

It shall be the duty of the government of this Republic to make provision for the physical and mental well being of the children, to secure that no child shall suffer hunger or cold from lack of food, clothing, or shelter, but that all shall be provided with the means and facilities requisite for their proper education and training as citizens of a free and Gaelic Ireland.

(Act 1961-Eireann)

An Phoblacht

Iml. 9. Uimhir 10. 10p. Marta 8, 1978.



ÓGLAIGH na hÉireann are pressing forward with the war against the Crown forces and economic targets in the Six Counties, a fact which is reflected in the newspaper headlines. Virtually every day sees another foreign mercenary killed or injured seriously as a result of an operation by the national liberation forces.

The momentum and consistency have been maintained since the beginning of January, to the consternation of the Northern Gauleiter, Roy Mason, who has been made such a fool of by events, so soon after his vain boast that the patriotic forces had been defeated.

Roy Mason is forced to search for a scapegoat and he fastens once again on Jack Lynch in an effort to distract attention from himself. Jack Lynch is sheltering patriots! Jack Lynch is sheltering hospitalised freedom fighters! The Paisleyites hardly could have put it better. The hope is that Lynch will be forced to harass Republicans to an even greater extent, providing the headlines which will smother reports of patriotic war success.

The basic fact of the matter is that Republicans do not recognise Six or 26 Counties and that they are fighting their own way in their own time and place, for the freedom of all Ireland; and that they are fighting what is clear to all the world as a war of national liberation.

They are being opposed by a cruel and unscrupulous imperial enemy which is interning young people indiscriminately by fraudulent trial backed by torture, or by remand, actions which have the result of strengthening the will to resist and win rather than the reverse.

The longer the war continues the more clear the parallel with the worst excesses of Nazism against the resistance in occupied Europe from 1940 to 1945.

Indeed, the parallel becomes really sickening when one compares what appeared in the kept press of the forties all over occupied Europe with

what appears today in Independent Newspapers and other gutter groups and even in what passes for the "quality" press; or compares the roles of such as Lynch, Fitzgerald and Pitt with those of Pétain, Laval and Quisling.

At every level little, vindictive Roy Mason, the Heydrich of north-east Ireland, is disclosed to the people as a failure — in his orders for murders designed to look like sectarian assassinations; in orders for murders of unarmed volunteers; in order for the

torture of the men in H-Block, in Castlereagh, in Bessbrook, in Crumlin Road, and, above all, in his orders to the Crown forces to crucify the people in the streets and even in their own homes.

Contemptuously, the people rise supreme over these bullying tactics, strengthened more than ever in their resolve to support their own people's army until the inevitable victory, as sure as the victory of the people of Algeria against imperial France, that of the people of Vietnam

against imperial America, or that of the people of Mozambique against imperial Portugal.

Imperial Britain will be defeated just as surely and that nasty little bully will go the way of all gurrriers in Ireland's good time, as will Gerry Fitt, the renegade who starts with Mason in denying prisoner-of-war status to the men in jail.

● Here are the details of the war news for the week under review.

SUNDAY, FEB. 26

Coagh: Vol. Paul Duffy was murdered by Crown forces (SAS). In a statement, the East Tyrone Command, Ogligh na hÉireann, said that he had been unarmed and surrendering when shot.

Dungannon: Wellworth's store in Mrket Square was badly damaged when a bomb exploded.

Belfast: Following a rally in support of POW status blast bombs and petrol bombs

were thrown at Springfield Road barracks, and shots were fired at a Crown forces (military) mobile patrol at Cupar Road.

In a statement, Briogaid Bhéal Feirste (Belfast Brigade) Ogligh na hÉireann, denied responsibility for the bombing, robbery and kidnapping at the Mountain View Tavern, Shankill Road. The statement also denied responsibility for the bomb that was defused at

(Ar leanúint ar ich. a 8)

An Phoblacht

Iml. 9

Márta 8, 1978.

Uimh. 9.

44 Ceannóg Pharnell, B.A.C., Éire.

Guthán 747611.

Special pleading

THE FINE GAEL leader, Dr. Garret FitzGerald, stated recently that the reason why one set of elected representatives should be treated differently to another set of elected representatives in the 26 Counties of Ireland, as regards the right to be heard on radio, and seen and heard on television, was that the anti-Irish crowd in the Six Counties of north-east Ireland might be offended or annoyed.

This was not an attempt to explain the selective democracy in which Garret lives. It was an honest statement of the facts of shoneen politics or of one aspect of them. There is a sector of middle-class opinion which would like to forget that the north-east exists – as people, as politics, as religion, as part of the Irish nation – and which would be prepared to humiliate itself to the greatest extreme possible lest it be required to react in any sort of human and dignified manner to what is going on in that area at present, or for 10 years, or for 300.

This is the section of the Irish nation which votes for Garret and his colleagues; which supported the first Cosgrave in the counter revolution; which backed O'Connell; and which, if we are prepared to go back far enough, backed Diarmuid na Gáil when that ruffian sought help to regain his Leinster kingdom from Henry II of England.

What Garret was saying, between the lines, of course, was that if RTE were to give time and space to members of the Republican Movement, in all fairness, in proportion to the people's recorded preferences for these people, there was a danger that Loyalists might be so annoyed that they would cross the Border and exact revenge.

Or, should we say, what Garret seemed to be saying? For what he was really saying was that the crowd that keep him and Fianna Fáil and Labour – the English – might take objection; and that there might be retaliation which would be seen to be done by the tail that was the dog in Ireland.

This was all very clever of Garret and in a very hallowed tradition if one is versed in the trickery that went on in 1921 and the horrors of Oriel House and elsewhere and the double talk that went on in Leinster House and from pulpit; and hence understandable.

What is not quite so understandable is Garret talking about IRA plans for 1978 in the same breath. The man must be grossly misinformed or deliberately lying when he states that the IRA objective is to establish a military dictatorship in Ireland.

Heavens knows, the reason for the present armed struggle has been stated and restated time without number, to force the enemy to quit Ireland at every level so that the Irish people may have an opportunity to decide their own destiny.

When the enemy decides to announce his intention of quitting Ireland forever presumably a series of political conferences would take place at which the various political groupings and organisations in Ireland would be represented. Presumably these various conferences would send delegates eventually to an all-Ireland conference. Presumably this conference would provide the platform from which the participating parties would appeal to the Irish people at the polls. The polls would give the people's democratic verdict.

There is a world of humanity between this and Garret FitzGerald's military dictatorship, a ship of the tongue, perhaps, or one of his party's Blueshirt dreams?

The fact of the matter is that the Republican Movement always has stood for democracy and freedom and that FitzGerald's faction has stood for dictatorship, fascism and general tyranny, as made only too clear during the Coalition's office. But what can one expect from a pig but a grunt?

Special pleading goes with special courts, special powers, special branches, B Specials and all the rest of the charade.



An stát dár marú le cineáltas...

NUAIR A d'éirigh chomh maith sin san Ardchúirt le Cáit Bean Uí Chadain, maidir leis an bhfeachtas in éadan polasai an Bhéarla de chuid RTE, bhí inni ar chuid againn go ndéanfadh an rialtas an chúis a thabhairt isteach sa Chúirt Uachtarach agus go gceallfí ansin i.

Imní dá laghad ní raibh ormsa. Ná inni. Oir ba mhaith liom an chúis a bhrú ar aghaidh chomh fada agus is féidir chun go bhfeice muid an fhírme, bíodh sin searbh nó míle, faoi staid na Gaeilge sa Saorstát.

Dá dteipfeadh ar chúis na Gaeilge sa Chúirt Uachtarach, bheadh deis ag an Conradh, nó ag dream éicint, i a thabhairt go Strasbourg.

Go dtí go ndéantar sin, measaim, níl aon mhaith bheith ag iarraidh ar Theach Laighean cothrom na Féinne a thabhairt don Ghaeilge. Ba chóir go dtuigfeadh muid an.

Débé

méid sin as cúrsaí Cheanada a mheas... agus cúrsaí na Beilge roimhe sin.

