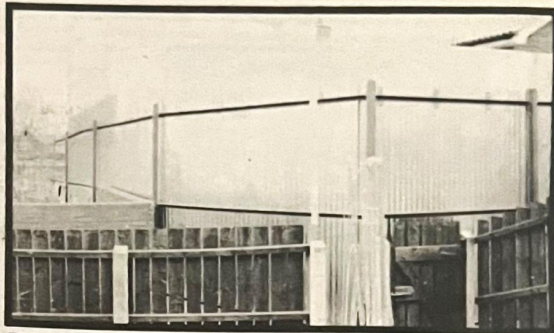


AN

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POLITICAL WEEKLY

PHOBLACHT

Republican News



TENSION GRIPS MANOR STREET — SEE PAGE 3

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RUC

TERROR

TACTICS

ON Tuesday morning, July 22nd, the RUC used sledgehammers to smash their way into a Cookstown family's home and assaulted a middle-aged couple and their son.

John and Cora Neeson, parents of former Sinn Féin Councillor Christopher Neeson, were startled from their sleep at 6.30am by the deafening noise of the sledgehammers which broke down their back door. Over 30 RUC men stormed the house and ushered the couple and their 23-year-old son Brendan from the upstairs bedrooms.

John Neeson (50), who is recovering from a serious illness, was pushed from the top landing and tumbled head-first down the stairs, hurting his back and neck.

His wife told AP/RN:

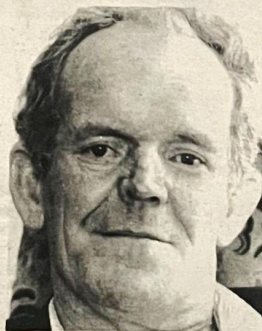
"When I tried to telephone the doctor for John they pulled it from my hands, pushed me on to the settee and said, 'Lie there, you slut'."

SCREAMING

Meanwhile, the couple's son Brendan was bundled into another room and beaten up by several RUC men. Mrs Neeson heard him "screaming that they were burning him with a cigarette. When he came out of the room they had his hands handcuffed behind his back".

For the next two hours the house was thoroughly raided with carpets and floorboards torn up in the bedrooms, pictures smashed and Mrs Neeson's dentures vindictively broken. "They were like mad animals. It was pure badness," she said.

(Two other houses belonging to Sinn Féin members Joseph Bell and Patsy McIlwaney were also



• JOHN NEESON

raided on the same morning and both men arrested under Section 11.)

John Neeson was held for three hours and released but his son Brendan was taken to Gough Barracks under Section 11. Given the beating he received prior to his arrest, his parents are understandably anxious for his safety

while in custody. Last Friday, July 18th, he had been detained by the RUC on his way to work. One RUC man pointed to his gun and, according to Mrs Neeson, told Brendan "it was for him".

SECTARIAN SPLEEN

This incident and others outlined in this edition of AP/RN, where RUC personnel have vented their sectarian spleen against Northern nationalists — actually breaking limbs in one attack — make a nonsense of SDLP claims that nationalists can rely on the RUC for protection.

Nor can the Dublin establishment be relied on, as a young County Tyrone man discovered when he was arrested on Tuesday by gardai acting in collusion with the RUC, and as farmers along the South Armagh/Louth/Monaghan border learned when Free State forces provided protection for British troops building unwanted concrete observation posts along the frontier.

OPINION

Black appeal

CREDIT for last Friday's Black Appeal Court verdict lies largely with the defendants' relatives and friends, those who tirelessly publicised the sham nature of the Black show-trial until it finally became an embarrassment to the British establishment.

The British were, nevertheless, able to imprison five men for nearly five years, rather longer than any internment during the 1971-75 period, and, overall, the paid-perjury system has enabled the British to hold scores of individuals for periods of several years, on no evidence at all!

Another reason why the show-trial system is particularly valued by Britain is because it has the appearance of a 'normal' trial system even though, close up, that veneer is distinctly tacky.

Recent remarks by the British Attorney General, Michael Havers, as well as the rejection earlier this month of appeals by two victims of RUC perjurer Kevin McGrady, indicate that the system is to continue.

Those two men (one of them Sinn Féin's former national organiser, Jim Gibney) remain incarcerated. Thirty-seven other people have appeals pending (from the Kirkpatrick and Quigley cases), and around 24 are awaiting a first trial (on the word of Kirkpatrick or of Derry woman Angela Whoriskey). Many are held in jail.

The lesson of the Black appeal should thus be for republicans and nationalists to redouble their campaigning efforts against the paid-perjury system.

As West Belfast MP Gerry Adams, Sinn Féin's president, said last Thursday:

"The decision should not be viewed as a victory for the London-Dublin Agreement or the end of the paid-perjury system... The British government clearly has no intention of abandoning this system but intends to perfect and rationalise it."



● Rubbish mounts outside Strabane RUC Barracks

UDR attacked

A UDR CORPORAL from Castlederg in County Tyrone had a narrow escape when a booby-trap bomb, placed under his van the previous night by IRA Volunteers, exploded on Friday morning, July 18th.

The soldier, who lives a short distance from the County Tyrone town, was driving into work when the bomb exploded, shortly after 9am, as he passed over a small bridge on the Castlegore Road.

The van disintegrated in the explosion but apart from a few bruises and scratches the soldier, who has been in the regiment for ten years, was largely uninjured.

ARMAGH SHOOTING

In a second attack, in Armagh city, at lunchtime on Tuesday, July 22nd, a man was shot and

seriously wounded. In a statement claiming responsibility, the 2nd Battalion, Armagh Brigade, described the man, who joined the UDR in 1970, as a "sergeant major in the UDR".

BELFAST EXPLOSIVES

On Monday evening, July 21st, the crown forces uncovered explosives and equipment belonging to the IRA in Andersonstown in West Belfast.

The Belfast Brigade criticised the efforts of the RUC and British army to frighten and evacuate

a large number of families from the area. In its statement the IRA pointed out:

"The explosives are in a totally safe condition. There are no bombs among the equipment captured and the only danger to local residents or property comes from the British army and RUC who, for their own propaganda reasons, may decide to evacuate local residents and tamper with the explosives."

CROWN FORCES RUBBISH

Employees of Strabane Council are still maintaining their boycott on the collection of refuse at RUC and four UDR bases throughout the district despite efforts by the council chairperson, Independent Councillor James O'Kane, to force a change in attitude.

At two recent council meetings O'Kane made formal proposals that the council should instruct its technical services officer to take any steps necessary to ensure that the refuse was collected from crown force bases. However, at each meeting O'Kane failed to get a seconder.

O'Kane's remarks prompted the Irish Republican Army to issue the following statement to the media:

"Following the reported remarks of Councillor James O'Kane, we wish to reiterate our earlier warning — anyone assisting the crown forces or carrying out work for them, including the removal of their rubbish, will be classed as collaborators and treated as such. If Councillor O'Kane wishes to put himself in that category that is his free choice. Let the crown forces make their own arrangements for the removal of their rubbish pending their own removal from our country."

Waiting for the autumn

BY MAIRIEN Mac DIARMADA

IN THE FALL-OUT from the Twelfth, and the Dublin government's response to it, nationalists in the six counties are getting a taste of what the Hillsborough Agreement is all about.

With daily attacks on nationalist areas and a mounting toll of sectarian killings by loyalists, the promised protection under the London-Dublin Deal has proved to be an abject failure — as republicans predicted it would be. Last week, Peter Barry (wearing his hat as Free State Foreign Minister) criticised the decision to allow the Orange parade through Garvaghy Road in Portadown on the Twelfth. It later emerged from Garret Fitzgerald in the *Sunday Press*, that the Dublin government had been assured by the British that there would be no repetition of last year's Orange triumphalism in Portadown. They allegedly only found out about the rerouting through Garvaghy on the night of July 11th, when the RUC and Orangemen announced their 'compromise'.

Reacting to Barry's criticisms, direct-ruler Tom King said in the British House of Commons that he had "no intention of in any way seeking to interfere with the RUC". In the by now very public row between King and Barry, the British direct-ruler continued to wipe his hands of the capitulation to Orangeism in Portadown.

He maintained that the routes of marches was up to the RUC.

FRAGILE IMAGE

While King was warding off the storm, the Dublin government and the SDLP were working hard to protect the fragile image of the Hillsborough Agreement.

Garret Fitzgerald was saying that "probably the worst is over in terms of the marching season — although you can never be sure until the last march is over — and we will concentrate from now on in implementing the Agreement". This was echoed by John Hume who said they must "move forward" in putting the deal into action.

Having so clearly failed to guarantee any protection for nationalists, Dublin and the SDLP have attempted to put the controversy over the 'marching season' outside the framework of Hillsborough, with Peter Barry saying that there was no formal commitment to raise the issue in the Inter-Governmental Conference, and there is word of a private meeting between Barry and King next week.

DUBLIN-SDLP SCENARIO

Meanwhile, the Dublin govern-

ment-SDLP scenario for nationalists goes something like this: the Orange season of discontent has been a nightmare from which the six counties will shortly be awakened. There will follow a fruitful autumn of reforms to be delivered by Peter Barry, the champion of nationalism.

The dream is very far from the reality. On Tuesday, July 22nd, the *Irish News* claimed on its front page that "Dublin pressure ends Diplock courts". The story claimed that one-judge Diplock courts were to be abolished altogether ("in the autumn", of course). Later that day, the Northern Ireland Office denied the story.

QUESTIONS

As they await their elusive reforms, the SDLP has been targeting the Republican Movement and diverting attention from the loyalist reaction to Hillsborough, blaming the IRA for loyalist attacks on nationalists.

The major questions this raises for the SDLP in the present crisis were posed by Danny Morrison on Wednesday, July 23rd:

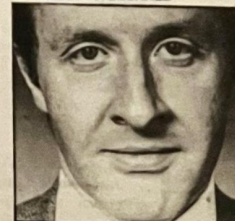
"Yesterday Mr Seamus Mallon attempted to suggest that the IRA was responsible for provoking loyalist sectarian attacks despite the fact that it would be the general perception that the most recent loyalist attacks are aimed at



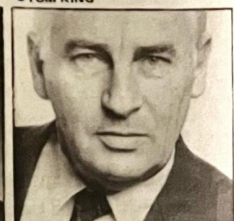
● GARRET FITZGERALD



● TOM KING



● BRIAN FEENEY



● PETER BARRY

overturning the Hillsborough Agreement.

"SDLP leaders have regularly and morally proclaimed that a united Ireland is not worth the loss of one life. I challenge Mr Mallon to state whether the Hillsborough Agreement — which doesn't guarantee an end to the British presence or an end to the loyalist veto — is worth the present loss of Catholic lives and the nightly attacks on Catholics."

Brian Feeney, on behalf of the SDLP, attempted to entirely dismiss the ability of the IRA, or a role for the IRA in defence, by correctly stating that it was virtually impossible to prevent random assassinations. However, in

the scenario of a crisis situation where nationalist ghetto areas came under prolonged loyalist attacks I would like the SDLP to answer some important questions which they have run away from. Could people rely on Peter Barry and Free State soldiers to come in and defend them and would the SDLP issue such a call? What role would the SDLP play on the barricades and what would they have in their hands that would meaningfully deter armed loyalists? Or would the defence of the nationalist people, as many people believe, rest once again with the IRA?

"We await answers."

Taxi-driver slain by loyalists

BY EAMON TRACY

MARTIN DUFFY, who was shot dead on Saturday night, July 19th, was the UVF's third victim in ten days and the seventh victim of loyalist assassins in North Belfast since the beginning of the year.

The various nationalist communities of North Belfast are once again the target for an indiscriminate terror campaign of assassination by loyalists.

In an area where, only a few weeks ago, front doors were left open for children and neighbours, closed and barred doors, and drawn curtains now dominate. As street lights begin to switch on in nationalist areas of North Belfast, few people are to be seen walking along the quiet, deserted roads.

FIREFIGHTER

Aged 28, Martin Duffy was a married man with three young children, Kevin

(11), Martin (7) and Michael (4). He had been a firefighter for eight years and lived in Manor Street in North Belfast which, since last June, has witnessed some of the most serious attacks on nationalist homes by loyalists for many years.

The murdered man worked part-time for a private taxi firm, Cedar Taxis. On Saturday night, at around 10pm, a caller asked for a taxi to be sent to Chichester Park Central off the Antrim Road. He was one of three drivers waiting to take a fare and, by chance, was first on the list.

When he arrived at the location given, he was confronted by gunmen who shot him in the head, back and arm. Somehow he managed to stagger almost 100 yards to the nearby Chester Park Hotel, where he collapsed in the car-park. Several nurses who had been in the bar gave what help they could before he was rushed to the Mater Hospital. He died less than an hour later following an emergency operation.

Twelve hours later, the Protestant



● Scene of the sectarian assassination of Martin Duffy (inset)

Action Force, a 'flag of convenience' for the UVF, claimed responsibility.

'Big Marty', as he had been known in the fire service, had survived a sectarian

attack several years ago. On that occasion loyalists had attempted to axe him to death but he fought and escaped with a head wound which needed 16 stitches.

Tension grips Manor Street

"THEY'VE GOT Ballymurphy and one half of Manor Street — they're not getting the other half!"

This clearly sectarian outburst from a seething George 'Burn the Catholics' Seawright to reporters on Monday, July 14th, during a vicious attack by several hundred loyalists on nationalist homes in North Belfast's Manor Street is indicative of growing loyalist animosity towards nationalists living there.

Over the weekend, a makeshift 12-foot-high corrugated iron fence was erected between loyalists and nationalist houses following two weeks of ongoing confrontations as nationalists defended their homes against attacks. The current atmosphere among Manor Street's nationalists, heightened by the assassination by loyalist gunmen of Martin Duffy at the weekend, is one of tangible fear and tension. They are also deeply angered at the extensive media coverage given to loyalists in the street who, they say, have instigated the present conflict while their predicament has been generally ignored.

The spark which ignited these attacks came on Friday night, June 20th, when Seawright led an Orange parade through the nationalist end of the street. The reason was simple: to intimidate the nationalists who lived there and whip up sectarianism. Several nationalist houses in the street had their windows broken.

Two weeks before the parade, over 100 loyalist families had moved into a Housing Executive development originally intended to relieve a backlog of nationalist families from the Oldpark area. The politically-sanctioned decision to reverse Housing Executive plans and allocate the houses to loyalists — many with as little as 30 points compared to nationalists on the waiting list with up-

wards of 100 points — was yet another example of British capitulation to loyalist political pressure (the unionist MP for the area, Cecil Walker, was undoubtedly instrumental in forcing this U-turn).

DEMARICATION

Since their arrival in Manor Street, there is no mistaking where the demarcation line between loyalist and nationalist houses begins and ends. The freshly painted red, white and blue kerbs and lamp-posts halfway down the street, and the continuous presence of an RUC Land Rover since the attacks, denotes 'loyalist territory'.

