidh siad a gcúine deireannach agus go n-oscloidh duine eigin orthu le hAirmáite. An Phoblacht Abu!

leis AN FEAR

Tháinig an litir seo tríd an Pholst Roinnt láethanta ó sholin agus táim fíor buíoch do údar na litreach seo: Measaim go bhfuil ábhar smaoineamh agus gníomhu istigh ann is éigendúinn rud éigin a Dheanamh faoi. Bhuel, cad a shíleann sibhse na léitheoirí.

A Chara,

Is le suilt a leigheas an t-alt i nGaeilge atá ar an 'Republican News' an seachtmhainn seo. Ná bíodh spadar ar bith ar an 'Fear' nó is ró-annamh Gaeilge ar do Phaiséir. Tá súil agam go leanfaid de.

Maidir lena thuirimí ar Ghaeltachtáir is cuid an-tabachtach d'en troid ar son na solrise.

Ba chóir go mbeadh seimeanáir nó oícheannál teagaisc ar súil le h-aghaidh leannúcháin óga ar mian leo pósadh agus teachlach Gaelige a bheith acu, a reachtáil ar fud na cathrach.

D'fichais féin go pearsanta le Gaeiltacht a bhunú dtuaisceart Bheal Feirste ach theup orm ach ní mé ró-bhuartha nó is féidir féacháil leis arís.

Ar aon nós tá mé den bharúil go bhfaigheadh duine nó daoine ar bith cuidí o Phobal Séolge nó ó na teachlach Gaeilge atá i mBaile Clíath.

Tá súil agam go mbeidh tuilleadh plé ar seo Beir bua

Micheal.....

The Central Relatives Action Committee welcomes the support given to the march and rally held in the Markets Area on Sunday June 19th. By their support the people have shown that they care about the Political Prisoners, who are been subjected to such brutal treatment.

At a rally after the march speakers stressed that the struggle to defend the special status of Republican and Socialist P.O.W.'s was to establish that a struggle for National Liberation was being waged in Ireland. The attempt by the British Government to criminalise the P.O.W.'s was a carefully constructed campaign to deceive international opinion about the true nature of the struggle. We reject completely the British Government's lies about our prisoners being criminals.

One speaker warned that it was of utmost importance that we intensify the struggle on behalf of the political prisoners, many of the prisoners have been held in barbaric conditions for months. The Westminster Government was using

the most savage methods to break the morale of the P.O.W.'s in H-Block Long Kesh, C Wing Armagh Jail, and B Wing Crumlin Road Jail. The prisoners morale had not been broken, but if the struggle for Political Status was to be won then the people must leave the British Government in no doubt that there would be no let up in the struggle in the streets.

Another speaker said that the very fact that the political prisoners were tried before special Courts put them in a special category. It was nonsense for the British Government to pretend that there was no difference between the Political Prisoners and the Criminal Prisoner, when the Diplock Courts try political cases. The Diplock Courts have their rules of law unlike any other courts, and being no jury courts the R.U.C. do not have to worry about convincing a Jury.

P.R.O.
CENTRAL RELATIVES
ACTION COMMITTEE.

A section of the RAC protest meeting held in the Markets area of Belfast last Sunday.



BOSTON DEMO



April 1977.

A demonstration sponsored by the "Friends of Ireland Committee" is held outside the Boston City Hall Plaza. The demonstration was for Human Rights in Ireland and was organised by the Massachusetts branch.

Mason keeps promise

In a statement on May 6th the Belfast Comhairle Ceannair of Sinn Féin expressed its 'foreboding' at the secret meetings being held by Official Unionists and Roy Mason with regard to the U.A.C. strike. This 'foreboding' has now become a reality, with a dramatic upsurge in repression in Nationalist areas. In-

In the last few weeks, in particular since the conclusion of the U.A.C. strike, Sinn Féin has become aware of the number of very young people (17,20 age group) who are suddenly being charged after prolonged periods of detention in the various R.U.C. Holding Centres throughout the North. Signed 'confessions'

Castlereagh RUC Station. These were two luckier ones, for in the main such statements signed under duress are invariably accepted as voluntary and convictions secured purely on the basis of the signed confession. Many judicial hacks are more prone to accepting the word of the R.U.C. and thereby will accept

such statements made under duress as fact and incriminating the defendant.

A public outcry is now swelling with regard to RUC torture and brutality, and Sinn Féin now lends its voice and support to this outcry. We have been telling the public ourselves of many many cases of torture at RUC interrogation centres, but in the main these have fallen on deaf ears. However, today's statement from 5 churches in the Dungannon area is a welcome change. Over the past few years we have documented and published many cases of young and old alike being charged in special courts set up at hospital bed-sides, some of them in mental institutions. We intend to keep up this publicity as it is our belief that only in publicity is their any kind of safety for the victim of the torture tactics of this illegal and sectarian police force.

Patricia Davidson,
P.R.O.

SYMPATHY NOTICE

With sincere and deepest sympathy to our dear comrade, Mr. T. Flanagan, on the recent death of his beloved son, Frankie.

From:
All the members of London Sinn Féin.

ed harassment, brutality, raiding and arrests have become the order of the day in all areas. Coupled with this has been vicious increases in prison sentences, further manpower for the sectarian forces of the R.U.C. and U.D.R. and the redeployment of the British Army in S.A.S. type roles in all areas of the 6 counties.

obtained after torture are being used widely to put many young people behind bars. In the past week, however, we have heard in the Northern

Ireland Courts of charges being scrubbed against two young people from the Antrim Road area who had been brutally tortured into making statements at

LONG KESH



NOTE BOOK

And so Roy Mason has predictably followed the political course of successive British governments, Lord Lieutenants and Secretaries of State, by introducing further repressive legislation in a forlorn attempt to suppress the armed struggle of the Irish Republican Army against the forces of British Imperialism. In 800 years of British misrule and occupation Irish history has been dominated by the passing of repressive laws designed specifically to crush the Irish desire for human rights and freedom. The last 8 years have followed closely on that historical pattern with each year witnessing the passing of some new oppressive piece of legislation.

These new series of repressive measures are supposedly aimed at all those who use violence to achieve their objectives. However, it is perfectly obvious that those laws are aimed solely at the Irish Republican Army and are designed to placate loyalist demands for more troops and tougher measures such as Internment. Perhaps the best example of this typical piece of sectarian bias on the part of the British is the legislation dealing

with membership of organisations outlawed by the British government. For while members of the Republican Movement will now find themselves on the receiving end of 10 year prison sentences,

members of the Ulster Defence Association (an organisation responsible for some of the

worst excesses in the last few years and which alone has 17 men serving life

sentences here in Long Kesh) is still free to operate openly, as we all saw during the recent loyalist strike.

Unfortunately it would still appear to be the case that the British have not learned the lesson even after all these years of bloodshed. Further repression on their part will only lead to greater resistance. If peace, justice and economic stability are ever to be seen in Ireland the root cause of the violence i.e. British occupation, must be brought to an end.

Life sentences for having explosives etc will in no way deter Republicans from achieving our goal—a United Socialist Republic. The sooner the British realise that indisputable fact of life the sooner we can get down to solving the serious social and economic injustices which exist in our country.

Last week Mr. Tom Daly of the SDLP was elected unanimously as Chairman of the new Fermanagh council. This is the first time that anyone from the minority has held this position or any other position comparable to it. And what does Mr. Daly and his fellow SDLP men say about it "Now the poachers are in charge of the gamekeepers".

Is this what the SDLP mean by power sharing? denying the ownership of Ireland! Are we "poachers" in our own land? Must we now recognise what they took by force as rightfully theirs?