Is cosúil nach dteastaíonn ón stát (ionann sin is a rá nach dteastaíonn sé ó na státseirbhíse) glacadh le dúshlán Chait Uí Chadain ar ionann é is dúshlán an Chonartha.

Cén fáth nach mbeadh na státseirbhíse sásta glacadh le dúshlán Chait agus an Chonartha?

Ar an ábhar go mb'fhéidir go mbuafadh an bheirt díobh agus go mbeadh ar na státseirbhíse Gaeilge a chur ar aon leibhéal leis an mBéarla gach áit sa chóras (RTE san áireamh, ar ndóighe).

Einne nach dtuigfeann dearcadh sin na státseirbhíse, cuirfidh sé fíos ar chaint Chóimán Uí Uallacháin, an tseachtain seo caite, ar na m'oilleadóirí (i.e. na státseirbhíse) agus cagrais deonacha na Gaeilge (na heagrais úd a bhfuil an Ghaeilge acu mar chaitheamh aimsire).

Straitéis nua

OS mar sin atá níor mhiste don Chonradh an scéal a athmhéas.

Más rud é go bhfuil sé i gceist ag an stát géilleadh

gach áit d'ionsaí na Gaeilge sa státchóras ach gan an ceart a thabhairt (agus tá sin ar siúl le fada an lá) is cosúil go bhfuil beartaíocht as an nua a dhíth agus, b'fhéidir fós, straitéis nua.

Seo a leanas an polasai nua maidir le feachtas na teilifíse: Níl an stát chun éinne eile a chúiseamh; ní chuirfidh an stát aon iachall ar éinne tá cúisithe aon fhineál a fóc; ní chuirfidh an stát éinne eile sa phríosún.

Maróidh an stát an Conradh le cineáltas... agus le cíunas. Rug an Conradh an chraobh leis. Ach ní chloisfidh éinne faoi.

Leanaidh scór de bheith ag dítlú fóc as ceadúnas teilifíse; ach nach cuma sa ríach scór, dhá scór, trí scór, ceithre scór, fiú?

Nach mbeadh thart faoi 5,000 duine a dhíth, mar fheachtas agus an rualle buaille a ghabhann lena leithéid, chun dul i bhfeidhm ar RTE?

Bhfuil an chumhacht ag Conradh na Gaeilge chun 5,000 a thabhairt leis na fheachtas seo? Nach bhfuil baill an Chonartha ag easaontú eatarthu féin faoi láthair faoin bhfeachtas?

Builli eile?

IS COSÚIL go gcaithfidh Conradh na Gaeilge bheith i bhfad Éireann ní ba shuairí sa choimhlint seo chun an

Anuraidh scríobh Diarmuid Ó Súilleabháin bileog i mBéarla faoi "freestatory", bileog a bhí go maith agus go fírinneach, agus ag a mbeadh an pictiúr seo ina léaráid go cruinn. Ar an gcéad dul síos, ní féidir leis an Saorstát an focal "sliabh" a scríobh i gceart. Ach an rud is tábhachtaí, is dócha, an pointe seo: Ag Sliabh na mBán b'amhlaidh sheas agus a throid na Gaeil, rud nach bhfuil déanta go fóill ag saighdiúirí an Saorstáit, ach amháin in éadan na b'Poblachtóirí. Ar "thaobh na gréine" a sheas na Gaeil i 1798, ar Sliabh na mBán. Ach inniu tá fórsaí an Saorstáit ag seasadh gualainn re gualainn leis an namhaid in éadan an náisiúin.

stát a bhogadh.

Ach má éiríonn an Conradh as an ngaochas agus má chuireann sé gothaí oibre ar féin tá contúirt ann go ndéanfadh an stát é a phéintfeá mar seimhlitheoir. I ndáiríre, tá an Conradh á bhrú ag an stát i dtreo rud i bhfad níos géire ná an gaindfachas.

Níor mhiste do Mhaolseachlainn agus dá chairead stadpadh ag an bpointe seo, an scéal a mheas agus ráiteas poiblí a eisíúint, sul má théann an Conradh céim eile ar aghaidh. An té nach bhfuil láidir ní fólar dó bheith glie.

Caithfidh an Conradh bheith chomh glie leis an státseirbhís agus beagán os a chionn.

Ar leandúint, ar lch. a 3.

Gaeilge do na cimi

DEIRTEAR go bhfuil an bás i ndán do gach duine beo agus nach bhfuil éinní i cinní ar an saol seo. Ach tá roinnt rudaí a bhfuil baint acu leis an mbás sa teanga álainn seo, féach.

Tá an bás ag Séamus – is gaird go bhfaighidh (go bhfaighidh) Séamus bás. Tá seandúine eile le bás fosta (freisin) – tá an bás ag seanfhear eile fosta. Tá an bás ar iompar leis an bhfeis sin (tá rud ar an fheis sin a bhéarfais a bhás roimh i bhfad).

Fuair mé trí bhás ón bhuaradh – bhí mé chomh buartha sin agus go raibh mé mar bheinn tinn. Ní thabharfaidh sin do bhás – ní thuighidh (bhfaighidh) tú bás dá thairbhe sin (mar thoradh air sin; as an rud sin).

Is é sin an rud a thug a bhás – is é sin an rud ba chiontaí lena bhás.

Batalach: Da gcuineá ag batalach orm é – dá gcuineá é ag bagairt go ndéanfadh sé síod agus seo orm – nó ag tabhairt gach dara focail domh (dom)!

Bata – thug sé bata is bóthar dom (chait sé amach as mo phost mé); Ní ide bheifí ach batabheifí a fuairas – ní ionsaí a bhí romham ach pógaí (batabhéifí, an phéint a smeannann na mná ar na beola).

—Cearnach

Lyreacrompane agus other places!

IN THE opening sentence of his preface to the second volume of his "IRISH NAMES OF PLACES" P.W. Joyce writes: "Tuille Feasa ar Eirinn Óigh – An Addition of Knowledge on Holy Ireland: these were the first words of Gilla-na-Neeve O'Heeran, when he undertook to complete the description of Ireland which his predecessor, John O'Dugan, had left unfinished; and they form a very suitable motto for the book I now offer to the notice of the public."

Joyce pays particular tribute to the two men whose work was of considerable help to him – Dr. John O'Donovan and Rev. William Reeves, D.D.; and although nothing has matched or

replaced Joyce's three volumes (and that is not to say that all his work, opinions and conclusions are without fault) many scholars down the years in different parts of the country have continued to probe, investigate and unravel the origins and meanings of place names and, indeed, publish their findings in slim volumes.

Today the professional work on place names is done by An Coimisiún Logainmneacha in Phoenix Park, Baile Átha Cliath, and enthusiasts throughout the country may become members of An Cumann Logainmneacha at the same address for about £2 (an bhfuil san ceart, a Airt?) per year, for which they may attend

occasional – but very interesting – lectures (mostly held in Dublin, mo lean) and the Cumann's journal, "Dinnseanachas", which is published twice yearly (don't be put off if your Irish is not great as the journal is bilingual!).

—Lugum

Support the
fight for
Political
Status

A major Loyalist 'shift'

THERE WAS a slow growing realisation among people in the Six Counties that the only way to shake off dependence on Britain, with its legacy of conflict, was through a form of negotiated independence, according to the Committee for the Study of Negotiated Independence.

Comhairle Uladh, Sinn Féin, has replied to the Committee's statement with another statement, cautiously welcoming the call made for a British withdrawal and the fact that the Committee sees the need for the Loyalist community to shake off its dependence on Britain.

The Committee's statement says: "The precise form of independence is still a matter for lengthy debate and discussion for, whatever it is, it must — like British withdrawal — gain the support of a large majority of the population."

"Significantly, prominent people in Ulster and the Republic have moved towards a position where they now see independence for Northern Ireland not just as a remote possibility or an odd aberration but as a desirable and viable option."

"Even those now considering a federal rather than a united Ireland are coming to see that an independent Ulster is an essential prerequisite since a federation implies the willing coming together of two or more sovereign independent states," the committee statement continues.

