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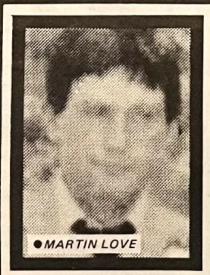
SECTARIAN MURDER

THE LATEST in a long line of sectarian murder attacks on the nationalist people of the North by crown forces was perpetrated on a young Enniskillen man, Martin Love, who was gunned down in the early hours of Monday this week. UDR soldier James Robert Kenny has been charged with, and has admitted his guilt in, the murder.

And another serving member of the British army, home on leave in Enniskillen, is also being questioned about the attack on the 24-year-old unemployed labourer who was shot dead while returning home from a local hotel.

Shortly after the murder, a caller representing the UFF (a cover name for the UDA when perpetrating sectarian crimes) said that they had shot Martin Love because, they claimed, he was a member of the IRA.

But this unfounded claim was quickly denied by the victim's father.



● MARTIN LOVE

lying on the footpath, bleeding profusely and moaning for help.

Although he was rushed to the Erne Hospital, Martin Love died shortly afterwards. The subsequent arrest and charging of a member of the UDR with the murder caused no surprise amongst Fermanagh republicans.

Sinn Féin elected representative Owen Carron described the attack as "the latest in a long series of murders in the Fermanagh area by members of the UDR doubling as loyalist para-

militaries with the connivance of the RUC".

Carron outlined examples of these murders including the deaths of Louis Leonard in 1972 and Jim Murphy, Councillor Patsy Kelly and Paddy Riley in 1974 and 1975. And in a statement pointing to clear connivance between the RUC and loyalist paramilitaries, Carron added:

"There are numerous eye-witnesses to an incident approximately one month ago on a Sunday night when the RUC liaised with a hooded gang driving a car without a number plate on the Sligo Road in Enniskillen. They were allowed to proceed unhindered and have been observed openly cruising the Enniskillen area since then.

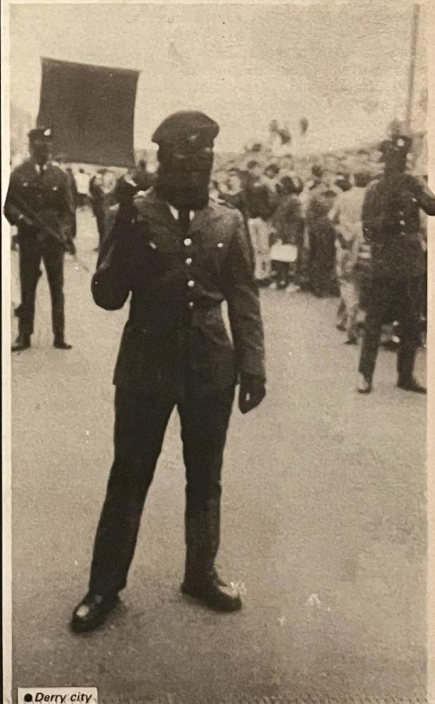
"The UFF (Ulster Freedom Fighters) and PAF (Protestant Action Force) have shown themselves to be convenient cover names for the UDR, as has been proven in the Craigavon/Armagh area.

"Only an end to British rule in this six-county sectarian state — and not token calls for their disbandment — can put an end to open British organisations like the UDR and to the clandestine loyalist murder gangs comprised of the same personnel."



● Drumboe, County Donegal

REPORTS AND See pages 5-13 PHOTOS



● Derry city



Statement from the leadership of the Republican Movement

THE LEADERSHIP of the Republican Movement, on this the 69th anniversary of the 1916 Rising, recalls with pride the memory of our fallen dead and extends to the families of our dead comrades our support and sympathy.

Without the sacrifices of these courageous Volunteers no advancement of the cause of freedom could have been made. Each Unit, each Battalion and Brigade of the Irish Republican Army has its own particular Volunteers to recall on this occasion which we set aside to honour our martyred comrades.

From their sacrifices we draw a strength which every single day drives our struggle forward and which will most certainly tip the scales against the British government and its forces.

The British soldiers on the streets, the RUC hiding with their machine-guns and rifles behind a foreign law, and the loyalist paramilitary UDR defending sectarianism, know that they are large in numbers but pathetically short in courage.

We represent the oppressed people of Ireland and our struggle will not cease until we have forced Britain to give up its imperial hold on our country and allow all the people of Ireland to nationally determine this island's political future. This includes the people of the twenty-six counties, the nationalist people of the North and those presently tied to the disastrous philosophy of sectarian superiority known as loyalism.

British interests, loyalist supremacy and Free Stateism coincide on the maintenance of partition and

Confident of victory

it is partition which is the cause of the bloodshed and many other ills in Ireland. But it is the British government which is the major factor in maintaining the status quo and it is against that government and its forces that we direct our resources.

ANALYSIS

Against the Dublin government and its attempts to channel politics into a truncated twenty-six-county nationalism, we direct not physical force, as they falsely allege, but the republican analysis which they suppress and are afraid to debate.

Successive Dublin governments know that diplomacy and appeals to Britain will not succeed in achieving any major breakthrough and have not even wrung any minor concessions which they can package as progress being made. In the past,

huffing and puffing has enabled Dublin governments to deceive the public with a pretence of activity.

However, the enduring nature of our struggle and the political successes of Sinn Féin in bringing to the people the message of republicanism will increasingly force changes in Free State politics. We congratulate Sinn Féin in its efforts despite censorship and repression and we fully support the strategies as adopted at ard-fheiseanna.

We also thank the workers of An Cumann Cabhrach, Green Cross and the PDF committees for their tireless efforts on behalf of our prisoners and their families and the National Graves Association under whose auspices monuments to our fallen comrades have been erected and cared for.

The leadership of the Republican Movement takes this opportunity to

send revolutionary greetings to our imprisoned comrades in jails in Ireland, Britain and America and a special word of mention to our sisters in Armagh Prison, where the regime there attempts to humiliate them through strip-searching.

Just as we will not tolerate the repression of our people on the streets, we have also recently shown that we are not prepared to accept brutality against defenceless prisoners. The administrators of Armagh should take note of this.

SUPPORT

Finally, we congratulate republican solidarity groups throughout the world for their ongoing support for our just struggle. We thank our friends in the United States, Canada, Australia, Britain and Europe for their defence of our cause.

In 1916, a handful of visionaries took over the GPO in Dublin and declared the Irish Republic. After a week of bloody fighting they were defeated. In 1985, the revolutionary Irish Republican Army, organised, active and confident of victory, will see this struggle through to a peaceful conclusion.

Last October in Brighton, British prime minister Margaret Thatcher received a token of the price to be paid for the occupation of our country. The British government cannot defeat the Irish Republican Army — our struggle has shown that.

But we can and will outlast British support for loyalism and we will be victorious.

Beidh bua ag Óglaigh na hÉireann. Beidh bua ag muintir na hÉireann. Beidh an bua againn uilig.

Victory to the Irish people. Victory to the Irish Republican Army.

Reformist deal outlined

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

IN SPITE of persistent denials from the British and Free State governments that any deal had been made, or was about to be made, rumours have continued to circulate for the third week running. This time, however, the main story came not from a British newspaper close to Thatcher but from an Irish newspaper close to FitzGerald, the *Irish Independent*.

In a front-page story last week, the *Irish Independent* 'revealed' that the 'deal' involved a permanent Free State government office in Stormont and a £500 million economic recovery package underwritten by the United States and the EEC.

The idea of a Dublin office in Stormont, promptly given the name of 'green room' by the media, received a traditional unionist welcome. "We would take great pleasure in kicking them down the steps," said DUP Assemblyman Jim Allister of the unfortunate Dublin officials who are to occupy the hypothetical 'green room'.

Meanwhile, Free State Minister for Foreign Affairs Peter Barry launched into some seasonal nationalistic verbalising of his own on Wednesday, April 3rd, when he declared that the Free State government was still "committed to Irish unity", but that, in the short term, since Irish unity was "out", their priority commitment was to "end the nightmare of Northern nationalists". To refuse the opportunity for reforms would be an "unpardonable betrayal", Barry said.

ARROGANCE

Behind the arrogance of the self-appointed spokesperson for Northern nationalists lies the double admission by a member of the Free State government that nothing is on offer from the Brits other than a patching up of the six-county state, and that the Free State government will settle for it.

Barry then went on to call for a bipart-



● Stormont, Belfast

isan approach to the Anglo-Irish talks, by asking Free State political leaders to "join in the pursuits of these two noble objectives" — Irish unity on the long finger and a few reforms by the end of the year. Barry's offer was of course rejected by Haughey, who pointed out that on several occasions the Coalition failed to show any solidarity with Northern nationalists when Fianna Fail motions on the PTA or show-trials came up for discussion in Leinster House.

The whole episode smacked of rank opportunism. Once again the beleaguered nationalist community was being used as a pretext for Free State politicians to score political points. While FitzGerald and Barry were attempting to salvage their

government's credibility after the Chequers fiasco, Haughey was sniping from the sidelines in an effort to maintain his party's 'republican' image.

NOTHING

The strange thing is that all the while British politicians were at pains to point out that nothing was on offer that would upset the unionist veto, and indeed that nothing concrete had been agreed with Dublin.

On Wednesday, April 4th, British direct-ruler Douglas Hurd outlined in a speech to British Conservative students the four elements of British policy in the North: "The eradication of terrorism, a reasonable partnership within Northern Ireland, a

solid co-operative relationship with the republic and a reduction of the present level of unemployment".

In other words: increased repression, encouragement to the SDLP to take their Stormont assembly seats, a tightening of collaboration with Dublin and renewed efforts to attract foreign companies to the six counties. And as if to re-emphasise that nothing had changed, "the constitutional guarantee stands", Hurd declared to the press two days later, "and we have made it perfectly clear that we are not interested in some sort of joint authority".

PARCEL

The British government could not be less ambiguous. Another internal settlement is on the cards, which London and Dublin are presently trying to parcel up as attractively as possible so that the SDLP and FitzGerald can consent to it without too much loss of face.

As for Thatcher, she has little to fear from her own opposition party at home. No need to call for bipartisanship there. The British Labour Party is offering it without even being asked, if one is to believe the words of their newly-appointed deputy spokesperson on the North, Stewart Bell. There would be "no sell-out" of unionists, he assured during a visit to the six counties last week. The British Labour Party believed in "consent, not coercion", he said, and added that his party advocated a solution based on an inter-governmental tier, a new police complaint procedure and closer security collaboration between London and Dublin.

With the British Labour Party toeing the line, and with FitzGerald's own opposition leader refusing to commit Fianna Fail to a withdrawal of Free State troops from the border, Thatcher can now safely proceed with her internal settlement package. Northern nationalists will, as usual, foot the bill, with increased repression, worsening unemployment and the continued frustration of their aspirations for democracy and self-determination.

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

"WE fully support the security forces in impartially seeking out anybody who commits a crime in Northern Ireland", said the Official Unionists? said the Alliance Party? No, in fact those were the words of SDLP leader John Hume in the British parliament on Thursday, April 4th.

Hume's candid outburst was in response to extreme right-wing Tory MP Brian Mayhew, complaining that the "minority in Northern Ireland", including the SDLP, "neither supported nor even recognised the security forces".

Hume qualified his astonishing declaration of support by talking of a much-needed "consensus" which would in turn generate "community confidence" in the security forces.

But all that waffle cannot hide the fact that the Derry MP has given his party's public support to the British army, the RUC and the UDR, provided that they are seen to be "impartial".

INJUSTICE

What Hume implied was that the maintenance of 'law and order' in the six counties can be conducted with impartiality despite the fact that the six-county state was built on the basic injustice, that of a foreign country setting up a permanent majority in its favour in a corner of Ireland.

Impartiality in the sectarian six-county state died on the day that the state was formed. The RUC and 'B' Specials were set up to be the armed wing of the unionist government. And after decades of naked repression, and many nationalist deaths, the 'B' Specials were finally disbanded on April 1st 1970 to be replaced by a new 'impartial' force, the UDR, which a certain Austin Currie, a member of the newly-formed SDLP, advised all Catholics to join or at least to support.

Northern nationalists have experienced to their cost the impartiality

of the UDR which according to constitutionalist politicians was to bring fairness to the enforcement of 'law and order'.

DEAL

It is no coincidence that Hume's recent statement came after weeks of intense media speculation about a supposed deal between London and Dublin, which would include a reform of the RUC to make it more acceptable to nationalists.

The type of reform which the British government envisages consists of a new 'independent' complaints procedure, as well as a campaign to recruit more Catholics into the RUC.

Such cosmetic changes would be welcome by the SDLP whose critical stance towards the RUC was prompted by pressure from nationalist voters and the growth of support for Sinn Féin.

The SDLP has been trying to get off that hook for a long time and has decided to give its full support to a revamped RUC just as it came out in favour of the UDR in 1970. Recently the SDLP, along with the Free State government and Bishop Cahal Daly, started using the British line of 'Irishmen killing Irishmen' whenever the RUC or UDR were killed by the IRA.

