

AN
PHOBLACHT
Republican News

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING
POLITICAL WEEKLY



Sraith Nua 9m 8 Uimhir 23 Deardoin 5 Meitheamh Thursday 5th June 1986 (Britain 30p) Price 25p

**PICKET AGAINST
STRIP-SEARCHES**
Sunday 8th June
MAGHABERRY
County Antrim

Buses to Maghaberry will depart from the Art Gallery, Parnell Square, Dublin at 12 noon (Fare £6, children free) and from Dunville Park, Belfast, at 2.15pm.

Currie chickens out



THERE WERE heated exchanges in a Dublin hotel on Tuesday night as Austin Currie of the SDLP joined Official Unionist MP Ken Maginnis in a walk-out from a public meeting after both men refused to hear the contribution of a Sinn Fein speaker.

The meeting — the first in a series of four weekly meetings organised by the Glencree Reconciliation Centre to discuss the Hillsborough Agreement — ended in uproar when Currie and Maginnis stormed out as the Sinn Fein national director of publicity, Brian MacDonald, rose to speak.

In the course of his address to the meeting, and before he realised that a Sinn Fein representative was present, Currie had patronisingly dismissed the nationalist electorate of Fermanagh's Erne East constituency — who recently elected Sinn Fein's Brian McCaffrey with an increased percentage share of the vote — as being irrelevant in determining nationalist attitudes to the Hillsborough Agreement. He told the meeting:

"There is no worse place in the whole of Northern Ireland for a test of opinion on the Anglo-Irish Agreement."

When Currie, the last of four speakers, had concluded his address and the meeting was open to the floor, Brian MacDonald was given leave by the chairper-

son, John Cooney of the *Irish Times*, to speak. After he identified himself as a Sinn Fein member, MacDonald told the meeting that contrary to what Currie had said, it is particularly in areas such as Erne East that the success or failure of the Hillsborough Agreement must be judged since the objective of the Agreement is to whittle away the republican support base in those areas:

"The fact that there was a substantial increase in the Sinn Fein share of the vote in the recent by-elections must be seen as a major setback for the architects of this Agreement."

IRATE MAGINNIS

Responding to a request from the chairperson, MacDonald agreed



● Following the example of Ken Maginnis, Austin Currie hurries away during the address by Brian MacDonald, Sinn Fein national director of publicity

to wait until questions from the floor to the platform speakers were completed before continuing his address, but an irate Ken Maginnis angrily declared that he would leave the meeting if a Sinn Fein member was allowed to speak.

As the questioning concluded, the chairperson, who had clearly been consulting with Austin Currie about what course of action he should take, declared that the main meeting was over but that people wishing to stay and hear the Sinn Fein speaker could do so if they wanted to.

Interrupting the chairperson,

MacDonald challenged this device to censor the republican viewpoint from being presented to the meeting, but as he approached the platform to speak, Ken Maginnis walked out and was followed by Austin Currie who, when asked if he was afraid to debate the Hillsborough Agreement with Sinn Fein, turned angrily and violently abused MacDonald before storming out into the public bar in the next room.

There he remained, along with Ken Maginnis, while in the other room MacDonald told the audience that "It is ridiculous to



talk about the Hillsborough Agreement without reference to the republican position against which the deal is primarily directed".

REPUBLICAN ANALYSIS

Outlining the republican analysis of the Agreement, he said that it would not bring peace since it had not addressed itself to the source of violence, and that source was not community division, as Austin Currie alleged, nor the activities of the IRA, as Ken Maginnis alleged, but continued interference by the British government in Ireland.

And in a statement on Wednesday, Sinn Fein said that, despite efforts by the SDLP and the unionists to censor the republican position, those efforts would fail and the Sinn Fein view would be presented at any and every public forum where the conflict in the six counties was being discussed. The statement concluded:

"Sooner or later, the SDLP and the unionist parties are going to have to face the reality that Sinn Fein cannot and will not be excluded from the political discussions which will determine the future of the Irish people."

OPINION

Dubious democracy

AFTER A LONG DELAY, the establishment media finally broke their silence this week on US government funding for the SDLP as first revealed in *AP/RN* in August of last year and, more recently, in an article last month.

Following reports of the slush fund in several newspapers, the Chief Whip of the SDLP, Eddie McGrady, admitted that he and two other party members were directors in a limited company, the Social Democratic Group, which is funded by the National Democratic Institute (NDI).

As *AP/RN* reported, the NDI is a subsidiary of the National Endowment for Democracy which was established by the Reagan administration in 1983 to further US foreign policy objectives throughout the world by giving CIA-type backing to favoured groups in various countries.

The "furtherance of democracy" in Reagan-speak means the expansion of US political and economic power and, if necessary, the overthrow of governments to serve that end — in Ireland, that means helping those parties which support NATO's strategic interests in this country and would see the status quo safeguarded to serve those interests.

In the case of the six counties, that party is the SDLP.

RESPONSE

Responding to McGrady's admissions and his attempt to hold the NDI and its offshoot, the Social Democratic Institute, at arm's length from the SDLP, the chairperson of the Sinn Féin councillors in the six counties, Mitchel McLaughlin, said:

"It matters little whether the SDLP sets up a limited company in order to receive the funds in other than its own name. The result remains the same.

"Institutes such as the NDI and the National Endowment for Democracy include the term democratic in their title, yet their actions are far from democratic, meddling as they do in the politics of other countries in order to set up regimes there which will further US foreign policy abroad, using methods which would not be officially backed by the US Congress.

"The injection of finance by the NDI into Irish political affairs must raise the question of the extension of US involvement in countries such as El Salvador, Chile and Nicaragua, an involvement which has had disastrous consequences for their people.

"In June of last year, the NDI announced the formation of close links with the SDLP for what it called 'mutually reinforcing assistance'. It is obvious that the SDLP has already received assistance in terms of cash and training, but what is the quid pro quo?

"John Hume needs to explain far more clearly why his party has become involved with such a group as the NDI, and what role the SDLP or its new company will play in furthering the NDI's aims in Ireland."

Another US government and NATO-backed establishment, the Institute for European Defence and Strategic Studies, has also been turning its attention to Ireland recently.

In a report it has described the "neutrality" policy of the twenty-six counties as "essentially a national symbol" and said that, in the event of war in Europe, it would be unlikely to be maintained.

The influential report also says that the policy arises more from "anti-Britishness" on the part of Free State governments than from seeking an independent role in world affairs. The suggestion of anti-Britishness, though extremely wide of the mark, is designed to sting the Dublin government and help the process of further eroding the already flimsy and tattered policy that passes for neutrality in the twenty-six counties.

EUROPEAN 'DEFENCE'

NATO regards the whole of Ireland as essential to its concept of European 'defence' — that is, the game of strategy which sees Europe as a theatre of war between the super-powers.

'BRITAIN'S UNDEFENDED FRONTIER'

Those in Ireland who rightly campaign for strengthened neutrality should realise that to do so while ignoring the reality that part of our country is militarily occupied by a major NATO power is to play into the hands of the strategists who see us as pawns in their war game.

As "Britain's undefended frontier" Ireland is an essential part of NATO strategy. That is why NATO works so hard — with the help of its friends in the SDLP and the Dublin government — to defeat those who are struggling to make Ireland a free nation with a truly independent place in the world.



PORTRUSH BLAST

TWO British soldiers were injured when a bomb exploded beneath their car in the early hours of Saturday, May 31st, in the County Antrim town of Portrush.

The attack occurred shortly after midnight when two soldiers got into their car in Mark Street after leaving a

nearby disco.

The bomb exploded, devastating the car, but both soldiers miraculously escaped serious injury.



Councils

UNIONIST opposition to the London-Dublin agreement and their attempts to disrupt council business dominated proceedings in the annual general meetings and monthly meetings of a dozen Northern councils held in recent days.

Speculation had been rife in the weeks leading up to the Belfast AGM, on Monday, June 2nd, that the outgoing mayor, unionist dissident John Carson, might stand again in opposition to DUP candidate Sammy Wilson. However, intense lobbying and pressure from the Official Unionist leadership ensured Carson's withdrawal and Wilson secured sufficient votes to be elected on the second count.

Although opposed to the role of mayor, preferring it to be replaced by a chairperson stripped of all pomp and lavish expense, Sinn Féin nominated Councillor Alex Maskey for the post. But Maskey made it clear that Sinn Féin only stood a candidate to "demonstrate that nationalists are also entitled to senior positions within the council".

He also criticised the SDLP decision to support a unionist Alliance candi-

date rather than Sinn Féin.

A discussion on the composition of council committees led to loud and bitter arguments between unionist and Sinn Féin councillors and ended with Wilson leaving the chamber.

Ten minutes later, after consulting standing orders, Sinn Féin, SDLP, and Alliance councillors returned, claiming that the meeting had not been properly adjourned, and continued to deal with outstanding business. The legality of their actions will probably go to the courts.

Consolidating DUP dominance on the council, Wilson announced on Wednesday that DUP Councillor Rhonda Paisley would be the new lady mayoress.

DERRY

Rivalry within the SDLP over who would get the job of mayor of Derry was pappered over on Monday night

when SDLP Councillor Noel McKenna was elected to the post. Pat Devine, a former SDLP mayor and eager to raise his flagging prominence within the city, had been lobbying intensely in recent weeks for the job. However, media publicity and speculation about splits within the SDLP forced him to withdraw.

Sinn Féin did not participate in the election, explaining that they were in favour of doing away with the position of mayor and replacing it with a chairperson.

DUP councillors broke their boycott of proceedings to attend, heckling throughout the meeting until eventually the SDLP mayor called in the RUC and had several of them ejected. Sinn Féin refused to support this move or an SDLP motion calling for the DUP to be "not heard".

Sinn Féin Councillor Mitchel McLaughlin criticised the unionist leadership which, he said, was taking the loyalist people "into a political cul-de-sac with their outdated political philosophy".

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

ACCORDING to increasingly persistent rumours, the Stormont Assembly is to be dissolved within a week. British direct-ruler Tom King declared last week that unionists, by their protests, had "downgraded it".

Unionists objections to the proposed closure of one of their sources of income sounded too coy to be true: if the Assembly was closed down it would "push people towards street politics", threatened DUP deputy Peter Robinson. 'Street politics' are the latest unionist euphemism for attacking nationalists.

Unionists are also planning more marches against the agreement, including some in Britain next week. They must be hoping that they won't get the same reaction as they did from those people who made up the audience of last week's BBC programme, *Brass Tacks*, as they showed little sympathy for the unionist cause.

The BBC had commissioned an opinion poll for the programme and its findings were that only 26% of the British people wanted to hang on to the six counties.

SDLP leader John Hume, who was present in the studio along with the unionists and whose woolly 'peace-and-reconciliation' wandering, cut little ice with the audience, who simply wagged their fingers at the unionists, telling them to expect that kind of rejection by the British if they continued to misbehave. Sinn Féin had, as usual, been excluded from the debate at the dictate of the unionists.

Little sympathy for unionists



● Unionist politicians in Stormont inventing euphemisms for attacks on nationalists

Portadown Orangemen have, meanwhile, announced their intention to march through the town on July 6th and

12th, RUC ban or no RUC ban.

If the RUC opposes them they will have a "peaceful protest" — possibly

another unionist euphemism for terrorising a nationalist area in the middle of the night. Paisley was stirring the sectarian pot last week by accusing the RUC of planning to "baton Barry's law into loyalist heads" in the coming weeks.