Two declarations

A demand for a British declaration to withdraw, the statement adds, would be unrealistic and a recipe for (Ar leanúint ar lch. a 8)

Tá cosúlacht air chuirsaí gur Próvaí é. Seáil é seo ar deacair scaoileadh leis go mbeí an focal deiridh léite. Leabhar é a thairneós le hóg agus le sean.

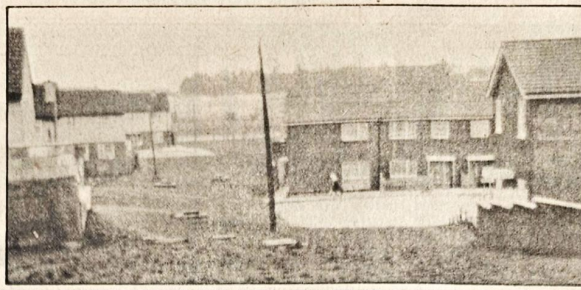
Lasmuigh den seáil, mar seáil, tá cur síos ar thír agus ar dhaoine a bhfuil draíocht ag baint leis, go mór mór canúint na Déise, agus go mór mór do dhúine nárb as don cheantar sin dó.

Níor mhiste do chimí an saothar seo a léamh óir b'fheidir go spreagfadh sé dúine nó beirt chun úrseáil eile a bhreacadh, rud éicint bunaithe ar an bhfírinne féin, cá bhfios!

Níor bhrathá mise ach, b'fheidir, aon bhotún amháin i seáil na gCreabhar, tá, céard é tharla don spéirbhean, mar Miriam?

Bhí an fear tuafáil seo le tabhairt faoi job éicint eile don Bhrúnach sar i bhfad. Céard é an job sin? Cá bhfuil an leabhar faoi?

Ar tús, atá muid. Ar bhoir.



DERRY TO CELEBRATE FIFTH OF OCTOBER

THIS YEAR will see the tenth anniversary of the famed Fifth of October, the march in Derry which brought stark realisation to the people of the Six Counties that the civil rights they sought must be fought for.

William Craig, then Minister of Home Affairs, banned the march and used the hated RUC in the role for which they were designed, to keep all who would demand their rights on their knees.

October 1968, stands as a monument to the ordinary people of Derry whose long-standing grievances and total frustration at getting anything done about them through establishment politicians finally forced them out onto the streets of their native city to demand these rights.

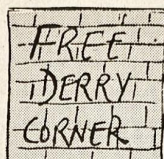
It will be recalled that no establishment politician — including John Hume — would sign his name to the application for the march.

Again, it was left to the people of Derry to take matters into their own hands. None of these politicians would support the march until it was already going ahead. But then they all jumped on the bandwagon, in case the marches were successful and might help further their political ambitions.

Bill Craig's job

Where is Bill Craig, now? He has a well-paid EEC job as a Commissioner for Human Rights!

How ironic it is that one



of the men who fought so hard to deny civil rights, who advocated genocide of the minority population, now sits in Brussels formulating and advising on human rights!

In itself it is an apt comment on the EEC.

The reasonable demands of the marchers that day 10 years ago in Derry's Duke Street were met with shocking RUC brutality. The battering the marchers got at the hands of the RUC and the delight RUC men took in these beatings were flashed all over the world that day, due to an enterprising and well-concealed RTÉ cameraman's efforts.

For the first time, a world audience knew what British rule meant in the Six Counties. Derry became notorious throughout the world as a glaring example of the ugly oppression of the declining British Empire.

Struggle continues

Today, 10 years later, the struggle continues. Methods have changed. Political awareness has taken giant leaps forward. But the same illegal statelet, with massive British propping-up, still denies human rights and the jails and prison camps are filled with our most idealistic

men and women.

Ten years after that historic Fifth of October Sinn Féin will refresh the memory of all the sectarian bigots and the Crown that the flame of resistance rekindled that day still burns bright in the hearts of all.

Struggle for status

"Irlande Libre" (Free Ireland), a French monthly paper, has opened a campaign to gain support for "the International Tribunal on the British presence in Ireland."

A translation of the statement of support for the Tribunal has been published on the front page of the February issue of the paper.

The Irlande Libre editorial collective is pleased to announce that among the first signatories of their statement are Simone de Beauvoir and Jean Paul Sartre.

New group in London

A new organisation has been set up by a group of Irish people living in London, titled — The Irishmen and Women's Alliance of Britain. The intention is to "Look after the interest and welfare of the Irish in Britain."

The new body's acting secretary is Mr. Jim O'Leary, 20 years living in Britain and particularly concerned at the number of Irish people who have been issued with deportation orders for what Mr. O'Leary terms "the most minor of offences."

Broken promises in Finglas

Le Seán Ó Maonaigh

THE JOE Clarke Cumann of Sinn Féin in Finglas, South, Dublin, is concerned about the lack of progress in improving the overall finish of Barnamore and Kippure Park Estates (see picture, left).

The Corporation, which owns the estates, has been very slow to take action. Many promises have been made, only to be broken.

The local Tenants' Association has fought hard for the last two and a half years for improvements but has met with little success.

Bad planning

The Corporation planners have shown a disgraceful lack of foresight in the planning of the estates.

Surely they must have known that the people who would live in the estates would be in the main be young couples with young families?

They must have known that many of the women would have children in prams and that the women would from time to time become pregnant.

With this knowledge in mind surely it would have been logical to provide paths and pramways so that each journey would be as short and as easy as possible?

These considerations have been completely disregarded by the planners. The estates were constructed with one entry — exit point.

While there is satisfaction that this prevents heavy traffic from passing through the estates there is an urgent need for extra entry — exit points for pedestrians.

Many of the cul de sacs face the road but, because in most cases there is a steep drop or a rise of up to five feet, they are unusable.

Provide steps

It would be a simple matter to provide steps and pramways at these points.

At present many women have an extra 15 minute walk to get to the shops.

There is a great need to lay some paths across open spaces. One portion of land between the two estates resembles the moon, it has so many sewerage manholes jutting out of the ground.

Some of these manholes are as high as two feet above the ground.

There is a valley with no proper pathway between the estates and the local school.

Steeply valley

This valley is completely impassable in winter. It is known locally as "sleepy valley", because of the lack of any action to improve it.

Sinn Féin will be working hard to improve the condition of the estates and we will keep readers of "An Phoblacht" up to date on developments.

Débe

(Ar leanúint ó lch. a 2)

Níor mhiste do Mhaolshéachlainn iarraidh ar a thír agus mna as na ceardchumainn bheith ag an mbord céanna leis agus e ag labhairt leis an bpreas, ag an gcead chéim chun tosaigh eile a bheas á dhéanamh ag an gConradh.

Seáil SAS

DEN TARNA uair léas, an tséachtain seo caite, agus me sínte ag an bhfiú, "Nead na gCreabhar" le hAnraoi Ó Liatháin (Sáiréal agus Dill), agus bhain me taitneamh as ari.

Seáil é seo faoi dhream éicint den SAS a tháinig go hÉirinn agus faoin gceoi ar éirigh le Gaeil iad a chloí.

An Gaeil seo, tá sé fostuithe ag Brúnach éicint.

KNOW YOUR ÉIRE NUA

WITH reference to Mr. de Bréadún's doubts (3/2/78) about the Republican Movement's "Four Province Federal Ireland" solution, it should be pointed out that the proposed federal level of government, with 50 per cent. of its members elected by all-Ireland suffrage and 50 per cent. by the four provincial parliaments and restricted to dealing with matters which require the Irish nation to act as one, will have the important task of protecting the rights of all the Irish people and preventing infringements (through Constitutional Courts) of the proposed new Constitution which will proclaim the illegality and total unacceptability of discrimination and sectarianism in the New Ireland.

Our call for a

nine-counties Ulster should not be regarded in isolation from our proposal for shared sovereignty between the federal government and the four provincial parliaments, our aim to achieve the maximum distribution of power to the regional and district levels on the principle of subsidiarity of function, and our democratic socialist policies on which the Éire Nua programme is based.

