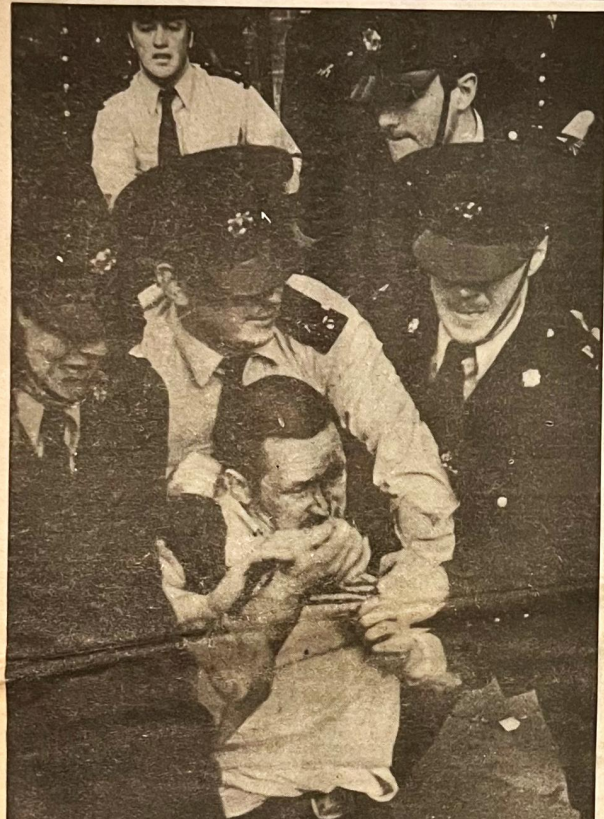


IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING  
POLITICAL WEEKLY

**AN  
PHOBLACHT  
Republican News**

Sraith Nua Im! 7 Uimhir 42 Deardain 24 Deireadh Fomhair Thurs 24th Oct 1985 (Britain 30p) Price 25p



## Vicious assault on Concerned Parents

IN DUBLIN'S Liberties members of the Concerned Parents Against Drugs campaign and local residents were attacked by baton-wielding gardai on Wednesday evening, October 23rd. Their only crime was to attempt to defend their children from the menace of heroin. The injuries sustained, many of them serious, the arrests and charging of more than 20 of the protestors, show that despite their talk of community policing the gardai were clearly acting against the people.

SEE PAGE SIX



# Their master's voice

MEMBERS of the Dublin government almost called for the resignation of RUC chief Jack Hermon this week.

Not because he is the head of a sectarian force whose business is oppression. Not because his police have been responsible for the deaths of innocent people by plastic bullets and shoot-to-kill tactics. Not even because, in Forum-speak, he contributes to the 'alienation' of nationalists in the six counties.

The uncharacteristic criticism came because the Coalition government could not leave unchallenged the idea that they were not bending over backwards to collaborate with Britain in the campaign to suppress the Republican Movement.

The London-Dublin talks, we are told, are at a crucial stage. Republicans have maintained from the beginning that nothing concrete can emerge from them except more repression and closer collaboration between British and Free State forces. The argument that Jack Hermon was talking out of school when he said the Free Staters were not doing enough does not hold water.

Hermon may have been a little carried away in the atmosphere of the Houston police conference, surrounded as he was by comrades in arms from police forces around the globe.

### NOTHING NEW

But public criticism of the Dublin government for alleged lack of co-operation with the RUC is nothing new. When it comes from British government or RUC sources it has a definite purpose — the Dublin government is always sensitive to criticisms from its senior partner in Westminster. In comparison, the voice of the nationalist people whom Peter Barry claims to represent fades into silence.

Coalition Ministers were quick to deny Hermon's remarks, with Peter Barry, Free State Minister for Foreign Affairs, ordering that a complaint be delivered to the British ambassador in Dublin "directly and coldly". Dick Spring thought Hermon's posit-

ion, if he had said what he said, was "untenable" and Garret FitzGerald, in New York for a meeting of the UN, declared that it was "to put it mildly, unhelpful". FitzGerald always puts it mildly when speaking to one of his masters.

In his address to the General Assembly of the United Nations, FitzGerald gave a pledge to the unionists, assuring them once again that the Coalition accepted their position of superiority and privilege in the North and would do nothing to change it.