But the London-Dublin agreement does not meet with unanimous support outside the unionist community. Last week in Leinster House, Fianna Fáil Deputy Gerry Collins pointed out that the British were carrying on as before, only now they could claim the full support of the Dublin government. The agreement had brought no visible result, he added, recalling the convictions obtained by uncorroborated perjured evidence, the shoot-to-kill tactics of the UDR, and plastic bullets.

ITGWU CALL

And last Friday, at the annual conference of the Irish Transport & General Workers' Union, its president, John Carroll, who is also the incoming president of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions, called for British withdrawal from the North, linking the British presence to the unionist veto and opposed the Dublin government's involvement in the London-Dublin agreement.

The myth by the SDLP and the FitzGerald government that a huge majority of people in Ireland and Britain support the London-Dublin agreement is wearing rather thin. And as the SDLP, according to a *New York Times* story, is preparing to receive 85,000 dollars in subsidies from the US government-funded National Democratic Institute, it would do well to remember the American saying, "You can fool some of the people some of the time..."

round-up



● The DUP's Sammy Wilson replaces John Carson as mayor of Belfast

Later in the meeting, Sinn Féin reacted angrily to a refusal by the SDLP to suspend standing orders and

accept a motion of condolences for the family of IRA Volunteer Philip McFadden, who was killed in a tragedy

at sea at the weekend. Hugh Brady said:

"The SDLP's decision contrasts sharply with its

decision last year to adjourn council business for 24 hours in protest at an IRA bomb attack against business premises. Obviously they place bricks and mortar above the life of a young Derryman."

FERMANAGH

Following assurances of fair and equal treatment given by Sinn Féin Councillor Paul Corrigan, who was elected council chairperson last year, Sinn Féin councillors at this year's general meeting on Monday supported SDLP Councillor Jim Lunny for the vacant position. Sinn Féin Councillor Hugh O'Neill was elected vice-chairperson while the council committees remained largely unchanged.

The two DUP councillors walked out in protest and the OUP said that they would be taking no further part in the council business for the next 12 months because of the London-Dublin agreement.

DUNGANNON

In contrast to Sinn Féin's support for the SDLP candidates for council office in Fermanagh, SDLP council-

lors in Dungannon collaborated with Official Unionists to keep Sinn Féin off all outside committees such as the Housing Committee and Arts Council.

Interestingly, the Official Unionists refused to support a DUP proposal to adjourn the meeting after the Official Unionist chairperson had been elected.

They then walked out in protest, leaving a nationalist majority for the remainder of the meeting. The SDLP, however, continued to vote with OUP councillors to prevent the election of Sinn Féin councillors to outside bodies.

CARLOW

A Sinn Féin motion describing divorce as a civil right and urging a 'yes' vote in the forthcoming referendum was passed by Carlow Urban District Council last week.

At its meeting on Tuesday, May 27th, the council voted sympathy to the Soviet people in the wake of the Chernobyl disaster and asked the County Manager what contingency plans there were in the event of a similar occurrence at the Windscale/Sellafield plant, which is 200 miles from Carlow.

The motion, which called for a report on the matter to be prepared by the manager, was proposed by Sinn Féin Councillor Kieran Foley and passed by acclamation.

Strike begins to bite

BY DONAL LYONS

THE STRIKE by Dublin's 4,200 Corporation workers is starting to take effect as mounting piles of rubbish around the town testify. Dublin Corporation has responded to this by calling on the Free State army to intervene and clear garbages in Ballymun and flat complexes in the inner city. The chairperson of the strike committee, John Kane, says, "This marks a serious escalation of the dispute."

The ITGWU's application to the Irish Congress of Trade Unions for all-out strike sanction is scheduled to be heard on Friday morning and will now be considered in the wake of the decision by John Boland, Minister of the Environment, to bring in troops today (Thursday) for strike-breaking duties.

This meeting is likely to be stormy as some Congress members feel that the strike has not been properly organised. That said, all indications are that sanction will be granted. An all-out ruling would apply from Monday, June 16th, and will halt all administrative and maintenance functions of the Corporation.

The FWUI has told AP/RN that it intends spreading the strike to the County Council area and will be conducting a ballot amongst its members next week.

Scenic Kilkenny Castle is the setting for a particularly nasty strike in which the leading character is the chairperson of the parliamentary Fine Gael party, Kieran Crotty TD. Crotty owns Crotty Bakeries Ltd and P.J. Crotty and Sons (Retail Sales Ltd). The former company recently won the catering contract for Kilkenny Castle and was paying its employees the princely sum of £50 for a six-day week.

The ITGWU organised the workers and after a tough battle managed to win them a wage increase (still below the legal minimum determined by the Joint Labour Council). Before the union could pursue the matter further and gain the legal rate, Crotty provoked a strike by sacking the 19-year-old stop steward, Angela Duggan, and one of her colleagues who is a union activist.

The 42 employees of both firms took strike action and placed pickets on Kilkenny Castle and Crotty's High Street premises in support of the sacked workers on Thursday, May 29th. The following day, Crotty sought and



● Gardai inciting public to break picket lines at Dunsink rubbish dump

gained an *ex parte* interim injunction restricting picketing at the castle. The same day he also moved scabs in to perform the strikers' duties.

Union sources in Kilkenny town are outraged at the "blatant union-busting tactics" of Crotty and are determined that he will not be successful. The same source also told AP/RN that the union "regretted" the "not-exactly-neutral attitude of the gardai towards the picket lines".

The Irish Distributive & Administrative Trade Union general secretary, John Mitchell, has defended his union's role in the clash with English tycoon Richard Branson. Branson plans to convert the former McBirney's premises on Aston Quay, Dublin, into a record mega-store, but has consistently refused to enter into negotiations with IDATU over pay and conditions for prospective employees.

Branson went public last week and threatened to pull out if the union "didn't stop playing silly buggers". An angry Mitchell told AP/RN:

"There is nothing silly about looking for proper pay and conditions."

Mitchell points out that IDATU represents the majority of shopworkers in Dublin and if Branson is allowed to open a non-union shop in the city it would "depress pay rates in the town".

All of Branson's stores in England are non-union.

Tom McGrath, of the ICTU, has denied a claim by the Dublin Minister of State for Labour, Enda Kenny, that the trade union movement has blocked thousands of jobs under the Social Em-

ployment Scheme for the Dublin area. Refuting the allegations, McGrath said:

"Projects submitted by Dublin Corporation were all for jobs that employees felt should be retained for full-time staff."

Tara Mines, in Navan, County Meath, has been taken over by the Finnish mining company, Outokumpu. This was revealed when the twenty-six-county Energy Minister, Dick Spring, was questioned about when he intended establishing a smelting plant in the state.

Predictably, he replied that the situation was "under review" but "conditions for building a smelter were adverse at the moment".

Derry Sinn Fein Councillor Mitchell McLaughlin addressed a packed meeting of Wapping strikers in Hampstead Town Hall, London, on Thursday, May 29th. The theme of the meeting was the strategy of state violence against British trade unionists.

McLaughlin broadened the debate and drew the comparisons of repression experienced by nationalists in the six counties and the tactics being employed against the strikers.

He reminded his audience of the words of the former RUC chief constable and present London Metropolitan Police chief, Kenneth Newman, who said that his experience in Ireland would be "invaluable preparation for policing the streets of Britain".

Last week's ITGWU annual conference in Cork unanimously passed a resolution calling on its incoming executive to actively implement the union's

policy against Section 31. A motion calling for opposition to the London-Dublin deal was referred to the national executive committee for consideration. However, ITGWU president John Carroll criticised Dublin's role in the agreement.

An attempt to table an emergency resolution calling on the Dutch labour movement to oppose the extradition of Brendan McFarlane and Gerry Kelly won the support of 19 branches and six NEC members. The resolution wasn't taken (due to lack of time) but will be pursued through the ITGWU structure.

Conference also decided to hold a special delegate conference in November on the taxation question. Prior to this, the union's 160,000 members will be balloted on their attitude to a campaign of industrial action against the PAYE system.

Postal services in the six counties could be severely disrupted by the end of this week as 1,300 members of the Union of Communications Workers ballot on whether to take industrial action in support of striking postworkers in Britain.

Dublin was the scene of a demonstration against health service cutbacks on Wednesday, May 28th. Organised by the Irish Nurses' Organisation, upwards of 1,000 nurses from all over the twenty-six counties marched on Leinster House where a letter of protest was handed into Department of Health officials.

The INO said that they had staged the protest because "we object to the cutbacks and we care about the sick".

Management attempts to break picket lines at the RVH in Belfast on Tuesday, June 3rd, led to a confrontation involving the RUC.

After some heated exchanges, management backed down and unloaded the dirty laundry they were attempting to drive out. The National Union of Public Employees has accused the Eastern Health Board of issuing "false statements" in relation to the dispute.

As AP/RN goes to press, talks are underway between management and the unions under the auspices of the Labour Relations Agency. The talks are on the basis that no new cuts will be implemented but all those imposed up to June 3rd will stand.

The agency also envisages that the unions will allow the removal of the backlog of dirty linen and, in return, management will enter negotiations with the unions over cutback allocation. A likely sticking point in the talks will be the removal of two hours' overtime from the drivers.



● Confrontation at the picket line at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast

Rifle butt assault

TWO COUNTY TYRONE brothers were assaulted by members of the UDR when they were detained at a checkpoint on Sunday night, June 1st.

Kevin and Michael Mullin, from Foremass, Sixmilecross, were returning from a GAA match in Ballygawley at 9.30pm when an eight-man UDR patrol stopped them on the Shane Road.

The men had been held for over an hour while they and the car were searched when, without warning or any provocation, Kevin Mullin was viciously struck in the eye with a rifle butt.

With blood pouring from a deep gash, Kevin was thrown to the ground and his hands tied behind his back with a plastic

strap. Michael Mullin was also kicked to the ground and held at gunpoint. Fortunately, a passing motorist saw what was happening and drove on to alert the Mullins' neighbours who immediately went to the brothers' aid.

But for their neighbours' intervention, Kevin Mullin, who received five stitches and a black eye, believes they would have been subjected to further physical abuse and arrest. After a lengthy and heated verbal exchange between local people and the UDR, the patrol withdrew from the area.

●KEVIN MULLIN

Spy-post uncovered

BELFAST Sinn Féin Councillor Teresa Holland has warned nationalists to be "cautious and vigilant" after British undercover troops were found to be spying on homes in Lenadoon.

Two of the soldiers were observing homes on the Suffolk Road, above the Donegal Celtic Club. They were discovered

at around 7.30pm last Thursday, May 29th, by 21-year-old James McNally, who was exercising his dog in Suffolk Forest. McNally told AP/RN:

"There were two British soldiers, with faces blackened, lying on a bank looking with binoculars

into the estate. They said nothing and I walked on into the middle of the forest.

"Then another two, also with blackened faces and in camouflage gear, jumped out at me from under a big hedge. They had dug themselves in and I could see sleeping bags, rifles, canteens and cups."

McNally was questioned and held for 20 minutes, after which he was released.