As regards the would-be ex-Unionists in a New Ireland, it should be remembered that sectarianism is not a purely Irish phenomenon but a common and insidious tool of British colonialism used often and in

many countries to further their own interests.

Sectarianism has purposely divided the Irish people and effectively served the traditional British strategy of making one section of the community (Protestants) marginally better off than the other section (Catholics).

It has survived in the Six Counties because it is acceptable and legal and upheld and encouraged by the British. In a Britless Ireland where discrimination is made illegal and unprofitable, it will die.

A number of present-day Unionists will never accept Britain's inevitable withdrawal and will violently

oppose each and every solution attempted.

Some, whose lives are inextricably bound up in Unionism, will leave. But many Six-Counties Protestants, myself among them, have seen through the lies of British propaganda and manipulation and now refuse to be used any longer by the British for the benefit of the British.

It is obvious to us that the British attitude to all the people of this island is one of utter disdain.

To the Brits, each and every one of us, whether Protestant or Catholic, Unionist or Nationalist, is just another troublesome Paddy

le Crístín Ní Éilias

Shared sovereignty

and, when they play their useful "Orange Card", they play it to win for themselves, not for their rather fanatical and quite unsophisticated Ulster Loyalists.

Paisley's enraged frustration that has forced him to defy the Crown on occasion and Baird's recent call for the removal of Roy Mason are but desperate and impotent cries of disbelief at the ultimate and inevitable perfidy of the British.

The creation of a Four Province Federal Ireland will not be an easy task. It will require the active participation of all our citizens who have for too long allowed decisions to be made for them by others.

Are the Irish people ready to rule their own country?

(Ar leanúint lch. a 8)

HELL IN ENGLISH JAILS

TOM CLARKE once described life in an English prison as a "living hell". Today more than 80 Republican PoWs endure that hell. The notorious "control units" are being used again to break in mind and body our Irish PoWs. Here we recount the experience of two prisoners, John Nordonne and Brendan Dowd.

Republican prisoners were subjected to sensory deprivation when held in what lawyers believe was the building which housed a notorious "control unit" in Wakefield Prison, according to a submission filed with the European Commission of Human Rights in Strasbourg. Some 40 cases alleging ill-treatment of Republican prisoners in Britain have been lodged in Strasbourg over the last few months.

The two cases lodged recently are those of John Nordonne (22), Erith, Kent, and Brendan Dowd (30), Tralee, Co. Kerry. Both are serving life sentences. Torture in breach of Article 3 of the European Human Rights Convention is alleged to have occurred in both cases in St. Anne's Police Station, Liverpool, in the week following arrest.

Both cases also allege inhuman and degrading treatment because of prolonged solitary confinement — 760 days in Dowd's case and 450 days in that of Nordonne's. A solicitor who interviewed

Nordonne several times since his solitary confinement in 1976 claims in the submission that Nordonne suffered a personality disintegration.

The solicitor said Nordonne had been held for weeks in a windowless, white-painted cell in the unit as punishment for damaging another cell. For the first two weeks he had no clothing and had to sleep on a raised plinth. Times of meals and lighting were said to vary to produce disorientation. Exercise was in a small yard with three walls painted white and one in psychedelic colours.

Rulings sought

The control unit for difficult prisoners was discontinued officially by the Home Secretary in October, 1975, after protests from civil liberties groups.

The Commission is asked to rule on the following features alleged during interrogation at St. Anne's Police Station: He was kept naked for approximately five days; he was kept handcuffed during the interrogation for approx-

imately five days; he was threatened with various forms of bodily harm, including death.

His face was slapped rhythmically from side to side for various periods of time; he was pulled and lifted by the hair at various times so that it came out by the roots; he was refused access to a solicitor during such interrogation for a period of at least five days; during interrogation he was able to hear the screaming of another prisoner or prisoners.

His testicles were squeezed and pulled in a manner described as excruciating and which caused him to become unconscious. He was punched in the stomach and the area of the kidneys for prolonged periods of time. He was otherwise kicked and beaten by numerous police officers. His stomach was stamped on by a police officer on several occasions.

His mouth and throat were held so that he was given the sense of imminent suffocation. His head was raised and dropped on the floor on



several occasions. He was without food of any kind for more than 24 hours. He was left without drinking water for several days.

His head was pushed into a basin of filthy water in such a manner that he thought he was going to drown. During interrogation his cell had neither mattress nor blanket. He was given no, or no adequate, medical attention during the period of his pre-trial detention. He was repeatedly abused verbally.

This sketch gives some idea of the "control unit" (mental torture) used in English jails unofficially. Officially there are no control units!

Sight deteriorated

In Dowd's case, it is alleged that, on arrival at St. Anne's police station, he was gravely assaulted by police officers. He lost consciousness and says he awoke in a hospital undergoing drip-feeding. When in solitary confinement later, Dowd is said to have had an electric light on day and night. His sight deteriorated and he had since lost three stone in weight.

In both cases solicitors have applied for legal aid to take charges of assault against the officers at St. Anne's police station. In the event of such legal aid being granted, the part of the submissions alleging torture will be put on ice pending the exhaustion of what the Commission would regard as a "domestic remedy". Legal aid has been refused, however, in similar cases.

Brendan Dowd has been in solitary confinement, except for two one-month intervals, since May, 1975. Another prisoner, Liam McLarnon, has spent two years in solitary. It was in protest at the holding in solitary of Brendan Dowd that six other Irish prisoners barricaded themselves in a cell in Albany prison in September 1976.

In the resulting brutal attacks by wardens in full riot gear, Sean Campbell had an arm, a leg and ribs broken. Father Fell, also a prisoner-of-war, had his nose fractured and four others had their hair pulled out and received ex-

tensive bruising and gashes which the prison doctor, after a delay of four days, stitched without using anaesthetic.

All six were subsequently prevented from taking legal advice for six months and several of them were prevented from seeing their families.

Support
the
Prisoners'
Dependants

Send
your
donation
to

An
Cumann
Cabhreach
44
Parnell Sq.,
Dublin 1

TORTURE IN 'FREE' STATE

WHEN Gerry Collins, the present Dublin Justice Minister, was in opposition he opposed the seven-days detention on the basis that it had only one purpose — the extraction of a "confession" by torture.

But the statement by Amnesty International, that investigations in the 26 Counties had indicated the likelihood of police torture, and Amnesty's request for a full, independent sworn inquiry into torture allegations, were rejected by Collins and his fellow ministers.

According to Judge Barra Ó Briain, on TV, radio and elsewhere, a prima facie case had been established of torture by some members of the Garda Síochána thus the Amnesty International demand for a public sworn inquiry should be heeded.

The Dublin regime decided that it would be too risky to hold a public sworn inquiry. Instead it was decided to have an investigation made as to

what steps should be taken so that torturing of suspects would be virtually impossible in future; and to recommend how best to prevent unfounded accusations being made against members of the Garda Síochána.

Blueshirt torture

Judge Barra Ó Briain was given the job of presiding over this machinery and, eventually, presenting a report to Leinster House.

As far as we are aware, torture (physical brutality) used to extract information or to force a confession) ended when the Coalition regime ended last summer.

Cases with torture backgrounds, however, were not withdrawn by the new regime. Against a steel wall of Garda perjury what chance have the tortured victims of the Coalition regime of gaining justice?

Whatever chance they might have had, in the event of a sworn public inquiry,

they have virtually no chance in the non-jury circumstances of the Special Criminal Court in the immediate future.

Eventually, of course, the truth will out officially, possibly following a crisis of conscience by a civil servant or a member of the Garda Síochána.

Unofficially, thousands of people — politicians, civil servants, doctors, lawyers, court officials, judges, soldiers and police — know that torture has taken place; that it has been administered by a team of trained persons; that techniques used have been borrowed from South Africa, Franco's Spain, Salazar's Portugal, Stalin's Russia, de Gaulle's France, Nixon's America and, of course, from the all-round Crown, the daddy of them all when it comes to barbarity.

"Free" State torture usually consists of a mixture of severe physical and mental pressure. The physical, revolting though it may be, often is

not the more dangerous (unless it results in death following, for example, a man throwing himself out a window in a suicide bid to escape his torturers) and the mental or emotional torture often results in permanent damage to the personality (as illustrated in the cases of the 10 "hooded men", for example).

