

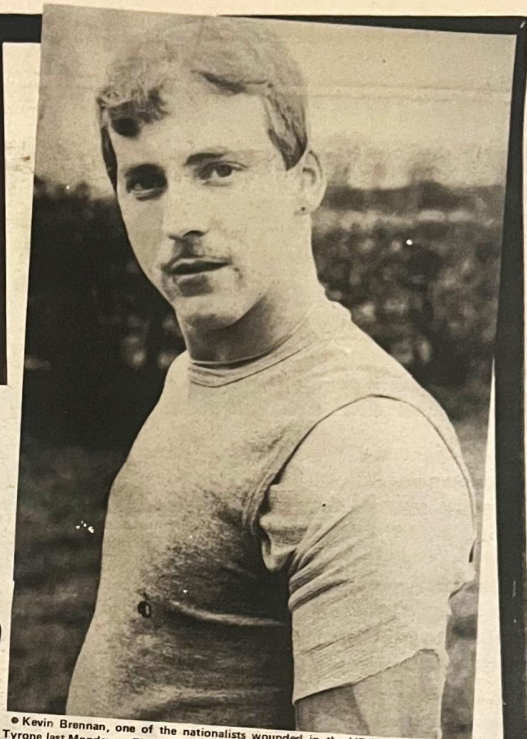
AN
PHOBLACHT
Republican News

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING
POLITICAL WEEKLY



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Double standards



• Kevin Brennan, one of the nationalists wounded in the UDR murder-bid in Tyrone last Monday — FULL STORY, PAGE 5

IN SHARP CONTRAST to their ever-ready condemnation of IRA attacks against members of the British armed forces and their agents in Ireland, the nationalist establishment, including the SDLP and their Dublin allies, have yet to condemn Tuesday's murderous assault on a car-load of Tyrone nationalists by the UDR.

Displaying the double standards which predictably follow such incidents, both the SDLP and Dublin's Department of Foreign Affairs merely called for the suspension of the UDR soldiers

involved pending an RUC inquiry. Only after such an inquiry would arrest be warranted, according to Denis Haughey of the SDLP.

Both the reaction of such politicians and RTE's treatment of the shooting show that the nationalist establishment will always give British armed forces the benefit of doubt. RTE television cameras focussed on a small chalked pro-IRA scrawl near the scene of the shooting and there was always the suggestion in news reports that those attacked by the UDR might not have been as 'innocent' as locals claimed.

Politicians such as Denis Haughey

and Peter Barry were more interested in the shooting as a means of securing credibility for their post-Hillsborough influence with the British than for the fact that forces armed by the British government had tried to murder nationalists.

Because of this, Denis Haughey and RTE were happy to latch onto the news that the UDR soldiers involved in the incident were being confined to working within their barracks. Although this clearly fell far short of the action initially demanded by the SDLP and Peter Barry, both Haughey and RTE went ahead and claimed that the soldiers had, in fact, been suspended.

Rejecting this lie, Danny Morrison, Sinn Féin elected representative for Mid-Ulster, said:

"Denis Haughey's claims of a breakthrough in the alleged suspension of those UDR men involved in the Kildress shooting is stretching credibility to breaking point."

"The UDR men are still working within their barracks and are on full pay. If republicans were being questioned about an attack on UDR personnel they would be dragged off to an interrogation centre for seven days' intensive interrogation. The double standards are glaringly obvious."



BLOODY SUNDAY REMEMBERED

SEE
PAGES
8 & 9

OPINION

26-COUNTY BUDGET

A step backwards

THE twenty-six counties has a crisis in employment: 18% of its workforce is registered as unemployed; emigration is rising to the record levels of the 1950s; there is a crisis in production (the economy didn't grow last year — it shrank by 1% in real terms); over one million of its population live in poverty; agriculture, the cornerstone of its economy, is in a state of crisis.

None of these things was reflected in the Coalition's Budget on Wednesday. The Budget continued the policy of making the promotion of employment and economic growth take a back seat to a sterile book-balancing operation. As a result, unemployment will continue to rise and living standards to fall next year to gain a minor reduction in the level of public sector borrowing. This reduction in borrowing has now become self-defeating. The rise in unemployment will lead to an increase in government spending on social welfare payments. This means spending has to be reduced elsewhere to compensate and consequently leads to yet more unemployment. And so it goes on.

The Coalition government hopes that this depressing cycle will be broken by an increase in private investment which will create jobs. Such an increase has not happened yet and, judging from the experience of other countries, it won't happen.

It is, however, the changes in taxation that will be the media focus of this Budget.

The Coalition has made concessions to the PAYE worker but these have been more than wiped out by the increases in VAT and other indirect taxes. This is a real step backwards. Tax in the twenty-six counties is not only high by international standards, it is also highly regressive.

Higher VAT means that an even higher proportion of the incomes of those on the lower end of the income scale goes in tax, compared to a lower proportion of the incomes of the wealthy. Rather than paying for tax concessions in the PAYE sector by increasing the burden of indirect tax on those who can least afford to pay, governments should be widening and strengthening the tax net to ensure that those who currently escape payment begin to pay their share.

The Budget allowed for only pitiful increases in social welfare payments, condemning all those who depend on such payments to another year of poverty. This is especially true of the long-term unemployed who for years have lagged behind other welfare recipients.

Besides its failure to answer the urgent needs of the most deprived sections of society, this Budget stands condemned for its failure to invest in the future.

Far from being a millstone around the necks of future generations, money spent on a planned investment in jobs would ensure that future generations have a productive future to look forward to.



WAR NEWS

Courage and ingenuity



MAJOR IRA attacks along the western flank of the six-county war zone during the past seven days must leave the British forces counting themselves lucky that they are not now totting up a demoralising list of casualties and cost. More worrying for them than the fact that the IRA seems to be able to continue to strike at will and with a steady logistical back-up must be the courage and ingenuity that characterised these attacks.

Courage, perhaps reflecting the seeming 'moral superiority' that IRA Volunteers have over paid soldiers and RUC personnel; ingenuity, the hallmark of the guerrilla fighter everywhere.

It is unquestionable, even from an anti-IRA point of view, that it took courage to carry out the IRA attack on the heavily-fortified British army/RUC checkpoint at Clady, County Tyrone, on Friday night, January 24th. The attack, later claimed by the West Tyrone Brigade, was carried out by a single IRA Volunteer who drove a 500lb car-bomb up beside the emplacement. He escaped in another commandeered car which was driven by a comrade. Although the ASU involved later explained that he had been covered by an armed unit, one mistake would have almost certainly meant death.

A further complication to the attack had apparently been the IRA's decision to give a 30-minute warning to ensure that no civilians who lived close to the base would be injured. The bomb exploded at 7.30pm, causing some damage.

OMAGH

The attack in Omagh on Saturday, January 25th, was explained in an IRA statement which said:

"After darkness fell, armed Volunteers of Tyrone Brigade cut their way through a security fence around TC Autos on the Cookstown road in Omagh. On securing a position at the back of the garage, a team of engineers then wired a 200lb anti-personnel mine hidden in a dustbin which was designed to detonate by remote control. As they withdrew from the garage area, the Volun-

teers triggered the burglar alarm, knowing that it would alert the RUC."

According to RUC reports, when they got the signal they phoned the manager of TC Autos at his home, asking him to meet them at the garage. He agreed without knowing that as he stepped out of his house he would be arrested by armed IRA Volunteers who had been assigned the task "to ensure that he remained at home for his own safety".

When two armoured RUC vehicles arrived at the garage it seems that the IRA engineers waited until five RUC men moved within range of the bomb and then detonated it. The massive blast which followed was heard throughout Omagh, threw the RUC into disarray and wrecked the garage. Although it appears that none of them was seriously injured, all were left to ponder on their miraculous escape and whether they could be so lucky the next time. And from recent IRA statements which have strongly expressed their "will and determination to continue until Britain withdraws", it seems almost sure that there will be a next time.

REPUBLICAN COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE Coiste Cuimhneachain na Poblachta

APPLICATIONS FOR SPEAKERS

AS Easter Sunday falls this year on 30th March, applications for speakers should be made no later than Friday, February 28th. Applications should be sent to:

An Runai,
Coiste Cuimh na Poblachta,
44 Parnell Square,
Dublin 1.

Easter lilies are available from
Mrs Peig King,
29 All Saints Park,
Raheny,
Dublin 5.
Price 1£15 per 1,000.

AS this is the 70th Anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising we expect the demand for lilies to be greater than ever so place your orders as soon as possible.

Honour Ireland's dead - wear an Easter lily



Unionist monolith unmoved

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

APATHY caused by the predictability of the outcome in constituencies where the opposition was non-existent, and possibly an over-estimation of the register, conspired to keep the unionist vote at or about the same level they got in 1983.

The 15 unionist candidates managed 418,230 votes. Fourteen were returned to Westminster, the OUP candidate for Newry/Armagh, Jim Nicholson, having lost his seat to SDLP deputy-leader Seamus Mallon.

The unionist vote was, however, described by the unionist Belfast *News Letter* as "clear and compelling" and "magnificent". But Free State minister Peter Barry, congratulating Mallon, said that unionist opposition, while "obviously deep", was "not so overwhelming as had been forecast".

The bogus 'Peter Barry' candidate managed nearly 7,000 votes. Obviously some nationalist voters decided to spoil their vote in this way to curb unionist personation. And much was made, especially in the Free State press, of the high number of spoiled votes in unionist constituencies: disgruntled unionist moderates, it was suggested.

Despite all this, the result was predictable given the sectarian head-count that the six-county state is built on. And there was little evidence at the count last Friday of those moderate unionists which the Free State government keeps appealing to.

The loss of the Newry/Armagh seat was a blow to the OUP, whose Jim Nicholson fell victim to the arithmetic of the constituency and a clever SDLP campaign which correctly pointed to the fact that he had done little work for Newry/Armagh since June 1983.

Media attention predictably focussed



on that one result and marred the unionists' day. Now that a unionist seat had been lost, it had become a question of seats, not votes as the unionist leadership would have wished for their so-called 'mini-referendum'.

The British government reaction was muted. Direct-ruler Tom King asked unionists to take their seats in Westminster and announced his intention to call constitutional parties for "serious discussions about the political future". The British hope to woo at least some of the unionists into consenting to the Hillsborough agreement.

APPEASEMENT

To counter the unionist boycott of British government representatives, the Brits have appointed Conservative MP Brian Mahwinney, an ardent unionist, as under-secretary to Tom King. This move was obviously designed to appease unionists and make it easier for them to start talking with British ministers.

But as soon as the vote was counted, unionist leaders repeated their intention to keep boycotting British officials and abstaining from local government. A meeting with Thatcher has been sought in which unionist leaders will presumably ask her once again to shelve the London-Dublin agreement given the strength of opposition to it from "the people of Ulster".

There is, however, a widespread feeling among unionists that Thatcher is unlikely to be moved. And fears that this will happen are contributing towards a possible split or at least tensions within the hitherto united unionist camp. It started with the interpretation of the unionist vote. Last Friday, the OUP deputy-leader, Harold McCusker, called it "a mandate to withdraw the consent of our people to be governed". McCusker said he would continue his campaign outside Westminster. Democratic Unionist MPs agreed with McCusker. Meanwhile, another Official Unionist MP, John Tay-

lor, declared that a "boycott of Westminster would be breaking the trust of the electorate".

So tensions are, for the moment, confined to the OUP, in which devolutionists like McCusker wish to opt out of Westminster and integrationists like Enoch Powell want to take their seats.

By Tuesday, January 28th, the cracks had been papered over as the 14 unionist MPs went into Westminster to take their oath of allegiance to the British queen. In a statement, they announced that their campaign was continuing and that they would withdraw from parliamentary work as they saw fit, a formula which gets them all off the hook.

