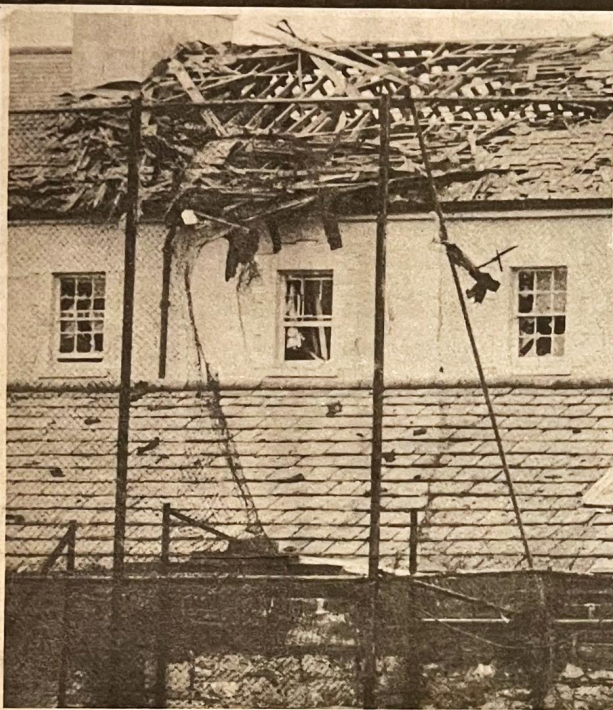


AN  
**PHOBLACHT**  
Republican News

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING  
POLITICAL WEEKLY



Sraith Nua Im! 7 Uimhir 35 Deardaoin 5 Mean Fomhair Thursday 5th Sept. 1985 (Britain 30p) Price 25p



● Aftermath of the Enniskillen mortar bomb blitz



● The new direct-ruler, Tom King, arrives in Belfast

# A royal salute -mortars greet King

IN a meticulously planned operation in Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, on Wednesday this week, the IRA demonstrated that, while direct-rulers will come and go, the war of national liberation goes on with ever-increasing confidence and determination, even after 16 years of continuous struggle.

Even though built on an island and surrounded by high walls and wire, the RUC barracks in Enniskillen — the nursery of that sectarian force — could not escape the consequences of its role as part of Britain's war machine in Ireland.

There is no safe haven, no fortress strong enough to withstand the resolve of a people determined to be free. Time and again the IRA has

proved that it will not be defeated and it will not go away until the cause of its existence — the British presence in Ireland — is removed.

New direct-ruler Tom King is

learning the reality of his situation early on. He wouldn't be going to Enniskillen because, he admitted, this would further stretch the workload of the RUC and British army

in that area.

This, then, is the reality of life for Britain's colonial governor in the six counties — to be whisked from place to place, guarded by scores of British army/RUC personnel, and all the time conscious that the IRA is simply waiting for the right opportunity to strike.

King will live in a permanent fortress in the six counties because while he, his government and their armed forces divide and occupy our land there will always be Irish people ready and willing to follow the example of the IRA in Fermanagh this week.

There is nothing startlingly new in this assertion, Mr King. Indeed, it was stated with confidence by a predecessor of today's IRA, Padraig Pearse, when he said that "Ireland unfree shall never be at peace".



● The lorry from which the mortar bombs were launched. (Background left) the RUC Training Depot

# RUC MORTIFIED

LESS than 48 hours after the appointment of Tom King as the new Brit colonial Secretary of State, the IRA 'welcomed' him into his new job with a fireworks display 'fit for a king'.

In a devastating example of the IRA's ability and determination to continue the armed struggle against the British presence, 18 mortar bombs, together containing almost 1,000 lbs of explosives, were launched against the RUC Training Depot in Enniskillen, County Fermanagh. The depot also houses the RUC Divisional Headquarters for the county. Nineteen RUC personnel were injured and extensive structural damage done to the depot.

On Tuesday night, September 3rd, IRA Volunteers commanded a heavy quarry lorry near Derrylin, County Fermanagh.

The Volunteers took the vehicle

to a secure location heavily guarded by other armed Volunteers where for several days previously IRA engineers had been busy constructing several metal baseplates and frames.

## CAREFUL PLANNING

Eighteen mortar tubes, the largest number ever used in a single mortar attack, were made and fitted to the baseplates and frames.

After all of the mortars were satisfactorily placed into position, the mortar bombs, each containing about 50lbs of explosives, were set in the tubes. Two IRA engineers then fitted the firing mechanism but did not prime it.

In the planning of this operation, IRA Volunteers had for several weeks carefully examined all possible locations around the depot from which the mortars could be fired. It was decided that a car park, about 400 yards from the depot across the River Erne, would provide the best launch site.

The lorry with the 18 mortar tubes attached was camouflaged and then driven to the prearranged site, carefully avoiding interception by crown forces.

As soon as it was in position an IRA engineer primed the mortars and then he and his comrades withdrew.

## DIRECT HITS ON DEPOT

Just before 8am on Wednesday, September 4th, the mortars were fired and rained down on the

depot and barracks. Eighteen mortars fired, with nine hitting their target and the others harmlessly falling short. Six of the bombs exploded with dramatic and devastating effect. Four of the mortars hit the main building which contains sleeping quarters and administrative offices. Extensive damage was caused. A fifth landed in the barracks car park exploding and turning many parked cars into burning wrecks, while the sixth mortar made a direct hit on an observation sanger totally destroying it and setting it on fire.

Nineteen RUC personnel as well as a number of civilians who work in the depot were injured. Fermanagh Brigade of the IRA claimed responsibility.

## RUC INSPECTOR KILLED

Late on Friday night, August 30th, a three-person active service unit from the South Down Brigade ambushed and killed a senior RUC officer.

The inspector, who was stationed at Mountpottinger Barracks in the nationalist Short Strand area in East Belfast, lived at Rocks Chapel Road near Crossgar, County Down. He had recently moved there in the belief that Crossgar was a 'safer' area than Downpatrick where he had previously lived.

IRA Volunteers belonging to the intelligence department of the South Down Brigade had been monitoring the movements and routine of the RUC inspector for some weeks. It had been established that he generally arrived home around 11pm. The intelligence department thoroughly briefed the three Volunteers involved in the operation.

The two Volunteers who were to take part in the actual attack were each armed with hand-guns, one a Browning 9mm and the other a .45. When they arrived at the isolated bungalow, they each took up position in the front garden and waited.

However, on Friday night the RUC man did not arrive home until several hours later than expected. As he stepped from his car the two Volunteers walked towards the RUC man and both fired hitting him in the head and body. He died instantly.

The two Volunteers then went to where their comrade waited with a vehicle and drove from the area.

## RUC MAN SHOT IN DERRY

An RUC man was shot and seriously wounded in an attack in Derry on Thursday, August 29th. Derry Brigade's intelligence department received accurate information detailing the routine of an RUC man who works as a photographer in Strand Road Barracks.

Early in the afternoon of August 29th, two Volunteers took over a house at Hampstead Park on the West Bank of the city. Once the building had been secured three Volunteers, armed with an FNC 5.56mm, a Ruger 5.56mm and a Browning 9mm pistol took up position overlooking the road.

At the same time IRA support units set up observation points around the 'attack group' to ensure that they were secure from other enemy forces.

Shortly after 5pm, the RUC man drove along Culmore Road in his blue Ford Sierra. Having positively identified their target, the Volunteers opened fire.

Over 40 rounds were fired with almost all hitting the vehicle. The RUC man was wounded in both arms and a leg.

The ASU then withdrew from the area after commandeering a nearby car. The support units also safely left the scene of the ambush.

At the debriefing held later it was generally accepted that the RUC man must have been wearing a bulletproof vest and it was this which saved him from more serious injury. This view appears to be borne out by the fact that both arms were injured, indicating that the spread of shots must have been across the chest.

## CASTLEDAWSON

On Tuesday night, September 3rd, IRA Volunteers of the South Derry Brigade placed two incendiary bombs in the Moyola Lodge restaurant in Castledawson.

The area was cleared and the two bombs eventually defused by a Brit bomb disposal squad.

## IRA STATEMENT

On Saturday, August 31st, the IRA's Belfast Brigade issued a statement withdrawing an earlier warning to a Belfast city centre bar. The Bank Bar in Castle Street had been told two weeks ago that because of criminal activity on the premises either it was to close voluntarily or it would be closed forcibly.

The IRA's latest statement lifted that warning, although not completely. They said:

"After receiving certain assurances, through a third party, from the owner and management of the Bank Bar, Castle Street, that they will in future attempt to curtail or stamp out the activities of criminal elements who are using the premises, the Belfast Brigade of the Irish Republican Army now rescind the closure order issued last week. However, if it is seen that no conscious effort is being made to implement the assurances given, the Belfast Brigade reserve the right to review this decision. We will be monitoring the situation carefully over the coming weeks."

WEST BELFAST YOUTH clearly demonstrated their contempt for the crown force presence in the North when they burned down the few remaining structures of a British army base on Tuesday night, September 3rd.

Earlier that day British army personnel withdrew from the McCrory Park grounds, situated on the Whiterock Road, which they had occupied since 1972. The grounds are owned by the Catholic Church and had been scheduled for the development of a schools' GAA sports pitch at the time.

Over the past 13 years, the base had come under several IRA mortar-bomb attacks, the most recent being a month ago. In a statement, Sinn Féin MP for West Belfast Gerry Adams said the move was "an indication of the success of recent IRA attacks" and he demanded that local residents and the GAA receive compensation for loss of facilities.

Meanwhile, British troops manning the Slieve na Bola observation post have also flown the coop only weeks after they had a close shave during yet another IRA mortar attack. And not to be left behind, Brits stationed in the hilltop observation post in Carricknagavna, on the Newry/Crossmaglen Road at Mullaban, have followed suit.



# King-size headache for new direct-ruler

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

'COLOURLESS', 'luckless' and 'hapless' is how the media have described Tom King, the new British direct-ruler since Monday, September 2nd, for his lack of personality, bad luck for being nominated to that post, and lack of talent in his previous post respectively.

While Douglas Hurd, the former Stormont occupant, was being 'promoted' to British Home Secretary, King was obviously sent to purgatory in Belfast in punishment for a mediocre performance as Employment Secretary.

The changeover was described by Sinn Féin's Danny Morrison as making no difference, since British direct-rulers were doing little more than a holding job here anyway.

Thatcher's cabinet reshuffle was widely reported to be the Tories' desperate attempt to improve their popularity ratings, the lowest ever since 1979. Hence the demotion of former Home Secretary Leon Brittan to Trade and Industry, after his conflict last month with BBC staff over the *Real Lives* programme.

## LOW PRIORITY

Hurd's departure occurs at the beginning of a week which British government sources have described as "crucial" and the Free State as "critical" for the London-Dublin talks. The move was therefore clearly seen as an indication of the low priority given to Ireland on the British government's agenda. Worse still, as ministers filed in and out of 10 Downing Street to be told of their fate, King spent a full two hours in Thatcher's office, a sure sign that the man was not exactly brimming with enthusiasm for the job. Just like Jim Prior four years ago, King has apparently been told to take Belfast or nothing.

Hurd leaves Stormont Castle eight days short of a year after he was sent there. In his first important public statement last November, he had re-emphasised his boss's 'out, out, out' rejection of the Dublin Forum report. Later he declared that the first task of the Brits in Ireland was to implement a "robust security policy". By and large, however, his public utterances were couched in such ambiguous and meaningless jargon as to suggest that Hurd's first task was to hold the fort and keep the press occupied in conjecture.

## THE KEY

Interestingly, as he left last Tuesday, he echoed the words of anti-republican cleric Fr Denis Faul a week earlier when he said that the key was not the talks between London and Dublin, but rather that the "builders" start working together against the "pullers-down" and the "wreckers".

Reactions to Hurd's departure were strangely unanimous. The DUP expressing relief to see a former Foreign Office man go, as the British Foreign Office was always suspected by the unionists to be "soft" with Dublin. There were cool remarks from the SDLP, Alliance Party and Dublin, visibly outraged at Thatcher's contempt for Ireland.

King has been sent to the "dustbin of Northern Ireland", said former Brit direct-ruler Jim Prior, while the Thatcher government was at pains to stress that Hurd's removal would not affect the ongoing



● An apprehensive King arrives

his handling of Orange parades and his agreeing to provide release dates for life prisoners.

As for the new direct-ruler, his task was described by BBC political editor John Cole as "handling the details of what, according to Whitehall, will be little more than damage limitations". King will witness the tail-end of talks that he was neither a part of, nor had any interest in.

In one of his last public statements, Hurd said on Wednesday, August 28th, that the London-Dublin talks would be concluded in a "matter of weeks rather than months". On the same day, one of his under-secretaries, Nicholas Scott, declared that the British government was now accepting the need for a "consultative role" for Dublin.

Both Hurd and Scott also warmly praised Free State Minister for Foreign Affairs Peter Barry for his recent speech, in which he asked Northern nationalists to accept the unionists' "right to be what they are and where they are".

Hurd's and Scott's optimistic remarks in relation to the talks were in marked contrast to the cautious attitude displayed by the Dublin government and by SDLP leader John Hume, who in an RTE



● A smiling Hurd departs

negotiations. Fr Faul was the only one to regret Hurd's departure, praising him for

Radio interview last Sunday warned nationalists not to expect a "final solution" — an unfortunate choice of words.

## 'PULL OUT'

The Dublin media were cool on the whole thing, with the *Irish Times* warning the Coalition parties to "be on their guards", as Britain wanted "the help of Dublin in suppressing terrorism" but not in helping to "settle the whole island situation". "Pull out" if necessary, was the advice given to FitzGerald.

Unionists, meanwhile, did not remain inactive. DUP leader Ian Paisley and OUP leader James Molyneux flew to London on Friday to present Thatcher with a joint document outlining their objections to the London-Dublin talks and to any role for Dublin in the North, even in an advisory capacity.

What the unionists proposed to do in case their advice was not listened to was not made public. However, on Monday, September 2nd, the Rev Martin Smyth declared at an OUP press conference that unionists would "resort to arms if the link with Britain was threatened". This was not to be taken as a threat, he added, not without some humour.

## GREATER COLLABORATION

So what will the outcome of the talks be? There is no doubt now that the settlement will be internal to the six counties, with a purely 'consultative role' for Dublin, and some cosmetic reforms such as the removal of the Flags and Emblems Act. In exchange, Dublin will be asked to provide even greater collaboration with the Brits against nationalist resistance in the North and along the border.