At a time when the Free State and British government are discussing a package of cosmetic 'reforms' in an attempt to stabilise the six counties, Northern nationalists can expect to see the SDLP do plenty of somersaulting while they help to prop up yet another British-imposed internal settlement.

HUME BACKS RUC



Red Cross workers ill-treated

BY DONAL LYONS

AN OFFICIAL DISPUTE has erupted at the Irish Red Cross's plush offices in Merrion Square. The ex-Fianna Fail mayoress of Clonmel, County Tipperary, Carrie Acheson, who was also a director of Irish Shipping and is currently chairperson of the IRC, is being blamed by workers for the dispute.

The Red Cross is funded by the Free State Department of Defence and members of the governing council are politically appointed. The staff accuse management, and particularly Acheson, of dictatorial practices and mismanagement of finances. As an example of this, they quote the purchase, as a training centre, of Cliff House in Bray for £3 million in 1982, premises that are still uninhabitable.

Last October, staff in the fundraising section submitted a report on how the premises should be run, which was immediately met with a management threat to sack the workers involved, and they have now closed this section, which one of the more viable departments.

A union spokesperson says that the whole situation is a mess and unless management agree to sit down and have meaningful negotiations the dispute will drag on and disrupt the work of the Red Cross.

The Tallaght Unemployment Action Group has slammed the political opportunism of the Workers' Party for their so-called 'survey' of 500 houses on the estate, asking people whether they were working or not.

The action group says that the Workers' Party is "electioneering at the expense of the unemployed of Tallaght". A

spokesperson adds that Workers' Party candidate Rabbite has refused to support any of their protests in the past 18 months.

The unemployment group has called upon these people "to support the campaign for jobs in Tallaght" and they feel that the unemployment crisis is far too serious an issue to be used as a political football.

Workers in Cleaves Toffees, Dublin, were told on Tuesday evening not to report for work on Wednesday morning as the factory was closing down.

The 55 workers were informed by couriers to their own homes that the firm had gone into receivership and they were advised to apply for minimum state redundancy.

This new tactic by management appears to be an attempt to stem the growing militancy of workforces in occupying closing factories. As Cleaves was the last remaining Irish sweet manufacturer, this closure marks the end of the Irish confectionery industry.

Tuesday's Dublin Council of Trade Unions meeting passed a motion calling for a mass picket of Dunnes Stores on Saturday, April 27th, between 2pm and 4pm. On Good Friday, an open-air Mass was held outside the store in solidarity with the striking workers.

But at the IDATU conference John Mitchell, general secretary, was critical of the level of trade union support for the dispute which he said was "be-grudging and belated". The conference carried an emergency motion pledging whatever support is necessary to win the strike.

Free State Minister for Labour Ruairi Quinn was not invited to this year's

conference because of his "disgraceful behaviour" in relation to the dispute. Incidentally, one of the Dunnes management negotiating team, Noel Fox, is the sole Irish representative of the South African firm Spicer and Oppenheim.

The Irish National Painters and Decorators Union have been granted all-out picket sanction for their dispute with Dublin's Eye and Ear Hospital.

The sanction takes effect from Monday, April 15th, and will mean a total shutting down of services. Craftworkers in Dublin's other voluntary hospitals will be withdrawing their labour from April 22nd in solidarity with the sacked men.

Medical and nursing services in Belfast's Royal Victoria Hospital are to be cut, as part of the axing of health service costs in the six counties. The RVH will bear the brunt of the cutbacks with a policy of non-replacement of medical and nursing staff. Catering and porter services will also be curtailed.

At the Irish National Teachers Organisation conference in Waterford, union president Joe Connolly called for the establishment of a special programme of Irish education to take account of the background of urban working-class youth.

He condemned Irish society which allowed its youth to be undermined by English tabloids, foreign games and mid-Atlantic music. The conference has also overwhelmingly rejected the Free State government's pay guidelines.

Meanwhile in Cork, at the Teachers Union of Ireland conference, executive

member Pat Conway called on the union to take a stand in defence of teachers' civil liberties when referring to the dismissal of Eileen Flynn.

However, this attitude did not extend to the union making a financial contribution towards Flynn's legal costs. It was also claimed that cuts in education spending are a contributory factor to the rising crime-rate amongst working-class youth.

The Texaco petrol and oil company are attempting to 'rationalise' their operations by making at least 46 workers redundant. The workers are already operating an overtime ban and are considering strike action over management's refusal to negotiate.

The general officers of the ITGWU have avoided an embarrassing situation by deciding not to go ahead with their rationalisation plans for the union. This week the staff of the ITGWU voted to go on strike if the plans went ahead.

After a ten-month strike last year, AUEW/TASS won recognition for its members in McCarthy & Partners, one of Ireland's leading engineering and planning consultancy firms. In a recommendation last November, the Labour Court instructed the firm to adopt "appropriate pay scales" for workers there.

The company has refused to pay the awards and when the union took the firm back to the Labour Court, management failed to make a submission.

TASS are now taking action under Section 20 of the Industrial Relations Act, which means that the court can make a recommendation, whether the company co-operates with the hearing or not.



FWUI pickets on the Merrion Square, Dublin, offices of the Irish Red Cross Society

Gas deal rejected

BY JANE PLUNKETT

BRITISH direct-rule minister Rhodes Boyson last week delivered a final death-blow to the North's gas industry, by rejecting a revised scheme to pipe natural gas from Kinsale.

As a result, thousands of household consumers face disruption and higher fuel bills, while the industry's 1,100 workers will lose their jobs.

The gas industry in the six counties is based on expensive town gas, produced from coal and the scaled-down Kinsale scheme would have involved supplying only the Newry and Greater Belfast area initially with cheaper natural gas from Kinsale.

DISMISSED

Last Friday, industry minister Boyson dismissed the scheme as "totally non-viable". Boyson has

claimed that the British government would have to provide at least £70 million in guarantees, and that even if the scheme went ahead, the industry would have to be shut down anyway in three or four years, because of falling demand.

On March 31st of this year, the yearly £12 million subsidy to the gas industry was terminated. This, together with the Brits' latest decision, gives local gas undertakings little option except to close down.

With all energy sources in the six-county statelet artificially high, thousands of consumers now face the long-term hardship of con-



Laying the gas pipeline in County Kildare

version to expensive electricity or coal, as well as the short-term hazards and disruption of conversion.

WARNING

Sinn Féin Councillors Alex Maskey and Sean McKnight, both members of Belfast City Council's gas committee, have warned

that despite the £97 million run-down payment promised by Boyson, the compensation paid to household consumers is likely to prove grossly inadequate. Under previous closedown provisions, consumers were entitled to 50% compensation, but newly-published draft arrangements fail to

specify any figure.

The 1,100 workers who now face redundancy are, because of job discrimination, overwhelmingly loyalists, who will thus pay a bitter-price for their support for British domination, and for partition, which keeps the Irish working class divided.

DENOUNCED

Unionist politicians thunderously denounced the axing of the industry — the DUP's Sammy Wilson termed it a "crucifixion" — but the fact is that British-imposed policies which accelerated the industry's decline were tamely ratified by unionist-dominated local councils. At a meeting of Belfast council's gas committee, Councillor Wilson himself withdrew a motion opposing last January's price-rise because it was seconded by Sinn Féin's Alex Maskey.

The now-inevitable collapse of the North's gas industry shows just how unviable the six counties are as an economic unit linked to Britain.

Guimhneachan na Cásca 1985

Antrim

THE WEATHER in Belfast on Easter Sunday was miserable, with rain persistently pouring down, and a biting cold wind cutting through even the warmest-dressed marchers. In spite of this, and of the constant rumours which had been circulating in the media all week of a planned assault by the RUC on the commemoration, thousands from nationalist areas throughout Belfast gathered on the Falls Road to participate in the 69th anniversary commemoration ceremony.

From early that morning, the RUC had sealed off Milltown Cemetery. They informed Sinn Féin stewards that they had discovered a bomb or bombs and that no-one would be allowed inside the cemetery grounds.

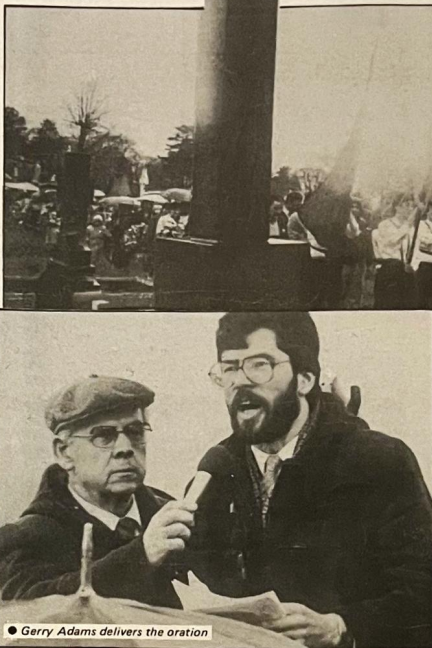
The commemoration organisers were determined not to be delayed and decided, if necessary, to hold the commemoration at the gates of the cemetery.

The commemoration was led by a colour party of republicans, followed by dozens of wreath-carrying people, several bands and hundreds of silent marchers. Thousands lined the route, applauding as the colour party marched past.

After assessing intelligence reports that the Brits and RUC intended to attack parades headed by IRA colour parties, in the same manner as funerals have been attacked in recent years, the IRA in a number of areas decided to go ahead with the traditional appearance of their Volunteers.

In Derry, Carrickmore and Crossmaglen, the geographical conditions ensured that local units could guarantee their own safety and the safety of those who joined the parade. But in Belfast, where the danger of attack was most likely and where Brit/RUC bases are positioned along the route of the parade, and with Andersonstown Barracks within yards of the cemetery gates, it was decided to have a civilian colour party instead.

It is not forgotten that last August the RUC killed Sean Downes and injured many other marchers in attempting to capture Noviad spokesperson Martin Galvin during the anti-internment demonstrations in the city.



● Gerry Adams delivers the oration

At the gates of Milltown Cemetery, Gerry Adams, Sinn Féin MP for West Belfast, addressed the crowd and informed them that once a way had been cleared for the British army bomb team to leave the cemetery, it would only be a matter of a few minutes before the commemoration could proceed at the Republican Plot.

Reluctantly, and not without a few jibes thrown in the direction of the Brits, the hundreds of onlookers assembled around the cemetery gates slowly parted and allowed the British army bomb team to leave. Because of the threat of bomb attack, stewards quickly established a new route for the commemoration to

take through the cemetery grounds. The platform was set up in the carpark just below the new Republican Plot, in which the republican colour party took up position.

Alfie Hannaway, of the National Graves Association, chaired the meeting, welcoming everyone and extending particular greetings to several delegations from Nicaragua, France and Britain who were present at the commemoration.

A bugler played the *Last Post* and Mary McGuigan from Ardoyne read the 1916 Proclamation.

The statement from the leadership was read and then Gerry Adams was introduced to tumultuous applause. He said:

"On every front the British are being opposed and exposed. On the streets in simple acts of defiance, culturally by the renaissance of our language and culture, in the prisons by the undaunted ingenuity of our

prisoners, at their own ballot boxes with the support for Sinn Féin and in the actions of the soldiers of the IRA.

"The development of an open, popular and relevant political party is as important as the continued resistance of the IRA. The IRA are political soldiers who use armed means to resist armed aggression. To consolidate that resistance, to politicise and republicanise it, is a mighty task. It is also a necessary and urgent one.

"We will only be sold-out if we, or our supporters, are unclear or immature, if we allow confusion or a lack of clarity to mislead us. We need a commitment to, and a deep understanding of, republicanism and republican objectives.

"Sinn Féin is continuing with the awesome tasks before us. We need to build a strong thirty-two-county-wide political movement. In this regard the twenty-six counties is as important, if not more so, than the six counties, and the building of republican and nationalist opinion there is a paramount priority.

"We should not have an inflated sense of our own importance or an elitist sense of our relevancy. Such defects lead to self-inflicted isolation and subsequent defeat. The people

are all-important. Without them we are nothing. Thus the local government elections in both the six and twenty-six counties must be used as recruiting and organisational campaigns.

"We will not maximise our vote in this election. That is not our objective. But we will build a better and more coherent organisation so that the eventual defeat of our political opponents will have a deeper basis and an irreversible and longer-term effect."

Congratulating the people for their continued resistance to every aspect of British repression, Adams concluded his oration saying:

"As you applaud the memory of Pearse and Connolly and their comrades, as you honour our martyred dead, as you extend solidarity to the IRA or Sinn Féin, applaud yourselves also. You are the people. You are unbeatable. You shall be free.