PRESSURE

But pressure for unionist MPs to withdraw from Westminster and take to the streets is likely to increase in the months to come as the Ulster Clubs network, launched last November, takes a more strident role in the unionist campaign. The Ulster Clubs, which were originally an initiative by the UDA and DUP to counter the re-routing of Orange parades in Portadown, plan to become for this unionist campaign what the Ulster Workers Council was for the 1974 loyalist stoppage.

The British are meanwhile hoping that they will be able — with Mahwinney's help perhaps — to convince unionists that the London-Dublin agreement is in their best interest, and that, as Thatcher pointed out in December to them, the best way to get rid of the Inter-Governmental Conference is to agree to some devolved government with some powers for the SDLP.

Which powers the unionists are exactly prepared to give them will undoubtedly be the subject of much horse-trading, as the SDLP cannot afford to go back into Stormont without some crumbs to show for it.

Clever packaging sells SDLP

LAST WEEK'S by-election results were not good for Sinn Féin given the 18,231 drop in votes in the four constituencies where the party stood candidates. And the 11,371 increase in the SDLP vote in the same four constituencies is evidence that the post-Hillsborough packaging of the SDLP, backed by limitless financial resources and media backing, worked on this occasion.

There was also the influence of the 1983 general election figures which in Newry/Armagh and South Down showed that the SDLP were within a few thousand votes of surpassing the combined unionist vote. In both these constituencies, nationalist voters seem to have voted tactically, opting for the nationalist candidate who was within striking distance of securing a seat.

In Mid-Ulster and Fermanagh/South Tyrone on the other hand, the combined unionist vote in 1983 was seven or eight thousand ahead of Sinn Féin. Given the enormous gap which would have to be filled to unseat the single unionist candidate, and given the drop in voter participation, there is strong evidence that many nationalists stayed at home on polling day.

While some Sinn Féin voters did opt for the SDLP this time, and while others stayed away for a variety of reasons, the claim by SDLP candidates that there had been a substantial switch in allegiance is not borne out by the figures.

somewhere. In June 1983, the SDLP was in a political cul-de-sac, while this time it claimed the kudos for the Dublin Forum and the Hillsborough deal.

NEWRY/ARMAGH

In Newry/Armagh, the only one of the four constituencies where participation was up, unionists obtained an extra 1,123 votes. The Sinn Féin vote dropped by 3,319 and the SDLP vote increased by 6,260, which suggests that the SDLP managed both to tap former non-voters and to convince some Sinn Féin supporters to vote Mallon.

Mallon was the most likely of all the SDLP candidates to appeal to Sinn Féin voters anyway because of his public statements on the RUC, the UDR and the courts. The SDLP campaign also included attacks on Nicholson, pointing out his abysmal lack of constituency work.

Considering all the factors which Mallon had in his favour — the Hillsborough hype, a winnable seat, the funds and media coverage lavished on the SDLP, Mallon's 'nationalist' image, and a unionist opponent who had done no work in three years — one wonders why his victory was not even more decisive, or why the Sinn Féin vote did not decrease further. That it did not reflects credit on the hard work carried out by Sinn Féin candidate, Jim McAllister and his election team in the area.

FERMANAGH/SOUTH TYRONE

Participation in Fermanagh/South Tyrone dropped by a dramatic 7.7%. Ex-UDR major Ken Maginnis of the OUP got his vote out and that was sufficient for him to win the seat. The nationalist share of the vote dropped by 2.6% on 1983. Within that the SDLP's increased by 5% while Sinn Féin's dropped by 7.6%. It is difficult to say whether there was vote-switching or if the SDLP got dormant SDLP voters out on the day. But what is certain is that a significant section of the Sinn Féin vote stayed at home.

MID-ULSTER

Participation dropped by 6.7%. The DUP candidate, the arch-bog, Rev William McCrea, managed to get the combined unionist vote, which suggests that nationalist participation was down. The SDLP benefitted from Alliance votes since Alliance decided not to stand in Mid-Ulster. In spite of that and an increased register, the SDLP candidate, Adrian Colton, polled less than the combined SDLP-Alliance vote of 1983. The Sinn Féin vote dropped by 2,098 votes (2.7%). It is fair to assume that those former Sinn Féin voters stayed at home last Thursday.

SOUTH DOWN

In South Down, participat-

ion was down by 2.5%, the unionist share of the vote remained the same, and allowed Official Unionist Enoch Powell to retain his seat. The SDLP increased its share of the vote by 5.7% while Sinn Féin dropped by 2.2%. The difference comes partly from Alliance voters — since Alliance was not standing in South Down this time — partly from dormant SDLP voters or Sinn Féin voters opting for a possible winner against the unionists.

An analysis of the results must take into account the circumstances of the election, which were in the SDLP's favour. Two months after the Hillsborough agreement, the SDLP still benefited from the promises of concessions to nationalists which were made then. The agreement has not yet been shown clearly for what it is — an attempt to curb republican resistance and stabilise the North with Dublin's collaboration.

Nationalist voters were therefore understandably confused on the whole issue and especially so given the hysterical unionist reaction to Hillsborough.

While questions arise about the Sinn Féin performance and the various factors influencing that performance, this is a recognition that Sinn Féin workers were competing against the massive resources poured by the establishment into the SDLP campaign. Those resources in-

cluded the contribution of the 'agan government via the National Democratic Institute which has funded an SDLP office in Belfast and provided training in electoreering and organisation.

CONCESSIONS

The election results were predictably welcomed by London and Dublin as signs of a decrease in support for Sinn Féin. Indeed, Coalition premier Garrett FitzGerald went further and saw in the results "a decrease in support for the IRA". The danger in such statements, and the SDLP is aware of this, is that any suggestion that support for republicanism is on the decline will ease the pressure on Britain to introduce concessions. Already there are signs that Britain is determined to woo unionist support for the agreement and that it expects the SDLP to lend a helping hand.

As the election results were coming in, Northern direct-ruler Tom King was already making such demands of the SDLP. Full support for the RUC and talks to agree upon devolved structures with unionists (in other words, the Assembly) are already being demanded from the SDLP. Demands such as these are likely to grow as the SDLP increasingly plays its part in serving the interests of British rule in Ireland.

BY DONAL LYONS

NEARLY 10,000 workers took to the streets of Dublin on Tuesday, January 28th, in an eve of Budget demonstration called by the ITGWU. The march had Congress support and unions including the FWUI, ATGWU, TASS, NUJ, INPDU, IPU, DCTU, UCATT, PTWU took part. Other organisations supporting the demonstration were Sinn Féin, the Union of Students in Ireland, the National Association of Tenants Organisations and a group of strikers from VEHA Ltd in Wicklow. Workers travelled from as far away as Donegal, Dundalk and Midleton in County Cork to participate.

The twin themes of the march were unemployment and taxation and the most commonly-seen placard on the parade proclaimed "Tax the greedy, not the needy."

A major row broke out after the demonstration between Labour leader Dick Spring and the ITGWU president, John Carroll, over the arrangements for the reception of the pre-Budget letter from the trade union movement at Leinster House. Carroll described the failure of Spring to receive the delegation as "an insult to the trade union movement."

The letter itself called for "an end to the scourge of mass unemployment, reform of the taxation system, and an assurance that social welfare payments, which now sustain one-third of the twenty-six-county population, at least keep pace with the rate of inflation."

A lone picket has been placed on the North Earl Street branch of Guiney's in Dublin by IDATU member Dermot Flanagan.

Flanagan, who has worked in the store since 1979, was arbitrarily sacked by the managing director, Michael Guiney, for making a non-cash till error with a credit note on Friday, January 24th. When a union official, Brendan Archbold, went to negotiate with the company, he was told by Guiney, "I don't like union interference in my business," and, "I admire Ben Dunne," a clear reference to the IDATU anti-apartheid strikers and their marathon dispute. Guiney ended his 'negotiations' by regally telling Archbold, "You may go now."

This management attitude came as no surprise to Flanagan who tells us that when workers returned after the Christmas holidays they were greeted with a memo to the effect that, "It will no longer be company policy to pay sick leave." Flanagan and his union, the IDATU, are determined that Guiney will not be allowed to intimidate the union out of the store and have now applied to Congress for all-out picket sanction, which is sure to be granted.

The lone picket is having a noticeable effect on the business of the store but would obviously be more effective if more people joined the picket line, so if you can spare an hour go along there.

The workers who occupied McNaughton Steel in Dublin's East Wall have vacated the premises on foot of an agreement reached in the High Court with the company. The agreement says that "if the employees vacate the premises, the company will not attempt to move stock from the factory."

Although the occupation is over, picketing is continuing and the MPGWI's Michael Corcoran tells us that McNaughton's managing director, George Armstrong, is attempting to divide the workforce from their shop-steward by summoning the steward in for an interview over an alleged incident on the picket-line. The MPGWI have made it clear to Armstrong that this is a trade dispute and all meetings and negotiations must go through the proper channels.

Tentative moves are being made in the Labour Court for an arbitration meeting but no firm date has been set.

Paddy Kennedy, the painter at the

Workers on the march



● The 'Eve of Budget' protest march in Dublin on Tuesday had a clear message for the Labour/Fine Gael government — the message fell on deaf ears

centre of the compulsory redundancy dispute at Dublin's Iveagh Hostel for homeless people, has withdrawn from the picket-line.

His reasons for withdrawing are that he views the dispute as a contrived confrontation engineered by management to close down the centre. This is borne out by the fact that the management committee of the hostel has consistently refused to carry out essential maintenance on the building. Only three months ago, the hostel (which is owned by the extremely wealthy Guinness family) turned down an offer from the state to pay labour costs for refurbishments on the grounds they "couldn't afford the paint".

Kennedy had 100% support from the other workers in the hostel and when all-out pickets were placed on Wednesday, January 29th, no one passed the picket-line. Kennedy had ten years' service but will only receive statutory entitlements.

VEHA Ltd, the Dutch-owned radiator firm in County Wicklow, is still strike-bound after seven months. The dispute started on Monday, June 24th 1985, when management attempted to sack Donal Dunne, the workers' shop-steward who has 19 years' service with the firm.

Dunne, in an interview with AP/RN, said that despite Labour Court talks and repeated negotiations the company's managing-director, Joe Van Der Flier, is refusing to adopt a realistic attitude. Dunne is convinced that Der Flier deliberately provoked the dispute in an attempt to "break the union once and for all". Der Flier is also on record as saying, "If I don't get my way Wicklow will suffer."

Altogether there are 120 workers on strike and Dunne says that everyone is "holding firm and won't go back until a satisfactory agreement is reached".

Telecom Eireann have closed the

telephone exchange in Carrick-on-Shannon with the loss of 58 full-time and 30 part-time staff. The loss of these 88 jobs in the Carrick area comes as a major blow to County Leitrim which has very little industrial employment and relies on state or semi-state bodies for employment.

Construction workers from the ESB Moneypoint power station staged a 24-hour stoppage and a protest outside Leinster House on Wednesday, January 29th. Their demand is that "the government brings legislation before Leinster House that will give workers in the construction industry the same cover that other workers employed in other industries have under the Safety & Industry Act".

A workers' spokesperson, Pat Guilfoyle, told AP/RN that this action has been forced on workers because of the high number of accidents on the site — 9,869 since work began in 1979. Included in the number are three fatalities, 36 serious accidents that warranted hospitalisation, and 65 accidents involving broken bones.

A statement from the shop-stewards' committee said, "If workers in any other industry had to work in an environment that produced as many accidents as the construction industry, there would be a public outcry."

In typically arrogant fashion, ESB management issued a statement saying that Moneypoint had "a good safety record".

Memorex of Clondalkin, Dublin, is laying off 87 of its 380-strong workforce, despite an announcement last August by the twenty-six-county industry minister John Bruton, that the IDA was financing a £14 million expansion programme at Memorex.

The two unions involved, the AUEW and the ITGWU, have taken different stands on the issue. The AUEW has imposed an overtime ban while the ITGWU has said it will not take any action until it meets with management.