### CRAWLING

He was just as accepting of the British explanation, delivered on Wednesday, that Hermon's remarks about the RUC had been misreported. The most noteworthy thing about the exchanges on the issue in Leinster House was what was not mentioned.

Charles Haughey used the opportunity to accuse FitzGerald of crawling to the British. The talks should be called off until the Hermon wrangle was settled. Even as he spoke, of course, the latest Anglo-Irish flurry was over because the Coalition had dutifully swallowed the British excuse for Hermon's little indiscretion.

That Free State soldiers and gardai are increasingly operating hand-in-glove with British forces on the border was not at issue in the Leinster House debate. Beneath the war of words, the unspoken consensus remained that such collaboration was acceptable. Only the Republican Movement can challenge that consensus. And the republican challenge is what the London-Dublin talks are all about.





# OPINION

## 'TELL the world — freedom is at hand'.

Stirring words that strike a chord in the heart of every Irish republican and in everyone who knows what it is to suffer oppression. Words of hope that have echoed down through centuries of struggle against colonialism, imperialism, fascism and despotism.

These words were spoken by Malesela Benjamin Molise, African National Congress activist and poet, as his mother paid her last painful farewell to a son she would never see again. The cruel, brutal South African regime that had sentenced her son to death allowed her just 20 minutes with him on the eve of his death by hanging.

Even in those last hours, there was no respite. Mamike Molise could not touch her son to comfort him, because the visit was conducted through a glass screen.

The next day the authorities carrying out the judicial murder of Benjamin Molise refused to allow Mrs Molise access to her son, and callously informed her that his body would remain the 'property of the state'.

Irish republicans watching last week's events unfold in South Africa could not help but be reminded of the eventful days of 1981 and other years and compare their own experiences with that of their comrades in struggle in South Africa. The South African forces storming through the townships, killing and maiming, conducting mass arrests, the British army and RUC saturating nationalist areas — plastic bullets, lead bullets, dead children and grieving families.

Benjamin Molise, aged 28, ANC activist and poet, reminded us instantly of Bobby Sands, aged 27, IRA Volunteer and poet. Both made the ultimate sacrifice for their people, for a dream of freedom, leaving a legacy of courage and determination that will sustain both our peoples through the hard years ahead.

The callous treatment of Benjamin Molise's mother by the racist regime has its parallel with the treatment meted out to the families of Irish republican prisoners in both the occupied six counties and the twenty-six-county state.

We remember with bitterness the British treatment of Bobby Sands' mother and family, and how each of the hunger-strikers' families were put through the treadmill of both British and Leinster House cruelty.

Thomas McElwee, the ninth H-Block hunger-striker to die, was denied visits from his family, even from his brother Benedict incarcerated in the same prison. Tom's fiancée, a prisoner in Armagh, was denied those last moments with the dying youth. Similar stories can be told of every generation of Irish political prisoners, of every generation of South African political prisoners.

This brand of cruelty knows no boundaries or borders. Since the imposition of partition and the emergence of the twenty-six-county state, the years of republican struggle are littered with the victims of Leinster House intransigence and cruelty. Tony D'Arcy, who died after 52 days on hunger-strike, on April 16th 1940 in Mountjoy Jail, was not allowed visits from his wife. His comrade Sean McNeela was denied access to a priest.

But the torment does not end there, with the death of a tortured soul.

Just as the South African regime denies families the custody of bodies of those they have murdered, so too do the British and their servants in Leinster House. The bodies of the Drumboe Martyrs, who were executed on March 14th 1923, became 'the property of the state'. Frank Stagg's body was hijacked by the gardai, after his death on hunger-strike in 1976. The gardai stole the body, sealed off the church, occupied the graveyard, dug the grave, buried the body and poured cement over it to cover their crime — depths of cruelty which even the South African regime would find hard to match. Then the RUC hijacking of the corpses of Francis Hughes and Patsy O'Hara. The mutilation of Patsy O'Hara's body, the beating up of Francis Hughes' undertaker.

States such as South Africa and the occupied six-county Orange state can only rule through terror and cruelty, can only survive with the apparatus of repression and oppression, and can only be sustained with the open assistance and collaboration of countries like Britain and the USA, and with the connivance of institutions such as in Leinster House.