On the night of Thursday, July 10th, the corner house of mother-of-three Lana O'Neill, which faces loyalist houses in Avonbeg Close, was targeted by a mob of at least 40 loyalists, many of whom were masked and residents believe were members of the UDA.

An RUC Land Rover, situated yards from the O'Neill house, witnessed the incident but took no action as the mob began smashing every window and pounded the front door with hatchets. Inside, a terrified Lana O'Neill ran upstairs to her daughters, Lana (9) and Geraldine (7) and pulled a duvet cover over their heads to protect them from flying glass.

Now homeless, her house wrecked, Mrs O'Neill told AP/RN: "I'm not going back to the house; I have no confidence in the RUC protecting me and my children. Only for the people here who scattered them into the cul-de-sac, I think we'd be dead. We had to run from the house; my children were in their bare feet."

Next-door-neighbour Josephine Higgins was in an upstairs bedroom feeding her newly-born daughter Colette, only three weeks old, when a brick came through the window. She was hit on the leg and flung baby Colette onto the bed, screaming with pain; the tibia bone of her right leg was broken in two.

RUNNING AMOK

By then the mob was running amok, systematically breaking the back windows of five other nationalist houses in nearby Roe Street where a five-year-old boy had a narrow escape when he was hit by a brick as he lay sleeping. The boy's father, a member of the residents' association, told AP/RN: "His wee nerves are shattered, he's really scared to stay in the room." They and other families were forced to send their children to relatives: "We didn't see the kids at all for a week; they were in different beds, different cots and prams".

As nationalists came from their homes that night they were showered with stones and bottles. Tom Higgins recalls:

"We had nothing to defend ourselves with but the stones that were thrown at us. We picked them up and threw them back and somehow managed to get them to withdraw."

Neighbours evacuated Tom Higgins, his injured wife Josephine and their three children from the house. The couple had been previously driven from their home by loyalists in Lisburn's Old Warren Estate in August 1985 and until moving into Manor Street, in March, were living in a hostel with their children for nine months.

ONSLAUGHT

The viciousness of the attack on July 10th put nationalists on the alert. The following night,

when loyalists again gathered and launched a further onslaught, nationalists defended their homes and broke windows in loyalist houses. "We just didn't go in without intense provocation," they told AP/RN. While tension in the area ran high over the Twelfth, it wasn't until Monday 14th that loyalists, whipped into a frenzy by the arrival of Seawright that morning, again attacked in their hundreds, breaking more windows.

Loyalists overturned one of several RUC jeeps and burned a bus on the Oldpark Road, the RUC once again proving ineffective in 'impartially' challenging the loyalists. The British army was deployed to back up the RUC and remained in the street for the next four days.

NOWHERE TO GO

A number of nationalists in Manor Street have moved out while people like the Higgins would like to move but have been told by the Housing Executive

that they have nowhere to house them. "We've boards at the bedroom windows, a corrugated fence out the back and the RUC sitting at the front. You're afraid to go to bed. I've the baby lying on the settee in case a bullet or brick comes through the window. The whole area's up all night. It's all tense; everybody sits with their light out, listening with the window open. Any wee noise and you jump."

Last Friday, July 18th, residents' committee members had a meeting with Northern Ireland Office, Department of the Environment and Housing Executive representatives to demand the building of a permanent structure across Manor Street to protect their homes and families against further loyalist attacks. What they got from those authorities, who after all bear responsibility for creating the present situation, was predictable — a flimsy corrugated iron fence and no commitment to rehouse terrified families.



● The dividing fence under construction in Belfast's Manor Street

Street traders hit again

BY MAIRTIN MacDIARMADA

GARDAI in Dublin have once again stepped up their harassment of street traders in the city. The past week and a half has seen over 50 of the traders before the courts and fined for trying to earn a living.

Plainclothes and uniformed gardai have been arresting the traders and in one case a young man trading in Henry Street was assaulted by a plainclothes garda.

On Thursday, July 10th, Gerald Kiely (17) was selling goods in Henry Street when he was approached by Garda Ronan Kennedy. Kennedy physically assaulted Kiely before arresting him and taking

him to Store Street Garda Barracks.

On Friday, July 18th, over 100 street traders and their supporters placed a picket on Store Street after a march from Henry Street. They had arranged a meeting with Garda Superintendent Francis for 12 noon, but when the traders' representatives went into the barracks they were told that

Francis was 'busy' and could not see them.

ANSWER

Sinn Féin Councillor Christy Burke, who was to take part in the meeting along with Leinster House Deputy Tony Gregory, commented after the protest:

"It seems that the gardai have plenty of time to meet with and look after the interests of big businesses in this city. Their answer to ordinary working-class people trying to earn a living is constant harassment at the behest of the City Centre Businesses Association."



● Street traders assemble in Henry Street prior to their march and picket on Store Street Garda Barracks

Victory for Buckingham tenants

BY MAIRTIN MacDIARMADA

TENANTS of Buckingham Buildings, in Dublin's North Inner City, won a victory in Dublin District Court this week when the flats complex was declared unsafe and ordered to be demolished.

The court hearing on Monday, July 21st, brought to an end the long battle of the Buckingham landlords, Landswick Properties Ltd, to keep their slum buildings open. After appealing an earlier decision of the court to close the flats, the landlords carried out hasty repairs but these were found by the court to be totally inadequate. A Dublin Corporation fire officer, Kevin Caffrey, said that the ceilings constituted a serious fire hazard.

Despite strenuous objections from legal counsel for the land-

lords, Vincent O'Reilly and David Meagher, the judge upheld his earlier order and said that Buckingham Buildings must be closed.

Forty of the tenants were present in court and clapped and cheered when they heard the ruling.

REHOUSING DEMAND

Sinn Féin Councillor Christy Burke has supported the tenants from the beginning in their demands for the demolition of the flats and rehousing in the North Inner City.

He said that the court decision was "a victory for the people



● CHRISTY BURKE

of Buckingham Buildings, one of the last privately-owned slums in Dublin.

"It should now be followed immediately with rehousing of the tenants in this area or the area of their choice."

"Sinn Féin congratulates the tenants on their victory."



● Buckingham Buildings, Dublin - to be demolished

BY DONAL LYONS

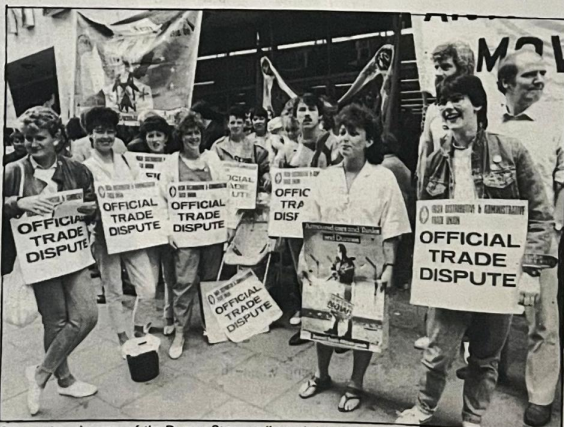
A PICKET placed on Dunnes Stores' Henry Street branch in Dublin on Saturday, July 19th, by the 11 anti-apartheid strikers to mark the second anniversary of their historic dispute was joined by over 500 people during the course of the day.

Banners from the Dublin Council of Trade Unions, Waterford Trades Council, the Anti-Apartheid Movement and left-wing political parties including Sinn Féin were on display. Also present were a number of leading trade union figures from the Dublin area.

The size of the picket effectively deterred most would-be shoppers, thereby putting a sizeable dent in Dunnes' profits for the day. The strikers declared themselves well-pleased with the picket, but their union, IDATU, is appealing for financial support. IDATU points out that, to date, it has spent approximately £40,000 on the strike and is continuing to pay strike benefit. All donations should be made payable to: IDATU/Dunnes Stores Strike Fund, 9 Cavendish Row, Dublin 1.

The receiver of New Dublin Gas, Bernard Somers, has announced his intention to make over 500 of the 1,100 workforce redundant as part of his reorganisation proposals. Most of the 300 temporary workers taken on during the conversion programme have already been let go. Somers also said he would not be handing the company over to the Dublin government for at least a year. Talks are scheduled between the unions involved and Somers for Friday, July 25th.

Effective mass picket



● Second anniversary of the Dunnes Stores strike and the strikers' resolve remains undiminished

A spokesperson for AUEW/TASS, when contacted by AP/RN, said that even if the redundancy package is acceptable to his members the union would not be co-operating with Somers unless he delivered to the union concrete

"political" assurances that the company would be brought under state ownership as promised when the company collapsed earlier this year.

Workers at the Rowntree/Mackintosh

plant in Inchicore, Dublin, are balloting on redundancy terms which will mean the loss of 308 jobs from the end of September.

The company has offered five weeks' pay per year of service, plus a £1,000 lump-sum payment. If the offer is rejected management says it will scrap plans to retain the plant (along with 80 jobs) as a distribution point for imported chocolate.

The majority union there, the ATGWU, feels that it has been placed in an impossible negotiating position and predict their members will accept the offer.

Upwards of 100 part-time workers are being laid off at Bord na Mona's Mountdillon plant near Lanesboro, County Roscommon.

This is the second year in a row that this seasonal work has been disrupted due to what Bord na Mona is pleased to call a "disastrous summer season."

The unions involved have condemned the lay-offs, saying that if the company had diversified its operation during the year, as the unions requested last summer, the seasonal work could have been saved.

The Irish Distributive & Administrative Trade Union placed pickets on the Brown Thomas store in Grafton Street, Dublin, on Thursday, July 17th, and Friday 18th in protest at management's unnegotiated late-night opening of the store.

IDATU explains that its members are opposed to late-night opening and on the two nights when the pickets were mounted, staffing was provided by non-unionised summer workers, managers and supervisors, who catered for the trickle of shoppers who passed the picket line.

Cross-border collusion

BY JACK MADDEN

AILISH McCABE, a Sinn Féin candidate in last year's local government elections in the Aghnacloy area of South Tyrone, has slammed the "hand-in-glove collusion" between the British army/RUC North of the border and the gardai in the South.

Her comment follows a sustained assault directed against her 22-year-old brother, Aidan McAnespie, by a British soldier and an RUC man at Aghnacloy checkpoint on Monday night and his subsequent arrest by Monaghan gardai the next day.

McAnespie, who is a regular victim of harassment North of the border, was returning from his workplace at Monaghan Poultry Products, outside Monaghan town, on Monday when he was stopped at the Aghnacloy checkpoint at 9.10pm. He opened his car boot when asked to do so by an RUC man and was answering the standard questions about where he was coming from and going to when a British soldier who was present said that he should be pulled into the 'shade', an enclosed area used for detailed searches. Aidan McAnespie recalls what happened next:

"I was pulled in and asked to open the doors of my car, which I did. The Brit then got in and began to rip and tear through the car, pulling the back seat out and throwing it onto the ground."

"The RUC man told me to put my hands on the roof of the car and, when I did, he began to body-search me. He then told me to take off my shoes and, when I refused, he said that they would be taken off forcibly."

ATTACKED

At this stage, McAnespie asked to see an RUC sergeant from Aghnacloy but, after falsely claiming that he himself was a sergeant, the RUC man again told McAnespie to take off his shoes before grabbing him by the arm:

"I pulled away but the RUC man and the Brit jumped on top of me and had me down on

the ground with one arm twisted behind my back. When I tried to pull away the soldier pressed his knee into my stomach and hit me on the back of the head. During all this we had moved out of the 'shade' into the middle of the checkpoint, but they dragged me back again by my two legs.

"The soldier knelt on top of my back with me lying face down. He caught me by the ears and hair, keeping a tight grip while the RUC man tore my shoes off. They then told me to get up and I was told that I would be summonsed for 'obstructing a policeman in the performance of his duty'. It was 10pm when I was finally told to go."

McAnespie went to Aghnacloy RUC Barracks to register a formal complaint but was told that no-one was available to take the complaint.

MONAGHAN

The next morning, as he drove to work in Monaghan, the British soldier at the checkpoint simply waved McAnespie through, with



● (Inset) Ailish McCabe

was unusual in itself, but as he approached Monaghan Poultry Products a uniformed garda patrol awaited the Aghnacloy man:

"I was told to open the car boot, which I did, and was then asked if I was Aidan McAnespie. When I replied that I was, a garda told me that I was being arrested under Section 30 of the Offences Against the State Act and that the car was being seized as well."

Inside Monaghan Garda Barracks, it became clear that McAnespie was simply being held as

a form of harassment and when members of his family visited the barracks shortly after 1pm he was released. Speaking from Monaghan after her brother's release, Ailish McCabe said:

"All of this is part of the Hillsborough build-up on 'cross-border security', as they call it, with the crown forces in the North and the gardai in the South working hand-in-glove and making life difficult for people like Aidan who cross the border every day."

VICIOUS BEATINGS

BY TREASA LYNCH

TWO NATIONALIST MEN from West Belfast were the victims of vicious beatings by the RUC in the early hours of Friday, July 18th, and Saturday, July 19th.

Joe Callaghan (32), who lives at Distillery Walk in the Lower Falls area, was stopped by the RUC as he was walking alone into Beechmount Street in West Belfast at around 1am on Friday morning.

Without warning, Callaghan was assaulted by between six and eight RUC men who jumped out of the back of several Land Rovers. In the attack he received gashes to his head, a cut lip, a

badly sprained wrist, bruised chest and elbows, and severe bruising to his right leg.

Calling Callaghan a "Fenian bastard", the RUC bundled him into a jeep and threatened to dump him on the Shankill Road but he was taken to Grosvenor Road RUC Barracks where he was charged with four assaults and disorderly behaviour.

Callaghan was refused permis-

ion to see his own doctor and was released on £50 bail at noon on Friday.

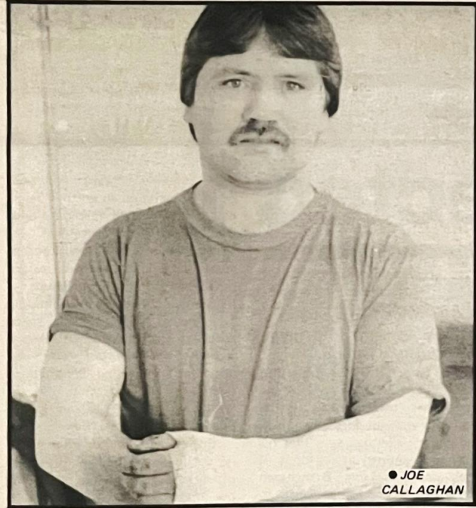
ARM BROKEN

Early the following morning, Lawrence McGahey (28), who lives at Culmore Gardens, Andersonstown, was assaulted after leaving a West Belfast social club with his wife and her father and mother.

He was knocked unconscious by two RUC men and sustained bruises to his left eye and shoulders and his arm was broken. He too was taken to Grosvenor Road Barracks and charged with disorderly behaviour. Following his release at 5am on Saturday morning, McGahey went to the Royal Victoria Hospital, where his arm was put in plaster.