● Dermot Flanagan, arbitrarily sacked after seven years' service, pickets Guiney's store in Dublin's North Earl Street with IDATU rep Brendan Archbold

UDR murder-bid in Tyrone

TWO YOUNG MEN were wounded and two others narrowly escaped serious injury when a UDR patrol fired four shots, without warning, into the back of a car in County Tyrone on Monday evening, January 27th.

At about 8.15pm, a large UDR patrol took up positions around the Kildress Inn, five miles outside Cookstown, on the Omagh road. The bar's customers are mostly nationalists.

A barman, Joey Wilson, was verbally abused by UDR soldiers and thrown up against an iron gate when he went out to the carpark while another UDR man blocked the entrance back into the bar. The Kildress Inn's manager, Arthur Keenan, told AP/RN: "I went to the door and saw about half a dozen UDR men in the front carpark. I asked them to leave and stop hassling the customers and staff."

LEFT THE PUB

About half an hour later, Arthur Keenan left the pub with Wilson's two brothers, Dessie and Noel, and Kevin Brennan. Dessie Wilson described the events that followed:

"Kevin, Noel and Arthur headed towards Arthur's car and I joined them as Kevin was getting a lift home. In the rear carpark I

saw six or seven UDR men spread around the place. Arthur always drives around the back of the pub just to check the place and I suppose out of habit, so there was nothing unusual.

"We turned toward the Cookstown Road and then I heard shooting. Kevin and I were in the back and we crouched down. Another shot rang out and Noel shouted, 'I've been hit! I've been hit!'

"Arthur drove to the front of the bar for help and we jumped out. A UDR man ran over, pointed a rifle at my head and said, 'Don't fucking move.' I said, 'There's a man shot there'. He said, 'It doesn't matter. Don't you move.'"

Within a very short time an RUC patrol arrived. Arthur Keenan continued:

"I said to the police, 'Take



● Arthur Keenan (left) and Dessie Wilson, who were lucky to escape injury in the murderous UDR attack in which Dessie's brother Noel and Kevin Brennan were wounded

those madmen out of the carpark. They're crazy.' An RUC man turned around and said to me, 'See you, I'd love to put a bullet through your head.'"

Kevin Brennan, who was in the back of the car with Dessie Wil-

son, was shot in the arm and Noel Wilson, who had turned round to talk to the back seat passengers, was shot in the chest, the bullet tearing part of his lung and leaving a large exit wound in the back. The two men were rushed to the

Mid-Ulster Hospital in Magherafelt. Noel Wilson, who was the most seriously injured, was taken to the intensive care ward.

RUC STATEMENT

Immediately after the incident, the RUC issued a statement claiming that the shooting had occurred at a checkpoint, implying that the car had been driven in a suspicious manner or in a way that endangered the patrol.

The Sinn Féin elected representative for Mid-Ulster, Danny Morrison, accused the RUC of issuing the UDR's lies for them, but said that if they were merely repeating what the UDR had told them then the whole patrol was guilty of involvement in a cover-up of the shooting. "even though it might be politically expedient for the DPP to only charge the particular individual who fired the shots".

Danny Morrison also criticised the SDLP's call for an inquiry and said that "inquiries will not end such shootings. It's the disarming and disbandment of the RUC and UDR which is required, not the attempted reforming of the state which would still leave sectarian power within the groups of loyalists".

BY NUALA DOHERTY

SINN FEIN elected representative Danny Morrison has called for the immediate release of an election worker, Paddy Devlin, who was arrested from his home in Castle-derg under Section 11 of the Emergency Provisions Act at 6.30am on Wednesday, January 29th, and taken to Strand Road Barracks in Derry.

Paddy Devlin, a father of eight in his mid-40s, suffers from a severe physical disability, for which he requires regular medication. He was due to travel to Bel-

Disabled man arrested

fast on the morning of his arrest for an appointment with a specialist at the Royal Victoria Hospital. In fact, half an hour after he was arrested, an ambulance

arrived at his home to take him to the hospital.

Devlin was involved in election work for Sinn Féin in the run-up to the recent

Westminster by-elections in the Mid-Ulster constituency. He was a passenger in a car stopped and searched by the RUC during the election when the RUC seized 1,500 addressed election envelopes. Since then he has been continually harassed by crown forces and his home was among those raided by the RUC in the Castle-derg area on the day following the election, Friday, January 24th.

Sinn Féin's councillor for the area, Charlie McHugh, condemned the arrest and said, "this arrest is typical of the callous tactics used by the RUC in their dealings with nationalists in the Castle-derg area."

Fainne success

FIVE H-BLOCK prisoners have recently won the Irish speakers' badge, an *Fainne*, in exams organised by their fellow-prisoners.

An *Fainne* is banned in all six-county prisons in line with the complete ban on Irish publications, letters and Gaelic games imposed within all prisons by the Northern Ireland Office.

Gerard Hodgins of Belfast was awarded the gold *Fainne* while Breandan O Dochartaigh, Derry, John Bradley, Sean Murray and Paddy Burnside, all from Belfast, obtained the beginners' badge, an *Fainne* daite.

The names of the successful Irish learners have been passed on to the governing body of an *Fainne*, Comhchoiste an tSuaithneais by the Sinn Féin cultural department.

The department has also asked the Comhchoiste to consider a proposal for a special badge for prisoners in an attempt to overcome the NIO ban.

UDA 'heavies' in council attack

IN A WELL-PLANNED assault, involving over two dozen UDA men, five Sinn Féin members were attacked inside Lisburn Council's Hillsborough offices on Tuesday night, January 28th.

The Sinn Féin group had arrived at the council offices at 7.10pm. The two Sinn Féin councillors, Damien Gibney and Pat Rice, went into the chamber but none of the five remaining Sinn Féin people was allowed entry as the public gallery was packed with over two dozen UDA 'heavies', many of whom were wearing combat gear. The RUC, who are normally present in the

foyer and upper hall of the offices, were noticeably absent.

Within two minutes, the council meeting was adjourned and the UDA members in the public gallery rushed down the stairs and immediately attacked the small Sinn Féin contingent, using fists, boots and belt buckles.

HOSPITAL TREATMENT

Two of the Sinn Féin men

needed hospital treatment. David Donnelly was struck so heavily on the forehead that doctors suspected a fractured skull. Richard McAuley suffered bruising to the head, back and ribs, and slight cuts to the head.

In a statement later that night, Richard McAuley accused council officials, unionist councillors and the RUC of "collusion" in the attack:

"Normally, no more than eight chairs are made available in the public gallery and no standing is allowed. But, significantly, last night over two dozen were pro-



● RICHARD McAULEY

vided for the uniformed UDA men and people were allowed to stand, which is also contrary to normal procedure. This allowed the UDA to mass together for the attack.

"However, if loyalist councillors hoped that this sort of action might prevent Sinn Féin from attending council meetings, they are mistaken. We will not be intimidated."



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Donegal arrests

GARDAI in Donegal stepped up their harassment of Sinn Féin members and supporters in the county last week. In Irishowen, ten people were arrested and detained for periods of up to 32 hours.

One of the ten, Hugh Wilkinson, was arrested under Section 30 of the Offences Against the State Act on Tuesday evening, January 21st. He was held for 24 hours, released and then re-arrested on Thursday and detained for a further 32 hours. As a result, he lost three days' work and pay.

Wilkinson told *AP/RN* that after their arrests the men were held in "filthy and flooded cells", having first had their outer clothing and shoes removed.

UZIS

Another of those arrested, Seamas Mahon, said that when the Special Branch stopped his car they were carrying Uzi sub-machine-guns which they cocked and pointed into the car. As with the other men who were detained, he was denied access to a solicitor. None of the ten men was offered any explanation for his detention or questioned while in custody.

Condemning the harassment, Buncrana Sinn Féin said that "one can only conclude from the facts that the arrests were purely political and intimidatory. As Republicans, we say to the relevant authorities that we will not be intimidated off the streets".



Corporation reneges

TENANTS from Fatima Mansions, Dublin, staged a picket of Marrowbone Lane Corporation Maintenance Depot on Tuesday against deteriorating conditions in the flats.

Protests last year won an undertaking from Dublin Corporation in December that one of the blocks of flats (N-Block) would be demolished, maintenance would be carried out in the remaining blocks, and further flat allocations would be suspended pending completion of the work. The Corporation agreed that repair work should commence on January 1st but, four weeks later, there's still no sign of any maintenance crews in the flats.

As one protestor said, "It's typical of the Corp's attitude to Fatima all along — they let the flats fall into disrepair and then they don't want to do anything about it."

TORTHAI CRANNCHUR

An Cumannacht, Hemel Hempstead, raffie:
Long Kesh Wallet: Mick O'Donnell, Gade Crescent; Turkey: Teresa McManus, Pulley's Lane; Bottle of Whiskey: unclaimed (white ticket No. 128).

Buncrana Sinn Féin December lottery:

Card 6, No. 1: £25; Card 7, No. 1: £25; Card 13, No. 1: £100; Card 16, No. 1: £25; Card 1, No. 2: £25.

Draw: Sinn Féin Weekly Draw: W/E January 28th: Brendan Corr, Dermot Hill Road.

Councillors face jail

TWO Sinn Féin councillors — one in Dublin, the other in Kerry — have reaffirmed their intention to go to jail, if necessary, rather than betray the interests of their constituents.

On Saturday morning, January 25th, as they arrested Independent Deputy Tony Gregory for non-payment of a fine and refusing to be bound to the peace in connection with a street-traders' protest last March, gardai went to Sinn Féin Councillor Christy Burke's home to arrest him but he was in hospital at the time.

Christy Burke interrupted his hospital treatment to attend Dublin City Council's Monday night meeting and proposed a motion calling for the release of Tony Gregory. The motion was unanimously passed but the Minister for Justice, Michael Noonan, refused to release Gregory for the Budget debate in Leinster House on Wednesday unless he signed the bond.

Speaking from hospital earlier this week, Burke told *AP/RN* that there is no way he will be signing any bond which would prevent him from "taking part in direct action along



● Street-traders and North Inner City residents picket Mountjoy Jail following the imprisonment of Tony Gregory

side the people of the North Inner City to defend their livelihoods and living standards".

KERRY

Donal Kelliher, a Sinn Féin member of Listowel Urban District Council, has pledged that he will go to jail in defiance of the water rates tax.

Kelliher recently lost an

appeal against water rates at Listowel Circuit Court, but the 32-year-old electrician is prepared to face jail and the possible loss of his job in defence of Sinn Féin's stand against the charges:

"I'm prepared to stand by what I said before the local elections — that I would not pay these charges as Sinn Féin is

totally against them.

"I feel that, having given an undertaking to the people of Listowel, I can't go back on it and I will stick to the pledges made in my election manifesto."

Donal Kelliher has called on other local councillors who have voiced opposition to water rates to support him in his stand.

Loan-sharks condemned

A FIRM which was recently exposed for its moneylending activities has started to expand its operations to working-class estates in North Monaghan, a local Sinn Féin councillor, Owen Smyth, has warned.

Jordan Estates, one of the companies which featured in a recent *Today Tonight* expose on moneylending, is operating a door-to-door sales service with a difference in Monaghan town and the village of Smithborough. Selling vacuum cleaners and other goods on a weekly repayment basis, the 'salespersons' return

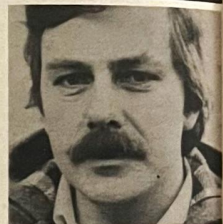
a week later and produce a document which changes the nature of the sale from hire-purchase to repayment on a loan.

Each week a repayment is demanded on the 'loan' and default on payment adds a penalty of £1.50 to the weekly charge. According to Councillor Smyth, the 'salespeople' might not visit

houses for three weeks or more and thereby allow the repayments to build up. Should they then prove unable to meet the larger repayment, victims can be pressurised into taking a further loan to meet the original debt.