And on Monday, September 2nd, Bishop Cathal Daly launched an attack on republicans. While admitting that injustice was "embedded" in the six-county state and remarking, patronisingly, that many republicans had got involved out of "idealism", he asked the IRA to cease fire and fight for justice by "non-violent means", without specifying what those means should be. Daly added that far from being a fight against a "foreign oppressor", the IRA's armed struggle had become an "inter-Irish struggle of one community against another".

In a lengthy statement Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams pointed out that Bishop Daly had come out with a one-sided attack on republicans and had, once again, failed to address himself to the key question of the British presence in Ireland.

## SPECIAL INTERNAL SINN FEIN CONFERENCE

Saturday & Sunday, September 7th/8th

CIE Hall  
Marlborough Street  
Dublin

This conference is open to members of Sinn Féin only  
Everyone in attendance will have speaking rights

The Clar will include

**SATURDAY** Conference starts 11.30am

Video — Political discussion 'The Way Forward' —  
Review of Local Government Elections

FOOD Please note: there are no catering facilities in the conference hall.

**SUNDAY** Conference starts 10.30am

Organisational recommendations — Next Elections —  
Open discussion (topics to be decided from the floor)

ACCOMMODATION Members should arrange their own billets.



# Confrontation in college dispute

BY DONAL LYONS

**ACTION** in support of the UCD cleaners dispute escalated last week as the Special Branch and uniformed gardai forcibly removed pickets from outside the college gates.

The early morning mass pickets were placed to stop scab cleaners from entering the premises and, when this tactic proved successful, the gardai were drafted in to provide safe passage for the scabs. Despite the threat of arrests the women and their supporters are determined to continue with their protests.

In a major development, shop stewards representing all workers in UCD (including contract building employees) convened a meeting in the nearby Montrose Hotel on Monday, September 2nd, to discuss ways of winning the dispute. Nearly 200 people attended and a motion was passed committing all present to a one-day work-stoppage on Monday, September 16th, as a gesture of solidarity with the women cleaners.

No less than seven full-time ITGWU officials attended the meeting including Pat Rabbittie, the Workers Party member whose mishandling of the negotiations cost the women their jobs in the first place. The attendance of so many officials confirms reports that the ultra-conservative ITGWU hierarchy has instructed their representatives to resolve the situation and so avoid full-scale confrontation with the UCD administration.

Since Thursday 29th August, official ATGWU pickets have been placed on "Flanagan's Euromarket" and "Ye Olde Oak" pub in Castleblayney, both owned by local businessman Peter Flanagan. The dispute started when one of his employees, Elizabeth Martin, organised other staff members and an ATGWU official attempted to open negotiations on pay and conditions. Flanagan's response was to sack Martin, who has five years' service, and to refuse to recognise the right of his workers to join a union.

Pickets are being mounted from 9am to 11.30pm by three young employees, Siobhan Loughman, Caroline Kelly and Elizabeth Martin, who tell us that support for their stand is high amongst the local people. All deliveries by unionised labour have been halted, and workers in the surrounding area have organised collections for the strikers.

Sinn Féin are supporting the women and Sinn Féin Councillor Caoimhghin O'Caolain has visited the picket line to express the party's solidarity.

In an important breakthrough Trade Unionists for Irish Unity and Independence (TUIUI) have been invited to address a meeting of the Nottingham and District Trades Council. This is a direct result of their visit to speak at a fringe meeting of the TUC in Blackpool.

A spokesperson for TUIUI told *AP/RN* that they regarded their lobbying in England to be of prime importance in that it counteracted the official ICTU 'Better life for all' campaign, which they feel misleads English workers about the true nature of Britain's role in Ireland.

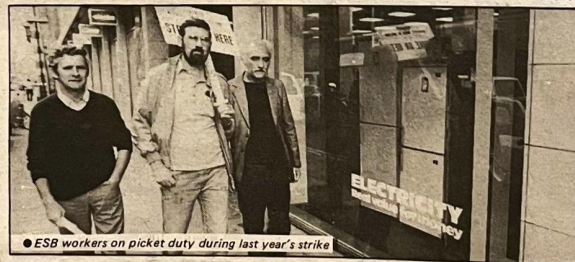
There was a major victory for the left at the British TUC this week when a motion proposed by the NUM was accepted. The motion committed Congress to call on any future Labour government to enact legislation reinstating all miners



sacked during the pits strike and to repay all union funds sequestered during the dispute.

ITGWU national group secretary, Tom Walsh, has described Coalition/CIE proposals to close rail and road freight divisions in January 1986 as the "thin end of a dangerous wedge". CIE unions regard the proposals as the start of a gradual process which could place the future of the rail network in jeopardy and threaten the livelihoods of upwards of 6,000 workers.

ANCO, the twenty-six-county training body, have introduced new discriminatory regulations against married women. Effective from July 22nd of this year a reduced rate of £34.70 will be paid to married women on training schemes. All other trainees receive a basic rate of £39.50. It is not clear whether ANCO is in breach of the Employment Equality Act, 1977, and a test case will have to be taken.



## Blackout looms

TWO UNIONS, the ESB Officers Association (ESBOA) and AUEW/TASS which together represent over 30% of ESB employees, have called for a one-day stoppage on Tuesday, 10th September. Pickets will be placed on all ESB locations throughout the twenty-six counties and power cuts appear to be inevitable.

The confrontation has arisen because management are attempting to steam-roll the recommendations of the Millar/Barry report over union opposition and without proper consultation or negotiation with their employees. In an unprecedented move this week, the four worker directors have issued a statement condemning ESB management and saying that "no proper debate about the proposals has

taken place at board level".

The report itself, if implemented, will mean the closure of six area offices - two in Dublin and the others in Athlone, Galway, Tralee and Portlaoise. Both unions claim that customer service would be severely damaged by this and would increase the access costs to rural customers by 46%. Up to 500 jobs within the service would also be at risk and this is totally unacceptable to the unions.

As a forerunner to next week's stoppage, staff at the ESB head office in Dublin walked out for two hours on Tuesday, September 3rd, while a board meeting was in progress. After the meeting, management issued a statement saying that they intended pressing ahead with the proposals.

A spokesperson for the unions has said that next week's stoppage is "a warning shot across the bows" and both unions have a mandate from their membership to seek ICTU sanction for an all-out picket if necessary.

graphers have not received a pay increase in six years, but the Department have rejected their 8-10% pay claim. Hospitals throughout the state will be affected by the strike and supportive action by workers in other unions has not been ruled out.

Another 100 jobs are to go in the Cork area. One of the oldest clothing companies in the city, Dunloe Trading Ltd, closed last week and cited recurring losses as the reason for the shut-down. The workforce, some with very long service, are to receive statutory entitlements only from the Insolvency Fund.

Contamination of water supplies in the Newry/South Down area is the result of redundancies by the direct-rule Department of the Environment (DOE), according to a group of local water workers.

Workers at the DOE Water Services Foffany Filtration Works, near Hilltown, say that since the abolition of the night shift at the plant three years ago, allied with the introduction of new technology, there has been a mounting volume of public complaints about brown or over-chlorinated tapwater. Local farmers have also complained that their stock refuse to drink from the river downstream of the Foffany plant.

As a result of the redundancies, the plant's workforce, already depleted by previous 'rationalisation' was cut from 11 to 8 men.

A representative of the workforce told *AP/RN*:

"They must be spending millions on modernisation, but the computer just can't cope with the quality of water out of Spelga dam, especially at certain times of the year when the water gets dirtier, because of storms or downpours. With the computer, when the dust content goes up, the chlorine is increased automatically. Before, the men were there and they washed the filters as needed, so they didn't need to add excessive chlorine."

"We believe that if the night shift was reintroduced, the quality of the water would definitely improve."

At a meeting in Liberty Hall on Sunday, September 1st, by a vote of 286 for to 31 against, the workers of the Sempart tyre factory in Ballyfermot, Dublin, voted to go on strike from Monday, September 16th. The dispute is related to management's refusal to concede a realistic pay rise to their workforce.

A group formed last year to protect the rights of part-time teachers is to step up its campaign. The Association of Part-Time Teachers (APT) was formed in October 1984 and now has over 80 members mainly working in Vocational Schools.

These tutors are in the invidious position of being paid on an hourly basis, do not receive sick pay or holiday pay, and are not entitled to maternity leave. Worst of all, no part-timer has the right to notice of dismissal, or to full membership of any of the teachers unions. The thrust of APT's campaign now is to gain full recognition from one of the teachers unions. A general meeting of members is to be held this month to further this policy.

For further information contact the General Secretary, APT, 59 Russell Avenue, Drumcondra, Dublin 3. Tel: 741745.

# Manoeuvring on North's councils

BY JANE PLUNKETT

IT WAS a week of contradictions in the North's council chambers.

In majority-nationalist Fermanagh, where Sinn Féin is the largest political party, the OUP are no less determined than unionists elsewhere to maintain British and unionist hegemony in the statelet, but they have recognised local political realities and do not intend to manoeuvre themselves out into the cold.

They allow themselves a little posturing, of course. At Tuesday's council meeting, the ten unionist councillors staged a half-hour walk-out over council procedure, even though Sinn Féin council chairperson Paul Corrigan pointed out that he had applied standing orders similarly at previous meetings in order to facilitate discussion of unionist-proposed motions.

The remaining councillors passed resolutions calling for an immediate end to strip-searching in Armagh Jail and for the withdrawal of plastic bullets.

## FERMANAGH

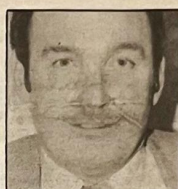
Fermanagh Official Unionists politely address Sinn Féin's Paul Corrigan as 'Mr Chairman'. On Tuesday, this was responsible for six walk-outs by the two DUP councillors in as many hours. "Betrayal!" screamed the DUP's Bert Johnston to OUPer Cecil



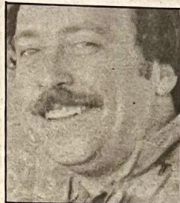
● PAUL CORRIGAN



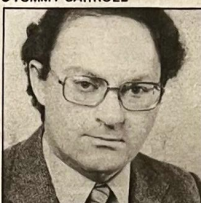
● TOMMY CARROLL



● FRANK MAC DOWELL



● SEAN MCKNIGHT



● MICHAEL HASSON



● BRENDAN CURRAN



● GERALDINE RITCHIE

Noble. "You are only a gob," retorted his fellow unionist.

## CRAIGAVON

Following a second High Court judgement, last Thursday, August 20th, stating that the unionist majority on Craigavon Council had acted unlawfully in excluding Sinn Féin elected representatives, there were no expulsions at Monday night's meeting. Instead, the unionists block-voted to shut up shop indefinitely. Until, that is, they obtain a meeting with new British director Tom King, at which they intend to press for legislation excluding Sinn

Fein from local councils.

At Monday's meeting, the Craigavon unionists handed OUP mayor George Savage sole responsibility for urgent council business during the adjournment — a step which merely formalised their *de facto* sectarian dictatorship in council matters.

## BELFAST

At Belfast City Council's meeting, also on Monday night, unionist councillors blocked a request from 15 residents of the Short Strand area to have their street renamed in Irish. The unionist majority also voted Sinn Féin's Councillor Sean McKnight off the management com-

mittee of the Divis Community Centre. Alliance Party members abstained.

McKnight, who was excluded despite being the only nominee for the post, commented that he had observed all the centre's meetings in the past year, and did not need endorsement by any bureaucratic body:

"I was elected to the council by the people of Divis and that is the only credibility I need."

## ARMAGH

At Armagh Council, lone Sinn Féin Councillor Tommy Carroll, who was bureaucratically excluded from the council's

Recreation Committee, following last May's elections, was barred on Monday from raising such issues in the full council. Carroll, who had expressed concern at play facilities in nationalist Mullacreevie Park, afterwards accused SDLP councillors "who are now working this committee system" of "effectively disenfranchising" Sinn Féin voters.

## LIMAVADY

And on Tuesday night, Limavady Sinn Féin Councillor Mickey Hasson was arbitrarily removed by the RUC from attending, as an observer, a meeting of the council's Finance and General Purposes Committee.

SDLP councillors protested verbally — but remained in the council chamber.

## NEWRY & MOURNE

At Newry and Mourne Council on Monday night, Sinn Féin's Brendan Curran had proposed that the council set up a small committee to investigate incidents such as the illegal arrest and beating of local schoolteacher Fergus McArdle by the RUC some weeks earlier.

The SDLP forced through a lame counter amendment requesting a copy of the RUC's own investigation — a proposal which, as Sinn Féin pointed out, effectively endorses the cover-up procedure under which complaints against the RUC are investigated by the RUC itself.

## DOWN

Also on Monday, SDLP, OUP, DUP and Workers Party councillors on Down District Council supported an SDLP motion to adjourn the meeting in respect for an RUC inspection or executed by the IRA.

Criticising the other parties' double standards over political violence, local Sinn Féin Councillors Geraldine Ritchie and Frank McDowell said afterwards:

"We feel that if the council is going to make such gestures, then they should do so for all those who have lost their lives in the six counties due to British occupation, and not just a select few."

# Loyalist gang in Waterside

IN the early hours of Monday morning, September 2nd, an eight-strong gang of loyalists was seen standing outside the home of a well-known republican in Anderson Crescent in the middle of the staunchly nationalist Gobnascale area of the Waterside in Derry.

Local residents who spotted the gang were initially concerned

that they were in the street to smash windows, a weekly occurrence since the beginning of the

Orange marching season in Derry.

When they approached the gang, a gun was produced before the gang split up and ran off in different directions. Several of them were apprehended by the residents and one of them again

produced a gun. In the ensuing melee, two of the loyalists were injured. The gun was recovered by the local people and it turned out to be a replica Luger pistol.

Both Sinn Féin and the Top of the Hill Tenants Association chal-

lenged the official, i.e. RUC, version of events, namely that the incident was a sectarian attack on innocent Protestants.

## PERTINENT QUESTION

Eleanor McDowell of the Top of the Hill Tenants Association asked the pertinent question:

"What were these eight men doing in the middle of Gobnascale at 1am, armed with weapons?"

John Carlin, Sinn Féin's spokesperson in the Waterside, said that Sinn Féin was convinced that the presence of these armed men in a nationalist estate was the prelude to a kidnapping, and he continued:

"The real facts surrounding the incident are completely at odds with the RUC's Press Office version. The media should have learned by now not to accept uncritically statements coming from this discredited force."

Advising nationalists in the Waterside to be extremely vigilant, Carlin said:

"There appears to be a concerted and sinister effort by loyalists to infiltrate Gobnascale."