Founded on torture

Torture is not a new abuse in the 26 Counties — the very state was founded upon it, along with murder and robbery, treason and general treachery. In the early days of the "Free" State the torture HQs was Oriel House in Dublin but the torture extended as far as Kerry.

The brutality of the twenties, has been matched only by that of the seventies, in both cases being the result of extreme pressure on Dublin regimes by the advisers of the Crown.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Torture in Ireland will end only when the British have left our country. Add your voice to the growing demand for a British withdrawal.
- If you belong to a trade union, professional body or any association, raise the plight of the prisoners-of-war, state the facts and call publicly for an end to torture now.

- Contact your public representatives and clergy of all denominations to get them to demand an end to torture.
- Support all anti-torture demonstrations in your area and bring your friends along.

Demand an end to torture now.

BRITS OUT: PEACE IN

END TORTURE NOW

THE FACTS

For almost 1,000 years, England has tried to subjugate Ireland. It has been a long history of death, famine, violence and bloodshed. In every generation, a minority of Irish men and women heroically have resisted English rule. Over the past decade alone resistance to this alien rule has exacted sacrifices in life and liberty unprecedented in this century.

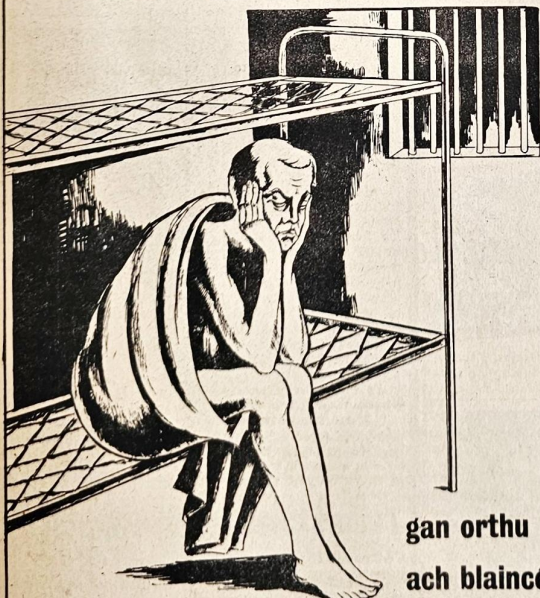
There is a growing demand for a British withdrawal from our country. England is meeting that demand by intensifying her torture of Irish prisoners-of-war. Here we refer specifically to prisoners in H-Block, Long Kesh Concentration Camp; the suffering of prisoners-of-war in English jails and police brutality in the Six and 26 Counties of Ireland. Helpless captives are subjected to torture of mind and body.

The European Commission for Human Rights found the British Government guilty of torture in the Six Counties of north-east Ulster. Amnesty International called for an inquiry into prison and police conduct in the remaining 26 Counties of Ireland. The same body has investigated charges of torture against the RUC. Some 40 cases of torture in English prisons have been laid before the European Court in Strasbourg.

All these measures are necessary but, ultimately, only the united voice of the Irish people will end torture. Read the facts. Then act.

This was Belfast man Eddie Rooney, in hospital, after he had been pushed from a window by RUC torturers in Springfield Road, Belfast. The episode got so much publicity the RUC withdrew. So did Eddie, as soon as he was well enough to leave hospital and now he lives in the 26 Counties.

H-BLOCK



gan orthu
ach blaincéad

LONG KESH



AGONY OF H-BLOCK

THROUGH your columns, the Republican prisoners-of-war in H-Blocks 3 and 5, Long Kesh, and B-Wing, Crumlin Road Gaol, wish to highlight the torture and inhuman treatment that has been practised on us over the last 16 months in the form of institutionalised violence.

There are now more than 200 Republican prisoners-of-war on the "blanket" protest for political status. We are kept in total solitary confinement, never being allowed to leave our cells. We do not receive any form of fresh air or exercise whatsoever. Most of us have had no form of exercise for over a year.

After several months of this, we are physically shattered. Every man suffers from some sort of medical complaint. We become exhausted at the slightest physical exertion.

The food we receive here is inadequate and usually inedible, because it is cold, ill-prepared or simply disgusting.

We do not receive any food parcels, therefore we are dependent upon what the prison authorities serve us. When the food is bad (it usually is) we go without! In our circumstances this is a very serious loss.

Always cold

In the mornings at 7.45 we stand naked and wash ourselves in a small basin of water. We find it very hard to keep warm with just a blanket round us.

We are subjected to continual harassment by the prison authorities, who try to break our spirit. We get frequent cell searches, during which we are told to take off the blanket.

We are made to stand naked in front of several prison officers who scrutinise our bodies. Recently, men have been forcefully held over a chair or table while a prison officer or medical officer inspected private parts of their bodies.

Many men are regularly sent to the punishment cells, either on a framed charge or over a very, very petty thing. The cells in the punishment block are like ice boxes. There is no heating in them.

The screws who run the punishment block hand out beatings to prisoners without thought of mercy. Men are kept in these cells from three to 30 days, depending on the alleged crime.

Most degrading

The most disgusting and degrading aspect of the punishment block, apart from the beatings, is the toilet "facilities".

There is a chamber pot in each cell, supposed to be emptied at least twice daily. If you are a "blanket man", a bucket is brought to your door and you must empty the filthy contents into it.

Receiving a bucket often depends on the screw on duty. Often, men do not have a chance of emptying their pots for days. This means that the filthy contents of the pot eventually flow over the floor, remaining there for days.

Treatment and conditions in the punishment block are so bad that men have been forced to embark on hunger strikes in an attempt to stop the beatings or just to get their chamber pots emptied.

Men also are paraded naked before the prison governor in the punishment block. Everything that happens in these cells is geared to break the spirit of the Republican PoWs.

Strip searches

Very few of us take the monthly visit (which must be granted) but those who do are subjected to the indignity of four strip searches before returning to their cells.

The things that I have mentioned are only a few of the tortures and suffering inflicted upon us by the Crown. We make no apology for our protest; it is a voluntary protest.

Every man has refused to wear prison garb or do prison work. We are Republican PoWs, not common criminals. Therefore, we shall continue to resist any attempt to criminalise us in any form or manner.

Political status

It is quite clear to us that the real criminal is the Crown, a foreign power that keeps 200 men and women incarcerated in such terrible conditions in H-Blocks where we are tortured daily to force us to wear a criminal uniform.

All we ask is that we, the Republican PoWs "on the blanket" be granted the political status to which we are entitled as prisoners-of-war.

We wish to make it clear that our resolve and determination is as strong as it ever has been and that we shall continue to resist each and every oppressive measure that is brought to bear upon us.

BRITS OUT : PEACE IN

• Postmhála • Postbag • Postmhála

DEAR GAY - I have always taken you to be an Irishman. At least you have an Irish name. But when I saw you present Mairéad Corrigan on the "Late Late" I lost faith in you.

These so-called Peace People have been described as "God's gift to the English Government". If they exhibited one per cent. of Irish nationalism, they would not be received by English royalty.

The Dublin regime allowed them to go to Dublin. Having got here they immediately abused the hospitality and told the "Southern Irish" to keep their noses out of "Northern Ireland", while, at the very moment, they were trying to stir up dissension.

Mairéad Corrigan presented a picture of hypocrisy on TV and her companions were the very people whose ancestors were planted here by the sword, ancestors who gave no peace and showed no justice.

It can be traced back to the time when the Englishman, Breakspere, became Pope Adrian IV and donated Ireland to Henry II. There can be no peace until the injustice is undone, restitution is made and the English occupation forces get out of Ireland.

Pope Adrian IV is responsible for the torrents of blood which have flowed in Ireland since his time. When one of the invaders gets killed, it is a crime for the Irish, but the Fifth Commandment is suspended for the invader. The Abbot of Abbeylea is on record as stating it was no harm to kill an Irishman, it was so little harm that the murderer could go to Holy Communion afterwards without confessing it. (See "Place Names of Longford" by Fr. MacGivney).