INSIDIOUS

Condemning the "insidious nature" of this type of operation, Councillor Smyth points out that it is confined to working-class areas and therefore preys on the



● OWEN SMYTH

victims of unemployment and social deprivation. Warning people to be on their guard, he adds:

"We don't want these loan-sharks coming into Monaghan after the misery they have caused in other areas."

BY MAIRIN Mac DIARMADA

DELAYS of up to two years in carrying out major repairs and renovation have forced Corporation tenants in Dublin's Charlemont Street area to stage a rent-strike.

The strike began on Monday, January 27th, when tenants in the flats in Ffrench Mullen House, Tom Kelly Road, Charlemont Gardens and other members of the Charlemont Community Association refused to pay their rent and picketed the local rent office. Almost all the 300 families in the area have joined the strike.

Of the three flats complexes, Ffrench Mullen is the oldest and most in need of repair. The majority of the windows in the block are rotten. Two flats have broken windows; one tenant has been waiting for them to be repaired for two years, another for a year. The Corporation 'fixed' the windows temporarily with sheets of plastic after the original complaints were made.

REEKING

The Ffrench Mullen Flats are all reeking of dampness which is aggravated by the rotten and leaking windows. Tenants in the Charlemont Gardens and Tom Kelly Road have similar complaints with no action coming from the Corporation.

Billy McVeigh, a tenant in Charlemont Gardens and committee member of Charlemont Community Association, told *AP/RN* that their campaign will be stepped up if there is no action soon.

Charlemont rent-strike



LIVINGSTONE VISITS DERRY

BY KEVIN McCOLL

AT THE INVITATION of Derry Sinn Féin, Ken Livingstone, leader of the Greater London Council, made a weekend visit to the city before speaking at the annual Bloody Sunday rally on Sunday, January 26th. It was Livingstone's second visit to the six counties (his first to Derry) and the recently-endorsed Labour candidate for Brent East had his first taste of British rule in the North early on in this particular visit when he was held on Saturday, January 25th, for almost an hour at a British army checkpoint at Burntollet Bridge.

As soon as he arrived in the city, Livingstone embarked on a walkabout tour of the Bogside and a very crowded Derry city centre with Sinn Féin elected representatives Martin McGuinness and Mitchel McLaughlin. Displaying considerable knowledge of Derry already, the Labour Party councillor discussed some of the many social problems facing Derry with shoppers and local people. He showed a keen interest in the plight of the residents of the Rossville Street Flats when he was shown around the complex. The tour of the city over, Livingstone then met several members of Derry Trades Council.

COMMUNITY FORUM

On Saturday night, Livingstone attended a local 'comm-



● Ken Livingstone 'goes walkabout' in Derry's Shipquay Street with Sinn Féin's Mitchel McLaughlin and Martin McGuinness

unity forum', held in the Creggan Community Centre. The title of the debate was *The Road from Bloody Sunday* and speakers were Paddy Logue (Sinn Féin), Bob Doyle (a former member of the IRA in the 1930s who fought with the International Brigade in the Spanish Civil War) and Ken Livingstone.

Ken Livingstone described the significance of Bloody Sunday in the ending of his misconceived ideas about the role of the British army in Ireland and its

impact on public opinion in Britain. Livingstone pointed out that all Irish nationalists should be well aware of what he called "the incredible shift of public opinion in Britain over the last 15 years, especially since Bloody Sunday... for there hasn't been an opinion poll in Britain in the last half a decade that hasn't shown the majority of British people in favour of withdrawal".

CEMETERY

Early on Sunday morning, the day of the commemorat-

ion, the GLC leader visited Creggan Cemetery and saw for himself the graves of the Bloody Sunday victims. Before the march got underway, Livingstone paid a short visit to Betty Anderson, mother of Martina Anderson, the Derry woman incarcerated along with Ella O'Dwyer in Brixton Prison. Livingstone has repeatedly criticised the brutal regime of strip-searching in the jail and has also applied for a formal visit to the two women.

Before he left, Livingstone

took part in an interview with Sinn Féin members (one of them the son of Bloody Sunday victim Paddy Doherty), which will appear in the next issue of *Iris*.

The success of the visit can be measured by the reception Livingstone received. Everywhere he went the Labour councillor was instantly recognised. Derry people were greatly impressed by Livingstone's intimate knowledge of Irish history and his optimistic attitude towards British withdrawal.

Councils fight apartheid

WHILE loyalist councils in the six counties continue in self-imposed suspension, Sinn Féin intervention in other councils this week resulted in several progressive measures being passed.

Strabane Council has declared itself an 'apartheid-free' zone after nationalist councillors supported a proposal from Sinn Féin Councillors Ivan Barr and Charlie McHugh.

The successful Sinn Féin motion, which was agreed by the council on Tuesday, January 28th, instructs the council to campaign locally against the purchase of South African goods, to display anti-apartheid posters in all council buildings and encourage schools etc to do likewise, to set up an anti-apartheid working party to circulate these proposals to all councils in Ireland. The council also agreed to apply for affiliation to the Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement.

DERRY

Derry City Council, the first council in the six counties to declare itself an apartheid-free zone, is to hold a special meeting shortly to discuss a Sinn Féin proposal that African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela be given the freedom of the city.

At Tuesday night's meeting, Sinn Féin Councillor Dodie McGuinness introduced a motion, seconded by Gerry Doherty, to have a plaque erected in the Guildhall to commemorate the 14 victims of Bloody Sunday.



● DODIE MCGUINNESS

A similar motion was introduced over a year ago by the IIP but was immediately amended by the SDLP so that the plaque would instead read: "In memory of all the innocent victims of the Troubles." However, no such memorial was ever erected and the Derry Sinn Féin councillors accused the SDLP-dominated council of dragging its heels on this matter.

On Tuesday night, the SDLP again voted against the Bloody Sunday motion and again introduced the same amendment. However, it was finally agreed that a stained-glass pane would be produced bearing the names of the Bloody Sunday victims inscribed upon it, decorated with artwork depicting the death of innocent people.

The five Sinn Féin councillors have described the decision as a substantial victory. Dodie McGuinness told *AP/RN*:

"What we wanted was some form of official recognition within the Guildhall that Derry people were murdered on their own streets on Bloody Sunday, and this is in fact what we achieved."

She welcomed the council's decision to hold a nationwide competition for the design and production of the stained-glass pane.

MAGHERAFELT

The Union flag will no longer fly over council buildings in South Derry following Monday night's meeting of Magherafelt District Council.

Sinn Féin councillors had proposed that, in future, the British flag be replaced by the Tricolour. Sinn Féin's intention, since the council area is predominantly nationalist, was to put to the test establishment 'promises' that nationalist interests would be recognised under the Thatcher-FitzGerald accord.

Had the motion been passed, the RUC would have had to decide whether to take action to remove the Tricolour.

In any event, they were let off the hook by the SDLP, who voted down Sinn Féin's proposal. Sinn Féin later supported an SDLP amendment to replace the Union flag with a flag bearing the council's coat of arms.



● (Above) Exchanging a few words with passers-by; (below) Ken Livingstone and Sinn Féin organiser Gerry McCartney visit the graves of Bloody Sunday victims in Creggan Cemetery. In the background is the Republican Plot



BLOODY SUNDAY COMMEMORATION

'Britain has no legitimacy in Ireland'

BY JANE PLUNKETT

IN A DETERMINED and unflinching example of resistance to Britain's colonial occupation, and defying a heavy and intimidatory Brit/RUC presence along the route, a huge crowd of at least 5,000 took to the streets in Derry at the weekend to commemorate the 14th anniversary of Bloody Sunday.

Several hours before the march got underway on Sunday afternoon, people from many parts of Ireland, from Britain and even the USA began to assemble at Creggan shops.

The RUC/British army presence in the city, with scores of landrovers, was unprecedented for a Bloody Sunday commemoration. Everyone knew that already plastic bullets had been fired at local youths. Undeterred, however, pensioners, men and women, mothers with pushchairs, whole families were there, skinheads, TV crews and members of the British Troops Out Movement. A few marchers were on crutches, or wheelchair-bound, and there was even a youthful BMX contingent.

When the march finally got underway, at 3pm, it was led by a man carrying a Tricolour, followed as usual by relatives carrying 14 wreaths in memory of the 14 people shot dead by British paratroopers on January 30th 1972.

A group of small children followed, carrying black flags, and behind came numerous colourful bands, led by the Lurgan-based Young Ireland Flute Band (one of several whose bus was stoned by loyalists on the route home). There were splendid banners from many parts of Ireland, from the British-based Wolfe Tone Society and other groups.

One large new banner bore the words "Support repatriation for Irish POWs in English jails" and the well-organised contingent from the campaign carried placards urging everyone to actively support the

prisoners' demands.

'ILLEGAL'

As the marchers followed the winding route taken by the original protest through the windswept Creggan, down through the Brandywell and Bogside, hundreds more waiting people joined it. At junctions, for the first time that anyone could remember, RUC landrovers bore large printed placards declaring the march "illegal".

They were ignored. No one bothered to point out that British laws have no legitimacy in Ireland: sure, everyone knows that.

In the grim shadow of Rossville Flats, the marchers made their traditional brief pause as relatives of the 14 men murdered by British paratroopers laid wreaths at the Bloody Sunday memorial.

Men, women and children then proceeded the short distance to Free Derry Corner, with its defiant message, "You are now entering Free Derry," brightly painted.

There, the customary rally was chaired by Tony Doherty of Derry Sinn Féin. Tony, a former blanketman, was just ten years old on Bloody Sunday when his father, Paddy Doherty, was ruthlessly murdered. Fourteen years later, Tony's presence on this platform was a reminder of the continuity of this latest period of nationalist resistance. It was a sign, as one speaker remarked, "that the British can never win their war in this country".

Overhead at low level, a Brit-

ish helicopter fitted with surveillance equipment hovered, but failed to drown out the proceedings.

INTERNATIONAL BRIGADE VETERAN

Significantly enough, the first speaker introduced by Tony Doherty was Bob Doyle, the only Irish member of the chief executive of the International Brigade Association, a veteran of the Spanish Civil War who fought alongside Frank Ryan. Doyle began by reminding the crowd of an earlier Bloody Sunday, at Croke Park, Dublin, on November 21st 1920, when Black and Tans machine-gunned football players and spectators, killing 12 and wounding at least 60.

Both that horror and Derry's Bloody Sunday, said Doyle, were "the cruel act of the aggressor", and he described the day's huge crowd as "living testimony that imperialism shall be removed from Ireland by the united efforts of the peoples North and South of the border".

The next speaker, local woman Noleen Anderson, read out a message from her sister Martina, who is incarcerated on remand in Brixton Jail, London, and who sent solidarity greetings on behalf of all Irish prisoners of war in British jails. In her letter, Martina Anderson compared Britain's attempt to undermine nationalist resistance on Bloody Sunday with the strip-searching imposed on herself and Ella O'Dwyer in Brixton, which is inflicted, she said, "as often as three times daily, with a record of two strip-searches in six minutes".

Anderson firmly rebutted the authorities' excuse that strip-searching is needed on "security" grounds. "We're constantly watched by cameras, dogs and warders," she pointed out. "Each strip-search is a sick and obscene attempt to crush our morale."

LIVINGSTONE

The crowd gave a particularly warm welcome to the next speaker, Greater London Council leader Ken Livingstone, who had spent

● Jim McAllister addresses the rally as Martin McGuinness and Ken Livingstone look on a busy fact-finding weekend in Derry.

Saying he was "proud" to be present on the march, Livingstone began by apologising "on behalf of the decent ordinary members" of the British Labour Party for the regime of "thuggery, murder and torture" that continued in the six counties under Labour direct-ruler Roy Mason. It was, he said, "a

mark of shame on the British Labour Party we'll never expunge". Livingstone continued: "A Labour government that is not committed to withdrawal from Ireland is a Labour government that will be mentally drawn into supporting all the apparatus of repression that has become a feature of life here... No socialist party can impose repression on



● Relatives of the Bloody Sunday victims lead the commemoration

Loyalists stoned

AT LEAST six people were treated in hospital after buses returning from the Bloody Sunday march were stoned by loyalists at Drumahoe, just outside Derry.

