

# AN PHOBLACHT Republican News

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING  
POLITICAL WEEKLY



Sraith Nua Imi 8 Uimhir 49 Deardaoin 11 Nollaig Thursday 11th December 1986 (Britain 30p) Price 25p



## BORDER INCURSION

FOR THE SECOND TIME in less than a month, British soldiers crossed the border and invaded the farm of a Louth family.

**SEE PAGE 2**



● The scene of the SAS murder of Vols Danny Doherty and Willie Fleming in the grounds of Gransha Hospital, Derry, on December 6th, 1984

AN INQUEST in Derry has condemned the killing of two IRA Volunteers by the British army

two years ago as unnecessary and said the two IRA men could have been captured.

**SEE PAGE 2**

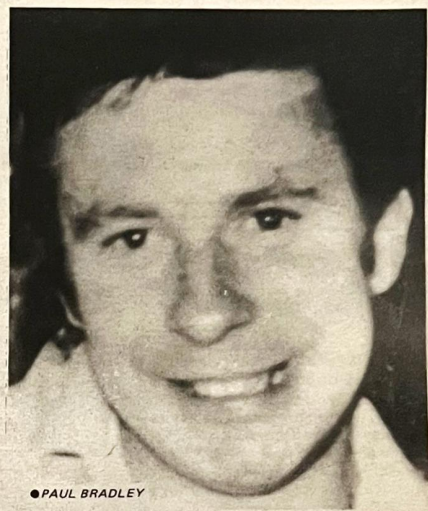
## Smashing the garrison

KEVIN McCOOL LOOKS at the IRA's Tan War campaign against the Royal Irish Constabulary, a campaign that has many parallels with today's IRA campaign against the Royal Ulster Constabulary.



**SEE  
CENTRE  
PAGES**

## Sectarian murder



● PAUL BRADLEY

A LISBURN MAN died in hospital on Tuesday from head injuries inflicted by loyalists. He was the 13th person to die at the hands of a sectarian murder-gang since the signing of the Hillsborough Agreement. — See page 5





# Pressure maintained

IRA VOLUNTEERS in South Armagh kept up the pressure on British soldiers defending the 'Hillsborough Wall' when they staged a mortar-bomb attack on Saturday evening, December 6th.

The extensive and heavily fortified British army outpost at Glasdrummond, near Crossmaglen, was the target for the weekend attack. Eight mortars were fired but the base sustained minimal damage.

## BELFAST WARNING

IRA determination to pursue its policy of stopping

construction and service firms from providing materials or other resources for the crown forces was again highlighted on Wednesday, December 10th, when, in a statement, Belfast Brigade warned a Lisburn firm to publicly withdraw from a contract with the RUC/British army:

"Belfast Brigade is aware that the firm of George Bar-



low & Sons, Unit 5, Knockmore Industrial Estate, Moira Road, Lisburn, is engaged in contract work for the RUC/

British army.

"Our Intelligence Department has confirmed that within days the above firm will be supplying living accommodation to the British army billet on the top of Divis Towers and will also be providing sectional building material to the RUC/ British army in the South Armagh area and Omagh.

"We expect this firm to publicly withdraw immediately or face the consequences."

## IRA DENIAL

The IRA in Armagh has disclaimed any involvement in two recent armed robberies at McAnerney's Supermarket and the Harps GAA Social Club on Sunday night.

# INQUEST CONDEMNS SAS

BY KEVIN MCCOOL

AFTER LISTENING to the verbal and written evidence of six members of an SAS undercover unit responsible for the shoot-to-kill murders of two Derry IRA Volunteers in December 1984, a coroner's jury at an inquest in Derry on Tuesday, December 9th, concluded that both men could have been captured and "their lives saved".

Danny Doherty (23) and Willie Fleming (19) were cut down in a hail of SAS bullets while on active service in the grounds of Gransha Hospital, Derry, on December 6th 1984. The two Volunteers were given no opportunity to surrender and their bullet-ridden bodies were left, uncovered, for five hours.

None of the three members of the undercover squad who carried out the actual shooting was present in court, but gave written statements which were read out. The British army major who was in charge and the other two members of the unit gave verbal evidence.

## TEN WEAPONS

Their combined evidence revealed that the three British soldiers who opened fire used ten high-powered weapons, including five pistols, three submachine-guns and two assault rifles!

Denying that they were acting on received information when

they ambushed the two men, the undercover soldiers claimed that they were on surveillance duty in the Waterside area for two weeks when at 7.45am on December 6th they spotted two men on a motorbike entering the grounds of Gransha Hospital.

One SAS man claimed that, although it was still dark and he was seated in a car 60 yards in front of the bike, he was able to see that the pillion passenger was carrying a handgun in his right hand. The SAS man claimed that from his car he called to the men to halt and then rammed the motorbike. The SAS further claimed that Willie Fleming aimed a handgun at them and that they opened fire in self defence.

When the shooting was over it was revealed that the IRA handgun was still in a holdall carried by Fleming. The British army attempted to explain away this contradiction by claiming in its statements that one of them disturbed evidence and lifted the

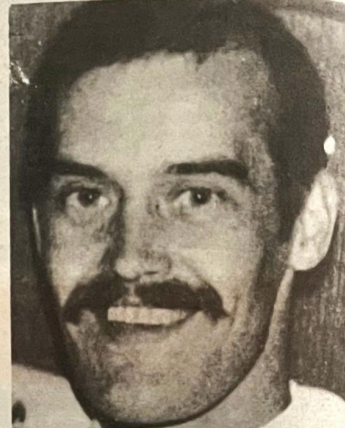


● VOLUNTEER WILLIE FLEMING

handgun from the ground before placing it in the holdall.

## JURY NOT CONVINCED

The 11-person jury was clearly not convinced that the SAS men were in Gransha Hospital grounds coincidentally, or that Willie Fleming was visibly holding a weapon, or indeed that a single shout to



● VOLUNTEER DANNY DOHERTY

two men on a motorbike at 60 yards' distance in the dark was sufficient warning. The verdict was that "the six-man army unit should have tried to arrest" the two IRA Volunteers and "should have contacted the RUC in order to save their lives".

After the inquest, Martin McGuinness said:

"The killing of Danny Doherty and Willie Fleming was an act of premeditated murder by the SAS. The verdict of the jury is a damning indictment of the British government's shoot-to-kill policy and exposes once again that government's attempts to white-wash crown force activities in the North."

# More border incursions

A COUNTY LOUTH farm was invaded by British soldiers in the second major cross-border incursion in less than a month.

The area near the Murphy's farm at Ballybinaby near Hackballscross was saturated with British soldiers on Saturday, December 6th, and three of them crossed the border and went to the front door of the house, hammering on it with a rifle butt.

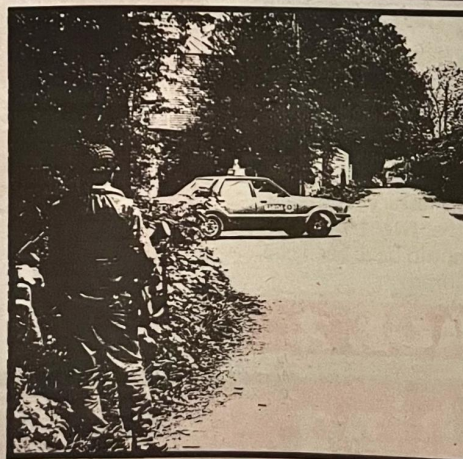
When Michael Murphy answered the door, one of the British soldiers grabbed him, saying: "I'm taking you." (One of Michael's brothers, Frank, was kidnapped from the farm and taken to Bessbrook Barracks on November 18th — see AP/RN, November 18th.)

Michael Murphy was threatened at gunpoint by the soldier but managed to grab him and hold

him until gardai arrived on the scene. At this stage the other British soldiers went back across the border.

Murphy demanded that the gardai arrest the British soldier, which they eventually did with reluctance. Sinn Féin Councillors Fra Browne and Arthur Morgan reached the farm just as the British soldiers were leaving. They contacted the media, including RTE who didn't want to know about the incident.

The British soldier was taken to Dundalk Garda Barracks. He was not charged — despite being caught red-handed and armed inside the 26-County state —



and was ordered by the Director of Public Prosecutions to be released on Saturday evening.

The next day there was another incursion by British soldiers, at Courtbane in Louth, the scene of

numerous such incidents in recent years.

Excusing the incursions and the release of the soldier by gardai, Peter Barry ludicrously claimed that the British soldiers may have strayed across the border due to a "map-reading error" — a claim which the RUC or British army itself did not even make.

## NO DENIAL

Neither Barry nor the gardai denied Tom King's statement that the British army had been called to Ballybinaby by the gardai, although not, he said, to cross the border.

Sinn Féin Councillor Fra Browne congratulated local people in the border area for their vigilance. He said that the invasion of the Murphy house was the second in two weeks and "had a member of the family not acted to render the marauding soldier inactive then almost certainly the patrol would have killed or kidnapped somebody".



# Lowering nationalist expectations

BY JANE PLUNKETT

THE SDLP and the Dublin government were applying themselves this week to the task of lowering nationalist expectations. For though lauded by the SDLP organ, the *Irish News*, as a "step along the road", the proposed changes announced last Wednesday to Britain's emergency powers in the North were no such thing.

No longer would people be held incommunicado in the North's jails, predicted the *Irish News*. The changes were welcomed by the Dublin government, while on Tuesday, SDLP deputy leader Seamus Mallon described the gains made post-Hillsborough by Northern nationalists as "very fundamental in deed".

But in reality, the proposed changes to the Emergency Provisions Act and Prevention of Terrorism Act announced by British direct-ruler Tom King are extremely minor, and leave intact the entire repressive structure of Britain's special legal system in the North.

Under the proposed changes, crown forces are supposed to have "reasonable grounds for suspicion" before making arrests. The criteria for bail will also be changed slightly. Lawyers are likely to be the main beneficiaries of these two changes.

Contrary to some claims, individuals held in the North's interrogation centres will have no greater access to their solicitor than previously: they may expect to wait 48 hours as before. Arrests under three-day orders will end, but Section 12 of the PTA will still enable the RUC to detain individuals for two days, extendable to seven days, without charge. The criteria on the admissibility of statements will be tightened somewhat (to exclude "the use or threat of violence") but is irrelevant so long as Diplock judges can be relied on to dismiss evidence from nationalists that they have been tortured or beaten under interrogation.

Direct-ruler King was rather more frank than nationalist politicians about



● The Lord Mayor of Larn, Jack McKee (DUP), cutting the barbed wire at Stormont during the loyalist protest at the 12th meeting of the Inter-Governmental Conference

the aims of this reform package. It would "strengthen the hand of the authorities", he said.

Significantly though, the new proposals so praised by some nationalists will not even implement the recommendation of the Baker Report of 1984, that the power of internment should be ended.

The British government is not prepared to give up this power "yet", said King.

On Monday, the 12th meeting of the Inter-Governmental Conference took place, but afterwards, disappointed Dublin ministers were unable to show any evidence of British movement, as they must have hoped with a general election in the offing.

FitzGerald has again been promoting his pathetic demand for single unionist judges, who sit without a jury in the North's Diplock courts, to be replaced

by three unionists, a demand which within the past week won support from British Labour Party spokesperson Peter Archer.

But neither this demand, nor the much-hyped EPA/PTA changes, will go anywhere towards dismantling the British system of interrogation centres, special courts, special laws and special trials which operates in the Six Counties.

The British National Council for Civil Liberties this week described the EPA/PTA reforms as "tinkering". They believe that that three-judge courts would postpone a return to jury trials and "would neither improve nor be seen to improve the quality of justice" in the North, in the words of NCCL general secretary Sarah Spenser.

## LOWERING

Of course, prior to Hillsborough, three-judge courts were never a demand of Northern nationalists, and, like the 'I' voters issue and the repeal of the obsolete and irrelevant Flags & Emblems Act, are no safeguard for nationalists.

Meanwhile, the Inter-Governmental meetings, which will bring nationalists nothing of substance and are only a needless provocation of loyalists, are set to continue. It is nationalists who bear the brunt, as Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams pointed out on Monday:

"Nationalists have found the need to brace themselves for possible loyalist attacks immediately before and after such meetings.

"The Hillsborough Agreement is, in effect, Dublin government and SDLP approval for the British occupation of the North. Their attempts to sell it as a nationalist victory and as a breakthrough have provoked an unnecessary but a major loyalist backlash.

"Britain is quite prepared to smooth off the rough edges of its rule in the North in return for Dublin support. The SDLP, by submitting proposals for the reform of the RUC, is actually perpetuating the life of the Six-County state. The SDLP is not interested in Irish independence or a British withdrawal."

# ALL-PARTY SURRENDER

BY MARTIN Mac DIARMADA

THE DEBATE on the Single European Act in Leinster House ended before it began this week with Fianna Fáil weighing in behind the Coalition in its surrender of sovereignty to NATO and the EEC.

As expected, Fianna Fáil leader Charles Haughey announced that his party would not oppose ratification of the Single Act in Leinster House when the debate began on Tuesday, December 9th. Nor will Fianna Fáil be seeking a renegotiation of the Act even though Haughey said that the Coalition had failed to represent the interest of the 26 Counties when the original negotiations took place and that it did not recognise neutrality.

Just how much the EEC ties the 26 Counties up with NATO before the Act is ratified at all was shown on the weekend before the debate when Garret FitzGerald took part in the EEC summit in London. The summit of EEC heads of government made a

mockery of the alleged neutrality of the 26 Counties with little or no distinction being made between EEC and NATO discussions.

## NATO STRATEGY

NATO strategy and East-West relations were discussed by the 11 NATO members of the EEC and a statement issued afterwards said that "they underlined the importance of solidarity on these issues among all members of the Western Alliance". Garret FitzGerald approved the statement, claiming later that he had not taken part in the discussions.

Neutrality, in effect, means nothing in the EEC context with the Dublin government sitting idly by while NATO uses EEC meetings to discuss its business and to issue political/military policy statements.

The Dublin government's NATO/EEC partners know full well that the Coalition, and FitzGerald in particular (who is a committed supporter of a 'united Europe'), do not believe in neutrality and only maintain it as a pretence for home consumption.