Commenting on both incidents Sinn Féin Councillor Sean McKnight said:

"These and other similar vicious assaults are indicative of the deep-seated sectarian attitudes prevalent within the RUC."



● JOE CALLAGHAN

Victimisation continues

THREE WEEKS after being physically assaulted and badly beaten by members of the RUC, a young Derry man has been subjected to two further and even more vicious beatings at the hands of the same sectarian force.

In the July 3rd edition of *AP/RN*, Christopher Campbell (23), who lives in the Creggan Estate, Derry, told how he was attacked by the RUC on his way home in the early hours of Sunday, June 29th. In a carbon-copy attack at around midnight last Saturday, July 19th, as Campbell crossed a city-centre street he was set upon by three RUC men who forcibly dragged him by the hair into their Land Rover after knocking his wife over.

RIFLE-BUTTED

Inside the Land Rover, Campbell was struck across the face with a rifle butt and systematically

beaten about the body, legs and head. He was taken to Strand Road RUC Barracks where he was attacked again by five RUC men in the reception room and was charged with several petty offences, including 'possession of an offensive weapon' (an umbrella that his wife had given him to hold).

As in the previous attack three weeks ago, Campbell sustained extensive bruising to his ribs, abdomen, upper arms and legs, and had to be treated in Altnagelvin Hospital.

In an angry denunciation of this and the earlier attack on Christo-

pher Campbell, Sinn Féin Councillor Hugh Brady said that vicious sectarian attacks such as these could result in "permanent damage" to the health of the young Derry nationalist.

STRUCK AGAIN

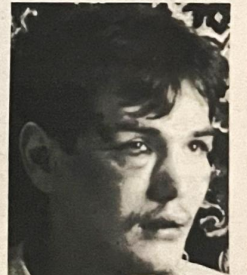
Within days of Brady's warning, however, the RUC struck again in the early hours of Wednesday morning when they beat Campbell so severely that he ended up badly bruised and on crutches.

This latest attack occurred at 1.20am as Campbell and his wife Kathleen were returning from a birthday celebration in the Carraig Inn. As the couple walked along Strand Road, an unmarked red Cortina car pulled up beside them and a number of RUC men jumped out.

They proceeded to kick Campbell into a doorway until local people, including a nurse, arrived on the scene. As the nurse attempted to administer first-aid the RUC men hurried back to Strand Road Barracks and returned quickly in a Land Rover. They pushed the nurse and Kathleen Campbell out of the way, threw Christopher into the Land Rover and began to beat him again.

After this brutal assault the RUC drove their victim to Altnagelvin Hospital, where he was detained for two hours. As he was being released from the hospital the RUC confronted him again to announce that they were charging both Campbell and his wife with 'disorderly behaviour'. Once again they threw Campbell into the Land Rover, telling his wife that he was being taken back for another beating.

Imprisoned in a cell in Strand Road Barracks, Campbell was re-



● CHRISTOPHER CAMPBELL

fused permission to use the toilet and was forced to urinate in his cell. A member of the RUC arrived with a brush but instead of cleaning up the urine he broke the brush over Campbell's back and then threw him in the urine.

Eventually Campbell was released, badly battered and bruised, later on Wednesday morning.

British forces in Monaghan and Louth BORDER SPIES REVEALED

BY MAIRTÍN Mac DIARMADA

THE HIGH LEVEL of undercover activity by British forces across the border into the twenty-six counties has been highlighted by recent incidents involving incursions by British troops in County Monaghan and phone-tapping in County Louth.

On the evening of Saturday, July 12th, anglers fishing on Milltown Lake outside Castleblayney, County Monaghan, saw a British army helicopter approaching from the direction of the border with South Armagh. The helicopter followed the course of the Drumleek River, which flows into Milltown Lake, three miles inside the Monaghan border.

There were around 30 fishermen on the lake at the time and all testify to having seen the helicopter which flew over the lake to a hill over which it hovered

for five minutes.

It was then that four British soldiers were seen running from beside an old derelict farmhouse up the hillside towards the chopper. It could not land in the field at the back of the house and moved to the other side of the hill where it is believed the four undercover soldiers were taken on board. The helicopter then moved back towards the border.

SINISTER

Eye-witnesses who spoke to AP/RN said that while overflights by British helicopters in

the area occur regularly, the landing of undercover British soldiers is a particularly sinister development. The old farmhouse where the soldiers were seen is situated on a hill with extensive views of the surrounding countryside and of the town of Castleblayney. Local people also pointed out that empty tins of beans and pots and pans had been found hidden in bushes near Milltown Lake, evidence that the British soldiers may have been there for a number of days.

Commenting on repeated incursions and overflights by the British army, Jackie Crowe of Castleblayney Sinn Féin cumann told AP/RN:

"It seems that the Brits can spy on the people of this area with impunity. The presence of British troops three miles inside the border raises major questions about undercover activity in County Monaghan and other bor-

der areas, and indeed about Garda collusion with that activity."

On the same weekend as the Castleblayney incident, British soldiers crossed into Monaghan at Clonfad, outside Clones. The soldiers set up a checkpoint 100 yards inside the border.

PHONE-TAPPING

The following week, in the Courtbane area of County Louth, bordering South Armagh, Telecom Eireann engineers were working on phone lines outside the house of farmer Michael Daly. On top of one of the poles they found a sophisticated phone-tapping device. A torch with a red and white flash was also found at the scene.

Four lines are connected to the pole which was tapped, including those of Michael Daly and of the McArdle family who live nearby. Gardaí removed the tap when it was reported and said they were "carrying out an investigation"

into it. They denied that it had been placed by the Garda Special Branch.

Michael Daly told AP/RN that the tap could have been placed by either gardai or crown forces. The site of the tap is only a couple of hundred yards from the border with County Armagh where Daly pointed out a new British army spy-post only recently built on a hillside overlooking the area.

There was a lot of activity at the spy-post when an AP/RN reporter and photographer visited the area on Monday. British troops could be seen moving around on the hill and a helicopter made several journeys to and from the post which is just on the border overlooking several 'unapproved' roads.

It was visible evidence of the increased activity both open and undercover by British forces along and on both sides of the border.

Jackie Crowe points to the field at Milltown Lake where a British army helicopter picked up four British soldiers.



Garda bribe rejected

BY BRENDAN KERR

GARDAÍ have unsuccessfully tried to bribe two members of Fianna Éireann (Republican Youth Movement) into spying on Sinn Féin and other republican activists in Dublin.

Stephen Flanagan (15) and Willie Nolan (16), both from Ballyfermot in the west of the city, were bundled into a Special Branch car by two detectives in Bolton Street at about 9.30pm last Thursday, July 17th, as they were doing a pub collection for the Fianna.

The two Branchmen refused to show their ID cards and took the youngsters to Mountjoy Garda Barracks without formally arresting them. Flanagan says that his foot was jammed in the door of their car as the Branchmen pulled him in and Nolan was hit in the stomach.

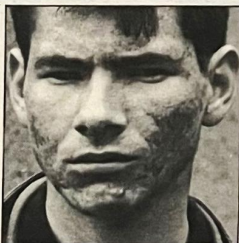
After being questioned by the two 'arresting officers' and two other Branchmen about their families, other Fianna members and the Republican Movement - Nolan was dragged into a toilet at one stage and threatened when he refused to answer questions - the two lads were photographed.

Flanagan and Nolan were then asked if they wanted to "make money, which could run into hundreds" by giving information to the gardai and were told to "think about it" before being released just before 11pm.

Both Flanagan and Nolan wisely declined the Special Branch's offer and immediately reported the matter to Sinn Féin upon their release.



●STEPHEN FLANAGAN



●WILLIE NOLAN

Remembering the Spanish republic

BY MAIRTÍN Mac DIARMADA

THE 50th ANNIVERSARY of the outbreak of the war in defence of the Spanish republic in 1936 was commemorated in Dublin last Sunday, July 20th.

A crowd of 300 people packed Buswell's Hotel for the commemoration which consisted of talks, discussion, songs and poetry readings. To the fore were veterans of the International Brigade, Irishmen who went against the tide of pro-fascist propaganda in the Ireland of the '30s and travelled to Spain to defend the democracy threatened by Franco's military uprising.

The meeting opened with historian and journalist Michael Farrell tracing the political background in Ireland which led to two groups of Irishmen travelling to fight on opposite sides in

Spain - Eoin O'Duffy's Blue-shirts and the republicans (mostly former IRA Volunteers) who went to fight for the republic.

One of those republicans was Peter O'Connor of Waterford, who gave a moving account of his Spanish experiences based on the diary which he kept at the time.

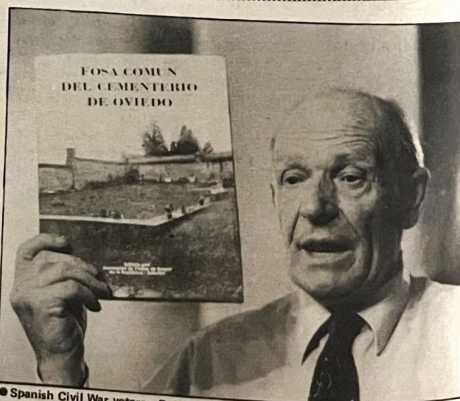
TRADITION

Michael O'Riordan read out the list of the Irish who died in the International Brigades. He said that the commemoration was a sign of progress and also that the tradition of the Internat-

ional Brigade was carried on today by young Irish people who have travelled to help the people of another Spanish-speaking democracy under threat - Nicaragua.

Another veteran, Bob Doyle, spoke of his recent visits to Spain and of the work of the widows of Asturias in publicising the brutality of the Franco regime during and after the war and in commemorating their dead.

After the talks from the veterans there were songs from Ronnie Drew and poetry readings by Pearse Hutchinson and Michael Smith. Smith gave a very interesting account of the life of the young poet, Charlie Donnelly, who was one of the Irish members of the International Brigade killed in Spain.



●Spanish Civil War veteran Bob Doyle

Spy-posts multiply

BY JANE PLUNKETT

FOLLOWING last month's massive joint operation by British crown forces and gardai to erect additional permanent spy-posts in the Crossmaglen area of South Armagh, a similar operation was mounted last weekend on the main Newry/Dundalk road.

At 6am on Saturday, the area was saturated by 200 British soldiers who rerouted traffic to enable their vehicles to bring equipment to the Fathom Cross area. The materials brought in included five heavy steel bunkers to be dug in as lookout-posts overlooking a new permanent vehicle checkpoint on the road.

Five pieces of land were seized without warning by the crown forces under Section 19 of the draconian Emergency Provisions Act.

Since the weekend, two families have found themselves with an RUC checkpoint in front of their homes. They are overlooked by several British army spy-posts and sandbagged positions. A local farmer was prevented from going up the mountain to tend to his sheep.

Though farmers will eventually be compensated for land permanently occupied, in the past small

farmers in South Armagh have effectively lost hundreds of acres made dangerous for grazing by jagged wires and other devices used by the British, but for which the British have refused compensation.

The crown forces have now established more than a score of observation posts on mountains from Killeen West to Drumloher, which have been built in response to the IRA's continued ability to strike against the enemy in South Armagh. This British strategy's success, or lack of it, may be judged by the fact that in the past 15 days the IRA has mounted effective operations within yards of two posts killing two British soldiers and injuring three others.

DISEASE

As well as inconveniencing, harassing and intimidating local people, the British army's occupation of mountains and fields



● A British army helicopter above the recently constructed spy-post at Drumaknavall, South Armagh

in South Armagh has caused a serious upsurge in outbreaks of tuberculosis and, to a lesser extent, brucellosis, in cattle over the past year.

Local farmers, Sinn Féin and the SDLP have claimed that British soldiers going between farms are carrying the disease on their clothes and footwear.

The disease is subject to official

controls because if humans drink contaminated milk, they run a risk of developing tuberculosis or undulant fever (from the brucella bacteria).

According to local Sinn Féin Councillor Eamon Larkin, there are at present at least six serious outbreaks of bovine tuberculosis in the Drumintee/Jonesboro/Kill-eavy area, affecting 400-500 cattle.

A similar problem exists in the Cullyhanna/Crossmaglen district.

HARDSHIP

Fifteen years ago, both diseases had been virtually eliminated in South Armagh. Now, says Larkin, the situation is "worse than ever", with farms closest to the observation posts being the worst affected.

"Farmers are suffering financial hardship," says Larkin. "They only get compensation for the animal that's affected, but they are forbidden to sell other animals from the herd if they need finances until several months after they are 'cleared'. They may also have to buy extra fodder to keep extra stock over the winter."

Local Sinn Féin councillors have described SDLP objections to the British spy-posts as "an attempt to run with the hare and hunt with the hounds".

Eamon Larkin told AP/RN:

"There's no use the SDLP calling on Peter Barry to protest over the erection of these posts when Peter Barry's forces protect the British army as they build them. Increased cross-border collaboration, such as spy-posts and the special squads being formed South of the border, was the main plank of the London-Dublin Agreement, and the SDLP supported that Agreement in its totality."

UCAPB gagged

ANTI-PLASTIC BULLET campaigners have angrily hit out at their exclusion from a BBC 2 television programme on the possible use of the lethal weapon in Britain.

The producer of the *Brass Tacks* studio discussion, Colin Cameron, told the United Campaign Against Plastic Bullets that its views were not wanted on the programme to-night (Thursday, July 24th) on the feeble grounds that the debate is about the use of plastic bullets being avoided rather than the issue of plastic bullets in general.

The BBC's self-imposed censorship on anything related to British policies in Ireland has evidently taken its toll on the public's right to information once again.

Section 31

A MOTION calling for the removal of Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act is going forward from Longford Urban District Council for discussion at the AGM of the Association of Municipal Authorities.

The Act which prohibits members of Sinn Féin appearing on RTE radio or TV was also the subject of a promise from Fianna Fáil Leinster House elected representative and MEP Ray McSharry. When visited by a Sinn Féin delegation McSharry said that in the event of Fianna Fáil regaining office it would introduce legislation to allow Sinn Féin elected representatives access to RTE.

Responding to McSharry's position, Sinn Féin's national chairperson, Sean MacManus, said: "One must view with caution any promise made by Fianna Fáil while in opposition." MacManus also pointed to the fact that in McSharry's constituency of Sligo/Leitrim four men from Drummaire were fined recently for selling Easter lilies.

Sectarian attacks continue

BY EAMON TRACY

WITHIN HOURS of the funeral of loyalist murder victim Martin Duffy from Manor Street, another North Belfast nationalist was shot and seriously wounded by loyalist gunmen.

Alan McGoldrick (20), from Ligoniel, narrowly escaped death in the early hours of Wednesday morning, July 23rd, when he was shot several times at close range by a loyalist assassin using a sub-machinegun.

McGoldrick was one of a group of concerned local people who, from the start of the Orange celebrations have been walking around their estate at night trying to prevent sectarian attacks. At around 1am on Wednesday, while other members of the concerned residents' group had gone in for some tea, McGoldrick decided to make one last check at the steps at the bottom of Linen Grove which borders

several football pitches belonging to a local school.