Buses from Belfast, Dungiven, Lurgan and Toome were attacked, most of which contained school-children belonging to bands which played at the commemoration. Windows in several buses were broken by stones, bottles and bricks, and passengers were showered with broken glass.

A 14-year-old girl, Mary McErlan, a member of the Roddy McCorley Band, Toomebridge, required stitches after her head was seriously lashed by a brick. A 15-year-old girl in the band suffered an epileptic fit. Six people were treated in the Mid-Ulster Hospital, Magherafelt, and several others suf-

ered minor injuries. Afterwards, the RUC unsuccessfully attempted to cover up its own sectarian role in the incident and the fact that they made no effort to stop the attacks. In a statement, they cynically claimed that they were unable to provide "normal" protection because they had not been informed of buses' routes.

This was swiftly contradicted by organisers of the Young Ireland Flute Band from Lurgan, who had informed their local RUC and were able to produce a confirming letter from them. Furthermore, the attacks took place over a half-hour period, and though the RUC and British army had been



another nation and hope to achieve social progress in its own country.

In Britain, media lies and distortion had led to "widespread ignorance" about Ireland but even so, Livingstone said, the British people recognise that "Ireland is your nation, not theirs".

"When you hear British politicians justifying our continued re-



ne buses

a roadblock throughout the day at Burntollet Bridge, only a few miles from Drumahoe, and were informed by crash staff of the first incident immediately, the RUC made no attempt to prevent further sectarian attacks.

ARREST

In a separate incident, Magherafelt Sinn Féin Councillor Lughaidh Mac Giolla Bhrighde was arrested by the RUC in the Waterside area of the city while making his way to Sunday's march. He was released after half an hour. Also on the way to the march, a coach from Newry was delayed both in Newry and Armagh, for over 90 minutes altogether, by the RUC, who aggressively questioned and searched young band members and threatened to illegally arrest a teenage girl unless she would tell them the name of her school.



● A small section of Sunday's crowd

tion of the North, you know they do not speak for the British people. Every opinion poll held for ten years has shown a majority of 2 to 1 in favour of withdrawal.

"I have no doubt whatsoever that we will see a free and united Ireland in the near future, in my lifetime and in yours... But every day that we delay sees more deaths."

People who thought that if Britain "stays in Ireland a little longer we can find the solution after 800 years" are "completely misguided", Livingstone added, and he described the London-Dublin agreement as "another gimmick in

a line of gimmicks which has gone on over a decade".

Many people had been confused by the millions of pounds worth of free publicity on TV, he said, but he predicted that people "will be more disillusioned, more prepared to support real change, when they see with the passage of months that nothing can change because of the accord". The only solution, he said, "is for Britain to get out and stop causing the problem".

"I look forward to the day when I can come back from a socialist Britain to a free, united and socialist Ireland and see that we have given the reality to the words of

Thomas Davis: 'A nation once again', he concluded, amid loud, exuberant cheers and applause.

VERY LITTLE HAS CHANGED

The final speaker was Jim McAllister, a Sinn Féin member of Newry & Mourne Council, who began by reminding those listening that "very little has changed since that day in 1972 when 14 people were murdered because they dared to march against internment".

"Internment is still with us, but in a different form. Nowadays, people are interned under so-called evidence from paid-perjurers, interned by repeated arrests under Sections 11 and 12, interned by two and three-year remands. Our people are still being shot. We still have oppression but, thankfully, we still have resistance."

Nationalists in the six counties, he said, "have had many Bloody Sundays, many Bloody Mondays, Tuesdays and every other day", and they have suffered the brunt of unemployment and bad housing. For that reason, McAllister said, "we don't want crumbs or even slices, we want freedom and our country". He asked:

"Are we so different from the rest of the world that we must have the British to rule us? Of course not, and that is why the British have to stay by force."

Condemning the collaboration of the Humes, Mallons and Fitz-Geralds, McAllister added that the British and Irish establishments oppose republicanism because "they understand only too well that we are serious in our intent to build a democratic socialist republic and that is why they fear us, that is why they intern and shoot us".

Sinn Féin believes that governments should be answerable to the people at all times, not just elections, said McAllister, observing drily: "This sort of thinking suits neither London, Dublin or the likes of Hume, who all want us to accept their wisdom and leave the business of governing and making decisions to them."

"The growing capability of the Irish Republican Army and their unquestionable determination and commitment, allied with the rise of Sinn Féin as a political movement, has caused panic in the ranks of the Dublin and London governments, and so we received the Thatcher-FitzGerald agreement out of which arose last week's elections."

"But now," he pointed out, "the SDLP have the problem of delivering their election promises, which range from billions of American dollars to actually stopping Thatcher's economic policies."

Nationalists who might hope for help from the Free State government should remember Free State premier Jack Lynch's broken promises of 1969, he added:

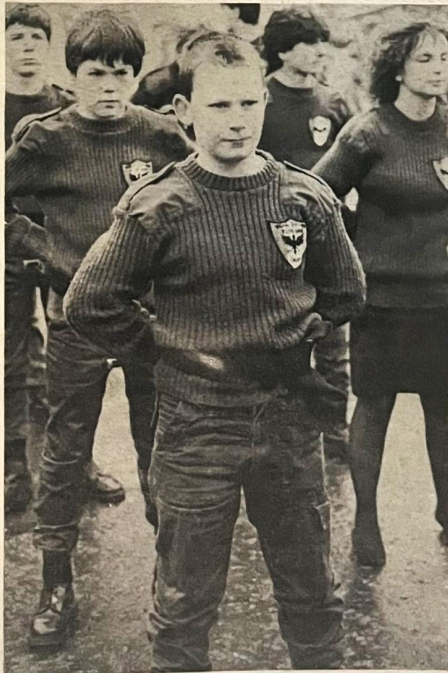
"Peter Barry hypocritically promises help for prisoners while, in Portlaoise, republican prisoners are living under inhuman conditions. Can a government which practises political censorship through Section 31 give us in the six counties any help on our search for our rights?" McAllister queried. "Barry promises us 'cultural equality' but our language is in bigger danger in the twenty-six counties than in the six."

Predicting that all efforts to crush the struggle for Irish freedom and independence would fail, McAllister said:

"Our enemies are strong in material possessions, in money, in arms and propaganda, but republicans are strong in right, in truth, commitment and dedication."

After appealing to everyone present to consider how they can best contribute to the struggle, McAllister concluded by extending sympathy, both personal and on behalf of the Republican Movement, to the friends and relatives of those who died on Bloody Sunday, and also to relatives and friends of all who have died or suffered as a result of the British occupation of Ireland.

"A chairde to a lan obair le deamh againn, leanamid ar aghaidh leis an obair go dtí go dtiocfaid ar lal"



● The Young Ireland Flute Band, Lurgan, stand at ease during the proceedings

GLC lecture series goes ahead

THE Terence MacSwiney series of lectures organised by the Ethnic Minorities Unit of the Greater London Council (GLC) is going ahead as scheduled despite the refusal by university history lecturer Michael Laffan to take part in the series because of its "unfortunate title".

In an attempt to get as broad-based a platform of speakers as possible for the lecture series, the GLC approached Laffan, a lecturer of modern Irish history in University College Dublin, to act as co-ordinator for speakers in Ireland. Laffan agreed to do this and to deliver one of the lectures himself on the subject of *Insurrection in Irish history*.

He subsequently withdrew his agreement on the grounds that the Terence MacSwiney title for the series "seemed a strange choice". In a letter to the GLC, he wrote:

"We (UCD History Department) would assume, and I have no doubt whatever that many others would assume, he (Mac Swiney) was being honoured because he died on hunger-strike. Many people would assume that there was an association be-

tween a series with such a title and more recent *Provo/INLA* hunger-strikes. The *Provos* and the *INLA* may have their supporters in the GLC but my colleagues and I would not wish to be associated with any occasion which might, even implicitly, be seen as sympathising with them or their methods."

"Whoever chose such an unfortunate title for the lecture sabotaged the scheme," Laffan concluded. Far from being sabotaged, however, the Laffan controversy has greatly increased public interest in the lecture series, which was addressed by Belfast priest Des Wilson on the subject of Anglo-Irish relations on Wednesday of this week. Other speakers in the series include Desmond Greaves (an authority on James Connolly and Liam Mellows), Margaret Ward (author of

Unmanageable Revolutionaries), Sean MacBride, Nollaig O Gadhra and Liam de Paor, who is himself a lecturer in the same history department as Michael Laffan.

A spokesperson for the Irish section of the Ethnic Minorities Unit in the GLC says that interest in the series of lectures has come from universities and polytechnics in Britain and from Irish language and other cultural groups throughout London. Bigger crowds than ever are expected, particularly since the *Irish Post* newspaper launched an attack on the "cheek" of Laffan and his colleagues. "Their paranoia exceeds that of the *Irish Embassy* in Washington at its most puerile," the *Post* declared, adding that the choice of Terence MacSwiney as the title for the lecture series was quite logical,

given that he was "the only major figure in modern Irish history to have died in London".

Describing Laffan's remarks as "quite unbelievable" Miriam James of the Ethnic Minorities Unit of the GLC and herself a veteran of Cumann na mBan, asked whether there was any intellectual honesty left in Irish academic circles and pointed out that the hour of questions which is due to follow each lecture obviously proved too much of a challenge to Laffan who would have had to defend his revisionist attitudes.



Councils condemn Section 31

SLIGO County Council and Cobh Urban District Council this month joined the other local authorities throughout the twenty-six counties who have passed resolutions condemning Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act.

Cobh UDC passed the anti-censorship resolution with only one (Fine Gael) vote against. Nine local councils have now called for the repeal of the bar on Sinn Féin representatives from RTE.

Members of Cork Sinn Féin picketed the RTE studios at Union Quay in Cork on Wednesday, January 22nd. A statement was handed into the office describing Section 31 as "but one example of the lack of democracy inherent in the system of government prevailing in the twenty-six counties". It continued:

"If the people in power have so much faith in their policies over those of Sinn Féin, let them debate them publicly through the media with Sinn Féin."



● Members of Cork Sinn Féin picketing the RTE studios at Union Quay

Students mobilise

"THE Dublin government spends twice as much closing doors in the education system as it does trying to open them." This was the message from the Union of Students in Ireland (USI) as they launched their campaign for the coming months.

Speaking in Dublin on January 23rd, John Doyle, president of USI, outlined his organisation's demands for equal access to education for all:

"No attempt is made to make higher education accessible to the general public. Surely a clear example of this is that the government spends £20 million per annum promoting elitism in education

by funding private, fee-paying schools and spends a net figure of approximately £10 million in student grants to allow access to third-level education to those without large independent means of finance."

USI is demanding a 40% increase in the rate of grants and a freeze on tuition fees. They say that while the majority of the population are kept out of higher education by the policies of the Dublin government, students will not sit within the system and pretend that inequality does not exist.

FIRST ACTION

On Thursday, January 23rd, student teachers marched to the Department

of Education in Dublin's Marlborough Street as the first action in the campaign. USI was also present on the march for tax equity and jobs on Tuesday 28th, where they distributed thousands of leaflets headed "Fight for tax equity — make the rich pay their share."

The next day, January 29th, students in Kevin Street College of Technology walked out of classes and marched to the city centre. They are among the students in the colleges which make up the Dublin Institute of Technology. Among the problems they face are long delays in the payment of grants and an acute lack of space in libraries, canteens and classrooms.



● JOHN DOYLE

Community under threat

BY EAMONN TRACY

THE potentially devastating social and environmental effects of the proposal to commence open-cast mining in the Moortown/Arboe area of East Tyrone stirred the people of this historically unique community to public protest last Sunday, January 26th.