The slow process of making the 26 Counties a NATO partner within the EEC began with entry in 1973 and is nearing its completion with the Single European Act. At the London summit British officials made no distinction between NATO and the EEC. The press were urged to present the summit as part of ongoing NATO discussions, including recent Reagan/Thatcher summits, NATO defence ministers' and foreign ministers' meetings.

The British officials described, in a revealing phrase, the "solidarity within the community [EEC] and its unity with the Western Alliance".

## 'COMMON DEFENCE'

A memorandum on the Single European Act from the British Foreign & Commonwealth Office said last week that the section of the Act committing EEC states to maintain the "technological and industrial conditions necessary for their security" indicated a "readiness on the part of the



● CHARLES HAUGHEY

European allies to make a greater contribution to their common defence in the framework of the Alliance" (i.e. NATO).

Highlighting this, the Irish Sovereignty Movement accused the Coalition of "telling blatant lies about the effects of the Single European Act on Irish neutrality".

If Fianna Fáil balked at the Coalition's lies it did not prevent them from supporting the Act in Leinster House this week. In doing so they showed what little difference there is between them and Fine Gael. Significantly, it was the argument that non-ratification would mean economic

ruin for Ireland that Haughey used to excuse his failure to oppose the Act.

As for Labour, their leadership made a travesty of democracy by going ahead with the debate before the party could discuss it at its conference which was postponed precisely so that that discussion could not take place before the Act reached Leinster House.

"The final death blow to the limited political and economic sovereignty of the 26 Counties," was how Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams described the Act. Speaking at the launching of his book, *The Politics of Irish Freedom*, in Dublin on Wednesday, December 10th, Adams said:

"If the threat of economic penalties can be used in this instance then it is only a matter of time before similar threats are also used to do away with military neutrality.

"Sinn Féin calls on the people of the 26 Counties to look closely at the decisions being made in their name, decisions which further reduce the level of control we have over our own future, and to remember those politicians and parties who paid lip-service to sovereignty while, at the same time, giving it away."



**SIXTY JOBS** will be lost over the next two years at the Tallaght plant of Gallaher's tobacco company. On Monday the company said that it would be reducing its workforce from 380 to 320 by means of retirement, early retirement and voluntary redundancies.

The proposed loss of 60 jobs in Tallaght follows the loss of 700 jobs at the Gallaher factory at York Street, Belfast, which is to be closed.

Another blow to the economy of the West was struck this week with the announcement that the Sugar Company is to lay off up to 115 workers at its plant in Tuam, County Galway, next year.

Siuce Eireann says that the workers could be out of the factory for up to seven months. The ITGWU says that the lay-offs represent another stage in the running-down of the plant which the semi-state company has long wanted to close completely.

Workers at Dublin Airport are in dispute with Aer Lingus after the company removed 30 people from the payroll.

The 80 workers, who include aircraft mechanics, are represented by 12 unions who have rejected the company's attempt to introduce 'check scheduling' which they say is in breach of two agreements.

The future of the Semperit tyre factory in Ballyfermot, Dublin West, is in doubt following management insistence that a drastic package of proposals for changes in working conditions be accepted by the 600 workers employed there. The changes include extra productivity and wage cuts.

# Jobs up in smoke



●The Gallaher Tobacco Company, Belfast

The Semperit factory, which once employed 900, was recently taken over by the German multinational Continental/Uniroyal.

A new union, the Union of Motor Trade Technical & Industrial Employees (UMTTIE) was launched this week with a membership of 2,000. Charlie Mooney, general secretary of UMTTIE, said that

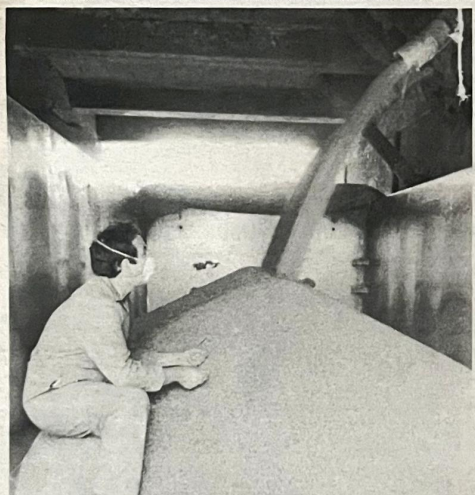
it was the largest union in the motor trade.

The national executive committee of the ITGWU sanctioned members of its No. 15 branch to strike in pursuance of a travelling allowance as part of the 25th wage round.

A thousand household and portering staff at 22 voluntary hospitals in the

Dublin area rejected a Labour Court decision which did not include a travelling allowance and they voted in favour of strike action. They are seeking parity with other workers in the health services who already have the travelling allowance.

The hospital workers involved are amongst the lowest paid in the public service and will begin their strike in January.



## NEW SINN FEIN BANNER

'THE BANNER MAN', Dubliner Jer O'Leary, has certainly kept himself busy over the past few months.

Jer, renowned for his excellent craftsmanship on trade union banners, has not only completed a successful run in October starring as Jim Larkin in James Plunkett's *The Risen People* (while holding down a full-time job), but, along with his wife Eithne, has produced two colourful new banners — one for the African National Congress and one for Sinn Féin.

On Thursday morning, December 4th, Jer presented a special banner to ANC national executive member Aziz Pahad to mark the ANC's 75th anniversary next year.

The banner was handed over at a ceremony in the Mansion House which was presided over by Dublin City Lord Mayor Bertie Ahern.

The next morning, Friday, December 5th, Jer gave Sinn Féin General Secretary Tom

Hartley a magnificent banner for the party's Trade Union Department at Sinn Féin Head Office in Dublin.

The Sinn Féin banner, said to be one of the largest trade union banners in Ireland, features the Irish Republic, Tricolour and Starry Plough flags on the left-hand side; a four-foot by eight-foot portrait of James Connolly in Irish Citizens' Army uniform on the right-hand side; a scene from the 1913 Dublin Lock-Out as the centrepiece; and bears the legend:

"You may jail us, you may even kill us, but out of those jails and graves will arise the spirit that will thwart you and defeat you. We defy you — do your worst."

James Connolly, Commandant, Dublin forces, Irish Republican Army, Easter Week.



●Tom Hartley and Jer O'Leary

## Industry in crisis

A VIDEO launched by the Irish Transport & General Workers' Union in Dublin on Thursday, December 4th, shows the damage done to the Irish flour industry by EEC membership and the dumping of cheap imports from Britain.

*The Irish Flour Industry: What Future?* outlines the development of the industry which now faces a major crisis. Ninety-seven per cent of flour imports come from Britain and some of the bakers who use this flour also use the 'Guaranteed Irish' symbol despite the fact that in buying British flour they are depriving workers of jobs in Irish flour mills.

The neglect of this strategic

industry by the Dublin government has led to job losses as well as being another example of its total failure to develop food production and processing for the benefit of both workers and small farmers.

The video was made by New Arrival Audio/Video Productions for the ITGWU No.12 Branch and is available from Liberty Hall, Dublin.



●(From left to right) The Nigerian ambassador; Kader Asmal (IAAMI); Cyril Cusack (actor); Aziz Pahad (ANC); Bertie Ahern and Jer O'Leary



## SECTARIAN ASSASSINS STRIKE AGAIN

# Lisburn man murdered

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

A 30-YEAR-OLD Catholic man from Lisburn, County Antrim, died on Tuesday morning following a vicious sectarian attack in a bar on Saturday night, December 6th.

Paul Bradley, a labourer employed by Lisburn Borough Council, is the 13th victim of loyalist assassins this year.

The savage attack occurred at around 9.20 on Saturday night as Bradley was having a drink in the Tavern Bar in Lisburn's Bridge Street. Several men burst into the bar, wielding snooker cues and wooden chair legs and battered him around the head. Bradley was sitting with his back to the door and was taken completely by surprise.

Bradley never regained consciousness during the three days before he died and his head injuries were so severe that doctors at the Royal Victoria Hospital were unable to operate.

One of eight children, Bradley had only recently returned from Lurgan to his elderly parents' house in Lisburn's Eglantine Road after separating from his wife. Speaking to *AP/RN* on Monday at the intensive care unit, Michael Bradley said that Paul had been attacked twice before in the predominantly Protestant town:

"He got a hiding two or three weeks ago in another bar, the Coachman's, when four or five men jumped him. Then, coming out of chapel the next day, he was attacked when he bumped into one of them."

He added that his brother was not bitter in any way:

"He is married to a Protestant girl; he doesn't care about religion,

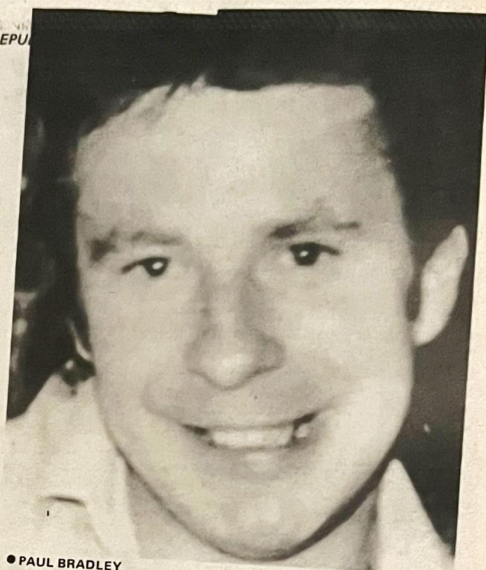
nor is he political. He just goes about his own business."

### DAILY FEAR

Over 170 Catholic families have been intimidated from their homes in Lisburn this year and hundreds of others live in daily fear of attack. Michael Bradley commented:

"Lisburn has got out of hand altogether. If you're a Catholic you can't walk down the street."

Lisburn Sinn Fein Councillor Pat Rice said that the premeditated murder of Paul Bradley was "the latest outrage against members of the Catholic community in Lisburn who, since the Hillsborough Agreement, have been the target of a UDA-orchestrated campaign of sectarian intimidation and violence". The Hillsborough Agreement, acclaimed by the SDLP and others as a mechanism to achieve "peace, reconciliation and stability", he continued,



• PAUL BRADLEY

had in reality brought nothing but "a worsening of the nationalist nightmare" for the Bradley family and the hundreds of other suffering nationalist families.

### NEW LODGE

Meanwhile, in North Belfast, the windows of eight houses in the nationalist New Lodge Road

district were broken by loyalists around 6 o'clock on Saturday morning, December 6th.

Residents in Spamount Street were woken from their sleep by the sound of smashing glass and saw a red Toyota car speeding away from the area. The car was later discovered in the loyalist Duncrain Gardens.

## BRITISH DROP GERRY KELLY'S LIFE SENTENCES

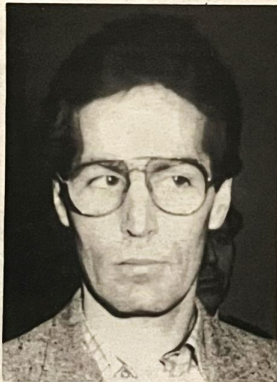
# Embarrassing admission

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT's announcement last Friday that it had dropped two life sentences, imposed 13 years ago on recently-extradited republican Gerry Kelly, is an embarrassing public admission by the British of the political nature of the IRA's struggle.

After last week's extradition from Holland, Kelly and fellow H-Block escapee Brendan McFarlane appeared at a remand court hearing in Belfast last Friday, December 5th, on charges relating to the September 1983 mass republican break-out from Long Kesh.

Following Friday's hearing, the British Home Office confirmed that it has remitted two life sentences imposed on 33-year-old Kelly for the Old Bailey bombings in 1973.

It was forced to do this under the terms of the ancient treaty with Britain under which the republicans were finally extradited from Holland after an 11-month legal battle (this treaty rules out extradition on explosives charges). Earlier, a Dutch



• GERRY KELLY

district court had embarrassed the British by ruling that the escape charges, and the bombing charges against Kelly, were

political. Though Britain, after applying intense pressure to its EEC ally, finally secured the handing over of the two men by the use of an obscure treaty, this lowering of Dutch legal standards succeeded in highlighting on an international stage the fact that both Kelly and McFarlane are political prisoners and that the IRA's struggle is a political struggle for national self-determination.

Kelly still faces nine charges in connection with the H-Block escape, including two of attempted killing; McFarlane, who still faces five life sentences imposed on him 11 years ago, now faces seven charges relating to the escape.

### HATRED

The RUC showed their hatred of the extradited men at Friday's court hearing where they forcibly prevented about 15 people, mainly relatives of Kelly and McFarlane, from entering the court.

RUC men, some with batons drawn, pushed and dragged people from the vestibule, and Sinn Fein Councillor Alex

Maskey and an Ardoyne man were detained in the cells.

The Sinn Fein MP for West Belfast, Gerry Adams, has described the remitting of Kelly's sentence as a "major set-back for British attempts to misrepresent the struggle in Ireland". It demonstrated, he said, "the degree of international pressure under which this extradition was conducted".

"This move shows how expedient the British can be when it suits them, and contrasts with their attitude to the other men serving prison sentences on the same charges."

When the Dutch Ambassador to the 26 Counties opened an art exhibition in Sligo Town Hall last Friday evening, he was loudly challenged by several Sinn Fein members at the reception to justify his country's handing over of Kelly and McFarlane to the British. The Dutch Ambassador sheepishly declined to answer.

"How could he?" asked Sligo Sinn Fein spokesperson Timmy Newell later. "How could he justify the unjustifiable?"

# REPEATED BEATING OF DERRY MAN

A 23-YEAR-OLD County Derry man, Ian Hurl, of Derrygarve, Castledawson, was attacked and assaulted twice last weekend by the same members of a British army patrol in what is the latest in a long series of such attacks stretching back over five years.

Hurl, a single man who works for a local concrete firm, was returning home on his motorbike at around midnight on Friday, December 5th, when he was stopped by British troops on the Killynease Road. After asking him some questions, which he answered, the soldiers suddenly became abusive and he was grabbed from behind and beaten to the ground. A number of the patrol then kicked and punched him. He was asked what he was going to get

for Christmas and then told that it didn't matter because he wasn't going to live that long. He was eventually released after half an hour.

The following day he was examined by his doctor and made a formal complaint at Magherafelt RUC Barracks.

### SECOND ASSAULT

The second assault took place on Sunday, December 7th, at 1pm near the junction of Creagh/

Blackpark Road, several hundred yards from his home. As he approached the junction, a soldier in the back of a moving jeep waved him down.