●James McNally at the spot where he discovered the camouflaged British soldiers

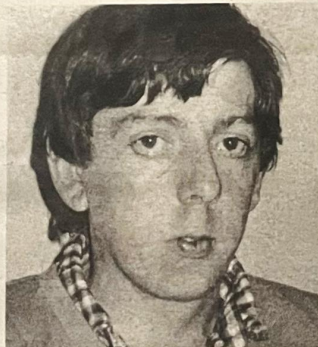
Torture in Gough Barracks

BEATINGS, death threats and financial inducements were used by the RUC during three days of torture of a South Armagh man last week in Gough Barracks, Armagh.

Following a 6am raid on his Rathview Park home in Crossmaglen on Tuesday, May 27th, Patrick McCabe (24) was taken to Crossmaglen Barracks where he was forced to stand facing a wall for 20 minutes.

From then on, McCabe underwent a disorientating and frightening ordeal similar to that experienced by detainees arrested during the introduction of internment in August 1971. He was handcuffed, placed in a Wessex helicopter and on arrival at Bessbrook Barracks had his jacket pulled over his head. McCabe was forced to 'run blind' to a waiting RUC car while he was kicked, pushed and slapped around the head.

During the journey to Gough Barracks, McCabe was forced to keep his head down and was again beaten. At one point they threatened to throw him from the car in a loyalist area of Armagh city.



●PATRICK MCCABE

From the onset of his first interrogation period, which lasted for 3½ hours, the RUC were clearly intent on using the 'bad guy' physical force tactic to terrorise their victim into signing a self-incriminating statement. McCabe

was made to stand throughout the interrogation, was punched in the stomach and chest and at one stage held against the wall by the testicles while an RUC man punched him repeatedly in the abdomen.

LOST CONSCIOUSNESS

When McCabe almost lost consciousness, he was taken to the cells but on his return the RUC switched tactics to the 'good guy' approach, telling him that if he admitted his alleged involvement in republican activities they would "take care" of his interests and would start him up "in business".

On Wednesday, during four interrogation sessions lasting two hours each, McCabe was slapped about the face and head and once again money was promised in return for information. He was also told that he would "disappear and become another statistic".

On his last day in Gough, the interrogation sessions followed a similar pattern of physical abuse and psychological pressure. He was released at 10pm on Thursday, May 29th. McCabe was extremely shaken by his ordeal and has had to receive medical attention.



Nuacht Feirste

THERE ARE only two weekly Irish-language newspapers in the country — Nuacht Feirste and Anois.

Nuacht Feirste, Sinn Féin's weekly paper, carries news from home and abroad (as well as a crossword).

Make sure of your copy by taking out a subscription (EG for six months) by writing to: An tEagarthoir, Nuacht Feirste, 147 Bothar dhailé Andarsan, Beal Feirste 11.



Saoirse

THE sixth edition of the Sinn Féin all-Irish magazine, Saoirse, is now available.

As well as articles on current affairs, the magazine includes a section on literature and a contribution from the H-Blocks.

Copies of Saoirse, price 80p (70p sterling), are available from Republican Publications, 51/53 Falls Road, Belfast. Tel: 232820. A subscription for four editions costs £4 and is available from the same address.



Notes for revolutionaries

NOTES for revolutionaries, the popular pocket-book of revolutionary quotations from throughout the world, will be re-issued later this year and Republican Publications would like anyone who has new quotes for inclusion in this, the third edition, to send them to Brian MacDonald, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1, by Thursday, June 12th.

Gardai harass mourners

FOUR WEEKS after their display of intimidation at the funeral of IRA Volunteer Seamus McElwain, gardai made their unwelcome presence felt once again at the memorial service for him at Urleshaney, County Monaghan, on Friday, May 30th.

Hundreds of people from all over Monaghan attended the 'month's mind' Mass. As several cars approached the church, they were stopped by gardai and their occupants searched and interrogated. Among those stopped were the family and friends of Seamus McElwain.

Sinn Féin Councillor Caoimhghin O'Caolain, who was also among those stopped, described the garda actions as "an unnecessary and sickening interference in a solemn occasion".

Political harassment

THE HOMES of two members of Sligo Sinn Féin were raided by members of the Special Branch on Saturday morning, May 31st.

Both Con Darcy and Gerry Casey were awakened early on Saturday morning by the raiding parties. The Special Branch searched the houses and confiscated Sinn Féin documents and the minute book of the Sligo National Graves Association, of which Gerry Casey is secretary.

Neither of the men was arrested or charged with any offence.

KERRY RAIDS

The Sligo raids followed similar Special Branch harassment of Sinn Féin members earlier in Tralee, County Kerry. On Friday, May 16th, Gavin Mortimer of Tralee and Neson Quinlivan of Limerick were arrested under Section 30 of the Offences Against the State Act.

They were charged with refusing to identify themselves, as were James Sheehan and Brian Ferris who were arrested under Section 30 on May 19th.

Prisoners' bus appeal

THE Republican Prisoners' Relatives Transport Committee has issued an urgent appeal for funds to cover the costs of running a bus to Portlaoise Prison three times a week.

Repayments on the recently-purchased bus amount to £220 per month (excluding overheads) and a constant cash flow is essential if this vital service to republican prisoners and their families is to continue.

All donations (large or small) will be gratefully appreciated and acknowledged. (Perhaps you could even take out a regular standing order or make a monthly pledge.)

All contributions should be sent to the Coiste Iompar do Ghaolta Phriosaigh Phoblachtacha, 44 Cearnaigh Parnell, Baile Átha Cliath 1.

Gaelic football competition

ENTRIES for Dundalk's annual IRA Volunteer Sean McIlvenna Perpetual Cup Gaelic football competition should be sent to the Ramblers' Rest Bar, Clonbrassil Street, Dundalk, by Thursday, June 12th.

The competition is open to teams outside the Dundalk area but is limited to the first 16 entries, so get your applications in now.

Jailed for opposing censorship



● Sinn Féin picket outside Sligo Garda Station

BY MAIRTIN Mac DIARMADA

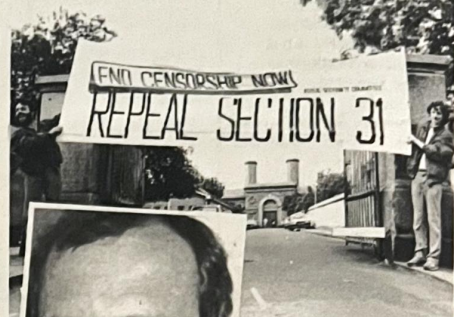
THE national chairperson of Sinn Féin, Sean MacManus, was arrested at his home last week and jailed for non-payment of a TV licence in protest against Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act.

Section 31 bans all Sinn Féin spokespersons from RTE radio and television and it is party policy for members to withhold licence fees in protest against censorship. Gardai arrested MacManus in Sligo on Friday, May 28th, and brought him to Mountjoy Jail in Dublin to serve a two-week jail sentence in place of a fine he had earlier refused to pay. MacManus was transferred

to Loughan House on Saturday Night.

Sligo Sinn Féin picketed the town's garda station after MacManus's arrest on Friday evening. In Dublin, Mountjoy was picketed by the Repeal Section 31 Committee.

Ted Nealon, Minister of State at the Free State Department of Communications, spoke to a delegation protesting against



● Picket at Mountjoy Jail

of Sinn Féin on Wednesday, June 4th. The protesters occupied the studios in the Finiskin Industrial Estate for two hours on Wednesday evening.

PROTESTS

The Repeal Section 31 Committee will be staging a protest outside Dublin's Department of Communications building, in Kildare Street, between 1pm and 2pm this Friday (June 6th), and Sinn Féin will be holding a white-line picket in Sligo's O'Connell Street at 3pm on Saturday (June 7th).



● SEAN MacMANUS

Section 31 at his Sligo house on Tuesday, June 3rd. He told them he "fully supported" Section 31 — a predictable response from one of Fine Gael's top publicity men.

The Sligo studios of RTE were occupied by six members

Portlaoise prisoners sentenced

BY MAIRTIN Mac DIARMADA

SIX republican prisoners were given three-year prison sentences last week for their part in the attempted escape from Portlaoise Prison in November 1985.

There was a massive Garda and Free State army presence around the Special Court in Green Street for the hearings on Wednesday and Thursday, May 28th and 29th.

The six were originally charged with possession of guns and explosives as well as attempting to escape, but the former charges were dropped on Wednesday and they were tried for the escape only.

The sole evidence heard in court was the testimony of the governor, prison officers and gardai who were present in Portlaoise during the escape bid.

They described how the prisoners took control of their wing without inflicting any injury on them and how they were thwarted, just one stage away from freedom, when explosives failed to blow the next gate to the main door of the prison.

SENTENCES

At the end of the two-day trial, the six were given sentences of three years each to be served in addition to their present sentences.

One of those sentenced, Robert Russell, was not in fact a sentenced prisoner but is being held in Portlaoise under threat of extradition.



● Armoured convoy escorts the prisoners back to Portlaoise

tion to the six counties. episode; H-Block escapee James Clarke; Angelo Fusco, who escaped from Crumlin Road jail in 1981; and Peter Lynch of County Derry.

The other prisoners sentenced were Martin Ferris and John Crawley, both jailed for their part in the Marita Ann gun-running

Hardwicke health hazard

PEOPLE living in Hardwicke Street Flats in Dublin's North Inner City have been exposed to a serious health hazard for several months now.

In the courtyard of the Dermot O'Dwyer block, sewerage pipes have been almost continuously blocked, with waste spilling outside the doors of nearby tenants.

One of the residents, Margaret McAuley, told AP/RN that sewage from the waste

pipes had come up into her bath, which she cannot now use.

DANGER TO CHILDREN

The sewage in the courtyard is a constant health hazard to children who play in the vicinity.

Sinn Féin Councillor Christy Burke has made repeated representations to Dublin Corporation on the problem which, he says, has been allowed to continue because of the cutbacks in staffing and maintenance in the city.



● Sinn Féin Councillor Christy Burke points to the sewage leak

RUC blackmail bid fails

BY JANE PLUNKETT

A 17-YEAR-OLD North Belfast youth has revealed a bid by the RUC in Castlereagh to pressurise him into working as an informer.

Norman Donnelly was arrested under Section 12 of the Prevention of Terrorism Act from his home in the nationalist Ardoyne area shortly after 10pm on May 12th.

During six lengthy interrogations over a two-day period, the frightened youth, who had never before been in Castlereagh Interrogation Centre, was accused of being involved in hijacking and burning a bus in Ardoyne some days earlier. He was threatened with up to 19 years' imprisonment if he refused to work for the RUC. Donnelly told AP/RN:

"They said, 'We can get you a fine or a two-year suspended sentence' if I was to do what they asked. I just said no, I wasn't doing it."

On the third day, the scared Donnelly, who has extreme reading difficulties, signed a pre-typed statement put before him by the RUC, in order, he says, "to get out". He was charged with hijacking and arson.

The RUC had pressurised Donnelly specifically to watch the



NORMAN DONNELLY

republicans see as particularly significant the fact that one of Donnelly's friends, Anthony Bradley (18), has already revealed that he was interrogated in connection with the bus incident and similarly pressurised to spy on Meehan and Clarke (see AP/RN, May 22nd).

These RUC methods were described as "sordid" by local Sinn Féin Councillor Gerard McGuigan, who appealed:

"Anyone who has been pressurised or has agreed to work as an informer should come forward to Sinn Féin without delay. Publicity is their best and only defence against the RUC's cynical blackmail."

movements of well-known local republicans Martin Meehan and Terence Clarke, both of whom were recently released after lengthy imprisonment (in Meehan's case a 12-year sentence) on the

uncorroborated word of RUC paid-perjurers.