The South Africans could only have flown in the face of international opinion and protest with the closest co-operation from Britain and the USA. The British could only have murdered the ten hunger-strikers with the closest co-operation and assistance from Leinster House.

The racist regime will remain in power whilst Britain, the USA and other powers continue to support it. The Orange state and British rule in Ireland can only be sustained whilst Leinster House continues its slavish and subservient role in the destiny of our country.

Describing her son the night before his execution, Mamike Molise declared:

*"He is strong, stronger than I have ever seen him."*

In similar circumstances, Bobby Sands' sister Marcella used similar words:

*"When I see the courage and strength that he has shown, it gives me strength to carry on."*

Benjamin Molise and Bobby Sands have left us a legacy — the knowledge that we are right, that we are strong, with the strength that comes from years of struggle and sacrifice.

Let us salute their memory by securing that legacy.



# Derry city centre devastated

## WAR NEWS

OVER one-and-a-half million pounds of damage was caused in a massive IRA bomb attack on the commercial centre of Derry on Friday night, October 18th.

Earlier the same evening, the IRA operation commenced with the commandeering of a van in the Creggan area. A 300lb bomb was placed on board and shortly after 8pm the bomb was put in position at the junction of Castle Street and Shipquay Street and the firing set primed.

Warnings were given and an hour later the bomb detonated, inflicting major structural and blast damage on surrounding property. Later estimates put the cost of the damage in excess of one-and-a-half million pounds.

In a statement Derry Brigade IRA claimed adequate warnings had been given and that "responsibility lay with the RUC for a number of civilian casualties". The statement went on to say that the IRA "has always taken great pains to guard against civilians being injured".

### LURGAN

On Sunday, October 20th, IRA Volunteers from the North Armagh Brigade shot and seriously wounded a member of the RUC.

Acting on intelligence information, an ASU prepared an ambush at Lurgan Golf Club. As the RUC man finished his round of golf, an IRA Volunteer using an Armalite rifle fired several shots hitting the RUC man in the head.

### BELFAST

On Wednesday, October 23rd,

the IRA's Belfast Brigade issued a further statement in relation to criminal activity in the city, saying:

**"SEVERAL** weeks ago Belfast Brigade issued a statement in which we named a

number of criminals involved in serious criminal activity in the Belfast area. All were warned that they had 48 hours to come forward and satisfy the IRA that they would not reinvolve themselves in such behaviour or we would insist that they leave the country.

A number of these individuals did come forward and admitted their part in specific criminal actions. They all gave assurances not to reinvolve themselves in criminal acts.

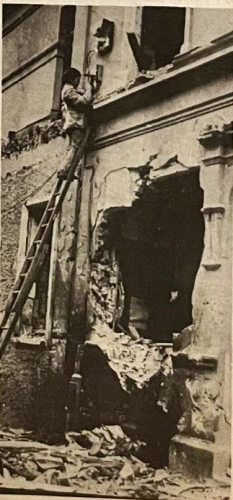
The Irish Republican Army has accepted these assurances but we made it perfectly clear to all concerned that the onus is on them to prove that they have reformed. Should they at any time in the future become involved in criminal activities, action will be taken against them.

Those covered by this arrangement are: Brendan Healey, Brian Glenholmes, Paul McKay, Harry Nolan and Gerry Flynn.

Among those who eventually came forward was Martin McNally who had publicly refused to leave Belfast after being told to do so. The Workers Party attempted to publicly embarrass the IRA by claiming to support McNally. After getting a statement printed in the local press, the Workers Party abandoned McNally who left Belfast and moved to England.

After approaches from relatives and guarantees of good behaviour from McNally, he has been allowed to return.

The Irish Republican Army is fully aware of the tremendous hardship inflicted on the nationalist people of Belfast by criminals. We are committed to doing all within our power to deal with this problem. However, it must be said that our community must also positively involve itself in tackling this issue. The IRA cannot solve this problem on its own.





BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

**THE LONDON-DUBLIN TALKS** are in bad shape. As the summit meeting draws nearer the 'package' which is rumoured to be under discussion appears to be getting smaller and smaller.

Two years ago, we were told this was the "greatest nationalist initiative since partition". At least those were Hume's words to describe the Dublin Forum.

