

# AN PHOBLACHT Republican News

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING  
POLITICAL WEEKLY



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# Cooney's class bias

**IN A DIRECTIVE to secondary schools throughout the twenty-six counties, Dublin Education Minister Patrick Cooney has urged teachers to single out the IRA for attack.**

The ministerial circular was issued at the end of last month and urges teachers when discussing International Peace Year to put "particular emphasis on the evils of the IRA". Cooney's political directive to teachers was rejected by spokespersons for both the Teachers' Union of Ireland and the Association of Secondary Teachers of Ireland after the circular was published in a Dublin newspaper on Tuesday, September 9th.

Teachers' criticism, however, concentrated on the crude and dictatorial manner adopted by Cooney rather than on the insidious attempt to impose a politically-biased curriculum within twenty-six-county schools. In fact, successive media interviews with teacher leaders confirmed that schools are already implementing an anti-republican political bias as a matter of course.

One teachers' leader, Fr Paul Byrne of the Confer-

ence of Major Religious Superiors, bending over backwards to show that he agreed with Cooney's sentiment, went so far in an interview as to claim that the Republican Movement had "usurped patriotism".

### BUNGLING

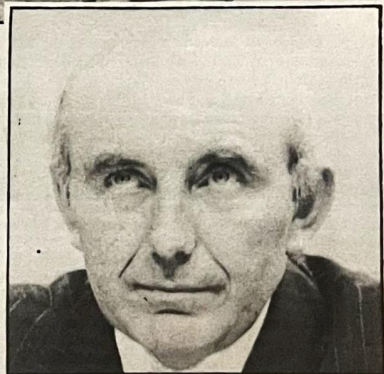
In an RTE radio interview on Tuesday, Cooney tried to defend his directive but when it was put to him that teachers might have some difficulty in explaining why the IRA of the Tan War period were heroes while today's IRA are evil, the bungling minister could scarcely find an answer.

Eventually he mumbled the stock answer of anti-republican apologists, claiming that the Tan War IRA had an electoral mandate. This was immediately dismissed in a Sinn Féin statement which cited it as evidence "that truth and historical facts — not to mention interpretation —



will be distorted and/or omitted where these conflict with the objectives of the political establishment".

Meanwhile, Sinn Féin president and West Belfast MP Gerry Adams, speaking in Carlow on Tuesday night, said that he would be willing to debate the issue of IRA 'violence' publicly with Patrick Cooney and he added that Sinn Féin would be happy to nominate speakers to "any school wishing to have a balanced discussion on this issue".



● Big Brother is watching you!



# EFFECTIVE TACTIC



**THE IRA TACTIC** of isolating crown forces in the North by ensuring that those firms and councils servicing crown forces bases cease such work and by preventing the essential building or repair work from being carried out is having serious effects on the operational ability of the RUC and British army.

Of the 14 permanent barracks and checkpoints which have either been damaged or destroyed in IRA attacks in the last two years, only one has been fully repaired. In many barracks, RUC personnel and UDR and British soldiers must operate nervously from flimsy Portacabins and other temporary structures, always conscious of the threat from IRA mortar attacks.

On Thursday, September 4th, it was revealed that the RUC Police Authority has scrapped plans to build a new RUC headquarters in Derry while, in addition, council bin collectors work-

ing for Newry & Mourne, Armagh and Derry councils also announced that they will no longer be collecting rubbish from crown forces bases.

## INFORMER EXECUTED

On Wednesday morning, September 10th, the Irish Republican Army claimed responsibility for the execution the previous night of David McVeigh of Victoria Street, Lurgan.

In a lengthy statement, the IRA explained why McVeigh was killed:

McVeigh was an IRA Volunteer dismissed with ignominy

● Rubbish mounts at Strabane RUC Barracks

for treachery.

The IRA has been aware for some time that information concerning IRA operations in the Lurgan area was being passed on to the crown forces. After exhaustive enquiries, evidence was gathered which identified David McVeigh as the source of this information. He was arrested and, when confronted with the evidence of his activities, he admitted his role as an informer.

In his statement of admission, McVeigh revealed that he first began working for the RUC

following his arrest in connection with an explosion at Lurgan Golf Club in 1982.

From January 1983, he met the RUC on a three-weekly basis. These meetings took place at Tannaghmore School, Kinego Marina and Lurgan Golf Club. Each meeting was held on a Wednesday night and McVeigh was instructed to ring 6585 between 8pm and 9.30pm on that night and ask for his handlers whose codenames were 'George' and 'Jim'. He was told to use the name 'Davy' when telephoning. His last meeting was

on August 20th and his next meeting was due for September 17th.

At each of these meetings he received a payment of £20. He was also helped financially to go on holidays and, while in Dublin during 1984, he travelled home at the weekends, made contact with his handlers, and gave information concerning the movements of known republicans in the Dublin area.

During the three years in which McVeigh worked for the RUC, he was involved in six separate incidents in which he passed on information which led to the arrest of five republicans and the seizure of explosives, weapons and ammunition. On these occasions he was given bonus payments of up to £200 each time.

To ingratiate himself even further with his RUC handlers, McVeigh passed on information about two IRA operations — an ambush on an RUC patrol and a landmine — with the intention of wiping out those Volunteers involved in the operations. This failed only because Volunteers on the ground noticed unusual RUC/British army activity and aborted the operations.

# REPRESSION UNDER SPOTLIGHT

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG & JANE PLUNKETT

**BRITISH REPRESSION** in the six counties was again under an international spotlight this week as the final step of the attempt by H-Block escapees Gerry Kelly and Brendan McFarlane to prevent their extradition to a British jail got underway in the Hague.

The Dutch Supreme Court hearing, which began on Wednesday, follows protracted efforts by the British government to have the two men extradited. Both were serving life sentences for bombings and face other charges in connection with the mass escape of September 1983.

They were recaptured in Amsterdam in January 1986. In March, an Amsterdam district court rejected the British extradition application against Kelly on the grounds that his actions were politically



● (Left) Brendan McFarlane; (Above) Gerry Kelly

motivated but accepted the extradition of McFarlane.

Subsequently, however, in July, the Supreme Court, using an extremely narrow definition of 'direct' political offences (such as the assassination of a head of state)

argued that neither man should be given sanctuary.

At the Supreme Court hearing which began on Wednesday, both Kelly and McFarlane testified before the judges, as

did a number of expert witnesses — among them Bernadette McAliskey, Fermanagh priest Joe McVeigh and English barrister Tony Gifford — to Britain's repressive role in the North.

Observers from the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, the Haldane Society of Socialist Lawyers and the International Federation for Human Rights also attended.

Wednesday's hearing was the last legal stage in McFarlane's and Kelly's struggle against return to a British jail. The final decision, which is likely to be announced in six to eight weeks, will be taken by the Dutch government.

The Dutch will clearly be under considerable pressure from Britain, an EEC partner, to acquiesce in extradition. But whatever the verdict, the affair has again focused international attention on the Irish struggle and on British repression in the North.

## EIGHT QUIGLEY VICTIMS IN COURT

# APPEAL HEARING BEGINS

BY JANE PLUNKETT

**THE APPEAL** of eight Derrymen imprisoned on the word of RUC paid-perjurer Robert Quigley opened at Belfast's Crumlin Road Courthouse on Tuesday.

Relatives and friends, as well as former victims of the show-trials system, picketed Derry Courthouse, in Bishop Street, and Crumlin Road Courthouse. Several Sinn Féin elected representatives took part, including Martin McGuinness, Hugh Brady, Dottie McGuinness and Bobby Lavery.

Inside the courthouse, the defence case was opened by lawyer Desmond Boal, who said the defendants were appealing on ten grounds, hinging on trial Judge Hutton's appraisal of Quigley and his evidence.

Boal said that, in the first part of his 7½-hour judgement, the judge had described Quigley as a

man of "deplorable character" and a liar, comments which would reasonably have led him to acquit the accused.

But by the later stages, the judge was describing Quigley as convincing, and gave no explanation as to why he had changed his mind.

The appeal, which is being heard before unionist Judges Lowry, O'Donnell and Higgins, is expected to last at least three weeks.

The defendants have already been incarcerated for over four years and have thus served the equivalent of a nine-year prison sentence solely on the uncorro-

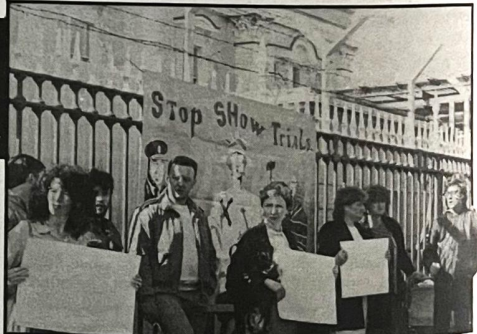
borated word of Quigley, who was given immunity from prosecution, money and a new life abroad in exchange for his court appearances.

In May 1984, trial Judge Hutton meted out sentences totalling over 1,000 years to the ten men convicted. Two defendants received a total of 19 life sentences between them.

## CHARADE

Derry Sinn Féin Councillor Hugh Brady this week described the Quigley trial and appeal as "a judicial charade" which had caused untold hardship and heartbreak for more than 30 Derry families. Describing the 2½-year delay in holding the appeal as "a grievous insult" to the people involved, Brady added:

"Far from bringing comfort



● Stop the Show-Trials picket at Crumlin Road Courthouse, Belfast

and solace to these families, the occasional pious condemnation of the paid-perjurer system by the SDLP and Dublin government, and the promises of reform have only added to their general feelings of despair and disappointment."

Six men are still awaiting trial on the word of Quigley, who appeared in court in Belfast last month incriminating one of them, Derrymen Patrick Deery, who was

recently the victim of an 'unofficial' extradition by the Garda.

The RUC's continuing use of Quigley, plus the fact that two other show-trials, involving Connolly and Whoriskey, are still pending, appears to confirm that the British have not abandoned their use of paid-perjurers. As Hugh Brady pointed out:

"All evidence now points to the fact that the system is being extended, upgraded and refined."



# Unionists threaten UDI

BY HILDA Mac THOMAS

UNIONISTS are now ready to consider independence. At least this is the message which several of them have been sending to their British masters lately. At the DUP's weekly press conference on Tuesday, deputy leader Peter Robinson said that independence would be better than the ultimate evil of a united Ireland. But more surprising were the words of the OUP's deputy leader, Harold McCusker. McCusker broke a five-month silence to announce on Wednesday, September 3rd, that, in the terms of the Hillsborough Agreement, the Union was 'no longer worth fighting for or dying for'. The options unionists must consider, he said, included independence.

While McCusker protested that he was not advocating that course, talk of UDI — a unilateral declaration of independence — had always been anathema within the OUP in the past. At the start of the anti-Agreement campaign, unionists had indignantly rejected claims by Alliance and the SDLP that their rejection of the Agreement would lead to the severance of the Union and independence. As an option independence had always been the preserve of a small minority including the UDA whose leader, Andy Tyrie, along with Ulster Workers' Council boss Glen Barr, had produced in 1979 a plan for an 'independent Ulster'.

But the UDA's political front, the Ulster Loyalist Democratic Party, has always fared extremely badly in elections



● PETER ROBINSON

and opinion polls have never revealed more than a few percent in favour of independence.

There are many good reasons why loyalists never relished going it alone. Thousands of loyalist jobs are subsidised by the British exchequer, including Harland & Wolff, Shorts and Mackies, not to mention the thousands in the pay of the British government, like the civil service or the RUC.

## UNNECESSARY

Another argument against independence has been that it is simply unnecessary since loyalists have always been able to do what they wanted in their six-county state. This changed somewhat in 1972 when the British closed the Stormont



● HAROLD MCCUSKER

Assembly. However, loyalists soon realised that their political and economic muscle was largely unaffected in the new direct-rule set-up.

Today the risks involved for loyalists in declaring independence still exist: the risk of increased nationalist resistance — but, according to Jim Wells of the DUP, "We'd have no problems with the IRA on our own. We'd soon root them out" — and the risk of losing British subsidies, although increased unemployment means an increased number of loyalists who have little to lose. And, according to one OUP councillor, the unionist middle class is angry at the British government's inability to protect their business interests from the IRA.

Unionists are now willing to be associated with an option which implies the end of the Union. It shows, as the OUP's general secretary Frank Millar and Ken Maginnis explain, the depth of unionist opposition to the Agreement and the despair of unionist politicians in the present situation.

It also shows that the common ground of all shades of unionism — be they partisans of UDI, devolution, or total integration with Britain — is their opposition to the Agreement and their will to protect the existence of this sectarian statelet at any cost. Just like the white racists of South Africa and Zimbabwe/Rhodesia before them, they would rather cut the links with Britain than accept any reduction in their privileges.

There is, of course, quite a bit of inter-party rivalry and electioneering in this latest development. The DUP and the Ulster Clubs seized the leadership of the anti-Agreement campaign during the summer and many in the OUP feel that it is time to show some militancy. In times of 'danger', any sign of 'moderation' would be political suicide.

## CLIMATE OF FEAR

This is especially true in the current climate of fear created by the Ulster Clubs who this week announced their latest campaign against the Hillsborough pact. As part of this campaign, pickets will be placed on the homes of what they call pro-Agreement 'collaborators' — which means anybody in the unionist camp who deviates from total opposition to the deal.

Meanwhile, there is still no sign of SDLP leader John Hume's much-heralded 'moderate unionist leadership' appearing. If anything, unionists are now playing the game of brinkmanship with the British, murdering innocent Catholics while threatening to cut the link with 'the mainland'.