The British soldier, who had initiated the assault on Friday night demanded his driving licence and said: "We'll beat the f...ing complaints out of you." He then punched Hurl in the face and knocked him to the ground. The soldier choked him as he lay on the ground, beat him about the face and head, and tore his shirt. At least two other members of the patrol joined in the attack, kicking him repeatedly as he was held on the ground. Several local

people witnessed the assault.

Hurl was forced to lay with a rifle pressed to his neck and was told that if he moved he would get more of the same. When he was eventually allowed up, he attempted to get assistance from a local house but was dragged from the front door out onto the middle of the roadway again.

He made a second formal complaint on Monday, December 8th, and was again treated by his doctor.

His father, John, said:

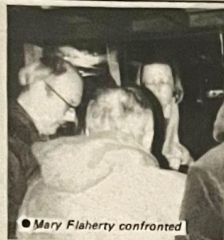
"The patrol's knowledge of Ian's first complaint on Saturday was proof of the collusion between them and the RUC in the vindic-

tive campaign against my son. Five years ago, an RUC man was found guilty of assaulting Ian and since then they have beaten him up on a number of occasions and when he has complained they have beaten him with assault."

Condemning both attacks, Sinn Fein Councillor Lughaidh Mac Giolla Bhrighde said that in terms of constant harassment and victimisation by the RUC's Divisional Mobile Support Unit and British army:

"Ian Hurl's lot has certainly not improved since the signing of the Hillsborough Agreement. Indeed, harassment of nationalists in general has been intensified."





● Mary Flaherty confronted

## Deputy challenged

THE Ballymun Unemployment Alliance in Dublin picketed the constituency clinic of Fine Gael Leinster House Deputy Mary Flaherty on Monday, December 8th.

In a letter handed to Flaherty, the group said that over 50% of the people of voting age in Ballymun are unemployed. The deputy was challenged on her betrayal of their interests by voting for welfare cuts. "Have you any idea of the misery and suffering you have helped cause in this community by your actions?" they asked.

The Unemployment Alliance also noted that Flaherty did not vote against allowing £200 million to be given to Allied Irish Banks to bail out the Insurance Company of Ireland.

When confronted with the vocal group, the Fine Gael deputy was unable to answer their challenge and accepted the letter, which ended by warning her of the consequences of her actions in the next general election.



● The house which was picketed by CPAD

## Pusher moves out

DRUG-PUSHER Peadar Nolan moved out of the Clondalkin housing estate in Dublin this week where anti-drugs activists had maintained a vigil to force him to move.

Local members of the Concerned Parents Against Drugs camped outside the Nolan house for a week before the pusher finally cleared out on Monday, December 8th.

As Nolan's furniture was removed on Monday, CPAD activists John McCann and Eddie Green said that the local community would continue to be vigilant against the drugs menace.

# PRESSURE PAYS OFF

A PROTEST CAMPAIGN by local people in Gorey, County Wexford, has been successful in forcing the local authority to allocate funds for badly-needed new housing in the town.

Gorey has a chronic housing problem with many young families living in overcrowded and sub-standard temporary accommodation. There are 17 families living in caravans and almost 60 are on the housing list.

At the end of October, the homeless families decided to take action and formed the Gorey Housing Action Committee. They agreed on a campaign of protests and lobbying of local elect-

ed representatives to press for more new housing in Gorey.

Sinn Féin Town Commissioner John Sheehan, who was elected chairperson and organiser of the action committee, told the inaugural meeting that now was the time to force results from the politicians:

"You can put them under pressure. With an election coming, you are holding all the aces." He pointed out:

"There are places in this town where you would not put pigs, let alone expect people to survive."

There followed a protest campaign in which all local Leinster House deputies were lobbied and Wexford County Council pressurised to take immediate action. At the November meeting of the council, it was agreed to allocate a further £200,000 for housing in Gorey.

### SUCCESS

John Sheehan told AP/RN that this represented a success for the housing action committee:

"This has shown that direct pressure from those suffering most from their chronic neglect is the only way to embarrass the authorities into action. We will be watching to ensure that these funds are used to house people in Gorey."



● JOHN SHEEHAN

# Water rates action

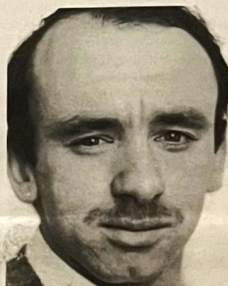
WESTMEATH COUNTY COUNCIL has threatened to deprive 350 households of their water supply because of their continuing resistance to service charges.

The householders have received final notices in the past three weeks and the council said that it would turn off the water on December 1st if the charges were not paid by the end of November. While no disconnections have yet been carried out, it emerged at a meeting called to oppose the charges last week that council officials have toured estates in Mullingar pin-pointing the houses to be turned off.

and take action to prevent the disconnections.

Labour Councillor Michael Dollard urged the use of waiver forms, while Martin Hynes (Fianna Fail) repeated his party's promise to abolish the rates if returned to power. Both councillors were challenged on this and it was pointed out that the use of waiver forms was a recognition of the council's 'right' to impose the charges; Fianna Fail had promised to oppose them before the last local elections but then voted for them in council chambers.

The meeting was addressed by Sinn Féin Urban District Councillor John Carroll, of Birr, and by Jimmy Delaney, of Dublin West Sinn Féin, who is also a member of the National Association of



● JIMMY DELANEY

Tenants' Organisations.

Delaney urged people to continue to resist the charges despite the advice to the contrary from the councillors:

"If they cannot honestly represent those who elected them then they should resign."



● JOHN CARROLL

Further action on the charges is expected to be stepped up if the council carries out its cut-off threat. County Westmeath has one of the highest rates at £88 per year and the County Manager has proposed an increase of 10% on this.

### RESISTANCE

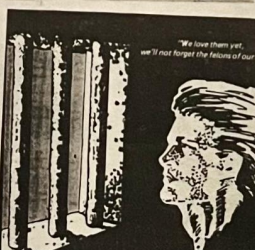
The meeting, on Sunday, December 7th, in Mullingar, was called by an *ad hoc* group with a view to organising resistance against the water rates. Three local county councillors who attended were challenged to oppose the charges

## December 14th to 21st Prisoners' Week

SINN FEIN has designated the week prior to Christmas (December 14th to 21st) as *Prisoners' Week* and will be raising funds for An Cumann Cabhrach and Green Cross as well as organising public events to highlight the various issues affecting prisoners:

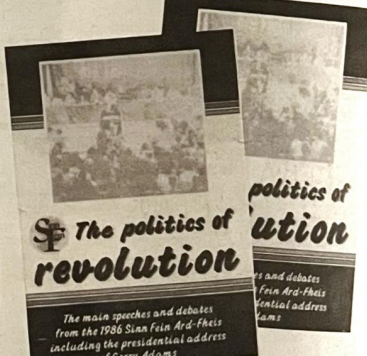
- Stop the strip-searches.
- Stop the show-trials.
- Repatriation of republican prisoners in England.
- Portlaoise lifers' campaign.
- Extradition in Ireland and abroad.
- The forced integration policy in Magilligan.
- Long Kesh, where life/SOSP prisoners are being held without release dates as political hostages.

Contact the Sinn Féin POW Department at 5 Blessington Street, Dublin (phone 308783); or 51-55 Falls Road, Belfast (phone 249975); for details of activities.



**This Christmas remember the prisoners**

THERE are presently over 650 Irish republican political prisoners in jails in Ireland, England and the USA. THEIR CAUSE IS JUST. STOP STRIP-SEARCHES - REPATRIATION FOR IRISH POWS IN ENGLISH JAILS - RELEASE DATES FOR LIFE PRISONERS.



## The Politics of Revolution

REPUBLICAN Publications has produced a 48-page illustrated book on the 1986 Ard-Fheis - *The Politics of Revolution*. The book contains most of the major speeches from the abstentionist debate at the Ard-Fheis. *The Politics of Revolution* also includes the full text of Gerry Adams' presidential address. This historic document is available from Republican Publications at the price of £1.50. It can be obtained from the usual republican outlets.



# FAMILY'S GRIEF VIOLATED

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

FOR THE PAST six months the RUC in Dungannon, County Tyrone, has subjected a young couple to the most debased form of emotional torture by deliberately harassing them as they visit the grave of their two infant sons.

Kevin and Ann McGuckin, from the Lisnahull Estate, are deeply upset by the RUC's ghoulish behaviour. They began to wait for Kevin outside St Patrick's Chapel on Sundays, following him to Carn Road Cemetery where his sons, Kevin and Barry, are buried.

Two months ago, Kevin McGuckin arrived at the graveyard to find two RUC men waiting for him at the family grave. They began taking down the names of his children and deliberately added to his distress by asking for details about the children's deaths. He told AP/RN:

"I've respect for all the dead, no matter who they are. Anyone who does what the RUC are doing to us, well, to call them

animals would be an insult to the animal kingdom."

On other occasions the RUC has revved up car engines, and laughed and shouted abuse at Kevin as he prayed by the graveside. The most recent incident occurred on Sunday, December 7th. The RUC was waiting for him outside St Patrick's Chapel and shouted abuse as he went into Mass. When he left the chapel, the RUC men followed him to the cemetery and deliberately blocked the entrance with their cars. They began shouting at him again and only left when a gravedigger appeared on the scene and asked what was happening.

## REGULARLY HARASSED

McGuckin is regularly harassed by the crown forces:

"I've to walk most places; I can't go in the car because they stop me all the time and I can hardly go into town without being questioned by them."

But apart from the recent twisted behaviour of the RUC, his wife Ann is further



● Ann and Kevin McGuckin with their daughter Clare, at the grave of their two sons in Dungannon

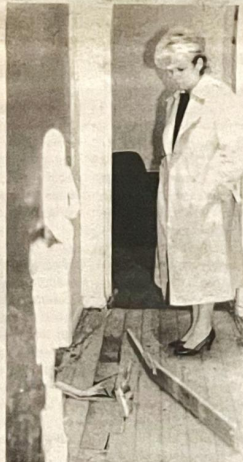
distressed by several death threats against Kevin:

"They told me on many an occasion what a lovely funeral I'd be going to when they 'do' Kevin in. I'm scared because people have received similar threats before and have ended up dead."

Anita Cavan, Dungannon Sinn Fein

councillor, described the RUC's perverted antics as "a cruel attack on this family's privacy and their right to visit their little children's graves in peace."

"Their behaviour is not only vindictive, it is sick and typifies the kind of attitude this force has towards nationalists."



● Malicious damage caused by the RUC in one of the Rossville Flats, Derry

# Derry raids

BY KEVIN MCCOOL

THE RESIDENTS of the Rossville Flats were once again on the receiving end of a massive crown forces raiding operation on Thursday morning, December 4th.

Upwards of 15 flats were raided during the course of the operation which began just after 10am and left a trail of malicious damage including broken furniture, smashed heating appliances, torn wall-paper and broken wall panelling.

All 15 flats were forcibly entered by ten-strong RUC raiding

parties who smashed down the front doors with sledge-hammers while heavily-armed British soldiers stood guard on the balconies.

British soldiers fired two plastic bullets through the door of a flat in Donagh Place when they received no answer. Both plastic bullets penetrated the door but

fortunately no-one was there at the time.

Each individual raid lasted approximately two hours, with the armed RUC raiding parties methodically searching personal belongings, overturning furniture and bedding, dismantling cupboards, wall panelling and storage heaters, and destroying or severely damaging many personal items of the tenants.

Several residents who were not at home at the time returned from work to find their front door lying open, flat interiors damaged and with an insulting note from the RUC notifying them that a raid had taken place!

One tenant, William O'Connell of Donagh Place, returned home to find every light in his flat smashed, his bathroom dismantled, wallpaper in his bedroom and kitchen torn off, carpets in every room ripped up, and virtually all his personal belongings lying strewn across

the floor. The door to the flat had been smashed in with sledge hammers.

## EVICTED

Four days later, on Monday, December 8th, the Bogside was again besieged by the crown forces. More than 40 families were rudely awakened at 7.30am and forced out of their homes at Colville Court. The angry and bewildered residents were evicted from their homes for nearly nine hours and had to be fed in a local community centre and old people's home.

A ground-floor flat in the court, the home of Charles McMenamin, was searched inch by inch. After the nine-hour enforced absence, 25-year-old McMenamin found that the front door had been forced, the windows smashed and the bedroom, kitchen and living-room virtually dismantled. The carpets had been torn up, floorboards lifted and gaping holes had been drilled in the walls and cupboards.

# Nose broken by RUC

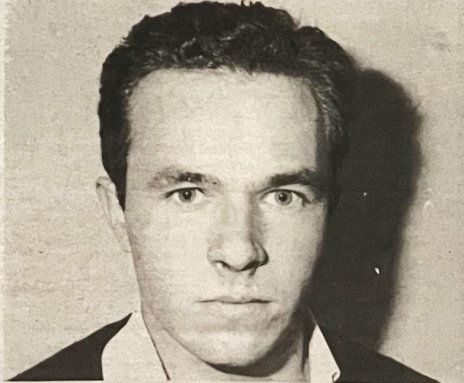
A FERMANAGH MAN was so badly beaten by the RUC that he ended up in hospital with concussion and a broken nose.

Michael O'Reilly (26) from Lisnarrick, County Fermanagh, was walking home from Irvinestown at 11.30pm on Wednesday, December 3rd, when he saw two of his friends being questioned by three members of an RUC Divisional Mobile Support Unit. When he called over to them, asking were they all right, two of the

DMSU ran across to him, knocked him down, and batoned him on the face and head.

As he lay on the ground, O'Reilly was again batoned and kicked on his body and legs, then dragged, semi-conscious, to an RUC armoured car.

On the way to Enniskillen Barracks, O'Reilly was again as-



● MICHAEL O'REILLY

saulted. He was repeatedly punched in the face and was bleeding very badly. The RUC warned him

not to say anything or make a formal complaint against them, saying "or you'll be done proper-

ly". Fearing for his life, O'Reilly agreed.

## HOSPITAL

In Enniskillen, he was examined by an RUC doctor who noted down his injuries. After complaining of feeling sick and dizzy, he was taken to Erne Hospital at 3am where he was diagnosed as being severely concussed. He was kept in overnight and the following day his own doctor discovered that he also had a broken nose.