Earlier this week, Donnelly came forward to Sinn Féin and revealed the RUC's attempt to recruit him as an informer. Local



Lifers' list

TWO omissions from the list of names of republican POWs serving life sentences, which was published in last week's AP/RN, have been brought to our attention. They are:

● Joe Grey, from Money-more, South Derry, who was born on 2.2.56 and arrested on 9.8.76.

● Michael Hone, SOSP (Secretary of State's Pleasure), from Dungiven, County Derry, whose birthday occurs on July 2nd was arrested in 1972.

We have also been asked to point out that Brendan Mailey, from Ardoyne (now in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh), and Paul McManus, from Armagh (now in the Cages), are both SOSP prisoners.

Money-lenders exposed

SINN FEIN in Birr, County Offaly, has recently highlighted the activities of money-lenders who have been operating in the town.

In a resolution tabled at last month's meeting of Birr Urban District Council, Sinn Féin Councillor John Carroll condemned the money-lending and called for an investigation into the abuse. He said that Sinn Féin had received complaints from people in the town and had discovered the method of operation of the money-lenders.

An agent for a Cork com-

pany, Ray Murray Ltd, would call to local residents offering goods for sale to be paid for by instalments. If the items were 'not available' he would offer money, to be repaid at massive interest rates.

Birr Sinn Féin said that the prevalence of money-lending was a result of economic policies which put working-class families under severe financial pressure.

Irish speakers pay price of Agreement

SINN FEIN president Gerry Adams has described the two-day imprisonment last week of Irish-language activist Gearoid O Caireallain as "the first concrete result for Irish speakers of the Hillsborough agreement".

"Gearoid O Caireallain," he said, "was paying the price for holding his head up and demanding to be treated as an Irish person in his own country."

O Caireallain, editor of the Irish newspaper LA (which has not been published regularly since the Northern Ireland Office ordered the axing of ACE grants

in October 1985), was arrested on Wednesday, May 28th, and taken to Crumlin Road Jail for non-payment of a £70 fine for having defective tyres. He had refused to attend the court hearing because he was denied the right to conduct his case in Irish.

PRISON AGAIN

On his release on Friday,



● GEAROID O CAIREALLAIN

May 30th, he was met by a group of placard-carrying supporters. The language activist told waiting reporters that he was "prepared to go to prison again to highlight the fact that it is impossible to conduct business with the state services through the medium of Irish."

Backing O Caireallain's stance, Adams said:

"Bolstered by the support of the Dublin government and the SDLP, the NIO feels it can attack Irish-language enthusiasts without incurring any criticism from Garret FitzGerald."

Housing neglect in Bray

BRAY Urban District Council chamber was occupied by six members of Bray Sinn Féin on Tuesday, June 3rd, in protest at the plight of a local family.

The council was meeting at the time and was adjourned after the protest. The action was taken to highlight the living conditions of Catherine and James Teelin and their six children who live in

Dargle Road, Bray. The family have been living in a council house for three months. It is in a very bad state of repair with damaged and exposed electrical fittings and a broken toilet,



● James Teelin showing Sinn Féin's Marie Gavighan the condition of the rear of his council house despite repeated pleas from the family for repairs to be carried out.

The state of the house causes particular hardship for the family whose children range in age from eight months to nine years; and one of whom is handicapped. The

Sinn Féin protestors called for immediate action from the council to alleviate the plight of the Teelin family.

Where the mountains of Mourne-maid flow down to the EEC

BY Z. HAMMETT

IT COULDN'T LAST FOREVER. Irish leaders and Irish farmers have known for a long time that the EEC's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) would be overhauled sooner or later. EEC price supports have fattened the purses of large Irish farmers and, it must be said, have helped some small farmers to eke out a living. But they also entail a cost to the largest and most powerful European states, like West Germany and Britain.

Over the past ten years, the costs of the CAP to the rich partners sky-rocketed. Something had to give way. We now appear to be in the midst of a massive realignment of European agricultural policy which will leave the fragile Irish economy perilously exposed. The Dublin government, which has seen the crisis coming for a long time, has done practically nothing about it.

A quick geography lesson reveals the nature of Europe's agricultural problem. Next to the Alps and Pennines, a much younger range of mountains has appeared on the European map: the Food Mountains.

The highest peak in this mountain range, Wheat Mountain, is made up of some 11 million tonnes of surplus wheat. Next stands the massive Butter Mountain: one million tonnes; the Milk Mountain: another million tonnes; and the Beef Mountain: 800,000 tonnes. Smaller mountains include

Mount Olives (I thought that was in the New Testament!) and Mount Wine, where I spend most of my holidays.

Ireland's food mountains are among the largest in Europe. The 100,000-tonne butter mountain holds one tenth of the EEC total. The beef mountain is as large and holds one seventh of the EEC total.

Now, I know these figures don't mean much to the average punter - how big is a tonne of wheat? How many burgers are there in a tonne of beef? So I've made a few

simple calculations to demonstrate how big these mountains are.

The Irish butter mountain could pave the Belfast-Dublin road a foot deep in butter (this gives new meaning to Big Ian's "slippery slope to Dublin"). Or, you could butter a 138-square-mile slice of Ballymurphy toast (yeuccchhh!).

The beef mountain is an even bigger treat.

Assuming the unlikely event that Ronald MacDonald started making his burgers with pure beef and no plastic, the Irish beef mountain would provide 800 million Big Macs. That's enough to give every man, woman and child in the thirty-two-counties a burger a day for six months. If we left out the vegetarians and nursing babies, we might stretch to a burger every weekday for a year. The baps, of course, would come from the wheat mountain, with enough left over for that Ballymurphy toast I've already mentioned.

WHO PAYS?

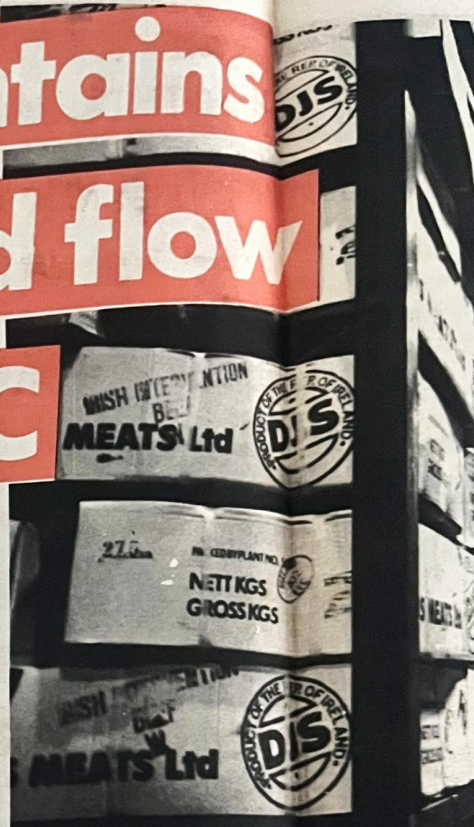
This massive waste is the result of EEC price supports. Instead of letting farmers sell their goods for whatever price they can get, the EEC artificially maintains high prices for foodstuffs by buying large stocks of food that would

otherwise flood the market and drive prices down. The food is kept in storage. In Ireland alone, it costs over £15 million each year to keep beef and dairy products in storage. The whole process, known as *intervention*, is paid for primarily by the richer EEC member states.

So far so good. It sounds like a way of redistributing money from the rich states to poor countries like Ireland, and in a way it is. But the CAP has actually increased inequality in several ways.

First, the guaranteed high prices favour large farmers on better soils who are able to produce the most and make the most profits. Second, the soaring cost of farm inputs (including price-supported EEC grain feedstuffs) weighs particularly heavily on the small farmer. Third, many small farmers are denied EEC grants because they don't work enough 'man hours' on their farms. And last, but not least, the consumers in all countries must pay the higher prices for food when it reaches the grocery shelves.

Since poorer people spend more of their incomes on food, this puts an extra burden on them. Poor farmers are sometimes better off, sometimes



Part of Ireland's intervention beef mountain, in cold storage

worse off. Rich farmers are a lot better off. And consumers are always much worse off.

And then there is the main problem with the CAP.

Because prices are so high, the large farmers are producing more and more. Surpluses have built up, the mountains are growing higher and higher. The costs of paying for all the extra food has gone up, and storage costs have sky-rocketed.

More food is produced to get the higher prices. Intervention is increased to support the high prices. Even more food produced. On and on, in a vicious circle. The Dublin

government has for many years contributed to the problem by promoting 'highly-specialised, intensive farming. Over the past 20 years, we have become more and more dependent on imports of vegetables and grain that used to be grown in Ireland. And we have also become more and more dependent on EEC interventions as a market for our only significant agricultural products: dairy and beef. The twenty-six counties now imports more foodstuffs than oil because livestock accounts for over 85% of agricultural output (the same is true of the six counties).

All of this is fine as long as

Omagh honours Mandela

LAST WEEK, Sinn Féin councillors in Omagh presented a council plaque honouring jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela to Terence McCaughey, president of the Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement.

The decision to express the council's support for Mandela by conferring on him the 'citizenship' of Omagh district was taken two months ago. In sharp contrast to the stated position of John Hume and the

SDLP party leadership, SDLP councillors objected to the plaque, claiming they could not honour anyone who failed to renounce violence.

Thanking the councillors, McCaughey stressed that "the public should not apologise for supporting the African National Congress and their actions", and he congratulated the council on its efforts to "flush out the lies" of the racist South African regime.



(Left to right) Mark Gavan (Omagh Anti-Apartheid Group), Cllr Gerry McMenamin (SF), Mary Ward (OAG), Seamus Kerr (Omagh Council chairperson, SF), Terence McCaughey (IAAM president), Cllrs Cormac McAleer and Francie Mackay (SF) and Cllr Brian McGrath (IIP)

Democracy for home

SINCE the H... tel in Nelson... Dublin, was f... close after... cutbacks by... tern Health... homeless bo... no refuge in D...

Several gro... cerned about... young peopl... ed EHB o... Thomas Stre... on Wednesd... 4th, deman... an emergenc... be provided.

They also... immediate a... deal with th... of homeless... living rough... city.



cold storage

nt has for many years
ed to the problem by
highly-specialised,
farming. Over the
years, we have become
more dependent on
vegetables and grain
to be grown in Ire-
land. We have also be-
come more depen-
ent on EEC interven-
tions as a
for our only significant
products: dairy
The twenty-six coun-
ports more food-
oil because live-
punts for over 85% of
al output (the same is
six counties).
this is fine as long as

the system continues.

But it won't.

In 1984, the intervention system hit a brick wall. The EEC budget ran out — there was no more money to buy all the meat, milk and wheat. A special levy on member states made it possible to continue interventions. But the rich countries agreed to the higher levels only on condition that the system be revised.

The result was a 1985 EEC Green Paper which recommended radical changes in the CAP. The Green Paper's main recommendation was a drastic cut in price supports, particularly on

cereals. The price cuts were to be partly offset by direct aid to poor farmers. But the aid programmes were a mere spit in the ocean next to the income farmers would lose from the price reductions.