"Le sin teighigí amach agus déan-aig' an obair. Mar a dúirt mé ar dtús, tá muid cruinnithe anseo chan amháin le tréan omós dár gcomradaithe a fuair bás sa troid ach le go ndéanfaidh muid rún dangeanach na n-imeachaidh, muid ó bhealach na saoirse feasta."

(Continued on next page)



● The Brit bomb squad leaves the cemetery with a large escort of Brits and RUC who made every effort to provoke the crowd (inset)





(Continued from previous page)

DUNLOY

Despite crown force attempts to disrupt the Dunloy, County Antrim, commemoration, over 200 people assembled at the graveside of Volunteers Henry Hogan and Declan Martin, assassinated by an SAS undercover squad in February 1984.

Motorists on their way to the commemoration were stopped and their vehicles searched by the RUC, who were apparently deployed to all roads leading to the graveyard. Wreaths were laid on behalf of North Antrim Oglagh na hEireann, the Hogan/Martin Sinn Fein cumann and family members, followed by the reading of a statement from the leadership of the Republican Movement.

NEW LODGE

Five hundred people from the New Lodge area of North Belfast attended their local commemoration on Easter Monday from Victoria Parade to Duncairn Parade. There was a brief confrontation with the RUC in North Queen Street when several landrovers tried, but failed, to provoke the crowd.

Bobby Lavery, Sinn Fein candidate in the council elections, chaired the meeting and the Roll of Honour was read by Billy Kelly.

Paddy McManus, chairperson of North Belfast Sinn Fein, delivered the oration in which he reflected on political and military events throughout the past year. These included an escalation in the Brits' shoot-to-kill policy — which had claimed the lives of 11 Volunteers — the continuing struggle in the prisons (with emphasis on the courage of the women in Armagh) and Sinn Fein's political achievements in the past and present. He urged more hard work in the future to ensure the consolidation of these achievements.

TOOMEBRIDGE

On Easter Tuesday, a thousand people lined the route of the Easter commemoration parade through the village of Toomebridge as it walked from the GAC field on the Shorrodd on its way to the Roddy McCorry Monument which was unveiled last year.

Leading the parade were 25 members of the Roddy McCorry Society from Belfast who carried a huge banner, followed by a colour party, eight bands and a crowd of over 500 people.

Anthony Kearney, chairperson of the local GAC, chaired the ceremony and Mitchell McLaughlin of Derry Sinn Fein comhairle ceantair gave a rousing oration.

ARDOYNE

Following a march through the small nationalist Ardoyne area, around 1,000 people attended a commemoration at Ardoyne's republican memorial in Berwick Road on Easter Tuesday.

The main speaker at the rally, chaired by Mary McGuigan of Ardoyne Sinn Fein, was elected representative Jim McAllister from Cullyhanna, South Armagh, who reminded those present of the need for the gains achieved by armed struggle to be consolidated on the political front by Sinn Fein.

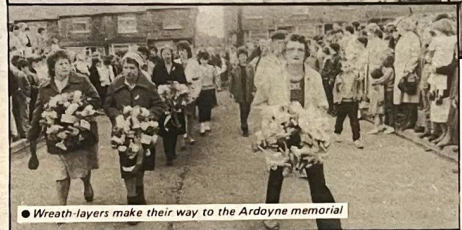
Armagh

A CUMANN NA MBAN colour party led a several hundred-strong march through Crossmaglen on Easter Sunday morning.

Despite bitter weather, the atmosphere in the staunchly nationalist town was unmistakably proud and confident. Tricolours were flying on every home, every shop, it seemed, while interspersed among the bands, two smartly-rigged marches



● The colour party stands at the republican memorial in Ardoyne on Easter Tuesday



● Wreath-layers make their way to the Ardoyne memorial



● Standing at ease in Crossmaglen



● An IRA Volunteer reads out the statement of South Armagh Brigade's 2nd Battalion



● Speaking softly and carrying a big stick in Crossmaglen

banners of local Sinn Fein cumann and Gaelic clubs provided added splashes of vivid colour, intensified by the leaden skies.

Though the heavily-armed RUC, with necessary back-up from the British army, mounted roadblocks on every lane into the village, and pettily delayed families travelling to and from the commemoration, the unwelcome crown forces kept a discreet distance from the march itself.

Arriving at the local cemetery, the large crowds gathered around the grave of IRA Volunteer Barney Morris, where wreaths were laid on behalf of Oglagh na hEireann, Fianna Eireann, Cumann na mBan and local Sinn Fein cumann.

The 1916 Proclamation was read by James McCreesh, son of a veteran republican, and after a bugler sounded the *Last Post* and *Reveille*, a masked IRA Volunteer stepped forward from the crowd and read the statement from the leadership of the Republican Movement.

He then read a statement from the IRA's 2nd Battalion, South Armagh Brigade, which thanked local people for their continuing support, warned against the dangers of careless talk both in the South and the North, and offered the opportunity to "known informers" being pressurised by the RUC to come forward or leave the country.

The statement replicated the IRA's determination to carry on until all crown forces are driven out of South Armagh, and concluded: "Our message is clear — the fight goes on to final victory!"

An oration was given by Sheena Campbell, secretary of South-East Ulster Sinn Fein, who pointed out that "our wishes, the wishes of the ordinary people, are never considered" by the British and Free State governments, or the SDLP, which despite much talk of democracy all



● Led by a Cumann na mBan colour party, the Crossmaglen parade proceeds to the grave of Vol Barney Morris



● SHEENA CAMPBELL

refuse to speak with Sinn Fein elected representatives. "Force is the only kind of argument the British respect," she said, emphasising that "it is important also that Sinn Fein continues to work to prove to the world that the struggle is political and expresses the wishes of a sizeable number of Irish people".



● The colour party stands at attention in Crossmaglen

Cultneacháin na Cásca 1985

"James Connolly said that getting rid of the British alone would not solve our problems; unless we also get rid of the whole rotten system they have imposed on us. We too in Sinn Féin don't just want to change flags or remove the border, we want to give the Irish people total control of their own destiny."

MULLAGHBAWN

This year, as usual, large crowds attended wreath-laying ceremonies in numerous tiny villages across South Armagh, at the graves of IRA Volunteers spanning several generations of republican struggle.

On Easter Saturday night, April 6th, around 200 people took part in a commemoration at Mullaghbawn, where the oration was given by local Sinn Féin elected representative Jim McAllister.

Two bands were in attendance, the St Patrick's Youth Band, Cullyhanna, and the Republican Martyrs Flute Band from Scotland.

On Easter Sunday morning, well-attended commemorations also took place at Lislea (at the grave of Vol Michael Bennett, who died in 1923) and Killeen (at the graveside of Vols Peter McGinnity and John and Thomas O'Reilly, all three taken from their homes and murdered by a pro-British raiding party in July 1921).

Wreath-laying ceremonies also took place at the Edentubber Martyrs Memorial and at Jonesboro, beside the grave of Vol Francis Jordan, who was killed on active service in June 1975.

CAMLOUGH

As usual, the Camlough commemoration took place at the Republican Plot in Carrickcruppin Churchyard, where Volunteers Raymond McCreesh and Brendan Quinn and veteran republican Art McKinnon are buried.

The proceedings were chaired by Brendan Lewis, of Camlough Sinn Féin, who gave the oration. Among the substantial turnout, estimated at 300, were members of the Kevin Barry Flute Band, who had travelled from Glasgow.

Throughout the commemoration, an unmarked armoured car containing RUC Special Branch maintained a conspicuous presence in the locality.

BALLYMACNAB

Over 300 people marched in Ballymacnab, defying the customary heavy RUC presence.

Backed up by heavily-armed uniformed RUC, at least 12 Special Branch photographers were observed taking pictures of the large crowd.

Taking part in the march from Ferlagh Crossroads to the Republican Plot in Ballymacnab Cemetery, which was led by a colour party of local republicans, were three bands: the local Joe McKelvey Pipe Band, the recently-formed Patrick McLogan Flute Band, Clady, resident in bright red and green uniforms, and the Portadown Independent Accordion Band.

The oration was given by Sile Ni Dhara, head of Sinn Féin's Foreign Affairs Department.

CULLYHANNA

Over the years, Easter Sunday in Cullyhanna has developed into an occasion when local people both reaffirm their commitment to the republican cause and participate in a variety of cultural activities.

In the morning, a 1½-mile game of road bowls — a sport played only in Cork and County Armagh — attracted an interested crowd, and in the afternoon there was the by-now traditional seven-a-side Gaelic football tournament, established 11 years ago in memory of IRA Volunteer Michael McVerry.

Immediately after the event, the large crowd, led by a Cumann na mBan colour party, marched from the GAA grounds to the magnificent Michael McVerry Memorial. For



● Assembling in Hurson Park, Portadown, for the march to the grave of Vol Julie Dougan



● A section of the large crowd at the Lurgan commemoration



● A colour party leads the crowd along the two-mile route to Lurgan cemetery

many minutes, the colour party stood motionless in front of the monument while the crowds filtered into the tiny square, and several bands in turn gave virtuoso performances.

Then the dead Volunteer's sister, Mrs Thompson, was introduced and she presented trophies to the winners of the sports events, respectively a pair from Newtownhamilton and the Cullyhanna-based St Patrick's football team.

The commemoration then began, chaired by Peter John Carragher. Women republicans having been strongly represented at Easter commemorations throughout the area, no-one passed any comment on the fact that, on this occasion, every one of the platform speakers was a woman.

First, a decade of the Rosary was led by Lasha Dempsey, and then her daughter Jackie, also a member of the local Sinn Féin cumann, read the 1916 Proclamation. The statement from the IRA leadership was then read, after which Sheena Campbell of Lurgan Sinn Féin gave the oration.

Tragically, minutes after the ceremonies ended, a young Cullyhanna marcher collapsed and died. Twenty-three-year-old Dymona Quinn, a strong Sinn Féin supporter who had worked unstintingly for the party in recent elections, had returned that morning from holiday and came straight to the commemoration with-

out returning home.

The Republican Movement extends deepest sympathy to Dymona's family and friends on their sudden bereavement.

ARMAGH CITY

Armagh's Easter commemoration parade assembled around 11.30am in the nationalist Shambles area of the city and approximately 400 people walked to the local graveside.

A civilian colour party led the parade, followed by two bands. At the graveside, the oration was delivered by Sile Ni Dhara, head of Sinn Féin's Foreign Affairs Department who, in remembering the sacrifices of the past, warned of the dangers of continuing Free State/ British government collaboration.

BELLEES

On Easter Monday morning, around 300 people attended the commemoration at Bellees, beside the grave of IRA Volunteers Sean Boyle, killed in February 1975, and Peter Cleary, who was dragged from a house in County Monaghan and assassinated by the SAS in April 1976.

Following a wreath-laying ceremony, the 1916 Proclamation was read by Eamon McParland of Sinn Féin. The statement from the leadership of the Republican Movement was read out, after which Brendan

Lewis, of Camlough Sinn Féin, gave the oration.

DERRYMACHASH

A civilian colour party, two republican bands and around 150 people set off from Ballymoney Cottages to the graveside of Volunteer Michael Crossley in Derrymacash Cemetery, where the proceedings were chaired by local republican Patsy Crossey.

Once again there was a blatant RUC presence around the cemetery with Special Branch personnel taking photographs of those in attendance. The RUC acted intentionally used this sinister method of intimidation at the Drumintee commemoration, where 30-40 people attended a wreath-laying ceremony at the grave of Volunteer Jim Loughrie.

Eamon Largey, Sinn Féin candidate in the forthcoming local council elections, chaired the proceedings and Paddy Molloy, chairperson of West Belfast comhairle ceantair, delivered the oration.

LURGAN

Undeterred by heavy rainfall, over 2,000 people assembled in Lurgan's Francis Street to begin the two-mile march to the Republican Plot in St Coleman's Cemetery. A civilian colour party headed the march and four bands were in attendance.

Ardchomhairle member Martha McClelland, from Derry, delivered

the oration, John Lyttle chaired the proceedings and Michael McKee read the 1916 Proclamation. The Easter message from the leadership of the Republican Movement was also read out.

Although there was a discreet crown force presence, local people observed RUC Special Branchmen taking photographs from an orange-coloured Volkswagen van, and again from outside the cemetery.

PORTADOWN

Around 40 people attended the local wreath-laying ceremony in Maghera on Sunday morning, which was chaired by Gerard O'Hagan, while in the predominantly loyalist area of Portadown, over 500 people assembled at Hurson Park, led by a civilian colour party and two bands.

As the parade reached Garvachy Road, there was a brief delay as the RUC attempted to disrupt the march, threatening to charge people with causing a breach of the peace. They were promptly informed by the marchers that the RUC were in fact the only people breaching the peace! The march continued with seven landrovers driving in front.

At the graveside of Volunteer Julie Dougan, killed on July 8th 1972, the main speaker was Ardchomhairle member Martha McClelland from Derry.

Cavan/ Fermanagh

PERCHED HIGH in mountains which recognise no borders, the parish of Kinawley was the setting for this year's joint Easter commemoration by Fermanagh and Cavan republicans.