# BUS FIRED ON

THE OMEATH-BOUND BUS left Newry at 4.20pm on Friday, August 30th. About two miles from Newry, the bus was stopped by a British army patrol, and two of them boarded to search and question the seven passengers and two crew members. The suspicious-looking occupants included two children and a pregnant woman.

As the soldiers alighted, two high-velocity shots smashed through the side window narrowly missing the conductor, Sean O'Reilly, and injuring the children with flying glass.

There was confusion as to what hap-

pened because the soldier who discharged his weapon initially denied having done so. He remained armed until the RUC Special Branch arrived and removed his weapon for forensic tests.

As one passenger commented afterwards:

"I thought it was a repeat of the Miami massacre and the Brits were going to slaughter us."

All the nine people on board had to be taken to hospital, suffering from shock.

## ACCEPTABLE

Arthur Morgan of Carlingford Sinn Féin in a statement said:

"Until these thugs are removed from

the streets of Ireland, no Irish person will be safe to travel them. I am astounded at the bizarre comments of local independent Fianna Fáil Councillor Mícheál O'Donnell, who has called for a civilian search force on border roads. Does this mean British troops are acceptable in other parts of the six counties? No wonder the local conservative media and RTE carry the statements of these people."

Since the incident the busworkers union, the NBU, have threatened to withdraw their labour from cross-border services unless guarantees are forthcoming from the occupation forces that weapons will not be pointed at buses stopped at checkpoints.

# Anti-extradition motion carried

BY JACK MADDEN

**MOTIONS** opposing the extradition of political prisoners to the six counties have been passed by two local authorities in the twenty-six counties in recent days, and it is expected that similar motions will be introduced by Sinn Fein elected representatives on other urban and county councils in the coming weeks.

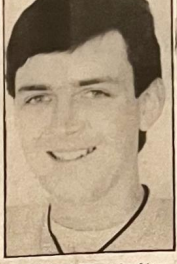
Sinn Fein members of Monaghan County Council and Dublin Corporation introduced motions condemning extradition, and in particular the proposed extradition of republican escapee Robert Russell, when their respective councils met on Monday this week, September 2nd.

In both instances, the original motions were amended by Fianna Fail councillors but these amendments were acceptable to the Sinn Fein members and were carried despite Fine Gael opposition.

By 11 votes to 7, Monaghan County Council agreed that:

"This council opposes the extradition of political prisoners to the six counties."

Fine Gael councillors, in opposing the amended motion, said that they would be opposing all political motions proposed by Sinn Fein.



● From left to right: Sinn Fein Councillors Christy Burke, Frank Duffy, Fra Browne, Fintan MacPhillips, Peter MacAlear

In Dublin, Christy Burke of Sinn Fein voted in support of a Fianna Fail amendment to his motion opposing extradition. The amended motion, passed by 25 votes to 13, read:

"That this council has no confidence in the system of criminal justice administration in the six counties and deplores the extradition of persons who are sought for political offences or offences in connection with political offences."

## 'POLITICALLY INSPIRED'

If there was some success in Monaghan

and Dublin councils, the same was not the case on Dundalk Urban District Council. There, attempts by Sinn Fein Councillors Frank Duffy and Fra Browne to raise the issue of extradition were rejected by the issue of extradition were rejected by the Fianna Fail-controlled council whose chairperson, Tom Bellew, argued that such 'politically inspired' resolutions should not be discussed.

A counter motion, which argued that political matters should not in future be allowed on the agenda of the council, was passed despite oppositions from

two Sinn Fein members and two independent.

Elsewhere on the councils, a motion opposing political censorship in the media, which was tabled on the agenda of Clones Urban District Council on August 26th by Sinn Fein Councillors Peter MacAlear and Fintan MacPhillips, was deferred until a future meeting. This is to allow copies of the Broadcasting Act, and Section 31 in particular, to be circulated to members, most of whom were forced to admit that they didn't know a thing about the laws on censorship.

# Four injured at protest march



Above: John Kelly driving a van into the crowd. Left: A section of the crowd which marched on Kelly's house. Right: One of the children injured by the van.

**ON Thursday, August 29th** over 600 residents from Ballyfermot, Dublin, marched on the home of John Kelly, who the Concerned Parents against Drugs (CPAD) are accusing of large-scale heroin pushing in their area.

The previous week a public meeting attended by 300 people had given Kelly seven days to leave the area. When informed of this decision by local committee members, Kelly was extremely aggres-

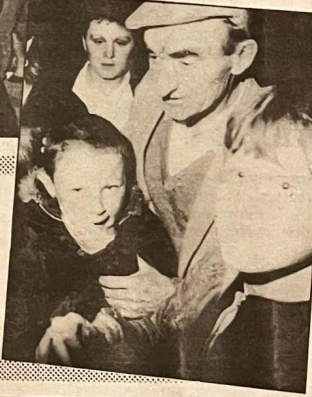
sive and threatened them with his Doberman pinscher dogs.

Kelly didn't move, so the local CPAD committee organised a march on his house. When the crowd arrived, Kelly's brother came out and told them John Kelly would vacate within two weeks. This was not acceptable to the residents who started up a chant of 'Pushers out'.

At this point, Kelly, his brother and an unidentified woman came out of the house and got into a van in the driveway. CPAD afterwards made a passage for the vehicle through the crowd, but instead John Kelly drove up on the grass verge injuring two children. As the van pulled away an ammonia spray was discharged from the back of the van temporarily blinding two local residents. In all four people required hospital treatment.

Local CPAD chairperson Jimmy Delaney congratulated local people for "ridding their area of one of the worst corrupters of local youth" and he also appealed for people to come to CPAD with "relevant information on suspected drug pushers."

John Kelly and his brother Matt are currently facing charges in relation to the importation of heroin with a street value of £5 million.



# Letterkenny intimidation

**SINN FEIN Councillor Liam McElhinney** has condemned as "outrageous" the latest attempt by the Free State to intimidate his constituents.

On Friday, August 30th, when McElhinney arrived at his election agent's house in Letterkenny, where he conducts an advice centre, he found the residence completely sealed off by a large force of armed soldiers.

The owner, Joe Hynes, had earlier refused to admit local gardai

when they failed to produce a search-warrant. McElhinney challenged the local sergeant, Frank Fitzpatrick, who was in charge, and demanded an explanation for this harassment. Fitzpatrick retreated, saying that he would go and get a warrant. At this point a Free State helicopter arrived and

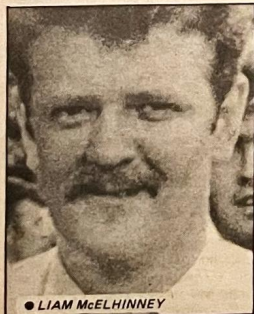
proceeded to buzz the area for the next hour-and-a-half.

During Fitzpatrick's absence, cars and trucks were stopped and searched on the road outside the house in an attempt to scare locals away from known Sinn Fein homes.

Fitzpatrick arrived back two hours later with a search-warrant but refused to let Joe Hynes see it properly. The house was then

searched by six uniformed gardai backed up by 20 armed troops. The occupants included a nine-months-pregnant woman and five children aged between four and nine years.

McElhinney commented that the amount of money spent on this harassment of republicans would have been better spent creating employment in the local community.



● LIAM McELHINNEY

BY NUALA DOHERTY

OVER 300 PEOPLE took part in a rally on Sunday, September 1st, outside Armagh Jail, to mark the third anniversary of the introduction of strip-searching of republican prisoners. The rally, which should have taken place in November, was brought forward because of the planned closure of Armagh Jail and the transfer of the women POW's to Maghaberry Jail, close to Belfast.

Coaches arrived in the city from Belfast, South Derry, Newry, Fermanagh/Enniskillen and Dublin. In an obvious effort to deter and delay the protestors, RUC checkpoints were positioned on all roads leading into Armagh, and the coaches were detained and passengers' names taken.

Those travelling from Newry were held for half-an-hour by the RUC, a few miles outside Armagh, and had their strip-search posters and banner confiscated. The Dublin bus was delayed for over an hour at another checkpoint.

#### ABUSE

In a further attempt to disrupt the protest, the Fermanagh/Enniskillen coach was boarded by four RUC men, while it was parked in Armagh city just 500 yards from the prison. They took names and searched passengers at random, as well as subjecting them to abuse.

The Sinn Féin councillor for Fermanagh, Pat Cox, confronted one RUC man who attempted to search a female passenger and was told to "fuck off". After receiving a defiant response to their attempts at provocation, they left the bus to the triumphant sound of foot stamping from the passengers.

On a platform outside the jail, Pauline Derry, secretary of the Belfast Strip-Search Committee and an ex-Armagh prisoner, chaired the rally and outlined the various protests against strip-searching in the past year.

She criticised the inaction of the Catholic hierarchy saying:

"Their failure to support the anti-strip-search campaign has resulted in a group of clergy and laity banding together and setting up the Community for Justice Group. Despite several approaches to the Catholic bishops, urging them to pressurise the British government to end the practice, to date they have only given token verbal condemnation."

#### SUPPORT

Pauline Derry then read several messages of support for the campaign including one from Fr Des Wilson, and another from the Quebec Committee on Ireland, based in Montreal.

In a letter smuggled out of Armagh, the republican POWs expressed their gratitude to all those who have actively supported their campaign, and to those present at the rally. In the letter, read by Ann-Marie Quinn, recently released from Armagh Jail, the women POWs told how the number of strip-searches had decreased, due to the fact that the courts are in recess, but added:

"We expect that when the courts resume again this month the strip-searching will be stepped up again."

They explained that because the prison administration does not have this excuse to harass them, they have turned their attentions to harassment in a different form.

"Women are being constantly put in solitary confinement, losing remission and losing all privileges. Three women in particular are coming under increasing pressure from the prison administration: Jennifer McCann, Marie Wright and Siobhan O'Hanlon. These three have just finished yet another three-day solitary confinement stint."

#### CONDEMNED

Other speakers included John Nagle, spokesperson for the Dublin Strip-Search Committee, and Sally Shovlin, one of the founding members of the Trade Unionists Against Strip-Searches group.

In her speech she outlined the steps taken by trade unionists to highlight the campaign, stating:

"At the annual conferences of the Irish Transport and General Workers Union, the Federated Workers Union of Ireland, the Local Government and Public Services Union and many others, the practice of strip-searching in Armagh Jail has been condemned by tens of thousands of Irish workers."

The final speaker to address the rally was Pat Cox, Sinn Féin councillor for Fer-

managh, who on Tuesday will be putting forward a motion in the Fermanagh District Council against strip-searching.

Before the rally dispersed, the names of

the republican women POWs were called out through the loud-hailer, and followed individually by the traditional shout from the crowd of "We support you!"



● PAULINE DERRY



● ANN-MARIE QUINN



● SALLY SHOVLIN



● PAT COX



● JOHN NAGLE

## Anti-strip-search rally



BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

**AUGUST 9th 1971** is a date that is burned into the memory of the North's nationalist community. It was the day that internment without trial was re-introduced, only ten years after the last internee was released from Crumlin Road in 1961.

That internment was imminent was obvious to most nationalists. A 'dummy run' had been carried out on July 23rd, when hundreds of homes across the North were raided. The objective was to gather documents and general information, particularly the names and addresses of active republicans, to supplement the British army's meagre and outdated intelligence on the North.

Brian Faulkner, the unionist prime minister at Stormont, had been lobbying Westminster for months, demanding the reintroduction of internment. When it came, however, only a tiny proportion of the 342 men arrested that August morning were active republicans.

By early September 1971, reports of torture in the interrogation centres began to filter through to the outside world and the full horror endured by the internees, and in particular those who became known as the Hooded Men, was revealed.

#### INEPTITUDE

Amongst the victims of the internment round-up was a 77-year-old man who had first been jailed in 1929. And the ineptitude of British 'military intelligence' was exposed when they raided a house in Armagh looking for a man who had been dead for four years.

Not one loyalist was arrested.

Nationalists both North and South were outraged, but the Dublin government, which only ten months earlier had itself threatened to reintroduce internment, would only condemn its 'one-sided' application.

Eventually, public opinion was to force a complete turnaround. Following the attempted whitewash of the British Compton report, the Dublin government announced that it was bringing the British government to Strasbourg for its violation of the European Convention on Human Rights.

In 1976, the European Commission of Human Rights found Britain guilty of torture and inhuman and degrading treatment. However, the 'torture' count was later inexplicably dropped on appeal to the European Court of Human Rights. The British government subsequently paid out over half-a-million pounds in compensation to internees, an admission of guilt.

The Dublin government's reason for taking the British to Strasbourg was one of political expediency. Their own utter contempt for human rights was exposed following the publication of the 1979 Amnesty International report. This report concluded that suspects had been beaten and maltreated while in custody in the twenty-six counties for the purpose of obtaining confessions.

#### 'SOFTENING-UP'

Dragged from their beds at 4am, half-dressed, disorientated and frightened, 342 men, young, old and handicapped, were beaten, frog-marched and pistol-whipped on their journey to the holding centres across the North — Magilligan in

The first thing I remember clearly was all these men lying about with busted heads and noses and blood running everywhere.

County Derry, Girdwood in Belfast, and Ballykinlar in County Down.

For the next 48 hours, from August 9th to 11th, all 342 men were subjected to brutal beatings, and various degrees of degrading and humiliating treatment, as part of a 'softening-up' process before interrogation. Many were denied toilet facilities and had to urinate in their trousers others were forced to run bare-foot across broken glass or between two rows of military policemen wielding batons. Others were thrown out of hovering helicopters and savaged by Asiatian dogs.

Even more sinister, in gross violation of international law governing human rights, the Tory government of Edward Heath, consciously used the reintroduction of internment as an opportunity to make the North a testing ground for some of the most barbarous and inhuman experiments in torture techniques.

#### EXPERIMENTS

Twelve of the detainees, the Hooded Men, were 'selected' for experiments into sensory deprivation techniques (SD) — the artificial deprivation of the senses — allied to intensive interrogation.

Special British army instructors based in England had supervised the training of RUC personnel in the torture techniques and had responsibility for the establishment of the 'secret' interrogation centre where the 'experiments' were carried out. (The secret establishment was later confirmed to be the notorious Palace Barracks, Belfast).

The SD techniques to which the twelve 'guinea-pigs' were subjected included:

- Being hooded for days
- Being forced to spread-eagle their legs wide apart, with their fingertips extended to touch the wall
- Being subjected to 'white noise' (a high-pitched noise described as being similar to compressed air or a radio station off tune)
- Being deprived of sleep for days
- Being denied food, except for a sparse intake of bread and water
- Being forced to wear loose-fitting overalls, several sizes too big.