Steven Maguire, Sinn Fein Councillor for the area, said:

"We have received many complaints from Irvinestown about the increase in harassment and intimidation. These attacks show up the promises made by the SDLP following the signing of the Hillsborough Agreement. When nationalists 'hold their heads high' they now stand in grave danger of being felled by an RUC baton."



THE GUERRILLA WAR waged by IRA Volunteers against the British occupation forces in Ireland between 1919-1921 has striking similarities with the liberation struggle today. Not least of these is the epic struggle being presently fought out with the RUC and which mirrors the intense confrontation between the IRA of 1919 and the RUC's predecessors, the Royal Irish Constabulary (RIC).

# Smashing the garrison

In this article, Kevin McCool examines the IRA's campaign against the RIC in the overall struggle, showing how IRA Volunteers made up for their lack of training, experience and equipment with a raw courage and daring resourcefulness which sent shock waves through the ranks of the hated RIC, eventually destroying it.

IN JUNE 1921, Lloyd George, the British Minister, told the British Cabinet that "The Irish job was a policeman's job" and that if it became "a military job only" it would fail.

The IRA launched its war against the British on the morning of January 21st 1919, at Soloheadbeg, County Tipperary, when a nine-strong IRA unit, led by Seamus Robinson, Sean Treacy and Dan Breen ambushed a party of RIC who were escorting a consignment of gelignite.

It was a coolly-executed operation to secure the explosives and kill the RIC guard. Breen and Treacy's IRA unit expected an RIC escort of six armed constables, and Breen was later to write in his autobiography, *My Fight for Irish Freedom*:

"Our only regret was that the escort had consisted of only two Peelers instead of six. If there had to be dead Peelers at all, six would have created a better impression than a mere two."

The audacious attack at Soloheadbeg was a carefully-conceived, calculated challenge to British authority in Ireland. Breen and Treacy's Tipperary IRA unit was deliberately throwing down the gauntlet to the British by targeting the RIC as, in Breen's words, "native collaborators, uniformed spies and Irish mercenaries".

## BACKBONE OF BRITISH RULE

The IRA had identified the RIC as the backbone of British rule in Ireland. The RIC's 9,682 members were not ordinary policemen but a paramilitary force, fully armed and living in fortified barracks, and of a size grossly out of proportion to the population of a relatively crime-free country.

The RIC was an armed garrison whose primary duty was to uphold the British presence and stamp out any resistance from the Irish people. For its key role in crushing the Fenian Rising, the force was given the title 'Royal' by Queen Victoria. In his book, *The British Campaign in Ireland 1919-21*, Charles Townsend notes the supplying of intelligence as "the RIC's most vital function.... the whole force was, in a sense, a Special Branch".

As natives of the country, and stationed in barracks and outposts in every town and village in Ireland, the RIC had an intimate knowledge of local people and gathered information that was essential to the British. They were in the front line of the continuing British occupation. The ambush at Soloheadbeg, striking deliberately at the most vital and yet most vulnerable prop of British authority, set the terms for that phase of Ireland's struggle for freedom.

The killing of the two RIC men was greeted by a storm of condemnation from pulpits and political platforms all over

Ireland. Breen, Treacy and their comrades were forced to go on the run.

## ISOLATING THE RIC

Over the next few months, the IRA developed a two-pronged strategy of isolating and immobilising the RIC.

In the January 31st issue of the Volunteer journal, *An tOglach*, a major article stated that Volunteers were justified in using "all legitimate methods of warfare against soldiers and policemen of the English usurper and to slay them if it is necessary to do so". This sanctioning of a military offensive against the RIC was closely followed by the launching, in April, of a political offensive when de Valera proposed to the Dail that a policy of social ostracism be carried out against all members of the RIC. Their history was, he said, "a continuity of brutal treason against their own people. They must be shown and made to feel how base are the functions they perform and how vile is the position they occupy." As Robert Taber points out in his book, *The War of the Flea*, it is a fundamental tenet of guerrilla warfare that "the adherents and servants of the established regime must be given a clear moral choice". The RIC had been given an ultimatum: cease enforcing British law or face the consequences of treason and collaboration.

## CAMPAIGN SUCCEEDS

Before an effective campaign could begin, arms and ammunition had to be procured. Throughout the first six months of 1919, there were ambushes and arms raids aimed

# THE IRA's TAN WAR



at seizing RIC and British military equipment.

The first sign that the campaign of ostracising the RIC was succeeding came on June 23rd 1919. An RIC district inspector was killed in broad daylight in the centre of Thurles, County Tipperary. The IRA unit vanished into the crowd, not one of whom gave any information about the attack. The campaign began to escalate.

With arms raids on RIC barracks in County Clare continuing during July and August 1919, a country-wide policy of systematically attacking, burning and destroying the 1,400 RIC barracks and outposts began in earnest. Carrigrohilly Barracks, in County Clare, was the first to be taken after a fierce battle. These barracks were a visible symbol of an alien and oppressive authority and bore the brunt of the IRA's onslaught.

As Ernie O'Malley wrote in *Raids and Rallies*:

"For all practical purposes, the barracks were strongly-held blockhouses established by the enemy to assist in keeping the Irish in subjection."

Another Volunteer who was actively involved in the attacks, Martin Walton, observed:

"We thought with our meagre supply of arms, ammunition and trained men that the best thing to do was to make life impossible for the smaller police barracks. These were ruthlessly attacked and they were driven into larger formations. This left about 30 miles of the country free. They were then driven into still larger concentrations. It was a carefully-laid-out plan."

The gutting of RIC install-

ations was a return to the methods of the Fenians, who captured Ballyknockane Barracks in Cork and Stepaside and Glencullen Barracks in Dublin in 1867. During the winter of 1919 and into 1920, attacks on the RIC multiplied. An RIC report of December 1919 noted that: "Attacks are delivered with greater determination and skill than heretofore." Many of the smaller barracks were abandoned. In Meath, for instance, out of 31 barracks, 11 were closed "as a temporary measure."

With the RIC retreating, relinquishing control of significant areas, the morale of the IRA soared. In 1920, daring attacks were mounted against 13 barracks in January alone in Cork, Limerick, Galway, Longford, Waterford and Wicklow. In May, June and July, the Soloheadbeg team of Breen, Treacy and Robinson, with Ernie O'Malley, led attacks on barracks in Hollyford, Drangan and Rearscrew, destroying the key posts. In May, Kilmallock Barracks in Limerick was burned down after an all-night battle.

At Easter 1920, IRA Volunteers burned down 300 abandoned RIC barracks. By July of that year, 424 barracks and 47 courthouses were set on fire. As well as driving out the RIC, the abandoned, burned-out buildings were also "a chilling advertisement of its retreat" (Charles Townsend: *The British Campaign in Ireland 1919-21*).

As the IRA attacks shook the morale of the RIC and crippled its ability to operate, the popular boycott of the force was having an equally devastating effect in those areas

where the IRA was strong. Now regarded as traitors, RIC members were socially ostracised. No-one arrested them, talked to them, or served them in shops or pubs.

The RIC, the "eyes and ears of Dublin Castle", was blinded by the isolation strategy. Denied contact with the population, its intelligence system collapsed. At the end of 1919, the Galway RIC reported that "on the whole, the police are receiving no support from the people". One month later, in January 1920, RIC officers and head constables were instructed to supply lists of IRA members to the British, who were preparing to launch a wave of arrests. It was then apparent to the British "how completely the RIC service of information is paralysed".

## RESIGNATIONS

Under such pressure, the RIC began to crumble. Recruitment dropped dramatically and there were many resignations. In June 1920, RIC members in Listowel, County Kerry, mutinied. In August, it was officially admitted that there had been 556 resignations in the previous two months.

The armed struggle against the RIC had exposed the true nature of the force and had politicised the people.

Although still trying to portray the war as "a police job", the British began to import thousands of ex-British army soldiers into Ireland to swell the ranks of the RIC. From March 1920 until the end of the Tan War, over 7,000 Black and Tans and Auxiliaries were brought in. But re-arming the RIC, fortifying the barracks and bringing in the reinforcement



# WAR CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE RIC



● Heavily fortified RIC barracks

RA was strong. as traitors, RIC socially ostracised them, talkers served them in

the "eyes and ears" was blinded on strategy. Denial with the population system collapsed of 1919, the reported that "on the police are support from the month later, in RIC officers and es were instruct-ists of IRA mem-ritish, who were launch a wave of s then apparent "how complet-ervice of inform-".

## NATIONS

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ill trying to por-"a police job", gan to import ex-British army Ireland to swell the RIC. From ntil the end of ver 7,000 Black Auxiliaries were ut rearming the barracks the reinforce-

ments could not halt the IRA campaign. By the end of 1920, 176 RIC men had been killed and 251 wounded. In the same period, 54 British soldiers were killed and 116 wounded.

## PRISONERS

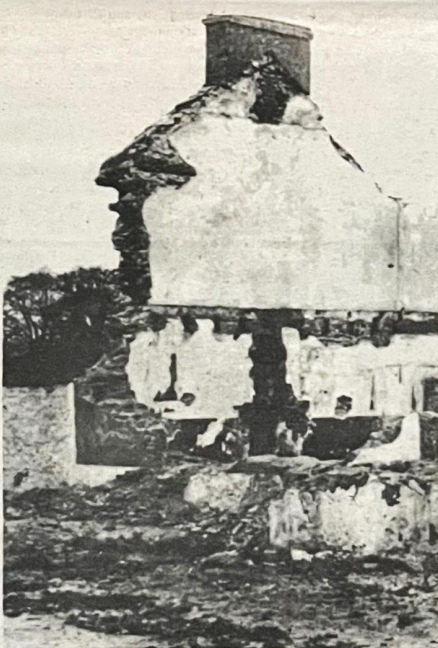
The RIC became prisoners in their own barracks, only daring to venture out with a large military escort. The IRA, however, was in control of many areas and Flying Columns were able to roam the country, picking ambush points and launching attacks. As Ernie O'Malley later wrote:

"Although their fighting and aggressive strength had been stiffened with the influx of the Black and Tans, the uncertainty that existed among the constabulary in small posts in remote districts helped to wear down their nerves.

"In many places they were an outpost beleaguered more by the withdrawal of the surrounding people and the menace of the encircling hills, than by the threat of the IRA."

The RIC's effectiveness in combatting republican resistance was virtually neutralised. Their usefulness to the British was now limited to the identification of prisoners, the tutoring of the Black and Tans in local knowledge, and guiding raiding and reprisal parties.

By mid-1921, it was clear that despite inferior numbers, training and weapons the IRA had won and had broken the RIC's grip on the community. The whole force, if not physically destroyed, was psychologically paralysed and its morale crushed. The IRA had targeted the weakest link in the British chain of control and had smashed it.



● As the war gained momentum more and more barracks were attacked, forcing the police and military to withdraw into larger barracks. The IRA then burned down the evacuated barracks

The comparisons with today's war are obvious. The British attempts to portray an armed, pro-British paramilitary force as civil police, the burning of the barracks, the nationalist community's abhorrence of the RIC, the exposure of the RIC's true repressive nature are being repeated in the war of liberation in the Six Counties today.

As the British government

clings to the tattered remnants of its Ulsterisation policy, the significance of Lloyd George's remark in 1921 is all too apparent. The "Irish job" is still not a "police job" but a "military job". The 'policemen' of the British have again found themselves at the sharp end of the disciplined anger and organised resistance of a risen people determined to be free.



● An officer in the Royal Irish Constabulary



# Repeal Section 31 month of action

DECEMBER has been designated a month of action against Section 31 of the 26-County Broadcasting Act which is due to be renewed on January 17th.

In recent months, there has been mounting opposition to political censorship from various trade union bodies, including the Irish Congress of Trade Unions, many local authorities, cultural groups and prominent individuals.

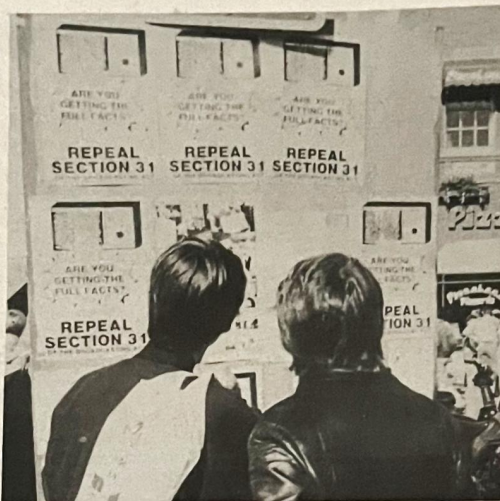
With Section 31 being debated in Leinster House in five weeks' time, it is essential that the campaign for its repeal is intensified.

Activities being stepped up include:

- Lobbying of elected representatives and prominent individuals.
- Letter writing to newspapers.
- Posting and leafleting of shopping areas, etc.

- Getting motions passed by trade union branches, tenants' associations, etc, publicly calling for the repeal of Section 31.
- "Pickets of Coalition deputies' 'clinics' and offices."

Further information is available from the Repeal Section 31 Committee, 16 Merrion Row, Dublin 2 (phone 767762).