Nearly 1,000 people, led by a Fianna Éireann colour party and four bands, joined the parade from Swanlinbar to the grave of IRA Vol-

(Continued on next page)



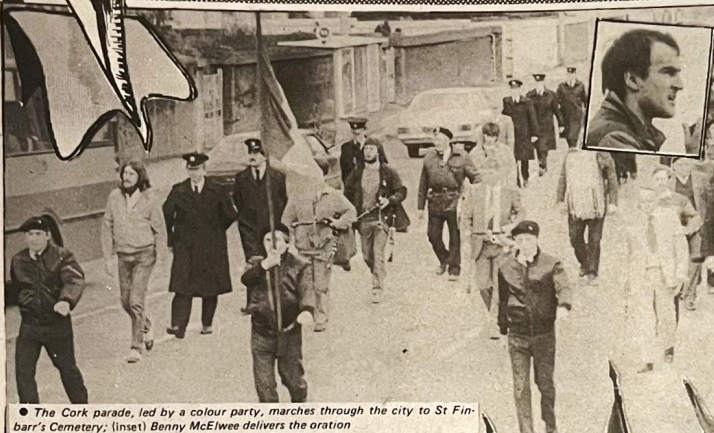
BELFAST GRAVES

THE National Graves Association has produced a beautiful book, *Belfast Graves*, which gives personal details and biographies of Belfast republicans who have been killed in the struggle for national liberation since 1918.

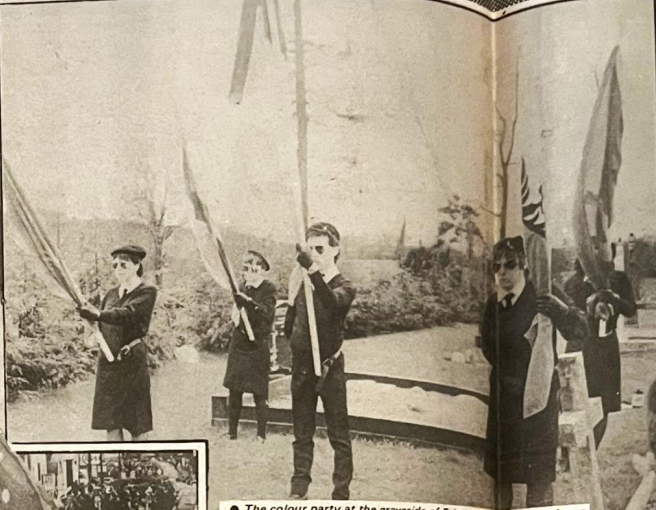
Incorporating *Antim's Patriot Dead*, which was edited by Jimmy Steele, *Belfast Graves* concentrates on the losses among the ranks of the Republican Movement during the present, final, phase of the freedom struggle.

Belfast Graves retails for £3 Sterling or £3.20 and is available from the usual republican outlets.

Cumhneacháin na Cásca 1985



● The Cork parade, led by a colour party, marches through the city to St Finbarr's Cemetery; (inset) Benny McIlwee delivers the oration



● The colour party at the graveside of Brigadier Sam Larkin in Loup

(Continued from previous page)

unter Patrick McManus who died on active service on July 18th 1958. Following a wreath-laying ceremony, which included a wreath laid by the mother of Volunteer McManus, a uniformed IRA Volunteer stepped forward and read a statement from South Fermanagh Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann.

In the course of this statement, the IRA thanked all those who had helped them in the past year, emphasising that "without good supporters who are prepared to assist us, we cannot operate successfully". The statement continued:

"We call on all republicans to unite, to put petty bickering and old grudges behind them and we emphasise that no-one has the right to carry on campaigns of vilification or division because, very often, the people who are being subjected to such abuse are the people who are most useful to us, the active IRA, and who, because they are at risk or want to remain anonymous, are unable to defend themselves publicly."

Adding that recent attacks on the elderly "assist the Free Staters in repression of republicans", the statement continued:

"Those who use the IRA's name to carry out such deeds can be certain that if unmasked they will face the direst of consequences from the IRA who already suffer enough hardship in these border areas."

Calling for the rejection of "smooth-talking politicians who claim to be republicans and make loud noises when it suits, but who resist organised republicanism and pursue an independent course in furthering their own career", the statement concluded by urging people to "vote solidly for Sinn Féin" in the forthcoming local elections.

The reading of the Proclamation of Easter Week 1916 and the Roll of Honour of Cavan and Fermanagh republicans was followed by the statement from the leadership of the Republican Movement.

In the main oration, Pádraig Malone of Limerick said that Volunteer McManus and his comrades "were part of a generation which rebuilt the Republican Movement after the defeats of the dark Forties and whose dedication and commitment in those lean times" made today's final phase of the struggle possible. He continued:

"The might of British imperialism cannot defeat the republican struggle, because it is just and popular. Throughout the world, struggling peoples everywhere identify with and draw inspiration from the Irish people's struggle for national liberation and socialism."

In an attack on cross-border collaboration, Malone pointed out that the Dublin government remains "subservient to imperialism to main-



● Swinbar, County Cavan

tain the status quo and preserve their own power and privilege". Extradition "must be tackled politically", he added.

On the forthcoming local government elections, he concluded: "Sinn Féin is not out to reform the partitionist system but aims to put forward the republican message of unity, freedom and democratic socialism."

Cork

THE Cork commemoration started with the laying of a wreath at the national monument in Grand Parade. The proceedings moved off, led by a Republican Movement colour party, followed by contingents from Fianna Éireann, Cumann na mBan, Cumann na gCailiní and the Cork Volunteer Pipe Band.

Along the route, a heavy Free State Garda presence observed the 500-strong parade. The commemoration was chaired by Peadar Beecher who slammed recent Special Branch attempts to blacken the name of Sinn Féin in the area.

After the laying of wreaths by Gearóid Mac Carthaigh and Mrs O'Brien, the Last Post was sounded by a Fianna bugler. The leadership statement was then read.

Benny McIlwee, of South Derry Sinn Féin, delivered the oration. He pinpointed local tea baron Peter Barry for his duplicity, stating:

"In truth, Peter Barry does represent the minority in the North of this country, the loyalists are that minority and Barry surely does represent them."

The commemoration concluded with the playing of the National Anthem by the Cork Volunteer Pipe Band.

WEST CORK

Easter Sunday commemorations were held in Bantry and Skibbereen for the first time in many years. In Bantry, Tim O'Leary chaired the commemoration, which featured



● At the graveside of Vol Patrick McManus in Killaduff Cemetery, Cavan

Thomas O'Hennigan singing republican ballads and Bairbre de Brun of Belfast giving the oration.

In Skibbereen, Donnchadh O Seaghdha chaired the commemoration. Republican ballads were sung by Tim Healy and Derry Moyinhan and the 1916 Proclamation was read out by Tomas O'Hennigan. Bairbre de Brun gave the oration, in which she condemned the Free State establishment for its attempts to rewrite history by claiming that today's liberation struggle was somehow different from the struggle waged in West Cork by the IRA.

Not alone did the Free State ignore the suffering and oppression

of Northern nationalists, the Free State spends millions of pounds each year in perpetuating that injustice by its support for the British-imposed border, money that would have been better spent on education and health.

She said the SDLP had been drawn into the position the loyalists had been in for years — of allowing themselves to be used by the British as a justification for their occupation of our country in return for marginal privileges and 'respectability'. She continued:

"Republicans realise that the only lasting peace in Ireland will be one based on freedom and justice and this

can only be achieved through an end to the interference of Britain in Irish affairs. It is for this reason that we see the importance, not only of the moral force arguments, put forward in clear, radical terms — as opposed to the half-hearted statements of the so-called constitutionalists — but also of military struggle, which alone can force Britain to a position of withdrawal.

"Republican strategy must be flexible and in tune with local needs, taking account of the local battles to be fought in any area and the lessons to be drawn from them in strengthening the local republican base."

"With this in mind, and being particularly aware of Section 31 and its effects, Sinn Féin must use the forthcoming elections as a time for consolidating the organisation on the ground and bringing the republican message to every doorstep."

"It is a time for convincing the young people of the part they have to play in the republican struggle and in the creation of a thirty-two county socialist republic, free from the social, sexual and cultural inequalities that plague Ireland today, and that create the ever-widening gap between the haves and the have-nots, between those who keep the economy afloat and those who squander our resources, between those who would divide us, men from women, North from South, urban from rural and those who strive to unify the Irish people in the common task of building an Irish society which truly cherishes all the children of the nation equally."

Derry

DERRY CITY'S Easter commemoration parade was attended by several thousand people who followed the traditional route from Westland Street in the heart of the Bogside to the City Cemetery in the Creggan. An eight-person civilian colour party, flanked by an honour guard of equal number, led the parade, which was interspersed with various colourful Sinn Féin cumann banners, and two local bands.

Crowds of people lined the two-mile route and as the parade reached a flyover at Lackey Road, three masked and uniformed IRA Volunteers, carrying two automatic rifles and a handgun, coolly walked into the road to tumultuous cheers and applause from the crowd. Despite the presence of Brits and RUC on an overlooking hill less than 200

yards away, the Volunteers raised their weapons in the air and defiantly remained on the spot until the parade had passed.

Winding its way through the Bogside, the parade reached the City Cemetery where the commemoration was chaired by Paddy Logue of Sinn Féin.

A short but moving ceremony then followed as family members unveiled headstones on the graves of Volunteers Danny Doherty, Willie Fleming and Kieran Fleming, killed on active service in December 1984. Wreaths were laid on behalf of Derry Brigade Oglagh na hEireann, Derry Sinn Féin comhairle ceantair, other branches of the Republican Movement and family members. The Roll of Honour was read by Paul Doherty, followed by the Last Post and a minute's silence in honour not only of Derry's fallen republican dead but the countless civilians killed over the last 15 years as a result of British occupation.

Prospective Sinn Féin candidate in the forthcoming council elections Susie O'Hagan then read the 1916 Proclamation. As she finished, once again three other IRA Volunteers, armed with revolvers, mounted the platform to lead cheers from the crowd.

One Volunteer read the Easter message from the leadership of the Republican Movement and to even greater cheers the Volunteers fired a volley of their shots.

Also warmly received by the people of Derry was Ceiso Chavarria, spokesperson of a visiting Nicaraguan delegation, who spoke of his people's struggle in pre-revolutionary Nicaragua against the infamous Somoza regime and, at present, against Reagan's aggressive intervention in his country's affairs which, he explained, was not unlike the situation in Ireland under British rule.

The main speaker on the platform was Alan O'Malley Dally from Donagh Sinn Féin, who praised the courage and resourcefulness of the IRA. The commemoration ended with the playing of the National Anthem.

LOUP

In South Derry, the main Easter Sunday commemoration was held in Loup, where there was a high turnout of republicans from around County Derry and South-West Antrim. A colour party and six bands led the parade from Ballyronan Road to St Patrick's Churchyard where, at the grave of Brigadier Sean Larkin, one of the Drumboe martyrs, wreaths were laid on behalf of the Republican Movement, County Derry/South-West Antrim Sinn

5 Cuimhneacháin na Pásca 1985

side of Brigadier Sean Larkin in Loup

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• Cheers and applause as the parade flows past an armed IRA Volunteer in Derry

Fein comhairle ceantair and the local Sean Larkin cumann.

After the traditional commemoration ceremony, Sinn Féin Councillor Alex Maskey of Belfast traced the life of Sean Larkin and his comrades, executed by Free State forces. Maskey compared their resistance to today's ongoing struggle "of Irishmen and women who think not of their own well-being or self-gain and who maintain that unbroken chain of resistance".

BELLAGHY

In Bellaghy, 100 local republicans assembled at the graves of IRA Volunteers and H-Block hunger-strikers Francis Hughes and Thomas McElwee. Wreaths were laid on their graves and the Easter message was read.

In Cargin, South-West Antrim, at the graveside of Volunteers Charles McCann, Phelim Grant and Ann McCoy, around 100 republicans participated in a brief wreath-laying ceremony. And in Desertmartin, a large force of RUC lingered around the cemetery as wreaths were laid on the grave of Volunteer Antoine Mac Giolla Bhrighde, killed on active service on December 2nd 1984.

DUNGIVEN

Dungiven Cemetery saw an impressive turnout of around 150 to 200 republicans. Sinn Féin Councillor Alex Maskey from Belfast gave a brief oration after wreaths were laid on the graves of local republicans including H-Block hunger-striker Kevin Lynch.

The Moneyneeny commemoration was attended by 50 republicans who marched to the grave of veteran Sinn Féin member Patrick Laverty, Kathleen Laverty, his surviving sister, laid a wreath, followed by a minute's silence and the reading of the Easter message.

At Newbridge a brief wreath-laying ceremony took place at the graves of Volunteers James Sheridan, Martin Lee and John Bateson, with around 500 people assembling outside the chapel as Hugh Sheridan recited a decade of the Rosary.