As he shone his torch at the fence, a loyalist gunman fired a burst of about nine shots, hitting McGoldrick in the face and foot. He was rushed to hospital where his condition was later described as 'stable'.

Gerard McGuigan, Sinn Féin councillor in the area, pointed out that the use by the gunmen of the sub-machinegun appeared to indicate that they had intended ambushing the whole group of residents rather than just the one. He went on to urge people to increase their vigilance against such attacks: "It is clear that the

orchestrated campaign of murder against the nationalist community is to continue unabated."

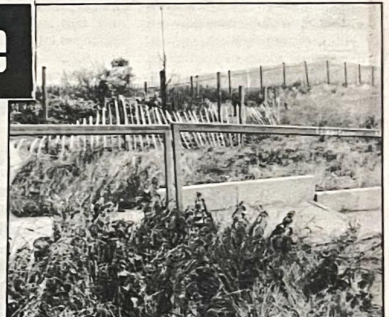
WOMEN ATTACKED

In other parts of the North, sectarian attacks against nationalists and nationalist-owned property have continued. On Friday night, July 18th, six women were injured when their bus was stoned by loyalists in Portadown. The women were travelling in a private bus along Corcoran Road near Obins Street Flats at around 10.45pm after attending a bingo session in a GAA club in Lurgan. Loyalists stoned the bus, smashing windows and injuring the women. They were taken to Craigavon Area Hospital for treatment.

Also in Portadown, around an hour earlier, windows were smashed in the Catholic Drumcree High School.

BALLYMENA

A fruit shop was petrol-bombed and several other business premises owned by nationalists in the Harryville area of



● The scene of the shooting of Alan McGoldrick in Ligoniel

Ballymena, County Antrim, were attacked on Friday night, July 18th, by loyalist youths. The attack, which took place around midnight, was obviously planned in advance and was the third occasion this year that the fruit shop had been petrol-bombed.

Also on Friday night, stained glass windows in St Colmcille's Catholic Church in Ballyhackamore, East Belfast, were smashed and plants and shrubs were uprooted. In Spring Street, in the Lower Woodstock Road, two houses were stoned by youths carrying a loyalist flag.

DUNGANNON

Sinn Féin in Dungannon has criticised the RUC handling of the loyalist Twelfth march through the town and attacks by members of that force on nationalists from the Ballygawley Road Estate, several of whom were seriously hurt.

Local Councillor Anita Cavan also condemned RUC and British army behaviour at a series of roadblocks set up by the crown forces for almost a week around the County Tyrone town, placing it under virtual siege and subjecting travellers to sectarian abuse and delay.

Vetting victory

BY JANE PLUNKETT

IN AN EMBARRASSED CLIMBDOWN, the British government announced on Tuesday that it is to restore funding to Dove House Resource Centre in Derry's Bogside.

Dove House is one of several radical community groups, all in nationalist areas of Derry and Belfast, which have been denied money because of political vetting by the Northern Ireland Office.

To cover up this vetting, the British government has alleged involvement by

'paramilitary groups' in centres, though in no case has it produced evidence to back the claims.

FALSE CREDIT

In reversing the Dove House veto, the British have schemed to give false credit to the SDLP and the church. In fact, however, the campaign was won by the Dove



● Dove House Resource Centre in the Bogside

House workers, who helped to initiate a six-county wide campaign against political vetting.

Commenting on the decision earlier this week Dove House worker Mary Nelis pointed out angrily

that the British allegations had made community workers the targets of loyalist murder gangs.

INTERMENT

LAST THURSDAY, July 17th, 18 of the Belfast men imprisoned on the word of paid-perjurer Christopher Black had their convictions quashed by the Appeal Court. Jane Plunkett reports on the three appeal judges' ruling and examines the history of the Black affair.

WHEN THEY walked free from Crumlin Road Courthouse shortly after noon last Thursday, amidst shouts and cheers of delight from relatives and supporters in the public gallery, five of the Black show-trial victims had already spent more than 4½ years in jail — the equivalent of a ten-year sentence.

Several of the 22 men who appealed had already completed lengthy sentences, being denied their right to challenge their conviction by the long delay in staging the appeal. Eight men whose sentences were almost completed had, as a sop, been released on bail.

Yet despite the years of incarceration, there had not been one shred of independent evidence against them. There was only the unsubstantiated word of Christopher Black, a man who in court had admitted naming others to avoid going to jail himself, having been promised a new life abroad at the crown's expense.

At that time it was politically expedient to condemn scores of people to prison on the word of a self-confessed perjurer. Last week, it was equally expedient for appeal judges Lowry, MacDermott and Higgins to quash most of those convictions.

The appeal judges stressed that they were throwing out most of the convictions not because Black's word was unsupported but because trial judge Kelly had "very much overrated the honesty" of Black.

The crown's star witness, Lowry admitted, had shown an "ability and readiness" to invent evidence. Lowry acknowledged that the inconsistencies detailed in Black's evidence by defence lawyers during the 60-day appeal had been "numerous and persuasive", and "the crown could find nothing to offset them".

Black had thus fallen "much lower on the scale of credibility". It was impossible to say what verdicts would have been reached by a more sceptical judge, Lowry said, quashing with evident reluctance all but a very few of the convictions.

Two of those freed, 30-year-old Kevin Mulgrew and Gerald Loughlin, almost 30, a married man with two young children, had faced life imprisonment on the say-so of Black and Judge Kelly.

Two of the appellants, 24-year-old James Donnelly and Paul Kane, aged 30 (a married man with two young daughters aged six and three years), were taken back into custody

to face charges in connection with attempting to escape from Long Kesh in September 1983, charges which they would not now face had they not been railroaded into jail.

H-Block escapee Kevin Barry Artt, sentenced to life imprisonment, was not before the court, and his appeal was adjourned.

THE APPEAL judges' verdict was delivered by Lowry, hunched up and shrivelled, in a low, incredibly rapid mumble — lasting two hours — so that the verdict was virtually inaudible to both defendants and journalists. The technique was calculated to minimise media reporting of the glaring faults which defence lawyers had uncovered in Kelly's verdict.

Relatives in the public gallery, cut off by a bullet-proof screen, heard little or nothing, as is usual in the Kafkaesque environment of the Diplock courts.

Lowry's shamefaced performance was in marked contrast to the hype built up by the British black propaganda machine in the months following the Black arrests, when the IRA was said to be 'reeling' under the impact of 'defecting' so-called 'converted terrorists'.

Far from being 'converted', Christopher Black was arrested on November 21st 1981, shortly after an alleged IRA road-block in the Ardoyne area of Belfast.

Black had spent five years in jail, from 1975 to 1980, and swiftly decided that if he was to avoid returning to prison himself, others would have to go to jail for him.

Prior to making any statements in Castlereagh, he had bargained for immunity from prosecution, asking his interrogators, "if I help you,



●Crumlin Road Courthouse, Belfast

will you help me?"

On the basis of statements which Black later signed, 33 men and five women, mostly from the Ardoyne and Bone areas of North Belfast, were arrested and charged on counts including killing, attempted killings, possession of arms and explosives, IRA membership and the notoriously hard to disprove 'conspiracy'.

The RUC swiftly confirmed their offer of immunity from prosecution to Black, and he, his wife and four children were moved out of the North. Black spent the next 13 months becoming totally dependent on his RUC minders.

To avoid the usual committal proceedings and the extra strain this would put on Black, in October 1982 the Director of Public Prosecutions invoked the archaic Bill of Indictment procedure, which allowed the defendants to be returned for trial without any preliminary hearing.

The defendants had been denied the right to challenge, at a preliminary stage, the absence of evidence against them.

TWO MONTHS later, in December 1982, the Black trial, the first major paid-perjurer case, began with all the trappings of a show-trial.

Judge Kelly wore a bullet-proof vest throughout the 120-day proceedings, two RUC marksmen with M1 rifles stood in the courtroom as Black began his story, and there were more than 80

RUC personnel and prison warders in the courtroom.

The message being presented was that the men on trial were 'dangerous' individuals.

Black himself had clearly been thoroughly schooled. He was smartly dressed and had evidently been tutored to pause frequently in his evidence, and invariably he waited until the judge finished taking

notes before continuing.

All this was not lost on Basil Kelly, who at the time was reportedly on the British state's payroll to the tune of £44,000 a year. Kelly was an Orangeman and former unionist MP and, as Attorney General to the Stormont regime, had overseen internment in 1971.

In his summing up, Kelly,

who ignored or explained away scores of inconsistencies in Black's evidence, declared him "one of the best witnesses I have ever heard".

With an unconscious arrogance which exposed his unionist bias, Kelly openly said in his judgement that he had come to that conclusion as soon as Black completed his evidence — before, that is,



● At their North Belfast press conference following the successful appeal (left to right) Dessie Breslin, Terry McAlister, Kevin Mulgrew, Alex Maskey (chairperson), Paul O'Neill, Paddy Teer, Anthony Barnes and Jackie Donnelly

T BY PERJURY



● Leinster House, Dublin

ignored or explained away of inconsistencies in Kelly's evidence, declared him 'one of the best witnesses I ever heard'.

With an unconscious arrogance which exposed his union-bias, Kelly openly said in judgement that he had come to that conclusion as Black completed his defence — before, that is,

any defence witnesses had been called!

It was, Lowry admitted at the appeal hearing, a "very early stage" to reach such a conclusion.

In August 1983, Kelly convicted 35 of the 38 defendants, meting out prison sentences to 22 of the defendants totalling 4,022 years in addition to the life sentences.

WHEN the Black appeal finally began in January of this year, after being denied in previous years, defence lawyers catalogued a morass of lies and inconsistencies in Black's evidence.

For example, Black had been living in England with

the RUC for nine months before he named Tobias McMahon, whom he suddenly 'remembered' was a member of the IRA's Belfast Brigade staff.

In court, Black admitted that he and McMahon had taken an 'instant dislike' to each other when they first met in prison in 1976. Defence lawyers maintained that McMahon's arrest and conviction

were examples of the mental pressure Black must have been under to supply 'bodies' to the RUC and thus secure his future.

At the appeal it was pointed out that trial judge Kelly ignored objective evidence to show that almost all the incidents where checking was possible (including an attempted shooting and a bombing in

Ardayne) could not, physically, have occurred as Black described them.

In relation to many of the charges, there were no objective facts, only 'conspiracies', with no proof that they ever took place.

In the witness box, Black contradicted himself from day to day, and his evidence was also frequently completely at variance with his original statements to the RUC.

The trial judge ignored all defence evidence contradicting Black. Hospital worker Joseph Kelly called 42 alibi witnesses, including his superiors and those who kept the time records at his place of work. He was nevertheless convicted of IRA membership and hijacking, and was then given a suspended prison sentence.

WITH NO loyalists now held in the North's jails on the sole evidence of paid-perjurers, it is now clearer than ever that the show-trial system was developed by the British as a new means to railroad republicans and nationalists into jail.

It followed internment (1971-75) and torture in the interrogation centres (1976-79), both of which had become unacceptably politically damaging and counter-productive to British interests.

The British spent huge sums on the show-trials. The Black trial alone cost £1.3 million and the cost of the appeal will probably bring this to £2 million.



(right) Denis Breslin, Terry McAllister, Tommy McKinney, Gerald Loughlin, James and Jackie Connelly

No end to paid-perjurers

"THIS DOES NOT signal the end of the paid-perjurer system," warned show-trial victim Kevin Mulgrew, shortly after the Appeal Court quashed sentences against him and 17 other Belfast men convicted on the sole word of RUC perjurer Christopher Black.

At a press conference in North Belfast after their release last Thursday morning, July 17th, the men pointed out that many people are still being held in prison on the word of paid-perjurers, despite the system being utterly discredited and despite the London-Dublin Accord. Kevin Mulgrew observed:

"The Accord was in operation ten days ago when two men held on the word of RUC perjurer Kevin McGrady had their appeals refused. It was also in operation when the Kirkpatrick ver-

dict was given, and since it's been in operation there have been more arrests on the word of Angela Whoriskey in Derry."

Mulgrew pointed out that the appeal judges' verdict had not ruled out the use of uncorroborated evidence in future trials.

EMBARRASSED

Another of those released, Paul O'Neill, said it would be "very opportunistic" if the SDLP or Southern political parties were to claim any credit for their release. Thank-

ing their relatives, friends and the groups and individuals who had publicised their case, including the Republican Movement, O'Neill said that only they "had consistently raised the issue and embarrassed the twenty-six-county government and the SDLP."

DUBLIN'S FAILURE

Sinn Féin Councillor Alex Maskey, who chaired the press conference, added that during the appeal several relatives had visited Dublin to lobby government ministers and Leinster House deputies, but, he said:

"Each and every one of the relatives was refused a meeting, deputies refused to take their

leaflets and the relatives were actually harassed by the gardai several times."

Paul O'Neill described Black himself as "a puppet, a tool" of the British authorities, adding that none of the defendants was bitter towards him. Their incarceration was "a conspiracy between the Director of Public Prosecutions, the RUC and the courts", added Mulgrew.

Asked whether their release meant that justice had now been done, Paul O'Neill said:

"If you call justice spending five years in jail on the uncorroborated word of an admitted liar, then I think you have a very perverse view of what justice is."

AN ANALYSIS OF THE US-BRITISH SUPPLEMENTARY

RECENT CHANGES in the area of legislation on extradition are of major significance for Irish republicans because the most noticeable feature of those changes is the development of a united approach among Western governments to narrow the political exception clause which is traditional in such cases. This is particularly true of the US-British supplementary extradition treaty which, after minor adjustments by the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee in June, was passed by the full Senate last Thursday, July 17th.

In this article, *Mary Pike*, the lawyer representing republican escapee Joe Doherty, who is himself facing extradition proceedings, answers questions about the supplementary treaty. She shows that the new law is nothing more than a political manoeuvre to counteract the American judicial system which has, in a series of extradition cases, judged that the Irish republican struggle is political and that activists in that struggle are exempt from extradition.

The treaty also bars extradition for an offence which is "purely military".

The US-Netherlands treaty is substantially identical. It provides that extradition shall not be granted for an offence "of a political character", an offence "connected with an offence of a political character", or for "a purely military offence".

The clear recognition of political offences in these treaties cannot be satisfactorily explained by the joint US-British proclamation that "the present political offence exception to extradition, as it applies to violent offences, is not suitable to extradition arrangements between two democratic countries sharing the same high regard for the fundamental principles of justice and operating similar independent judiciary systems". Were it, one would have no choice but to conclude that the Reagan government finds the governments of Ireland, Mexico and the Netherlands less 'democratic' than that of Britain.

EXTRADITION a political manoeuvre

AP/RN: What effect does the supplementary treaty have on existing law?

Mary Pike: The most significant effect of the supplementary extradition treaty will be to 'amend' the existing treaty so drastically as to do away with the provision which is commonly referred to as the "political offence exception".

This is accomplished by Article 1 of the supplementary treaty which sets forth those offences which shall not be capable any longer of being considered offences of a political character.