As British direct-ruler Tom King revealed last Tuesday: the Agreement would be set aside if it threatened the Union...

# Cash running out

WITH ONLY three weeks remaining before grant-aid for over 40 voluntary groups in Belfast runs out, representatives of the 60 permanent staff and 150 ACE workers have been meeting to discuss the situation and organise protest action if necessary.

Unionist disruption of Belfast City Council, in protest at the Hillsborough Agreement, resulted earlier this year in the British government appointing a temporary commissioner who hurriedly carried out any pressing business which, if neglected, might have threatened the smooth running of council services and facilities.

To the dismay of the community groups, however, the commissioner only awarded them grant-aid for a six-month period and this is due to run out at the beginning of October. Warning of redundancies Quintin Oliver, director of the Council for Voluntary Action said:

"The effect of this is bad for planning, for morale and bad for organising in the community." He described the possible effects on community groups as "devastating" and added that "the whole community infrastructure is at risk".

But Sinn Fein Councillors Sean McKnight and Sean Keenan told AP/RN that indications in City Hall suggest that the ground is

being prepared for a commissioner to be brought in to deal with this and other problems:

"Heads of departments have been instructed by the town clerk's office to prepare a report outlining areas where decisions are needed, such as expenditure, staff appointments and grant-aid to community groups."

The councillors pointed out that although Sinn Fein is opposed on a long-term basis to a commissioner carrying out the work of elected representatives:

"We welcome any respite given to organisations dependent on council funding which is at present being denied to them by loyalists who are abusing their power in the City Hall."

## CREGGAN ROW

Derry Sinn Fein Councillor Dodie McGuinness has accused the SDLP of "opportunism" in pushing through a motion at the September 4th meeting of the Amenities & Leisure Committee proposing that the council applies for grants for a community centre

in Creggan to the international aid package supposedly being put together in support of the Hillsborough Agreement.

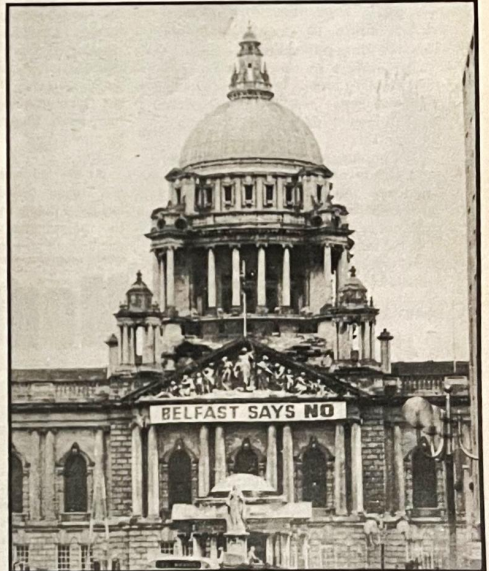
Councillor Gerry Doherty (Sinn Fein) described the aid package as a prop for British rule in Ireland and pointed out that the lack of facilities in Creggan was the fault of the SDLP-controlled council. "We should have had this centre, which is being talked about now, 15 years ago!" he said.

## KERRY CONDEMNATION

South of the border, Sinn Fein motions before two local authorities in County Kerry have provoked hysterical responses from opposing councillors.

At the August meeting of Tralee Urban District Council, Sinn Fein member Billy Leen tabled several anti-repression motions. Despite the use of the occasion by Councillor Michael Donovan to attack Leen, motions were passed condemning strip-searching and calling for one open visit per prisoner per week in Portlaoise as well as a review of the parole system in the jail.

In Listowel, Sinn Fein Councillor Donal Kelliher proposed that the 1916 Proclamation be hung in the council chamber.



Other members of the urban council expressed obvious discomfort in not being able to oppose the Sinn Fein motion which was passed unanimously along with a proposal that the national flag also be hung in the chamber.

At Carlow Urban District Council, Sinn Fein's Kieran Foley issued a sharp reply to the attack on Sinn Fein and the IRA by the Free State army chief of staff, Tadgh O'Neill, who was recently

made 'Carlowman of the Year' by the UDC.

At the meeting on August 26th, Kieran Foley said:

"Tadgh O'Neill's only claim to fame is that he crawled around the Curragh for 30 years and had himself promoted to general before linking his political colours with the right party of the day, which happened to be Fine Gael, and getting himself made chief of staff."



## Lay-offs loom

ON MONDAY, September 8th, the management of Bord na Mona confirmed its decision to lay off over 2,000 workers for the coming winter.

Union leaders in the Bord were told of the decision the next day when they met with management. The workers' representatives appealed to the Dublin government to provide a grant of funds to Bord na Mona to save the 2,356 jobs which would be a devastating loss to communities heavily dependent on the state company for economic survival.

The Free State government offered a loan of £25 million to the Bord but the company said that this would not halt the lay-offs as it would only increase their already substantial debts.

Paddy Murphy, assistant general secretary of the Federated Workers' Union of Ireland and leader of the group of unions in Bord na Mona, headed a delegation to meet Free State Labour Minister Dick Spring on Tuesday. He said that they had demanded from Spring an immediate cash injection to reduce the number and the duration of the lay-offs. If they go ahead at the level proposed, next year's harvest of peat would be put at risk.

A final outcome on the lay-offs was still awaited on Wednesday, September 10th, as Dick Spring met the management of Bord na Mona.

## Cork Corpo strike

CORK CORPORATION workers, members of the ITGWU, voted on Thursday, September 4th, to take strike action in pursuit of their long-standing pay claim.

The workers are seeking parity with their Dublin Corporation colleagues who presently receive meal and travel allowances of around £20 per week more than Cork workers.

The dispute, which has been going on for a number of years, came to a head at Thursday's meeting when the workers voted by a three to one majority to serve strike notice.

In the event of the dispute going ahead on Monday, September 22nd, it will virtually bring Cork city to a standstill.

## Parks picketed

CAR PARKS all over Dublin city are being picketed by workers in Irish Car Parks Ltd who came out on official strike on Monday, September 8th.

Irish Car Parks owns most of Dublin's enclosed parking lots and there are 50 workers in the company involved in the dispute. The strike was called after management's breaking of an agreement with the Federated Workers' Union of Ireland on working practices.

Last week, the company changed management structures and appointed a new regional manager (an ex-garda) without consulting the workers' representatives.



# Monaghan jobbery scandal

FIANNA FAIL and Fine Gael members of Monaghan County Council joined forces on Monday, September 1st, to defeat a Sinn Fein motion which called for a public inquiry into reports that the Garda Special Branch has been vetting applicants seeking employment on a major drainage scheme being run by the Board of Works.

Disturbing evidence of Garda interference in recruitment to the Blackwater Drainage Scheme — including reports that lists of names of those applying through the National Manpower Service have been handed to the Special Branch — has been revealed by Sinn Fein Councillor Caoimhghin O Caoilain only two months after his party colleague, Pat Treanor, informed the County Monaghan Agricultural Committee that there was direct interference by politicians in recruitment to the scheme.

At the September meeting, O Caoilain and Treanor tabled a council motion calling for a public inquiry into recruitment for the scheme. They said that other members of the local authority knew of

the jobbery and challenged them to speak out publicly.

Caoimhghin O Caoilain told the council that it had long been the practice of the Manpower office in Monaghan to supply lists of applicants for jobs to the Special Branch. He said that those seeking work in the Blackwater Drainage Scheme had been specifically vetted by the political police.

### PROOF

O Caoilain said that he had incontrovertible proof that gardai had marked the list on the basis of the acceptability to them of the politics of the applicants:

*"They discriminate in terms of political allegiance, coming down wholly against the known supporters and mem-*

*bers of Sinn Fein.*

*"I am aware that members of this council know of this practice and wonder would they deny to this council meeting and the press what they are on record as saying in other circles."*

Pat Treanor said that interviews for the Blackwater jobs were held last April and, as far as he knew, nobody interviewed then got a job, but he knew of other people who left jobs on Friday and took up work on the drainage scheme the following Monday due to political pull.

Both Sinn Fein councillors refused claims from other members of the body that they were attacking the scheme itself which was making essential improvements for the people of Monaghan.

### HYSTERICAL REACTION

There was a hysterical reaction from other councillors to the jobbery charges, with Fianna Fail and Fine Gael closing ranks on the issue. They all attacked the Sinn Fein members for allegedly threatening the scheme but none of them replied directly to the jobbery allegations, with the exception of a Fianna Fail Leinster House representative, Councillor Jimmy Leonard, who admitted that he had "recommended people" for jobs.

The Sinn Fein call for a public inquiry was lost by 13 votes to 2 — Fianna Fail and Fine Gael voting together.

The Sinn Fein councillors told AP/RN that it was clear from the discomfort of the other members at the meeting that the system of "jobs for the boys" was unfortunately alive and well in Monaghan. O Caoilain and Treanor said that they would continue to expose jobbery and political vetting wherever they operated.

# Moneylenders stalk Armagh

BY EAMON TRACY

"MONEYLENDING is big business and it's bleeding hundreds of us dry each week," was the comment of one distressed Armagh woman who has revealed the extent of her indebtedness to the Belfast-based moneylending firm Consumer Credit Investments Ltd.

Armagh city Sinn Fein Councillor Tommy Carroll, who carried out an investigation into the activities of moneylenders in his area, says that he was shocked at the ruthlessness of the moneylenders, the devious manner in which they carried on their 'business', and the despair of those in their debt. Explaining how the moneylenders operate, he said:

*"Posing initially as a club selling household goods, Consumer Credit Investments Ltd quickly offers its customers money. Within a short time most people have more than one loan and each loan is divided into small sums of money."*

*"One woman had seven loans: two of £150 and five of £50. When all of the repayments are added up many families are making exorbitant repayments, in some cases of over £40 each week."*

Carroll checked with several financial experts who calculated that the interest rates of these loans were running at a staggering 120% per annum. According to his sources, the legal maximum interest rate that any credit company or bank can charge is 34% per annum.

### OUTRAGEOUS RACKET

Denouncing, what he termed "this outrageous racket", Carroll pointed out that moneylending companies are deliberately targeting the weakest financial section of our society: "The low-paid, the single parents and the unemployed."

He called on groups like the Credit Union to change their attitude to those on low incomes and "hold a publicity drive on the services they provide, thus helping to limit the threat posed by moneylenders".



MONEYLENDING is not restricted to Armagh. Last year, Scope magazine, which is produced by the Community Information Service and published by the Council of Social Services, published an article on moneylending in West Belfast which revealed how casually loans could be obtained and told of the "high rates of interest charged and the minimal information given to clients".



# SECTARIAN RETALIATION DENOUNCED

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

THE PAST WEEK has seen the re-emergence of the loyalist Tara gang who have issued a series of threats against Catholic-owned businesses situated in loyalist areas, Catholic workers in those areas, and further threats against towns and cities in the twenty-six counties.

Contacting the BBC in Belfast on Wednesday, September 3rd, a spokesperson for the gang (which was involved in sectarian attacks in the early 1970s and in the Kincora scandal) singled out two Catholic-owned private taxi firms in Armagh, telling them not to operate in loyalist areas.

And in Derry city, 12 Catholic hotel workers were forced to leave their jobs in the Broomhill Hotel

in the mainly loyalist Waterside area on Monday following threats and reports that their movements were being monitored by Tara.

## THREAT DENOUNCED

Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams has denounced an equally sectarian threat against Protestant workers, issued in direct response to the Tara statement, from the so-called 'Irish Freedom Fighters'.



● ADRIAN GRIBBEN

While attacks on Catholic families, Catholic-owned property and the assassination of ordinary Catholics since the signing of the

Hillsborough Agreement had undeniably led to anger and frustration, "attacks on ordinary Protestants will not stop these attacks", Adams said. "They will only spread the pain and anger into a new spiral of tit-for-tat incidents."

The Irish Freedom Fighters, he said, had no part to play in the struggle for Irish independence and such statements "fuelled the interests of British strategists and apologists who attempted to project the situation here as a sectarian conflict".

## PETROL-BOMBINGS

Meanwhile, in Ballynahinch, County Down, the petrol-bombing of a Protestant home and two Catholic homes has been unequivocally condemned by local Sinn Féin Councillor Geraldine Ritchie.

She hit out at those responsible for the attack on the Windmill Avenue home of Eileen Dean, a Protestant who is now seeking a transfer after the petrol-bombing on Wednesday morning. In the other two attacks on Catholic homes that night, which Ritchie blamed on the "inflammatory remarks against nationalists from unionist politicians in the town", Nell Murray and her family had a narrow escape when loyalists petrol-bombed their Langley Road home.

Seventeen-year-old Carol Murr-

ay was in the bathroom at around 11pm when the bomb hit the window and set a curtain alight. Fortunately, Carol and her father Eamonn were able to extinguish the flames before they took hold.

Minutes later, loyalists attacked the home of another Catholic family in nearby Downhill Terrace, again in a majority loyalist estate. Adrian Gribben and his wife were watching television when a petrol-bomb crashed through the front door and set fire to the hall carpet. A terrified Mrs Gribben ran past the flame- and smoke-filled hallway to rescue the couple's 18-month-old baby daughter who was sleeping upstairs. The Gribbens have had their windows broken twice by loyalists since July 11th but, like so many other intimidated Catholic families, they have little prospect of being rehoused in the short term.

## IRRESPONSIBLE

And in Newry, a letter threatening and ordering a Protestant family from the Armagh Road area to leave their home last week has been condemned by Sinn Féin Councillor Brendan Curran. Following enquiries he said that Sinn Féin has established that the letter was "most certainly a fake" but it had caused the family "considerable distress". He urged people to contact Sinn Féin if they found themselves the target of such "irresponsible actions".