## ORGANISATIONS & INDIVIDUALS OPPOSED TO SECTION 31

**Individuals**  
 Kadar Asmal (lawyer)  
 Deputy Neil Blaney  
 Kevin Boland (ex-minister)  
 Des Bonas (trade unionist)  
 Mark Brennock (journalist)  
 Don Buckley (journalist)  
 Fr Denis Carroll  
 Tim Pat Coogan (editor, Irish Press)  
 Joe Costello (civil rights activist)  
 Keith Donald (musician)  
 Derek Dunne (journalist/author)  
 Michael Farrell (journalist/author)  
 Captain John Feehan (author)  
 Phil Flynn (trade unionist)  
 Noirín Greene (trade unionist)  
 Deputy Tony Gregory  
 Mary Holland (journalist)  
 Fergal Keane (journalist/author)  
 Gene Kerrigan (journalist/author)  
 Niall Kieley (journalist)  
 Donal Lunny (musician)  
 Tomas Mac Anna (theatre director)  
 Bernadette McLintock  
 Sean MacBride SC  
 Neil McCafferty (journalist/author)  
 Eamonn McCann (journalist)  
 Sean McConnell (journalist)  
 Darach MacDonald (journalist)  
 Matt Merrigan (trade unionist)  
 John Mitchell (trade unionist)  
 Christy Moore (musician)  
 Lord Henry Mountcharles  
 Ulick O'Connor (author)  
 Maggie O'Kane (broadcaster)  
 Dick Roche (journalist)  
 Senator Brendan Ryan  
 Brian Trench (journalist)  
 Maol Muire Tynan (journalist)  
 Fr Des Wilson

**Local authorities**  
 Carlow UDC  
 Clonmel UDC  
 Galway County Council  
 Kerry County Council  
 Letterkenney UDC  
 Longford UDC  
 Shannon Town Commissioners  
 Sligo County Council  
 Tralee UDC

**Trades councils**  
 Carrick-on-Suir  
 Clare  
 Clonmel  
 Cork  
 Dublin  
 Letterkenney  
 Meath  
 Sligo  
 Tralee  
 Tullamore

**Unions**  
 FWUI  
 ITGWU  
 LGPSU  
 NUJ  
 UPTCS  
 USI

**Political parties**  
 Communist Party  
 Fianna Fail  
 Ogra Fianna Fail  
 Young Fine Gael  
 Sinn Féin  
 Workers' Party

## Plastic bullets programme banned



● Terry O'Neill and Gerry McLaughlin, two members of the Belfast Independent Video group, which produced the programme

WIDESPREAD CONDEMNATION has followed the banning by the British Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) on Monday, December 8th, of a 12-minute 'video drama sequence' on plastic bullets.

The film, entitled *They Shoot To Kill Children*, was made by young people in Belfast and describes "in drama, music and personal statements their objections to the use of plastic bullets". The short video, which includes an interview with a 17-year-old youth seriously injured in the face five years ago by a plastic bullet, was due to be broadcast on the Turn

It Up programme for Channel 4's regular Monday Night *Eleventh Hour* slot.

After six weeks of editing the video and within hours of its transmission, the IBA banned it under Section 4/1/A of the Broadcasting Act, which states that "Nothing be included in the programme which offends good taste or decency, or is likely to encour-

age or incite to crime, lead to disorder or be offensive to public feeling".

The Birmingham Film & Video Workshop who, with a panel of young people, selected the film for screening in the programme criticised the IBA decision and the way in which the issue was handled by them and Channel 4 management.

"The clip was in their hands for one week before they announced their decision at 11.30am on the day of transmission."

Among the many media trade unions which have come out strongly against the ban, the General Secretary of the National Union of Journalists, Jake Eccles-tone, said: "We are alarmed by what appears to be another act of censorship, in a long line, over Northern Ireland."

In an angry reaction to the IBA decision, Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams said:

"Sixteen people have been killed by plastic bullets, seven of them children - that is the real 'offence to public feelings'. The decision is a blatant act of political censorship and a particularly grotesque pretext for the usual British censorship on matters relating to Ireland."

## EMPLOYEES INTIMIDATED

PETER SHEVLIN AND ROBERT MORT, two founder members of the Fair Employment Trust, have been forced by their employer, the Housing Executive, into resigning from the group.

The Trust, which was established in August 1985, seeks to promote the 'MacBride Principles' which call for positive action to reverse discriminatory employment practices in the North. According to the Trust's executive committee, both men, who are personnel officers in the Housing Executive, became publicly associated with the Trust in October 1985.

Early last week, both men received written instructions from the Housing Executive that their duties as personnel officers were "incompatible with mem-

bership of the Trust on the grounds that the MacBride Principles are contrary to the employment laws of Northern Ireland."

The Trust rejected this argument, pointing out that the *Equal Opportunities Review* in July/August 1986 published a "detailed analysis of the legal and political implications of the MacBride principles and has firmly concluded that nothing in the principles is incompatible with existing fair employment legislation in the province or with the principles of equality of opportunity".

### CONCERTED CAMPAIGN

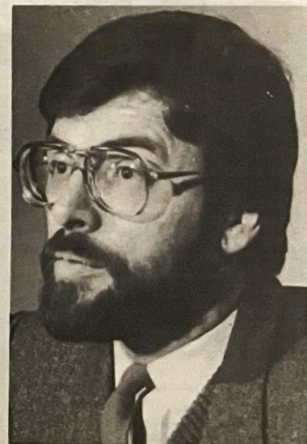
The Trust believes that there is a concerted campaign underway to intimidate its members and supporters and that "our members have been subjected to political

intimidation in its most sinister form".

Condemning the Housing Executive's attitude as an attack on the men's basic rights, West Belfast MP Gerry Adams has written to the Housing Executive, demanding to know who authorised the action against Shevlin and Mort:

"The very overt political intimidation of Housing Executive employees is an extremely ominous development and has clearly been initiated at the highest level in an attempt to undermine the growing support for the MacBride Principles of fair employment. The MacBride Principles underline the total failure of the British government to tackle inequality in employment."

"Having lost the argument, the British are now using public bodies as a weapon of political oppression in an attempt to silence opposition to their ineffectual policies."



## ELECTION FUND APPEAL

A GENERAL ELECTION is expected in the 26 Counties within the next few months. Sinn Féin intends to contest seats across a wide area, offering a real change to the redundant policies of the establishment parties.

Elections cost money and if we are to fight on a professional basis against parties which are

supported by vested commercial interests then we must once again appeal for funding from our friends and supporters in Ireland and abroad.

Now is the time to start sending your donations, large or small, to the Sinn Féin Election Fund, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1. (Please send only cheques, postal orders or money orders - no cash.)





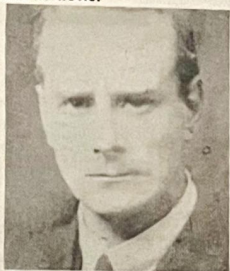
# LIAM MELLOWS COMMEMORATION

## Being involved on all fronts

A BREAK in the grey, drizzly weather made a sunny winter setting for over 100 people who gathered in County Wexford last Sunday to commemorate Liam Mellows.

The ceremonies began in Greycy with a parade through the town from the National Monument, which is dedicated to those who died in the 1798 Rising. The parade was led by a colour party from Fianna Éireann and the Tom Smith Republican Band.

Liam Mellows is buried in the secluded cemetery of Castletown and it was there that the second part of the commemoration was held. After the march to the graveyard, the ceremony at Mellows' grave was chaired by John Sheehan, Sinn Féin member of Gorey Town Commission.



● **LIAM MELLOWS** contribution as a republican and said that his murder on December 8th 1922 with Rory O'Connor, Joe McKelvey and Dick Barrett had been carried out by the Free State government, "the enemies of the Irish nation then and still our enemies today". Noonan continued:

"The IRA represents the decent, downtrodden people of this country."

Wreaths were then laid on behalf of Ogligha na hÉireann, Fianna Éireann and Ennisicorthy and Gorey Sinn Féin. The oration was given by John Noonan of Dublin.

### A REALIST

He described Mellows' lifelong

"Liam Mellows was a massive loss to the Republican Movement because he was a realist. He was one of the few republicans of his time who clearly saw the need for a connection between the national independence struggle and the social struggle of the workers, unemployed and small farmers."

"Mellows' message was in line with that of Fintan Lalor and James Connolly of struggling



● Gorey Town Commissioner John Sheehan chairs the commemoration at Castletown Cemetery

alongside those who have always been the victims of the imposed problems of Ireland — the people of no property — and urging them to take full control of their own destiny. He knew that a military campaign alone would not succeed in uniting this country and its people. He could see that it had to be backed up by a political campaign that involved them."

Noonan said that republicans should consider the kind of republican Mellows would be if he were alive today. He would not

confine himself to talking from platforms on the war in the Six Counties. "Anyone who believes otherwise is deceiving themselves and failing to develop the struggle Mellows handed on."

### THE WAR AGAINST EXPLOITATION

As well as the armed struggle in the Six Counties, he said that republicans must be involved on all fronts in the war against poverty and exploitation in the 26 Counties:

"The war for us here today

is on now! The battle lines have been drawn and if we do not, in this phase of the struggle for Ireland's freedom, implement the lessons learned from history and win by whatever tactics necessary, we will never be able to stand here as a people to honour Liam Mellows or any other republican."

"Ta ar la ag teacht. Ta orainn a bheith reidh."

The commemoration concluded with a minute's silence and the playing of *Amhrán na bhFiann* by the Tom Smith Republican Band.

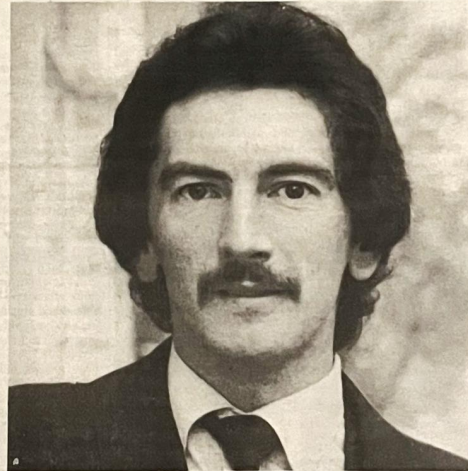
## Antoine Mac Giolla Bhrighde remembered

LAST WEEKEND, several hundred people gathered on a cold and blustery Sunday afternoon around the grave-side of IRA Volunteer Antoine Mac Giolla Bhrighde, who was killed on active service in County Fermanagh on December 2nd 1984.

Kevin Agnew, a veteran Sinn

Féin activist, chaired the ceremony and sadly recalled the Sunday evening two years before when members of the Sinn Féin Comhairle Ceantair, who were assembled for their annual general meeting, were deeply shocked to learn of the brutal slaying of their friend and comrade.

On this second anniversary, wreaths were laid on behalf of



● VOLUNTEER ANTOINE Mac GIOLLA BHRIGHDE

the family, Ogligha na hÉireann, and the County Derry & South-West Antrim Sinn Féin Comhairle Ceantair. A minute's silence was observed and a lament was played by the St Patrick & Antoine Mac

Giolla Bhrighde Flute Band, of which Antoine had been a member.

The oration was given by Omagh Sinn Féin Councillor Seamas Kerr, who expressed his sympathy to the family and spoke of his deep sadness at the loss of Antoine to the republican struggle.

"Antoine was well-known throughout the Six Counties and border areas and was widely respected and admired for his ability to articulate the republican struggle. His personal commitment and his tireless efforts on behalf of the Movement were an example to us all."

"There is a great amount of work still to be done before the republic, the ultimate memorial for Antoine and all of those men and women who have died, has been established."

Kevin Agnew, concluding the commemoration, asked all of those present to remember IRA Volunteer Ciaran Fleming, from Derry, who died during the same incident.

AS CHRISTMAS approaches, Sinn Féin in Belfast, Derry and Newry will again be operating An Post Poblachtach — The Republican Christmas Post.

The theme expressed on this year's stamps is *Sasanaigh Amach — Troops Out!*

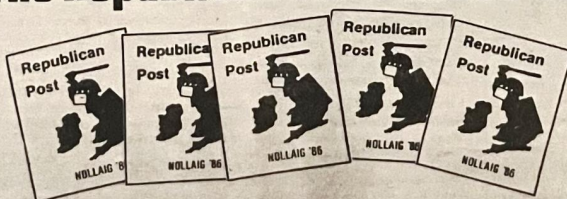
Stamps and Christmas cards designed by Republican Publications will be available from all advice centres. Stamps will cost 10p, and cards 15p, 20p and 25p. Proceeds will go towards the maintenance costs of Sinn Féin's advice centres.

Cards and stamps will be accepted until Friday, December 19th.

An Post Poblachtach will be operated throughout Beal Feirste, Iur Chinn Tra and Doire.

## An Post Poblachtach

### The Republican Christmas Post



THERE'S an added incentive this year, folks, to support the Republican Christmas Post.

A recent issue of the West German stamp collectors' catalogue *Michel Rundschau* (which carries details and prices of stamps from Albania to Togo) includes a three-page article on the history of Sinn Féin's Christmas Post. The article gives details on how the service was set up in Derry in 1975 as a cheap alternative to local people and to challenge the British postal system. The article reproduces a number of the effective designs used over the years.

I'm sorry to say that the magazine quotes no prices, but who knows, one day that old envelope in the drawer could be worth a fortune — at least, that's what the fella in charge of this year's post says.

— Colm of the Flying Column.





## Republican Publications

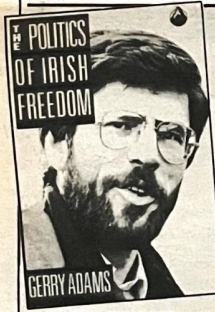
THE 1987 *Republican Resistance Calendar* is still available from *AP/RN* Publications.

This full-colour edition is available from your *AP/RN* seller (price £1.50 each). No republican home should be without this attractive calendar, and there is still time to get one before the new year.

### DIARY

The 1987 *Republican Diary* is also available from *Republican Publications* (price £3.00). Also available are a selection of Christmas cards, which include old and new designs.

All of the above are available from *Republican Publications*, 51/55 Falls Road, Belfast, and 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1. (Bulk orders can be arranged on demand).



### NEW RELEASE

*Republican Publications* will come the release by Brandon Books of *The Politics of Irish Freedom*, by Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams. This book is available from all republican outlets and most other good book stores, price £3.95, and is recommended reading for all republicans.



### NEW BADGE

Dónal Sinn Féin has produced an attractive coloured metal badge. The badge, which depicts a Tricolour crossed with a Sinn Féin banner, is available from all republican outlets, price £1.50.

Also available from Dónal is the 1987 Letterkenny Sinn Féin calendar, which can be ordered from, 104 Main Street, Letterkenny, tel: 22984.

Sinn Féin in South Derry has also produced a calendar, which is available from Guillauduff, Knockloughrim, tel: 42814.

Also available from Derry Sinn Féin is the Derry Brigade Roll of Honour, which contains the names and photographs of all Derry Volunteers who have died in the current phase of the struggle. This poster is available from all republican outlets in Derry, price £1.

# Mála Poist

AP/RN, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.



• A billboard recently erected in Dublin's Fenian Street

## SET THEM FREE

A Chairde,

I write to seek the support of your readers in the campaign to secure the release of the Birmingham Six and the Guildford Four. These Irish citizens have served over 120 years in jail between them for bombings they never committed.

The evidence used to convict them was uncorroborated, unconvincing and flimsy, with over 100 discrepancies in the police evidence in the two cases. They were convicted mainly because they were Irish, and for that crime they remain in prison; and while they remain in prison we the Irish community in Britain all remain unfree.