Finally I object to an institution, provided by Irish taxpayers, being made a platform for the enemy. I challenge you to publish this. W.H. O'Dunne-Müller, Station Road, Baile an tSúdaire, Co. Laoise.

Education Crux

IN A recent article in the "Leinster Leader" it was revealed that the teacher-pupil ratio in schools in Kildare is among the worst in the 26 counties.

The figure of 34.2 pupils to every teacher compares very unfavourably with other counties and in many cases this pupil-teacher ratio is much worse. Behind this figure lies a multitude of educational problems.

Because of the large classes teachers are unable to give sufficient individual attention to students. The slow learners suffer most from this situation and facilities for remedial students are far from adequate.

An open letter to Gay Byrne

As a result many students leaving school are ill-equipped for the world facing them.

During a discussion on the subject the Cill Dara Comhairlecheantar of Sinn Féin called on all those concerned with education to press for an improvement in the situation.

—Patrick O'Neill, Kilbelin, Droichead Nua.

P & T strike

I REGRET to have to draw your attention away from the truths and facts of events taking place in Ireland. Both the present regime and the last are consistent in their attacks hoping to keep down Republican socialism.

They evade the real issues of unemployment, inadequate housing and the torture of people opposed to these things. Three-quarters of all this information I would not know were it not for papers such as "An Phoblacht".

Truly, readers of "An Phoblacht" are not coned by government circles pretending to be at times friendly with the ever growing Republican Movement but then, at the same time, banning from the media Sinn Féin and the IRA so as to deplete their strength.

The same propaganda is being put out about the P & T strike. This on off strike has been going on for the past two years but has come to a head within the last nine months. It is causing widespread disruption and has been condemned in newspaper headlines such as "P & T strikers cost us £1 million a day in exports", or "P & T union sabotages exchanges".

You've heard this kind of cover-up before. Please show your support by finding out the truth to this strike.

—Tomás Mac Raghallaigh, Baile Átha Cliath.

• The Post Office in the 26 Counties is so old-fashioned, so bureaucratic, so lacking in industrial relations, that a book might be needed to explain the workers' grievances at so many levels. Part of the trouble is that some trade union leaders in the past have let Ministers and their allies away "with murder". We would welcome more letters on this topic (one grievance, one letter!).


—Eagarthóir na Litreach.

South Dublin Comhairlecheantar

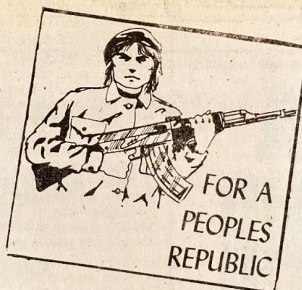
invites you to a social evening
Sunday, March 12, beginning at 20.00 hours.
Music and song in the Blessington Street Club.

Táille: 50p
Organised in conjunction with the Martin Forsythe Cumann, Sinn Féin.

80 SECTARIAN
MURDERS
SINCE FEBRUARY 10th
WHY NO PROTEST



FROM THE
HYPOCRITES?



Unemployment THE FACTS

In Clonard - 46%
In Ballymurphy/Turf Lodge - 52%
In Andersonstown - 40%
In Lower/Middle Falls - 45%
In Markers/Shortstrand - 38%
In New Lodge - 45%



KEEP THE BUTCHERS OF 1969 OUT.....



SMASH THE R.U.C.



POSTERS FROM THE PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE

Some day, when the war has been won and seen to be won, with enemy troops out of the country for good, we will mount an exhibition of posters from the people's struggle... if the people can find enough of them from their souvenirs to donate to us for the occasion.

Meantime, this is a beginning.

Stagg remembered at Wakefield

THE second annual commemoration of Proinsias Stagg was held in Wakefield Prison on Feb. 12, when a wreath of green-white-gold, bordered by a tri-coloured ribbon, was laid outside the main entrance.

As usual, the commemoration was organised and carried out by the Father Murphy Cumann, Nottingham.

The ceremony was watched by the screws who did not make any attempt to interfere.

Still only 10p

TO HELP strengthen the anti-imperialist front in the past we have made space available free of charge in this paper to friendly organisations and publications.

Because of growing economic pressure and our unwillingness at present to increase the cost of the publication we must end free donation of space and charge for all advertisements, in future, at the current rates: 5p per word (minimum, 50p) or, display, £1.50 per inch.

Subscription rates for "An Phoblacht" (and "Republican News") remain the same and (including postage) are: £8 per year, Ireland and rest of Europe, \$20 (or equivalent) elsewhere.

Until such time as "An Phoblacht" is being sold and bought in reasonable quantities in every parish in Ireland there will be no realistic basis for a daily Republican newspaper.

Support the armed struggle by increasing sales of "An Phoblacht" and "Republican News". Circulation of both is increasing but not quickly enough.

Cross all cheques or money orders and make them payable to: "An Phoblacht". Send your subscription now to us at: 44 Cearnóg Pharnell, Baile Átha Cliath, EIRE.

Sinn Féin Irish language class

Improve your knowledge of Irish by attending class every Wednesday (21.00 hours) in 5 Blessington Street, Dublin, organised by Sinn Féin.

Ni saoirse go Gaeilge.

Provisionals

We owe it to those who have died to complete the task they nobly served. Previous generations have failed - we must not.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

These calendars, at 30p (+ 8p postage) each, are available from our Craftshop, 44 Cearnóg Pharnell, Baile Átha Cliath.

Tailors' Hall, Dublin, March 8.

Éamonn Mac Thomáis invites you to an evening with Robert Emmet.

TÁILLE: 70p 20.00 hours
Tickets (limited) available from "An Phoblacht"

TOGHA AN CHEOIL!

CLASS STRUGGLE

Boss's hand in your wage packet...

VERY MANY people today, all over the world, have heard of a man who worked, lived and died in the last century called Karl Marx; but very few people have heard much about another man from whom he borrowed some of his most important ideas, the Corkman, William Thompson, particularly the idea of the surplus value of wages.

The other day, hoping to be able to buy a book or pamphlet on Thompson, I entered the Dublin shop run by the Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist).

The comrade in charge had heard something about Thompson but not that Marx was so much indebted to him. Unfortunately, they had no book or pamphlet on Thompson nor any work in which a reasonable reference to him would be available.

"What about 'Labour in Irish History'?" I asked.

"We do not stock that work any longer", I was told. "The publishers made slighting references to the Party. Also, we do not consider James Connolly that important. We do not rank him as a Marxist. See him rather as a syndicalist".

To many people on the Irish left that remark about Connolly not being a Marxist may appear almost obscene. Nevertheless it is a scientific statement of fact.

Connolly tradition

A contributor to the letters columns of this paper a few months ago, M. O Callanain of London, made the matter very clear, showing that the Republican Movement of today – and it is not Marxist – is in the direct tradition of Connolly's teaching.

Most people would be willing to agree that James Connolly was a socialist; that William Thompson was a socialist; and that the theory of the surplus value of wages is not an exclusive Marxist theory (nor even exclusively socialist, for that matter, for one finds the essential points of the theory in the work of Adam Smith in his work, "The Wealth of Nations").

Very briefly, the theory of the surplus value of wages is that the employer puts into his own pocket some of the wages or salary earned by each employee and, therefore, owned by right by the employee.

The struggle to regain some or all of that "surplus" is the main factor in the class war.

Tomás Maguire put in a hard week's work and that work resulted in, say, the

creation of £400. But Tom's employer, Seán O'Neill, returned only £100 of this in the form of wages.

Temporary truce

Tom has been in dispute with his boss through his trade union for months on this issue and eventually is called out on strike.

After some weeks a temporary truce in the class war takes place; the strike ends; Tom gets an increase of £50.

He is still sorer that his employer is grabbing so much and that his trade union has managed to recover so little.

He is sorer still that the state, in the form of pay-as-you-earn, claws back some of that increase and that his boss has increased the prices of the goods produced so that not only is there compensation for the extra £50 paid to Tom but that there is actually a profit on the transaction.