It has been downhill all the way since then. From a 'multiple choice' Forum report to its blunt rejection by the Brits, to a new 'internal settlement' of the North with Dublin participation, to what now seems little more than a handful of cosmetic reforms and a 'hotline' for Dublin ministers to whinge to London about it all. The Orange state survives in all its ugly injustice and repressive cruelty.

Nationalist expectations will be well down anyway. SDLP leader John Hume has been seeing to it for the last two months. Last Sunday on Radio Foyle he was at it again, warning nationalists not to expect a "final settlement" but rather the start of a "process", which he said would bring "equality of treatment" and eventually "reconciliation". Hume's 'stage three' — Irish unity — was not even mentioned.

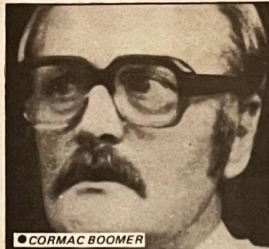
But *Irish News* readers were told by Belfast SDLP Councillor Cormac Boomer on Monday, October 21st, that Irish unity was "an honourable and worthwhile objective... for future generations". As for now, Boomer said, probably reflecting a view of a sizeable faction of the SDLP, the demand for Irish unity was "totally unrealistic". What mattered was to achieve "much-needed and long-overdue changes in the political structures of Northern Ireland" so that "terrorism" could be "more effectively tackled and subdued". And that, incidentally, puts paid to the 'Irish dimension' which the SDLP has been clamouring for all these years.

#### SHRIEKING

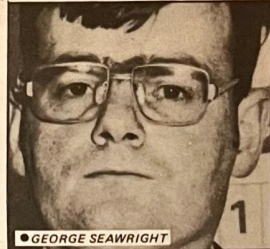
Meanwhile, unionists are still shrieking as if their position was in danger. Yet not a week passes but some British or Dublin official makes a speech directly aimed at reassuring them. The unionists must easily rank among the most cosseted and placated minorities in the world: given the complete run of the place, pandered to in every way and constantly reassured that they won't be "sold-out". On Friday, October 18th, British direct-ruler Tom King promised them again that nothing would be agreed "which would resemble joint sovereignty or authority".

Nevertheless unionist sabre-rattling continues. Last week the DUP warned that the electricity service was "stock-piling" light oil, no doubt to run auto-

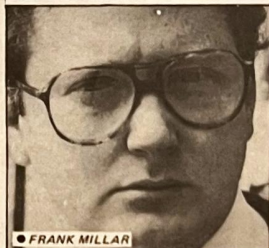
# DOWNHILL TO THE SUMMIT



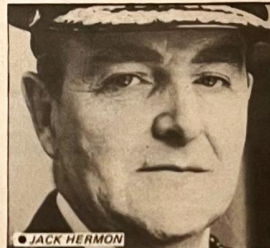
● CORMAC BOOMER



● GEORGE SEAWRIGHT



● FRANK MILLAR



● JACK HERMON

mated standby generators in case of a loyalist strike affecting power-stations. The Orange Order announced at the weekend that its members were "on standby" for an "emergency conference within hours of a summit". And Paisley, who last week had promised that a sell-out would be "resisted unto death" — whose death he did not say, innocent Catholics presumably — on Sunday, October 20th, warned that loyalists had a "well-stocked-up armoury".

As for ex-DUP member and arch-bigot George Seawright, after removing a Tricolour from Ardoyne Community Centre in the small hours of Friday, October 18th, he announced that he would personally lead a bombing attack on Dublin.

John Taylor of the OUP, the man who in a speech less than a month ago had implied that "a few bombs in the South" might do the trick, he has seemingly renounced the armed struggle and become an advocate of economic measures. In a speech on Friday, October

18th, he suggested a holiday boycott of the South by unionists, and an FEA investigation of Free State companies in the North, such as Dunnes and the Bank of Ireland — causing worried statements of protest from the above-mentioned.

#### IRRITANT

But apart from the secrecy surrounding the London-Dublin talks, the greatest irritant for unionists is definitely Sinn Féin and its presence on the councils. On Wednesday, October 17th, a Church of Ireland bishop, Dr Mehaffey, called Sinn Féin's presence on the councils "intolerable" and asked the British to take measures in order to prevent Sinn Féin from "holding public office". Mehaffey also asked unionists to show "a willingness to share power" — presumably with carefully chosen Catholics, not just any old elected representative.