# Anger in Hillman Street

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

NATIONALIST RESIDENTS in Hillman Street, only yards from the loyalist Tigers Bay district in North Belfast, are angry at RUC misrepresentation of an incident on Tuesday night in which the RUC arrested a nine-year-old boy and claimed to have broken up gangs of "rival youths". The RUC also claimed that the incident was sparked off when nationalists burned a Union Jack.

Sinn Féin Councillor Bobby Lavery, who witnessed the arrest of the youth, told AP/RN:

"There was no rioting in the area as the RUC claimed. There were a few children playing around when the door of the jeep opened and the RUC arrested the boy for no reason whatsoever."

Another eyewitness, grandmother Teresa Rosbotham, added: "There was no Union Jack

burned. No way. We moved the kids away for the loyalists were waving flags and chanting at us. They do it all the time."

Many Hillman Street houses facing onto Tigers Bay have been protected by heavy wire grilles on the windows since June as there have been almost nightly stonethrowing attacks by loyalists. On some occasions, nationalist youths have been provoked into

retaliatory action as the RUC ignores attacks on nationalist homes. Teresa Rosbotham, whose back door was kicked down and windows broken by loyalists several weeks ago, told AP/RN:

"The RUC were sitting outside the house that time and did nothing and they do the same thing here every night. They drive around provoking our kids and do nothing about the loyalists."

A front bedroom in the home of mother-of-seven Dolores Burns is continuously unused as the window has been broken so many times in attacks:

"If the fellas come out the RUC come out and lift them. The loyalists are left alone."



● Hillman Street, Belfast — scene of RUC harassment

# MURDER ACCUSED ADMITS GUILT

BY JANE PLUNKETT

TWO MEMBERS of the crown forces went on trial on Monday charged with the sectarian murder of a Catholic in Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, last year.

One of those charged, an Enniskillen UDR man, pleaded guilty to the murder of 24-year-old Martin Love. An unemployed labourer, Love was shot five times as he walked home from a local hotel shortly after midnight on Easter Monday 1985.

The second accused, Mark Edward Trotter, is a soldier with the Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers and has a home address in Enniskillen.

He is accused of murder and possession of a Walther pistol, but his lawyers are contesting the charges, claiming that several verbal and written statements he made to the RUC following his arrest the day after the murder were inadmissible.

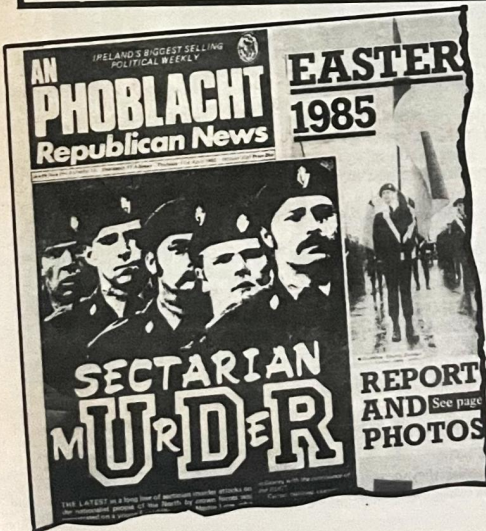
## LINKS

But this week's trial, at Belfast's Crumlin Road Courthouse, has revealed that forensic evidence links Trotter with the killing. Trot-

ter's fingerprints were found on a plastic bag in which the murder weapon was found on wasteground, and it remains to be seen whether trial Judge Carswell will decide that acquittal, the norm in cases involving crown forces, is politically inexpedient.

Carswell has no option but to give the UDR defendant, Robert James Kenny, the mandatory life sentence when the trial ends, since he has admitted murder. However, it can be expected that Carswell will omit to set any "minimum" jail term (20 years or more is the usual minimum set for republicans), enabling the UDR man to be freed in a relatively short time.

At the time, responsibility for Martin Love's murder was claimed by the UFF, a cover name for the UDA, and this week's trial has again highlighted the links between the crown forces — particularly the UDR — and loyalist murder-gangs.





# SPRING EATS HIS WORDS

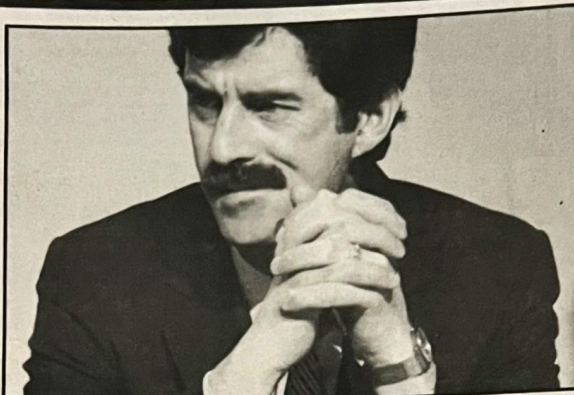
BY MAIRÍN Mac DIARMADA

DICK SPRING was forced to eat his words this week as the row over Labour participation in coalition with Fine Gael continued following the publication of the report of the party's Commission on Electoral Strategy.

The commission broke up on Thursday morning, September 4th, and recommended a go-it-alone policy for the party for the next ten to 15 years with coalitions only being considered in "exceptional circumstances" and on the basis of a set of minimum demands.

However, before the anti-coalition wing of the party had even had time to savour its 'victory', Dick Spring was telling the media that he would not rule out Labour going into coalition again after the next general election. As in the last election, Labour would fight independently and then "look at its options" afterwards.

This bucket of cold water dashed on their anti-coalition hopes was greeted with fury by the 'left-wing' members of the Commission on Electoral Strategy. The public launching of their report was due to take place on Tuesday, September 9th, but was brought forward to Saturday — ostensibly because of numerous press leaks of the document, but in reality



to offset the embarrassment caused by Dick Spring's statement.

## DEMANDS

At the press conference on Saturday, the chairperson of the commission, Niall Greene, said that Labour would be staying out of coalitions for up to 15 years unless very exceptional circumstances arose and minimum demands were met. The demands listed in the report include another divorce referendum, an end to religious control of

education, social welfare reform, higher capital tax, higher emphasis on job creation, and economic and social planning.

At least one member of the commission, Sam Nolan, had threatened to withdraw his name from the report after Spring's statement. With a major controversy threatening him, Dick Spring was forced to do a U-turn on Sunday on RTE radio when he repeated the official interpretation of the report and said that he "looked forward to

being the first Labour Party leader to recommend to the party that we don't participate in government".

## NO THREAT

There was, of course, no threat to withdraw from the present Fine Gael-Labour Coalition. The controversy in which the Labour leader had to be whipped into line by his own party colleagues showed his own political ineptitude as he bungled in delivering the report which was conceived as a sop to the 'left' of the party.

When all is said and done, the report itself does not even guarantee an independent stance for the Labour Party, let alone raise any remotely socialist demands which the anti-coalitionists would boast of. The "exceptional circumstances" where the party would go into coalition are not defined and the proposal that they should win a minimum number of seats in Leinster House before even considering coalition was dropped by the commission.

The 'independent stance' of Labour following this report is likely to be even shorter-lived than the "seventies will be socialist" atmosphere of the late 1960s which the Labourites soon set aside and went into one of the most repressive Free State governments ever, between 1973 and 1977.

# Mountjoy boils over

THE OPPRESSIVE climate in Free State prisons reached boiling point again when riots erupted in Mountjoy this week.

On Sunday, September 7th, prisoners in the Dublin jail damaged cells and set fire to some furniture. One inmate climbed onto a roof while another made his way through a broken window into the prison grounds.

After the outbreak, which quickly ended, both Mountjoy prison officials and the Free State Department of Justice made dramatic claims that a "concerted attempt at a mass break-out" had been foiled.

Despite the ritual congratulations to prison staff from Coalition Justice Minister Alan Dukes, the Mountjoy outbreak was used by the Prison Officers' Association (POA) as a stick with which to beat the department in its continuing dispute over POA members' conditions.

## BREAK-OUT ATTEMPT DENIED

However, both the POA and the Mountjoy Visiting Committee denied the claims of the Department of Justice that the riot was part of a planned attempt at a mass break-out from Mountjoy. The Prisoners' Rights Organisation described the mass break-out claim as "a smokescreen to hide the disgraceful conditions in Mountjoy".

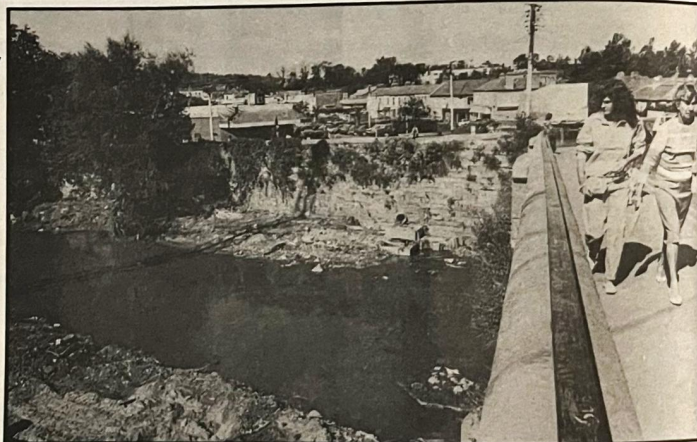
The PRO said that it was obvious that the riot was a spontaneous outburst and a symptom of the intolerable conditions in the grossly-overcrowded jail.



● MOUNTJOY PRISON — riots erupt



● ALAN DUKES — ritual congratulations



# Still mopping up

TWO WEEKS after the floods which swamped their homes, the people of Little Bray, County Wicklow, are still mopping up and the local authority, Bray District Council, is being blamed for a large amount of the damage caused to people's homes.

Bray Sinn Féin has pointed out major areas where the so-called emergency plan for the district failed and people suffered as a result. Local Sinn Féin community worker Ken O'Connell said that on the day of the flood the council failed to warn people that it was imminent even though they had been told to be on the alert by the Meteorological Office early in the afternoon:

"A large number of residents who live beside the River Dargle asked the council to supply them with sandbags that same afternoon

as they feared the river would flood. It was not until 10.30pm that night that the council supplied them with bales of hay to stop the rising waters from entering their homes. The bales of hay floated away with the flood!"

O'Connell said that the emergency plan failed because of a complete lack of co-ordination. When Civil Defence headquarters was contacted by O'Connell and asked to supply old people in Ravenswell Row with blankets and bedding they simply replied that they did not know where the road was.

## LEFT TILL LAST

Free State troops were deployed to clear the roads on Bray seafront while the people of Little Bray were still swamped with water and mud in their homes.

"Of course working-class areas were left until last, as usual," said O'Connell, adding:

"This is not the first time that Bray has been hit by a major flood. The last time was in 1965, so the council has had 21 years to work on its emergency plan."

He concluded by calling on the people of Little Bray to "band together" and fight the local council and the Dublin government for full compensation for flood damage to their homes.



# Neeson appeals judgement

IN A CONTROVERSIAL ruling in Belfast High Court on Tuesday, unionist Judge Carswell upheld a decision taken by the loyalist-controlled Cookstown Council, taken at its annual general meeting on June 26th, to expel Sinn Féin Councillor Christopher Neeson for 'non-attendance' at a council meeting.

After delivering this verdict, Carswell turned logic on its head by describing as "unlawful" the decision by loyalist councillors to establish four council committees, from which Sinn Féin is excluded, and through which all council business is conducted.

## ONLY MET ONCE

Following Carswell's decision, Neeson pointed out that from the signing of the London-Dublin Agreement in November until June this year, the full council had met only once — in March — and he had received no notification of that meeting. He said:

"Of the seven meetings which had been held from May 1985 to June of this year, I missed only the March meeting.

"If the council has been behaving unlawfully since November,



●CHRISTOPHER NEESON

how can decisions taken against that background be reasonably taken to be legally correct?"

Within several hours of Carswell's decision, lawyers for Neeson lodged notice of appeal before Lord Chief Justice Lowry and the chief electoral officer for the North, Pat Bradley, announced a postponement of a by-election called for October 22nd by Cookstown Council to fill Neeson's seat.



● The once-effective barrier at the Springhill Avenue/Springfield Road junction

# Springhill residents organise

BY JANE PLUNKETT

RESIDENTS of a West Belfast estate under threat from loyalist gangs plan to erect a barrier to replace one removed by the British army last year.

People in the Springhill Estate have, over several years, been subjected to attacks by loyalists living in the Springmartin Estate, across the Springfield Road. The intimidation has included beatings, stone-throwing and petrol-bombings.

The latest incident happened last Friday night, September 5th, when a 30-year-old woman returning to her home in Springhill Avenue shortly after 11pm was attacked by two men.

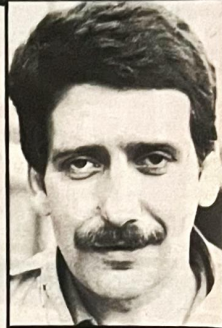
The woman, who did not wish to be named, told reporters:

"They ran up and threw a brick at me. I screamed and the one closest to me gave me a clout."

When her husband and neighbours, alerted by her screams, came out, the attackers fled out of the estate towards a loyalist area off the Springfield Road.

## RAMPS

"If they had come into the estate in a car, I would have had no chance," the woman said. "Myself and other residents want ramps across the road and a barrier put up to stop attacks like this and prevent cars and British army jeeps from racing up and down."