This is the vicious circle in which the worker is trapped within the capitalist society run by bosses' men in the interest of bosses.

Wages, therefore, constitute the price of labour hired and employed by an entrepreneur with profit in mind or, not to put a tooth in it, with robbery in mind.

Producing wealth

Today's capitalists might object to the word "robbery" or the equation of profit with robbery because they are not

as honest (in words) as were their ancestors.

The basic idea of Thompson and Marx was also the basic idea of the ordinary accepted economists of the age and they were all capitalist or gomben. In fact it would be impossible to mount an argument to the effect that all wealth is not produced in its entirety by work, the commodity supplied or forced from the worker.

Karl Marx wrote two books under the general title, "Das Kapital" ("Capital") and supplied the notes for the third in the series and which was written by Engels after the death of Marx.

The doctrine of surplus value is the main theme of "Das Kapital", and may be understood quicker and with greater facility in close relation to the Marx view of historical development and the class struggle. Extraction of surplus value from the worker is the means by which his exploitation and enslavement is accomplished.

The classical theory of the value of commodities is that this depends on the amount of labour involved in production and in finishing them for presentation to the market.

The theory goes back to a respectable English economist, David Ricardo (1772-1823), who is famous for his work on the theory of rent.

Ricardo's theory

Here is Ricardo's theory of distribution:

This is how a US cartoonist sees the decline of the once mighty dollar threatening an increased inflation rate which would lower the real wages for American workers.

• The demand for food determines the margin of cultivation;

• This margin determines rent;

• The amount necessary to maintain the labourer determines wages; and

• The difference between the amount produced by a given quantity of labour at the margin and the wages of that labour determines profit.

Marx was influenced by Ricardo, McCulloch, Thompson and Thomas Hodgskin. Ricardo was influenced by Adam Smith whose disciples were J.R. McCulloch and James Mill. Connolly was influenced by all of them but mostly, perhaps, by Marx and Thompson.

There was nothing revolutionary in the basic theory. What was revolutionary was the idea that wage-robbery was a wrong that should and could be righted and that, to that end, a new kind of society would have to emerge, to fight the old kind to the death and to replace it with socialist democracy.

The idea that wage-robbery was wrong, however, is to be found in the works of Thomas Aquinas, who held that it was a mortal sin for money to make money. Aquinas, however, lived in the Middle Ages and Marx, in the 19th century, by which time much of what Aquinas had stood for – and against – had been forgotten, played down even excused.

JOE STAGG BEATS U.S. VISA BAN

MEMORIAL SERVICES took place on Sunday, February 12 in New York for the trinity of Mayo martyrs – Seán McNeela, Michael Gaughan and Proinsias Stagg.

Ceremonies commenced with Mass in the Carmelite Church, 329 East 28th Street, Manhattan.

At 3.00 p.m. services were held in the Irish Institute, including the showing of the film of the Proinsias Stagg memorial march in New York in 1976.

The well attended gathering was entertained by songs from Chris McLoughlyn, Jnr., and Bob McCann.

Highlight of the event was a playing of the intended speech of the absent guest of honour, Joe Stagg, denied a visa by the US Consul in Dublin on some spurious excuse.

Mr. Peter O'Farrell, president, New York branch, National Graves Association, was chairman. Mr. Frank Durkan, prominent New York attorney, was M.C. Co-ordinators were: Jack McCarthy, M.P. Higgins, Michael Flannery and George Harrison.

In the course of his address Joe Stagg said: And in that new Ireland let us look for self-sufficiency and not be dependant on any monster power anywhere to be having vested interest in our country, telling us what to do and setting up a new empire with us as part of it.

"This is where I want to

speak to you in particular about the American dimension in Ireland. The American dimension in Ireland in my view should be no more or no less than the involvement of every Irish person or the sons and daughters of Irish people who have gone over to America over the centuries.

"Ireland is your business because you are of Ireland. And contributions that you make to our welfare we could in one sense I suppose claim as a right and you could claim it as a privilege to give.

"But what we do not want is American intervention in Ireland at the hour of our freedom at state level. We do not want Ireland to be the 50th state of the United States.

"The morning that I dread coming is this when I hear on a radio bulletin that the British have announced their intention to withdraw from Ireland and that at one and the same time we are politically as well as economically tied to the Common Market because that is what Roy Jenkins is on about all the time.

"We must, from the word go, say 'no' to any attempt by President Carter or his aids in trying to establish an American empire in Ireland at the hour of our freedom".

Longford opposes censorship

FIANNA FAÏL members of Longford Co. Council last month voted for a motion seeking to restore the right of Sinn Féin elected representatives to be interviewed by RTE. The motion, proposed by Seán Lynch (S.F.), was carried. It was seconded by Michael McCarthy (F.F.).

Seán Lynch said that he was one of 26 councillors elected at the last local authority elections who were banned from speaking on radio or appearing on TV.

He was not asking for any more or any less than of the councillors who sat there with him. He was only asking for the same rights as his fellow councillors.

U.S. imperialists reach out for Ireland

LITIR AS S.A.M.

THE IRISH hot lirie in Washington, D.C., was buzzing the week preceding St. Patrick's Day last year between the offices of Kennedy, Moynihan, Tip O'Neill and Hugh Carey. The "Irish Marshall Plan" was about to unfold.

The timing was perfect. On St. Patrick's Day these four Irish political hacks issued their appeal: "All

organisations engaged in violence must renounce their campaigns of death and destruction".

They neglected to mention the largest military force in the Six Counties – the British army – or South Carolina Senator Strom Thurmond's financial support for Ian Paisley and unionist paramilitaries, described in a U.S. State Department Report.

Three years

Nor was there a mention of British human rights violations against Irish political prisoners and members of the Catholic minority in the partitioned area as documented by the Association for Legal Justice, the European Commission on Human Rights and Amnesty International.

At the behest of Kennedy, the Dublin government under Cosgrave prepared the plan to make Ireland safe for American business. The St. Patrick's Day charade was the culmination of three years of intense media preparation paralleled only by the Vietnam war.

Carter said that, if the people of north-eastern Ireland could resolve their differences, "the U.S. government would be prepared to join with others to see how additional job-creating investment could be encouraged..."

It became apparent to some observers that corporate rights superceded human rights when it came to Ireland.

With the policy, U.S. investments (by far the

largest, according to the "Washington Post"), totalling 1.2 billion dollars north and south, would be ensured.

Carter threat

Further, Carter threatened to apprehend and "continue to prosecute" any American organisations endangering his plan.

His threat was carried out in January of this year when Irish activists were harassed by the FBI in California in a manner reminiscent of the Nixonian era.

All of this follows a well established pattern of American involvement hidden under a façade of "neutrality", the Friends of Ireland in California point out.

This pattern includes the financing of foreign occupation troops. By some strange coincidence, the amount of money loaned by

(Ar leantain ar lech. a 8)

PAC NEWS

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE PRISONERS

Read the paper of Irish prisoners in English jails, available from Prisoners Aid Committee,

182 Upper Street,

London N.1, Sasana.

Price: 2p postage 7p.

Ireland's struggle explained

A RALLY was organised in Wembley Conference Centre, London, on Feb. 26 by the Workers' Revolutionary Party to commemorate two historic events, the 40th anniversary of the Fourth International, and to present to the public for the first time the historic documentary film, "From Tsar to Lenin."

The vast auditorium was filled with delegates from all over Britain, the Continent, Africa, who came to listen to representatives from the Workers' Revolutionary Party, Sinn Féin, Z.A.P.U. Patriotic Front, Spain, Germany, Netherlands, Australia and the U.S.A.

Speakers from various trade unions including shop stewards from Leylands, Grunwick and the Firemen's Union addressed the audience on various aspects of anti-imperialism and their parts in it.

In sharp contrast to the impressive surroundings of the political Wembley conference centre, the representatives from Sinn Féin introduced the stark reality of the terror of British imperialism by appearing clad only in a blanket as an act of solidarity with the men in Long Kesh and Crumlin Road.