Mehaffey's statement was slammed by Derry elected representative Martin McGuinness who noted that "before Sinn

Fein's electoral success, Sinn Féin's right to hold office was never questioned" — now unionists "seek to overturn the results", McGuinness said, and accused Mehaffey of remaining silent when loyalist politicians made sectarian speeches "which often led directly to the murder of innocent nationalists".

And on Sunday, October 20th, OUP secretary Frank Millar declared that the British "now accepted they couldn't continue to ignore the Sinn Féin presence" — apparently so much was implied by British officials at a meeting with unionist councillors at the weekend — but, Millar warned, an "anti-violence pledge" would not be enough as "Sinn Féin might take such a pledge": what the unionists want is total proscription. And indeed they might still get it. If the British are looking for a way to calm unionists down after the summit, they may take measures against republicans.

Indeed the heavy Brit and Free State presence in border areas in the last few weeks, and a resumption of the show-trials tactics with the emergence last week of a paid-perjuror in Derry, point to what will be for Northern nationalists the most lasting effect of the London-Dublin talks: increased repression.

#### HERMON

But all this is still not enough for RUC chief John Hermon who made remarks at a police seminar in Texas last week about the Free State's "lack of interest in penetrating the fiendish IRA". Hermon, who apparently thought his comments would not be reported in Ireland, said that out of 94 extradition requests made by the RUC to Dublin, only three had been granted, and that Dublin had depleted its police force in border areas to bring them back to Dublin and help fight the drug problem.

Hermon's comments, reported in the *Texan* and Canadian press and relayed by the *Irish Times*, have started a full-scale controversy in Dublin, with the British ambassador summoned to the Foreign Affairs Department and asked to investigate Hermon's comments. But Free State deputy premier Dick Spring said that the comments were also the responsibility of the British government. And SDLP deputy leader Seamus Mallon remarked that Hermon might have been trying to "influence matters" in the London-Dublin talks.

This may well be the result of Hermon's controversial remarks. But in any case they have received a warm welcome from loyalist politicians who had been feeling somewhat estranged from 'their police force' since a few Orange parades had been re-routed last Summer. So things are looking up for loyalists.

Now if only Sinn Féin was banned, they would be perfectly happy in their little statelet...



● GARRET FITZGERALD

# Concessions to big business

BY CHARLIE McFADDEN

AFTER 15 weeks of paid leave, Leinster House deputies returned to 'work' on Wednesday, October 23rd, to hear FitzGerald's Coalition unveil an economic package which, they would have us believe, will cure all the twenty-six counties' economic ills in one fell swoop.

In fact, the package — which amounts to a virtual U-turn on their *Building on Reality* policy document — was hurriedly thrown together to soothe the increasing tensions which are developing between Fine Gael and Labour. The poor showing of the Coalition in recent opinion polls was also a major factor.

So, far from being a realistic attempt at job creation and tax reform, the Coalition proposals have been seen as a simple exercise in political expediency and clumsy public relations.

The main thrust of the Dublin government's proposals are:

- The provision for urban renewal in Dublin, Cork and Lim-

erick by giving major incentives to property speculators and other inducements such as a ten-year 'rate-free' period to new business projects.

- An increase in the number of county sheriffs and tax collectors in addition to the creation of local tax investigators.

- The waiving of PRSI contributions for employers who take on new employees.

#### FURTHER CUTS

The Coalition maintain that these proposals will be financed by reductions in other 'less

essential areas'. But worries have been expressed that this will inevitably lead to further cuts in the health, education and social welfare sectors.

The so-called tax reforms have left the PAYE sector untouched and this sector still carries an unjust and disproportionate burden of taxation. Instead, large amounts of tax-payers' money will be spent on concessions to big business in the hope that this will stimulate economic growth. All this despite the fact that the private sector has consistently failed the Irish economy.



SINCE Monday, August 19th, ESB linesmen, drivers and general workers in Cork have been engaged in an unofficial dispute.

Without any consultation, local ESB management have attempted to railroad through changes in working conditions which would directly lead to redundancies. The workers were not prepared to accept such alterations to agreed working conditions and refused to accept instructions from management which they felt would be a breach of agreed procedure. Forty-one workers were suspended, and pickets were placed on August 17th.