●SEAN KEENAN

"Kids playing in the street are in danger of being knocked down."

Sinn Féin Councillor Sean Keenan says that for 2½ years there was a permanent barrier at the top of Springhill Avenue until the British army smashed it open "leaving local people to the mercy of loyalist murder-gangs".

"After weeks of non-response from the British army and RUC, local residents are prepared to wait no longer," Keenan said, adding that Sinn Féin unreservedly supports attempts by local people to protect themselves.

# Cookstown man targeted

A 32-YEAR-OLD COOKSTOWN man who was arrested and assaulted by British troops in the County Tyrone town on Saturday night, September 6th, is one of four people currently taking a case against the British government in the European Court.

Dermot Coyle, a married man with two children, was returning home from a local pub when he was stopped in Chapel Street by a British army patrol. One soldier jeeringly asked, "What's your name, Dermot?" But when Coyle replied, "You seem to know already," he was grabbed by two other members of the patrol, one of whom screamed at him, "You give your fucking name when you're asked, Coyle!"

Coyle remained silent and was then



dragged to a nearby UDR base where he was forced up against a wall and repeatedly struck around the back, shoulders and

arms with rifle butts. He was also kicked around the legs.

After 30 minutes he was taken to Cookstown RUC Barracks where he was held for a further 30 minutes before being released without charge.

Sinn Féin Councillor Christopher Neeson told AP/RN that Coyle is regularly harassed by the crown forces and that "this is the fourth time this year that he has been assaulted". In February, he was attacked by the RUC, and in June he and his wife Fionnuala were stopped on the Cookstown-Dungannon road by the RUC and both were beaten. In July, Coyle was again attacked and assaulted, this time by members of the UDR.

Explaining the background to this harassment Christopher Neeson said:

"Dermot Coyle — along with Terence Brogan, William McFadden and Michael

Tracey — has taken the British government to Strasbourg, claiming that the Prevention of Terrorism Act contravenes the European Human Rights Convention, Article Five of which provides that no person shall be arrested or deprived of their liberty except for the purpose of bringing them before a court.

"The convention also states that a person must be brought before a court as promptly as possible. Dermot Coyle and the others are arguing that they were arrested solely for the purpose of interrogation and that this is contrary to the treaty.

"It is clear that Saturday's unprovoked attack is no coincidence. Dermot Coyle is being harassed and victimised because he dares to publicly and internationally expose another aspect of British injustice in Ireland."

# CARRICKMORE BEATINGS CONDEMNED

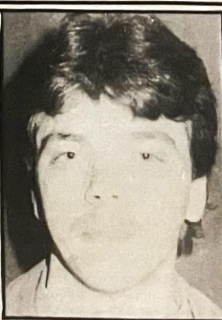
THE BEHAVIOUR of British soldiers based in Carrickmore, County Tyrone, has been condemned by Omagh Sinn Féin Councillor Cormac McAleer following an incident on Thursday night, September 4th, when two men were assaulted in the local barracks.

Gerard McMahon (20) and his friend, 22-year-old Eugene Coyle, were sitting in a public house in Carrickmore at 11pm when British soldiers entered the premises, arrested both men and then frog-marched them down to Carrickmore Barracks, where they were held for several hours.

Throughout their detention both men were punched, kicked and taunted by the soldiers and in a subsequent statement Cormac

McAleer denounced the arrest and beatings as "but the latest incident in the long history of harassment directed against nationalists in this area".

Indeed, Gerard McMahon had previously experienced the vindictive nature of this harassment when, after completing a gruelling ten-day charity walk from Cork to Carrickmore in July, he was arrested and taken to Gough Barracks, Armagh, where he was slapped and kicked during interrogation.



●GERARD McMAHON



THE FLAGS of the Irish and Spanish republics flew side by side in glorious sunshine on Achill Island last Sunday as people from all over Ireland gathered to honour the Irishmen who fought and died in the International Brigades in Spain.

The first of the Irish to die in defence of the Spanish republic was Tommy Patten from Achill, County Mayo. He was killed in the defence of Madrid against Franco's offensive in December 1936. A monument — unveiled by the National Graves Association

in 1984 — now stands to his memory on a hillside overlooking the Atlantic Ocean at Dooega on Achill. (Tommy Patten is buried in an unmarked grave in Spain.)

Members of the Patten family and his comrades of the International Brigades were among the 250 people, led by the Dooega Pipe Band, who marched to the memorial. The flag of the Connolly Column, International Brigades, was carried by Bob Doyle and another veteran, Peter O'Connor, read the roll of honour, beginning with Tommy Patten and ending with Frank Ryan. Joe Monks and Michael O'Riordan were the other veterans present.

The theme of the commemoration linked the war in defence of democracy in Spain in 1936 with the struggle of the Nicaraguan people against United States aggression today, 50 years later.

It was a fitting and emotional tribute to the fallen International Brigaders as the pipers' strains of *Amhrán na bhFiann* and *The Internationale* carried out across the beautiful Achill landscape.

# Viva la

# Quince Brigada

BY SEAN LAFFIN

WHEN FRANCO began his bid for power in July 1936, he was firmly convinced that his counter-revolution against the republican government would only take a matter of months, but before one month of campaigning was over, the dictator's forces were defeated in half the country.

Such was the ferocity of the workers' and peasants' militias in their defence of the republic that Franco had to call on his fascist allies in Hitler's Germany and Mussolini's Italy to come to his aid. From the defence of the republic came the appeal to socialists and democrats throughout the world to rally to the aid of Spain. Forty thousand volunteers responded, leading to the formation of seven 'International Brigades' made up from 25 battalions. It was a truly historic and heroic stand by the workers of the world in defence of socialism and democracy.

The origins of the International Brigades have been much argued about. It appears that the idea for such an input into the republican forces was discussed on July 26th 1936 at a meeting of the Comintern (the Communist International founded by the Soviet Communist Party in 1919). The Comintern had met to arrange humanitarian aid for Spain but, because of the worsening situation, began to realise that much more was needed.

Other sources claim that the British communist military expert, Tom Wintringham, who had been operating in Spain since the outbreak of the conflict, had suggested the idea. And yet another claim credits the French communist leader, Thorez, who had visited Moscow on September 21st. He was reported to have suggested

that volunteers be raised internationally by each country's communist parties, and which eventually would lead to the formation of an international Red Army.

## THE BEGINNING

Foreign nationals had been involved in the conflict from the beginning, many of them being Germans and Italians on the run from Hitler and Mussolini. The Italians had formed the Gastone-Sozzi Battalion, whilst the Germans grouped in the Thaelmann Centuria (Thaelmann had been a leader of the German Communist Party in the 1920s). The French and Belgians formed the Paris Battalion and the first British volunteers founded the Tom Mann Centuria (the first British volunteer to be killed was the painter Felicia Browne, who was shot dead in Aragon on August 25th). But it was not until October 1936 that the brigades began to be organised.

The Comintern took as its main work the formation of the brigades and each of the communist parties was given its quota of volunteers to raise. The future leader of Yugoslavia, Marshal Tito, was given the job of dealing with the flow of recruits from a centre in Paris, but many volunteers simply made their own way to Spain and many (like the Irish) were not members of any communist party. The volunteers were recruited under the slogan "Spain will be the grave of European fascism" and the

first 500 were sent from Paris by train and were scheduled to take up positions in Albacete in La Mancha on October 14th 1936.

On arrival, this first group, which was mainly French and German with some Poles and Russians, was joined by the Thaelmann, Gastone-Sozzi, Tom Mann and Paris Battalions (all battle-hardened at Aragon and the Tagus Valley). The first brigades to be formed were the 11th Brigade (Hans Beimler), made up of the German Edgar Andre, French Commune de Paris and Polish/Hungarian Dabrowsky Battalions, and the 12th Brigade, made up of the German Thaelmann, Italian Garibaldi and French/Belgium André Marty Battalions. Other national groups were interspersed among the two brigades.

## FIRST BLOODING

The first major 'bleeding' of the brigades began during the battle for Madrid when 20,000 of Franco's troops attacked the city on November 8th 1936. The first International Brigade units took up positions at Casa de Campo (Irish, French, Germans and British) and Villaverde (Poles and Hungarians) — 1,900 volunteers in all. They were later joined by 1,550 volunteers of the 12th Brigade on November 12th.

Such was the ferocity of the battle that by November 10th one third of the 11th Brigade was dead, but, with the population of Madrid, it had stopped Franco's forces at Casa de Campo. The battle for Madrid lasted until November 23rd, with further major losses recorded in the ranks of both the 11th and 12th Brigades. The Francoists and the republicans dug in and the siege of Madrid began in earnest.

By December 1936 it was estimated that over 20,000

foreign volunteers had entered Spain, including the first 100 American volunteers. On the fascist side, 14,000 Italian troops, including 3,000 Italian Blackshirts, had entered Spain, and 7,000 Germans had bolstered the ranks along with O'Duffy's 300 Irish Blueshirts.

In 1937, the International Brigades were in battle again at Boadilla del Monte and at Cordoba. Two more brigades had been formed: the 13th (French, Polish and Balkan battalions), and the 14th (the Nine Nations Battalion and the Domingo Germinal — Spanish anarchist youth). The British and Irish (under Frank Ryan) were attached to the 14th Brigade. One interesting point is that the leader of the British section, Captain George Nathan, had been both a member of the Black and Tans and of the 'Dublin Castle Murder Gang'.

## JARAMA

The International Brigades went on to fight and die in battles at Jarama, Guadalajara, and Brunete.

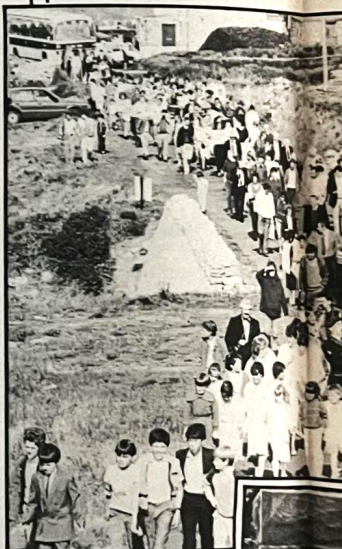
The battle for the Valley of Jarama marked the first fight for the 15th Brigade, which was largely made up of the British, Irish, US, Canadian, and French battalions, but 26 nations were represented in all. The ferocious battle led to horrific losses on both sides. The British, Americans and Irish suffered over 1,000 casualties.

But the battle at Brunete was to prove the turning point for the International Brigades. Here the British were reduced to 80 volunteers, the Americans were nearly wiped out, and some battalions, disgusted at the strategy of the military tacticians, refused to go back into battle. This led to a total reorganisation of the brigades and eventually to their withdrawal from Spain.

By January 1938, the bri-



● The memorial banner of the Irish section of the International Brigade



● International Brigades commemorative march to the Tommy Patten memorial at Dooega on Achill Island

gades were integrated into the republican army, but, nine months later, many remaining members were either dead wounded or imprisoned and their positions were being filled by Spanish volunteers. On November 15th 1938, the remaining foreign members of the brigades staged a farewell parade in Barcelona. La Pasionaria, the famed communist leader, addressed them:

"Comrades of the International Brigades. You can go proudly. You are history. You are legend. You are the heroic example of democracy's solidarity and universality. We shall

not forget you, an olive tree of peace leaves again, the laurels of a republic's victory. Five thousand Spain's shores, but



# A VETERAN REMEMBERS

**EARLIER** this year, *AP/RN* interviewed Bob Doyle, a veteran of the International Brigades. A life-long trade unionist, socialist and republican, Bob was one of the speakers at this year's Bloody Sunday commemoration in Derry.

**AP/RN:** What was your background and how did you become involved in the Spanish War?

**Bob Doyle:** I was living in Dublin with Kit Conway, who was the battalion instructor with the First Battalion of the IRA's Dublin Brigade during the 1930s. That was before the split with Republican Congress in 1934.

I was born in Dublin and the only places I lived in were Stafford Street, which is now Wolfe Tone Street, and North Great Georges' Street. I left Ireland under the forced emigration of de Valera.

I was with Kit Conway, Frank Ryan and Paddy Sullivan — actually, we used to practise dry firing down the road here in 41 Parnell Square (the interview took place in *AP/RN*'s Dublin office in 44 Parnell Square). We were with the engineers and we used to go out to the Dublin Mountains for training every Sunday.

The reason I split from the IRA at the time was because I felt that the then leadership had no social policy. I was living in some of the worst slums in Dublin.

Nationalism always appealed to me — by nationalism I define the inalienable right of Ireland to independence and to conduct its own affairs in the way it wishes. But that alone wouldn't put bread on the table if you have the same shower of capitalists there afterwards. That's why I went with Kit Conway, Frank Ryan and the others.

We used to have daily battles here on the streets with the Blueshirts. They used to form at one corner of the GPO and we would be on the opposite side.

Of course, they were hectic times. You had unemployed demonstrations — lying down under the trams in O'Connell Street, marching on Leinster House and so on.

When the Spanish war did break out and I heard that Kit Conway had been killed — he was only out there about three months, I think — I made up my mind that I would go, principally to avenge the death of Kit Conway, knowing that what he believed in I believed in too.

Furthermore, I had always had the habit of taking that whatever the Church said politically the opposite was true. That was one of the reasons why I was on the side of the



● Bob Doyle holding the flag of the Connolly Column, International Brigades

Spanish republic right from the beginning.