SD can produce very serious and permanent mental and physical effects. Hooding, for even short periods of time, never mind being hooded for up to six days at a stretch like many of the 'guinea-pigs', causes mental confusion as there is an imbalance in the ratio of oxygen to carbon dioxide in the air inhaled. Hooding also produces hallucinations,

We had lumps taken out of us. We were bitten on the legs, the back, arms, all over. I still carry the scars to this day.

fear, and claustrophobia.

Equally, wall standing in the Russian-developed 'stoica' position — legs wide apart and stretched as far back from the wall as possible with only the fingertips of the hands touching the wall — is not only excruciatingly painful and exhausting but leads to poor blood circulation, and in turn a reduced supply of oxygen and sugar to the brain. If sustained for long periods — as it was in the interrogation centres — the hands, wrists and ankles swell up. The meagre 'diet' of bread and water was also sugar free.

Sensory stimulation, sugar and oxygen, the three essential ingredients which ensure the efficient functioning of the brain, were consciously denied the Hooded Men.

It is 14 years since Britain callously authorised the use of

SD methods in the North, initially on the 12 Hooded Men in the August swoop and a further two men in October.

Three of the 12 Hooded Men have died — Sean McKenna, Micky Montgomery and Pat Shivers — representing a quarter of their number. Their families firmly believe that their deaths are directly related to the horrifying treatment they endured.

All three were in good health prior to their arrest. Many of the others have experienced long-term physical and psychological effects, suffering complete personality changes, the inability to concentrate, nervous agitation and general decline in their health.

As the truth about what was happening in the torture centres permeated through to nationalist ghettos that August, so did the cold realisation that Britain was now employing the widespread use of torture in the North.

#### THE NIGHTMARE BEGINS

The Hooded Men were split up into three groups. Along with 181 other men, Kevin Hannaway, Joe Clarke, Francis



● (From left to right) Liam Shannon, Gerry McKerr, Jim Auld, Francis McGuigan, Ruairi O Bradaigh, Kevin Hannaway, Joe Clarke, Brian Turley

# THE HOOD



● PAT SHIVERS

The Brits' objective was mentally and physically destroy us. We were trying to extract information from whether we had or not...

McGuigan and Jim Auld were brought to wood barracks situated Crumlin Road Jail.

The second group consisted of Brian Turley and Nally from Armagh city, McKerr from Lurgan, Sean McKenna from These four, along with others, were brought to kinlar Camp. The last including Micky Montgomery, Paddy Joe McClellan, County Tyrone, Pat Shivers from Toome, joined 64 others in Magilligan Camp.

At the early mind, but at the other... I was there. It's so hard concerned I was in

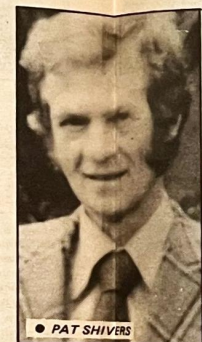


● Hand-cuffed together in groups of six, the internees are transferred to the Maidstone prison ship



Hannaway, Joe Clarke, Brian Turley, Pat McNally and (Insert) Sean McKenna

# HOODED MEN



PAT SHIVERS

Even before they were transferred to the special interrogation centre they underwent terrible beatings. One of the 12, Kevin Hannaway from Belfast, was 22 when he was arrested, and was married with two children. Hannaway came from a republican family and, unlike many of the others, he had undergone arrest and interrogation on several other occasions in the 60s. Joe Clarke for instance, aged 19 and the youngest of the 'guinea-pigs', had never been arrested prior to August.

## DEFENCE MECHANISM

Fourteen years after his arrest that August, Kevin Hannaway, one of the first arrested and last to be released from internment, is a committed republican. He attributes much of his mental and physical recovery from his torture experience to the care and support he received from his comrades in Crumlin Road Prison and Long Kesh, and to the unswerving belief that only British withdrawal will release the Irish people from centuries of brutal torture and oppression.

Like many of the former Hooded Men, he has subconsciously adopted his own defence mechanism by blocking out much of the experience. However, as he willingly admits, he is one of "the lucky ones". Others, as in the tragic case of Sean McKenna, who died four years after the 'experiments', were unable to come to terms with their ordeal.

The extent of the torture can be judged by the experiences of Kevin Hannaway. He was frog-marched from his Merriam Street home in the

He was always looking out the window, dreading people coming, he couldn't sleep at night, listening and watching in case they came for him again."

Falls area, a gun against his head, to Mulhouse Street Barracks. There he was "trussed up like a chicken", his hands tied behind his back, his feet and hands joined by rope.

## GIRDWOOD BARRACKS

From there he was taken to Girdwood Barracks, kicked out of the lorry on arrival and brought into a gymnasium. He told AP/RN:

"Looking back, the first thing I remember very clearly was all these men lying about with busted heads and noses and blood running everywhere. There was a young fella from Ardoyne and he was blind. These unmerciful beatings were being handed out all over the place by the Military Police and the RUC."

Hannaway sustained several beatings and was subjected to the 'obstacle course' — being made to run bare-foot across barbed wire and broken glass while being beaten and kicked. He and other men were put into a helicopter and thrown out, thinking they were thousands of feet in the air, into a dog compound where "we had lumps taken out of us. We were bitten on the legs, the back, arms, all over. I still carry the scars to this day, we all do." Up to a year later the wounds on Hannaway's arms, legs and ankles had not healed and he passed blood in his urine. But the worst was yet to come.

## SPECIAL INTERROGATION CENTRE

After two days he and the other 11 Hooded Men were

taken to the special interrogation centre, Palace Barracks.

A thickessian bag was placed over his head and the wall-standing, beatings, and interrogations began. He continues:

"The Brits' main object was to mentally and physically destroy us. They were trying to extract information from us. Whether we had it or not was irrelevant to them."

"I was convinced that if they even received information, credible or otherwise, it meant immediate execution. I recall concentrating on my wife and children to such a point that I could actually see them in front of me. I recall singing to myself for instance. All these types of things to try and keep my concentration."

"At the early stage you were just a body and mind, but at the finish up you were either one or the other. You were just a sore aching body and you were just a mind. You were never body and mind after the treatment, you were either one or the other. I was totally numb, my body wasn't there."

"It's so hard to explain but as far as I was concerned I was in hell and back again."

Each time Hannaway as much as flinched a muscle during the wall-standing he was beaten. When he collapsed from exhaustion, he was beaten unconscious, dragged into another room to revive, then immediately taken back to the 'noise room' where the process recommenced. He added:

"Looking back on it if I'd had a choice I'd have preferred to die and I think that applied to us all."

The torture is still going on. They're only more refined and skilled in the use of psychological torture."

Looking back on it if I'd had a choice I'd have preferred to die and I think that applied to us all."

## A WHITEWASH

Over the years, Hannaway has developed side-effects including memory lapses where he completely forgets the names of close friends and relatives or former prison comrades, important dates, and events which may have happened the day before. He suffers from claustrophobia and becomes irritated at any type of prolonged noise — a TV, radio, or, even as he puts it "the healthy sound of my children playing".

After public outcry and pressure on the Brits to end their torture of detainees, Edward Heath agreed but retained the right to continue the use of "in-depth interrogation". The British government commissioned the Compton report, a whitewash aimed at taking the heat out of the torture allegations.

It was so riddled with glaring absurdities that it failed to convince anyone that torture had not taken place. It did, however, give the British government a much-needed breathing space. While public attention through the media focused on the Compton cover-up, the fact that the Brits had consciously conducted and hushed up a carefully-thought-out torture experiment was largely ignored. Once again, they had created the prefect smokescreen.

## TRANSFORMED

As Kevin Hannaway has previously stated, he was 'one of the lucky ones' not to have suffered an entire mental breakdown. Sean McKenna from Newry and several of the other Hooded Men were not as fortunate.

He was 46 years old when he died on June 5th 1975, only four years after his torture ordeal. He had been in perfect health prior to his arrest but, following his release, he was, according to his wife Brigid, "transformed from being a happy family man to someone who was unable to cope with life".

Both he and his 17-year-old son, also called Sean (later to become one of 1980 hunger-strikers), were arrested from their home in Newry and brought to Ballykilnarin Camp where they were separated.

Brigid McKenna at this time was in England but, on hearing that internment had been introduced, she immediately returned home. In Newry she found her other seven children "screaming and crying, every one of them. They were on their own and they didn't know what to do, didn't know where their father and brother were."

## VISIT

Like every other relative, Brigid McKenna could not find out where her husband and son were being held and it was several days later before she discovered that young Sean was on the *Maldstone* prison-ship. No news was heard about her husband until August 18th, when she heard he was in Belfast's Crumlin Road Prison.

On her first 15-minute visit she recalls:

"He was shaking, just lit-

erally shaking. He'd lost about two stone in weight, his whole face was drawn and when I asked him what had happened to him he said he didn't know and burst out crying. He was going from crying and not talking, then a burst of talking before he'd finally start crying again."

During subsequent visits Brigid McKenna noted that:

"His mind seemed to be terribly confused. He couldn't talk about anything and that went on for a long time. He couldn't believe what had happened to him and this went on when he was released on medical grounds ten months later."

## TRAUMATIC

Sean McKenna experienced a traumatic personality change and on his release in May 1972 was admitted to St Luke's Psychiatric Hospital, Armagh, where he underwent electric shock treatment. Family life for the McKenna family changed drastically. Sean was unsettled, nervous, agitated with the children and afraid of being confined.

Brigid continues:

"He was always looking out the window, dreading people coming, he couldn't sleep at night, listening and watching in case they came for him again. So he decided to move to the South with Noel, the eldest boy."

"They got a flat in Dundalk. I stayed with the children in Newry. Our family was split up. This went on for roughly two years and I would go up and down visiting him. During all this time he was in and out of hospital for treatment."

Sean again became unsettled and moved to Edentubber, close to the border. Brigid continues:

"He knew he wasn't improving and he told me that he was going to die. I told him not to say things like that. He couldn't bear the children, he couldn't cope. He visited doctors in Dublin and even in Cork, but we never really got any results from them. None of them would say definitely that his condition was due to the torture he experienced, but we knew it was."

## REFINED TORTURE

The day before Sean McKenna died, Volunteer Francis Jordan, a close friend, was killed on active service. Brigid recalls:

"Sean was very upset. I was with him but later went back to Newry. So I wasn't there when he died. Mary, my daughter, was making the tea for him and he told her he wasn't feeling very well. He told young Sean to go for the priest. As soon as the priest arrived, in less than 20 minutes, he died. He died of a broken heart, from stress. It was all too much for him. He was only 46."

Today, while the more blatant uses of physical torture are less frequent in the North's interrogation centres, very little in fact has changed.

Kevin Hannaway concludes: "The system is there simply to destroy you. The only chance you have is to fight. Nothing has changed since 1971, the torture is still going on. They're only more refined and skilled in the use of psychological torture."

**BATTLING** against strong winds, more than 1,500 people marched through rain-swept Bundoran last Saturday, August 31st, in memory of the ten H-Block hunger-strike martyrs.

Leading the march were relatives of the ten hunger-strikers and members of the New York Emerald Pipe Band, Irish Northern Aid, the American Ancient Order of Hibernians and Australian Aid for Ireland.

Bands from Belfast, Limerick, Toome, Lurgan, Dundalk, Dungiven, Fermanagh, Hillhead and Glasgow were interspersed along the march as it made its way down the County Donegal town's Main Street and past houses flying black flags and Tricolours. The number of windows displaying hunger-strikers' portraits and 'IRA calls the shots' posters were a welcome sight as was the number of young people taking part along with Fianna contingents from Cavan town and Fermanagh.

At the rally in Railway Street, each speaker paid their own individual tribute to the hunger-strikers but each had a common theme: the hunger-strikers' sacrifice has inspired thousands of others and kept the flame of Irish freedom burning.

Former Sinn Féin president Ruairí Ó Brádaigh slammed the Free State government for their refusal to intervene on behalf of the H-Block hunger-strikers and their hypocrisy in issuing a stamp in honour of Thomas Ashe, "the first hunger-striker to die for the right of political status".

#### UNITED MILLIONS

Peter King, grand marshal of the New York St Patrick's Day parade, spoke of how the sacrifice of the 1981 hunger-strikers had united millions of Americans "behind the struggle for freedom in Ireland. And when I talk about the struggle for freedom in Ireland, I'm talking about political, I'm talking about military — I'm talking about the Irish Republican Army."

F. Des Wilson, renowned for his work with the socially and economically deprived in West Belfast, then took the microphone and the words of this 'people's priest' stood in stark contrast to the cant of pro-establishment clerics such as Frs Faul and Mulvey:

"The occupation of Ireland, the behaviour and the immorality of the British government's presence in Ireland is such that I believe every one of us has an obligation in conscience to re-



## HUNGER-STRIKE TRIBUTE



● Relatives of the hunger-strikers lead the Bundoran march move this appalling and wicked regime."

Quoting the Nobel Peace Prize winner, Bishop Desmond Tutu, of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, said:

"To be neutral in the face of injustice is to be on the side of the oppressor."

Attacking extradition and the use of Section 31 by the Free State government, Sinn Féin's Jim McAllister urged people to join Sinn Féin or one of the prisoners' support groups:



● Jim McAllister, Martin Galvin and Peter King on the platform in Bundoran

"We cannot leave the struggle for freedom completely to the Irish Republican Army. We will never achieve freedom without the IRA but we also need a strong, vibrant and growing political movement. Sinn Féin

has a lot of work to do. We need to expand, become more involved in our communities and to show the analogies between partition and the harm that is being done to our country politically, culturally and economically.

"There is work for everyone in the Republican Movement — let's get out there and do it."

#### UNSELFISHNESS

Martin Galvin, the publicity director of Irish Northern Aid then spoke, echoing sentiments expressed by earlier speakers:

"When people see the unselfishness of those who are willing to give their lives, amidst British torture, to alleviate the plight of fellow prisoners and for the freedom of their countrymen and women yet unborn, then that indeed is something that inspires people throughout the world to take to the streets in their support..."

"Each of the hunger-strikers suffered imprisonment, each of them suffered torture, each of them stood before the sham legal courts of the British in the North of Ireland.

"In short, each of them underwent what life is typically like under British rule for Irish nationalists. And each of the hunger-strikers illustrates why conscientious and patriotic Irish men and Irish women have chosen to join the Irish Republican Army and to drive the British government and its forces out of Ireland."