• Three Volunteers fire a volley of shots at the commemoration in Derry

And at Straw Graveyard earlier in the morning, the Hughes/Hegarty/Laverty Sinn Féin cumann, Ballinascreen, laid a wreath on the grave of local republican Jack Hegarty.

SWATRAGH

In Swatragh, County Derry, 600 republicans marched to Granagh Cemetery on Easter Monday, led by a colour party and seven republican bands.

There, at the graveside of Volunteer James Bradley, killed during an attack on Bellaghy Barracks in 1921, and of Volunteer Danny McMullan, killed in 1982, wreaths were laid on behalf of Oglagh na hEireann, Sinn Féin and family members. A lament was then played before the crowd marched to The Diamond where John Davey of Sinn Féin chaired the remaining proceedings and Lughaidh Mac Giolla Bhrighde, Sinn Féin candidate for Magherafelt District Council, gave the oration.

Another speaker, Germaine Doherty, chairperson of South Derry Stop the Strip-Searches Committee, described a recent harrowing strip-search carried out on Dolores O'Neill on her return to Armagh Jail from a hospital visit. She called for more support for the campaign and for a greater input in the political front in general.

Donegal

THE Easter commemoration at Drumboe in Donegal was one of the biggest in the twenty-six counties, with nearly 2,000 people flooding into Stranorlar, County Donegal, for the start of the parade.

Led by a colour party, the march was accompanied by four bands, including the Hogan/Martin Memorial Band from Dunloy and the Rising Sons of Limavady Band.

Wreaths were laid at the county memorial between Ballybofey and Stranorlar before the march made its way to the site of the memorial to the Drumboe martyrs, where the commemoration took place.

There, respects were paid to Charles Daly, Dan Enright and Tim O'Sullivan from Kerry and Sean Larkin from County Derry who were shot by Free Staters at this spot in 1923.

Liam McElhinney, Sinn Féin candidate in the local government elections, chaired the ceremony and John McCloskey read the Roll of Honour.

Sinn Féin's national director of publicity, Danny Morrison, gave the oration, saying that the IRA Volunteers



• Defying the rain in Stranorlar, the Móville cumann proudly display their banner

(Continued on next page)



Cuimhneacháin na Cásca 1985

(Continued from previous page)

unteers of today are those who truly follow in the footsteps of the men and women of 1916.

He said that the Dublin Coalition was turning history on its head by pretending that peace and progress could be achieved if the IRA were to give up. Constitutional methods had been tried and failed with the Tories illegally combining with unionists when the UVF was formed in 1912 to threaten civil war if home rule was introduced.

Peaceful means, Morrison said, had also been tried but the Stormont government had sanctioned the RUC to use violence and repression against the civil rights movement.

"The existence of the twenty-six-county state, however, is testimony to the fact that armed struggle has the potential to force concessions out of Britain."

Morrison then outlined how the British government and the loyalists had been consistently anti-democratic — by blocking the extension of the franchise to nationalists throughout the nineteenth century, suppressing Dail Eireann in 1920, right up to the Tory amendment to the Representation of the People Act following Bobby Sands' election which had severely embarrassed the Thatcher government.

The Sinn Féin representative also rebutted Free State propaganda which alleged that the IRA was out to overthrow the Dublin government. He said that in the course of a united Ireland coming into being — an aspiration allegedly also held by most Free State parties — the twenty-six-county state and the six-county state had to come down.

"Far from republicans destabilising the Free State, the Dublin government is destabilising itself by sending gardai and resources to maintain the border whilst old people in rural areas are being terrorised by gangs of robbers," he said.

Morrison concluded by telling the republican supporters to realise their strength. He said that the freedom struggle would not end until Britain had been forced to leave Ireland and allow the Irish people the right to determine their own future.

Down

THE three largest parades in County Down were at Downpatrick, Castlewellsan and Newry, with small wreath-laying ceremonies taking place in Ardglass and Tyconnet.

Assembling in Irish Street car-park, Downpatrick, around 200 people, led by a civilian colour party and the James Connolly Band, Glasgow, made their way to Killough Road Cemetery.

Several armoured-carloads of RUC were in surveillance throughout the march and at the cemetery, where Mairtin O Muilleoir of Sinn Féin gave the oration. Paddy Fitzsimmons chaired the ceremony at the graves of Volunteers Vivien Fitzsimmons, Martin Curran and Seamus Blaney.

Earlier that morning in Ardglass, wreaths were laid on the grave of Leo O'Hanlon and in Tyconnet, James Carlin of Sinn Féin laid a wreath on the grave of Thomas Russell ('the man from God knows where').

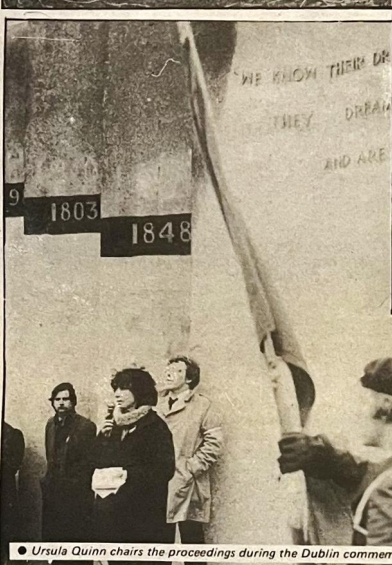
CASTLEWELLSAN

Despite poor weather conditions, a crowd of around 250-400 people assembled at Bann Road, Castlewellsan, led by St Joseph's Pipe Band, and marched to the Paul Magorrian Park.

Local Sinn Féin candidate Frank McDowell chaired the ceremony. Five wreaths were laid on behalf



● Danny Morrison delivers the oration at Drumboe, County Donegal



● Ursula Quinn chairs the proceedings during the Dublin commemoration

of the local Sinn Féin cumann and Mairtin O Muilleoir delivered the oration.

NEWRY

In Newry (where ten RUC men have been killed in IRA operations within a month), over 2,000 people, one of the town's biggest Easter commemoration turnouts, left The Mall, led by a colour party, and marched to St Mary's Cemetery.

Brendan Curran, Sinn Féin candidate in the forthcoming local council elections, chaired the proceedings, while the main speaker was Belfast Sinn Féin Councillor Sean McKnight.

As McKnight finished speaking, a hooded IRA Volunteer mounted the platform and was loudly and warmly greeted by the crowd. The Volunteer read a statement from the South Down Command which announced a ten-day amnesty (ending

on April 20th) for those presently supplying information to crown forces to come forward within that period. The statement also pledged the IRA's resolve to continue the struggle until final victory.

Dublin

A FIANNA colour party headed the parade to Glasnevin Cemetery in Dublin on Easter Sunday, the rain holding off for most of the two-mile walk.

The Volunteer Tom Smith Band from Dublin made their second public appearance at the march, and the flutes and drums of the 17-strong band attracted many onlookers.

Three hundred people attended the commemoration at the Republican Plot, where wreaths were laid on behalf of the Republican Movement and Dublin Sinn Féin.



● Wreath-bearers and St Joseph's Pipe Band lead the march to Paul Magorrian Park, Castlewellsan

Ursula Quinn chaired the proceedings and Terry Hughes, a Sinn Féin candidate in the forthcoming local elections, read the Proclamation.

The oration was delivered by Sean Crowe of Dublin Sinn Féin who paid tribute to the endurance and determination of the nationalist people of the six counties. He said that the intensification of repression by the British with the use of paid-perjurers and the shoot-to-kill policy would not break this spirit.

"The present phase of the struggle is unique," he said. "It has surpassed every other phase of the independence struggle and is an inspiration to other nationalist peoples struggling for their freedom."

The National Anthem was played at the end of the commemoration by a young member of the Tom Smith Band, Michael McKenzie.

DUN LAOGHAIRE

On Easter Monday afternoon, about 150 people marched from Baker's Corner to Dean's Grange Cemetery for the annual Easter commemoration in Dun Laoghaire.

Two bands followed the Fianna Éireann colour party, the Our Lady of Victories Pipe Band from Sallynoggin and the Volunteer Tom Smith Band from Dublin.

At the Republican Plot, the chairperson was Michael O'Brien, Sinn Féin candidate for Ballybrack in the local elections. A wreath was laid on behalf of the Republican Movement by Kevin Fitzpatrick, a popular figure in the area, who is the Sinn Féin candidate for Dun Laoghaire

in the June elections. The Proclamation was read by George Madigan and the statement from the leadership of the Republican Movement was then read.

Michael O'Brien then introduced Tony Flaherty of Dublin Sinn Féin, another Sinn Féin candidate in the local elections, who delivered the oration, in the course of which he attacked the Free State government's policy of "jailing, extraditing and censoring those who pursue the same aims as the men and women of 1916".

Flaherty also stressed the fact that the current phase of Ireland's struggle was no different from the 1920s campaign when "the RIC killed Irishmen who wore the British uniform and members of the British army, and they also shot informers who betrayed the freedom struggle".

Galway

THE main Galway commemoration was at Donaghpatrick on Easter Sunday afternoon. About 250 people marched from Cahirlistrane in the bitter cold and rain, led by a colour party and the local band.

At the Republican Plot in Donaghpatrick Cemetery, Sinn Féin Councillor Frank Glynn chaired the ceremony. He paid tribute to the late Luke Ward and Michael Hughes, saying that their absence from the Galway commemoration was deeply felt.

Joe D'Arcy, a son of Tony D'Arcy, who died on hunger-strike on April 16th 1940 and who is buried in Donaghpatrick Cemetery, read the Proclamation. The oration was given by Richard Behal, who pointed to the similarities in the executions of IRA Volunteers in Tuam, in Galway and in Ballyseedy in his native Kerry, saying that the Free State forces, whose descendants are in power today, had carried out the worst atrocities against the Irish people.

He called on the people of the area to show these Free State parties what they thought of the collaboration with the British in the forthcoming local elections. Finally, Behal condemned the denial of the basic right of free speech to the democra-



● Newry, County Down

Quimhneacháin na Cásca 1985

tically-elected public representatives of the people.

GORT

A joint Clare South Galway

commemoration was held at the graveside of the Loughnane brothers in Shanaglish, Gort, County Galway. Over 200 people followed the Tulla Pipe Band to the Republican Plot.

The candidate for the forthcoming local elections, Michael Loughrey, chaired the proceedings and UDC member Pat Hynes was also on the platform.

Sean Landers gave a brief historical talk on the Loughnane brothers, who were brutally tortured and murdered by the Black and Tans in 1920.

Daithi O Connell then gave the main oration. He drew the parallels between the current shoot-to-kill policy of the Brits, and used the example of the three young Volunteers so brutally murdered in Strabane.

O Connell also said, to loud applause, that the Free State was both politically and economically bankrupt, and if the state's establishment had any honesty they would go into voluntary liquidation.

The proceedings ended with the playing of the National Anthem.

Kerry

The main commemoration in Kerry was in Tralee at the Republican Plot in Rath Cemetery. On Sunday afternoon, about 400 people marched from the town to the cemetery, behind a uniformed colour party. There were contingents from Fianna Éireann and Cumann na gCailíní and the Gill O'Brien Band also marched in the parade.

After the usual ceremonies, wreaths were laid on behalf of the Republican Movement, Sinn Féin, An Cumann Cabhrach and all Kerry prisoners. The oration was given by John Joe McGirl, Leitrim Sinn Féin councillor and vice-president of Sinn Féin, who reminded the crowd of the parallels between Roger Casement's arrest on Banna Strand on Good Friday in 1916, and the seizure of the *Marita Anne*. He pointed to the hypocrisy of the Free State's treatment of present-day freedom fighters, saying that once again Irishmen imprison Irishmen at the behest of the British.

A public meeting was held in Tralee on Saturday to protest at the arrest earlier in the day of two local people who were selling Easter Lilies. The meeting was well supported and many people came to express their anger at such harassment.

LISTOWEL

A colour party headed a march of 150 people in the Easter commemoration to the Republican Plot in Listowel Cemetery on Sunday morning. John Joe McGirl delivered the oration.

CAHIRCIVEEN

At the third commemoration in Kerry on Easter Sunday, at Cahirciveen, Sean Keenan from Derry gave the oration after a march to the local cemetery from the Fair Green. Three hundred people attended and wreaths were laid from the Republican Movement and Sinn Féin.

KILLARNEY

On Easter Monday, 100 people attended the first Easter commemoration in Killarney for 40 years. Ruairi O Bradagh, former president of Sinn

● The head of the parade leaving Denny Street, Tralee

● Hundreds of onlookers lined the route of the Monaghan parade



● (Left to right) Richard Behal, Donaghpatrick, Galway, Sean Callaghan, Tralee, Francie Molloy, Coalisland



ate in South Armagh.

The 1916 Proclamation was read by Joe Cunningham, Forkhill, and Paddy Lennon, local election candidate for Louth, delivered the oration. The statement from the leadership of the Republican Movement was also read to the crowd.