Successive efforts to accomplish the same end by way of

legislative 'reform' have failed. There was widespread concern over proposed legislative provisions that removed from the judiciary and bestowed upon the government the right to decide whether offences were of a political character. The supplementary treaty accomplishes the same end but in a less straightforward way.

While it does not completely remove from the courts the right to decide whether offences are of a political character, it does define which offences the court cannot find to be political. That list, set forth in Article 1, is so sweeping that, under the supplementary treaty, courts

will, as a practical matter, be left nothing to decide. They will be compelled under the statutory procedure to enter orders of extradition in all such political offence cases and to certify them to the US Secretary of State. It will then be for the government alone to decide whether extradition should proceed.

Under Article 2 of the supplementary treaty, the statute of limitations of the requested party will no longer be available as a bar. Therefore, when a request for extradition is lodged by Britain with the United States, there will be no impediment to returning indi-



●MARY PIKE

viduals who will be tried on charges for which American law would not prosecute.

OTHER US TREATIES

AP/RN: Does the political offence exception provision of the supplementary treaty match those in other US extradition treaties?

MP: No. On December 15th 1984, the most recent US extradition treaty — with the Dublin government — went into effect. It provides in Article 4 that extradition "shall not be granted... when the offence for which extradition is requested is a political offence". In stark contrast to the lengthy list of offences which, under the supplementary treaty with Britain, can be considered political offences, the US treaty with Dublin excludes only one 'category' of offence:

"Reference to a political offence shall not include the taking or attempted taking of the life of a head of state or a member of his or her family."

The US-Mexican treaty provides that extradition shall not be granted when the offence is "political or of a political character" and exempts only "murder or other wilful crime against the life or physical integrity of a head of state or head of government or of his family, including attempts" and any offence the United States or Mexico is obliged to prosecute under multilateral agreement.

IDENTICAL TO EURO CONVENTION?

AP/RN: Is the US-British supplementary treaty provision on political offences "virtually identical" to the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism, as some have claimed?

MP: No, even though in his written statement to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, US administration spokesperson Abraham Sofaer stated that the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism established limits on the political offence exception "virtually identical" to those in the supplementary treaty.

He further stated that in searching for solutions to the "problems" US courts created by determining in four instances that offences committed in relation to the ongoing struggle to end British rule in the North were political, the administration had looked to the Convention and concluded that its limitations were appropriate.

His statements on the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism understandably leave more unsaid than said.

Sofaer neglected to inform the Foreign Relations Committee that the Convention goes on to provide, in Article 13, that "any state may... declare that it reserves the right to refuse extradition in respect of any offence it considers to be a political offence, an offence connected with a political offence or an offence inspired by political motives".

Two of the 21 European states to whom the Convention is open have not signed it, and four of the 19 states who signed it have yet to ratify it. Of the 15 states who have ratified it, two thirds did so subject to reservations that protect the integrity of the political offence exception. Eight expressly reserved the right to refuse extradition in respect of any offence mentioned in

Remember Your First Thrill of AMERICAN LIBERTY



"Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free"
— From the inscription on the Statue of Liberty

EXTRADITION TREATY

Article 1 which that country considers to be a political offence.

France ratified it subject to a declaration noting that the preamble to its constitution provides that "anyone persecuted on account of his action for the cause of liberty has the right to asylum on the territory of the [French] republic".

Portugal ratified subject to the safeguard of its constitution relating to non-extradition on political grounds.

So, among the group of states formally bound to abide by the Convention, more than half have refused to be bound by the "mandatory" extradition language on which the administration has ostensibly patterned the supplementary treaty.

Given the reserve which has met the Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism, the outstanding definition of political offences in particular remains the European Convention on Extradition, which provides that extradition "shall not" be granted in respect to an offence regarded by the requested government as a political offence or an offence connected with a political offence.

Furthermore, it provides that the only offence not capable of being deemed political is the "taking or attempted taking of the life of a head of state or a member of his family".

If indeed the supplementary treaty is, as Sofaer stated at the August 1st 1985 hearing, "the minimum baseline standard for a civilised nation to take", then no nation — save for the United States and Britain — is "civilised".

RETROACTIVE

AP/RN: A major complaint of opponents of the supplementary treaty is its retroactive clause. Is this clause especially significant?

MP: Yes.

Both administration spokespersons describe Article 4 as a standard provision in recent treaties of extradition concluded by the United States. That other treaties have included such provision does not make it less objectionable because those treaties have not made the same changes in the law that the supplementary treaty would. Furthermore, neither the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism, to which the administration turned for a 'model', nor the European Convention on Extradition, contain retroactive provisions.

Provisions akin to the retroactive clause in other treaties are unobjectionable only because they have been enacted in a context devoid of any significant judicial decision-making activity. This is not the case with the US-British supplementary treaty.

In the years between 1978 and 1984, the British government lodged with the United States requests for extradition of five individuals who were sought for offences arising out of the ongoing political upheaval in the North. In each

●JOE DOHERTY

instance, a judge or magistrate of a United States District Court denied the British request for extradition. In four of the five cases (Peter McMullen, Dessie Mackin, Bill Quinn and Joe Doherty), extradition was denied on the basis of the political offence exception provision. Extradition was very recently denied in a fifth case (that of James Barr, decided on August 25th 1985) when a federal judge determined that the sole evidence submitted by the British government in support of its extradition request — a two-page affidavit by perjuror Harry Kirkpatrick — was insufficient to establish probable cause.

Article 4 of the supplementary treaty would operate against this unique backdrop. It is unique for two reasons. Firstly, no individuals other than McMullen, Mackin, Quinn and Doherty — all of whom were either admitted members of or had been convicted of mem-

bership of the IRA — have, since 1959, been found to be entitled to the protection of the political offence exception. Secondly, McMullen, Quinn (an American citizen), Doherty and Barr remain in the United States and, despite having won their cases, could, under Article 4, be forced to defend themselves once more against extradition under the terms of a new treaty that was renegotiated specifically to do away with the defence on which they had previously and successfully relied.

POLITICAL ASYLUM

AP/RN: If the political offence exception is done away with, what effect, if any, does the availability of political asylum have on those who would otherwise be entitled to the protection of the political offence exception?

MP: None.

At the August 1st hearing, Sofaer maintained that the sup-

plementary treaty posed no threat to civil liberties nor political freedom because "even fugitives from the UK" who would now be subject to extradition under the supplementary treaty could get "the kind of relief that is always available in these cases". That relief was identified as asylum or a refusal by the Secretary of State to extradite because of possible persecution. As evidence that such relief is available he cited the case of Peter McMullen.

Contrary to Sofaer's representations, there is no evidence to suggest that such relief is available but there is much to suggest that it is not.

As to asylum, in May 1984, the Committee of Immigration & National Law of the prestigious Association of the Bar of the City of New York issued a report on United States asylum policy. The report criticised the ideological manner in which asylum was granted.

No reported case has been located in which the grant of asylum to an applicant from the six counties has been sustained. The only case located in which such a grant was even made was that of Peter McMullen, and on May 25th 1984, the Board of Immigration Appeals, in a unanimous decision, reversed an immigration judge's grant of asylum to McMullen.

Put in perspective, the "relief" described by Mr Sofaer is illusory.

BASIC FREEDOMS

AP/RN: From the perspective of the US judicial process what deficiencies in existing law are remedied by Article 1 of the supplementary treaty?

MP: None.

The legal decisions which have been made in cases where the political offence clause is pleaded show that courts have scrupulously guarded against un-discerning application of the

ARTICLE 1

For the purposes of the Extradition Treaty, none of the following offences shall be regarded as an offence of a political character:

(a) An offence within the scope of the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, opened for signature at The Hague on December 16th 1970;

(b) An offence within the scope of the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Civil Aviation, opened for signature at Montreal on September 23rd 1971;

(c) An offence within the scope of the Convention of the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against Internationally Protected Persons, Including Diplomatic Agents, open for signature at New York on December 14th 1973;

(d) An offence within the scope of the International Convention Against the Taking of Hostages, opened for signature at New York on December 18th 1979;

(e) Murder;

(f) Manslaughter;

(g) Maliciously wounding or inflicting grievous bodily harm;

(h) Kidnapping, abduction, false imprisonment or unlawful detention, including the taking of a hostage;

(i) The following offences relating to explosives:

(1) The causing of an explosion likely to endanger life or cause serious damage to property; or

(2) Conspiracy to cause such an explosion; or

(3) The making or possession of an explosive substance by a person who intends either himself or through another person to endanger life or cause serious damage to property;

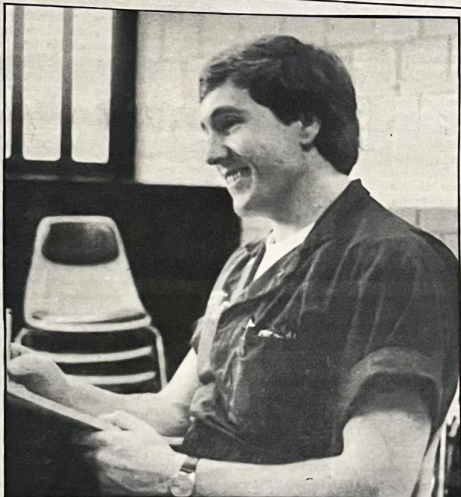
(j) The following offences relating to firearms or ammunition:

(1) The possession of a firearm or ammunition by a person who intends either himself or through another person to endanger life; or

(2) The use of a firearm by a person with intent to resist or prevent the arrest or detention of himself or another person;

(k) Damaging property with intent to endanger life or with reckless disregard as to whether the life of another would thereby be endangered;

(l) An attempt to commit any of the foregoing offences.



political offence exception. The current effort to change that law by way of the supplementary treaty must be seen for what it is: an attack on the rule of law.

The American judiciary, an independent judiciary, has made four decisions that the American executive and its British ally do not like. It does not matter that the decisions are both principled and correct. The executive is at odds with them and will therefore do away with the law on which such decisions were based in order that no more such decisions can be made.

The supplementary treaty reflects dissatisfaction not with the manner in which the judiciary makes decisions but rather with the fact that the judiciary makes decisions the executive disagrees with. This, however, is the hallmark of a free society, and in enacting the supplementary treaty the US does away with the basic freedoms it claims to uphold.

AP/RN: Finally, can you tell us what impact the 'fair trial loophole' will have in future cases?

MP: That is an unanswerable question since no court has ever had such a case before it. It simply depends on how a court chooses to interpret that section.

Based on American immigration law — which contains somewhat parallel language — it suggests that an almost impossible burden of proof will be required of the potential extradite.

In the one instance where reference has been made to the judicial system which extradited Irish republicans will face, the judge in Joe Doherty's hearing took it upon himself to say that the Diplock courts were doing a commendable job under difficult circumstances. This obviously augurs badly for the future.



Sir Bob

Open letter to Bob Geldof, Knight of the British Empire

Dear Mr Geldof,

As an admirer of your music and your work for the Third World, I was amazed at your statement that, "They (the IRA) are killing my people."

I am a 14-year-old youth from Andersonstown in Belfast, and they (the IRA) are not killing me, nor are they harassing my people. Unlike you Mr Geldof, the only favours my people receive from Her Majesty and her government are daily harassment, threat of imprisonment, strip-searching, paid-perjuror trials, internment by remand and, more importantly, the children of my people are being killed by plastic bullets.

Mr Geldof, you visited the Third World and saw the situation for yourself, maybe before you make any more statements about the occupied six counties you should live as an unemployed person in a nationalist area like Andersonstown; only then will you understand and become educated enough to make true statements about the situation under which people like I live.

You may have accepted Britain's knighthood, but does that mean that you, an Irishman, have to accept and help their propaganda machine?

Bill Groves, Belfast.

Same as it ever was

A Chara,

A nationalist is murdered by the RUC. A senior British police officer carries out an inquiry but gets nowhere because of a 'wall of silence' within RUC ranks. Sounds familiar? It could almost be the Stalker inquiry into the RUC's shoot-to-kill policy.

However, this incident took place almost 17 years ago, on April 19th 1969. On that day, several RUC men burst into the home of Samuel Devaney in William Street in Derry and badly assaulted him. Three months later, as a direct result of this unprovoked and purely sectarian attack, Mr Devaney died.

The British government ordered a senior British policeman to the North to carry out a detailed investigation into this and other incidents in which nationalists had been killed.

After months of vainly attempting to identify the perpetrators, he was forced to conclude that a 'conspiracy of silence' existed within the RUC. The cover-up was successful. No RUC man was ever identified or charged for any of those offences.

John Stalker, Greater Manchester deputy chief constable and a man highly regarded by his contemporaries was given the task of investigating the RUC's shoot-to-kill policy against republicans in the Armagh area in 1982. Suddenly he was suspended. Vague accusations were levelled against him. His credibility and, inevitably, the

mála poist

credibility of his report has been thrown in doubt. The cover-up is in full swing.

The comparisons between 1969 and 1986 are striking. If anything, the political sanctioning of a shoot-to-kill policy and the determination with which the RUC has resisted a full and frank investigation demonstrates conclusively the unchanged nature of the RUC. In spite of London-Dublin deals and SDLP approval, the RUC remains a sectarian paramilitary force, committed to the maintenance of British rule in Ireland, irrespective of whatever methods it requires to do so.

Councillor Damien Gibney, Labinur Sinn Féin.

Irish discs

A Chara,

Conradh na Gaeilge would like to draw your readership's attention to the fact that insurance companies in twenty-six counties are not providing their clients with the new compulsory insurance discs in the Irish language.

Consequently, Conradh has decided to supply Irish versions of the disc on request from our head office (see address below). We also intend to campaign for the provision of bilingual discs.

In the meantime, if anyone is prosecuted for displaying one of our discs, we will vigorously contest their case in the courts.

Ita Ní Chionnaith,
Conradh na Gaeilge,
6 Sraid Fhearchair,
Baile Átha Cliath 2.
Fon 757401/2.



Great gas

A Chara,

Squander your wages and you get little sympathy, squander your role and you're totally f---ed! But fitter away over £170 million of the taxpayers' money and it's damn tough luck!

That's the message as New Dublin Gas gets 'nationalised' and accountancy firms come to blows as to who gets their greasy hands on what little loot that's left.

The history of New Dublin Gas is one of managerial incompetence, gross mismanagement and political jobbery. With only £15 million invested of its own, that company, through political pull, succeeded in screwing £173 million out of the Irish people. They did this in the form of hand-outs, subsidised gas, government loans and state-guaranteed bank loans.

Other than the initial £15 million invested, the private shareholders never invested any new money. And when demands for total state control were made the company directors scoffed at the idea as being "impractical" and "leading to gross inefficiencies".

Aping the privatisation poli-



Portlaoise

A Chara,

We, the republican prisoners in Portlaoise Prison, would like to explain and clarify current areas of conflict with the prison administration. The following four areas are in need of immediate attention:

1. Strip-searching.
2. Visiting conditions.
3. Life sentences.
4. Parole.

Each month approximately 100 men are strip-searched. Some of these prisoners have been physically assaulted for resisting strip-searches. Often this is followed by a sentence of solitary confinement, sometimes for up to three months.