We saw a glimpse of the future late last month when EEC talks ended. The results spelled disaster for Ireland's over-specialised agriculture. The milk quota — the amount of milk a country can produce and sell into intervention — was cut by 3%. A phase-out of beef interventions will begin at the end of the year. This year alone, the changes will cost the twenty-six coun-

ties some £150 million.

Agriculture Minister Austin Deasy limped back to Dublin after the meetings with his own lame excuses for signing the agreement — the Dublin government, it seems, accepted the milk production cuts in order to postpone cuts in beef. But even Deasy admitted that the deferral of beef cuts was merely a "stay of execution", adding that the future for Irish agriculture is "pretty grim".

A FOOL'S PARADISE

There was a time when the EEC looked like a bonanza for Irish farmers.

Farm incomes shot up in

the early '70s and there seemed no end to the grants that were coming from Europe. Since then, Irish farmers have been living in a fool's paradise. Of course, this is hardly surprising, since governments for 30 years have induced and cajoled them into over-specialising in livestock. As long as the EEC money came in, this policy seemed great, but as soon as cracks started appearing (in the late '70s) even the most ardent of European integrationists should have begun preparing for the end of the CAP as we know it.

Instead, the government encouraged farmers to go full

steam ahead and the banks threw more money at them than they could hope to pay back. And the food mountains grew. Farmers in the six counties were in an even bleaker position since they are represented by a British government that actively works against their interests in the EEC.

Many experts agree that the collapse of the CAP, which began in May, could easily mean the collapse of the EEC. Countries such as France will have no desire to continue free trade in industry if their agriculture is not protected in return. Over the next few years, we may see a 'renationalisation' of trade policies, with individual countries re-establishing their own tariffs and trade quotas.

The collapse of EEC trade policy is something that Ireland should prepare for, particularly since we have so much to lose from the end of the CAP. But, going on past performance, neither the Dublin government nor whoever is pretending to rule the North is likely to do anything until the rest of the EEC acts. By that time, the Irish beef industry may be shattered and the dairy industry crippled. Worst of all, small farmers will be under more and more pressure to leave the land and to sell out to large corporate interests.

EEC OUT

Ireland's membership of the EEC was responsible for the destruction of traditional Irish industry because Irish products were unable to compete with duty-free imports. Now, after making us dependent on the CAP for our markets for beef and milk, the EEC is pulling the rug from under our agricultural feet.

The only way we can avoid economic ruin is to take control of our own economy and of our economic policies. This cannot happen within the EEC. The last few weeks have proven that the time is now critical — we must withdraw from the EEC and begin to fight this country's total dependence on Europe. Otherwise the Irish will continue to be, as former EEC Commissioner Spinelli called us, mere "sheep" who simply run with the flock of richer industrial European powers.

Demand for hostel

SINCE the Hope hostel in Nelson Street, Dublin, was forced to close after financial cutbacks by the Eastern Health Board, homeless boys have no refuge in Dublin.

Several groups concerned about these young people picketed EHB offices in Thomas Street, Dublin, on Wednesday, June 4th, demanding that an emergency hostel be provided.

They also called for immediate action to deal with the scandal of homeless children living rough in the city.



● Pablo, a hostel resident, reads a poem written to protest at the conditions imposed on homeless youth

IRA VOLUNTEER PERISHES IN FISHING TRAGEDY

A sad loss

HUNDREDS of mourners attended the funeral in Derry on Tuesday morning, June 3rd, of IRA Volunteer Philip McFadden, who, with Belfastman Brendan Kelly, was tragically drowned when their trawler sank off the Galway coast early on Saturday, May 31st.

Because of his republican activities, Philip McFadden, aged 28, had been 'on the run' since the late '70s and lived in Killybegs, County Donegal, where he worked as a fisherman.

Shortly before 4am on Saturday morning, his boat, the 55-foot *Rising Sea*, with four other crew members, left Kilonan in Inis Mór on the Aran Islands. A few minutes later and in thick fog, the boat apparently drifted too close to shore and hit some rocks. It sank within minutes in 90 feet of water and 100 yards off the North-West shore of Inis Meán Island. Philip McFadden and Brendan Kelly, aged 32, were trapped in the wheelhouse and drowned.

DIED A HERO

According to survivors of the tragedy, Philip McFadden died "a hero", trying to save the lives of his comrades. Derry Sinn Fein Councillor Hugh Brady told *AP/RN*:

"Immediately following the boat crashing onto the rocks, Philip left the wheelhouse and went below deck to raise the alarm. He then went back to the wheelhouse to try to stabilise the boat but caught his life-jacket on a hook.

"The boat went down too quickly for him to escape."

A second trawler, the *Caroline Ann*, discovered the survivors huddled in a life-raft after six hours and raised the alarm. The two bodies were later brought ashore by divers and post-mortems established that they had died from drowning.

Fishing villages throughout Donegal were stunned by the deaths and all fishing was cancelled over the weekend as a mark of respect of the two men.

RETURN TO DERRY

On Sunday evening, Philip McFadden's body was taken home to the Creggan Estate, Derry, accompanied by relatives and members of Derry Sinn Fein. At the McFadden home, an IRA guard of honour stood vigil over his Tricolour-draped coffin.



●(Above) IRA guard of honour keep vigil over Volunteer Philip McFadden's coffin



●(Left) Derry Sinn Fein Councillor Hugh Brady gives the oration

Cromore Gardens. In spite of this, at one minute past midnight on Monday, the coffin was removed from the house and, from out of the darkness, two IRA Volunteers armed with handguns stepped forward and fired volleys of shots over their comrade.

FUNERAL

At 9.30am on Tuesday, Philip McFadden's coffin was carried to St Mary's Church for the funeral Mass. Sinn Fein elected representative Martin McGuinness and Derry City Councillor Mitchel

The RUC and British army moved into the area in great force, many lying in gardens surrounding the family home at



●VOL PHILIP MCFADDEN

McLoughlin pinned the Tricolour to the coffin and an IRA uniform was carried at the head of the funeral procession, accompanied by two drummers.

A massive force of RUC men and British soldiers lined the route, many of the RUC wearing riot gear and carrying plastic-bullet guns, batons and shields. Over 60 RUC Land Rovers followed the cortege while others were parked in nearby streets.

Although the crown forces initially outnumbered the mourners, following Mass the numbers attending the funeral quickly grew and inevitably scuffles broke out as the RUC moved in to try and hem in the hearse.

At the graveside, scores more riot-clad RUC stood around as Derry republicans paid their final respects to Philip McFadden.

The oration was given by Derry Sinn Fein Councillor Hugh Brady who spoke of the "bravery and nobility that inspires those who unselfishly seek to return Ireland to its people."

Of Philip McFadden, he said:

"As a soldier of Oglagh na hEireann, Philip was always conscious that he may have to lay down his life in the war against British repression and terror. He calmly accepted that reality, knowing that the achievement of Irish freedom entails great sacrifice, great commitment and great selflessness.

"Philip's death, though tragic, says everything about him. He might have saved himself but he only thought of his friends. He died ensuring that others might live."

Philip McFadden - a committed Volunteer

THE sudden death of IRA Volunteer Philip 'Fadje' McFadden (28), from the Creggan Estate in Derry, was the third such tragedy to strike the McFadden family in the last three months. In March, both Philip's mother, Elizabeth, and his grandmother, Mary, died.

Fadje McFadden was the third eldest in a family of four boys and three girls. He had a twin sister, Anne.

Widely known and respected as a quiet and gentle person of an unassuming manner, 'Fadje' had spent most of his adult life as an active soldier in the Irish Republican Army. He was wholeheart-

edly committed to the ending of British rule in Ireland and was dedicated to doing all in his power to further that cause.

INVOLVED

He became involved in the Republican Movement in the early '70s when he joined Fianna Eireann and was prominently involved in street resistance in the

Creggan Estate both before and after Operation Motorman in July 1972. During this time he was arrested by the British on several occasions and received serious beatings.

His brother, Larry, was arrested in 1975 and spent four years in Long Kesh and Magilligan as a special category political prisoner. By this time, Fadje had left the Fianna and joined the IRA.

FORCED TO LEAVE HOME

In August 1977, with the crown forces actively

seeking him, he was forced to leave his home in the Creggan. He remained a committed Volunteer.

In the fishing village of Killybegs, County Donegal, Fadje easily settled into the community and his generous personality quickly won him respect and friendship.

For his unselfish sacrifice last Saturday which cost him his own young life, he will be proudly remembered as a hero by that community as well as by his comrades in the Republican Movement.



Strip-searching highlighted

DELEGATES from 68 countries attending the Associated Countrywomen of the World (ACWW) international conference in Killarney last week were made aware of the strip-searching of Irish women prisoners. Members of the Killarney and Mid-Kerry Stop the Strip-Searches committees distributed leaflets and displayed placards outside the conference centre.

Many of the delegates stopped to ask for more information and expressed surprise that the issue of strip-searching was not on the agenda at the conference, especially since the president of the Turkish section of the ACWW is imprisoned in Turkey and is being subjected to the same treatment.

WESTMEATH

A day-long protest against the strip-searching of women POWs in Maghaberry Prison was held in Mullingar, County Westmeath, on Saturday, May 31st.

Members of the local Sinn Féin cumann had street displays of press-cuttings and posters on the issue and distributed 2,000 leaflets. They collected several hundred signatures on the anti-strip-search petition.

The local radio station also carried a statement by Sinn

Fein spokesperson Bill Cleary, outlining the reason for the protest, and a public meeting on strip-searching will be held in the town on June 16th.

CASTLEBLAYNEY

A motion condemning strip-searching in Portlaoise Prison was passed unanimously by Castleblayney Urban District Council at its meeting on Tuesday, May 27th.

Proposed by Sinn Féin Councillor Sean McGinn, the motion called for an end to the practice of strip-searching in the prison.

PICKETERS ARRESTED

SEVENTEEN PEOPLE, including Linda Bellos, leader of Lambeth Council, were arrested outside the Old



● Mulligan anti-strip-searching protest

Bailey in London on Monday, June 2nd.

The 17 were among 50 picketers protesting against the strip-searching of Ella O'Dwyer and Martina Anderson, the two Irish women presently on trial in the Old Bailey along with Pat Magee,

Peter Sherry and Gerry McDonnell.

FIFTY-FIVE ARRESTS

The picket, organised by the Irish Prisoners' Appeal group in London, has been held outside the court once a week since the trial began. Fifty-five people have been arrested so far, and one woman, Jo Tulley, has

been charged with obstruction.

The people arrested on Monday were released on bail a few hours after being taken to Snow Hill Police Station and have to report there on August 4th. They suspect that the police are awaiting the outcome of Jo Tulley's case (due to be heard on July 26th) before deciding to charge them.



● Sinn Féin Councillor Christy Burke outside 19 Blessington Street

Fire destroys slum building

TENANTS in a run-down Dublin building narrowly escaped death or serious injury after a fire broke out last week. The living conditions of people in the four flats in the building (which is owned by a garda inspector) were reported in AP/RN on March 6th.

The fire at 19 Blessington Street started at around 11pm on Wednesday, May 28th. The building has no fire escape and members of two of the three families living there had to jump to safety from an upstairs window. Charles and Patricia Hanlon

and their two children were hospitalised after the fire, Charles having to stay in hospital during the week as he received a severe back injury. Another tenant, Helen Madden, was also taken to hospital, as were her two children.