The commemoration ended with the platform party of hunger-strikers' relatives and speakers being joined by H-Block escapee Tony Kelly, who is presently out on bail on charges in the Free State, and the singing of *Amhrán na bhFiann*.

## Border incursion condemned

BY JACK MADDEN

**SINN FEIN** Councillors Pat Treanor and Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin won the unanimous support of Monaghan County Council on Monday, September 2nd, for their motion condemning a British army incursion in the Drumully area of the county a week before.

Treanor told council members that a party of British troops had crossed into County Monaghan from Fermanagh on Monday, August 26th, and had received Garda protection while on the Southern side of the border.

The incursion occurred when the British army began work on erecting a concrete barrier across a path which local farmers had made on one of the cratered

roads linking the Drumully area with Newtownbutler in County Fermanagh. To construct this barrier, plain-clothes British soldiers had to drive two cranes and a number of concrete ready-mix lorries into the Southern side of the border, a detour of about two miles along roads in the South.

Protected by uniformed Gardaí the British troops built the barrier, most of which, according to locals, is actually situated in the South!

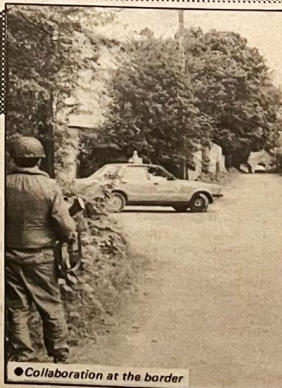
Pat Treanor, who represents the Drumully area on Monaghan County Council, told *AP/RN* on Wednesday this week that at least two departments of the Dublin government must have been involved in what he called "this example of collaboration". He said:

"Only the Foreign Affairs Department

run by Peter Barry could have granted the permission which the British needed to cross the border in this instance, and the Gardaí could not have been present without the say-so of Dublin's Department of Justice."

And there was another incursion into County Monaghan on Tuesday night this week when a British army helicopter using a searchlight flew from Aughnacloy, in County Tyrone, across Emyvale, Tydavnet and Knockatallan in County Monaghan, before turning in the direction of Roslea, County Fermanagh. Condemning this incident, Pat Treanor said:

"It is becoming clear that there have been some new developments in collaboration that the public aren't being told about. Unless it is forced to react by public opinion, the Dublin government is increas-



● Collaboration at the border

ingly happy to allow the British to cross the border. Through such collaboration they are, of course, helping the British to stay in the six counties."

# FACING UP TO THE FODDER CRISIS

AS SMALL FARMERS face into a winter of hardship following this year's disastrous harvest failure, Sinn Féin has called for the introduction of radical measures which will ensure that farmers in disadvantaged areas of the twenty-six counties are not forced out of agriculture.

No one yet knows for certain how much of the grain and straw harvest will be saved, but the hay crop, on which small farmers depend for cattle fodder, has been a disaster. Much of the hay still remains uncut, and in the Drumlin belt the grass has simply not grown in the waterlogged pastures. Only 5% of the hay crop in the North-Western area will be edible — the rest is rotten.

If nothing is done to alleviate the fodder crisis now, thousands of farmers will have no option but to sell their cattle. Already there are signs of panic selling and, two weeks ago, store cattle prices dropped severely in the marts, though they have since recovered. Cattle sales at Athenry co-op mart are reported to be four times that of last year, and fodder prices have begun to rise.

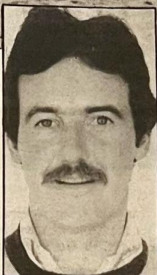
## WINNERS

With the super-levy ceiling on milk, all hopes for expansion in cattle were pinned on the suckler herd, which over the past ten years, has fallen from 700,000 to only 400,000 head. The decline in these herds which now threatens, because of lack of winter fodder, will cause immense damage, particularly in the disadvantaged areas where this type of agriculture is most common.

Indeed, the whole agricultural structure could be changed in a matter of months, as farmers sell their cattle at depressed prices and the herds they have built up over the years are decimated.



● AUSTIN DEASY



● PAT TREANOR

The situation is far worse than in 1974/75 when the combination of bad weather and poor cattle prices hit small farmers badly. The winners then were the larger farmers, who bought cheaply the store cattle which the small farmers were forced to sell, fattened them (often with imported feedstuff, like tapioca and soya) and sold them to the meat factories at intervention prices which were much higher than prices in the markets.

Once again it is these large farmers who stand to gain huge profits this winter if panic selling of store cattle takes place. And the hardship for small farmers' families is likely to be greater this time because the current crisis coincides with cutbacks in the farmers' dole imposed by the Coalition government.

## STAMPEDE

An undertaking of adequate relief measures for the fodder crisis needs to be given immediately, to forestall a stampede to the cattle market by small farmers who fear that prices will be even lower for cattle as the fodder shortage begins to bite.

To date, Coalition Agriculture Minister

Austin Deasy has offered a £35 nitrogen subsidy and a silage subsidy to first-time silage makers as an answer to the crisis. But this 'remedy' has been dismissed as useless by Sinn Féin county councillor in Monaghan, Pat Treanor. He points out that any farmer who could make silage has already taken up a similar subsidy offered five years ago, and therefore no longer qualifies as a first-time silage maker. The offer of a nitrogen subsidy is of little or no help when farmers cannot get onto the flooded land to make silage or to feed it.

## SINN FEIN PROPOSALS

In response to the crisis now facing the farming community Sinn Féin's Agricultural Committee has proposed a series of measures which must be taken if panic selling of cattle by weaker farmers is to be avoided. Estimating the cost of an aid package at £100 million the committee proposed:

- That half this sum should be provided by the banks, agricultural insurance companies, the co-ops and meat factories — all of whom benefit from the farming community — while the other half must come from the Dublin government and the EEC.
- That broadly-based 'aid agencies' be set up in each of the worst affected areas. These agencies would include representatives of all organisations and institutions connected with agriculture and would investigate specific problems within their own areas.
- That existing agencies such as ACOT and the co-ops be better used to identify those farmers in need of help, to quantify the needs of individual farmers and to distribute the aid to those most in need.
- That headage payments on cattle and sheep be increased and paid immediately, along with the payment of outstanding grants.

# 'Telegraph' picket

TWENTY PROTESTORS from the Stop the Show-Trials group staged a picket and sit-in at the offices of the *Belfast Telegraph* newspaper on Tuesday, September 3rd.

Seven members of the group occupied the front office of the newspaper for over half an hour, while others stood outside carrying anti-paid-perjurer and anti-media placards.

Spokesperson for the group, Dessie Breslin, who was one of the men implicated by paid-perjurer Christopher Black, said they were staging the protest because of the attitude of the press to show-trials. He accused them of

giving tacit support to the use of paid-perjurers by not highlighting the situation. "Any reports," he said, "were sensationalised rather than condemnatory of the system itself."

Bobby Lavery, Sinn Féin councillor for North Belfast, was among the protestors who later made representations to several members of staff calling for fairer coverage and exposure of the show-trial system.



## Imeachtaí

### IRISH SOCIAL NIGHT

Friday 6th September  
Ramblers Rest  
Clanbrassil Street  
DUNDALK  
Taille £1  
Organised by An Cumann  
Cathrach, Dun Dealgan

### SPONSORED CYCLE

In aid of new minibuses  
Belfast to Dublin  
Assemble 7am Martin Forsythe  
Social Club, Turf Lodge  
Saturday 7th September  
Organised by Republican Prisoners  
Transport Committee, Turf Lodge

### BALLAD SESSION

Featuring the Druids  
8.30pm Saturday 7th September  
Fiddlers Green  
Harolds Cross  
DUBLIN  
Organised by Coiste Iompar do  
Ghaolta Phiosunaigh Phoblachta  
(Republican Prisoners Relatives  
Transport Committee)

### SINN FEIN WOMEN'S DEPT

FUND-RAISER  
8.30pm Saturday 7th September  
Eccles Lounge  
Dorset Street  
DUBLIN  
Taille: £1

### ANNUAL LIAM LYNCH

COMMEMORATION  
3pm Sunday 8th September  
GOATENBRIDGE  
County Tipperary  
Speakers: Matt O Bradaigh  
Michael Flannery

### FUNCTION

Featuring  
Seamus McEntee and band  
9pm Sunday 8th September  
Hibernian Hall  
CLONES  
Co. Monaghan  
Taille £3 (Bar extension)

### ANTI-APARTHEID PICKET

'SANCTIONS NOW'  
12.30 to 2pm Monday  
9th September  
Dept of Foreign Affairs  
St Stephen's Green  
DUBLIN  
Organised by IAAM

### VIDEO LAUNCH

'Plastic Bullets —  
The Deadly Truth'  
Wednesday 11th September  
6pm for press and media  
8pm for public

### Day's

### Eden Quay

Organised by the United  
Campaign Against Plastic Bullets

### BALLAD SESSION

Featuring the Ferryman  
8pm Thursday 12th September  
High Tide  
Marlborough Street  
DUBLIN  
Taille £1.50, (£1 unwaged)  
Organised by Dublin Sinn Féin

### WELCOME HOME DANCE

FOR MARY MCGING  
Featuring The Barney Group  
Welcome Inn Hotel  
CASTLEBAR  
County Mayo  
9pm Friday 13th September  
Speaker: John Joe McGil  
Taille £5 (Bar extension)

### AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE

MEETING  
12 noon Sunday 15th September  
44 Parnell Square  
DUBLIN

### STOP THE SHOW-TRIALS

MARCH AND RALLY  
2pm Sunday 15th September  
Dunville Park to Busy Bee  
BELFAST  
All interested groups welcome

### BALLAD SESSION

Featuring Latch  
8.30pm Friday 27th September  
Slane House  
SLANE  
County Meath  
Taille £1.50

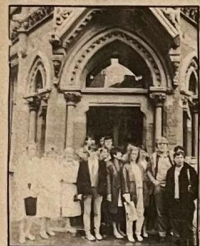
### FUNCTION

Featuring Ragamuffin  
8pm Friday 27th September  
Sunnybank Inn  
BRAY  
County Wicklow  
Taille £1.50

## Strip-search protests

THE United Services Club on St Stephen's Green, Dublin, was occupied on Tuesday evening, September 3rd, by 12 members of the Dublin Stop the Strip Searches campaign. This club is frequented by British Embassy personnel stationed in Dublin and their Irish friends. The British ambassador, Alan Goodison, often dines there.

And as part of their activities in south Dublin, the Stillorgan branch of the anti-strip-search campaign leafleted passengers at the Sealink terminal in Dun Laoghaire on Saturday, August 24th.



## Charges struck out

CHARGES against Christy Burke, Tony Gregory and a number of street-traders were struck out at the Dublin District Court on Wednesday, September 4th, when Tony Salmon SC challenged the validity of the summonses on a technicality. Burke and Gregory both faced charges of 'conduct calculated to provoke a breach of the peace' and 'obstruction of traffic', arising out of a street-traders' protest in O'Connell Street on March 9th.

## Farmers meet in Leitrim

A MEETING was organised by Sinn Féin in Ballinamore, County Leitrim, on August 29th to discuss the fodder crisis and its immediate effects in the county. Local farmers expressed little hope that any meaningful help would be forthcoming from the Coalition government in spite of the disastrous harvest.

Sinn Féin activist Martin MacTernan of Carrick-on-Shannon commented:

"The Dublin government's neglect of Leitrim and their failure to arrest the decline in the population of the county makes it unlikely that we can expect adequate relief now. The big farmers will survive this crisis but the small farmers will go without."

## Leitrim Centres

Sinn Féin in Leitrim are setting up a network of advice centres to service the general Drumahaire area.

On Saturday, September 14th, Councillor Mel Farrell, Sinn Féin elected representative on Leitrim County Council, will be available between 8pm and 9pm in John Keaney's of Keshcarrigan and also in Meehan's guesthouse, Drumshambo, from 9pm to 10pm.

In the event of not meeting Councillor Farrell, people should pass any problems through the following Sinn Féin workers in their areas: Sean Fallon, Drumkerran; John Keaney, Keshcarrigan; Dessie Foley, Killyclare/Killytubrid; Larry Dwyer, Ballinaglera/Dowra; and Michael McDonagh and Jane Meehan, Drumshambo and Leitrim.

# mála poist

## Well-founded fears

A Chára,

We have recently been approached by a number of North Belfast parents who had reason to believe that their children were being supplied with hard drugs. After making numerous enquiries we found that their fears were well-founded.

We discovered that Heroin, Cocaine, Methadone and LSD were being made available at well below their normal street value and at prices well within the range of most teenagers. We believe that this has been done in an attempt to induce young people to experiment.

Some of those involved in supplying these drugs may be well-known to the community.

As a result of this, we will be seeking immediate discussions with local tenants associations, community groups, youth clubs and sporting associations on the subject of this real threat.

We would ask local clubs and pubs to be vigilant and to ensure that their premises are not being used to pass or to sell drugs. We discovered in the course of our enquiries that at least one premises was being used without the knowledge of the owners.

Gerard McGuigan & Bobby Lavery,  
Sinn Féin councillors,  
North Belfast.

## Novel demand

A Chára,

A week has gone by since Mr Bruton demanded a re-vote by Irish Steel workers and yet, to our surprise, his novel demand provoked very little response from those whose job it is to defend workers' rights and interests, namely the hierarchy of the trade union movement, particularly people like John Carroll and Christy Kirwin.

Nor, for that matter, did those public representatives that the Irish Steel workers had elected to safeguard their interests lift a finger—the likes of Paddy Hegarty, a junior minister, Myra Barry, Michael Ahern and Ned O'Keefe. Sadly, their approach to the Irish Steel crisis was to hear no evil, see no evil, and speak no evil.

Mr Bruton and his friends argued that the first ballot simply constituted a proper ballot since there were some men on sick leave or holidays and others were not members of a union. A Coalition gun was then put to workers' heads, with the threat that, unless a second ballot favourable to government demands was held, the town of Cobh, its workforce, and the future of its children could merely go down the drain. It would be harder to find a better example of Thatcherite monetarism triumphing over people.

Peter Barry could even confidently gloat that the closure of Irish Steel would have no long-term political effects on his party. The question, however, might be asked, if the Coalition loses the next general election will they demand a new ballot on the grounds that some people were ill, or



## PARALLEL STRUGGLES

A Chára,

A few days ago I returned from Northern Ireland where I was delegated by the National Lawyers Guild to be a legal observer of the Irish Northern Aid annual tour.