The continuation of strip-searching in the guise of 'security measures', as put forward by Dublin's Department of Justice, cannot be justified under any circumstances.

At its annual conference, the Prison Officers' Association (POA) stated that strip-searching is a degrading practice. The POA maintained that it is also unnecessary since electronic equipment which can adequately satisfy security requirements is already available.

We are of the opinion that these searches are not carried out for security reasons but to degrade and subjugate us as a means of control.

From March 1975 to July 1985, the only visits available to prisoners and relatives were in 'wire-type' (i.e. prisoner and visitors separated by two screens of wire mesh), which prevents all physical contact between a prisoner and his wife, children or friends.

In July 1985, we reached an agreement with the prison authorities which provided for limited open visit facilities.

ies of Thatcher, the Coalition settled for a 25% stake in the company in return for the £173 million. In doing this the Fine Gael government needed little or no persuasion for the company board was dominated by some of the most powerful Fine Gael henchmen in the country.

These include:
● Mining speculator Donal Kinsella — the man who wants the state to create a more favourable economic climate for speculators like himself.

● The chief Fine Gael fund-raiser, Vincent Ferguson, who is also Tony O'Reilly's sidekick.

● And other Fine Gael supporters like Donal McAleese, Michael McStay and John P. Rehill.

With such a powerful line-

up, thereby allowing contact between visitor and prisoner. This was introduced on a trial basis for six months and each prisoner was to have one open visit per month. If, after this period, the authorities were satisfied with the security aspect of the visits, open visits were to be increased. However, after declaring their satisfaction with security and implementation, the authorities reduced open visits from eight per day to six per day. Visitors who had travelled to the prison expecting open visits were offered 'wire visits' instead. On February 4th 1986, republican prisoners decided not to accept closed 'wire visits' any longer.

We see no reason why the existing facilities cannot be converted to provide open visiting conditions. We are asking for no more than one open visit per week per person.

Every prisoner except those serving life imprisonment has a release date to aspire to. Those serving life imprisonment are sentenced to a term of indefinite length. Those other than republicans who are serving life sentences usually serve about seven years. No republicans serving a life sentence has been given a release date. There are 15 men serving life imprisonment in Portlaoise Prison.

The longest serving life prisoner here is Michael Fox, who has been in continuous custody since 1973. A former comrade of Michael Fox, who was sentenced by the same court on the same

charge, was released four years ago after he had dissociated himself from the republican prisoners.

The final area of contention is the question of parole. Parole has always only been sought on compassionate grounds (on the death of an immediate relative) and has always been honoured. On no occasion in this prison has any republican prisoner violated conditions of parole. Despite this, however, the authorities have refused parole to republicans on the death of immediate relatives.

The honouring of parole has been, and is, treated as a principle by republicans. We want compassionate parole to be made available as a right when an unfortunate situation arises.

These then are the most serious areas of conflict at the moment and each one of them could be solved relatively easily by the prison authorities.

An alternative to strip-searching is 'available', as the POA has pointed out. On the visiting conditions, the boxes containing the wire grilles could easily be converted and used to supply open visits. The authorities admit that the open visits are not a security risk. On the life sentences issue, we accuse the Coalition Department of Justice of using prisoners as political hostages and demand that all republican prisoners be given release dates. On parole, we ask only that prisoners be allowed to be with their families at a time of bereavement.

Martin Ferris,
PRO,
Republican prisoners,
Portlaoise.

into the criminal mismanagement of the people's money. Instead, rags like Tony O'Reilly's *Irish Independent* sobbed for what they termed to be the "real losers" (i.e. his mate Ferguson and his cronies).

There was no mention of the £173 million of PAYE workers' money frittered away like monopoly money. To do so would invite disclosures of other scandals.

But then republicans since the time of Tone know that the "people of no property" come a poor second to the interests of the rich. As Henry Joy McCracken wrote: "The rich always betray the poor."

And they will continue to do so, unless...

Mick Ahern,
Mullebheag.

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.

Strip-searches

A Chara,

Despite the fact that Martina and myself have now received lengthy terms of imprisonment the conditions we endured on remand have not changed. We're still locked up in our cells for hours, even on weekends.

There is a TV on this landing which works perfectly but we're not allowed to see it, and of course the strip-searching and cell-searches continue unabated — an average of two per day.

We still have an average of four body-searches per day and six every Sunday.

We are allowed £1.25 per week with which we may buy milk, paper and stamps. Despite this, we're both in great form.

Tineachar is,
Ella Ni Dhuibhir,
Brixton Prison,
London.



Divis

A Chara,

The rumour going round that there is major movement on the Divis situation — an official commitment to the demolition of the flats — is good news.

Whatever positive developments occur are due to the consistent pressure, against intolerable odds, of the Divis community. Nothing should be allowed to obscure that fact, even the very worthwhile aid given by the Town & Country Planning Association (TCPA) since the London exhibition last November.

I know that the Divis Residents' Association is grateful for that aid but we could have done nothing without the people of *The Dreadful Enclosure*.

That is why I am disappointed in the too hasty (for that is what I believe it was) press release subsequently issued by the TCPA. I had no knowledge of this statement and I formally dissociate myself from the specific sentence, "this is a great achievement for the Anglo-Irish Agreement..."

I believe this overtly political statement was offered naively. The TCPA's involvement in Divis has, at all times, been entirely concerned with the intolerable social and environmental conditions. As I have said before, when the flats do come down (for I believe that is an inevitability) the struggle does not end there: it is what the people choose to replace them that really matters.

Brian Anson,
National Planning Aid
Office,
TCPA, London SW1.

The Box

Giving them the fingers

BY Z. HAMMETT

WELL, BOYS AND GIRLS. To celebrate this week's happy event here is a special treat - Fingermouse's best new friends, Brat the Royal Rat and Fergie the Ferret. To make them all you need is paper, crayons, the sticky tape, scissors, and an empty corn flakes box.

Trace the heads (1) and bodies (2) onto paper. Draw the face and nose. Colour in your royal couple and cut them out very carefully.

Roll the head around your finger to make a pointed nose (3). Stick it together at the back. Fold the ears and teeth backward.

Roll the body around your finger and tape it (4). Curl the tail by pulling it across a pencil. Pop the Brat on your middle finger and the Ferret on your index finger. Wiggle them about!

Now, throw away the empty corn flakes box.

To make the royal couple's Honeymoon Love Nest you need a patch of ground, a small spade or a large spoon, and an egg box. Take the spade or large spoon and dig a hole in the ground, about six inches wide.

Place the royal couple in their Honeymoon Love Nest and jump up and down like eejits, waving Union Jacks and screaming, "Look, Stan, isn't

her dress GORGEOUS!" Or, "Blimey, Doris, don't they make a LOVELY COUPLE!" One of you may want to faint with excitement.

If there are enough boys and girls, someone will want to play the lunatic Irish terrorist. Take the egg box, remove the royal couple, taking care to hit as many innocent bystanders as possible.

For that special, realistic effect, borrow Mum and Dad's video camera and tape the proceedings for RTE.

RTE's decision to carry live coverage of the Windsor wedding, though repugnant to some, is nothing more than we have come to expect. Their taste for imperialist spectacles was confirmed by the recent coverage of the Statue of Liberty shindig. But recently RTE appointed a new director of programming, Claire Duignan, who immediately stated that she would reduce the number of American programmes in their schedule.

"If RTE is just going to

show American programmes we might as well be a cable television service," Duignan told the *Sunday Tribune*.

The royal wedding is an indication of Duignan's sincerity. Imperialist American programmes are being replaced by Ye Olde Imperialist British programmes.

But, seriously, I don't understand what all this fuss is about. I'm quite grateful to RTE for giving me something I really need.

I spent Wednesday happy as a lark, I was able to watch the Beeb's wedding on one large-screen TV, UTV's on another. And, thanks to the doyens of Donnybrook, I saw RTE's wedding on yet a third. All in living colour!

My flatmate was in the boudoir, watching the Brazilian coverage via satellite dish, while indulging in the best of caviar and French champagne. Royal weddings represent one of the basic liberties of a free society, and thank God we in Ireland can enjoy it in simple style, on our own national TV service. Unlike the poor Goddess, queenless hordes in the communist bloc.

Finally, this week *The Box* conducted a scientific survey of the TV mags, who are fall-



● Brat the Royal Rat and Fergie the Ferret

ing all over themselves to publish as many pictures as possible of the royal couple. The cute wee brat in his scout uniform, Fergie picking daisies. You know the sort of thing.

Top of the list is the *Radio Times*, with no less than 63 photos of one or the other (or both) of the couple. A single ad for commemorative wedding stamps has no less than 36 (count 'em) pics of the favort-

ing couple. The *TV Times* comes a distant second, with a mere 26 photos.

Top of the Irish league is - surprise, surprise - that bastion of liberal journalism, the *Sunday Tribune*, with a hefty six pics, plus three photos of the bridesmaids and pages.

The *Sunday World* would have done better, but they couldn't find any pictures of Fergie in a G-string and wet T-shirt.

band with this charismatic singer that is to lead to her personal awakening.

A simple yarn to be sure and one, you might think, better suited for a several episode TV series than the rather crammed series of events we are treated to here. There is comedy, drama, pathos and bathos galore, but ultimately *The Colour Purple* reveals itself as a tear-jerker with tear-jerking episodes coming in ever more mountainous waves, carrying all before it in a flood of heart-string-pulling goo.

But, despite the treacle pink spectacle view that is Spielberg's vision of the poverty-torn South (for example, Cecilia is supposed to live in a slum-can but her house in the film could well be *Home & Gardens* Mansion of the Month) the movie-maker's skill is everywhere. The film is beautifully shot, at times often hilarious, and surely no-one but Spielberg could make something like a postbox a character in a film. And it must be said that newcomer Whoopi Goldberg's portrayal of Cecilia is outstanding.

So, if it's realism you want, stay clear. A fairy tale? You could do worse than *The Colour Purple*.

Rose-tinted tear-jerker

BY EDDIE STACK

WHEN MOVIE WIZARD Steven Spielberg was passed over for the umpteenth time for an Oscar this year for his new film, *The Colour Purple*, he may well have asked himself what the hell he has to do to win the ridiculous copper statuette.

Having had all his previous box-office smashes ignored by the stuffed shirts who are members of the Oscar Academy, our Steven then went off and made a 'heavy' movie, i.e. one that dealt with black poverty and repression in the Deep South as opposed to his usual fare, the heaviest part of which is whether the hero will rescue the girl from the railway track before the midday express is due (and if it's a CIE train the hero has until three o'clock).

Alas, poor Steven, your millions can not buy you Oscars. They can, of course, help make you more millions and *The Colour Purple* seems to be raking in as many shekels as *Raiders, ET, Jaws*, etc.

There have been some

bruises on the way, however, notably from members of America's black community who have been outraged by the treatment of blacks in the film and who have shouted off that it's a "typical white man's nigger film" to quote the *New York Times*.

Others, however, support the film and say that it 'tells it as it was'.

Such divided views from among the black population are quite understandable in a nation which has been repeatedly caricatured and stereotyped by imported and even God help us, home-produced fare. But one can also have some sympathy too with what the movie director has to wrestle with.

What's the dividing line between an honest portrayal of black people's habits and id-

iosyncracies, and an over-the-top and inadvertently racist view?

In this film, Spielberg has made his task doubly difficult by giving his poverty-torn South a rosy hue and wrapping the characters in a story that has more in common with a fairy tale than an indictment of racism and despair. Perhaps what upset some blacks most of all is that Spielberg's view of repression is so cosy that it makes the *Jungle Book* seem like *Apocalypse Now*.

UNFILMABLE

The Colour Purple is derived from the novel by Alice Walker, who wrote it in a form which would appear to be unfilmable.

The book took the form of a diary written by a humble black girl called Cecilia, who was raped when she was 14 and had two children who were sent away to Africa. Her parents, at first not knowing what to do with her, sent

her to live with a widower, Alvin, who had two children of his own.

An unfeeling brute, Alvin has no qualms about beating Cecilia but her life is made bearable for a time when Alvin allows her sister to come and live in the house. The sisters form a happy bond and swear never to part. However, the lecherous Alvin throws out the sister when she rejects his not-so-subtle advances. Now the only way Cecilia can get to hear from her sister is through the post, but the only person allowed near the postbox is Alvin, the 'master of the house'.

The years pass and episode follows episode with Cecilia bearing her permanent burden of unhappiness. But one night Alvin brings home his mistress, a local pub singer, whom he immediately ensconces in the best bed in the house. Despite the humiliation of playing second fiddle to her husband's mistress in her own home, Cecilia slowly forms a

evidence that was used to convict them has now been conclusively discredited.

● *The Case of the Birmingham Six* is available from good bookshops or by post from Information on Ireland, P.O. Box 958, London W14 0JF, or from the Troops Out Movement, P.O. Box 353, London NW5 4NH. One copy costs 60p plus 20p p&p; ten copies cost £4 plus 80p p&p (all prices are in sterling).

spend the rest of their lives there.

The Case of the Birmingham Six includes a clear account of what happened to the men. It tells how they were savagely beaten by the police, as a result of which four signed false 'confessions' and explains how the forensic

magazine

The Case of the Birmingham Six

THE CASE OF THE BIRMINGHAM SIX is a new poster-magazine edited by the Troops Out Movement and published by Information on Ireland.