Mayo

THE Mayo commemoration took place at Ballina on a very wet Easter Sunday afternoon. Led by the St Conan's Pipe Band, about 40 republicans marched from Ballina Cathedral to the Republican Plot in the town cemetery.

The proceedings were chaired by Jackie Clarke. He introduced Eddie Ruane, who recited a decade of the Rosary. The statement from the leadership of the Republican Movement was then read out and wreaths were laid on behalf of Ogligh na hEireann and Sinn Féin.

Brendan Curran from Lurgan, County Armagh, gave the oration.

Outlining the media distortions of the freedom struggle in the North, Curran explained its part in the British government's Ulsterisation/criminalisation/normalisation policy. He emphasised that only force, combined with political action, could achieve a truly free republic.

Monaghan

DESPITE the exodus of several thousand Monaghan football supporters to the National League final in Croke Park, the annual Easter commemoration was a huge success.

Hundreds of people marched the traditional route from the O'Hanlon Memorial, where a laurel wreath was laid, to Lathluran Cemetery, accompanied by bands from Glasgow and Newry.

Led by a civilian colour party and contingents of Fianna Éireann from Monaghan town and Knockatlund, the parade was watched by hundreds of onlookers who lined the route.

The ceremonies at Lathluran Cemetery were chaired by Monaghan comhairle ceantair chairperson, Pat Treanor, who introduced the main speaker, Sinn Féin national organiser, Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. In the course of his oration, Ó Caoláin spoke about the relevancy of James Connolly and his analysis of Ireland's struggle today. He said:

"Connolly was a major force in countering the narrow vision of several of his contemporaries who wrongly assumed that with England gone, the ills of Ireland's oppressed millions would be redressed.

"Connolly's message is as relevant today, for even yet, there are those who innocently believe that 'Brits Out' is the sole goal of the Republican Movement.

Wreaths were laid on the graves of three republicans who are buried in Lathluran Cemetery, Volunteers Fergal O'Hanlon, Bernard Macartan-Ward and Michael Kelly. The Last Post was sounded by a Fianna Éireann bugler.

The parade returned through (Continued on next page)

Limerick

IN LIMERICK CITY, over 200 people followed a Republican Movement colour party on the traditional route from Bedford Row to the local cemetery.

The proceedings were chaired by Denis Nolan of Limerick Sinn Féin. The oration was given by Des Long who emphasised that the ideals that the men of 1916 died for are still being actively pursued by Limerick republicans.

Indeed, three men are currently serving long sentences, one, Eddie Butler, in England. Two more, John Maloney and Phil Mac Curtain, in Portlaoise.

SHANNON

In Shannon, a crowd of 40 people gathered at the graveside of local republican martyr Volunteer Ryan. The proceedings were chaired by Paddy Rowe and the oration was delivered by Eugene Logan. Logan stressed the fact that we are engaged in the same struggle as the heroes of 1916.

In Athea, 100 people were led by a pipe band to the local Republican Plot. Mick Barry chaired the meeting and Des Long gave the oration.

Longford

KILLOE CEMETERY was the venue for this year's Easter commemoration in Longford, at the grave of Volunteer Barney Casey who was murdered by Free State soldiers in the Curragh Camp on December 16th 1940.

Led by the Ballyjamesduff Youth Band, about 100 people marched with flags and banners to the isolated graveyard where the ceremonies were held at the Republican Plot.

Sean Lynch, Sinn Féin Councillor on Longford County Council, chaired the proceedings. The Roll of Honour of Longford Volunteers was read by Finbar Moloney, and the Proclamation by Mel Grimes. After the statement from the leadership, Mary Casey said a decade of the Rosary and a wreath was laid on behalf of



● John Joe McGirl in Listowel



● The republican monument at Listowel

the Casey family.

There were also wreaths from the Casey/McCreesh, Hurson and Ashe Sinn Féin cumainn, and from the Republican Movement.

The oration was delivered by John Noonan of Dublin Sinn Féin who said that there is no difference between the electoral strategy of 1918 and today, just as there is no difference between the IRA of 1916 and today, nor in what they are fighting for.

Louth

THE Easter commemoration in Dundalk began in the town square where the Sean Treacy Flute Band from Glasgow led the parade as far as the GPO.

There, a seven-strong colour party marched into position at the head of the parade, to the applause of the large crowd in attendance.

The parade then continued to the Republican Plot at Dowdallshill Cemetery where, in the course of his oration, Val Lynch of Dublin Sinn Féin launched a scathing attack on the Dublin government for its extradition of Dominic McGlinchey and Seamus Shannon and its continued imprisonment of Brendan Burns, whom they are also attempting to extradite.

Wreaths were laid on behalf of Ogligh na hEireann, Louth Sinn Féin comhairle ceantair and both the Sean Treacy and Dundalk Martyrs memorial bands. A further wreath was sent from The Hogan Stand in memory of Sean McIlvenna.

DROGHEDA

The weather on Easter Sunday morning did not dampen the enthusiasm of the large crowd at the commemoration in Drogheda.

A Fianna Éireann colour party led the parade, followed by the Sean Treacy Flute Band from Glasgow, the Lourdes Boys and Girls Band and the Dundalk Martyrs Memorial Flute Band.

Fra Browne, Sinn Féin member of Dundalk Urban District Council and Louth County Council, complained about the obstruction of the parade by the gardai.

However, led by the colour party and the music of the three bands, the good-humoured if wet crowd marched to the republican memorial to Captain Tim Flanagan, which is on the Marsh Road.

The ceremony was chaired by Brendan Quigley and the oration was given by Val Lynch of Dublin Sinn Féin.

KILCURRY

In spite of heavy rain, about 200 people attended the Easter commemoration in Kilcurry. The parade was led by a colour party and lone piper and the proceedings were chaired by Eamon Larkin, local election candi-

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(Continued from previous page)

Monaghan town to Park Street where, outside the former home of Volunteer Fergal O'Hanlon, the ceremonies ended.

Earlier in the morning, wreath-laying ceremonies took place at the graves of all those whose names appear on the County Monaghan Roll of Honour and in Clonoe, a further wreath was laid, on behalf of the prisoners in Portlaoise, on the grave of Hugh McCooley who died last year after years of service to the Republican Movement and the prisoners in particular.

Offaly

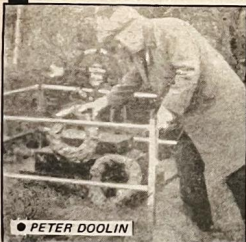
THE Easter commemoration in Tullamore, County Offaly, took place at the lonely spot where Volunteer Matthew Kane was killed by crown forces. Following a march from the town, watched by four car-loads of Special Branchmen, the ceremony was chaired by Sean O'Ceirbhail.

Sean recalled the deaths of Volunteers in the past 12 months in circumstances similar to that of Volunteer Matthew Kane's death. He attacked the twenty-six-county government for extradition of republicans and called on all present to oppose it. "Support for Sinn Féin in the forthcoming local elections is vital," he declared.

Following a decade of the Rosary and the reading of the Proclamation, Roll of Honour and the Easter statement, veteran republican Peter Doolin addressed the gathering:

"The IRA of today is just as entitled to wage war against the British army in the North today as Matthew Kane and his comrades were in their day," he declared.

A short oration was given by Michael Mac Conmara. Earlier, a wreath-laying ceremony took place at the grave of Thomas Dignam in Clara.



● PETER DOOLIN



● The 16-person IRA colour party leads the march through Carrickmore, County Tyrone



● IRA Volunteers fire a volley of shots over the republican garden of remembrance in Carrickmore

Sligo

ABOUT 200 people marched from Sligo Town Hall to the Republican Plot in Sligo Cemetery in a colourful parade led by a flag-bearer, a guard of honour and the City of Sligo Pipe Band.

A minute's silence was observed at the graveside and the proceedings were chaired by Sean McManus, Sinn Féin's national chairperson.

In the course of his oration, Jim McAllister, Sinn Féin elected representative for Armagh, urged republicans to rededicate themselves to the ongoing struggle and asked those who supported the Republican Movement, but were not yet mem-

bers, to join and play their part:

"Let the Volunteers of Oglagh na hÉireann and their dedication be our standard to reach, let us endeavour to match the patience and dedication of our prisoners at home in Ireland and abroad and let us always keep those prisoners and their sufferings in our minds.

"Sinn Féin workers need to be truly active in the community. We must prove to the people that we are indeed interested in them and in the quality of life in Ireland.

"We must show them that is why we struggle to remove all British influence from our land, not because of some mystic dream, some ill-thought out scheme, but to give control of this country once and for all to the Irish people so that they can work out their own destiny."

BALLISODARE

A commemoration was held on Easter Sunday morning in Ballisodare at the grave of Volunteer Martin Savage who was killed in the Ash-town ambush in Dublin in 1919.

A lone piper led the march to the cemetery and a wreath was laid on behalf of the Coen/Savage Sinn Féin cumann.

Other wreath-laying ceremonies took place throughout the county during the morning.

Tipperary

THE Glen of Aherlow, where five IRA Volunteers were murdered in 1923, was the site of the Easter commemoration in Tipperary.

Finbar Kissane, Sinn Féin member of Tipperary Urban Council, chaired the commemoration at the memorial cross in Livershane village at the spot where Gerry Kiely was killed in action. Over 400 people had earlier marched from the gates of the local cemetery to the village.

A wreath was laid at the memorial by veteran republican Tommy Burns, aged 82, and the Proclamation was read by 11-year-old Kathleen Willis, of Tipperary town. Tony O'Brien of Limerick sounded the *Last Post* and *Reveille* and the

Roll of Honour of the Third Tipperary Brigade was read by Deirdre Hogan.

During his oration, former Sinn Féin president Ruairi O'Bradaigh pointed to the betrayal of the people by the twenty-six-county state, and said:

"In stark contrast is the record of the Republican Movement which has grown from the roots of the deepest desires of the Irish people and because of this intense dedication the Irish nation survives. If we do not know our past, we can't understand the present or plan the future."

He compared the aims and objectives of the Republican Movement to the declared aims of the British saying that "our aims are control of all thirty-two counties for the Irish people, control of the wealth of Ireland for the benefit of the people, decentralisation, neutrality and non-alignment, development of our cultural heritage and the rights of women".

He reminded the crowd that when the Proclamation was first read outside the GPO, women did not have even the right to vote but the Proclamation was addressed to "Irish men and Irish women", and expressed his pleasure at hearing that same Proclamation read by young Kathleen Willis.

Tyrone

A LARGE CROWD of around 3,000 braved atrocious weather conditions to attend the Easter commemoration at Carrickmore, County Tyrone.

The town had earlier been sealed off by local people who parked their cars across all roads leading into Carrickmore. At around 3.45pm the IRA colour party appeared, to a rapturous reception from the waiting crowd, and took up position at the head of the procession.

The parade then moved off on its traditional route around the town, with three low-flying British army helicopters making their noisy presence felt. Nine bands from various parts of the North did their best to

combat the ear-splitting chatter of the helicopters, and with an icy wind whipping a freezing, persistent rain into their faces, they succeeded admirably in making themselves heard.

Having completed the circuit of the town, the procession made its way to the garden of remembrance. The neat little plot was too small to hold the crowd, so while the colour party, the bands and the speakers filed through the narrow gateway and took up their places around the monument, the body of the crowd gathered tightly round the perimeter fence.

The 16 uniformed Volunteers stood motionless before the monument as the wreath-laying ceremony took place and the speeches were made. Seconds after the playing of the National Anthem, three Volunteers stepped forward and fired a volley of shots into the sky over the monument.

Earlier, a Volunteer had read the Easter statement from the leadership of the Republican Movement. The oration was given by Martin McGuinness, Sinn Féin elected representative for Derry. Referring to recent incidents, he remarked:

"Unfortunately the past year has seen the Volunteers of Oglagh na hÉireann suffer grievous casualties at the hands of the British stranger... but, in fact, Douglas Hurd's robust security policy is in threads, with his military forces in the first three months of this year suffering the highest rate of casualties for many years. Which proves, yet again, that the war being waged against British imperialism in Ireland is fierce, remorseless, unrelenting struggle that will only end when Britain decides to withdraw from this country."

On the issue of peace, McGuinness said:

"No-one wants, no-one deserves peace more than republicans. Our people have suffered year after year. We have endured deprivation, imprisonment and death. We know that peace is not an easily-found commodity. Peace in Ireland is totally dependent on British withdrawal. There can be no real or lasting peace while Britain holds any sway or influence here."

"As a Movement and as a people we are unbreakable, physically and mentally. We have endured everything that has been thrown against us — the Volunteers of Oglagh na hÉireann we commemorate today bear testimony to that sad fact, and republicans today are the guarantee that this war will be ended, that Britain will disengage finally after centuries of injustice and inhumanity and the people of Ireland will be free to decide their own destiny."