The Birmingham Six, the Guildford Four or the Maguire family could have been any one of us, or one of your relatives!

In February 1985, the Irish in Britain Representation Group delegation to Ireland raised the issue with all the political parties and was promised support for their release. The response of the Irish public has been great. It is now over a year since the TV programme on the Birmingham Six and Mr Hurd's promised investigation. Books by Chris Mullin and Robert Kee and further TV pro-

grammes on the Guildford Four and the Maguire family have aided the campaign for their release and a public inquiry into their trials.

We ask your readers, as they relax with their family and friends, to think of these Irish people imprisoned in a lonely cell with another Christmas in jail in front of them. We ask them to join the campaign by writing letters to their elected representatives and demanding that the Dublin government makes the issue a top priority; and to the British Embassy, demanding that the British government releases these people.

The combined voice of the Irish at home and abroad can secure their release and obtain justice for them after 12 years of wrongful imprisonment.

Patrick Reynolds,  
IBRG,  
84a Marlborough Road,  
Wood Green,  
London N22 4NN.



• RUC harassment in Toomebridge

us, the republican people, to show the crown forces that this will not work and that their feeble attempts to demoralise republicans will fail.

They will fail if we show our contempt for them in a disciplined and organised fashion, therefore I would appeal to republicans to make a point of attending the coming commemorations in their areas — surely not too much to ask? Many bands make a point of travelling long distances to attend, so why can't we do likewise?

Fearghal Mac Mathúna.

## Not too much to ask

A Chairde,

The recent Manchester Martyrs commemoration held in Toomebridge has shown to us a new departure in RUC policy.

The RUC is no longer content with disrupting the funerals of republicans; it is now intent on stopping all attempts by republicans to remember their fallen comrades.

No doubt in the coming year we shall see the continuation of this tactic. It is up to

## An attack of the Trots

A Chairde,

Although I disagreed with parts of the Castro book review by Z. Hammett (*Nothing Can Stop the Course of History*, *AP/RN*, November 13th) I think that the Trots who have written in have been rather less than honest. For instance, although John Meehan complained of "Trotsky-bashing", I wonder if he ever writes in to



• FIDEL CASTRO

Trot newspapers when they perennially 'bash' revolutionary movements.

Sean O'Loachaire says that the Socialist Workers' Party/Pathfinder Press are "revolutionary" and "moreover, support the republican struggle". I'm not much interested in tiny, pretentious US sects but since one of their supporters has glossed them up for *AP/RN* readers, let's look a little closer.

The US SWP/PP have, to the best of my knowledge, published only two little works on Ireland. One consists entirely of interviews with those great republican revolutionaries Tomas Mac Giolla and Cathal Goulding, and endorses the Sticks. The other, by a US SWP leader, informs its readers that the Sticks are on the right road (especially in giving up armed struggle) and that the Provos are "pseudo-nationalists" engaged in "a terrorist campaign". (Sounds like Garret FitzGerald, huh?)

Moreover, a scurrilous slanderer is repeated: that a major factor in the 1969/70 split was that republican leaders were given financial or material aid by a section of Free State capitalists in return for dumping agitation in the 26 Counties. In 1972, this US SWP leader, by the way, we are proudly informed, was on a European "solidarity tour" with Sticky leader Malachy McGurran!

In the case of Nicaragua, the US SWP was anti-Sandinista for years. They even embraced and promoted Fausto Amador, a character who had left the FSLN and gone on Somoza's TV to call on the Sandinista revolutionaries to lay down their arms. He was encouraged and published at some length in the US SWP press, such as *Intercontinental Press*, in opportunist and scurrilous attacks on the FSLN as a dead-end organisation throwing away people's lives and an obstacle to the Nicaraguan revolution. When the European groups linked with the US SWP didn't want to let Fausto Amador into their 'Fourth International', the US SWP, which has a record of throwing its weight around in that body, threatened an international faction war against its European comrades.

Then suddenly, as the FSLN was on the brink of victory, the US SWP did a total turnaround, falling all over the Sandinistas and splitting with Fausto Amador. For years the US SWP attacked as "Stalinist" and "counter-revolutionary" the Vietnamese revolutionary movement. For years they were by no means keen on the ANC and never expressed any interest in publishing Mandela.

While, to their credit, supporting Cuba they gave this a strange slant. For years they claimed that a Trot party in Cuba would have done a better job than the July 26th Movement. (In fact, there was a Trot party in Cuba and it was totally incapable of leading anything.)

US SWP leader Jack Barnes has also publicly announced that his little bunch is in a

"united front" with Fidel against "Stalinists" everywhere, including in Cuba's party.

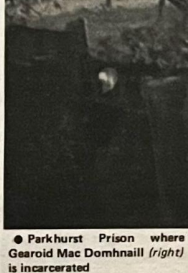
I would say that Fidel is blissfully unaware that he is in a "united front" with a tiny bunch of US fruitcakes against members of his own party.

Maybe the US SWP/Pathfinder Press have wised up and realised they can make more money publishing Fidel, San-

dinistas and Mandela than attacking revolutionaries.

Or maybe the US SWP, a tiny and remarkably unsuccessful sect which believed it was the expert revolutionary organisation on the whole planet has started to lose its incredible Yankee arrogance and realise it's been wrong about most things for years.

Phil Connor,  
Dublin.



• Parkhurst Prison where Gearoid Mac Domhnaill (right) is incarcerated

## Making it clear

A Chairde,

After the call in these pages for all POWs to clarify their position, I would like to clearly state where my allegiance lies.

I proudly state that I fully support the Army Council of Ogligh na hEireann and the Ard Chomhairle of Sinn Féin, the respective authorities of these organisations.

I have nothing but praise for the courage of the delegates to the Convention and Ard-Fheis, and, of course, the members who delegated them to vote as they did. It was not an easy path to take, as I know. I spent many hours of debate and personal soul-searching before I fully realised that if progress is to be made there is only one avenue open to us.

Pride must never take precedence over logic. This is no game. We must take whatever decisions are best for our people.

While I understand people's anxiety, I am sad at the avenue some chose — to leave the Republican Movement. I can't help feeling that some people were looking for an excuse as they knew this change would demand some work, not talk!

I found an example of how petty people can be. I recently received a letter from the mother of a POW who lives in rural Ireland and she told me that the local person on whom she depended to get *AP/RN* had refused to sell the paper.

I want these comrades back. They are a loss to the struggle. But let us not mince words. To follow the present line of disassociation is to align yourselves with the enemies of Irish republicanism. Only our enemies gain.

I am bitter that these people have done what even our enemies, the British army/RUC/UDR/Free States never tried to do — they questioned my Irish republicanism. I have been in Sinn Féin for many years, so the forming of a

'Republican Sinn Féin' is saying that I am not a republican. That hurts me more than any insult of the enemy.

Nor do I accept the claim of these dissidents when they say they won't abandon the POWs. Let me make it clear to these people, once and for all, that you abandoned me when you deserted the Republican Movement on November 2nd. You have no right to claim me in any capacity or pretend to represent my interests. Only the Republican Movement has that right.

There is only one vehicle to freedom — the Republican Movement. Join us or do our enemies' work. It's as clear as that.

Gearoid Mac Domhnaill,  
Parkhurst Prison,  
England.

## Pot

A Chairde,

I have no choice but to join the growing chorus of criticism aimed at Z. Hammett.

I am particularly concerned that no reference has been made in *The Box* to the BBC2 programme on Friday evenings, *Going to Pot*, which features the fascinating subject of growing houseplants.

Does Z not realise how trendy and fashionable houseplants are in some areas of London?

Z's decision to deliberately omit any reference to this programme is a blatant attempt to censor the activities of a large section of the British left.

Yours in disgust,  
I. Wochitt-Myte,  
Stoke Newington,  
London.

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.

Please try and keep your letters as short as possible. Names and addresses must be included, even when not for publication.



## THE BOX

## The RSA

BY Z. HAMMETT

BORN IN THE RSA (C4, Monday) was the latest of many programmes about South Africa that have been shown in the past year. It was written and performed by the actors of the Market Theatre of Johannesburg, and it came about in a rather novel way. Rather than working on a pre-written script, the actors conducted interviews with people of their own social class and race, and then wrote the play based on these interviews.

The result was a no-nonsense, documentary-style play about the first state of emergency in 1985 when thousands were arrested for such heinous crimes as possessing political pamphlets or belonging to a trade union.

The play revolved around a white fellow named Glen, who cosied up to as many militants as he could, and then turned out to be a police informer. Surprise, surprise. The point of it all, I think, was to show how not only the arrested militants, but also everybody else who was caught up in the apartheid system, was a victim.

Unfortunately, because of its documentary style, the play also had its boring moments. Even some of the actors seem to be bored by it all. Not at all like the enthusiastic acting we saw recently in *The Island* (ITE).

Still, it had its moments. And its lessons.

Like, once again, when you're in the clutches of those slime-buckets (you know who I mean)... say nothing. They're the experts, as one of the characters, Susan, found out when she was engaged in idle chat with her police interrogators.

"This is boring, man," she complained.

"Is food boring?" An innocent enough bit of chatter. Susan relaxed.

"Sometimes it's boring."

"Grilled chicken?"

"No, I like grilled chicken."

"Mmmm. Do you like Malé's grilled chicken?"

Well, needless to say, Malé was a member of the ANC. The sudden turn of the interrogation shook her, and helped her to break down. Eventually, she signed a statement, and was away for her tea.

One thing that impressed me about this play, and it has

been an important part of nearly all of the recent programmes about South Africa, was the role of music and song. Whenever black people resist authority, they sing songs. Children run out of school to stone the cops, and they are singing. Students in the police van on the way to prison — singing. Women reunited in jail — singing.

Music is obviously an important form of resistance the world over. People gain great strength against their oppressors in their culture, and particularly in their music. You can feel it whenever Christy Moore sings *Only Our Rivers Run Free*.

Some of the most exciting music in the world is being played in the townships and the ghettos of Johannesburg and Capetown. And the world has heard very little of it.

The *Old Grey Whistle* Special on Paul Simon (BBC2, Wednesday) addressed this problem.

If you haven't heard, Paul Simon went to South Africa in 1985 to listen to the "rhythms of resistance". Groups like the Boyoyo Boys and Ladysmith Black Mambazo. I know, you've never heard of them.

When Paul Simon went to Johannesburg, the black musicians' union (an anti-apartheid union) voted that they wanted him there, and that they wanted him to help spread South African culture to the rest of the world as part of the struggle against apartheid. The final result was Simon's recent hit album *Graceland*.

Now, there is a world of difference between Paul Simon going to South Africa, to meet and work with the opponents of apartheid and to help spread their culture of resistance, and the recent trip by a well-known Irish clown. Paul Simon went in solidarity



● (Above) The actors of the Market Theatre of Johannesburg; (Below) South African police break up a demonstration outside the Supreme Court, Johannesburg, in 1976



with the oppressed people, and with their blessing. He was asked to come. Conor Cruise O'Brien was asked to stay away, and is going helped to legitimise the South African government and its institutions.

Personally, I think Paul Simon's *Graceland* is one of the best popular albums made in a long time. But the videos, clips from which were shown

on the *Whistle Test* special, are even more impressive. Simon's song *Homeless*, for example, is a haunting reminder of the position of so many people, not only in South Africa but throughout the Third World (and the Second and First Worlds). But when the words and music are backed up by a scene of bulldozers

levelling a black township, while the mothers look on with their babies in their arms, it is absolutely chilling.

Let's hope Simon's political videos, like *Homeless*, don't meet the same censorship that the best video yet made — *Sun City* — met on programmes like *Whistle Test* and *Top of the Pops*.

## IMEACHTAN

## REPEAL SECTION 31

## PICKET

5pm to 6pm Every Friday  
O'Connell Bridge  
DUBLIN

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL  
AGAINST STRIP SEARCHES

4.30pm to 5.30pm  
Friday 12th December  
O'Connell Street (GPO)  
DUBLIN  
Bring placards

PRISONERS DEFENDANTS  
FUND

## ANNUAL SOCIAL

8.30pm Friday 12th December  
Faulkner's Lodge  
CARRICKBEG  
County Waterford  
Organised by  
Portlaoigh Sinn Féin

FLEANNA SAOIRSE  
LE 'SAOIRSE 7' A LANSAIL  
Speaker: Padraig O'Maolchraoilbhe  
9pm Friday 12th December  
McElbow's Pub  
CAMLOUGH  
County Armagh

SINN FEIN  
FUND-RAISING SOCIAL

Friday 12th December  
Teach Mhic Léid  
5 Blessington Street  
DUBLIN  
Taillie E1  
Organised by  
Dublin West Sinn Féin

ANTI-EXTRADITION  
PUBLIC MEETING

2pm to 4pm  
Saturday 13th December  
GPO  
O'Connell Street  
DUBLIN

SOLIDARITY WITH  
MAGHABERRY POWs

Leafletting and petitioning  
2.30pm to 5pm Saturday  
19th December  
O'Connell Street (GPO)  
DUBLIN

FLEANNA SAOIRSE  
LE 'SAOIRSE 7' A LANSAIL  
Speaker: Fearghus O'Liir  
9pm Saturday 13th December  
Andersonstown Social Club  
BELFAST

VOL JIM MCGINN  
COMMEMORATION  
(13th Anniversary)  
12 noon Sunday 14th December  
CLADY BRIDGE  
County Tyrone

SEAN McILVENNA  
COMMEMORATION  
(2nd Anniversary)  
2.30pm Sunday 14th December  
Assemble at Port Mor  
March to McIlvenna Memorial  
ARMAGH  
All bands welcome

ANTI-EXTRADITION  
TORCHLIGHT VIGIL

5pm to 6pm  
Monday 15th December  
O'Connell Bridge  
DUBLIN

FLEANNA SAOIRSE  
LE 'SAOIRSE 7' A LANSAIL  
Speakers: Máirtín O'Muilleoir  
& Padraig O'Maolchraoilbhe  
8.30pm Monday 15th December  
Gulldhal  
DERRY

ANTI-EXTRADITION  
PICKET

1pm to 2pm  
Tuesday 16th December  
Leinster House  
DUBLIN

PUBLIC MEETING  
'SINN FEIN — A CHANCE  
FOR THE BETTER?'  
Speaker: Danny Morrison  
8.30pm Thursday 18th December  
Poulaphuca House Hotel  
BALLYMORE EUSTACE  
(continued on next page)

## BOOK REVIEW

## One Girl's War

BY BRIDGET EDWARDS

THE RECENT ATTEMPT in Dublin to prevent publication of Joan Miller's *One Girl's War* was aptly described by the publisher, Steven MacDonogh, as the British government "shooting itself in the foot".