It has not been established how the fire started. However, wiring and plumbing in the flats was in an unsafe condition, as reported originally in AP/RN when Sinn Féin Councillor Christy Burke called on Dublin Corporation health officers to declare the building unfit for human habitation.

The garda landlord has not refunded the families' rent deposits or attempted to help them in any way. The victims of the fire are now considering taking legal action against him.

Christy Burke described the fire as "the inevitable result of the disgraceful condition of the flats as 'maintained' by the landlord".

None of the tenants has yet been rehoused as they have not been offered suitable accommodation by the Corporation.

Travellers picket Embassy

THE British Embassy in Dublin was the venue for a protest by Travellers' organisations on Friday, May 30th. The picket was to highlight the plight of Travelling people in the six counties and was supported by Minceir Misli; the German human rights group, Gesellschaft Fur Bedrohte Volker, who have been visiting Ireland; the Northern Ireland Council for Travelling People; and the East Anglian Gypsy Council.





REPUBLICAN PUBLICATIONS

Republican Publications has a wide variety of T-shirts, posters, badges, books and pamphlets.

Reduced rates are available for bulk orders. For further information contact: Republican Publications, 51/53 Falls Road, Belfast (telephone 232820), or 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1 (telephone 726932).

AN CUMMANN CABHRACH TESTIMONIAL DINNER

Due to the huge demand for tickets for the annual An Cumann Cabhrach Testimonial Dinner last year, republicans who wish to attend this year's event are asked to book their tickets early to avoid disappointment.

Tickets, price £8, are available from 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.

An Cumann Cabhrach Testimonial Dinner
7.30pm Saturday 21st June
Park Lodge Hotel
North Circular Road
Dublin

Torrthai crannchur

Meath Sinn Fein comhairle ceantar
400 Draw
£100 Harry Newman, Castletown, Dunboyne; £25: S. O. Ryan, c/o Eric Hanly; £25: Neill McLoughlin, Donaghpatrick, An Uaimh; £5: Ollibhear O. Curran, Colmcille Villas, Kells; Tommy O'Neill Skryne, Navan; Marian Dunne, Faughan Hill, Bothamreen; R. Farrelly, Dean Cogan, Navan.

Louth comhairle ceantar
10-Week Draw
£50: Mick McKeown; £25: Sally Duffy; £25: Sean Waters.

Mayo Sinn Fein 300 Club (April)
£200: Monica, c/o Castlebar Sinn Fein; £50: Gary Kennedy, Westport; £50: O'sin O. Mongain, Doothoma; £25: The Cor-na-Mona Five; £25: Grainne Regan, Killalea; £25: A.E. c/o Ann Devereux; £25: P. O'Grady, c/o Mick Dever.

Munster Election Draw
Celtic Cross or Harp: Frank Curran, Dixon Avenue, Glasgow; Harp: c/o Peadar Beecher, Barrack Street, Cork city; Leather picture: Sean O'Sullivan, Ocon, County Limerick; Mahogany lamp: Sean O. Hoolagh, Glenn Cartagh, Contae Chiarra; copper plaque: Moira Heenan, Rathcablin, County Tipperary; Leather purse: Eve Smith, South Pender Island, BC, Canada; Bobby Sands plaques: Jim Benson, Anchor Inn, Killaloe, County Clare, and Aine Ni Chuarin, An Rinn, Contae Phortaige.

Republican Aid 200 Club Draw
1st: Jerry O'Sullivan, Rock Street, Tralee, 2nd: Aine O. Lubhain, Baile an Fhuitearagh; 3rd: Gerard O'Sullivan, Laharn South, Cahirciveen, 4th: Bridie Curtin, Boherbee, Tralee.

mála poist

Welcome to Ireland?

The following is an excerpt from a letter which was sent to the US ambassador to Dublin, Margaret Heckler, by an American tourist following her attendance at a republican commemoration in Killorglin, County Kerry.

The next morning, there came a knock at the front door and I was told that the Special Branch were coming up the stairs, that I must get up quickly and dress. Then a tall, bald-headed man came into my room and went through my belongings, my wallet, all the drawers and closets, and under the bed. He then took my car keys to search the car. At that point, I was arrested under Section 30 of the Offences Against the State Act. I interpreted it as a subtle form of martial law.

Since nobody read me my rights, I had to assume that I had none. I was interrogated, threatened and intimidated. I was asked for very personal information, and about the commemoration march (what I thought of the oration given at the memorial) and told that if I didn't answer the questions I would be charged.

The gardai took my photograph and fingerprints and after three hours I was released.

Ms Ambassador, I have no record of criminal activity and never in my life have I been arrested. Wasn't my good character verifiable with the American Embassy? And couldn't that verification have taken place without my arrest?

Why were my fingerprints and photograph taken even though I was not charged? Is there the possibility that I could retrieve the prints and photograph?

I would be most appreciative if you would have a word with the Garda Síochána in Tralee in regards to these two things accompanied by their letter of apology.

Annie L. McEntee,
Arlington,
Virginia, USA.

Vincent Donnelly

A Chara,
I should like to inform your readers that Vincent Donnelly, a republican POW in England, has now been transferred to Albany Prison, Isle of Wight.

This is after Vincent spending three months in Leeds, where he only received one letter because the British authorities have moved him around so much that supporters had trouble keeping track of him.

The Hillsborough Agreement



Republican Aid 200 Club Draw
1st: Jerry O'Sullivan, Rock Street, Tralee, 2nd: Aine O. Lubhain, Baile an Fhuitearagh; 3rd: Gerard O'Sullivan, Laharn South, Cahirciveen, 4th: Bridie Curtin, Boherbee, Tralee.



CRISIS

A Chara,

With the recent appalling weather conditions, many farmers in the West, North-West and North Midlands in particular — and indeed working farmers everywhere — are now deeply concerned about current feed requirements for stock and the near certainty that the winter of 1986/87 will again present huge difficulties.

It would be impossible to exaggerate the crisis facing agriculture at the present time. Even if optimum weather conditions prevailed, this crisis will most probably deepen and intensify.

The ACOT advisory service has warned of another major fodder crisis in the West and North-West next winter. To avoid animal malnutrition and economic ruin, farmers are urged by ACOT to apply heavy and frequent fertiliser and make an all-out effort to produce more silage and thus avoid haymaking and all the climatic perils associated with the saving of hay.

This advice may well be scientifically correct, but what of those thousands of ordinary farmers who are now being

crises have moved him around so much that supporters had trouble keeping track of him.
Helen O'Brien,
England.

Band together

A Chara,

It's not often we see a band on album being reviewed in the pages of AP/RN, but in these days of unemployment and government cut-

lished figures showing that 2,000 farm families are in serious difficulties with lending institutions. There is plenty of evidence to show that the banks are taking a tougher position with debtors than ever before. The scandalous profits made by such institutions on the back of the people's misery and woe is reflected in the huge jump in assets and the soaring value of their shares on the stock exchange.

For such vampires there is indeed no crisis. In a free Ireland, the banks and similar institutions should exist to meet the needs of people and communities, not to bleed the country dry.

So far, the IFA leadership has refused to take a stand on this issue. Instead, it has adopted the reactionary position of calling for cuts in public spending — generally echoing Des O'Malley on social and economic issues.

Is it because many of the ranchers themselves hold positions on the boards of these lending institutions that there is such a reluctance to confront this 'burglar in every home'?

Fear Feirme.

ALL letters should be addressed to: The Editor, An Phoblacht/Republican News, 51/53 Falls Road, Belfast, or 44 Parnell Square, Dublin. Letters should be written as clearly as possible, preferably on one side of paper only. Names and addresses should always be included, even when not for publication.

The other three tracks are Easter, Rising, Nineteen Sixty-Nine and a great version of the traditional Irish ballad, Johnny I Hardly Knew You.

It's encouraging to see a clear political line through the music — instead of the cop-out that is Red Wedge, who can support the struggles of the ANC and the Sandinistas in far-off places but ignore the one that should concern them most, the one here on their own doorstep.

Let's hope we hear plenty more of bands like Easterhouse.

S. Gargan,
Dublin.

Alcoholism

A Chara,

May saw the 35th anniversary of the formal creation of Al-Anon. This is a voluntary organisation of self-help groups for those affected by the stress of close association with a problem drinker.

Al-Anon is the part of the organisation for children and teenagers so affected.

By attending these group meetings, families can learn to cope with the situations which can arise in the home, whether or not the problem drinker seeks help. Closed meetings are completely confidential and there is no financial obligation. There are now over 860 groups in Britain and Ireland.

Details of Al-Anon and local groups may be obtained by writing to: Al-Anon Family Groups Information Centre, 64 Donegal Street, Belfast, or by telephoning Belfast 243489 between 10am and 1pm Monday to Saturday.

There is a 24-hour service for those in desperate need of help.

Al-Anon Information Centre,
Belfast.

Editor's note: The Dublin Al-Anon office can be contacted at 26 Essex Quay (phone 774809/714050).

Limerick Fianna

A Chara,

Fianna Eireann (Republican Youth Movement) is reorganising in the Limerick city area and would welcome applications from new members (male or female) between the ages of 7 and 17.

We should also be grateful if ex-members could return any uniform parts they may have.

Joseph Lynch,
16 Beech Grove Avenue,
Ballincurra,
Weston,
Limerick.

New Sinn Fein pamphlet on Hillsborough Agreement

TO OPEN UP discussion on the Hillsborough agreement, the Sinn Fein Publicity Department has reproduced in pamphlet form the text of a speech which was delivered by Sinn Fein elected representative Danny Morrison in Belfast on May 4th.

This booklet examines the background to the Hillsborough agreement, the text of the agreement itself and the extent to which it has fulfilled the intentions of its signatories. It also examines the nature of loyalism and 'constitutional nationalism' in the North.

instead of using intransigence as a bluff, 'have elevated it to a holy principle'.

CHANGED SITUATION

The pamphlet argues that the situation has changed from the last attempted internal settlement (Sunningdale), after which 'the SDLP were able to survive because there was no organised political challenge to them inside the nationalist community'.

Today, republicanism is organised politically and has established a sound base of support.

In facing the challenge which Hillsborough poses, Morrison's analysis concludes that republicans must continue to build upon this base and be prepared to question traditional perceptions which may be a hindrance.

As a republican analysis of the Hillsborough agreement, this booklet is essential reading. It can be obtained from the usual outlets at 75p (plus postage) per copy with special rates for bulk orders.

TV Preview

The plot to kill the Pope

BY DONAL LYONS

BEST BET of the week on RTE1 must be *The Plot to Kill the Pope*, going out in two parts on Saturday and Sunday at 9.15pm.

This is a dramatised reconstruction of the attempt made on the Pope's life in Rome on May 14th 1981 by Mehmet Ali Agca and the judicial events that followed. The programme also examines the alleged 'Bulgarian connection'.

Apart from that all I could honestly recommend on RTE1, is *Bosco*. RTE2 is equally dismal, but if you feel like a laugh why not have a gawk at the ever-intrepid *Garda Patrol* on Thursday at 11pm.

If you feel up to a ripping adventure yarn, UTV is transmitting *Raiders of the Lost Ark* on Thursday at 7.15pm.

Yet again, Channel 4 appears to have the pick of the programmes.