A local pressure group, 'Lignite Action', was established in March of last year to represent the interests of the local community which, until then, had received no information about the proposed development of hundreds of millions of tons of lignite. Their objectives were threefold: firstly, to compile "information concerning the future in relation to what major changes would take place"; secondly, to participate "in any discussions and decisions which are to be made concerning (their) lives"; and lastly, "to be consulted and have (their) fears and wishes for the future of the community respected and given a fair hearing". This includes a demand for a public inquiry.

On Sunday, January 26th, almost 3,000 people took part in a well-organised protest march and rally from Moortown School to one of the area's famous local monuments, the ancient Celtic cross at Arboe, which is itself threatened with destruction. Thirty fishing boats sailed past the rallying point to highlight the opposition of the fishermen who work on Lough Neagh and who believe that the lignite mining threatens their livelihood.

CLOSE BONDS

Poems and prose from local writers were read to the assembled rally. These sought to focus attention on the rich history of the area and the close bonds within the community.

One piece in particular, written by Polly Devlin, a journalist originally from the region, underlined the potential social consequences of the mining development. Describing the effects in Arboe of an aerodrome built during World War Two, she wrote:

"A thousand acres of good farmland was taken, 30 families evacuated, leaving



Local people gather at the Arboe Celtic cross to protest at the lignite mining proposals

the nine families in Sesslagh and the 15 families of Farnsagh lopped off from the rest of the world. In the Claggan, every disappeared hillock and mound had had a name that told and contained the kernel of its history; and the people who knew the names, and why they were so called, were removed to another district as anonymous to them as the place they left behind had become anonymous."

INFORMATION

Niall Fitzduff, chairperson of the Lignite Action Group, criticised the failure of the Department of Economic Development to provide reliable information on likely mining in the area. He went on to say, "Our presence here today as a community is ample proof of the demands of this community to be recognised, informed and consulted on such crucial decisions which are being made. Such decisions will not only affect those here present, but also the lives of generations to come."

He went on to assert the community's right to existence, a community which

he asserted, "is not to be destroyed at the whim of a mining company". Although people would be compensated as individuals, nothing, he stressed, could "compensate us or the generations to come for the loss of our community".

The next day, a delegation of local residents met with representatives of the Department of Economic Development at Stormont where they presented the civil servants with over 2,000 letters of opposition to the mining and forcefully stated their case.

Tension rises in Free State jails

WITH reports of massive drug abuse, an increasing number of suicides and a mounting AIDS scare, an 'explosive situation' is developing in Mountjoy and Arbour Hill Prisons, according to prisoners interviewed by AP/RN recently.

Serious overcrowding, which has been a repeated source of tension in Mountjoy over the years, has been compounded by the inclusion of 140 people identified as "serious drug abusers" within a prison population numbering 550 inmates.

In a report published in 1985, Mountjoy was described as the "largest drugs detoxification unit" in the twenty-six counties. Besides being an unsuitable environment for such a unit, the Mountjoy detoxification course lasts only seven days and means that prisoners who have not been cured of their addiction either go 'cold turkey' or try to obtain drugs through channels which are known to exist in the jail.

At least three of the nine deaths

which have taken place in Mountjoy since 1982 were drug-related. Four of these deaths have occurred within the past four months, the most recent on Friday, January 17th. Families of the deceased have been critical of the prison administration for failing to provide adequate facilities to deal with drug and psychiatric problems. There are no full-time medical or psychiatric facilities in Mountjoy, such facilities being provided on consultancy basis by the Eastern Health Board.

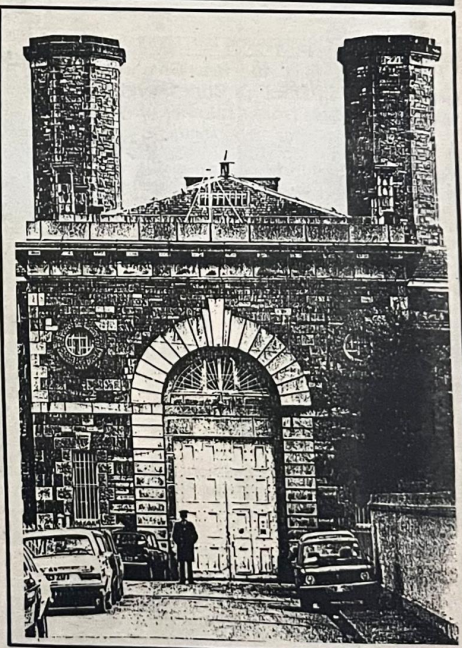
ABSENCE OF FACILITIES

The absence of proper facilities has had disastrous effects within a prison population which is younger and more likely to include large numbers of drug

offenders. And, according to an internal report on the Mountjoy Prison population, over 15% of prisoners have been patients in psychiatric hospitals.

As a consequence of the high level of drug addiction in Mountjoy, there have been increased fears of an AIDS epidemic amongst inmates and staff who are afraid of contracting the disease. While there has been little attempt to inform prisoners about the precise nature of the AIDS virus, blood tests among 300 of the 550 prisoners in the jail reveal that over 40 prisoners have AIDS antibodies.

These 40, who include eight women, have been transferred to a special segregation unit in Arbour Hill. There the AIDS hysteria has led to many more suicide attempts, adding further to the grim statistics of despair in a penal system which has clearly failed.



CHILD POVERTY ACTION GROUP DISPELS MYTHS

BY NUALA DOHERTY

THE CRITICAL poverty and unemployment in the six counties has been highlighted in a new study, *On the Edge* by Eileen Evason, published by the Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG).

Ten years ago, the CPAG published an extensive enquiry entitled *Poverty: The Facts in Northern Ireland and On the Edge* updates the facts and details presented then. It also contains the results of a recently-completed survey of the unemployed in two communities in Derry which was carried out by the CPAG.

This latest study confirms that poverty, unemployment and social deprivation has significantly increased in the intervening ten years. The report is exhaustive and examines all areas of concern such as the effects of the Payment of Debt Act, the plight of the elderly and employment-related problems.

LOW-PAID WORKERS

On the Edge also reveals that a quarter of the total population in the North are dependent on Supplementary Benefit or Family Income. In addition, it says that the North has the greatest concentration of low-paid workers in the 'United Kingdom', with 32% of households having a weekly income of less than £75 per week — a

On the edge



problem compounded by the fact that the cost of living in the North is 13% higher than in

Britain. The North also has the highest rate of unemployment, with 20% of the population out

of work.

A further example of how families in the North suffer

greater levels of poverty than their counterparts in Britain is given in the section dealing with single parents. An Equal Opportunities Commission survey states that "of 694 single-parent families interviewed, 68% of these families were in or on the margins of poverty".

HARDSHIP

Sinn Féin's West Belfast MP, Gerry Adams, welcomed the study and said, "It shows once again the impact of the high cost of basic necessities on families here and the extra hardship imposed throughout the years, without the slightest justification, in the continued use of the Payment of Debt Act."

He added, "It also dispels the myth cultivated by the Housing Executive and the DHSS that the extended use of the Payment of Debt Act was in some way due to the level of arrears here. The report in fact points to a higher level of rent arrears in parts of Britain."

Adams concluded by saying, "The report outlines the effects of long-term unemployment on both mental well-being and living standards. Those attempting to justify the latest measures outlined by the British minister Norman Fowler would be well advised to appraise themselves of the facts concerning the effects such measures will have on an already critical situation here."

No shelter for women

BY BRIDGET MULLIGAN

THE closure plan for Bru Chaoimhin women's night shelter in Dublin's Cork Street has met with fierce opposition from a number of groups.

The Campaign for the Homeless staged a picket of the Eastern Health Board offices in Thomas Street on Tuesday which was supported by homeless people, travellers, clergy and Sinn Féin.

Bru Chaoimhin is the only

statutorily-provided night shelter accommodation for women in Dublin and the only hostel with access in the middle of the night. Although conditions there are poor, almost everyone agrees that a poor shelter is



● Campaign for the Homeless supporters picketing the EHB offices in Thomas Street, Dublin, on Tuesday

better than none at all.

HEALTH BOARD CLAIMS

Eastern Health Board claims that the Family Aid Centre in Rathmines and Regina Coeli Hostel can replace Bru Chaoimhin's services have been met with the response that the Family Aid Centre has a limited admissions policy which ca-

ters for battered women and Regina Coeli only admits women between 8pm and 11pm.

Staff at the Bru Chaoimhin shelter are resisting the closure and have managed to postpone the closedown from last Tuesday. They are now seeking premises for a new hostel. There are currently two women and 11 children who are dependent

on the shelter for accommodation.

The Campaign for the Homeless told AP/RN:

"When homelessness among women is increasing, one would have expected the government to take a greater responsibility rather than throwing an even heavier burden on voluntary organisations who are starved of funds."

Feachtas teilifíse fógraithe

LE MAIRTÍN Mac DIARMADA

TÁ an téileamh leathan ar chláracha teilifíse Gaeilge ar RTÉ á léiriú i bhfeachtas nua a d'fhógair Conradh na Gaeilge an tseachtain seo caite.

Ag preas-ócáid i mBaile Átha Cliath ar an 23ú Eanáir, dúirt Íte Ní Chionnaith, Uachtarán an Chonartha go bhfuil mí-shásamh ar phobal na Gaeilge le fada an lá mar gheall ar an easpa Gaeilge ar RTÉ.

"Caithear an mí-shásamh sin a chur in iúl, áfach, ar bhealach

eagraithe aontaithe agus éileamh soiléir a chur chun cinn nach dtig le RTÉ diúltú dó."

Mar aidhm ag an feachtas nua tá clár substaintiúil Gaeilge amháin do dhaoine fásta gach oíche ar RTÉ agus 30 noiméad de chláracha Gaeilge do pháistí agus do dhaoine óga gach trathnóna. "Tuigimid



● Maolsheachlainn Ó Caollaí agus Íte Ní Chionnaith

nárth leor an méid seo chun freastal cuí a dhéanamh orthu siúd uile atá ag lorg cláracha teilifíse as Gaeilge," a dúirt Íte Ní Chionnaith. I measc na daoine a liostáil sí bhí pobal na Gaeltachta, páistí sna scoileanna lán-Ghaeilge, na mílte daltaí atá ag foghlaim na teanga, an milliún duine a chuireann in

iúl sa daonáireamh go bhfuil Gaeilge acu.

Dúirt Maolsheachlainn Ó Caollaí go bhfuil seirbhís lán-Ghaeilge mar aidhm fadthéarmach ag an Conradh. San feachtas nua beidh trí chéim.

Sa chéad chéim beidh an Conradh ag iarraidh tacaíocht ó gach

cumann, coiste agus grúpa i ngluaiseacht na Gaeilge ar fud na tíre áfach a chuirfidh an feachtas chuig rialtas an tSiorstáit, na páirtithe polaitiúla agus RTÉ.

Sa dara chéim beidh an Conradh ag iarraidh gach duine i ngluaiseacht na Gaeilge a chlárú agus a eagrú san feachtas. Sa tríú chéim beidh agóidí agus cruinnithe poiblí ar siúl.

Dúirt Íte Ní Chionnaith chomh maith go leanfaidh an Conradh ar aghaidh le diúltú ceadúnas teilifíse go dtí go mbeidh a dhéanann curtha i bhfeidhm ar RTÉ.

Ag tabhairt tacaíocht Shinn Féin don bhfeachtas dúirt Mairtín Ó Muilleoir ó Roinn an Chultúir: "Ní mór stad as na Gaeilge ar an teilifís a árdú go mór agus freastal tráthrialta a dhéanamh ar gach aicme spáise, go háirithe na daoine óga."



● Libyan students deliver a defiant message outside the US Embassy in Dublin

Hands off Libya

OVER A HUNDRED people took part in a *Hands off Libya* rally, organised by the Libya Support Group, at the United States Embassy in Dublin on Saturday, January 25th.

Members of the Union of Students in Ireland (the largest youth organisation in the country, representing almost 100,000 students), Sinn Féin and several other left-wing organisations supported the protest.