**AP/RN:** How did you actually get out to Spain?

**BD:** I set off for London and got a job there as a kitchen porter, saved up my money and then went to the Channel Islands where I worked on the potato fields to get more money. I travelled to Marseilles and stowed away on a Greek ship but I was caught after only four hours out at sea and they brought me before the 'non-intervention officer'. I jumped ship — literally jumped from the deck onto the jetty — in Valencia.

**AP/RN:** What were your first impressions of Spain?

**BD:** Valencia, of course, was very republican. I was taken to the commissioner of police who was an anarchist. He wasn't very helpful when I told him that I wanted to join the International Brigade. At that time if you had fair hair you were suspected of being a German — and I had a head of fair hair. He then sent me to the British consul and I told him why I had come to Spain. He said: "There's no such thing (as the International Brigade). They are hiding like rats around Spain." That was in July 1937.

There was a British-American shipping line operating

there and I got a job on one of their ships. It went to Liverpool and then to Cadiz, in Franco's Spain, where I saw evidence of the German involvement on the fascist side.

## SMUGGLED DOCUMENTS

*Bob Doyle made several visits to fascist-held ports. He liaised with the Spanish Aid Committee in Liverpool for whom he smuggled leaflets and posters in and out of Spain as well as letters to and from International Brigaders.*

*He later travelled overland to Spain from Paris, crossed the Pyrenees on foot and linked up with the British Battalion of the International Brigade.*

**BD:** When I was interviewed at the Albacete training base they wanted to see what training I had, what use I could be and what military experience I had. The only thing I could say was the IRA.

I was put into an officers' training school. I would take people out training and act as a platoon commander.

**AP/RN:** What was it like then when you got to the front?

**BD:** The first time we went to the front was at Belcete. There had been a fierce battle there but this time we lost. By the time I joined, Franco had launched a powerful offensive

with more aid that had poured in from the Germans and Italians. Franco's masters were getting restless and they sent the equipment necessary to end the war. They couldn't stand the protraction because of the way Madrid had held out for three years. It was a miracle to me how long the republicans held Madrid.

There is a place about 20 miles from Madrid called Los Angeles. Franco's headquarters were there on a height and it was called Los Angeles because it had a big statue of St Peter and the angels.

When I visited it again, about two years ago, there was an old fascist woman there. She was pointing out to the tourists "that is what the reds did" because there was a wing missing off one of the angels and damage to the other statues. The republicans bombed the building because it was Franco's strategic headquarters.

When we were forced to retreat from Belcete the only place we could occupy would be a height. We would try to dig in at the perimeter of the height and we would be shelled and strafed by dive-bombers — Stukas. The trench warfare was mainly around Madrid and the cities. Where we were, we were fighting rearguard actions all the time.

I was captured by the Black Arrows, the so-called crack regiment of Mussolini. That was on March 31st 1938, with Frank Ryan.

## FRANK RYAN

**AP/RN:** What were your impressions of Frank Ryan as an individual?

**BD:** I knew Frank in Dublin. He was a very capable leader, a very strong type of leader. He expected to be shot when he was captured. He was taken away from the prison camp where we were — which was a concentration camp — to the central prison at Burgos.

When we were captured there was an awful commotion with Spanish and Italian officers arguing among themselves as to whether we should be shot there and then because they had previously shot all International Brigade prisoners. But because Franco was now winning the war we were useful propaganda.

Conditions in the prison were terrible. We got beans and sardines once a day; we were starved. No matter what religion you were, you were forced to go to Mass, which began with the fascist salute to Franco every morning.

There were beatings every day. I was ten months there and then we were exchanged for Italian prisoners.

*Bob Doyle returned to Dublin via London but was soon forced to emigrate for lack of work.*



and when the price puts forth gain, mingled with of the Spanish victory, come back! us and heroes left rest, but a further

6,000 stayed to continue the fight alongside their Spanish comrades. There they were to meet hell on earth in Catalonia, where the republic was finally defeated by the forces of fascism in 1939.



# EVICTIION THREAT TO SCHOOL

A SCHOOL for disadvantaged youngsters in Dublin's Inner-City is facing eviction from its premises by a private landlord.

'Slot 2' in Marian Road, St Laurence O'Toole's parish, caters for young people, mostly in their early teens, who have been expelled from or had problems adjusting to other schools.

There are 25 pupils in the school which rents premises from a company called Security Pak. Dublin's Department of Education partly funds the school, paying £80 per week rent to the company.

Last week, staff at Slot 2 were told that no more rent would be accepted and they would have to

vacate the building. On Tuesday September 9th, an attempt was made to evict the school. This was resisted and the landlord's agents left with pupils and teachers still occupying their rooms.

## BADLY NEEDED

Sinn Féin Councillor Christy Burke visited the school on Tuesday and voiced his opposition to the attempted eviction.

Pointing out that the school is badly needed in the area, he called on the Department of Education to find suitable alternative premises as a matter of urgency.



Slot 2 pupils stand their ground

# Dara bunscoil don Tuaisceart

LE CIAN MAC AOIDH

AGUS GAELSCOILEANNA o dheas ag streacháil le coinn-eail beo in ainneoin bacanna an rialtais i mBaile Átha Cliath tá plean foilsithe an tsachtain seo leis an dara bunscoil Ghaelach a bhunú sna sé chontae.

Faoi láthair níl ach Gaelscoil amháin sna sé chontae — Scoil Phobal Feirste — a bunaíodh i 1971 agus a mhair gan cuidiú stáit go dtí 1984 nuair a tugadh aith-eantais iomlán di. Tá an scoil sin ag dul ó neart go neart agus an tsach-tain seo chugainn osclófar foirg-neamh mha scoile do naíonra Gaelige ar shuíomh Scoil Phobal Feirste ar Bhóthar Seoihe.

Ach is de thairbhe brú spáis a bheith ar Scoil Phobal Feirste — beidh an scoil lán i 1987 — a fograíodh an plean don dara Gaelscoil. An tsachtain seo caite bhual toscaireacht de Ghaeilgeoirí le Bord Leabharlainne agus Oideachais Bhéal Feirste le bunú na dara bunscoile a phlé. Dar le Breandán de Leigh, urlabhraí ar son Fo-choise na Naíonraí Gaelach (scathghrúpa de



An scoil nua á thógáil ar Bhóthar Seoihe, Béal Feirste

ceithre naíonra i mBéal Feirste) d'eirigh go geal leis an chruinniú: "Cheana féin tá corradh le

fiche páiste againn atá ar naíon-raithe Gaelacha faoi láthair ach nach bhfuighfidh isteach i Scoil

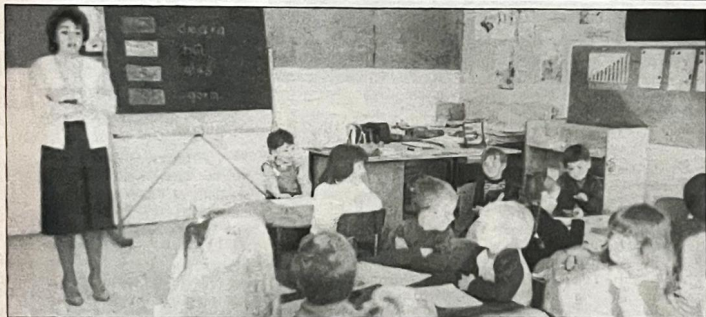
Phobal Feirste de thairbhe gan go leor aiteacha a bheith ann."

## RÚN

"Dá bhí sin de tá sé de rún againn an dara Gaelscoil a bhunú sa chathair le riaradh ar na páistí sin a bhainfeas aois bunscoile amach i Meán Fomhair 1987. Mhínigh an Bord Oideachais dúinn fán dóigh le stadas coinnithe do scoil a bhaint amach agus beimid ag obair de réir na treacher sin."

Mhaigh De Leigh go raibh easpa súimh as chathair do scoileanna úra ach tá úsáid a n-árais nua curtha ar fáil ag Conradh na Gaelige. Ar seisean:

"Bheadh an scoil nua ag freastal ar thuaisceart, deisceart agus oirthear Bhéal Feirste agus beidh coiste a cheapadh againn gan mhoill leis an obair a thoisíocht."



# IRISH SCHOOLS OPEN

2Y MARTIN Mac DIARMADA

ALTHOUGH the Dublin Department of Education has refused to grant them official recognition and funding, three new all-Irish primary schools have opened up in Cork and Limerick.

The schools in Parklands and Mahon, County Cork, and Cnoc Theas (Southill), in Limerick city, are open and running on voluntary subscriptions until the Department of Education reverses its decision not to recognise them.

Southill is a working-class housing estate in Limerick and preparatory work on the Gaelscoil had been going on since early this year, attracting widespread support in the local community. On September 1st, the organising committee, Cairde na Gaelscoil, was notified by the department that the school had not been sanctioned.

the needs of parents who wish to have their children taught through the medium of Irish. Responding to this, the committee said:

"This decision, we feel, permanently excludes the possibility of a Gaelscoil being established in the new large outlying housing estates in the city."

"While the Model does a great job of promoting the Irish language in Limerick we believe that it is now time for the language to be brought into local areas if it is to survive and prosper."

The chairperson of Cairde na Gaelscoil, Míchéal Ó Cléirigh, said that they "cannot meekly accept the department's reason for refusing sanction".

He called for intensified lobbying to gain official recognition and expressed confidence that the

widespread support for the Gaelscoil would force the Department of Education to reverse its decision.

The school opened its doors in Southill Community Centre on Monday, September 8th.

## PRESSURE

The Department of Education itself has been feeling the pressure of reaction to its foot-dragging on the Gaelscoil issue. At the opening of a new post-primary school in the Rath Cairn Gaeltacht in County Meath, the secretary of the Department of Education, Declan Brennan, denied that there had been a change of policy on all-Irish primary schools.

Colm Ó Duallacháin, national organiser of Gaelscoileanna, told AP/RN that, despite the refusals of recognition, he remains hopeful that the decision could be reversed and his organisation will be meeting officials from the Department shortly to discuss the issue.

# Church denies Irish rights

A TEACHER in the Connemara Gaeltacht is facing expulsion from her post because of her stand for the rights of Irish speakers to religious services in their native language.

Brid Ní Dhomhnaill, who is principal of the national school at An tSraith Saileach (Recess), in the Galway Gaeltacht, has been outspoken in echoing demands from the people of Bun na gCnoc for Mass and other services in Irish.

Bun na gCnoc is a strong Irish-speaking area and Mass is said in an old school building to serve the community there. Despite the wishes of local people, Mass is said in English and the local Catholic Church authorities are refusing to arrange to have services conducted in Irish.

The parish priest has now sent a letter to Bríd Ní Dhomhnaill in which he said he will request the Department of Education to sack her unless she refrains from making any further public statement regarding the Irish language and church affairs in Bun na gCnoc.

## CONRADH SUPPORT

Íte Ní Chionnaith, president of Conradh na Gaelige, visited Bun na gCnoc last week and later expressed the organisation's full support for the teacher and the local community. She said:

"Tá sé scannalach go mbeadh an Eaglais Chaitliceach ag ceilt



ÍTE NÍ CHIONNAITH

Aifreann Gaelige agus seirbhísí eaglasta eile trí Ghaeilge ar phobal Gaeltachta Bhun na gCnoc. Tá sé níos scannalaí fós go mbeadh an Eaglais ag déanamh gearleánúna ar an té atá chun tosaigh ag éileamh cearta teanga an phobail sin ó thaobh seirbhísí eaglasta de.

"Tuigean Conradh na Gaelige nach fadhb í seo a bhaineann le ceantar Bhun na gCnoc amháin ach go gceiltfe freastal eaglasta trí Ghaeilge ar phobal Gaeltachta i ndeicís eagsula. Táimid ag iarraidh ar dhaoine eolas a chur chugainn faoi chásanna eile dá leithéid."

## OFFICIAL LETTER

The official letter claimed that the Limerick Model School, which is two miles from Southill, met



# The green pound

BY Z. HAMMETT

SO YOU THOUGHT all pounds were green, did you? Well, they're not. They may look green when you hand them over at the shop. But they are not green pounds.

The green pound is a special kind of pound. It is the money (or, actually, the rate of exchange) that certain agricultural goods are exchanged with. "Sounds like the CAP," I hear you saying. Right again.

You see, there are two kinds of pounds, or punts (actually, there are three, but I don't want to make this any more painful than necessary).

One is the pound that we carry around in our pockets each day. Internationally, it trades at a market rate. So your pocket is worth more or less in Rome or Spain, depending on the market rate each day.

Now this is okay, but it is also very unstable and unpredictable. And the CAP-guaranteed price system (you know, the one that's creating all those mountains) requires stable prices to work well. So, instead of the daily market exchange rates, the wizards of Brussels set a stable, central "green" exchange rate for international trade of certain food products (primarily, milk and beef).

So far so good.

But what if the market exchange rate for money is very different from the green exchange rates? Surely things must get fouled up? Yes, they would. So the wizards make up for any large differences with a system of taxes and subsidies on food exports.

Confusing? Yeah! Don't worry, people get PhDs in economics and still don't understand this stuff.

## WHERE WE FIT IN

Now for the juicy bit.