There is nothing in the book to justify such court action, in spite of the notoriety the book has achieved.

*One Girl's War* is a particularly apt title. The book deals in more detail with Ms Miller's personal life, social evenings and changes from one department of the British War Office to another, than any particular aspect of Secret Service work.

## BELITTLING

Ms Miller also views the Second World War from a highly individual standpoint, belittling the working-class people most affected by the war and even suggesting that they could not understand it as clearly as she could.

Yet even such a lightweight account of M15 cannot hide the racist, anti-gay, anti-working-class and anti-communist nature of that organisation,

is found, and on another occasion how she is detailed to cover a "potential danger to British security", who later becomes High Commissioner for India, Ambassador to the Free State and first editor of *Pelican Books*.

## HOLLIS

Ms Miller describes at one point how the head of her section, Maxwell Knight (widely believed to be the model for the 'M' figure in the *James Bond* novels) apparently uses her to cover up for the fact that he is gay by having a 'liaison' with her. He gets her to set up house with him, blaming her for their unsatisfactory love life and making viciously anti-gay remarks in the office at every opportunity. There are also several references to agents using seduction in order to gain information for M15.

We hear how, on one occasion, Ms Miller and another M15 agent burgled the home of a well-known lawyer and Communist Party member where nothing more incriminating than the man's marriage lines

is found, and on another occasion how she is detailed to cover a "potential danger to British security", who later becomes High Commissioner for India, Ambassador to the Free State and first editor of *Pelican Books*.

There is a passing reference to the ongoing debate about Roger Hollis (the subject of the book which the British government is currently trying to ban in Australia and which claims that Hollis was a Soviet agent) saying he once suppressed an anti-communist paper submitted by the head of Ms Miller's section; and an incident is described in which a major in the Political Information Department, found passing information to Communist Party headquarters, is not prosecuted but merely transferred to another post outside London.

*One Girl's War* certainly exposes M15 once again as being a thoroughly objectionable set of people, but anyone buying the book expecting a

## JOAN MILLER

### PERSONAL EXPLOITS IN M15's MOST SECRET STATION

tense thriller or dramatic revelations will be sorely disappointed.

It is difficult to see why the British government persists in scoring 'own goals' by

opposing the publication of such trivial books as this.

● *One Girl's War*, by Joan Miller, published by Brandon Books, County Kerry (Price £9.95).



## IMEAGHTAI

(continued from previous page)

### ELECTION FUND-RAISER

Music by Inner City Folk  
& Tommo (rock 'n' roll)  
Thursday 18th December  
Jerfoll

North Wall  
DUBLIN  
Taillie £1.50 (£1 unwaged)  
Organised by  
North Inner City Sinn Fein

### CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

Music by guest artists  
8pm to 2am  
Monday 22nd December  
Park Lodge Hotel  
North Circular Road  
DUBLIN  
Taillie £5

Bar extension & chicken 'n' chips

### CHRISTMAS DAY SWIM

(In aid of the POWs  
and their dependants)  
11am Christmas Day  
Ninth Lock  
Grand Canal  
Clondalkin

and  
11.30am Christmas Day  
Third Lock  
Grand Canal  
Inchicore  
DUBLIN

Organised by Sinn Fein

### SEAN SOUTH

COMMEMORATION  
Prominent speaker  
2.45pm Sunday 4th January  
Bedford Row  
LIMERICK  
Organised by Sinn Fein

### BLOODY SUNDAY

COMMEMORATION  
1pm Saturday 31st January  
Abbeyfield Park  
Rally at City Hall  
SHEFFIELD  
England  
Organised by TOM, LCI & IBRG

## Sinn Fein AGMs

CORK

Mitchelstown: John Mandeville  
Cumann  
Cathairleach: Paddy O'Donovan  
Runai: Padraig Murray  
Cisteoir: Stephen Stattery



# WORLD VIEW

## South Africa

A SHOCKING INDICTMENT of the racist South African regime's brutal treatment of children has been published by the recently-formed Detainees' Parents Support Committee (DPSC). The committee was established to independently monitor the large numbers of children being arrested by the authorities since the 'state of emergency' declared on June 12th.

The DPSC says that over 4,000 children are currently being held in detention without charge or trial in what the committee calls "the government's war against children".

Since June 12th, over 8,500 children have been jailed - about 40 a day. This represents a massive 40% of all those detained (22,000) since that date. Further data released reveals that 28% of the children detained are 18 and under, 57% are 16 and under, and 15% are 14 and under.

Cases have been reported (despite the restrictions of the state of emergency) of children aged 9, 10 and 11 being arrested and detained for long periods. But it is the brutal treatment of the children whilst in detention that forms the core of the dossier.

The report states:

"The most common pattern of detention appears to be that a child is arrested and then taken to a police station where he or she is assaulted for a few hours and then taken to a detention cell, either in the police station or at a jail. Assaults take place with fists, feet, sjamboks or rifle butts. Children have been suffocated either by throttling or by having some type of hood placed over their heads which is then tightly tied around their necks."

### DISAPPEARED

One mother, Mrs Rebecca Mod-ebedi, has had four of her children jailed: Elsie (18), Johnny (16), Sipile (14) and William (11).

William was arrested on October 4th and taken to Roodersburg Police Station where he was beaten up four times. When his mother saw him later that day, he was extremely distressed



● WILLIAM MODEBEDI

and crying. Since that date, William has disappeared and the South African police have given his mother the runaround.

Many other cases are carefully documented, with reports taken from released children. Here are some brief examples of torture and ill-treatment.

A 14-year-old boy:

"He then proceeded to squeeze my throat with both of his hands. He throttled me until I was about to collapse. He thereafter seized my testicles and proceeded to slowly squeeze them.... The pain I suffered

was excruciating."

Another 14-year-old had this to say:

"I had to lie on a bench face down and then different police took turns in delivering between 80 and 86 lashes to my body from my head to my feet. About three hours later, a five-litre can of petrol was poured over me and one of the white police unaided in my face. There was talk among the police of burning me..."

And one 15-year-old girl said:

"I was taken to the police station where I was held for about three hours. Then the CID came and started beating us. Then we were given electric shocks and then taken back to the cells and then to the prison."

The dossier also reported the general conditions in the jails:

"Most of the children report being held in overcrowded and unsanitary cells. It appears to be common for anything up to 40 people to be held together in a cell. The cells are cold and filthy."

### DOCTORS

A panel of six doctors was set up in Johannesburg to examine and deal with ex-detainees' complaints. Within months the panel was expanded to 30 doctors because of the heavy

workload; they are currently documenting 600 case-studies of ill-treatment. The doctors are backing the DPSC's report that at least 90% of children examined have physical evidence to support allegations of torture and brutality. Amongst this evidence is: acute renal failure, broken limbs, and brain haemorrhages.

The doctors also claim that a high percentage of the victims suffer the mental stress usually associated with torture. This is known as "post-traumatic stress syndrome". During this, victims suffer hyperalertness, disturbance of sleep, memory and concentration loss and panic attacks. One doctor said that he was treating "four or five, including adults, a day" - all suspected torture cases.

The South African regime knows full well that the heart of resistance lies within the youth. That is why they murdered hundreds of children and youngsters in Soweto in 1976, and that is why they have continued to do so to this day.

One grain of comfort can be gathered from this horrific experience: a regime that has to stoop to murdering and torturing children in order to maintain power and control has no power or control - only the power of brute force.

## The Malvinas

FOR THE FIFTH TIME since the 1982 invasion of the Malvinas Islands by Britain, on November 25th, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution calling on Britain to negotiate "all aspects" of the dispute with Argentina.

This resolution received its widest support yet, with 116 countries including Canada, the USA, France and the Netherlands backing it. There were just four against (Britain, Belize, Oman and Sri Lanka), and 34 abstentions.

The Dublin government, true to form, abstained, but not from any position of neutrality, rather because they saw the resolution as being too "pro-Argentina". Add to that the fact that Dublin does not want to ruffle

any British feathers whilst the Hillsborough Agreement is in motion, then abstention becomes a handy way out.

During the debate, country after country attacked the British for their intransigence and condemned them for unilaterally imposing a 150-mile fishing zone around the Malvinas. Many of the diplomats demanded that Britain immediately discuss Argentina's claim to sovereignty over the Malvinas.



## GARTREE PRISON PICKET

GROUPS FROM Derby, Nottingham, Corby, Leicester and Birmingham gathered at Gartree Prison, Leicestershire, in support of the POWs' campaign in Britain on Sunday, November 30th.

A picket was held outside the prison and the 40 people who took part shouted a constant barrage of slogans expressing their solidarity with the prisoners.

The family of one republican POW in Gartree, Stephen Nordone, joined the picket before going in to visit him. A black flag was carried in sympathy with another prisoner, Joe O'Connell, whose mother died on Saturday, November 29th.

A statement from the POWs in Gartree was then read by Eddie Caughey of Birmingham. They thanked the people who had come to show their solidarity and also all those who work-

ed for and supported the POWs' campaign:

"The British tried to defeat the Republican Movement with the introduction of the H-Blocks and the criminalisation policy. They failed there and let us assure you that their attempts to defeat and isolate republican prisoners have also failed in England."

"It is because of this failure that the British administration has decided to reintroduce the notorious control units. These units are designed to psychologically break prisoners. And there can be no doubt that they will be used, particularly against republican prisoners. We have been accused of

politicising ordinary prisoners and this is true. You do not stop fighting injustice because you are in jail. One of the reasons for putting prisoners in the control units is because they are 'subversive' and the prison authorities classify our political motivation as such."

### UNDERSTAND

"While we understand the strength of feeling of some delegates at the Sinn Fein Ard-Fhais on the change of policy, we cannot understand why those delegates walked out. We appeal to them to rethink their position. The present leadership deserves the support and allegiance of all republicans. We here in Gartree Prison give that support and allegiance to the Army Council and the Ard Chomhairle of Sinn Fein."

## Students' conference

BRENDA DOWNES, widow of plastic bullet victim John Downes, and Damien Mac Giolla Bhrighde (Sinn Fein), attended the British National Union of Students winter conference in Blackpool last weekend to highlight various aspects of British repression in the North.

Speaking at a fringe meeting organised by Students Against Repression in Ireland, Brenda Downes spoke about the use of plastic bullets and the circumstances surrounding the death of her husband.

She pointed out that it was only a matter of time before plastic bullets were used in Britain and that "Ireland is being used as a testing ground for population-control weapons".

### SHOOT-TO-KILL

Damien Mac Giolla Bhrighde spoke on the shoot-to-kill incidents, particularly those which occurred in North Armagh in 1982 and which John Stalker was initially responsible for investigating.

He also outlined the main demands of the various anti-repression cam-



● BRENDA DOWNES

paigns. Mac Giolla Bhrighde told AP/RN: "I believe the meetings were very worthwhile. For the first time, many students were able to hear first-hand accounts of the repressive role of the British army in the North."



# RITUALS

## PAURIC DONAGHY

THE TRAGIC DEATH of 23-year-old Pauric Donaghy occurred on Sunday evening, November 23rd. He was an active member of the John Francis Green Sinn Féin Cumann in Castleblayney, County Monaghan.

Pauric Donaghy was typical of the dedicated young members of Sinn Féin, having joined in 1981. He played a full part in the development of the republican struggle in Monaghan and also was a regular seller of *AP/RN*.

His Tricolour-draped coffin, escorted by a republican guard of honour, was carried from Broomfield Church on Tuesday morning, November 25th, to the adjoining cemetery.

The Republican Movement extends its sincere sympathy to his mother, brothers, sisters and family circle.



## JOE LUNDY

DUBLIN REPUBLICANS were saddened to learn last week of the sudden death of Joe Lundy, a long-standing member of Sinn Féin in the city.

Joe died on Sunday, November 30th, after being taken ill at his home in Harmonstown. He worked as a post-al worker in North County Dublin and was a member of the Martin McKenna Sinn Féin Cumann since its formation. He was secretary of the cumann at the time of his death which was both a personal and practical loss to his comrades.

Joe was a conscientious and hard-working member of Sinn Féin, unsparing in his time when called upon for republican work. He was always dedicated in carrying out the routine

but essential work of selling *AP/RN* and collecting for Sinn Féin and the POWs dependants.

A large number of his republican comrades attended Joe's funeral on Tuesday evening, December 2nd, and the following day to Glasnevin Cemetery. A Fianna Éireann guard of honour accompanied the Tricolour-draped coffin to the graveside where Pamela Ní Chatháin, secretary of Dublin Sinn Féin, paid tribute to Joe's dedicated work.

The Republican Movement extends its deepest sympathy to his family.

## BEANNACHTAÍ

**DOHERTY, Hugh** (Wakefield). Happy birthday, Hughie. Lots of love from Una.

**DOHERTY, Hugh** (Wakefield). Birthday greetings, Hughie. From Pat and Mary and family.

**DOHERTY, Hugh** (Wakefield). Best wishes on your birthday Aodh. Thinking of you always. From Gerry and Monica. Mar. his mother, Kathleen, Anne, Danny and Michael.

**DOHERTY, Hugh** (Wakefield). Happy birthday, Hugh. Thinking and friends from Ann and Dave, USA. Hope it won't be too long until you are out of solitary. Aine M., Micheál agus Máire H. xxix.

**DOHERTY, Hugh** (Wakefield). Ádh mór ort nuair a gheobhaid tú an tríd seán síle. Ó Múireann, Mearha, Máire H. xxix.

**DOHERTY, Hugh** (Wakefield). Birthday greetings, Hugh. From the O'Malley Sinn Féin Cumann, Dublin. **McDONNELL, Gerry** (Parkhurst).

Birthday greetings to my husband Gerry. Thinking of you always. Love from Sheila.

**McDONNELL, Gerry** (Parkhurst). Greetings on your birthday, Gerry. All our love from Mary and Colette.

**McDONNELL, Gerry** (Parkhurst). Happy birthday, Gerry. Love from Joe, Janice and family; Greta, Paddy and the Doherty family.