Not to be missed is *The Rise of Nationalism*, on Saturday at 7.30pm. This looks at the major independence struggles within Africa, from the early liberation of Ghana right through Kenya, Algeria and



● Aides carrying Pope John Paul II to safety after the near-fatal shooting.

Guinea Bissau.

There is also an interview with the outstanding guerrilla leader, Samora Machel, who led Frelimo's long battle for independence in Mozambique. Finally, the programme focuses on Zimbabwe and the collapse of white rule there, and then questions how long minority rule can last in South Africa.

The other highlight on Channel 4 is *The Life and Times of Rosie the Riveter*, on Thursday at 11.25pm. This is the second of a group of five documentaries about key periods in American labour history.

This marvellous film tells the story of American women workers in the Second World War. During this period they

were in great demand as war workers, but once the war was over society put the pressure on to force women back into the home. Well worth staying up for.

Oh yeah, just in case you didn't know, the World Cup is on. So it's wall-to-wall football on all stations - that is when Mexican TV gets its act together.

Film review

On yer bike

BY EDDIE STACK

AH, THE GLORY of hitch-hiking. How many fond memories do we have of standing in the pouring rain, on the way to Lisdoonvarna and the like, with our socks dripping in mud, our shoes as water resistant as the *Titanic* after it hit the iceberg, our two ham sandwiches (a week's sustenance at least) long since gone the way of all culinary delights.

How many fond memories do we have of standing on the roadside in this raging, lashing torrent (laughing at all our woes, of course) and earnestly sticking our thumb in an upright position at passing automobiles. It was then that human nature at its finest was revealed.

The motorists - who saw us in drenched and muddy garb, our hair stuck to our domes, and our rucksacks half-open and thrown down at our feet - would see us try to look earnestly into their eyes as we waved our thumbs just that little bit harder and brandished all the more frantically the crayon-inscribed piece of cardboard which read "*Lisdoonvarna*". Faced with this pathetic sight, the motorists reacted with all the kindness of a nation that has given us Bob Geldof: they jammed down their foot on the accelerator.

Ah yes, happy memories. But alas, stout Irishmen and women, there has arrived on our shores a motion picture that purports to stand up for the motorist who will not give a lift to a down-at-the heel hitcher. Worse still, it

casts a slur on hitchers to the effect that it claims they are all homicidal maniacs. "*You see that innocent fellow sticking his thumb at you innocently?*" this film tells the motorist. "*Don't give him a lift because he will hack you to pieces with his broad knife.*"

Well, what motorist would stop his car for you now, eh?

Should hitchers unite to picket the cinema at which this libellous filth is being shown. Should we, dare one suggest it, write a letter to *An Phoblacht/Republican News*? (Well, alright, picket the cinema).

THE KID

This despicable filth begins in the desert when our hero (henceforth known as 'the kid') is driving across America to begin a new life in California, his car deriving from that unique system whereby you can get a free ride if you deliver a car from one part of America - to its owner in another. However, our hero, the kid, having driven for thousands of miles, is practically falling asleep at the wheel and - comes at one point perilously close to death.



● Rutger Hauer, as John Ryder, gains the full attention of Jim Halsey, played by C. Thomas Howell



Despite the fact that he is in a desert, the weather has a particularly Irish flavour and it is teeming with rain. It is then that he sees a pathetic figure with an upraised thumb, and, deciding that some company will keep him awake, pulls over to give the hitcher a lift. After some painful small talk with the uncommunicative stranger, John Ryder, our hero the kid, starts to get uncomfortable with his new passenger, especially when Mr Ryder tells him that the car they just passed contains the bodies of two people he

has just cut in half.

That doesn't half make the kid feel jump.

Ryder puts a knife to the kid's throat.

"What do you want me to do?" pleads the kid.

"I want you to stop me," says Ryder.

WANTS TO BE KILLED

And so that is the theme of *The Hitcher*.

Ryder, the homicidal maniac, only wants to be killed before he kills everyone in America. Despite the fact that the kid gets him out of the car,

Ryder starts to dog the kid's footsteps, killing more motorists, blowing up a petrol station, killing everyone in a police station, shooting down a helicopter and at one point pulling a girl apart with an articulated truck.

The problem is that Ryder is dogging the kid's footsteps so closely that the police think that the kid is doing the killing. How can the kid prove his innocence?

As the bodies pile up and the American countryside is laid waste, the kid is inevitably driven to one conclusion: he should have travelled by CIE.

If one can take the fact that a motorist who sees this film will never stop to give you a lift again, I would say the *The Hitcher* is an enjoyable blood and gore chase movie.

But then again, I own a bike.

Imeachtai

POKER CLASSIC

8pm Thursday 5th June
No.5 Club
5 Blessington Street
DUBLIN
Taillie £10

REPEAL SECTION 31

PROTEST
1pm to 2pm Friday 6th June
Department of Communications
Kildare Street
DUBLIN

MAGHABERRY

STRIP-SEARCHING

PICKET

5.30pm Friday 6th June
O'Connell Bridge
DUBLIN

Organised by
Women Against Strip-Searching
(TCDF)

SINN FEIN

SOCIAL

Music by guest artists
Friday 6th June
No.5 Club
5 Blessington Street
DUBLIN
Taillie £1

IRISH NIGHT

8pm Saturday 7th June
Ramblers' Rest
DUNDALK

Organised by Fionna Eireann

BALLAD SESSION

Guest artists
8pm Saturday 7th June
Sherson's
Portobello Bridge
DUBLIN

Taillie £1.50
Organised by Sinn Fein

SINN FEIN SOCIAL

Music by Skittles
8.30pm Saturday 7th June
Dorothy's Forge
MOYNALVY

County Meath
Taillie £1.50

VOL MICHAEL GAUGHAN

COMMEMORATION

(12th ANNIVERSARY)
1.30pm Sunday 8th June
Parkhurst
Newport

Isle of Wight
ENGLAND

Organised by the POW
Campaign Committee
Coach leaving Hammersmith
Odeon Cinema at 5pm

JUMBLE SALE

Books, clothes, cakes,
auction & refreshments
2pm to 6pm Sunday 8th June
Dublin Resource Centre
Crown Street
DUBLIN

Donations of jumble welcome
Organised by the Campaign
Against the Kerry Tribunal

SINN FEIN WOMEN'S

SEMINAR (SIX COUNTRIES)

12 noon Sunday 15th June
Gulladuff Hall
GULLADUFF

County Derry
All Sinn Fein women welcome

DANCE

Music by Hugo Duncan
9pm Friday 20th June
The Manhattan Club
KNOCK NA MOE

County Tyrone
Taillie £2

Organised by PDF

CHARTIST COMMEMORATION

Speaker: Desmond Graves
12 noon Sunday 22nd June
Grave of Longford-born
Bronterre O'Brien
Abney Park Cemetery
Stoke Newington
LONDON N16

SOCIAL

Guest artists
8pm Sunday 22nd June
Red Lion
New Market
DUBLIN

Taillie £2
Organised by Sinn Fein

REPEAL SECTION 31

SOCIAL

Music & crack
9pm till late Saturday 28th June
Resource Centre
Crown Street
DUBLIN

Full bar - Taillie £2

ANNUAL WOLFE TONE COMMEMORATION

BODENSTOWN

**Sunday
22nd June**

Assemble 2pm

Sallins

Main speaker:

Martin McGuinness

DUBLIN BUSES

Sunday 22nd June

Ballymun: 12.30pm

Shopping Centre

Taillie £3

Liberties: 12 noon

St Catherine's Church

Taillie £2.50 (kids free)

GALWAY BUS

9.30am Eyre Square

Calling at

Oranmore (9.40), Athenry (9.50),

Loughrea (10.10),

Cappataggle Cross (10.25),

Ballinasloe (11), Athlone (11.30)

Taillie £5

BELFAST BUS

BELFAST Sinn Fein has organised a weekend bus trip to Bodenstein for the weekend 21st/22nd June. The bus leaves Belfast at 12 noon on Saturday, arriving in Bray, County Wicklow, that evening. Hotel accommodation has been arranged in Bray.

On Sunday, June 22nd, the bus travels to Bodenstein for the Annual Wolfe Tone Commemoration.

For bookings contact Caoimhin O'Mairtin, Connolly House, 147 Falls Road, Belfast (phone 619-7191).



No rates for bullets

A COUPLE in the London borough of Waltham Forest have refused to pay their full rates in protest at the use of money by the London Metropolitan Police for riot equipment including plastic bullets.

The borough requires residents to pay a 'police rate' to the Metropolitan Police. In an information leaflet accompanying the rates demand, the police list three reasons for the increase in the rates this year. One of the reasons given is "necessary extra expenditure on riot damage compensation and public order equipment".

NEWMAN

In a letter to the Metropolitan Police Commissioner and former RUC chief, Kenneth Newman, Francis and Sarah O'Dearain state that they have no objection to the ordinary police rate but "do not consider it morally or politically justified to deal with social unrest or political problems by training police officers



● London Metropolitan Police Tactical Firearms Squad with plastic-bullet guns, deployed 'visibly' for the first time in Tottenham, North London, in October '85 to use and deploy 'public order equipment'.

They go on to say that they are not alone in objecting to the availability of plastic bullets and armoured Hotspur Land Rovers

to the Metropolitan Police. The O'Dearains are withholding the proportion of rates spent on plastic bullets and sending it to the United Campaign Against Plastic Bullets.



Billy Reid remembered in Glasgow

THE ANNUAL Billy Reid commemoration, organised by the Republican Band Alliance in Scotland, took place on Saturday, May 24th.

In all, 13 bands from Glasgow, Lanarkshire and Edinburgh marched in the commemoration which was led by the Billy Reid Band from Glasgow. The sectarian attitude of the police was displayed at the start of the march when they arrested the member of the colour party carrying the

Starry Plough.

This was the only incident in an otherwise successful commemoration which entertained the large crowds who gathered in support.

The march ended with the playing of *Amhrán na bhFiann*.



● VOL BILLY REID

TO ENSURE that you receive a copy of *An Phoblacht/Republican News* every week, why not subscribe to the paper directly? Annual subscription rates are:

Ireland	Ir£20
Britain	Stg£20
Europe Surface	Stg£25
Europe Airmail	Stg£40
USA	US\$50
Canada	Can\$60
Australia	Aus\$60
Elsewhere	Stg£35/Ir£40

TO: An Phoblacht/Republican News, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin, or 51/53 Falls Road, Belfast.

AN PHOBLACHT
Republican News

Don't miss your copy

Please find enclosed for a six months/one year subscription to be sent to:

Name:
Address:

WORLD VIEW



● Tamil protest in Dublin

Sri Lanka

FOUR WEEKS AGO, the Indian government dispatched a four-member negotiating team to Sri Lanka (formerly Ceylon) to persuade Sri Lanka's President Jayawardene to bring about a peaceful settlement to the protracted guerrilla war between the Tamil community and the Sri Lankan government.

The Indian delegation spent two days (May 13th and 14th) talking to Jayawardene and his government, at the end of which they were given a set of 'peace formulations' by the Sri Lankan regime. The delegation returned home with the package on the 15th, prompting India's foreign affairs minister, Ramesh Bhandari to remark, "There is a marked improvement in the island's law and order situation." Another top official was also able to say, "there has been a significant scaling down of violence."