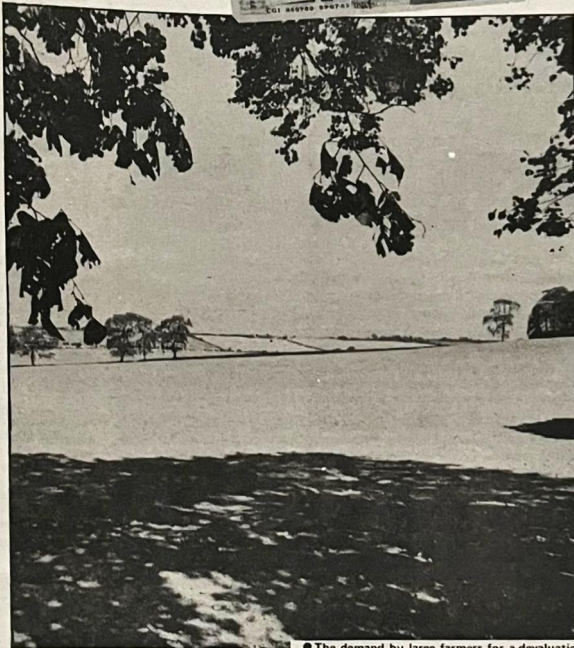
At the end of July, the Dublin government devalued the punt by 8%. People in the twenty-six counties are beginning to feel it because it means that the punt is worth less, so imports cost more, so prices are higher, so we pay more for the things we buy.

The devaluation was a hidden tax on the working class and poor of Ireland. Just like raising the VAT by another few percent. Oh, it was great for the multinationals, who already make super-profits in Ireland. It means that their dollars and marks are worth more, so they pay less for the labour they buy here. It was great for the Dublin government. They found a way to tax us without us realising that we were being taxed.

So what about this green pound?

Well, when the punt was devalued by 8% it knocked the market exchange rate far out of line with the green exchange rate. To make up for it, the EEC put a tax on all Irish farm exports. Now the farmers want the green pound devalued, to correspond with the market rate for money.

Devaluation of the green pound would mean higher prices for farmers for the goods they sell. But it would also mean higher prices for consumers, who would have to pay for food imports with deval-



● The demand by large farmers for a devaluation of the green pound will result in increased hardship for the working class. (Left) The European Parliament

Everyone but Minister for Agriculture Austin Deasy agreed: there is now a farm crisis.

The large farmers have lost some money. Something has to be done. So what was the first decision of the Dublin Cabinet? Devalue the green pound.

## A BLUNT INSTRUMENT

The green pound is a blunt instrument for helping farmers. It does not help those who need it most. Instead, it gives a windfall to the largest beef and dairy farmers, those who need it least.

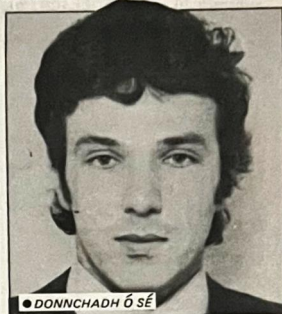
It is a tax on the Irish consumer. Low-income-earners and the working class spend more of their incomes on goods that will go up in price once the green pound is devalued. Therefore, they will bear the brunt of the burden of helping the large farmer. And they are already overtaxed because of the PAYE system, which forces them to pay high taxes, while farmers and the self-employed pay none.

Many farmers need help. But help must be targeted at the smaller and poorer farmers, who need it most. Aid must be on a basis of need, and not on a basis of farm size, or even of loss. Large and corporate farmers have made millions in profits in good years. But like the multinationals, they have given little of those profits back to the country, for economic development, because they pay hardly any taxes. We are under no obligation to help them in the bad years. Particularly when it means higher prices for the consumer and higher taxes for the worker.

## SHORT HOLIDAYS

Until last week, it looked like the government might take the sensible way out and resist the large farmers' pressures to seek a devalued green pound. Then came the hurricane. Cavan, Leitrim and Monaghan have been under water for a long time now. That didn't spoil anyone's holidays.

But when the storm hit Ballsbridge in Dublin! Well, now that's a crisis! Garrett the Carrot cut short his holiday in Cyprus (where he shares a holiday villa with John Taylor) to personally lead the rescue efforts. The Cabinet held a "crisis session".



● DONNCHADH Ó SÉ

## Skibbereen plaque

A MEMORIAL PLAQUE commemorating the H-Block hunger-strikers will be unveiled in Skibbereen, County Cork, in the near future despite opposition from the local Urban District Council (UDC).

The proposed plaque has been the subject of controversy in the area since the June meeting of the UDC when a number of councillors, responding to pressure from Coalition Minister Jim O'Keefe and the Skibbereen Tourist & District Association did a U-turn on a commitment to give their approval to a memorial.

Responding to this development, Coiste Cuimhneacháin na Stailceoirí Ocras, An Sciobairín, accused the UDC of "following in the tradition of its predecessors" whom Tom Barry had scathingly attacked for their role in the Tan War.

## RELATIVES

Far from abandoning the idea to erect a memorial, however, the commemoration committee has ordered work on the copper plaque to be started and local Sinn Féin spokesperson Donnchadh Ó Sé has confirmed that relatives of the hunger-strikers will be invited to attend the unveiling ceremony on Sunday, October 12th.

"We intend to make it as big a day as possible to give republicans in West Cork an opportunity to honour the hunger-strikers."

## Ballycastle pollution

SINN FEIN in Ballycastle, County Antrim, has slammed the "incompetent planning and negligence" of Moyle District Council which, it claims, is responsible for the pollution of a local river and nearby Ballycastle Strand.

The failure of the council to install septic tanks during refurbishment work on two houses in the town's Fairhill Street has meant that raw sewage from both those houses and from a toilet used by Department of Environment employees in an adjacent stockyard is now pouring out of a pipe into the Tow River and from there onto Ballycastle Strand.

Sinn Féin Councillor Frank McCarry, while raising the problem of pollution at Moyle District Council, has also criticised a proposal to build three pensioners' houses on Fairhill Street, a steep thoroughfare opposite a busy sheep and cattle mart.

He has dismissed what he described as "the ridiculous proposal to build pensioners' houses in such a location".



# mála poist

ALL LETTERS should be clearly written or typed, double-spaced (one line of space between each line of writing), and on one side of the

paper only. Names and addresses must be included, even when not for publication.

## Developing strategy

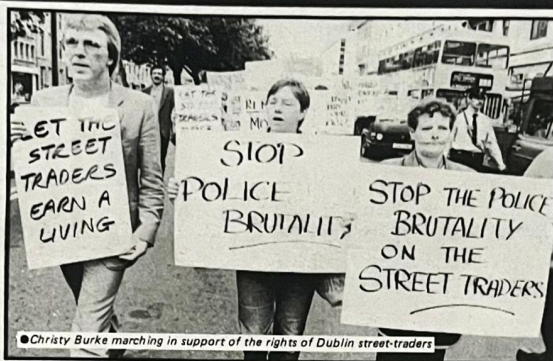
A Chara,  
It has been written and said before that the only binding principle on a revolutionary is the principle of success — success in achieving specific political or military objectives, and success in establishing a thirty-two-county socialist republic.

There can be no success without a thorough and accurate appraisal of the objective and subjective conditions that obtain in a country, and an ability to change or develop strategy, tactics and policy accordingly.

The objective conditions that obtain in Ireland are as follows: an island divided politically on North-South lines by a British imposed border; a crisis-ridden economy in which foreign and domestic capital exploit the people and consign whole families to the role of the emigrant; a society in which the exploiting classes prosper at the expense of the working class and small farmers; political institutions that reflect and reinforce the social system (capitalist) and political situation (partitionist).

The subjective conditions that obtain are: a revolutionary vanguard engaging in political and military struggle, commencing the task of politicisation in the ideology of socialist republicanism, and continuously reviewing and evaluating policy and tactics in its efforts to provide effective leadership.

Within the broad objective scenario, it is possible to distinguish significant differences between North and South. Firstly, there is the presence in the six counties of a British imperialist army of occupation against which there is an ongoing military struggle which is not present in the twenty-six counties. Secondly, there is a



Christy Burke marching in support of the rights of Dublin street-traders

## ABSTENTIONISM

A Chara,

Since Brian P. Keenan *et al* are back on the subject of abstentionism again (*AP/RN*, August 28th), perhaps you will let someone who has lived through many years of the political corruption of the twenty-six counties put the case for maintaining abstentionism from Leinster House.

Six-county republicans sometimes have a naive idea of what spirit of nationality there is in the Free State.

Surely we have proved by our naked collaboration with the British for the past 17 years and by our shameful passivity while ten gallant young men died on hunger-strike that this state primarily serves the British interests

which created it. Accordingly, the Leinster House talking shoo is just a costly charade where Labour betrays the workers, where 'Fianna Fail' — the republican party — stands idly by on any clear-cut national issue, and where Fine Gael is ever true to its origins as the first renegades who deserted the republic.

We might as well join the

Orange Order to get our national civil and religious liberties as to go into Leinster House and expect that puppet institution to put any Irish interest before those of its British masters.

Now, Brian may say I am sounding off like an old fogey and suggest we look at realistic possibilities about Leinster House. I know of only one really honest man who took his seat in that parliament. His name was Murphy and he was elected by the Dublin unemployed in the 1950s. After two years he resigned and left the country, saying that while

loyalist political ascendancy and sectarian hegemony that renders Catholics second class citizens — no parallel in the twenty-six counties. Thirdly, there is a sizeable minority who have rebelled and withdrawn their consent to be governed by the state in the six counties — no parallel in the twenty-six counties.

In view of these differences it is hardly erroneous to pose

the question of different tactics and approaches being applied in the twenty-six counties than in the six counties, provided, of course, that they do not contradict the general anti-imperialist thrust.

It is dangerous, however, to assume that the taking of seats and obtaining a parliamentary majority in Leinster House is a viable way of gaining political power or of

achieving a republic, not to mention a socialist republic.

Parliaments at best represent a forum in which to articulate a revolutionary voice and raise people's political consciousness. At worst they are a direct route to the pits of constitutionalist stagnation and reformism.

Entering parliament does not necessarily betray the republic or the revolution, but

without a more intense grounding in revolutionary scientific socialism, a revolutionary programme, continuing preparedness to engage in street agitation and armed struggle and the strictest accountability, both the republic and the revolution could be lost irrevocably.

Sean Cullen,  
New Ross,  
County Wexford.



W.T. COSGRAVE

## Reprisals

A Chara,

Reading about the recently-discovered document in Dublin diocesan archives (*Sunday Press*, August 24th) dealing with Canon Pigott's account of the heroism of four untried republican prisoners being put to death by the W.T. Cosgrave government of 1922 reminds me that Desmond Fitzgerald (Garret's father) was a member of the Cabinet.

This document also reveals that the then Archbishop of Dublin, Dr Edward Byrne, spent three hours pleading in vain with Cosgrave for a reversal of the decision to put these untried men to death for reasons of reprisal.

During a conversation with the wife of Tom Clarke, the signatory of the Easter Proclamation, she told me that she pleaded with Eamon de Valera for Paddy McGrath and Tom Harte's death sentences for shooting dead two detectives while resisting arrest in Rathgar, Dublin, to be commuted. De Valera refused, saying: "What's the use? They would defeat us again."

On the day that Paddy McGrath and Tom Harte were put to death Mrs Clarke flew the Tricolour over the Mansion House at half-mast. From then on she was *persona non grata* and her political career was at an end.

Joe McDermott,  
Portmarnock,  
County Dublin.

# Anti-repression activities

THE ANTI-STRIP-SEARCH CAMPAIGN continued at the weekend when a tenants' group in West Belfast's Twinbrook Estate organised a two-day series of protest activities to highlight the issue and an exhibition on strip-searching was held in Enniskillen, County Fermanagh.

The Twinbrook Tenants' Association decided to raise the issue locally following the visit of two of its members recently to Twinbrook POW Jennifer McCann in Maghaberry Prison. The focus of Saturday's all-day protest was a display of photographs and prison poems mounted at the local shops where hundreds of passers-by signed a petition. White-line pickets were also held during the day, attracting widespread support. On Sunday, leaflets were distributed and a collection taken outside the local chapel.

This is the first time a major protest on the issue has been staged by a community group in Belfast. "We believe that this is a community issue," said TTCA spokesperson Dave Simpson, "and we would urge other community groups to throw their weight behind the campaign and organise

## ENNISKILLEN

On Saturday, September 6th, the Enniskillen Forum Leisure Centre hosted an exhibition on the republican struggle over the last 17 years, highlighting in particular the continuing use of strip-searching of prisoners.

The exhibition organised by the Fermanagh Anti-Strip-Search Committee, had originally been scheduled to take place in the Town Hall, Enniskillen, on the fifth anniversary of Bobby Sands' death on May 5th, but this was cancelled by the clerk of Fermanagh Council who had been approached by the RUC.

Saturday's exhibition was opened by anti-strip-search activist Fr Joe McVeigh.

## UPPER BANN

On Saturday, August 30th,



TWINBROOK

TALLAGHT

Upper Bann Sinn Féin organised an anti-repression exhibition in Lurgan.

The exhibition, its theme focus-

ing on Irish and British prisoners, included photographs and posters depicting the plight of the prisoners and their relatives. A range of



LURGAN

videos on topics such as strip-searches and Irish hunger-strikes were shown.

The guest speaker, Brendan Connolly, a former H-Block prisoner, gave a detailed account of conditions in the jail during the blanket protest.

## TALLAGHT

And Sinn Féin in Tallaght, County Dublin, held a 'prisoners' week' at the end of August which involved white-line pickets, leafletting of estates and local offices, and various exhibitions.



## Film Preview

A Wapping  
good time!

BY Z. HAMMETT

IF YOU'RE IN DUBLIN, turn off the idiot Box this weekend. If you're somewhere else, turn off the Box, phone your friend in Dublin, and go there for the weekend. "Why?" I hear you asking. Here's why.