**Mac DOMHNAILL, Gearóid** (Parkhurst). Birthday greetings, Gearóid. Looking forward to the visit next year. From Michael, Greta, Joseph and Bernadette.

**Mac DOMHNAILL, Gearóid** (Parkhurst). Best wishes, Gearóid. The kids send their love. From Rob and Agnes.

**TIDY, Noel** (Portlaoise). Happy birthday, Noel. Lots of love from Ann, Terry and Brian.

**TUMELTY, Brian** (Portlaoise). Happy birthday, Brian. One year older and a million wrinkles. Love from Rosie.

**TUMELTY, Brian** (Portlaoise). Happy birthday, Brian. From the Cunningham family.

ey Cumann, Shannon, County Clare. **O'CONNELL**, An Cumann Cabhrach (Britain) extends deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Joe O'Connell (Gartree) whose mother died recently.

**O'CONNELL**, Deepest sympathy is extended to our comrade Joe O'Connell (Gartree) on the death of his mother, from Ronnie, Una, Eddie, Rosie and family.

**O'CONNELL**, The Sinn Féin POW Department, Dublin, extends deepest sympathy to Joe O'Connell (Gartree) on the death of his mother.

**O'CONNELL**, The Republican Movement, Kerry, extends deepest sympathy to the family of Joe O'Connell (Gartree) on the death of his mother.

**O'CONNELL**, Deepest sympathy is extended to Joe O'Connell (Gartree) on the death of his mother. From Mary and Ted Moore, Ardara, County Kerry.

**O'CONNELL**, The Mid-Kerry Sinn Féin Comhairle Ceantair extends deepest sympathy to Joe O'Connell (Gartree) on the death of his mother.

**O'CONNELL**, Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Joe O'Connell (Gartree) on the death of his mother. From An Cumann Cabhrach, Walskington, Dublin.

**TRACEY**, The Tracey family, Dundalk, wishes to sincerely thank all those who sent floral wreaths, messages of sympathy, Mass cards and attended the funeral of their son Flann. A special word of thanks is extended to the Republican Movement.

**CAMPBELL, Seán; LOUGHRIE, James** (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vols Seán Campbell and James Loughrie, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who were killed in action while fighting for Irish freedom. Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for them. From Jas and Francie McGuinness, Wishaw, Scotland.

**CAMPBELL, Seán; LOUGHRIE, James** (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vols Seán Campbell and James Loughrie, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who were killed in action on December 6th 1975. Always remembered by the Crossmaglen Patriots Republican Flute Band, Wishaw, Scotland.

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# CHUMHINE

## ●VOLUNTEER SEAN CAMPBELL

**DOHERTY, Danny; FLEMING, William** (2nd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vols Danny Doherty and William Fleming, who were killed in active service on December 6th 1984. "You cannot conquer Ireland, you cannot extinguish the Irish passion for freedom." Always remembered by the Harkin family.

**DOHERTY, Danny; FLEMING, Willie** (2nd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vols Danny Doherty and Willie Fleming, Derry Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who were murdered by the RUC on December 2nd 1984. "We may have brave men but we'll never have better." Fuir siad bá ar son saoirse na hÉireann. Always remembered by Nilly and the boys, East Wall, Dublin and Cormac and Paddy D. Dublin.

**DOHERTY, Danny; FLEMING, Willie** (2nd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my husband Vol Danny Doherty, who was murdered by the RUC on December 2nd 1984. "We may have brave men but we'll never have better." Fuir siad bá ar son saoirse na hÉireann. Always remembered by Nilly and the boys, East Wall, Dublin and Cormac and Paddy D. Dublin.

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bered by Anne and Johnny Johnston and family.

**GREW, Seamus** (4th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear brother, INLA Vol Seamus Grew, who was murdered by the RUC on December 12th 1982. "Lay him away on the hillside, alone, with the brave and the bold. Inscribe his name on the roll of fame, in letters of purest gold." Fondly remembered by his father, sisters and family circle.

**GREW, Seamus** (4th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my brother INLA Vol Seamus Grew, who was murdered by the RUC on December 12th 1982. "They think they have pacified Ireland. They think that they have purchased half of us and intimidated the other half. They think they have foreseen everything, but the fools, the fools, they have left us our Fenian dead, and while Ireland holds these graves, Ireland unfree shall never be at peace." Never forgotten by his brother Dessie (Portlaoise).

**GREW, Seamus** (4th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my brother INLA Vol Seamus Grew, who was murdered by the RUC on December 12th 1982. "We must take it step by step backwards. Our steps must be onwards, for if we don't, the martyrs who died for us, for the love of this country, will haunt us for ever." Always remembered by Aidan and Oliver (H-Blocks, Long Kesh).

**GREW, Seamus** (4th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my brother INLA Vol Seamus Grew, who was murdered by the RUC on December 12th 1982. Always remembered by the Carroll family circle.

**GREW, Seamus** (4th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my friend Seamus Grew, who was murdered by the RUC on December 12th 1982. Always remembered by Tommy, Marion and family.

**KENNEDY, David** (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol David Kennedy, North Armagh Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was murdered by the RUC on December 10th 1975. I measc laochra na nGael go raibh sé. Always remembered by the RUC on December 12th 1982. Always remembered by the Carroll family circle.

**Mac AN TSIONAIGH, Pól** (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Pól Mac An Tsionáigh, a fuair bá ar 11nag, ag tróid ar son saoirse. Nollag 10, 1975. A bhíod na nGael guí ar a shon. Measc laochra na nGael go raibh sé. ngeor. Osa dheathair Padraig, a dheirfiú chéile Máire, agus Justin is Pádraig.

**McGIRR, Colm** (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Colm McGirr, East Tyrone Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was murdered by the SAS on December 4th 1983. Always remembered by the Dungannon Martyrs Sinn Féin Cumann.

**MORGAN, Desmond** (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Dessie Morgan, East Tyrone Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on November 26th 1973. Always remembered by the Dungannon Martyrs Sinn Féin Cumann.

**NOLAN, Tony** (15th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Tony Nolan, who was killed as a result of an accidental shooting on December 8th 1971. I measc laochra na nGael go raibh sé. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

**CUIMHNI BREITHLAÉ**

**HARKER**, Birthday memories of our friend Tony Harker, Armagh, who was murdered by the UDR on January 24th 1982 and whose birthday was celebrated on December 1st. From Pat McGovern and Cormac King.

**HARKER**, In memory of our friend Tony Harker, Armagh, who was murdered by the UDR on January 24th 1982 and whose birthday was celebrated on December 1st. Always remembered by Brian, Lorna and family.

**HARKER**, Fond memories of our friend Tony. Always remembered by Ann, Pat and family, Paddy D. and JB.

## COMHBHRON

**LUNDY**, Sincere sympathy is extended to the family and friends of the late Joe Lundy. From Frank Hopkins.

**O'CONNELL**, Deepest sympathy is extended to Joe O'Connell (Gartree) on the death of his mother. From Hugh Doherty (Wakefield).

**O'CONNELL**, Deepest sympathy is extended to Joe O'Connell (Gartree) on the death of his mother. From Pat and Mary Doherty.

**O'CONNELL**, Deepest sympathy is extended to our comrade Joe O'Connell (Gartree) on the death of his mother. From the Martin Forsythe Sinn Féin Cumann, Rathfarnham, Balie Áine Clait.

**O'CONNELL**, Deepest sympathy is extended to Joe O'Connell on the death of his mother. From John and Noreen McCarthy.

**O'CONNELL**, Deepest sympathy is extended to Joe O'Connell and family on the death of his mother. From Eileen S.

**O'CONNELL**, Deepest sympathy is extended to our comrade Joe O'Connell on the sad loss of his mother. From the Clare Sinn Féin Comhairle Ceantair.

**O'CONNELL**, Deepest sympathy is extended to Joe on the sad loss of his mother. From the Terence Mac Swine-

**ADMHAIL**

**LUNDY**, The family of the late Joe Lundy acknowledges and thanks all those who sympathised with them and assisted them in their recent bereavement.



**ATTENTION** all Sinn Fein councillors! If you're wondering what to buy, or be bought, for Christmas, let me tell you about the 'Civic Crown'.

In my post this week I received an advertising brochure sent "with great pleasure" by Lady Penelope Gilbay, director of the Gilbey Jubilee Collection in London, and giving details of the Civic Crown, "the first brooch to be approved by one of Her Majesty the Queen's Officers of Arms as emblematic of Local Government and suitable for wear by female Councillors, and on behalf of male Councillors by wives and daughters". It consists of a mural coronet in solid silver, in the form of a circlet masoned with crenellations and environed by a corona civica in 22-carat gold on silver with the motto *prodesse civibus* (to



● Martin McGuinness reviewing Gerry Adams' new book *The Politics of Irish Freedom* — it's a great read no matter which way you look at it!

Territorial Army and an Omagh law student at Belfast's Queen's University, was found shot in the head in a house in Magdala Street on Tuesday, November 25th.

Sergeant McGrath's legally-held firearm was found nearby.

**TWO DESERTERS** from one of the British army's most highly-rated regiments, the Royal Green Jackets, have surrendered to civilian police in England after being on the run from their barracks in Celle, near Hanover, West Germany, as a result of "horrific" initiation ceremonies practised by fellow soldiers.

Riflemen Paul Cummins (20) and Leon Rose (20), of the 3rd Battalion, Royal Green Jackets, had been in hiding in Spain and England for the past three weeks after they could no longer stand British army brutality despite Cummins

into small wire cages to be sprayed with CS gas.

**OF 28 SOLDIERS** who have deserted from the Green Jackets' 3rd Battalion this year, seven have still failed to give themselves up.

**ACCORDING** to a report in Tuesday's *Irish Times*, concerning recent British army border incursions:

"The question of whether British soldiers who were found in the Republic should be arrested and prosecuted was one for the DUP to answer, Mr Barry said. The government had no say in the matter."

Now, that's really taking the Hillsborough Agreement to its logical conclusion.



# THE FLYING COLUMN

benefit my fellow citizens). Made by "Thomas Fattorini, the goldsmiths and silversmiths responsible for the insignia of The Order of the Companions of Honour and of The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire", the brooch is a gigantic 2.7cms x 2.5cms. The charming Lady Penelope is offering the brooches at the giveaway price of £88 each (she's certainly come a long way since *Thunderbirds*).

**CRAZY CHRISTY POWER**, the Lunatic Garda Special Task Force gunman who lost control during the Eibhlín Glenholmes

episode in March and recklessly fired into a crowded Dublin city centre street until Sinn Fein's Danny Morrison confronted him and made him lower his weapon, has been awarded the Scott Medal for his part in the capture of Dominic McGlinchey two years ago.

Power has been taken off the streets, promoted to sergeant and put back in uniform, and now shuffles paper in Garda HQ in the Phoenix Park.

**PART-TIME BRITISH ARMY** soldier Brian McGrath (28), a sergeant in the

being "an army boxer and a pretty tough cookie".

The sadistic treatment meted out to them included:

- Being dangled out of windows by a rope.
- Having their genitals sucked into a vacuum cleaner hose.
- Having their clothes set alight and being photographed as they struggled to beat out the flames.
- Being urinated on by other soldiers.
- Being woken at 3am and bundled

**GET LOCKED** at Christmas is the message from Dublin West Sinn Fein this year as the Ballyfermot Backstrokers and the Clondalkin Crawlers take the plunge into the icy waters of the 3rd and 9th locks respectively on the Grand Canal in their regular Christmas Day fund-raiser for republican prisoners and their dependants.

The big event takes a dive at 11.30am and sponsorship cards are available from (or donations to) *The Flying Column*, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.

## DUIT SIAD

I am not convinced that these crossings are mistakes. These people should be held and charged. Only then will the British army know we mean business and show respect for our sovereignty.

— Fianna Fail's Foreign Affairs spokesperson, Gerry Collins.

The British soldiers were there at the request of the Garda.

— Tom King on the cross-border incursion at Ballybinab, County Louth, on Saturday.

Don't take that man — he's got my keys!

— DUP deputy leader Peter Robinson as his driver was being arrested while protesting at Stormont on Monday.

This is the confrontation and we shall see the might of the unionist and loyalist people who are enraged.

— Ian Paisley's response to the proposed repeal of the Flags & Emblems Act.

The change in the Flags & Emblems legislation is to disguise the fact that there has been a fairly significant increase in RUC powers which will be used to stifle all republican demonstrations.

— Sinn Fein Councillor Mitchel McLaughlin.

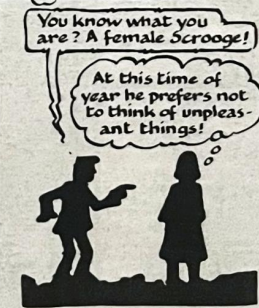
Nationalism has benefited from [The Hillsborough] Agreement, not so much in practical terms but in psychological terms.

— The SDLP's Seamus Mallon in a *Boston Irish Echo* interview.

## NOTES



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But it is in the area of practical changes where I would level my criticism.

— Seamus Mallon.

If this government was a horse it would be put down.

— Coalition deputy to Gerald Barry, *Sunday Tribune* correspondent.

I would never condemn any attacks on the British armed forces in any part of Ireland.

— Fianna Fail national executive member Eamonn Kane.

Gerry Adams, for example, has seen

off one or two inquiries with a fair degree of aplomb and panache. I rather doubt that he would crumble into inarticulacy if confronted by Mr Charlie Bird or Mr Brian Farrell of Montrose.

— Letter to *The Nationalist* (Carlow) defending the Section 31 ban on Sinn Fein spokespersons and giving Gerry Adams a backhanded compliment.

A failure by the media to use their influence would bring us several steps nearer the day when Irish destinies will be determined no longer by ourselves but by foreigners.

If these foreigners are merely the International Monetary Fund, we will be

lucky; at our present rate of recklessness, it is more likely to be the Cubans.

— Fine Gael's Deputy John Kelly.

There is bitter bile in my throat these days. I've never seen the sharks circling like they are now with blood in the water. What is driving me up the wall is that this wasn't a failure until the press got a tip from that rag in Beirut and began to play it up.

— Ronald Reagan on his 'Iran-gate' crisis.

Maureen is a great cook — that's what she's kept for.

— Charles Haughey speaking about his wife.