Twenty-four hours later, Jayawardene launched a major attack against the Tamil separatists vowing to "wipe out terrorism totally". The attack was centred on Jaffna, recognised as the Tamils' capital city, with Sri Lankan troops fighting to seize Tamil-held roads while the Sri Lankan air force bombed and strafed the city. Explaining his actions on Sri Lankan state radio Jayawardene said, "Terrorism is no longer ethnic but an attempt to install a communist dictatorship by force and destroy Sri Lanka's democratic form of government."

'DEFENSIVE MOVES'

The Defence Ministry described the attacks against the Tamils as "defensive moves" and called the operation a "change-round of troops". The ministry also boasted that the whole operation would be over in 72 hours. But by May 19th the casualties began to mount, with at least 75 troops killed and hundreds wounded as they met with stiff resistance from the main guerrilla group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

The government forces had counted on their superior forces — using helicopter gunships, rockets, mortars and armoured cars — to force a way through to the Sri Lankan military base in Jaffna, where troops have been virtual prisoners since June of last year. (The Jaffna base is similar to Crossmaglen where the only relatively safe way out is by helicopter.)

As reports of the fighting began to trickle through, there was clear indication that the main victims of the Sri Lankan attacks were the civilian population; the Sri Lankan government issued a statement playing down the reports, claiming that they were doing everything in their power to "keep residents safe" and that "it is possible that a few civilians may have been injured during engagements between the forces and the terrorists."

BOYCOTT

The Tamil Tigers' political wing, the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), called for an immediate international boycott of the Jayawardene regime. The TULF also called on the Indian government to stop its efforts at trying to bring about a political solution, but instead to concentrate on gaining support from the international community for the Tamils. The Secretary-General of the TULF, Mr Appapillai Amirthalingum, said, "Countries can make a big impact on the budget of

Sri Lanka. I have told the Indian government that it should lobby other countries for such sanctions."

Any move in this direction would seriously damage the Sri Lankans as 25% of its total income comes in the form of foreign aid, with the USA and Britain topping the list. Norway, Sweden and Canada have indicated that they will seriously consider adopting sanctions but are holding out until this month when the consortium of countries that provide aid for Sri Lanka are meeting in Paris.

The TULF have accused the Jayawardene regime of outright deceit in its meetings with the Indian government. Amirthalingum said that the Sri Lankans are "pretending to work for a negotiated settlement to satisfy world opinion. At the same time they [the Sri Lankan government] are going all out for a military solution. We are left with no other option but a protracted war of attrition."

'SETBACK'

Meanwhile, the Sri Lankan armed forces' advance had ground to a halt by May 21st. A Sri Lankan army spokesperson described it as "a temporary setback", while government sources described it as the end of a "successful operation". The Sri Lankan army also publicly admitted that they could never take and hold Tamil territory where the guerrillas enjoy the support of one million people. One military spokesperson said:

"You cannot win a guerrilla war when your enemy is fighting on home territory with the backing of the people."

Clearly indicating that there is a major gulf between the army and the politicians, the Sri Lankan government ordered the army back into operations. The Sri Lankans also took a leaf out of US President Reagan's book by describing the continued aerial bombing of populated areas around Jaffna as "self defence". The Sri Lankans also dipped into the deep well of hypocrisy when they countered India's criticism of the bombing by declaring, "It was highly inaccurate to say that Jaffna was bombed — it was purely air support for Sri Lankan troops."

THREAT

With the fighting still going on, the Indian government has called on the Sri Lankans to put a "complete stop" to their offensive. The Indians have hinted that they are prepared, if the Tamils are threatened with a pogrom, to consider using physical force against the Sri Lankans, though this is seen as more of a threat from India than a promise. The Sri Lankan government is insisting that its actions are justified and that it is doing the Tamil population a favour by attempting to "liberate" army bases. "The alternative was to risk tired soldiers going on the rampage," a government spokesperson declared. A statement that was greeted with no small amount of cynicism by the besieged Tamil population.

and the Pyrene Peninsula prisoners in Crumlin Road Jail. Also from Frankle in Portlaoise.

SDLP Militants

ONE OF our more enterprising readers visited the SDLP's Belfast advice centre on the Falls Road to ask for a small advance on his share of all those billions of US dollars that will be coming our way in the wake of the Hillsborough agreement. Unfortunately, it was business as usual — the office was closed.

However, Neil Kinnock will not be pleased to learn that prominently displayed on the centre's front door is a poster advertising a meeting of Militant with guest speakers Liverpool City Council deputy chairperson Derek Hatton and Militant's Militant editor Peter Taaffe.

John Hume will not be too pleased either.

Whatever does it all mean?

PRISON OFFICERS in Belfast's Crumlin Road Prison divided for cover last Tuesday, fearing another jail-break by IRA prisoners, when the heavily-fortified metal front gates came crashing to the ground.

Unfortunately, it wasn't an attempt by republicans to breeze out of the Crum' but was a consequence of the 80-mile-an-hour winds, much to the relief of the red-faced warders.

AMONG the 'views of the Screws' which were expressed at the annual conference of the British Prison Officers Association at Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone, were a number of motions from the Belfast branch.

One demanded a "substantial" pay-rise because of their "versatile skills". Another wanted a tax exemption for monies spent on boots — they must wear out very quickly when you're continually putting the boot in.

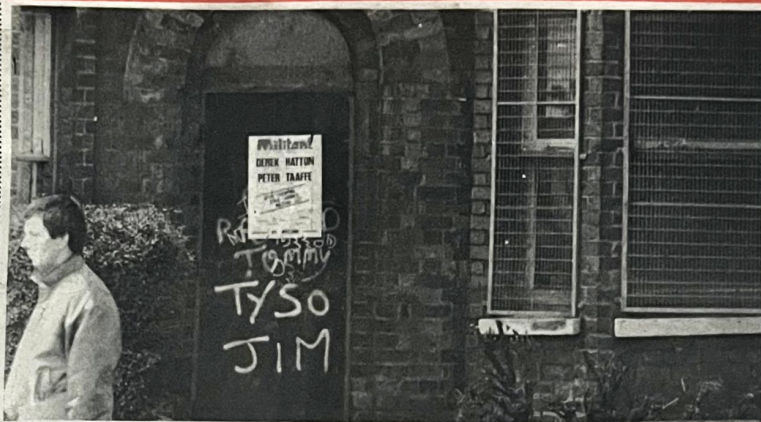
THE WORKERS' PARTY now openly shares the belief of Ian Paisley & Co that the six counties are just as British as Finchley.

The British government merely claims that 'Northern Ireland' is part of the United Kingdom (of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), but this isn't good enough for the party of 'Police, Perks and Crass Politics'.

Last week's edition of their tatty news-sheet, *The Irish People*, says that a Dublin community association hopes to host youth groups from "Northern Ireland and elsewhere in Britain in future".

DRUNKEN behaviour by violent thugs at soccer

the flying column



● The SDLP's Belfast 'advice' centre, which only opens during elections, for TV interviews and on December 32nd

matches must be stamped out, says Home Secretary Douglas Hurd.

However, while Hurdy Gurdy was addressing the Police Federation conference in the Yorkshire resort of Scarborough, 20 of the delegates, totally Brahms & Liszt, slipped out the door, bounced down to the beach, and, in full view of unsuspecting holidaymakers and their children, stripped down to their Y-Fronts to play soccer.

An inquiry is now reported to be underway but a spokesperson for the boys in blue has dismissed it all as 'a flash in the sand'.

THE FIRE and brimstone politics of the DUP were highlighted on Monday with the appearance of Strabane Councillor Ronald Oliver Brolly at Derry Magistrates Court.

DUP firebrand Ronnie

Ollie Brolly, of Berryhill Road, Donemana, was charged with setting fire last April to Lough Ash Primary School, Craigbann GAA Club and a mechanical digger.

IF YOU WANT to stay out of trouble then you should stay out of the 2nd Battalion, Royal Anglian Regiment, it seems.

Shortly after the Royal Anglians lost their Crossmaglen commanding officer in an IRA bomb attack, two of their number appeared before a Derry court last Monday on a shoplifting charge.

Mark Newson (21) and Alan Paul Garwood (21), stationed at Derry's Ebrington Barracks, were hauled before the Derry Petty Sessions and fined £30 for stealing an £8.50 duvet cover from a local store.

Word has it that they fancied themselves as undercover operators.

THE FRENCH Connection it may not be, but

The Flying Column's untelligence officers have uncovered a tell-tale link between extreme right-wing Fine Gael Deputy Alice Glenn and her Paisleyite mirror-images in the six counties.

Not only does Glenn Woe hold the same reactionary views on divorce, contraception, etc, as her Calvinist counterparts but she also seems to share an attachment to a certain symbolic set of numerals.

Alice's new war-cry, if any of you have difficulty in remembering her Dublin 8 address, is:

"Remember Box 1690!"

A BRITISH SOLDIER, Richard Simmons (25), of the 54th Engineer Support & Ambulance Squad, Royal Corps of Transport, has been sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment by a West German court for the rape

and murder of an 18-year-old woman.

THREE Sikhs accused of plotting to kill the Indian prime minister when he visited England last October had their case dismissed last month (they were later re-arrested) after an undercover police officer refused to give evidence if his identity was disclosed.

Was it fear for his safety that prompted this action?

Acting as an agent provocateur, the policeman allegedly posed as an IRA Volunteer and asked for £100,000 to carry out the assassination for the Sikhs. To give his co-story credibility, he also claimed that in 1979 he had killed the Conservative spokesperson on the six counties, Airey Neave, who was killed by (as we all know, don't we readers?)... the INLA.

No wonder he doesn't want people to know who

he is. I'd be embarrassed as well.

JUST for the record.

The British Royal Navy has finally admitted responsibility for shooting down a British army helicopter during the Falklands/Malvinas War four years ago.

The destroyer *Cardiff* brought down the Gazelle helicopter, killing four British soldiers, with its Sea Dart missiles on June 6th 1982.

ONE EXPERIENCE of Dallas star Patrick 'Bobby Ewing' Duffy during his recent visit to Ireland went noticeably unremarked upon by the establishment media.

While in Dun Laoghaire, County Dublin, Bobby Ewing came across the Sinn Féin stand which is erected outside the Shopping Centre every Saturday. Studying literature and photos of the lethal nature of plastic bullets, while he curiously examined one of the deadly weapons displayed there, a local Sinn Féin member commented: "If JR ever hit you with one of those you'd be lucky to get up from it."

The seriousness behind the remark wasn't lost on him and Bobby Ewing nodded thoughtfully, having learned a little bit more about what life in 'the cold sod' is really like, before going on his way.

AND A STORY from *Squire's* excellent column in the *Andersonstown News* last week.

Teachers accompanying pupils from a West Belfast secondary school on a recent bus-trip discovered that a commotion at the back of the bus was caused by a group who were holding up posters to motorists travelling behind.

The posters read: "Ulster says no — If you agree, flash your lights."

The teachers were rather perplexed at the proloyalist sentiments of the slogans until they discovered two other posters aimed, apparently, at motorists foolish enough to flash their lights.

They read: "F... off, you Orange b... — Up the IRA!"

BUT to end on a serious note.

The recently-painted mural which adorns the gable wall at the corner of RPG (Beechmount) Avenue in Belfast illustrates Irish republican solidarity with the African National Congress and its struggle for freedom.

It could only have been a matter of time before it would suffer the attention of the crown forces and, in the early hours of Friday morning last, the mural was spattered with white paint.