Sinn Féin's assistant director of publicity, Aine Nic Mhurchadha, the first speaker, outlined the benefits gained by the Libyan people since the revolution and also the United States' imperialist record throughout the world. She expressed Sinn Féin's confidence that Libya would stand firm 'in the face of the latest war-mongering tactics of the US'.

"Libya makes no apologies for supporting the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and opposing the US-Israeli onslaught on the Palestinian people but that does not mean that it carries responsibility for individual actions carried out on behalf of Palestinian liberation."

"In fact, the responsibility for all such actions lies firmly with regimes such as the United States who prop up the Zionist state of

Israel and its attacks on the Palestinian people.

"Libya must be afforded moral and, where possible, physical support from all freedom-loving

people the world over."

After Paddy MacPoland read a USI statement pledging Irish students' support for the Libyan people against US aggression, Abdu Sharif, spokesperson for the Libyan students in Ireland, issued a clear warning to the United States government:

"We won't be terrorised by the US. If the Reagan administration is looking for another Vietnam then I can assure you that, if they invade, then Libya will be another Vietnam for them."



● Young Libyans whose future is being threatened by Reagan's war-mongering



South African sanctions

THIRTY MEMBERS of the newly-formed South Africa Sanctions Group (SASG) picketed the Dublin South-East Labour Party offices on Saturday, January 25th, to place further pressure on the Labour/Fine Gael government to halt all imports from racist South Africa.

The Dublin government has said that it will boycott South African goods from March 31st if prison labour has been used in their production. While the SASG is seeking total sanctions, this limited action is welcomed as a small step in the right direction.

As part of the SASG's campaign

against stores who are economically bolstering apartheid by stocking South African produce, a mass picket of Superquinn's in Blackrock, County Dublin, from 2pm to 3.30pm on Saturday, February 8th.

Anyone wishing to join the SASG should write to 6a Upper Fownes Street, Dublin 2, or phone 771436.

The announcement that the Free State Labour Party leader, former Irish rugby international Dick Spring, is to donate an autographed rugby ball to 'aid black people in South Africa' has been 'welcomed' by Sinn Féin's president, Gerry Adams MP:

"However, would not a firm commitment to total sanctions against the racist Pretoria regime by Mr Spring's and Mr Fitzgerald's government be a far more meaningful gesture to the black people of Southern Africa?"

WORLD VIEW



● South African troops moving into Angola

Angola

THE Reagan administration has announced that it is seeking a joint US Congressional resolution urging 'moral support' for the counter-revolutionary Angolan forces of UNITA.

This announcement comes as UNITA's leader and founder, Jonas Savimbi, finalises plans to visit Washington, a visit which Savimbi hopes to turn into a shopping spree for arms, ammunition and hard cash for his ailing forces. The Reagan administration will do everything in its power to fill Savimbi's shopping list, even though movement in this direction has so far met with stiff opposition in Congress.

Moves to get 'aid' to UNITA began early last year when Congress, under pressure from Reagan, repealed a 1975 law barring all US aid to Angolan 'contra' forces.

To date, the South African regime has been the main life-line to UNITA, both militarily and economically. Substantial though this 'aid' has been — backed up by thousands of South African troops on numerous occasions invading Angolan territory — UNITA has been unable to make any headway against the revolutionary MPLA government of Angola.

Thus with the lifting of the ban on US aid to UNITA, Reagan immediately set into operation a number of overt and covert actions against the legal government of Angola.

AID

Two resolutions were introduced into the US Congress: one to provide 27 million dollars in 'humanitarian aid' and one to provide 27 million dollars in 'military aid'. There is nothing remarkable about the similarity of figures quoted as, in Reagan-speak, 'humanitarian aid' equals 'military aid' and vice versa.

The two Bills have still to be passed by Congress due to vigorous opposition from liberals and political footballoping by Reagan. Although the requests for military and 'humanitarian' aid emanated from him, Reagan, smarting from other defeats at the hands of Congress, decided to play a soft line on the issue. He played it so soft that he even had his secretary of state, George Schultz, making public statements opposing aid to UNITA. But bubbling under the surface of all this jiggery-pokery lay the Reagan administration's ambitions for Angola.

CHALLENGED

On November 22nd 1985, when Reagan was challenged at a press conference on Schultz's apparent opposition to aid for UNITA, he replied that in fact Schultz is not against aid for UNITA: "We all believe that a covert operation would be more useful to us and have more chance of success right now than the overt proposal that has been made in Congress." So much for the sovereignty of Congress.

Fifteen million dollars have been earmarked for this covert 'aid' to UNITA. Schultz, in explanation for his own stance, said that he is personally against 'open' aid to UNITA, but not against covert 'aid'. Schultz described UNITA and similar organisations as "brave people who somehow never heard that communism is the way of the future."

At a meeting in London last

December, Schultz further explained the niceties of US international power-broking by stating, "Sometimes help may be better given without open acknowledgement; covert action has been part of the arsenal of states since time immemorial, providing a means of influence short of outright confrontation."

FINISHING TOUCHES

Last week, the Reagan administration put the finishing touches to its campaign of support for UNITA. In a public statement, the US State Department announced that it recognised UNITA as a "legitimate nationalist organisation".

The State Department also raised the issue of Cuban forces on Angolan soil (at the request of the Angolan government, Cuba sent troops there in 1975 to help set up an Anglo-South African invasion of the country).

In language more suited to the ultra-left press, the State Department declared, "We support UNITA's struggle against Soviet-Cuban adventurism in Angola." The statement went on further to copper-fasten the policy of covert aid by declaring, "We are working towards ways to demonstrate that support in a manner that would be effective."

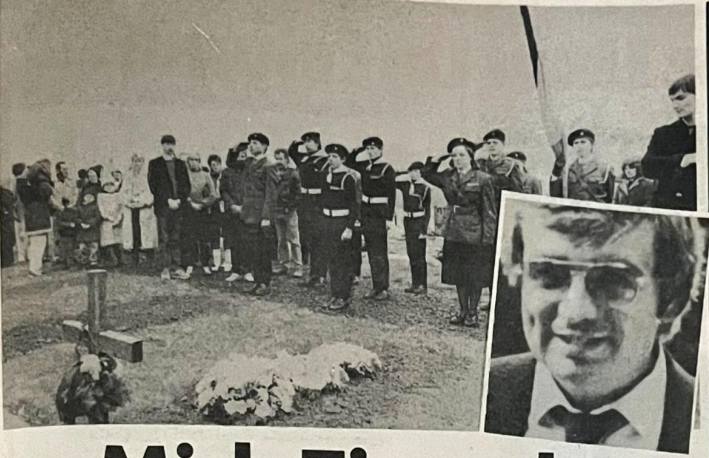
The Angolan government is furious at Reagan's support for UNITA. The president of Angola, Eduardo Dos Santos, warned the US that any attempts to supply UNITA would be matched by increased supplies of military aid from the USSR and Western Europe. The Angolan president also stated that his government could consider Reagan's support for UNITA as "a declaration of war".

ANOTHER INVASION

Meanwhile, the Angolan government is facing yet another invasion of its territory by South African forces. The invasion began during the first week in January when 2,000 troops, backed up by fighter planes and tanks, crossed into Cunene Province from occupied Namibia. By January 6th, the South Africans had penetrated 200 miles into Angola. The South Africans have been claiming huge successes against the Angolan army, but as yet there has been no major confrontation between the forces.

The Pretoria regime is attempting to reverse the bloody defeat UNITA and South African forces suffered at the hands of the Angolan and Cuban armies last October. During the battle at Mavinga, near the Zambian border, at least 1,000 men were killed. It was only the use of Mirage jets by the South Africans which prevented a complete rout of UNITA by the MPLA.

The Angolan government has since been preparing for the final assault against UNITA, due to take place after the rainy season in March of this year. So Reagan and the South Africans will try everything in their power between now and March to destabilise or even topple the revolutionary government of Angola.



Mick Timothy commemoration

THE death of Mick Timothy a year ago was a loss that the Republican Movement still feels. Mick was editor of *An Phoblacht/Republican News*, a position he held from October 1982 until his sudden death on January 26th 1985. He also played a significant role in the development and expansion of Sinn Féin.

The crowd at the commemoration of his death at Palmerstown Cemetery, Dublin, on Saturday, January 25th, was small, but everyone in attendance had known him personally. His wife Alice, their children and members of the family led the march, which was headed by a Fianna colour party.

At the graveside, in the new cemetery at Palmerstown, the ceremony was chaired by Rita O'Hare, who succeeded Mick as editor of the paper and the oration was given by Sean Crowe of Dublin Sinn Féin after several wreaths were laid. Sean Crowe paid tribute to the great work that Mick had carried

out and the legacy he left of hard-hitting, quality journalism.

Mick Timothy's pen provided the "cutting edge" of *AP/RN* for many years and we can never hope to replace him, but the memories he left us and the skills he taught us will ensure that we strive to maintain *AP/RN*'s position as Ireland's leading political newspaper and as a lasting memorial to Mick and all those others who have devoted their lives to the Republican Movement.



● Liam Hannaway addresses a rally on Belfast's New Lodge Road

REMEMBERING THE PAST Liam Hannaway

BY PETER O'ROURKE

LIAM HANNAWAY, a dedicated and uncompromising republican, was born in the Falls Road area of Belfast in 1916.

Hannaway was born into a family steeped in the republican tradition. His grandfather had been a member of the Fenian movement during

the 1860s, while his father fought in the Tan War and on the republican side during the Civil War.

Having joined Fianna Éireann at a

very early age, Hannaway graduated to the ranks of the IRA at the age of 17 and became active in 'D' Company of the Belfast Battalion, as it then was.

Married in 1939, he was arrested in Belfast the following year, at the height of the IRA's bombing campaign in England. Charged with possession of arms, ammunition and explosives, he refused to recognise the court and was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment in Crumlin Jail.

Upon release in 1946, he joined the Sean Mac Diarmada (later renamed the Sean MacCaughy) cumann of Sinn Féin. The rebuilding of the Movement in the late '40s was a slow and arduous task and Hannaway divided his time between Irish language and cultural activities and working for the Republican Movement in Ardoyne, as well as helping his wife Lily to rear their young family.

Throughout the 1950s, despite arrests and regular detention, he remained active and, though opposed to the demilitarisation of the IRA during the 1960s, he soldiered on, in an organisation which was being slowly strangled by the then leadership.

POGROMS

In 1969, however, following the pogroms against the nationalist population, the IRA was re-organised. Active and in charge of Belfast's 'C' Company in Clonard, Hannaway was one of the handful of men who successfully defended the area during the worst British and loyalist attacks.

On February 4th 1971, having been named by the British commanding officer, Farrar-Hockley, as 'one of the top five IRA men in the North', he was forced to go on the run.

He evaded the internment round-up of August 1971. Five months later, in January 1972, he was arrested and interned on the prison ship *Maidstone* and later Long Kesh, where he was elected O/C of the republican internees.

ILL-HEALTH

In 1974, following nine months in Muggrave Park Military Hospital, he was released on the grounds of ill-health. Upon release, he continued to work full-time for the Republican Movement and was particularly active during the H-Block hunger-strike of 1980.

Aged 65, Liam Hannaway died on February 2nd 1981, five years ago this week.

mDIL CHUIMHNE

BOYLE, Sean. (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Sean Boyle, Oglagh na hÉireann, South Armagh, who died on active service on February 1st 1975. Fuair se baí ag troid ar son na saoirse. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Republican Movement, South Armagh.

HANNAWAY, Liam. (5th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Liam Hannaway, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died on February 2nd 1981. Chath se a mhúinteir na hÉireann. Never forgotten by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

HARKER, Tony. (4th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear friend Tony, who was shot dead on January 24th 1982 by UDR murderers. Always remembered by Brendan and Mary Drumury, Armagh.

KELLY, John. (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vols John 'Bap' Kelly and John Stone, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died on active service on 21st January 1975. Always remembered by the John 'Bap' Kelly Memorial Accordion Band, Courtbridge, Glasgow.