"Picketline Pictures", which in real life is a group of NUJ and NGA members, is presenting a radical film festival this weekend (Friday to Sunday, Academy Cinema, Pearse Street, Dublin). The festival is in support of the 5,500 workers who Rupert Murdoch has thrown on the streets in England. And for contributing a few quid, you get the privilege of seeing some of the best films shown together in one place for many years.

In all, there are 17 films, spread over eight programmes. Each programme has at least two films, some of which you may have seen before, but will want to see again. On the other hand, some of the films — like *Harlan County USA* and *Atomic Cafe* — are rarely seen this side of the water.

The festival kicks off in fine style on Friday evening (6.30pm) with a programme that includes *Norma Rae* and the American documentary *Harlan County USA*.

*Norma Rae* is directed by the always fine Martin 'Hud' Ritt, and concerns a woman textile worker in the Deep South who becomes a militant union organiser following her relationship with an organiser from New York.

But by far the better half of the programme is *Harlan County USA*, surely one of the highlights of the festival. This film, made by a women's film co-operative, follows a year-long strike at the East-over Mining Company in the state of Kentucky. It has exciting footage of the strikers' pickets and meetings, including a number of interviews with the strikers' wives. And it includes a number of characters, particularly the local sheriff and mine foreman, that you wouldn't believe if they appeared in a novel.

Saturday begins with another festival highlight at 11am. *The Front* stars Woody Allen and is directed by Martin (Norma Rae) Ritt. It's a hilarious satire on Mac Carthyism that hits the target from the very first note of the theme song, Frank Sinatra's *Young at Heart*. How a Mafia thug could sing so prettily always baffled me.

Zero Mostel is superb as a has-been comedian for whom being blacklisted is the death sentence. Many of the people involved in *The Front* were actually blacklisted in the 1950s, including Ritt, Mostel, screenwriter Walter Bernstein and actors Herschel Bernardi, Joshua Shelley and Lloyd Gough.

On the programme with *The Front*, is a fine documentary called *The Wobblies*, which is about the Industrial Workers of the World in the United States — the people who called for "One strong union" and who brought us Joe Hill and all of his great songs (*Hallelujah, I'm a Bum!*).

Saturday's second programme (3.30pm) contains another of the festival's top films. *State of Siege* was the follow-up by director Costa Gavras to his widely-acclaimed film *Z*. It is the story of a group of Tupamaro guerrillas in Uruguay who kidnap a CIA torturer. The film works at many levels, including its portrayal of the personal inoffensiveness of the CIA agent. But graphic and wrenching scenes of the agent's torture of hundreds of Latin-Americans wipe out all feelings of sympathy one might have with him and his family. When the film came out there was a lot of talk about the guerrillas' painful dilemma about whether to kill the CIA man when their ransom demands weren't

SOGAT • AUEW • NUJ • NGA

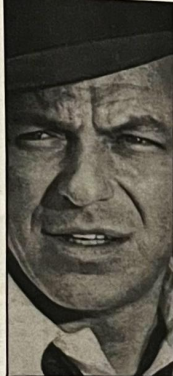


MY DAD  
WANTS TO  
WORK  
BUT MR  
MURDOCH  
SACKED  
HIM.

5,000 families like  
Emma's have now lost  
their breadwinners.

THEY NEED  
YOUR SUPPORT

DON'T BUY  
THE NEWS OF THE WORLD  
THE SUNDAY TIMES



● FRANK SINATRA

met. Personally, I had no problem...

The soundtrack for *State of Siege*, by Mikis Theodorakis (the Greek communist who wrote the music to *Zorba the Greek* and *Z*, and who was imprisoned by the Greek generals), is outstanding. An interesting

sidelight is that the film was made in Chile during the all-too-short period of democracy under Allende. It was banned by the American Film Institute Theatre in Washington DC when it was released in 1973.

## STRIKE

Finally, the Sunday programmes include a number of fine films.

*Strike* (11pm) is a silent film from the early Soviet period (1924), which tells the story of a strike by Russian factory workers in 1912. I saw the film years ago and don't remember much, except for an incredibly scabby blacking strike-breaker who I think of every time I hear the term "lumpen proletariat".

Later on Sunday (2pm) is a Dutch documentary, *Portrait of Nelson Mandela*, which includes rare archive footage from before Mandela's imprisonment. It will be shown together with the Polish film, *Man of Marble*, which is certainly the best of the brief wave of good Polish films in the 1970s.

Finally, the last programme in the festival (Sunday, 6pm) contains a Hitchcock classic and a promising documentary

on American attitudes toward the bomb. *The Hitchcock Film, Foreign Correspondent*, was essentially the director's attempt to make Americans guilty because they hadn't entered the Second World War. It must have been good, because top nazi Goebbels called it "a masterpiece of propaganda".

*Atomic Cafe* is another film that I haven't seen, but it looks good. The reviewers say it is "horrifyingly hilarious" as it accounts the US government's attempts to persuade its citizens of the harmlessness of nuclear weapons.

DO YOURSELF  
A FAVOUR

Do yourself a favour and see as many of these films as possible. The price is right, only £2.50 per programme (£1.50 unwaged). It certainly beats paying four quid for *Police Academy 57* but, most of all, it helps in the fight against Maggie Thatcher's union-busting tactics in Britain. And by the way... don't buy Rupert Murdoch's papers (*The Sun*, *The News of the World*, *The Sunday Times*, and *The Times*).

## Imeachtaí

OFFICIAL UNION PICKET  
OF BROWN THOMAS  
(Late-night working dispute)  
5.30pm to 7.30pm  
Thursdays & Fridays  
Brown Thomas  
Grafton Street  
DUBLIN  
Organised by IDATU

BALLAD SESSION  
Featuring The Irish Brigade  
9pm Friday 12th September  
Kelly's Roadhouse  
SLIGO

WAPPING FILM FESTIVAL  
12th to 14th September  
Academy Cinema  
DUBLIN  
(See film preview for details)

REPEAL SECTION 31  
PICKET  
2pm to 4pm  
Saturday 13th September  
Top of Grafton Street  
DUBLIN

SEAN GLYNN  
COMMEMORATION  
3pm Sunday 14th September  
Bedford Row  
LIMERICK

LIAM LYNCH  
COMMEMORATION  
Speaker: Jim McAllister  
3pm Sunday 14th September  
Memorial  
Knockmalundown Mountains  
GOATENBRIDGE  
County Tipperary

BALLAD SESSION  
Guest musician  
8pm Friday 26th September  
Old Pine Tree  
Ballyfermot  
DUBLIN  
Taille £1

THOMAS ASHE  
COMMEMORATION  
11.30am Sunday 28th September  
Fassagh Avenue Church  
March to Republican Plot  
Glasnevin Cemetery  
DUBLIN

STOP THE STRIP-SEARCHES  
PUBLIC MEETING  
2pm Sunday 28th September  
Conway Mill  
BELFAST

WELCOME HOME  
CYRIL MacCARTAIN  
DINNER DANCE  
Guest Speaker  
Music by Danny Ando  
9pm Friday 10th October  
Moran's  
CARRICKERRY  
County Limerick  
Taille £5

Contact Sally Walsh, Lurgie,  
Patrickswell, County Limerick

PICKET AGAINST US POLICY  
IN SOUTHERN AFRICA  
2.30pm Saturday 11th October  
US Embassy  
Ballsbridge  
DUBLIN  
Organised by the  
Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement

## stógadh shinn féin

meán fómhair 19/21

RATH CAIRN CONTAÉ NA MÍ

halla an  
chomharchumainn

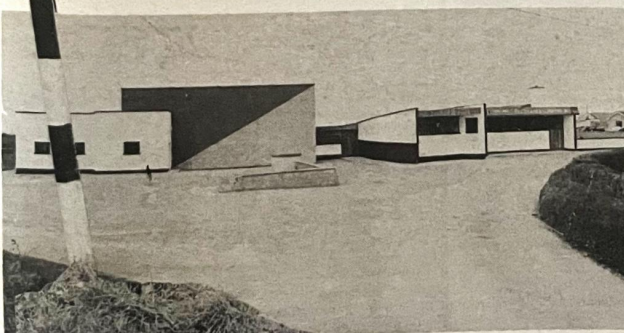
Taille: £30 (loistín agus béilí san áireamh)

Tuilleadh eolais: Mairtín Ó Muilleoir.

Roinn an Chultúir, Sinn Féin.

147 Bóthar Bhaile Andarsan

Beal Feirste 11. Fon: 301719

GAELTACHT  
RATH CAIRN





● Pro-Libyan demonstration at the GPO, Dublin, in April, following the US air strikes on Tripoli and Benghazi in which hundreds of people were killed and injured including many foreigners and members of Colonel Muammar Al Gaddafi's family

## Dublin bows to US pressure

BY BRENDAN KERR

THE DUBLIN GOVERNMENT'S ban on any more Libyan students entering the twenty-six counties and an end to training programmes for 108 of them on technical and engineering courses with Aer Lingus has cost not only a further erosion of its dwindling credibility as a sovereign power but also valuable trade agreements with Libya.

This move — coming five months after the United States' April 15th air-raids which killed dozens of civilians and which Foreign Minister Peter Barry refused to condemn — is being seen somewhat generously by the Libyans as a reluctant act forced upon Dublin by the US and Britain. But however unwilling the Coalition may or not have been, the Libyans could not allow such an unfriendly act to go unanswered and they have announced that visiting Irish citizens will now have to undergo strict personal vetting by the Libyan People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and that there will be no new trade agreements signed although

existing contracts will be honoured.

### BENEFICIARY

The twenty-six counties has been the chief beneficiary of the trade links with the North African state, exporting £25 million worth of live cattle and technology against Libyan imports of only £60,000. A new £125 million export order currently being negotiated by Purcell Exports, the live cattle and processed beef company, has now been placed in jeopardy by the Dublin government's action.

Such is the impact of the Libyan retaliatory measures on trade that Agriculture Minister Austin

Deasy has said he will be urging Peter Barry to intervene with the Libyan authorities on the issue.

### PRETEXT

The Labour/Fine Gael administration's pretext for the anti-Libyan measures — the Libyan people's support for the Irish national liberation struggle — has been rejected by a spokesperson for the 284 Libyans here. Saying that they have been singled out as "easy targets", he said:

*"It is ridiculous for the government to think that it can blackmail us on something like that. All we have said is that we support the freedom of the Irish people and we don't mind who achieves that — Fianna Fail, Fine Gael or Sinn Féin."*

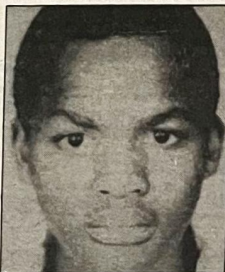
*"As far as we are concerned, there has been an irrevocable split between Ireland and Libya with this announcement and we see this as an action which is politically and morally hostile."*

## ANC men hanged

THE "JUDICIAL MURDER" of African National Congress activists Andrew Zondo, Clarence Payi and Sipho Xulu, who were hanged by the South African authorities in Pretoria Central Prison at dawn on Tuesday, September 9th, has been condemned by Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams.

Extending the sympathy of Irish republicans to the ANC and the families of the three men, he said:

*"We mourn the loss of your freedom fighters as if they were*

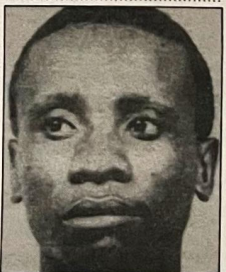


● SIPHO XULU

*our own, but we take heart from the words of the ANC martyr, Benjamin Moliso: 'Tell the world, freedom is at hand.'"*

He also criticised the London and Dublin governments for failing to implement "effective sanctions":

*"The fact that 71 Conservative Party MPs are either directors, shareholders, parliamentary consultants or advisers to companies with investments in South Africa explains Margaret Thatcher's re-*



● CLARENCE PAYI

*luctance to introduce effective sanctions against apartheid. However, Garret Fitzgerald — who claims to be an opponent of apartheid — also stands indicted for passively helping to keep the Pretoria regime alive by allowing South African coal, food, clothing, etc., to enter the twenty-six counties and generate much-needed foreign exchange for the war machine that is daily battering men, women and children in the townships."*

## WORLD VIEW



● Church and state in Chile — Archbishop Juan Francisco Fresno with General Augusto Pinochet

## Chilean dictator survives

ON SUNDAY, September 7th, at 6.40pm, guerrillas of the Manuel Rodríguez Patriotic Front launched an audacious attack against Chile's dictator, General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte. Pinochet narrowly escaped death, receiving a superficial wound to the hand.

The attack, which came four days before today's (Thursday's) 13th anniversary of the CIA-backed 1973 overthrow of the socialist President Allende, left five of Pinochet's bodyguards dead and a further ten wounded. The guerrillas used machine-guns, grenades, rifles, bazookas and rockets, knocking out four of the five cars in the dictator's heavily-armed motorcade.

Within hours of the ambush, the Pinochet regime had announced a 90-day 'state of siege', with troops and paramilitary police moving into 'sensitive' areas in Chile's capital, Santiago, arresting hundreds of citizens. Prominent among the first 'arrests' were leaders of Chile's opposition.

The two socialist leaders, Ricardo Lagos of the Moderate Democratic Alliance, and German Correa of the Popular Democratic Movement, were arrested at home while at least 15 other political leaders, plus journalists and trade unionists were also detained. Troops have sealed off all the working-class areas of the city, and have blocked roads into and out of the city. Many left-wing activists, trade unionists, human rights activists and even liberals have gone on the run, evading memories of the worst days of 1973.