The impressions I relate here were formed over the many times I have visited British-controlled Ireland but were punctuated by the fast-moving developments in South Africa. The images of the thousands of mourners in an Irish funeral procession, flanked by armoured cars and heavily-armed soldiers and police, seemed a precise mirror of the images of South Africa we see every day on our television screens. Only the skin colours are different.

I saw the parallels to the seemingly endless series of funeral marches for the South African youths murdered by the security forces there, and the anti-apartheid leaders assassinated by off-duty police in the death squads.

Of all the struggles for freedom the world over, the South African and Irish cases bear the most striking similarities. It was not an accidental choice of words that prompted Bishop Desmond Tutu to say that the actions of the apartheid government, with its emergency laws, the provocative use of troops and security forces, and the attacks by those forces on funeral marches, was leading to the "Uitersation" of South Africa.

Both South African and Northern Irish systems of apartheid have at their base the discredited notion of a master race. Both systems rely on the degradation and

humiliation of one group of people to prop up the false concept of the superiority of another group.

Recent events in both places have evoked the same rhetorical response from both regimes in power.

Neither Thatcher's nor Botha's government will negotiate with opponents who will not first "renounce the use of violence".

Neither government will renounce its own use of violence to control its unwilling population.

South African leaders are proposing to "partition" the country, like the British did in Ireland, to preserve the dominance of the white minority.

Both the British and South African leaders have blamed "outside influences" for stirring up the trouble among the natives.

Both governments promise a "bloodbath" among the subject peoples were it not for the "civilising influence" of their military "peace-keeping" forces, all the while ignoring the real bloodbath occurring right now as a consequence of the presence of the security forces.

The South African and the British promise "negotiations" with "responsible parties", then reject the most tepid proposals of their hand-picked "Opposition".

Both governments have acted with high-handed arrogance and pomposity towards their subject people.

The results of both systems of apartheid are the same: war, suffering and death, and ultimately the destruction of what is good among both the peoples.

Meanwhile there are the funerals. And in Derry, as in Soweto, the security forces intrude and purposely humiliate the mourners, even in this very private and sombre moment.

And the people fight back to hold this little bit of ground as private and sacred. The images of young boys and girls attacking armoured cars with bare hands to stop their intrusion into the funeral march, and of old women and little children putting their bodies between the soldiers and the mourners, as a last-ditch appeal to the conscience of the oppressor, are the same in Ireland as in Africa.

Both the governments in power in Northeast Ireland and in South Africa hold themselves out as the defenders of civilisation and culture, but it is a debased civilisation and a vacant culture which must rely on the domination and subjugation of people.

As an American, I cannot say that my country has acted well in this regard (I don't mean to be pompous or self-righteous) but thousands and millions of us have devoted years of effort and energy to right the wrongs of our government and we will give much more before the job is done.

Michael Graham,  
Connecticut,  
USA.



## Extradition

A Chára,

To date we have seen four men extradited — three to the occupied six counties and one to Britain — due to what Coalition collaborators call "judicial interpretation" of the political exemption clause.

This interpretation, as everyone in this country is aware, is a licence granted by anti-republican politicians. These are the same people who are trying to tell us, the oppressed community of the six counties, how we should react politically to being "murdered and intimidated" from the cradle to the grave.

In the present day there is clearly a strong, bipartite, right-wing alliance between Reagan and Thatcher, with Garret Fitzgerald cravenly hanging on to their coat and skirt tails.

What would the Coalition do if say Nelson Mandela managed to escape from Pollsmoor Prison, and he took refuge here? Would he be sent back to the South African government?

For people to stand back now, while the test cases of Brendan Burns and myself are coming up shortly, would mean the abandonment of political freedom fighters throughout the world. What they should do, whether they like our politics or not, is to align themselves with all concerned groups in their attempts to get this villed criminalisation policy reversed.

Peter Barry had the effrontery to state that the mess in our country is the fault of our neighbours — only too true yet he is willing to exacerbate the situation by handing over Irishmen to our British oppressors.

If they think this is going to solve the problem, they are sadly mistaken.

Robert Russell, POW,  
Portlaoise.

## Getting registered

A Chára,

By now every household in the six counties should have received a form from the Electoral office regarding registering for votes.

Sinn Féin urges everyone to complete these forms and return them promptly as failure to do this may result in entire families losing their right to vote.

When the last register was issued, it was discovered that 150 votes had been lost in Lendadoon estate, West Belfast, alone. Many people mistakenly believe that when they register once they stay registered, but this is not the case, as many find out on polling day.

The current form may appear very daunting due to the amount of information required and if anyone has any difficulty in completing the form, or indeed has yet to receive one, they should contact their local Sinn Féin office for assistance.

Joe Austin, Chairperson,  
Belfast Sinn Féin.

	Speakers	Learners
H-Blocks	106	160
Armagh	7	—
Cases, Long Kash	43	5
Crumlin Road	12	23
Magilligan	10	19

Queen's University Students' Union to write pledging our support in the campaign to end the ban on the Irish language in the North's prisons.

A recent survey carried out reveals that 385 prisoners are Irish speakers or learners. (See table above).

The cultural boom in our prisons is taking place despite a total ban on the language. Letters in Irish are forbidden as are all publications in Irish. It is also forbidden to speak Irish on visits, to wear a fáinne or, in fact, to play

Gaelic games.

In Armagh, Crumlin Road and H-Blocks, further restrictions have been added on Irish, by refusing to cater for the demand of classes.

In short, this union deplores the action by the prison authorities in their continued repression of the Irish language in not allowing Irish prisoners to speak their own language.

Liam Darr,  
Cultural Affairs Officer,  
Aontas na Mac Léinn,  
Oileáil na Banríona,  
Béal Feirste.

## Pledging support

A Chára,

I have been instructed by the Executive Committee of

tu

# A licence to dream

BY AINE MARTIN

"TO what extent do you imagine that there is extortion carried on by the IRA?" Brian Farrell asked Seamus Mallon on *Today Tonight* last Thursday.

Seamus Mallon has a great imagination. Not only did he imagine that the IRA order people to drink in certain pubs and clubs, he also imagined they told people how to travel. Seamus also gave us the benefit of his powerful imagination to tell us how people who voted for Sinn Féin would vote the next time. (RTE apparently couldn't find one of the 150,000 people who voted for Sinn Féin at the EEC elections to ask them.)

All this crystal-gazing was not only tiresome for us, it must have been tiring for Seamus, even though RTE make it well worth his while. Because when he was asked about a possible outcome to the London-Dublin talks, he demurred and said he wasn't "going to speculate about speculation". He did, however, suggest that the IRA had a powerful hold on the population because so many people were being held in jail — talk about twisted logic!

Isn't it great to see the Donnybrook Degenerates turn what's supposed to be a current affairs programme into a TV slot where invited guests give free rein to their warped imaginations? It's past time there was such a programme dedicated to imagination, fiction and mythical events. But shouldn't they change the name from *Today Tonight?* Jackanory, Brian's Hat or

*Storytime* would be a lot more suitable, don't you think? While Mallon rambled on in the studio, two clerics — Fr Mulvey and Fr Faul — were giving us the dubious benefit of their fevered fantasies.

Mulvey's political broadcast on behalf of the SDLP said the builder recently executed by the IRA was a "good nationalist" — so what if he worked for the RUC? — and that the Brits and RUC should be supported because "they never claimed responsibility for murder".

He also imagined that an unnamed person had been approached by the IRA for £15,000 protection money and fancied that there was a time, some 15 or 16 years ago, that the Catholic Church did not condemn republicans. His delusion was so strong that he regretted this imagined period when "we didn't speak out".

More seriously, he told viewers that people should go to the RUC and inform.

Faul's memories weren't as faulty as Mulvey's but he must take the prize for imaginative thinking. One bizarre scene he told us about involved the Belfast representatives of the IRA, INLA, UVF and UDA meeting in a pub to discuss how to split up the city among them for extortion rackets. Another fantastic revelation was that "all Catholicism was for

Shorts are in fear of their lives", and he suggested it was the IRA who were frightening them!

Not alone could RTE not find a single Sinn Féin voter, but Mulvey was allowed to condemn Martin McGuinness for daring to reply to Faul's lies. "A despicable act" was how he described the reply.

And thus does RTE's coverage of Northern affairs continue, giving any anti-republican dreamer a licence to explore the outer reaches of their demented imaginations.

On Friday night, RTE2 showed the award-winning documentary about the Spanish Civil War. *Even the olives are bleeding*. Made nine years ago, it is an excellent record of the Irish involvement in that bloody struggle.

Featuring interviews with the survivors, it showed quite clearly the different motivations that brought young Irishmen to fight and die beneath the Spanish flags. On the International Brigade side, a determination to fight for freedom and democracy; on the fascist side, a bigoted religious fanaticism and "a spirit of adventure".

How misinformed the fascists were was demonstrated by one survivor — interviewed wearing a military uniform — who said he fought because "communism had captured a greater part of Spain". (The Popular Front government — a very small part of which were communists — had won a free and fair election.)

On the other hand, the Irishmen of the International



● Irish members of the International Brigade

Brigade were under no illusions — having been given a realistic picture of what they could expect before they arrived. Though they were given pathetic training and poor equipment, they made up for that in courage. But courage alone is not enough, and the casualties were enormous. Of the 150 Irishmen who fought with the Brigades, 60 were killed. They paid a high price for their noble beliefs.

The Irish fascists were a pathetic bunch, they lashed into cheap Spanish wine with a vengeance. "About 20% were addicted to drink" according to one of their members.

Their first engagement was with another section of the fascist forces, and when they eventually got round to fighting the republicans, they made a brief charge, lost four men, and promptly moved back from the front line to where it was safe. After six months, they decided by an overwhelming majority to go back home. Ironically, those who

died, those men who had left Ireland to fight for Catholicism, were buried among the Muslim Moors of Franco's army.

O'Duffy's crew were probably the only army in world history to have been larger when they came back from a war than when they left. They sailed off numbering about 470 and returned with 650.

Not a lot has changed since then. The two main supporters of the Irish fascists — the Catholic bishops and the establishment media (notably the *Irish Independent*) — are still the loudest voices of reaction.

"Desert plants may have done more to avert mass starvation than American grain". *Panorama's* Monday night programme on BBC1 reported on the famine in Sudan and the gross mismanagement of aid by the relief agencies involved.

While untold numbers die each day, trucks stand idle, grain is piled up and confusion reigns. But, as usual,

there are those who profit from the suffering of others. Trucking companies charge exorbitant rates for the use of their trucks, and allegations were made that one company offered another £50,000 not to compete in the area.

The most telling feature was the complete absence of co-ordination and co-operation between the agencies. For example, the Save the Children Fund, a comparatively small relief agency, tried to provide aid for 1/2 million starving people in one area, with only one truck and two workers. Remote areas receive sporadic provisions and the current relief season seems likely to effect even those.

All in all, the programme presented a depressing picture of massive waste, incompetence and bureaucratic mismanagement. The agencies concerned appear to have learned nothing from their equally disastrous efforts in other Third World countries over the years. Described in a recent UN report as "belated, haphazard and irresponsible", the current relief effort in Sudan is taking its toll in lives and is no more than a phenomenal disaster.

Over the weekend, all the TV news covered the story that two men had been killed and two injured in South Africa.

Two injured? For the past few months, the South African police have used shotguns, tear-gas, batons, rubber bullets and whips against black people protesting for their rights. In that time we have heard of many black people being killed — hundreds, in fact. But in all that time, the media did not report a single black person being injured.

So what was so special about the two men who were injured over the weekend? Why, nothing really. Nothing, that is, besides the fact that they were white.

book

## Against the odds

BY KEVIN CURRY

**NICARAGUA** — *The Sandinista People's Revolution* is a collection of some 40 major documents and leadership speeches covering the years '82-84 — years in which the people worked to consolidate their July '79 triumph in the teeth of a massive US military and economic onslaught.

A follow-up volume to a collection covering the first years of the revolution, it continues the record of how this tiny state, "forced to fight not the single war we would have wished to fight, which is the war against underdevelopment, but also a war against military forces organised by the US", is standing up to its enemies and winning the battle.

The central problem for

Nicaragua lies in the existence of hostile forces on its borders. This means at the very minimum that defence needs are soaking up an enormous share of resources that would otherwise be available for economic and social projects.

Superimpose this, though, on the problem of transforming a dependent economy 'developed' to serve the US, at the very time when the world

economic system dominated by the same US has created havoc — via high interest rates and falling prices for Third World commodities — in countries facing no such pressures, and we get an idea of the sheer scale of the difficulties facing the Sandinistas.

### DETERMINATION

Thus, with the US — so far — short of an invasion, and the *contras* unable to achieve successes, it is no accident that they embarked on a campaign of genuine terrorism designed to "strangle the revolution economically".

This the *contras* do by destroying schools and hospitals; by murdering literacy teachers and agricultural workers (1,500 died in the period covered by

this book); by interfering with the internal movement of goods; while the US bosses mined the ports in an attempt to "blockade and drown" the economy.

But it hasn't worked. And to judge by the determination expressed in this volume, by the fact that the government has armed the people, and by the fact that it received 70% of the vote in last years election, it won't work.

Against the odds, Nicaragua is developing its own brand of socialism. And though the bulk of the documents are concerned with the twin problems of reconstructing the economy (i.e. away from its dependence on the US) and preparing for an invasion, there are also sections on education, youth, women ("We never said that we were equal — we simply demonstrated it"), trade unions, the police ("Some day there will no longer be any reason for coercive organs of the state"), agriculture and other matters that will interest republican readers.

### PRECONDITION FOR PROGRESS

Running like a thread through all the documents is an emphasis on sovereignty and contempt for the 'denationalised bourgeoisie' that sold its country and are still puppets for the US. Sovereignty is central. ("Do we have satellite faces? Do we look like pets?" retorts Tomas Borge to one foreign questioner who asked about Russia). But the demand that the nation be sovereign is not "emotional" but the absolute precondition for progress. Nothing is possible without it.

Speeches by Sandinista leaders

## NICARAGUA THE SANDINISTA PEOPLE'S REVOLUTION



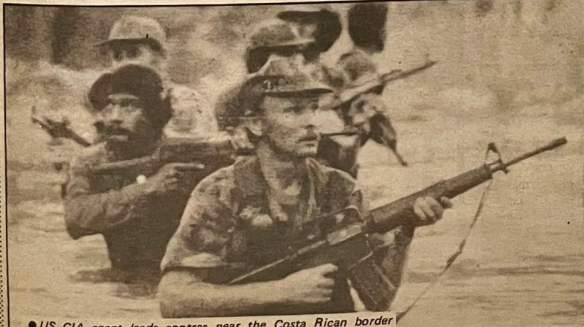
Thus, Borge again:

"The first step has been taken with the revolution itself. Our general problem is the problem of underdevelopment and in acquiring political power. We have conquered the possibility of resolving it, a possibility that was completely cut off under the conditions of imperialist domination."