MOHAN, Peadar. (5th Anniversary).

In proud and loving memory of Vol Peadar Mohan, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed in a car crash on February 1st 1981. I mbeasc taobha February 1st 1981. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Republican Movement, Monaghan.

MOHAN, Peadar. (5th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear son, Vol Peadar Mohan, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed in a car crash on February 1st 1981. Always remembered by his Mum and Dad and Frank and Margaret.

MOHAN, Peadar. (5th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our brother, Vol Peadar Mohan, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed in a car crash on February 1st 1981. Always remembered by Patsy (Portlaoise).

MOHAN, Peadar. (5th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my brother, Vol Peadar Mohan, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed in a car crash on February 1st 1981. Always remembered by Patsy (Portlaoise).

IN LOVING MEMORY of the 14 men who were brutally murdered by British paratroopers. Unfree shall never be at peace. Always remembered by Dan and Ger and Pete, Dunne, Tony, Fiddle Carroll and Jerry MacLaughlin, UTP.

COMHBHRÓN

UI GABHAINN. Deepest sympathy is extended to Aine on the recent death of her mother, From Leo and Marty.

MAC MATHUNA. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of the late Padraigh Mac Mathuna, Milltown Malbay, on their recent bereavement. From Clare Sinn Féin comhairle ceantair.

Mac MATHUNA. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of the late Padraigh Mac Mathuna on their recent bereavement. From Killee Sinn Féin.

RYAN. The Brugh/Sabhat Sinn Féin cumann, Limerick city, extends deepest sympathy to Bennie Ryan and family circle on the death of their brother Paddy. Ar deith laim De go raibh a nam.

Beannachtaí

MORROW, Tony. (Portlaoise). To Tony. Thinking of you always. Happy birthday. Love, Mum and Dad.

MORROW, Tony. (Portlaoise). Many happy returns, Dodger, on your 25th birthday and congratulations on completing your second year. From the Duffys, the Blacks, Nanna and Ita.

MORROW, Tony. (Portlaoise). Our thoughts are with you always, Dodger. Love from Geraldine, Michelle, Lisa, Patricia, Pamela and Victoria.

MORROW, Tony. (Portlaoise). Happy birthday, Dodger, and best wishes. From Aileen, Buckner, and kids and Rita, Griff and Carlotta.

MORROW, Tony. (Portlaoise). Happy birthday, Dodger. Congratulations, you're Awo up. From Don and family, Irene, Brendan in Tralee and Frances, xxx

Sinn Féin AGMs

AT the AGMs of the following branches of Sinn Féin, new officer boards were elected:-

South Ulster/North Leinster Comhairle Ulster
Cathaoirleach: Patrick MacDonald; Leas-cathaoirleach: Pat Treanor; Rúnaí: Phil Downey; Eagraí Áitiúil: Pearse McGeough; Cisteoir: Fintan Mac Phillips; Airgeadas: Joe McAtackney; Mna: Sheila Reilly; Taighde/OCF: Fra Brown; Talamhaíocht: Kevin Reilly; Ceardchumann: Peter Sheridan; Cultúr: Eileen McShane; Oid-eachas: Joe Ennis; Címí: Jackie McGahan.

Cork Comhairle Ceantair:
Cathaoirleach: Don O'Leary; Leas-cathaoirleach: Pat O'Leary; Rúnaí: Mary Kennedy; Cisteoir: Freddy O'Doherty; OCF: Alfie McEvoy; Címí: Peadar Beecher; Ceardchumann: Val Hackett; Mna: Catherine Harrington; Eagraí: Joe O'Callaghan; Oideachas: Kieran McCarthy; Oige: Carmel O'Leary.

Mid-Leinster Comhairle Limistéir:
Cathaoirleach: John Carroll; Leas-cathaoirleach: Paddy Wright; Rúnaí: Brendan Carroll; Cisteoir: Áine Ní Chomáin; OCF: Brian MacEoin; Oideachas: Sean Lyons; Ionadaí don Ard-Chomhairle: John Major.

Kildare Comhairle Ceantair:
Cathaoirleach: Mossy O'Reilly; Leas-cathaoirleach: Paddy O'Neill; Rúnaí: John Major; Cisteoir: Matt Conway, Celia Conway; OCF: Paddy Wright; Eagraí: Brian MacEoin.

Clare Comhairle Ceantair:
Cathaoirleach: Sean Malone; Leas-cathaoirleach: Martin Colligan, Paddy Byrne, Runaí: Peter Flanagan, OCF: Mick O'Connell, Cisteoir: Paddy Rowe, Oideachas: Sean Malone, Paddy Byrne, Cultúr: Mary Casey, Talamhaíocht: Mattie Shannon, Oge: Peter Flanagan; Ionadaí don Comhairle Limistéir: Paddy Rowe, Sean Malone.

Irish Lesson

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THERE IS no direct translation of the words 'yes' and 'no' in Irish. Positive or negative answers are given by using the verb in the question as follows.

Séin: An bhfuil tú i bpunc?

Eoin: Tá.

Séin: Are you in trouble?

Eoin: Yes (or I am).

Tá should be used in preference to **tá mé** or **táim** when simply replying 'yes'.

Séin: An mbíonn tú anseo i gcónaí?

Eoin: Bíonn.

Séin: Do you be here always?

Eoin: I do (or yes).

Máire: Ar dhún tú an doras?

Eamonn: Dhún. Tógfaidh mise an t-eochair liom. Is dócha go mbeidh tusa déanach?

Máire: Beidh.

Máire: Did you close the door?

Eamonn: Yes. I'll take the key with me. I suppose you'll be late?

Máire: I will.

Brandán: Ar éirigh leat sa scrúduit

inné?

Aine: Níor éirigh. Ní bhfuair ach ceathrar sa rang.

Brandán: Did you succeed in your exam yesterday?

Aine: No. Only four people in the class got it.

Peadar: An raibh fear an phoist anseo fós?

Pól: Ní raibh. Doirtear go mbeidh sé déanach mar gheall ar an aimsir.

Peadar: Was the postman here yet?

Pól: No. They say (or it is said) he will be late because of the weather.

Pól: An bhfuaca tú é inné?

Peadar: Ní thaca ach fuair mé litir uaidh.

Pól: Did you see him yesterday?

Peadar: No, but I got a letter from him.

Tomás: An feirmeoir é an fear sin?

Liam: Is ea.

Tomás: Is that man a farmer?

Liam: Yes.

Is ea should be used only when preceded by a question with 'An ea?' or 'An é?' etc.

GLC LEADER and prospective Labour Party candidate for the London constituency of Brent East, Ken Livingstone, was in Ireland last weekend to speak at the Bloody Sunday commemoration rally. Taking some time off to enjoy the local hospitality, Mr Livingstone was up ordering some drink at a bar counter when he was approached by a local, obviously perplexed at the identity of the visitor.

The Derry man scratched his head and shook his head. The name was on the tip of his tongue but it wasn't coming to him. Finally, he said, "I know you, don't I? I've seen you before somewhere."

"Possibly," replied Mrs Thatcher's bete noir. Then it came to him in a flash.

"I know where I seen you before," said the local, all pleased with himself. "I seen you on Spitting Image last Sunday night, didn't I? You're Ken Livingstone, I presume," cracked the Derry wan, glowing with pride.

"And you must be Sir Henry Morton Stanley," replied Brent East's next MP.

★★★★★

BEFORE they leave us, I would like to say a big 'hello' to republican prisoners in the top-security wing of Gartree Prison, England, who, when they receive their copy of AP/ RN, will find the following paragraph cut out.

It appears that a computer installed for educational purposes had been mastered by the POWs. Over the Christmas period

it was locked away by a senior officer but, lo and behold, didn't it emerge that Santa must have taken the expensive item away with him when he was filling stockings and brought it down the chimney of the home of a prison officer. The theft had been hushed up until now. The machine is being wasted on Space Invaders.

★★★★★

THREE British soldiers, 'unwinding after a tour of duty in the North of Ireland', must have thought they were still 'peace-keeping' when they attacked and robbed a Warwickshire man, a court was told recently.

The three, members of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, who were all drunk, saw Dominic Clarke walking home alone. They pounced on him, brought him to the ground, kicked him in the face and body and stole £7.80 out of his pocket.

Private Gary Davis from Birmingham, who was said to have a previous conviction in the army for violence, was jailed for three years. Private Ian Wilkinson, who was under consideration for promotion, was fined and will be allowed to continue his army career. The third soldier, Fusilier Alan Akehurst, was remanded in custody for reports.

★★★★★

FOLLOWING the arrest of a flare — in a widely publicised case several weeks ago... the charges have now been dropped.

★★★★★

BRITISH adrenalin should be bottled and patented for

The Liam Og Column

Mr Livingstone, I presume



BEFORE AFTER

Demure Di de

Princess Diana yesterday laughed off newspaper reports that she had had a secret operation to straighten her nose.

The report quoted Mr Erich Jackson, director of the Poutney Cosmetic Surgery Clinic in London, as saying he believed that the Princess had had a secret operation to get rid of "a little concave droop" and a slight bump on the bridge of her nose.

He is reported to have had one of two operations — taken in last week — which had made her nose straighter.

Mr Jackson, who lives in Mear, Wales, a new

Yemen' and the head of the security at the British Embassy, 62-year-old Peter White, single-handedly disarming nine Yemeni soldiers during the recent evacuation due to the Marxist power struggle and civil war.

However, a senior United Nations diplomat, Bryan Wannot, a Canadian, was critical of Britannia's role:

"The BBC said that the Britannia had to give up because of firing on the beach, but there was no firing on the beach until 20 minutes after the Britannia left."

Mr Wannot was left on the beach at Khormaksar with about 250 other men, women and children, including the French ambassador's wife and the Hungarian ambassador's wife, daughter and granddaughter who all subsequently came under tank fire but were not told by the British who were aware, says the Canadian envoy, that the ceasefire was coming to an end and that the tanks were heading for the beach.

No dozer, however, was the British ambassador, Arthur Marshall, who reckoned his diplomacy was no longer needed. Says Mr Wannot:

"Mr Marshall just came up, shook my hand, wished me luck and got into a boat."

Dúirt siad

The SDLP will also be pressurised to help create a situation where real talks can begin by giving formal support to the RUC.

— Irish Times report.

★★★

I spoke to one man who was in the SDLP caravan, at the Model School, and he told me that he and quite a few others in the Dublin area, who were members of Fine Gael, had been asked if they would work in this constituency at the rate of £30 a day.

It suggests to me that the whole SDLP campaign is being backed by the Dublin government, financially and otherwise, because never before has the SDLP been able to put out the resources they put out in this election.

— Newry Sinn Féin's Councillor Brendan Curran.

★★★

I think the unionists' vote was predictable. What must hearten everyone in politics, though, is to see the advance of the SDLP at the expense of Sinn Féin. That is very encouraging.

— Direct-ruler Tom King.

★★★

We need to stabilise the situation and I would like to see positive steps to secure the return of Stormont in the best form we can get it. There will have to be some diminution of unionist control — something will have to be given to the minority to feel they are part of the administration.

— A start of the reaction hoped for by Britain. Former loyalist hardliner Captain Austin Ardill (OUP), modifying his previously-held views.

★★★

The role of the police is to maintain law and order among the civilian population but that is difficult to do when our officers are being slaughtered by the IRA. I think it is time all routine patrol work was handed over to the (British) army, they are much better suited to it.

— RUC Federation chairperson Alan Wright.

★★★

Dessie O'Malley is a combination of John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King and Pope John Paul.

— Joe Burke, Tuam town commissioner and a defector to the Progressive Democrats.

★★★

Our church is about to introduce a change of attitude in answer to what is happening in South Africa. We have to talk much more directly now to the black liberation movement.

— Durban Catholic Archbishop Denis Hurley, who is not a Cahal Daly.

NPES
CORMAC