It outlines the horrifying case of the men wrongly convicted of the 1974 Birmingham pub bombings. Hugh Callaghan, Paddy Hill, Gerry Hunter, Dick McKelvey, Bill Power and John Walker have now been in prison since their arrest in November 1974 and, unless massive public pressure is brought to bear, they could



Imeachtaí

BALLAD SESSION
Music by Fiddlers Green
8pm Friday 25th July
Sliabh an Iarainn Hotel
BALLINAMORE
County Leitrim
Bar extension
Organised by Sinn Féin

LIMERICK GAELSCOIL BOOK SALE
Saturday 26th July
Gaelic League Hall
Thomas Street
LIMERICK CITY

VIDEO & PUBLIC MEETING AGAINST STRIP-SEARCHES
8.30pm Tuesday 29th July
Annally Hotel
LONGFORD

SOCIAL EVENING
Music by Bonaparte
8.30pm Friday 1st August
Clark's Social Club
DUNGANNON
County Tyrone
In aid of
Prisoners Dependents' Fund

IRISH NIGHT
Featuring Shebeen
8.30pm Friday 1st August
Dundalk Bar
Church Street
DUNDALK
Taillie £1
In aid of An Cumann Cabhrach

EDUCATION WORKSHOP
Prominent republican
guest speaker
11am to 4pm
Saturday 2nd August
Town Hall
NEWRY

BALLAD SESSION
Music by Latch
8.30pm Saturday 2nd August
Cassidy's Lounge
COLLON
County Louth
Taillie £1
Organised by Collon Sinn Féin

AERIOCHT MHOR
Featuring traditional music,
dancing, tug-of-war, various
side-shows, music by
Fiddlers Green
and the
Tom Smith Fiddle & Drum Band
2pm Sunday 3rd August
Loughbawn
OLDCASTLE
County Meath

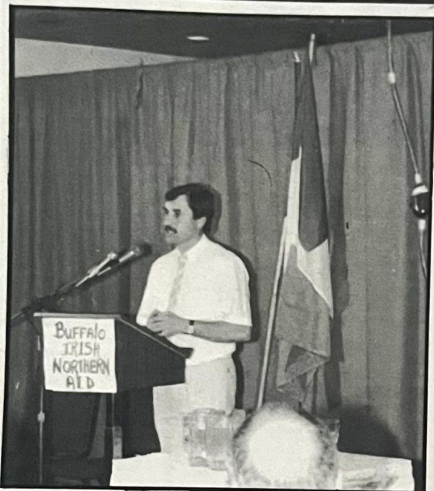
KEVIN LYNCH COMMEMORATION
2.30pm Sunday 3rd August
Assemble Dungeness Bus Depot
DUNGIVEN
County Derry

15th ANNIVERSARY OF INTERNMENT RALLY & MARCH
7.30pm Friday 8th August
Clanrye Avenue
NEWRY
County Down
All bands and banners welcome

BALLAD NIGHT
Music by Gypsy Lacey
8pm Friday 15th August
Camelot Hotel
Malahide Road
DUBLIN
In aid of An Cumann Cabhrach

TORRTHAI CRANNCHUR
Meath Sinn Féin
400 Draw
£100: Brendan Walsh, St Mary's
Park, Navan; £50: P. Feeney
c/o A. Poleen; £25: M. Finnegan,
Athboy Road, Trim; £5:
Donal and Catherine, Castleview,
Dunboyne; £5: Brendan Murray
c/o A. Poleen; £5: David
Chalyt, Devine Gardens,
Mostrim, County Longford.

Canada gets the message



● Mitchel McLaughlin addresses the Niagara Falls meeting

DESPITE the recent exclusion by the Canadian authorities of Sinn Féin president and West Belfast MP Gerry Adams, the Irish republican viewpoint was presented to people across Canada by a substitute speaker, Derry Sinn Féin Councillor Mitchel McLaughlin.

McLaughlin, who left for Canada on July 8th, travelled first to Niagara Falls on the border with the USA. There he addressed members of Irish Northern Aid and the Ancient Order of Hibernians and was interviewed by several radio stations, two newspapers and the main TV channel which serves Buffalo on the other side of the frontier.

Keeping to the itinerary which had been planned for Gerry Adams, McLaughlin went to Vancouver in Western Canada on Friday, July 11th, and the following day was invited to address an anti-apartheid rally outside the British pavilion at 'Expo '86', which was being opened by Margaret Thatcher.

In the course of his speech, McLaughlin emphasised the similarities between the apartheid system in South Africa and the systematic discrimination against nationalists in the occupied six counties. Later that evening, at a meeting of anti-imperialist and solidarity groups he explained the republican analysis of the Hillsborough Deal.

The next day, in Toronto, McLaughlin met with Charles Roche, recently named 'Lawyer of the Year' by the Black Lawyers' Association of North America. They discussed the legal restrictions on the presentation of the republican viewpoint in North America and the means by which those restrictions might be challenged.

TRADE UNIONISTS

At another meeting, trade unionists from the Canadian Auto Workers, United Food & Commercial Workers, the Canadian Union of Public Employees and the United Steel Workers met McLaughlin and Joe Jamison, secretary of the New York-based Irish-American Labour Coalition. Their discussion was a very important breakthrough to getting trade union activity in Canada focused on the MacBride principles.

On Sunday night, July 13th, McLaughlin spoke at a public meeting organised by the Irish Unity Information Service. His speech was followed by a broad-ranging discussion with the audience who showed great enthusiasm for developing solidarity work in Canada.

Glasgow day school on Ireland

A YOUTH DAY SCHOOL on Ireland was attended by 150 people in Glasgow, Scotland, earlier this month.

The event, held on July 5th, was sponsored by the National Organisation of Labour Students, branches of the Labour Party Young Socialists (LPYS), and the Republican Band Alliance (Scotland).

Speakers included Belfast City Councillor Bobby Lavery (Sinn Féin), Les Robertson (Labour Party Scottish Executive member), Alan Smart (National Union of Students president), and Charlie Gordon (chairperson of the West of Scotland District Council of the National Union of Railworkers).

WITHDRAWAL

The day school brought together a broad cross-section of individuals and organisations to discuss the building of a movement for British withdrawal from Ireland and various speakers such as Kim Daly (Women & Ireland) and John Burgess (Glasgow Prisoners' Committee) stressed the importance of campaigning against strip-searches and in defence of Irish prisoners in English jails.

Matt Forde (Labour Committee on Ireland) spoke of how the Hillsborough Agreement had brought no improvement to the lives of nationalists in the six counties and Bobby Lavery ended the day's very successful debates by calling on everyone to mobilise against all aspects of British repression in Ireland.

Overwhelming response in Sweden

AN EXHIBITION and 'freedom counter' organised by Ireland-Solidaritet (IS) proved to be one of the most popular of the dozen stalls on view at a recent folkfest (people's festival) in the Swedish city of Malmö.

During the course of the two-day festival last month, hundreds of people took advantage of the information available and organisers from IS were overwhelmed at the level of interest shown, mainly from people who had never seen the Irish-British conflict from a republican perspective.

Part of the exhibition was devoted to the plastic bullets issue and most people were shocked when they saw an actual plastic bullet.

Aside from the interest generated, IS was greatly encouraged by the solidarity expressed and links established with other groups, especially those from Latin America.

International youth camp

SINN FEIN'S Padraic Wilson represented the party at an international youth camp run by the French revolutionary youth organisation, JCR, which was attended by 500 people from Europe, America and Africa between July 12th and 18th.

Other speakers at the various rallies and workshops apart from Padraic Wilson included delegates from the Congress of South African Trade Unions, SWAPO and the Basque organisation, Herri Batasuna.

Buncrana commemoration

REPUBLICANS in Buncrana held their annual hunger-strike commemoration on Sunday afternoon, July 20th, with a colourful procession which was watched by a large number of local people and holidaymakers who packed the narrow streets of the small seaside town.

Setting off from the White Strand Inn on the edge of the village at around 3.30pm, the march was led by an eight-strong Fianna guard of honour and a smartly-turned-out colour party from the Michael McLaughlin Flute Band from Greysteel, County Derry.

Several hundred marchers fell in behind the McLaughlin/Gaughan/McDaid Sinn Féin banner from Buncrana, while the Rising Sons of Ireland Republican Flute Band from Limavady, County Derry, brought up the rear.

The procession lasted 45 minutes as it made its way through

Buncrana, along the perimeter of the sea-front and up through the main streets of the town centre, before stopping in Market Square.

SILENCE

Lawrence Caldwell, who chaired the event, read out the list of the ten republican prisoners who died on hunger-strike in 1981 and then called for two minutes' silence.

Two Donegal Sinn Féin councillors, Eddie Fullerton and Liam McElhinney, made speeches in which they both criticised the collaboration between the Free



● LIAM McELHINNEY

State and the British. In addition, Liam McElhinney analysed the impact of the hunger-strike and the development of British counter-insurgency tactics since then.

He concluded his speech by calling on everyone to join in the



● EDDIE FULLERTON

national liberation struggle and pointed out that "the only people who can really bring the nightmare of Northern nationalists to an end are the members and supporters of the Republican Movement".

Patrick Cannon remembered

THE TENTH anniversary of the death of IRA Volunteer Patrick Cannon was commemorated in Dublin on Sunday, July 20th.

The parade to Patrick Cannon's graveside in the North County Dublin cemetery of Balgriffin was led by a Fianna Éireann colour party and the Volunteer Tom Smith Republican Fife & Drum Band. A hundred people took part in the commemoration which was chaired at the graveside by Val Lynch.

After a minute's silence and the laying of a wreath on behalf of the McNulty/Cannon Sinn Féin cumann, the main speaker was Dublin City Councillor Christy Burke.

Christy Burke said that he had known Patrick Cannon as "a quiet and very sincere young republican" whose death at the age of 20 with his comrade, Peter McElcar of Donegal, was a tragic loss. The two Volunteers were killed in a premature explosion near the Tyrone border on



July 17th 1976.

Burke recalled the conduct of the gardai who tried to disrupt the funeral of Patrick Cannon and batoned mourners outside the church.

Sunday's commemoration ended with the playing of *Amhrán na bhFiann* by the Tom Smith Band.

Irish Lesson

NOTES ON PRONUNCIATION

The pronunciation given in brackets is as near as possible to the sound. Vowels can be long or short, the lengthened version being indicated by a fada (long mark). Thus we have do (dun) — to or for and dó (doe) — two. CH is pronounced as in Loch Erne. D and T before A, O and U are thick, spoken with the tongue pressed against the upper front teeth. DH and GH are like G far back in the throat.

(20)

Feicim (fékim) — I see
Feiceann tú (fékun thu) — You see
Feiceann sé (fékun shay) — He or it sees
Feiceann sí (fékun shee) — She sees
Feicimid (fékiméid) — We see
Feiceann sibh (fékun shiv) — You see
Feiceann siad (fékun shee-ud) — They see
Feictear é (féktur ay) — It or he is seen
Féach (fayuch) — Look
An gluaisín (un gloishtawn) — The car
An scamall (un skomull) — The cloud
An spéir (un speir) — The sky
Tintreach (tin-truch) — Lightning
An ghrian (un ghreain) — The sun
An ghealach (un gyaicun) — The moon
Réaltá (raytuh) — Star
Réaltá (raytuh) — Stars
Solais (sullus) — Light
Dath (doh) — Colour
Feicim an ghluaisín ar an mbóthar — I see the car on the road
Féach ar an scamall dubh — Look at the black cloud
Feiceann sé an tintreach — He sees the

lightning
Feicimid an ghrian — We see the sun
Feiceann siad an ghealach — They see the moon
Feiceann sibh na réaltaí — You see the stars
Feictear solas na réaltaí san oíche — The light of the stars is seen at night
Tá dath gorm ar an spéir — The sky is blue in colour

PHRASES

Feicim anois é (fékim anish ay) — I see it now
Le gach deagháil (le goch dyah ghwaé) — With every good wish
Mo ghéir thú (mo ghaw hoo) — You are my love
Sin sin (shin shin) — That's that
Feicim Maire gach la (fékim maire gach law) — I see Mary every day
Tabhair dom do lámh (too-ir dum duh law) — Give me your hand
Bí i do thost (bee i duh hust) — Be quiet
Ná bí ag caint (naw bee egg kinet) — Don't be talking
Anois a dúirt tú é (unish uh doirt tu ay) — Now you said it.

OBITUARIES



(Foreground) Frank Colgan, Tom Barry and John Snee

Frank Colgan

FRANK COLGAN came from Bohola, a unique part of Mayo which has produced such famous sons as George Harrison and Paul O'Dwyer. Like them and his comrade, General Tom Maguire, Frank Colgan was imbued with the spirit of freedom from an early age and all through his long life he remained faithful to his republican principles right up until his death on Friday, July 11th.

Frank was renowned for his toughness. Comrades Broddy Kelly and John Snee spoke of Colgan's raw courage and grim determination at the height of the Tan War and even more so when the Free State army set out to destroy the East Mayo Brigade with its headquarters at Killybeg. Along with some of his comrades, he survived due mainly to a well-constructed and concealed dug-out in Killybeg.

Fifty years later, one of the most beautiful memorials in the country was unveiled by Tom Barry in Killybeg as a tribute to the Volunteers of the East Mayo Brigade and it was largely Frank's driving force which made the monument possible.

FUGITIVE

Like thousands of other IRA Volunteers, Frank was forced to flee Ireland in the grim aftermath of the Civil War. He arrived in the United States a fugitive and an exile from his own country. He teamed up with comrades Mike Flannery and Ernie O'Malley in a famous ballroom in Manhattan which had become a reception centre for the soldiers of a defeated army.

Though Flannery and Colgan knew they had lost a major battle, they also knew the war for Irish freedom had to go on. A revamped Clan na Gael gave them organisation and strength and soon their talents enabled them to make a mark in personal and public life.

SOLIDARITY

The week before he died, Frank asked his son, Gerard, to take him to the Gresham Hotel. He had heard of a meeting about the Birmingham Six. Though he was a dying man, Frank had to be there to show solidarity and help right a gross injustice.

It was fitting that the final words spoken over Frank's grave came from his life-long friend and old comrade, Denis Conroy of Cork. Denis summed up Frank's life:

"Frank Colgan was a physical force man from the day he joined Oglaigh na hEirinn to the day he died. He believed freedom came from the barrel of a gun and, believing so, he remained faithful to his old allegiance."

Jack Nolan

JACK NOLAN, a veteran of Limerick's 'Fighting Fifth' Division of the IRA, died on Tuesday, July 1st, after a short illness.

From the age of 17, when he joined the Irish Volunteers in 1917, to his death at 86 years of age, Jack was a stalwart republican and in an interview with *An Phoblacht/Republican News* in October 1982 he described the political environment that shaped his commitment:

"What first made me really conscious of a foreign presence in our country which needed to be defeated was when, one day, as a young fella, I was surrounded by a group of Black and Tans as I was going down the road."

"They asked me if I was a 'Shinner' and I replied that I was. Well, they walked me across the road and they gave me an awful hiding. When they were finished with me they asked me 'I was still a 'Shinner'. I am,' says I, 'and whether long or short I live, I'll be a Sinn Féin until I die'."

True to his word, Jack graduated through the republican ranks as a member of the Irish Republican Army in strongly republican West Limerick. Like most of his comrades, he rejected the Treaty of 1922 and ended up as a prisoner in overcrowded Limerick Jail but he escaped from there a few months later through a tunnel which he had helped to dig.

DOOR ALWAYS OPEN

Jack's work as a republican did not stop there, however, but continued throughout his long life. His door was always open to republican activists and



he remained active through the campaign against criminalisation in the H-Blocks and the hunger-strikes of 1980 and 1981.

Following his death in Limerick Regional Hospital, Jack's body was brought back to his native Ballyhishill and he was buried at Killybeg Cemetery on Thursday, July 3rd. The large crowd attending his funeral was led by a party of Fianna Éireann from Limerick.

A graveside oration was delivered by Des Long, who paid tribute to Jack's work for the Republican Movement.

BROWN, Dinny; MAILEY, Jackie; MULVENNA, Jim (8th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Dinny Brown, Jackie Mailey, and Jim Mulvenna, Oglaigh na hEirinn, who were killed by British crown forces on June 21st 1972. Their struggle and sacrifice shall never be forgotten. Always remembered by Theresa and Francis Ferguson, Darnley, Dublin.