Some of our Irish 'socialists' might care to reflect on this.

Above all the volume shows that the task of consolidating a revolution is as important and as difficult as its initial triumph. The Sandinistas have a saying: "Words move you, but deeds sweep you away". This book in which three hard years of revolutionary effort is documented is a testament to deeds.

● *Nicaragua — The Sandinista People's Revolution* is published by Pathfinder Press. Price \$7.95.



● US CIA agent leads contras near the Costa Rican border



**DUBLIN REPUBLICANS** honoured Fianna Aif Cole and Sean Colley last Sunday, September 1st, with a commemorative march to the site of their executions at Yellow Road, Whitehall. About 100 people marched in the parade which was led by a Fianna Éireann colour party and the Volunteer Tom Smith Republican Band.

The commemoration was chaired by Pamela Kane of Dublin North East Sinn Féin. After the laying of a wreath and a minute's silence, a speaker from Fianna Éireann thanked the crowd for their attendance and reminded them of the importance of youth in the continuing advances of the Republican Movement, North and South.

Speaking on behalf of the National Graves Association, Sean Fitz-

## Cole / Colley commemoration

patrick reminded the gathering of the circumstances of the deaths of Cole and Colley at the hands of Free State troops in August 1922.

Meanwhile, the present-day Free Staters kept a close eye on the proceedings with a heavy presence of Special Branch throughout the commemoration.

The main speaker, Martin O'Reilly

of Dublin North East Sinn Féin, referred to the recent examples of media censorship of republicans and how "the almost laughable duplicity and double-think of Montrose" had once again been exposed.

The commemoration ended with a march back to the assembly point where the band played *Anhran na bhFiann* before the crowd dispersed.

"Tá an cás faoi scrúdú faoi láthair", dúirt sé, "ach tá fadhb ann le LÁ de bhírl é uilig bheith scríofa i nGaeilge. Blonn na cinn eile scríofa i mBéarla le cupla alt Gaeilge iontu, agus níl fadhb leo".

Dhearbhaigh urlabhraí ar son LÁ an cosc agus dúirt sé:

"Tá thart fá 250 Gaeilgeoirí sa Cheis Fada agus bíonn siad ag iarraidh orainn de shíor cóipeanna de LÁ a chur chuic le cuidiú leo i bhfoghlaím a gcuid Gaeilge agus le bisach a chur uirthi.

"Níl aon difríocht idir na h-altanna atá scríofa sna Irish News agus san Irish Press agus na cinn atá i LÁ ach fós féin, tá coisc ar LÁ. Is deacair aon rud ach cur faoi chois na Gaeilge a bhaint as seo, rud a bhreagnaíonn an méid a dúirt Scott fá thaobh polasaíthe Rialtas na Breataine i leith an Ghaeilge sna príosúin."

### CINSIREACHT

Dhiúltaigh urlabhraí do hOifig an Tuaiscirt a rá an raibh áiseanna ann le cinsireacht a dhéanamh ar an Ghaeilge nó nach raibh, ach dhearbhaigh sé go mbíonn cead ag páipéir nuachtana a mbíonn Gaeilge iontu dul isteach sna

# LÁ FAOI CHOISC

LE SEOSAMH CNÁMH

TÁ COSC iomlán curtha ar LÁ, an nuachtán laethúil Gaeilge, i bpríosúin uile an Tuaiscirt. Dhearbhaigh urlabhraí do hOifig an Tuaiscirt nach bhfuil cead ag an nuachtán, atá a fhoilsíu le níos mó ná bliain anois, dul isteach sna príosúin, "as sioc-air é bheith scríofa i nGaeilge ina iomláine".

Cuireadh cóipeanna den nuachtán chuig an Cheis Fhada nuair a d'fhógair Níochas Scott, Aire na bPríosúin, go gcuirfí fáilte roimh fhoghlaím na Gaeilge sna príosúin" agus nach stadfaidh aon litríocht Ghaeilge ach amháin nuair a bhíonn sé "treascrach go callánach". Nuair a d'fhág gaolta na gcimí na nuachtán isteach, ní raibh sé ceadaithe áfach, cé go bhfuil cead ag an

# Sinn Féin at youth festival

BY MICK DOHERTY

**SINN FEIN** were again the subject of controversy in London last weekend when they were invited by the Greater London Council to speak at a youth festival.

The festival was co-ordinated by the GLC's Ethnic Minorities Unit and the Joint Youth Steering Group as part of its celebration of International Youth Year. The Irish section of the Youth Steering Group invited Joe McGuillan, a member of Belfast Sinn Féin, to address one of the workshop/discussion sessions on the theme of 'Youth and the liberation struggle in Ireland'.

However, the leader of the GLC, Ken Livingstone, came under attack from Alan Greengrass, leader of the Tory opposition group in the County Hall.

London's *Evening Standard* quoted Greengrass's claim "that the Greater London Council had told Mr Livingstone quite clearly six months ago that it did not approve of the invitation to Sinn Féin".

He added: "My attitude has not changed,

this organisation is not welcome in London. It verges on the obscene for Ken Livingstone to fund an event which gives them a platform."

Ken Livingstone, replying on BBC Television, stated that Sinn Féin was a legitimate political party with elected representatives and he supported the invitation to them to speak at the festival, appropriately entitled 'Struggle and Success'.

Joe McGuillan, speaking at the festival on Sunday afternoon to an audience of approximately 70 people, outlined the role and participation of youth in the Irish liberation struggle. He stated that the politicisation of youth was reinforced in the jails where the majority of prisoners are under the age of 25.

McGuillan was interviewed by London Independent Radio and also by the *Irish Post*.



● JOE MCGUILLAN



● KEN LIVINGSTONE

## WORLD VIEW

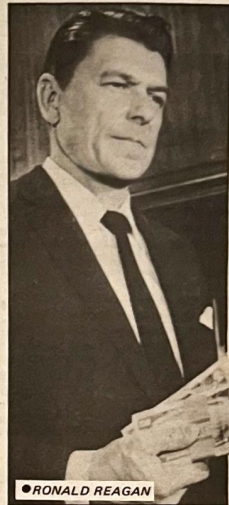
### Reagan

**UNDER THE US Freedom of Information Act**, it has now been revealed that President Reagan was a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) informer during the late 1940s.

A Californian newspaper, the *San Jose Mercury News*, obtained official documents, which detailed Reagan's activities from 1943 to 1947, when he was a member and the president of the Screen Actors Guild (SAG). Reagan first made contact with the FBI on November 18th 1942, when he was with the Army Air Corps motion picture unit. His job was to collect names of actors and actresses who were suspected of being communists or who had communist sympathies.

When Reagan became president of the SAG, he was in a supreme position to pass on names to the FBI, which he did regularly. Reagan was also a member of the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of Arts, Sciences and Professions and, on his resignation from that body on April 10th 1947, gave a complete report on its organisation and membership to the FBI.

During his period as a FBI informer, Reagan was ably helped by his first wife, Hollywood star Jane Wyman. Together they supplied enough information to ensure the blacklisting and ruin of hundreds of actors, actresses, singers, dancers, writers, producers and directors, which reached its peak during the infamous McCarthy witch-hunts.



● RONALD REAGAN

### East Timor

**IN a treacherous move against the national liberation aspirations of the people of East Timor**, the Australian government premier, Bob Hawke, has officially recognised Indonesia's sovereignty over that country.

Indonesia invaded the former Portuguese colony in 1976, and over 200,000 people were reported killed — 25% of the islands population — in the aftermath of the invasion. The Indonesians then declared that East Timor had become their 27th province, despite world-wide protests including those from East Timor's former colonists Portugal and Australia.

A swift reaction to the Australian declaration was the immediate recalling back to Lisbon of Portugal's ambassador to Australia, for consultations with the Portuguese Foreign

Ministry. Portuguese President Antonio Ramalho Eanes made a strong statement condemning the Australians, and is conducting a campaign through other world leaders to try and reverse the Australian position.

Australian premier Bob Hawke, oblivious to the reaction his government's new position has created, added insult to injury by stating that: "We share the hope that the *laws and standards of the East Timorese will be lifted, that their opportunities for full participation as citizens of Indonesia will be extended.*"

### Italy

**ITALIAN socialist party premier Bettino Craxi** has initiated a witch-hunt against members of left-wing organisations and foreigners in Italy, through the publication of a special government report on 'Euroterrorism' last month.

The report claims that there is an immediate danger of 'terrorism' spreading to Italy and the rest of Europe from the Middle East. Craxi also claimed that 'terrorist' organisations in a number of European countries have direct links with and even dual membership of other international organisations.

Craxi's hysterical report is seen by the left in Italy as a blatant attempt to draw attention away from the continuing economic and political crisis facing the country. And Craxi's statement that there are "hundreds of thousands of foreign citizens in Italy, some of whom, under slim cover, succeed in becoming militants of international terrorism and common criminality" is seen as deliberately raising the spectre of racism and fascism to the same levels as that of Mussolini's era.

The report, in an attempt to implant the 'dangerous foreigner' image in the Italian public mind, declared: "The most serious concern has come for some time from international terrorism because of the possible extension to our country and the European scene of conflicts existing in various geographic regions." And to back up this claim the

report issued 'statistics' on foreigners in Italy. The report claimed that 13,645 'suspect' foreigners had been deported or expelled from Italy in the past 12 months, whilst a further 18,874 foreigners had been arrested or accused of various crimes.

In order to magnify the danger to Italy of 'international terrorism', Craxi claimed that home-grown political terrorism has been "largely wiped out", but that there "exists an emerging attempt to revitalise violent subversion by armed organisations" — through the presence of so many foreign militants in the country.

This ignores the fact that for many years now Italian society has been witness to a growing movement towards 'physical force' by people disenchanted by each successive administration. There are currently over 1,000 left-wing political prisoners in Italy's jails, whilst another 500 are on the wanted list.

There are also 200 right-wing extremists in prison, many for committing criminal acts against members of left-wing organisations and foreigners. They will, no doubt be heartened by the socialist party premier's report.

# Death of Liam Hannon

LIAM HANNON, brother of veteran Belfast republican Brigid Hannon and a life-long republican, was tragically killed in a car accident in America on Saturday, August 31st.

Liam, who was only 52 years of age, emigrated to the USA in 1955. At the outbreak of the current campaign he immediately involved himself in Norland and was a founding member of the Staten Island chapter.

# Memorial to Jo Foran

REPUBLICANS from the South East and many from the Mooncoin area were present at the unveiling of a commemorative plaque on Sunday, August 25th, on the grave of the late Johanna 'Jo' Foran who died in August 1984.

The proceedings were chaired by Jackie Phelan and the unveiling was performed by an old friend, Willie Murphy of Hugginstown, who organises the Manchester Martyrs Commemoration.

Richard Behal, delivering the oration, stated that: "she was one of the

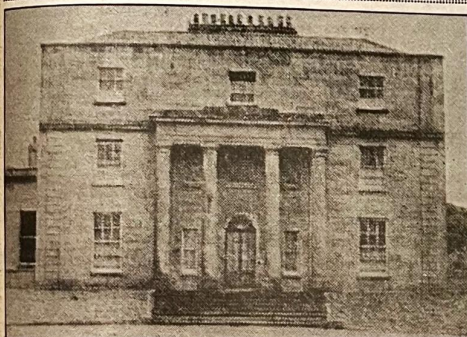
staunch women who, with quiet dignity and determination, supported the cause of Ireland and without whom no freedom struggle could be sustained."

A minute's silence was observed in her memory and that of Johnny O'Dwyer who died during the week. Wreaths were laid on behalf of the family and the Republican Movement.

# Irish Lesson

Coil — music  
Ceoltóir — musician  
Glas ceoil/uirlis ceoil — musical instrument  
Amhrán — song  
Sean-nós — style of traditional singing in Irish (lit. 'old-style')  
Amhránaí — singer  
An phib uilleann/a píoba uilleann — the uilleann (elbow) pipes  
An phib mhór — the bagpipes or war-pipes  
Píobaire — piper  
Feadóig stáin — tin whistle

Ag feadail — whistling  
Damhsa/rince — dance  
Rinceoir — dancer  
Beidh na ceoltóirí ag seim ceoil agus beidh na hamhránaíthe ag gabháil amhrán — The musicians will be playing music and the singers will be singing songs  
Amhrán a ré/a ghabháil/a chanadh — to sing a song  
Fonn — air, tune/desire, wish/mood  
Tá fonn orm dul amach anois — I wish to go out now  
Beidh fonn troda ort nuair a fheicfidh



# REMEMBERING THE PAST

## St Enda's

BY PETER O'ROURKE

IN 1908, after years of preparation, Pádraig Pearse's dream of implementing his own revolutionary education ideals were realised, if only for a short period, with the opening of St Enda's school.

As early as November 1904 in an editorial in *An Claidheamh Solais*, Pearse outlined his fundamental philosophy for Irish education.

"The aim of education," he wrote, "is not the imparting of knowledge but the training of a child to be a perfect man or woman... The real education consists in the forming of the child's character, the drawing out of his faculties, and the disciplining of his intellect."

He strongly condemned the prevailing Irish teaching methods (a topic upon which he elaborated in 1912 in a pamphlet *The Murder Machine*) and the brutal use of corporal punishment.

Pearse realised that educational conditions were infinitely better on the continent and he was particularly

attracted by three aspects of schools there — the prevalence of bilingualism, the direct method of teaching (teaching languages through conversation), and the use of modern teaching aids.

Finally, in September 1908, after years of preparation, St Enda's (Scoil Eanna) opened in Cullinstown House, Oakley Road, Rathfarnham, Dublin.

### PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The school, with Pearse as headmaster, incorporated his educational theories. Bilingual teaching, special attention to science, nature study and physical culture, were taught as well as cultivation of observation and reasoning and, above all, formation of character.

The following September the school had some 30 boarders and 100 day pupils but by 1913, with Pearse's increased public involvement with politics, he was receiving fewer pupils.

In 1910 the school was moved to the Hermitage, situated on a 50-acre site at Rathfarnham, County Dublin.