On behalf of the Republican prisoners in Long Kesh, Crumlin Road, Armagh, Magilligan, Portlaoise, Limerick and all the prisons in England, he extended revolutionary greetings to all sincere Socialists, imprisoned in imperialist hell holes throughout the world, for their part in the struggle for national liberation.

BUANCHUIMHNE

Tommy Smith

In proud memory of Tommy Smith, shot dead on March 17, 1975. Inserted by his friends and comrades in Portlaoise Prison.



Robert Emmet was honoured on the 200th anniversary of his birth by a parade to St. Catherine's Thomas Street, Dublin, by the Robert Emmet Cumann, Inchicore, and by ceremonies at St. Catherine's, organised by the National Graves Association and chaired by Joe Stagg. Eamonn Mac Thomáis gave the oration; Eamonn Ó hEochagha gave excerpts from Emmet's speech from the dock; and Terry Conneally, Robert Emmet Society, also spoke.

Comhairlecheantar Tíobrad Árann Theas

SOCIAL and DINNER
HEARN'S HOTEL, CLONMEL,
Monday, March 27, at 20.00 hours.

Music by the KOSMONAUTS

Táille: £5

He outlined the conditions in Long Kesh H-Block and the events leading up to the criminalisation of genuine political activity.

He restated that the aims of the Republican Movement were consistent with sincere meaningful socialism in the finest traditions.

He warned delegates of the nature of British counter-insurgency methods in the efforts to discredit the people's freedom struggle.

The Workers' Revolutionary Party is to be congratulated on its initiative of holding this conference. It presented a solid front against imperialism and monopoly capitalism which is the cause of Ireland's agony.

The Sinn Féin candidate was pleased to have been invited, and looks forward to similar events in the future.

Intimidation fails

PRIOR to the start of Belfast's mammoth "status" march, organised by Belfast Sinn Féin RAC, large numbers of Paras and Royal Marines ringed the borders of the Andersonstown estate and attempted to prevent people from reaching the starting point.

Despite massive intimidation the crowd numbered several thousand as the march left Andersonstown. By the time the venue for the meeting was reached the crowd had swollen considerably, making the event the greatest political status demo. for some time.

Ómós mór i nDún Dealgan do Phádraig Ó Dufaigh

DESPITE a massive Garda presence in Dundalk last Sunday full military honours were paid to Patrick Duffy (66). The popularity of the man in the town was shown clearly by the closed shops and the thousands lining the route.

Patrick Duffy was a life-long Republican. His entire family, since the Tand days,

has been involved in the freedom struggle. His father was interned in the forties and he himself was jailed, time and again, since he was 17.

He was the bulwark of the Republican Movement in the area in the fifties, sixties, seventies and to the day he

died.

He was a brother of Peter Duffy, Dundalk UDC and Louth Co. Council. The widow Judith, was a sister of Willie Gaughan of Dundalk, who died following his release from Parkhurst in 1947.

Attendance

Among those present from Sinn Féin were: Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, Uachtarán; Joe Cahill and Daithí Ó Conaill, leas-uachtarán; Uilleann Ó Loinsigh comhárta; and Billy Moreland formerly Greencastle, Belfast, now South Melbourne Cumann Australia. The oration was delivered by Liam Hannaway of Belfast.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

Derry raid

Following the Crown raid on the Sinn Féin centre, Cable Street, Derry, on March 2, two S.F. workers were taken to Strand Road barracks in an attempt to intimidate local people from using the centre.

Loyalist shift

(Ar leanúint ó lch. a 3)

increased disturbances. What would be necessary would be the working out of a framework of independence.

Two simultaneous declarations would be necessary, one from the Crown, announcing intention to quit Ireland as soon as an independent government could be established in the Six Counties; and another from the Dublin regime, respecting the sovereignty of an "independent and peaceful Northern Ireland" and, if necessary, to seek a declaration from their Supreme Court that articles two and three of the Constitution of the Republic do not preclude the right of the people of the North to self-determination.

The statement continues: "As a first step we would see the need for a major conference - to be held in Northern Ireland - and not elsewhere, to which all interested parties would be invited to discuss independence for Northern Ireland, the form it might take, and the way in which it might be implemented."

"We ask the British government to provide the necessary finance and support to mount such a conference," the Committee's statement concludes.

British interference

Comhairle Uladh (Ulster Executive) comments that it sees British interference and the resultant dependence as the major bar, both physically and psychologically, to Irish unity.

"However, we are critical of the proposal for an independent Six Counties. We are opposed to such a proposal as it is a negation of Irish sovereignty, as it would be based on the old sectarian partition line and since its existence would allow room for continued British control and interference."

"From the Committee's statement we recognise a major shift in thinking but we urge Loyalists to take it a step further and for them to recognise that a political settlement can be based only on a peace which resolves the issues of conflict and which offers us all prosperity - our proposal for a federal socialist republic."

"We urge them to recognise that only under a federal solution where Irish sovereignty is upheld will conflict cease and then we can undertake united, working-class activity which will bring the people of Ireland major standards of economic improvement and prosperity," the statement ends.

LITIR AS S.A.M.

(Ar leanúint ó lch. a 7)

America to England through the International Monetary Fund equals the cost of the British occupation of Ireland (*The Economist*, 1/77).

Now comes news from David Murray of "New Times" magazine that "the program has been cleverly plotted out to be unassailable by either "Catholic" or Protestant Ulster politicians."

Smell of bribe

To avoid the "smell of a bribe," no dollar figure will be attached to the revitalization program, and its mechanism will allow for a conversion from a wholly U.S. affair to

one funded internationally by the U.N. or Common Market."

As Irish-Americans wait yet another year for action from the 83 members of the Irish ad-hoc Congressional Committee in Washington, representatives continue to court Irish leaders from all sides.

It has been reported that Congressional Representative Dodd of Connecticut is scheduled to meet Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, the Sinn Féin president.

Yet another St. Patrick's Day approaches and a Chilean refugee in Los Angeles comments: "The U.S. imperialist octopus is now grabbing for Ireland".

As lár an chogaidh

FROM THE WAR ZONE

(Ar leanúint ó lch. a haon)

the Lake Glen Hotel, Andersonstown Road.

TUESDAY, FEB. 28

Derry: A member of the Crown forces (RUC) part of a mobile patrol, was shot dead in Clarendon Street, Briogaid Doire (Derry Brigade) Oglagh na hÉireann, claimed responsibility.

Belfast: Shots were fired at Crown forces who had been lured by a hoax bomb call to the Hillman Street - North Queen Street junction.

WEDNESDAY, Mar. 1

Derry: Shots were fired at a Crown forces (military) patrol in Rosemount.

Downpatrick: Kelly's carpet shop in Irish Street was damaged in a bomb explosion.

Belfast: A member of the Crown forces (military) was shot dead in Clifton Avenue. ASU members, who used an

M60 in the attack transported the machine gun to and from the scene in a wheelbarrow and were able to withdraw safely under fire. Briogaid Bheal Feirste claimed responsibility.

Three shots were fired at Crown forces (RUC) at the corner of Whiterock and Springfield Roads.

FRIDAY, MAR. 3

Belfast: Two members of the Crown forces (one military and one female searcher) were shot dead at the security gates at Donegal Street - Church Street.

The three men involved in the attack were dressed in Arab costume, taking advantage of the university rag day procession to get within inches of the enemy without arousing suspicion. Briogaid Bheal Feirste claimed responsibility.

More than three years ago female searchers were warned that they would be considered legitimate military targets.

Ballymena: Turtle's Garage was damaged extensively when a bomb, planted by two armed men, exploded. Another bomb left at a nearby garage was defused by enemy forces.

SATURDAY, MAR. 4

Crossmaglen: A member of the Crown forces (military) was killed and another was seriously injured when they were caught in a booby-trap explosion while attempting to remove a Tricolour flag from a telegraph pole just outside the town. Oglagh na hÉireann claimed responsibility.

Keady: Two Crown forces (military) mobile patrol vehicles were ambushed, the ensuing gun battle lasted for over half an hour. No casualties were claimed. In a statement, Oglagh na hÉireann said that eight volunteers using rifles and machine guns had been involved.