CUNNINGHAM, Alphonsus (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Alphonsus Cunningham, South Down Brigade, Oglaigh na hEirinn, who was killed on active service as a result of an accidental explosion on July 21st 1972. Fuair se bas ar son na hEirinn. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the South Down Brigade.

DOUGAN, Julie (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Julie Dougan, Cumann na mBan, Portadown, who died on active service on July 8th 1972. Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for her. Always remembered by her brothers Pat, Ned and families, England.

DOUGAN, Julie (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Julie Dougan, Cumann na mBan, who died on active service on July 8th 1972. Never more than a thought away. Always remembered by her brothers Benny, Maurice and families.

DOUGAN, Julie (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Julie Dougan, Cumann na mBan, who died on active service on July 8th 1972. A special day, another year, loving thoughts, a spent tear, a little prayer to keep in touch with the one we love and love was always remembered by her loving sister Margaret, brother-in-law Bobby and families, England.

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DOUGAN, Julie (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Julie Dougan, Cumann na mBan, Portadown, who died on active service on July 8th 1972. "Lay her away on the hillside, along with the name of the roll of fame in letters of purest gold." Always remembered by her loving sister Marion, Brendan and children.

DOUGAN, Julie (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Julie Dougan, Cumann na mBan, Portadown, who died on active service on July 8th 1972. St Joseph, pray for her. Your memory we cherish with thoughts that are dear, we think of you always and not once a year. Sadly missed and proudly remembered by her brother Sean, Alice and family.

DOUGAN, Julie (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Julie Dougan, Cumann na mBan, Portadown, who died on active service on July 8th 1972. "Never had man nor woman a grander cause,

BARTLEY, Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Robert Bartley, who died tragically in a fire earlier this month. From the late Kieran, Dublin.

CASEY, Deepest sympathy is extended to the Casey family on their recent bereavement. From the late Nolan Sinn Féin cumann, Stillorgan, County Dublin.

FIELDS, Deepest sympathy is extended to our friends and comrades Jim and Tony on the death of Mrs Fields. From the late John Francis Green, Sinn Féin cumann, Castleblaney.

FIELDS, Sincere sympathy is extended to Tony and Jim on the death of Mrs Fields. Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for her. From Bernie, Castleblaney.

FIELDS, Deepest sympathy is extended to Tony and Jim on the death of Mrs Fields. Ar dheis De go raibh anam. From the Smith family, Oldins Street.

FIELDS, Deepest sympathy is extended to Tony and Jim on the death of Mrs Fields. Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for her. From Peter.

FITZGERALD, Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of the late Jack Nolan. From the late Le comhbhrón crol Aine Nic Murchadha.

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never was a cause so grandly served." Always remembered by Jackie, Bernie and family.

DOUGAN, Julie (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Julie Dougan, Cumann na mBan, who died on active service on July 8th 1972 in Portadown. From the late John Francis Green Sinn Féin cumann, Castleblaney.

DOUGAN, Julie (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Julie Dougan, Cumann na mBan, who died on active service on July 8th 1972. "They may kill the revolutionary but never the revolution." From Monaghan Sinn Féin comraide.

DOWNEY, Joseph (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Joseph Downey, Belfast Brigade, Oglaigh na hEirinn, who was shot dead on active service in a gun-battle with British troops on July 21st 1972. Thug se raibh aige ar son muintir na hEirinn. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

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HIGHSTEAD, Derek (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my husband and loving father, Derek, who was killed in England on July 16th 1976. Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for him. "If anyone should ask us why we thought the world of you, we could give a million reasons, and each one would be special and we thought the world of you." RIP. Always remembered by his wife Mena and children, England.

HURSON, Martin; McDONNELL, Joe (5th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Martin Hurson and Joe McDonnell, Oglaigh na hEirinn, who died on hunger-strike in the summer of 1981. Thug se raibh aige ar son muintir na hEirinn. Always remembered by the McBrearty/Maguire Sinn Féin cumann, County Donegal.

HURSON, Martin (5th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Martin Hurson, who died for Ireland on July 13th 1981. Ar dheis lamh De go raibh anam. Always remembered by Barney Lennon, Curraghmore, Moydow, County Londonderry.

IN PROUD AND LOVING MEMORY of the ten hunger-strikers who died in the summer of 1981 for the five just demands. From the Irish Unity Information Service, America.

KANE, Pauline (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Pauline Kane, South Down Brigade, Cumann na mBan, who died on active service with her comrades in the South Down Brigade on July 21st 1972. Codiagh go samh, Always remembered by her friends and comrades in the South Down Brigade.

MOLLOY, Tobias (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Tobias Molloy, Flanna Éireann, who was killed by a rubber bullet on July 16th 1972. "The love the Irish people have left us Fenian dead and while Ireland holds these graves Ireland unfree shall never be at peace." Proudly remembered by the Molloy/Devlin Sinn Féin cumann, Strabane.

REID, Jim (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Jim Reid, 3rd Battalion, Belfast

never was a cause so grandly served." Always remembered by Jackie, Bernie and family.

DOUGAN, Julie (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Julie Dougan, Cumann na mBan, who died on active service on July 8th 1972. "Never had man nor woman a grander cause,

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Brigade, Oglaigh na hEirinn, who was killed on active service on July 12th 1972. Will those who think of him today, a little prayer to Jesus say. Always remembered by Bobby, sister-in-law Marie and family.

SCULLION, Louis (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Louis Scullion, Oglaigh na hEirinn, who was killed by British crown forces on July 11th 1972. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Scullion/Brelin Sinn Féin cumann, Clonsilla, County Dublin.

TEER, Patrick (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Patrick Teer, Belfast Brigade, Oglaigh na hEirinn, who died on July 22nd 1974 as a result of an assault by British troops in Crag 3 of Long Kesh. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

TEER, Patrick (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Patrick Teer, Belfast Brigade, Oglaigh na hEirinn, who died in the Royal Victoria Hospital as a result of an assault by British troops in Long Kesh on July 22nd 1974. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in Long Kesh.

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TOLAN, Thomas (9th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Thomas Tolan, Belfast Brigade, Oglaigh na hEirinn, who was killed by Workers Party counter-revolutionaries in the Ballymurphy on July 27th 1977. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Tolan Sinn Féin.

TOLAN, Tommy (9th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Tommy Tolan, who was killed by Workers' Party gunmen in the Ballymurphy on July 27th 1977. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Tolan Sinn Féin.

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COMHBHRÓN

tend their deepest sympathy to Fitz and family on the recent death of his father.

FITZGERALD, Deepest sympathy is extended to Ger Fitzgerald and family on the recent death of his father, Martin Eugene, Deirdre, Doco, Sean, Micky, Rab and Peter (Portlaoise).

FITZGERALD, Deepest sympathy is extended to Fitz and family on the recent death of his father. From Paddy B.

FITZGERALD, Sincere sympathy is extended to Ger Fitzgerald on the recent death of his father. From "The Cockney".

FITZGERALD, Deepest sympathy is extended to our friend Fitz (Portlaoise) on the death of his father. From the Shiels family, Gabbstown and Morass.

HUGHES, Deepest sympathy is extended to Tony and Jim on the death of Mrs Fields. Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for her. From Peter.

FITZGERALD, Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of the late Jack Nolan. From the late Le comhbhrón crol Aine Nic Murchadha.

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prisoners who died recently. From the Anti-Slip-Search Committee, the women prisoners in Maghaberry.

NOLAN, Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of the late Jack Nolan. From the late Le comhbhrón crol Aine Nic Murchadha.

NOLAN, The Sean Heuston Sinn Féin cumann, Patrickswell, extends its deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Jack Nolan, Ballyhahill.

NOLAN, Flanna Éireann extends its deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Jack Nolan. RIP. Many thanks, Jack, for your presence in the past. From the Sean Heuston Sinn Féin and the Countess Markievicz/Sean O'Malley Sinn Féin.

NOLAN, Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Jack Nolan, who died recently. From the late Le comhbhrón crol Aine Nic Murchadha.

TOAL, Deepest and sincere sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Jack Nolan. RIP. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the TOAL Sinn Féin.

TOAL, Peter Conlon and family, Dublin, extend their deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Jack Nolan, who died recently.

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Beannachtai

Mac CURTAIN, Coirreall (Portlaoise). Le chad a ghul agus beannacht ar ocaid do la breithe. O chianm Mhic Murchadha sa Rinn.

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DATELINE: Thursday, July 3rd, Belfast.

Determined to uncover the truth that lies behind the lies that lie behind the truth, etc, etc, I journeyed to the Lower Falls and, at great personal risk, rendezvoused with our undercover unit at a social function in aid of paramilitary creche personnel whose ACE-scheme funding has been withdrawn by the British government.

Among the milling throng we identified Fra 'The Blanketman' McCann with a number of Havana-cigar-smoking cronies singing *Red, red wine*. Luckily, his 'assistants', Chip and Jap, were nowhere to be seen.

Suddenly, McCann left the company and rushed into the smallest room in the building — I quickly followed.

"What about ye, Fra?" I asked nonchalantly. "Where's Rhonda tonight then?"

He flushed, turned, and, with obvious relief, spluttered, "I was set up. It's McKnight you want... McKnight!" And he thrust something into our hands. Gasps! It was a photograph of Belfast Sinn Féin Councillor Sean McKnight in conversation with, horror of horrors, DUP Mayor Sammy 'The Wimp' Wilson!!! The plot thickens.

Then the acrid smell of cigar smoke assailed my nostrils as I turned to find my passage blocked by a menacing figure. It was McKnight!

"Hey, Column," he rasped. "A word in your ear."

And a variety of words in my ear he had.

The photographs were taken, he explained, at an exhibition of arts and crafts by the Lower Falls Handicapped Association at the Grosvenor Recreation Centre which was (disgraced by the attendance of the DUP mayor and mayoress.

When introduced to Ms Paisley, Fra declined to speak to her while Sean confronted Wilson and informed him, politely, that his presence was not welcomed by the people of the Lower Falls. Exit DUP dignitaries.

If Sean was half as polite as he was to us no doubt it will be some time before The Wimp and his minder pollute the area again. ★★

AN UNBROKEN RECORD of British military service stretching back more than 300 years. This is the shameful his-

the flying column

THE SHINING McKNIGHT



● (Left) The Shining McKnight meets The Wimp; (above) Daughter of Paisley meets The Blanketman (AP/R/N, July 3rd)

tory of the Bray family as revealed by Brigadier Michael Bray.

A son of the late General Sir Robert Bray, 'Donkey' Bray has 'served' in Arabia, East Africa, Cyprus, Honduras, Germany, Canada and Norway, not to mention three 'tours of duty' in the six counties and postings in Australia, Aden and Holland.

An international terrorist by anyone's standards and well qualified for his new position as commander of the UDR, Ulster's Dirty Rats, with their own infamous history of sectarian murder, intimidation and brutality.

QUESTION: Who is funding the SDLP's lavish propaganda campaign to raise funds for its very narrow party political ends?

Answer: the taxpayers of the twenty-six counties.

Along with two begging letters (one of them personally signed by John Hume and asking us "to consider" throwing him the odd £100 we have spare) which are pouring through thousands of letter boxes comes a swish, 16-page, A4, full-colour, high-quality, glossy brochure on the media circus surrounding the dubious

benefits of the Hillsborough Agreement and printed by the Dublin government's Department of Foreign Affairs.

I don't know about you, but I don't recall anyone asking me if Garret the Gormless and Teabags Barry could use my taxes to boost the floundering financial fortunes of the SDLP.

ONE INTERESTING claim that John Hume makes in his begging letter is that the SDLP "has not flinched and has not compromised".

Oh no, John?

I must have imagined that the SDLP backed the rent and rates strike against internment, abandoned the strike when Sunningdale provided Stormont salaries and seats for SDLP bums, and penalised strikers by deducting rent and rates from their social welfare payments and adding a punitive collection charge.

ROYAL MARINE Commando hero Anthony Wright was jailed for two years (including 16 months suspended) by Bodmin Crown Court, Cornwall, on Monday after admitting charges of indecent assault on two sisters aged ten and 15 and another girl aged ten.

Wright, who also held the Distinguished Service Cross, once served on Lord Mountbatten's staff.

Enough said. ★★

AFTER The 'Brighton Bomb' trial in June, Margaret 'Hang 'Em High' Thatcher loudly proclaimed to the media:

"I have always voted for the return of capital punishment."

Why then, I wonder, did she send a last-minute personal plea for clemency to the Malaysian government in July before the hanging of heroin smuggler Kevin Barlow?

It couldn't have anything to do with the fact that Barlow was born in Britain and was being hanged by foreigners, could it? ★★

IF ANYONE tells you that there are 'acceptable' levels of radiation then bear in mind the cautionary message of a museum spokesperson after a small rock of radioactive pitchblende was stolen from a public display at the Hancock Museum in Newcastle Upon Tyne in England:

"We are not saying it would cause radiation sickness or any immediate effects, but if the thief carries it in his trouser pocket for a long time he can forget about being a father."

DIRTY SIAD

It is clear that the Northern security authorities regard the Diplock system, linked with the use of supergrass witnesses, as a form of internment and use it extensively as such.

— Irish Times editorial, July 18th.

We are particularly uneasy in the company of Mr Peter Barry, the Foreign Minister, on these occasions [condemnations of IRA actions].

It was he who gave tacit approval to the American barbarity in Libya some months ago, which involved far greater atrocity than anything the IRA has ever done. Therefore, condemnations from him of IRA actions are, at the least, inappropriate.

Mr Barry should have the good sense to keep quiet.

— Sunday Tribune editorial, July 13th.

The DUP was young. "It was less formal, more populist." And, very importantly, it was wide open.

"Anyone with any ambition could see that it had no established figures except Mr Paisley."

— The Flying Column's power-hungry pal, Belfast Lord Mayor Sammy Wilson, telling the Sunday Tribune why he became a Duppie. ★★

If Sellafeld was to inform general practitioners every time a worker was contaminated we would be writing 100 letters a day.

— Windscale/Sellafeld's chief medical officer, Dr Jack Strain.

Some members of the House of Commons have even gone so far as to inform me, if we approve this \$50 million of aid to Northern Ireland, they will reduce, by the like amount of \$50 million, the aid from Great Britain to Northern Ireland. So, in effect, we will displace money that the British would have given to Northern Ireland. So we might as well make the cheque out directly to the United Kingdom.

We are beginning a new commitment which we will have to keep for years to come, as the government of Northern Ireland becomes more and more dependent on us for support.

— US Senator Zorinsky of Nebraska.

NTS



©CORMAC

I've heard that the Divis Flats Hang-Gliding Team are boycotting the Commonwealth Games...



Indeed they are... and quite right too!



I suppose they object to Thatcher's failure to oppose the régime in South Africa?



Of course they do... In fact they are opposed to Thatcher's very existence... but the real reason that they're not going is...



Well?

They're afraid of heights!



There are loyalist mobs once more on the rampage on our streets and all you can do is make silly jokes! I used to think that loyalism was a silly joke...