McGuinness concluded:

"Finally, as we leave this republican commemoration, we say to the British government in simple terms, we will struggle on. It doesn't matter how long it takes — we will continue to have it out with you, confident that one day we will win."

EDENDORK

A crowd of around 50 people attended the Easter commemoration at the Republican Monument in Edendork Cemetery. After the oration, given by Martin McNulty, wreaths were laid at the graves of Volunteers buried in the churchyard.

CLONOE

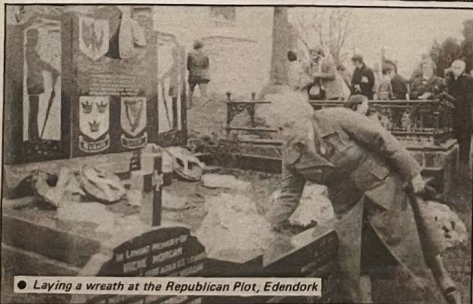
Around 75 people attended the Easter commemoration in pouring rain at Clonoe. The oration was given by Brian Duffin and wreaths were laid at the gravesides of the four Volunteers buried in the small churchyard, Kevin Kilpatrick, John O'Neill, Brian Campbell and Gerard Coney.

COALISLAND

One hundred and fifty people attended the Easter commemoration



● Jim McAllister delivers the oration in Sligo



● Laying a wreath at the Republican Plot, Edendork

Cuimhneacháin na Cásca 1985



at the Republican Monument in Coalsland. The oration was given by Sinn Féin elected representative Francis Molloy. Wreaths were laid at the graves of Volunteers Desmond Morgan, Colm McGirr and Denis Quinn.

AGHYARAN

Many of the Easter commemoration ceremonies in County Tyrone, apart from the main county commemoration in Carrickmore, consisted of small wreath-laying ceremonies. At Aghyaran, 100 people attended the annual ceremony at the grave of Seamus Harvey where the main speaker was Niall Gormley from Omagh. A wreath was also laid on the grave of veteran IRA man John Philip O'Donnell.

Around 200 people attended the ceremony in Broadah at the graveside of Volunteer William Price where the oration was given by Kieran O'Donnell of Dungannon Sinn Féin and was chaired by Patricia Campbell.

Local republicans, family members and friends also gathered that morning in honour of their republican dead at Trillick, Galbally and Arboe.

At Moy's annual commemoration, around 50 people gathered at the graves of Sean McKearney and Eugene Martin. The oration was delivered by Elish McCabe, Aughnacloy, Sinn Féin candidate in the local council elections, and the proceedings were chaired by Charlie Fox.

And at Eglis, 30 people attended a wreath-laying ceremony at the grave of Volunteer Dan McAnallen,



● At the republican monument in Moate, Westmeath

while in Greencastle, veteran Patrick Morris was honoured in an oration delivered at his graveside by Cormac McAleer, a local Sinn Féin candidate in the local council elections.

Waterford

THE annual Easter commemoration in Waterford began at 11am when about 100 people assembled in the Glenn and proceeded along the city quay led by a lone piper and a Sinn Féin colour party.

At the National Memorial on the quays the parade stopped for a minute's silence and a wreath was laid by May Shanahan on behalf of the Republican Movement.

The parade then continued through Waterford city centre to the old military barracks where two

IRA men, Volunteers FitzGerald and O'Reilly, had been executed by the Free Staters for an incident which occurred in the course of the Tan War.

May Shanahan chaired the ceremonies and a wreath was laid by Kerry republican Paddy Campbell. Campbell also gave the oration, during which he reminded the crowd of all the Volunteers murdered by the Free State.

He emphasised the need for hard work in the run-up to the local government elections, adding that the struggle for freedom and national liberation continued as strongly today as it did in 1916.

Westmeath

THE first Easter commemoration to be held in Moate, County Westmeath, for 15 years was

attended by about 50 republicans from throughout the county. A march led by three flag bearers to the republican memorial took place in a downpour of rain.

Wreaths were laid by Tony Sloan and John Adamson who are nephews of murdered Volunteers. A decade of the Rosary was followed by the reading of the Proclamation. Applause greeted the reading of the Easter statement from the leadership of the Republican Movement.

The oration was delivered by Michael Mac Conmara.

Wexford

IN WEXFORD TOWN, a parade numbering nearly 500 marched from the John Barry Memorial to St Iban's Cemetery.

The parade was led by a Republican Movement colour party, and the Loch Gorman Silver Band and the local life and drum band also participated. At the graveside of local martyr Paddy Parle, the Roll of Honour was read by Ann Price of Wexford Sinn Féin. Wreaths were laid on behalf of the Movement and the statement from the leadership was read.

Angela Quinn of Dublin Sinn Féin delivered the oration.

A tribute was also paid to local veteran republican Jack Dunne who died last year.

ENNISCORTHY

In Enniscorthy, over 150 people attended the traditional Easter ceremonies at St Mary's Cemetery. A

colour party led the parade. The meeting was chaired by Sean Doyle and Martin Sheehan read the Proclamation. A member of the colour party read the Army statement and the oration was delivered by Angela Quinn.

The striking feature of both parades was the predominance of youth in the crowds.

Canada

AN Easter commemoration in Toronto was held on Easter Sunday morning at the Ontario Federation of Labour building.

About 200 people, the biggest turnout for several years, attended the commemoration, which was chaired by Pat Rooney, chairperson of the Irish Youth Information Service in Toronto.

Patsy Fagan read out the Easter Proclamation, and a poem by Padraig Pearse, *The Rebel*, was recited by Michael Quigley. Excerpts from Bobby Sands' poetry were recited by Mary Gavin.

The tape-recorded statement from the leadership of the Republican Movement was relayed to the crowd.

Linking the struggles

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

A GROUP of Nicaraguan musicians are currently touring Ireland, establishing links with cultural, trade union and political groups, including Sinn Féin, in an effort to counter Reaganite propaganda against Nicaragua.

The group, 'Heroes and Martyrs', are all workers on a state cotton farm and members of the ATC (association of rural workers). They combine traditional Central American folk with revolutionary lyrics but the majority of their repertoire consists of pure Nicaraguan folk music.

They have been in Ireland since March 19th and have been warmly received in many cities and towns. A number of civic receptions have been held for them in Limerick, Galway, Sligo and Derry.

INSIGHT

On a visit to the Sligo/Leitrim area on April 1st and 2nd, the group gave locals an insight into the agricultural and industrial success that the Nicaraguan people have enjoyed since the Sandinista revolution.

In Ballinamore on Tuesday, April 2nd, the group visited Sinn Féin councillor John Joe McGirr's pub, where they played music and listened to the local talent as well.

Later that night, in Sligo, the group was presented with a plaque by Sligo Trades Council chairperson Timmy Newell. Expressing solidarity with the Nicaraguan people, Newell, who is a Sinn Féin candidate in the forthcoming local elections, said that the Irish people were aware of the propaganda which is directed against the revolution in Nicaragua.

Before leaving Sligo, the group's spokesperson, Celso Chavarria, met Sean McManus, national chairperson of Sinn Féin. They discussed similarities between the Nicaraguan struggle against US aggression and Ireland's struggle against British.



● The Nicaraguan musicians demonstrate outside the US consulate in Belfast

The 'Heroes and Martyrs' were welcomed to Derry on April 3rd with a reception in the Rosemount Centre hosted by Mitchel McLaughlin of Derry Sinn Féin.

At a press conference that day, Celso Chavarria spoke of the present situation in Nicaragua which is threatened by US military aggression. The group played several times at functions and in turn were entertained by Irish traditional musicians. They also visited Dove House, a self-education project, met local trade unionists and talked to youth at the Derry Youth and Community Project.

SOLIDARITY

At the Easter Sunday commemoration parade in Derry, the group marched with the large crowd as an expression of their support and solidarity with the struggle for Irish independence.

Arriving in Belfast on Easter Monday morning, the group began yet another hectic week of meetings, functions and visits to community projects. The activities covered so far this week include a press conference, discussions with Sinn Féin Cultural Department and Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams and on Wednesday they participated in a demonstration with around 50 other people outside the US consulate in Queen Street.

Other activities for the remainder of the week, which will help to build links and create greater understanding of each country's specific problems, include a walkabout of Divis Flats, a recording session with the video association and a public meeting in Conway Street Mill on Friday, April 12th.

That evening, before their departure on Saturday, 'Heroes and Martyrs' are the guest artists at a concert in the same premises.

As part of the Easter commemorations, Belfast Sinn Féin hosted a number of overseas delegations. The largest of these was a 34-strong group from Britain, comprised of people of Afro-Asian-Caribbean ethnic origin.

They arrived in Belfast in the early hours of Saturday morning, April 6th, after being detained for an hour by the RUC as they disembarked from the Larne ferry. When the RUC learned that the group was visiting Sinn Féin they became quite abusive, making threats and racist remarks.

However, a journalist who accompanied the black delegation, A. S. Bains, who works for *Larkar* (organ of Indian Workers' Association) explained that the group was quite used to such behaviour, particularly from 'police forces'.

On Saturday, the group met with Paddy McManus, chairperson of North, South and East Belfast Sinn Féin, and members of the Stop the Strip-Searches Committee.

After Paddy McManus had outlined the history of Sinn Féin and gave a run-down on current trends and prospects for the Movement, former Armagh POW Breige-Ann McCaughy and Matt Kelly gave a graphic account of the strip-search procedure operated in Armagh Prison, and the efforts being made by the committee to oppose and highlight the practice, particularly on the international scene. Breige-Ann McCaughy stressed the need for the forming of support and solidarity groups among the black community in Britain.

Following a short tour of the Divis flats complex the delegation had further meetings that afternoon with Tom Hartley, general secretary of Sinn Féin, and Joe Austin, chairperson of the Belfast comhairle limistéir.

CEREMONIES

On Sunday, the delegation marched to Milltown Cemetery, where the main Easter commemoration ceremonies were held.

And on Monday they had a series of meetings in Connolly House with members of the Sinn Féin women's department, the Stop the Show-trials Committee and representatives of Sinn Féin youth.

Later, they were present at the local commemoration ceremonies held in the New Lodge area and a member of the delegation — Sheera Johal from Birmingham — who addressed the assembled crowd, was given an enthusiastic welcome. In his address he drew an analogy between the struggle of black minority peoples in Britain for basic human and cultural rights and the plight of the nationalist minority of the six counties, particularly in the ghetto areas of Belfast.

On Monday night, members of the delegation attended the two main republican reunion functions in the Whitecourt Leisure Centre and the New Lodge Felons Club.

As the delegation left Belfast on Tuesday, plans were already being made for a further, larger, delegation next year.

The Liam Óg column

So far, so good

Thursday, April 11th, 1985 - Leathanach 15

LAST WEEK'S meeting of the Federation of Conservative Students (FCS) at Loughborough University, England, certainly embarrassed the Tory leadership who have now suspended £30,000 in grants to that body.

The FCS, which recruits from the student population, is fanatically anti-communist, has international links with right-wing organisations and foreign governments and is obsessive in its support for loyalism.

Some of its members support paedophilia, others call for the end of the welfare state and its outgoing chairperson, Mark Henri Glendenning, said that heroin should be legalised on grounds of personal liberty.

The FCS also calls for the execution of Nelson Mandela (who has been imprisoned in South Africa for the past 21 years) and for the reconquering of the twenty-six counties. In case any of you readers are beginning to develop a persecution complex, the federation does not like Tory 'wets' either and have a contract out on the life of former premier Ted Heath. T-shirts at the conference bore the slogan "Look out Morning Cloud - remember Belgrano." (Morning Cloud is Ted Heath's yacht).

During last week's meeting, the students chanted "Thatcher, Reagan, Botha, Pinochet" and sang one little ditty to the tune of Ten Green Bottles with the words:

"Four hundred and fifty Argie sailors sailing on the sea..."

And if one hunter-killer submarine should accidentally torpedo the General Belgrano There'll be no Argie sailors on the sea - cos they'll be fucking dead."

Tory MP Edwina Currie, addressing the federation, told them:

"You are our future."

So far, so good.

Later that night the drink came out and

all hell broke loose. Two FCS members, one called Francis, the other slightly resembling a 20-year-old Ted Heath, were beaten up because they reminded the students of 'wets' Pym and Heath.

Windows were broken, doors smashed down and, em, excrement was found in the showers, along with beer and vomit. In one bedroom, 500 empty beer cans were discovered.

Well, for this disgusting attitude towards private property, Tory chairperson John Selwyn Gummer severely rebuked Britain's future political leaders and has suspended their grant until they develop a better attitude towards doors and glass and their toilet training has been completed.

US-BASED English DJ Jonathan 'Every-one's gone to the moon' King is as imperialistic as the governments of London and Washington. Writing from the States last week, he said:

"The hottest British act in America at the moment is not Wham or Duran Duran or Frankie. It's not Iron Maiden or Judas Priest. It's U2."