The teaching staff at St Enda's consisted of Pearse, his brother Willie, Thomas and Joseph McDonagh, Con Colbert and Joseph Plunkett, while occasional lectures were delivered by W.B. Yeats and Douglas Hyde.

From the beginning St Enda's was beset with financial problems. Between 1914 and 1916 it was kept open only through injections of money raised in America by Joseph McGarrity and Clan na Gael.

Much of the preparations and planning for the 1916 Rising took place at St Enda's. Following the Rising and the execution of the Pearse brothers, Colbert, Plunkett and Thomas McDonagh, St Enda's was kept open by Pearse's mother and his sister Margaret. The school was eventually closed in 1935.

St Enda's opened to receive its first pupil on September 8th 1908, 77 years ago this week.

DEVINE, Michael, (4th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear cousin Patrick Mulvenna who was shot dead on August 31st 1973. St Anthony, pray for him. One year comes, another goes, but the gates of memory will never close. Still dearly loved by his cousin Mary, Patrick and family.

MULVENNA, Patrick, (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear nephew Patrick Mulvenna who was shot dead on August 31st 1973. St Anthony, pray for him. In my heart you were always special, in my eyes you will always shine. Still dearly loved and missed by his aunt, James and uncle Paddy.

MULVENNA, Patrick, (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear cousin Patrick Mulvenna who was shot dead on August 31st 1973. St Paul, pray for him. Time slips past but memories last. Still dearly loved by his cousin Mena and Sammie.

MULVENNA, Patrick, (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear nephew Patrick Mulvenna who was shot dead on August 31st 1973. St Patrick, pray for him. Sweet are the memories of you, the kept of a cousin I loved and will never forget. Always remembered by his cousins Paul and Anthony.

MACILMHEANN, Pádraig, (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear cousin Pádraig Macilimheann, who was shot dead on August 31st 1973. St Anthony, pray for him. Sweet are the memories of you, the kept of a cousin I loved and will never forget. Always remembered by his cousins Paul and Anthony.

KANE, Michael, (15th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear cousin Michael Kane, who was shot dead on August 31st 1973. St Jude, pray for him. May he be with your saints forever. Still dearly loved by his cousin Loretta and family.

MULVENNA, Patrick, (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear cousin Patrick Mulvenna who was shot dead on August 31st 1973. St Martin, pray for him. Sweet are the memories of you, but memories of you are always near. Always loved by his cousin Patricia and John.

MULVENNA, Patrick, (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear cousin Patrick Mulvenna who was shot dead on August 31st 1973. St Anthony, pray for him. Sweet are the memories of you, the kept of a cousin I loved and will never forget. Always remembered by his cousins Paul and Anthony.

### CUIMHNÍ BREITHLAE

DONNELLY, Birthday memories of Frankie on his 7th wedding anniversary, 26th August 1978 who died 5th January 1979. RIP. Yesterday has gone from us and tomorrow yet to come, but I remember vividly the seven years that's gone, I'll always be proud of why you died, and I'll tell our little girl how daddy tried to make our land a better kind of world, and world is what you are to us, so as you take your rest, sleep soundly son of Ireland, you truly were the best. Proudly remembered, so sadly missed by his wife Rosemary and little girl, Frances.

DONNELLY, Birthday memories of Frank, who was killed on active service on 5th January 1979. RIP. He went as one who knew no fear, for his country he loved so dear, and he gave his life, he gave it all, he heard that lonesome piper call, his brave young heart, now you must keep him in everlasting memory. Proudly remembered by his loving brother Jackie, sister Betty and loving aunts and uncle, Betty, Margaret and Paddy Doherty.

### COMHBHRON

BARRETT, Deepest sympathy is extended to Eileen and family on the sudden death of Sean. RIP. From An Cumann Cabhrach, Wallinstown, Dublin.

BARRETT, The McAteer family, Dublin, extend their sympathy to our good friend Eileen and all the Barrett family on the death of her husband, Sean. RIP. Ar dheis Dé go raib a nam dílis.

BARRETT, Sincere sympathy is extended to Eileen and family on the sudden death of Sean. RIP. From the Sheehy family, Dublin. Ar dheis Dé go raib a nam dílis.

BARRETT, Deepest sympathy is extended to Eileen and family on the sudden death of Sean. RIP. From the Mairé Drumm Sinn Féin cumann, Clonsilla.

BARRETT, Deepest sympathy is extended to Eileen and family on the sudden death of Sean. RIP. From the Mairé Drumm Sinn Féin cumann, Clonsilla.

### Beannachtaí

BAKER, Liam (Hull) MCCARTNEY, Dublin. Best wishes to you both. From the George McBrearty/Charles Maguire Sinn Féin cumann, Leixlip.

BURNS, (Portlaoise) My darling Mick, don't forget to put our wedding ring in my jewellery box for safe keeping. Happy birthday, thinking of you always, Máirín.

DONEGAN, Jim, (Portlaoise). Happy birthday Jim! Best wishes to all your friends and comrades in Newry.

DONEGAN, Jim, (Portlaoise). Wishing my rugged hero a least a very happy birthday. I will be holding the ring in December. Dearest love, From Dee Dee, USA.

DONEGAN, Jim, (Portlaoise). Can't wait to get you home to County Down. From Susie S., ???

DOUGLAS, David, (Portlaoise). Gre-

tings and best wishes to David Douglas, From Sharon.

MCCARTNEY, Ronnie, (Gartree). All our best wishes on your birthday and best regards to POWs there. From Raymond, Mary and Patrick.

MUGENT, Margaret. Glad to hear of your freedom. Welcome home and good luck. From Eleanor and Bob Schumaker, USA.

O'ROURKE, Michael, (Portlaoise). Happy birthday Michael. Have the best day possible. We will celebrate it with you. Looking forward to the day you can celebrate in freedom. From Eleanor and Bob Schumaker, USA.

O'ROURKE, Michael, (Portlaoise). Wishing you the best birthday ever. It won't be long before you can really celebrate in freedom. Glad to hear you enjoyed the open visits with Margie. Take care. From Tiri, Michael, wee Michael and Jill Chaudrus.

McCartney, Ronnie, (Gartree). All our best wishes on your birthday and best regards to POWs there. From Raymond, Mary and Patrick.

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### TORTHAÍ CRANNCHUR

An Cumann Cabhrach, Dublin Committee Draw

August: £100; No. 334; £50; No. 225 £25; No. 274; £10; No. 061, 115, 127, 216, 290.

Beairst Sinn Féin Monthly Draw

August: £100; Spud; c/o Rice Books; Martha O'Halloran, Ballymurry Drive; £50; Frank & Gillen, Cullinstown Walk; £25; P. Burrell, ...

WALK; Mrs A. Cahill, ...

£20; T. Cahill, c/o Beechview Park; £10; Gerard Taylor, c/o Bingham Grove; £10; Mary Herald, Westrock Grove; £10; Mrs McCruden, Glenview Drive; £10; S. Garland, Whitelock Street.

Private Members Draw: £100; Tom Connolly, c/o Gail; £50; Gail and Antio; c/o Lorraine; £25; Robert Rigney; £10; Tony Cummins, c/o Peter Collins; John Carrick, c/o Cheryl; R. Hughes; 118 Landen Road; M.J. Jarvis, c/o Laurence; Red Dick; c/o Lark; c/o Martin Forsythe; Sinn Féin cumann.

Monthly Draw: £100; Brenda Connolly; £50; Alan Fallon; £25; Thomas Boyce; £10; Martin McCarthy; John Fallon; David Allen.

Make sure of your weekly copy of *An Phoblacht/Republican News* by taking out a subscription.

Annual rates: Ireland and Britain - £20; Europe - £25; Elsewhere - \$60. Send to: AP/RN, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin.

United in resistance

PHOBLACHT

PHOBLACHT

PHOBLACHT

# The Liam Og Column

## Cuchulain

## and McGuinness

NEVER MIND RAMBO, what about Cuchulain, the main character in Jack Higgins' latest book *Confessional*, (published by Collins, and No. 1 bestseller in Britain)?

It's about the IRA, British Intelligence and a plot by Cuchulain — the codename for a KGB 'sleeper' who infiltrated the IRA — to assassinate the Pope on his visit to Britain in 1982.

With themes borrowed from John Buchan, Graham Greene and Frederick Forsythe, Higgins has the anti-hero Cuchulain, (who is a priest when he's not murdering Protestants and Catholics in order "to keep the pot boiling") outwitting the KGB (to whom he has become a liability), British Intelligence and the IRA, who recognise that it is in both their interests to eliminate the trouble-maker who is distorting the actual issues behind the political upheaval in Ireland.

Enter "the legendary Martin McGuinness" as the contact between the Brits and the IRA Chief-of-Staff, McGuinness (spelt with one 'n' in the book) is "the Chief of Northern Command", drinks Bushmills whiskey, and, when he was O/C of the Derry Brigade, took part in an IRA truce delegation with, among others, Seamus Twomey and Daithi O'Connell, which met Willie Whitelaw in 1972!!

Could this be, one asks oneself, the same teetotal McGuinness who stomps on RUC men's toes, ditches his car in the middle of checkpoints and who was elected as a Sinn Féin representative in the Assembly elections?

In the following scene in Dublin, to discuss eliminating Cuchulain, McGuinness meets with Captain Fox of the Blues and Royals who served in Derry before losing his left hand in a Belfast bomb attack:

'Ah, Captain Fox,' Martin McGuinness said affably. 'Nice to see you again.'

'But we've never met,' Fox said.

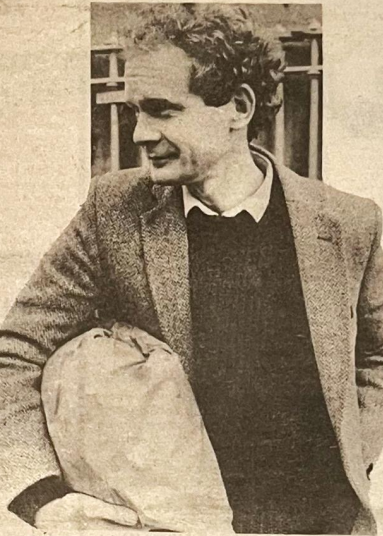
'Derry, 1972,' McGuinness told him. 'You were a cornet, isn't that what you call second lieutenants in the Blues and Royals? There was a bomb in a pub in Prior Street. You were on detachment with the Military Police at the time.'

'Good God!' Fox said. 'I remember now.'

'The whole street was ablaze. You ran into a house next to the grocer's shop and brought out a woman and two kids. I was on the flat roof opposite with a man with an Armalite rifle who wanted to put a hole in your head. I wouldn't let him. It didn't seem right in the circumstances.'

I felt very emotional and was choking back tears when I read that bit. I sincerely hope that, in the light of what Higgins has revealed, the BBC Board of Governors will now screen the *Real Lives* 'Songs of Praise' programme.

Cuchulain devotees shouldn't have too long to wait



● Art Garfunkel — homeward bound

before *Confessional* is turned into a block-buster movie with Art Garfunkel auditioning as the pacifist on top of the roof in Prior Street.

SDLP Councillor Paddy McGowan appeared totally unaware of his party colleagues' embarrassment and why Sinn Féin councillors were bantering him at the Technical Services

meeting of Omagh District Council on August 27th.

In a discussion about nuclear-free zones and bomb shelters, McGowan kept referring to the example of 'Londonderry'.

I see RTE is back on the rails again after that impetuous strike. Last Tuesday, Arnold Hatch, chairperson of the Ulster Unionist Councillors Association, was interviewed on the Montrose oracle and called for the British government "to effectively eliminate Sinn Féin from sitting in council seats, standing for election or being eligible for boards of schools".

SECURITY preparations are well underway for the Conservative Party conference in Blackpool which begins on October 6th. Many of the delegates are expected to stay in the Imperial Hotel and by now

most Tory ministers will have received a circular from their central office.

It asks where will they be staying, how will they be travelling to the conference and what is their blood-group!

\*\*\*

NELSON Mandela has been in jail in his own country for 22 years. In the late 1940s, when he was in the Congress Youth League, he was arrested and charged with defying the apartheid signs erected by the new National Party government.

In 1956, he faced a four-year trial on charges of treason but was acquitted. In 1962, he made a six-month tour of 15 nations and met many senior political leaders whom he called upon to oppose white racist rule in his country.

Shortly after his return, he was arrested and sentenced to five years imprisonment for incitement to strike and for leaving South Africa illegally. While he was serving his sentence, conspiracy charges of sabotage were preferred against him and he was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Compare his considered statement on the use of force to the vengeful statements from two newspapers, one American, the other British. Mandela from the dock said about violence:

"I did not plan it in a spirit of recklessness, nor because I have any love of violence. I planned it as a result of a calm and sober assessment of the political situation that had arisen over many years of tyranny, exploitation and oppression of my people by whites."

Because of this principled stance, the *Sunday Express* said last week in an editorial:

"And this is the man whom almost every country in the West, including our own, is urging the South African government to release"

"President P.W. Botha would be out of his mind to let Mandela loose while he continues to preach revolution and murder."

The *Washington Times* went further. The daily paper, which is owned by the Rev Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church, wrote:

"Free Nelson Mandela? No, Mr Mandela should have been executed."

\*\*\*

The real Martin McGuinness has pointed out that the McGuinness named in

the above book has blue eyes whereas his are grey!

## Dúirt siad

"The SDLP believes that the elections (Assembly, October 1986) could be used by Sinn Féin and the unionists to damage any agreement reached at the Anglo-Irish summit. The government is therefore under pressure to amend the act, avoiding further elections and extending the life of the existing Assembly for a year to 18 months."

— Guardian report.

\*\*\*

"All-Ireland plans for restrictions on the right of Sinn Féin to contest elections North and South of the border are being considered."

— Sunday Tribune on the current London/Dublin discussions.

\*\*\*

"The former British Home Secretary Mr Leon Brittan's sacking in Mrs Thatcher's Cabinet reshuffle is being seen in London as a direct result of his inept handling of the recent controversy over the BBC documentary, *At the Edge of the Union*, in which the Sinn Féin Assembly member, Mr Martin McGuinness, was interviewed."

— Irish Times.

\*\*\*

"When the white man came to Africa he had God and we had the land. Now we have God and he has the land."

— African Nationalist on BBC Radio.

READY TO FIX, CHOKE CONTROLLED,  
QUALITY AND SAFETY TO  
BRITISH STANDARDS. U.K. MADE



FITZGERALD

## BE BRIGHT WITH A FITZGERALD LIGHT



● Lighting the way to collaboration? These ads for fluorescent light tubes are sadly only too apt!