Some activists were arrested by troops when they tried to seek political asylum at various foreign embassies. On Monday, September 8th, two Dutch embassy cars were stopped at gunpoint and four Chileans were forcibly taken away. At the Peruvian Embassy, troops ringed the building after a number of Chileans had sought refuge there.

### STAGE-MANAGED?

In fact, the level of co-ordinated reaction from the Chilean regime in the aftermath of the attack, including the arrogant TV appearances of Pinochet, has led to some speculation that the entire episode may have been stage-managed to facilitate the introduction of martial law.

It was well-known that the regime has been feverishly preparing for the Chilean 'marching season', September 4th, the traditional date for electing Chile's presidents and September 11th, the 13th anniversary of the bloody military coup that overthrew the democratically-elected government of President Allende. There had been much talk of a new 'state of siege' being introduced with fears that 1973 was going to be repeated yet again, only this time on a more horrific level.

Pinochet has come under increasing pressure to resign from the conservative Christian Democrats, who have supported street actions and strikes against the regime this year, and from his masters in the United States.

Pinochet, in typical fashion, reac-

ted to these pressures by arresting conservative politicians and sending a cryptic message to US President Reagan that he (General Pinochet) would "set Chile's course without advice from anyone else". It was expected that the 'state of siege' would have been introduced for September 4th, dubbed "Chile's day of democracy", but although thousands took to the streets and some people were killed, the expected 'paralysis' of the junta did not materialise.

### AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Many Chileans feel that Pinochet would have introduced the 'state of siege' before September 11th anyway, pointing to Amnesty International's latest report on the regime.

The 22-page report illustrates the intensified efforts of Pinochet to silence all of Chile's opposition. Since the beginning of the year, well over 25,000 people have been arrested, including 15,000 in Santiago in May. Hundreds have been tortured while 'deaths in custody' are on the increase, registering between 80 and 100 a year. Amnesty accuses the regime of setting up a clandestine force to carry out killings, torture and kidnappings.

The secret terror force carries out attacks and intimidation even during broad daylight. It appears to be highly organised and has access to considerable finance plus access to detailed information on the victims which could only come from intelligence units of the police, army and government. Amnesty charges that hundreds of citizens have been victims of the force since 1984.

During Pinochet's reign as dictator of Chile he has had one mission: to 'cleanse Chile' of all parliamentary democracy and replace it with 'authoritarian democracy'. According to Pinochet:

*"Authoritarianism does not oppose democracy. It supplements it by providing it with the necessary means for its subsistence at the service of liberty and law."* Pinochet believes that "elections are impractical" and to prove that, he has simply dissolved political parties including the conservative Christian Democrats. After murdering President Allende and thousands of his supporters in 1973, Pinochet was able to 'assure' the Chilean people:

*"We shall never use a single legal provision to stifle freedom of thought or liberty of conscience, except insofar as to prevent the irresponsible or subversive activity of those who, knowingly or otherwise, could cause us to return to chaos."*

Unfortunately for the Chilean people, Pinochet believes that one half of the population is irresponsible while the other half is subversive.



The lucky winners of Week 2 of draw (September 6th) are:-

£300: d/o Marie Drumm Sinn F. cumann, Clondalkin, County Dub.  
£250: Rose McCashin, Finian P. Shannon, County Clare; £150: L. Green, Lurgan, County Arm.  
£100: K. Doherty, Derry; £50: M. Crosse, Ardnaclun, Ennistymon, Co. ty Clare; £50: Gerry O'Regan, Waterford Glass, K2; £50: John D. Old Golf Links, Blackrock, Co. Louth; £50: Pat McCarthy, c/o P. Beecher, Cork city.

Tá na hÉireann (tear nuh hare-un) - The land of Ireland  
Cúige (koo-ig-eh) - Province  
Cúige Laighneach (koo-ig-eh lye-un) - The Province of Leinster  
Contae Átha Cliath (koon-tay aw-ha kleea) - County Dublin  
Contae Cheatharlach (koon-tay char-uh-lach) - County Carlow  
Contae Chill Chainnigh (koon-tay chill cheen-ig) - County Kilkenny  
Contae Chill Dara (koon-tay chill dorra) - County Kildare  
Contae Chill Mhainín (koon-tay chill main-ee-n) - County Wicklow  
Contae na hAraídh (koon-tay nuh har-vee) - County Westmeath  
Contae Laoise (koon-tay lee-shuh) - County Laois

Contae Loch Garman (koon-tay luch gorman) - County Wexford  
Contae an Longfoirt (koon-tay un lungf-wir) - County Longford  
Contae Lú (koon-tay loo) - County Louth  
Contae na Mí (koon-tay nuh mee) - County Meath  
Contae Uíbh Fáilí (koon-tay ewe-awly) - County Offaly  
Cúige Connacht (koo-ig-eh kunacht) - The Province of Connaught  
Contae na Gaillimhe (koon-tay nuh gal-ee-eh) - County Galway  
Contae Liatroma (koon-tay leestrom-uh) - County Leitrim  
Contae an tAighne Éo (koon-tay wee-oh) - County Mayo  
Contae Ros Comáin (koon-tay ros com-ee-n) - County Roscommon

Subscriptions are a mere £10 so don't miss out on your opportunity to win some great prizes and also help a worthy cause. Contact the National Finance Committee at 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1 (phone 726932).

cumann, Clondalkin, County Dublin  
£250: Rose McCashin, Finian Park,  
Shannon, County Clare; £150: Lau-  
rence Green, Lurgan, County Armagh  
£100: K. Doherty, Derry; £50: Michael  
Crosse, Ardnamulla, Ennistymon, Coun-  
ty Clare; £50: Gerry O'Regan, c/o  
Waterford Glass, K2; £50: John Daly,  
Old Golf Links, Blackrock, County  
Louth; £50: Pat McCarthy, c/o Peard,  
Beecher, Cork city.



**THE UNACCEPTABLE** face of Irish 'terrorism' has prompted Bolton District Council in Britain to withdraw its backing for a proposed fact-finding tour of the six counties by a local youth group.

It appears that the security-conscious council is reluctant to risk the safety of 11 members of the Bolton Youth Exchange Unit who were due to meet various groups and individuals including 'former IRA man' Paddy Devlin. The local Bolton newspaper has said that the reason for the council move was the fear that the youngsters would be exposed to violent indoctrination at the hands of Desperado Devlin.

★ ★ ★  
**DON'T PANIC!** Although the Free State economy is in danger of being sunk by the stormy waters that it's going through, there's no need to worry because you're in the capable hands of that old sea-dog, 'Fearless' FitzGerald.

Belay those belly-laughs, you scurvy swabs, it's true! It's in the *Irish Independent*.

On Tuesday, the self-styled *Independent* carried an article headlined "Garret confident of stable Coalition" and has him "steering a lonely course, but still in command... The lone helmsman, Dr FitzGerald, takes control of a speedboat on the Royal Canal at Kilcock, County Kildare".

What the text doesn't tell us — but the photograph does — is that the daring doctor's speedboat is firmly moored to the shore.

★ ★ ★  
**FOUR LOYALISTS**, two of whom were UDR men at the time, pleaded guilty at Belfast Court this week to falsely imprisoning a young Catholic, assault, occasioning actual bodily harm, and possession of a gun.

As part of their drunken pre-Twelfth celebrations in Maghera, County Derry, they pounced on their victim in the small hours of July 11th and dragged him into an entry where he was beaten up, forced to remove his clothes, which were torn up, threatened with a gun and had a pen-knife held to his throat. He was then questioned and assaulted by a large mob of loyalists, eventually escaping when he was pushed down a small hill into a bed of nettles.



# THE FLYING COLUMN

Describing the attack as "cowardly and outrageous", Judge Andrew Donaldson imposed the following draconian sentences: three years' jail for Keith Catherwood of King William III Crescent, Maghera; for Edwin Hanson, of Thompson Gardens, Maghera, Thomas Montgomery (the owner of the gun), of Oakvale Terrace, Culnady, and Martin Connolly, also of King William III Crescent, two-year prison sentences suspended for two years.

Montgomery and Connolly have since resigned from the UDR.

However, he has yet to answer the allegations of a British anti-fascist magazine, *Searchlight*, that he was an active member of Oswald Mosley's neo-Nazi Union Movement in the '60s.

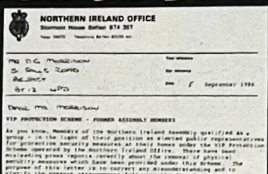
Mr Collard teaches social care courses.

★ ★ ★  
A BRUSH with the law means something else altogether when you're talking about RUC Constable W.J. Flaherty of Bellaghy.

At 3am on Saturday, August 30th, Constable Flaherty took up plainclothes duty as an artist, brushing light blue paint over green, white and orange kerbstones in the County Derry town.

Blue skies over the republic, no doubt.

★ ★ ★  
● A smiling Danny Morrison entered my office the other day with a briefcase in one hand and a letter from the Northern Ireland Office in the other. "Peruse this!" he commanded. "It may be worthy of inclusion in your winged pillar." And, of course, it is:



First, I should explain that there is no question of any of the security measures which were provided while you were an Assembly Member being removed or dismantled, unless, of course, you would prefer that they were removed. In the latter event perhaps you would advise this office in writing. This arrangement will operate on the firm understanding that the responsibility for future maintenance requirements for the various measures which have been provided now falls to the individual concerned. The single exception to this concerns the rental and maintenance charges for alarm systems which may have been installed. These will continue to be met by the Police Authority (as the NIO's agent for the Scheme) for a period of 12 months, that is, until July 1987.

I should also explain that the Scheme no longer applies automatically to former Assembly Members as it does. Accordingly, it will only apply to those persons who are currently registered as members of the Assembly. It is also possible that the Scheme will be extended to other persons in the future. The only other exception to the Scheme is that the Scheme will not apply to persons who are currently registered as members of the Assembly but who are not registered as members of the Scheme.

Yours faithfully,  
POLICE DIVISION (S)

**THE HUSBAND** of Southend's Conservative Party mayor has said that he sees "nothing particularly obnoxious" about his little collection of nazi paraphernalia which includes a photograph of Adolf Hitler, a swastika badge, and copies of the anti-semitic and virulently racist publications *Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion*, *The Stormtrooper* and *The National Socialist*.

Donald Collard says he had to "pay through the nose" for the items and claims they were for his 'political research'.

**FLAT-DWELLERS** in Merrick Terrace, Viewpark, Lanarkshire, Scotland, had a moving experience in June 1985 when joy-riding John McCluskey, of the King's Own Scottish Borderers, ploughed into their building in an articulated lorry, moving the block of flats two centimetres.

Kosbie McCluskey, who is stationed in the garrison town of Colchester, Essex, admitted at Hamilton Sheriff's Court last week to stealing the lorry, driving with twice the legal alcohol limit, having no insurance and causing £30,000 worth of damage. He was fined £940 and banned from driving for five years.

★ ★ ★  
**CONSERVATIVE PARTY** leaders in the wealthy North London suburb of Hampstead & Highgate are bending over back-

wards to get rid of a former council candidate who has embarrassed the party which Margaret Thatcher wants to return to Victorian values by admitting that he ran a massage parlour and a magazine service offering gay spanking services while he was on the dole.

Anthony Earl-Williams, who isn't beaten yet because he intends to appeal, said after the expulsion moves:

"I am a good Thatcherite and a good Tory. I have given so much time and money to the thankless, bottomless pit of this constituency party."

★ ★ ★  
IT SEEMS that the *AP/RN* gremlin has translocated in the *Sunday World*. In an article by Jim 'The Pulse of the North' Campbell on Bishop Daly's assertion that Catholic republicans should excommunicate themselves, the bishop is referred to as "British Daly".

★ ★ ★  
**ERIC HAMMOND**, the British electricians' union leader who stole the jobs of 5,500 people sacked by Rupert Murdoch's News International group at Wapping, needed a 20-strong police guard when he attended the British Trade Union Congress at Brighton last week in case any of the printworkers decided to put his bulbs out.

And, not being one to forget the few friends he has left in this world, Eric summoned up the persuasive and oratorical powers at his disposal to oppose a resolution condemning the use of plastic bullets by his pals, the Peelers.

The resolution was overwhelmingly carried.

## DUIRT SIAD

**RUC on the run from IRA onslaught.**  
— *Sunday Tribune* headline on the IRA's offensive against RUC bases and civilian collaborators.

★ ★ ★  
And the RUC and everyone else in Northern Ireland except, apparently, the BBC, the News Letter and, occasionally when it lapses, the Belfast Telegraph (i.e. the bulk of the unionist-dominated local media) knows that the UFF, the only non-existent organisation to be declared illegal, is the name the legal, unscripted UDA uses to admit murders and make threats.

— Fionnuala O'Connor, Magill.  
★ ★ ★  
General Pinochet [of Chile] must be our inspiration. He is always caricatured by the left as merely an expert in electrifying people's testicles.

— Peter Clarke, prospective Conservative Party candidate for the Scottish constituency of East Lothian, addressing a Federation of Conservative Students conference.

★ ★ ★  
When we meet again I confidently expect us to be on the road to freedom.

— The Scottish National Party leader, Dr Gordon Wilson MP, speaking to SNP conference delegates as the British government faces a crisis in support in Scotland.

★ ★ ★  
Gaddafi 'invades' Zimbabwe summit.  
— The *Irish News* not allowing the fact that Col. Gaddafi was entitled to attend the Non-Aligned Movement conference to get in the way of a good scare-mongering headline.

## NOTE