Wonder what the Dubliners think of that?

RUC Constable Robert Stewart, stationed at Tynan Barracks, County Tyrone, certainly put his foot in it. He was searching for a dog which had been allegedly killing sheep, when he fell through the ceiling of a derelict house and sustained a leg injury.

'Lassie' Stewart used the owner of the old house for damages but the case was dismissed.

WHERE would democracy be without that honest upholder of universal franchise, Mr Jim Speers, the Official Unionist elected after Convicted and Counterfeiting Act and fined £250 for illegally filling in ten application forms. When the ten people were officially questioned about the applications, they denied making them or asking for them to be made.

Speers, an expert in extra-sensory perception, knows when voters want postal votes - even before they think about it.

THE Official Unionists and the law certainly aren't seeing eye-to-eye these days. OUP Cookstown Councillor James Howard has been charged along with four others of dishonestly obtaining skimmed milk, valued at £150,000, arising out of an alleged evasion of EEC rules.

OUP members in the dock now join with several Stickies who have been charged with fraud on building site tax exemptions. They should be glad to get together and built 'better-life-for-all' milk parlours.

THE April edition of *Micro User*, a computer magazine, advertises the latest toy for youngsters - a video game called 'SAS Commander'.

In the game, which consists of a series of street scenes, a nasty terrorist fires at our hero, then two terrorists fire, then three etc, and your points increase depending on how good you are at killing terrorists and avoiding being hit. *Micro User*, reviewing the game, makes one complaint:

"It seems a little unfair that while the terrorist can angle his shots across the screen to hit you, you can only shoot vertically."

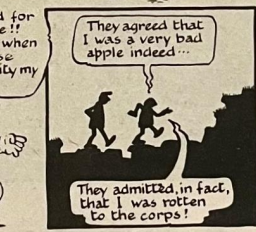
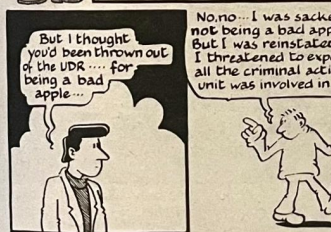
BBC and Electron, who market the cassette, are obviously anxious to maintain the myth of the clean SAS fighter who never shoots the enemy in the back and always gives a warning.

WHILE Monaghan and Armagh footballers battled for the National League trophy in Croke Park last Sunday, the new GAA president, Mick Loftus, was having a battle of his own.

Arriving at headquarters shortly before the match, the Mayo man was stopped by officials at the gate who took some convincing before they believed that he was, in fact, who he said he was.

Eventually, Loftus was allowed to continue to the presidential box where the Fine Gael chairperson of Monaghan County Council, Hugh McElvany, was down on his hands and knees picking up pieces of his chain of office which had broken in all the excitement.

Cardinal O Fiaich, in a gesture of solidarity with his hapless fellow Armagh men, did not join in the search.



Youth organise against repression

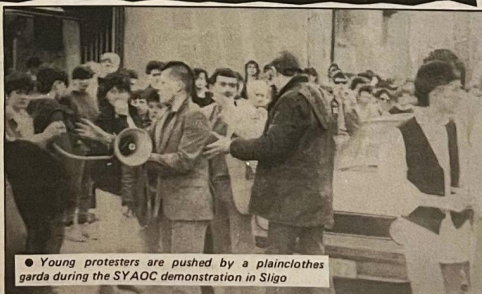
A DEMONSTRATION against garda brutality was supported by 300 young people in Sligo town on Saturday, April 6th. It was organised by the newly-formed Sligo Youth Against Oppression Committee to protest publicly against the continual harassment and brutality meted out to young people by the gardai.

The group had earlier leafleted the town to publicise the meeting and explain the reason for it.

Ronnie Gallagher, one of the organisers, addressed the crowd saying that since the introduction of the Criminal Justice Act on March 1st, many Sligo youths had been arrested and beaten up for no other reason than that they were on the streets. He said

that unemployment had condemned young people to long empty days and no future, and added that they deserved better than this harassment from the gardai.

Sean McManus, the Sinn Féin chairperson, was invited to speak and said that the behaviour of the gardai had to be viewed in the wider context of the Free State government's disregard for the needs of youth in particular and the working class in general.



● Young protesters are pushed by a plainclothes garda during the SYAOC demonstration in Sligo

Imeachtaí

IRISH NIGHT
Music and entertainment
9pm Friday 12th April
Tower Bar
OMEATH
County Louth
Taille E1
Organised by
An Cumann Cabhrach

FUNCTION
Featuring the Jolly Beggarman
Friday 12th April
Castle Court Hotel
MOHILL
County Leitrim
Organised by Sinn Féin

SEMINAR ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
11am Saturday 13th April
7a Clanbrassil Street
DUNDALK
Organised by Sinn Féin
Women's Department
Creche facilities available

CÉILÍ MÓR
8pm De Sathairn 13th Aibreán
Glen Community Centre
Lenadon
BELFAST
Taille E1 E50
Do Scoil Ghaelach Bheal Feirste

LABOUR COMMITTEE ON IRELAND SOCIAL
8pm Saturday 13th April
Calthorpe Arms
Calthorpe Street
LONDON EC1
Taille E1 E50 (50p unwaged)
AGM
10am Sunday 14th April
County Hall
LONDON SE1

ARMAGH GREEN CROSS BUFFET & DANCE
Music by Climate
9pm Saturday 13th April
Western Hotel
MONAGHAN
Taille E3
Speaker: Jim McAllister

SINN FEIN AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT
1pm Sunday 14th April
44 Parnell Square
DUBLIN
All agriculture representatives to attend
All Sinn Féin members welcome

STRIP SEARCH SEMINAR
3pm Sunday 14th April
Forresters Hall
ENNIISKILLEN
County Fermanagh
Speakers: Sean McBride, Des Wilson and ex-Armagh POW

IRISH CLASSES
7.30pm every Tuesday
Nicholas Court
NEWRY
County Down
8pm every Wednesday
Technical School
Quay Street
SLIGO

CABARET & DANCE
(In aid of the Sinn Féin election fund)
Music by The Outlaws
10pm-1am Thursday 18th April
Olympia
CARRICKMACROSS
County Monaghan
Taille E2
Prominent speaker

UNVEILING OF MEMORIAL TO TUAM MARTYRS
3.30pm Sunday 21st April
Assemble 1916 Monument
March to Old Workhouse
TUAM
County Galway
Unveiling: General Tom Maguire
Oration: Ruairi O Braidaigh

Twinbrook murder bid

BY ROBERT CARLIN

A 27-year-old Twinbrook man narrowly escaped death on Wednesday morning this week, when a member of an RUC patrol fired at him on open ground near his home in the Twinbrook estate in West Belfast. A number of children playing in the field ran for cover as the RUC man sprayed the field with automatic fire.

Jamesy McMullan, from Almond Drive, Twinbrook, was on his way to make a phone-call accompanied by a friend, when an unmarked RUC Ford Escort pulled up some distance behind him. One of the RUC men, armed and wearing no cap or tunic, stepped from the car and shouted, "come here, you!"

"I didn't know it was the RUC — it

could have been anybody. The first thing I saw was a gun coming out of the car. I didn't stop to think, I just ran." McMullan pointed out after the incident.

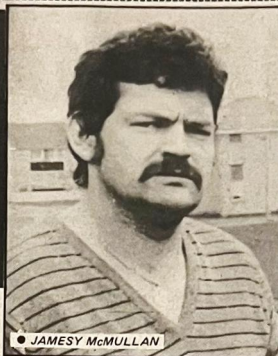
FIRED

An RUC man pursued him to the open ground and fired a number of bursts from his automatic weapon. Dozens of local people witnessed the shooting. One of them was Twinbrook man Thomas Cullen, who said:

"I heard the shots from my cousin's flat, and when I ran out I saw the RUC and a lot of women shouting at them. I looked across the field and one RUC man had his knee on the man's chest. Another was punching and kicking him."

The man with McMullan was 31-year-old Harry Austin, also from Almond Drive. He said:

"I ran over and pulled one of the RUC men off Jamesy. They then pulled both of us to the car and told us to get in, but we wouldn't. Then they just wanted to get away from the scene as a large crowd had gathered — that's why we weren't arrested by them."



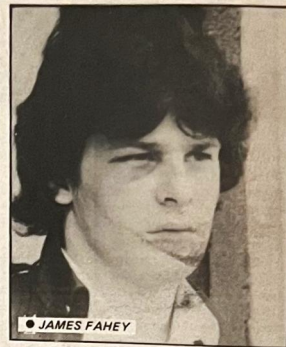
• JAMESY McMULLAN

Another local man, Victor Wilkinson, whose young sister had been playing in the field at the time, came on the scene shortly after the shooting. He says:

"I said to one of them 'Are you mad or something? My sister's only after coming in in hysterics'. He just pointed at one of the other RUC men, who had sandy hair and a thin moustache and said 'it wasn't me, it was him'."

Twinbrook Sinn Féin spokesperson, Damien Gibney, slammed the shooting. In a statement issued shortly afterwards, he said:

"The action of the RUC in opening fire on an unarmed civilian is deplorable. The area was crowded with children and the RUC failed to identify themselves before shooting. The RUC man who opened fire, whose number is 2332, was one of four in an unmarked car, registration EX1 3542. He was under no threat and there was no excuse for his firing at Mr McMullan."



• JAMES FAHEY

Assault in Derry

JAMES FAHEY, a 21-year-old man from Creggan estate in Derry was arrested and assaulted by the RUC last week because he gave his name in Irish.

Fahey was stopped at the Magazine Fort in the city, and when he gave his name was told to "speak the Queen's English". He was then dragged into the back of a landrover and repeatedly kicked and punched, and a rifle butt was jabbed into his throat.

He was taken to Strand Road Barracks, and was again assaulted. Fahey was released after being charged with disorderly behaviour.

Concerned Parents take action

BY JACK MADDEN

MEMBERS of the Concerned Parents Against Drugs group in the Dolphin House flats complex in Dolphin's Barn, Dublin, took action on Tuesday this week against a woman who, they say, allowed her home to be used as a "shoot-ing gallery" by heroin pushers and users.

The woman was first approached by the Concerned Parents last Wednesday fortnight and was told that she would be given seven days to stop pushers and users from visiting her flat.

Since this warning was ignored, on Wednesday, April 3rd, she was given 24 hours to vacate the flat. Subsequently, on Friday, April 5th, and again on Monday this week, the man with whom she lives, and who the Concerned Parents believed to be the principal pusher, was seen again in the flat.

At 10.45pm on Tuesday, April 9th, local residents moved into the flat and removed all the women's furniture, including the lino from the floor. During this removal they found three syringes.

When the woman returned at about midnight she went to get the gardai. They arrived shortly afterwards and told the residents that if the woman was the legal tenant, that they (the residents) were "taking the law" into their own hands.

A spokesperson for the Concerned Parents replied that they had "a basic right" to defend their children, and added:

"The only way we can protect our children is to keep scum like her out."

At this stage the gardai withdrew from the area, taking the woman with them. Locals kept a vigil on the flat throughout the night and on Wednesday were waiting for further developments.



• The Good Friday vigil outside Armagh Jail

Strip-search tactic outlined

FORMER Armagh prisoner Pauline McKinney was one of several speakers at a meeting attended by approximately 60 people in Stratford, East London, on Thursday, March 28th, in which she outlined the British government's continuing use of strip-searching.

Also on the platform were representatives of various groups including the IBRG (Irish in Britain Representation Group), the Wolfe Tone Society, a miner's wife from Wellbeck NUM Action Group and a speaker from

the campaign against the PTA.

The meeting was organised by Newham and Waltham Forest Stop the Strip-Searches Campaign and messages of support and solidarity were read on behalf of British Labour MP Jo Richard-

son, (the party's spokesperson on women's affairs) PAC (Azania) women's section, ANC, the Newham Seven Action Campaign and the Asian Women's Anti-Racist Group.

Information from the women prisoners themselves have put the number of strip-searches carried out in Armagh during March at 50. A staggering total when compared to the number of remand prisoners, and a figure that ridicules the claim by Nicholas Scott,

that only an average of two strip-searches are carried out per month.

Scott, in a letter to Newry and Mourne District Council, has once again attempted to defend strip-searching on 'security' grounds. The council, however, have rejected Scott's explanation as "completely unsatisfactory" and have passed a motion denouncing the practice.

DUBLIN

A similar motion has been passed by Dublin Corporation at a recent meeting. It was proposed by Councillor Brendan Lynch and seconded by Councillor Tony Gregory.

Sean McBride, internationally-known lawyer and former Nobel Prize winner, will be the main speaker at a seminar in Enniskillen organised by the local Stop the Armagh Strip-Searches Committee.

On Good Friday a token vigil took place outside Armagh women's jail. Approximately 40 people took part in the vigil which lasted from 2.30-3.30pm.