Harassment of the strikers by gardai reached a high point on Monday and Tuesday, October 14th and 15th, when the Special Branch made pre-dawn raids on the homes of five strike leaders, arrested them under Section 30 and held them for over 40 hours in scattered locations around Cork.

In protest at these arrests the workers and their families staged a protest march through Cork city on Saturday, October 19th. Over 300 people participated in the demonstration which attracted considerable support from local people. During the demonstration a one-minute silence was observed outside the local branch of Dunnes Stores as a mark of respect to murdered South African poet Benjamin Molise and in solidarity with the anti-apartheid strikers in Dublin.

\*\*\*  
The cleaners' dispute at University College Dublin continues this week and the pickets have proved 100% effective in keeping out all cleaning staff. However, last weekend Chief Bursar of the College, J.P. McHale, organised scabs from amongst the lecturers (it is suspected some dissident students also scabbed) to clean the university.

In an act of solidarity with the strikers, UCD Sinn Fein cancelled a public meeting in the college, which was to be addressed by Martin McGuinness and Derry City Councillor Mitchell McLaughlin on the theme *The Irish Struggle — A Just War*. The meeting had been arranged prior to the dispute and will be re-scheduled for a later date. In a statement UCD Sinn Fein spokesperson Sean de Brun said:

"Sinn Fein fully supports the cleaners' struggle for jobs and will continue to use whatever means are at our disposal to ensure victory for the workers."

\*\*\*  
Still on the subject of universities, on Thursday, October 17th, Magee University in Derry was brought to a standstill when the university's catering staff went on strike. They were supported by office workers, lecturers and students who refused to cross the picket line. The official NUPE strike was called after months of what shop-steward Harry Hasson called "compassionate pleas by the catering staff for an increase in numbers".

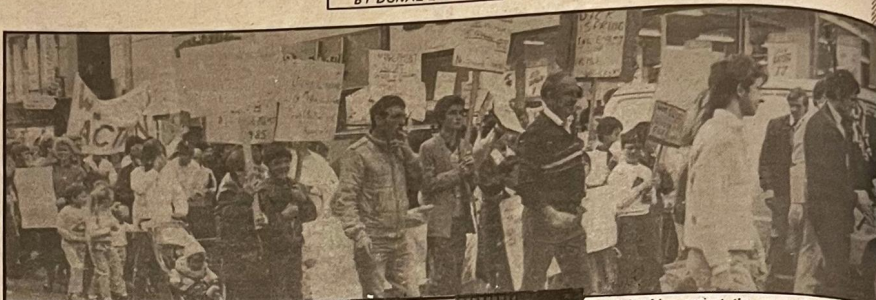
At present the catering staff consists of nine people, only one of whom is a qualified cook, and they are expected to cope with the large influx of new students and academics since the university expanded this year, almost doubling its numbers. Money has been made available by the university authorities for increased facilities for the new students, but none has been allocated to create new jobs and expand the over-worked catering department.

The NUPE picket was a great success. Other workers, academics and students, including Sinn Fein Councillor Gerry Doherty who is president of Magee Students Union, turned up to show their support for the strike action and on Friday the picket was called off when the university authorities capitulated to the catering staff's demands.

\*\*\*  
Buses will not be running in Dublin city from 7.30pm on Friday, October 25th. The four-hour stoppage is to highlight the escalating number of vicious assaults on bus crews in the city and has

# Confrontation in Cork

BY DONAL LYONS



● Marching against the arrest of striking ESB workers in Cork on Saturday, October 19th



● Unemployment protest outside Leinster House by the Unemployed Alliance on Wednesday, October 23rd

the backing of all unions within CIE. The workers are demanding that greater safety measures be implemented for crews, and that "drop safes" be introduced on buses to lessen the temptation for anti-social elements.

\*\*\*  
Pickets have been placed on the NET fertiliser factory in Arklow this week by the ITGWU. The dispute is over attempts to introduce a new "rationalisation" plan which will mean a total of 140 redundancies and increased workloads for plant operators in some areas of the factory. The strike by the 150 plant operators is official and has halted fertiliser production at the factory. All other sections of the workforce are working normally by agreement with the strikers.

As reported some months ago in this paper, various Free State agencies and departments, including Dublin Corporation and AnCO, are employing security companies who pay their workers less than the legal minimum rates of pay.

This week four security firms are to appear in the Labour Court for breaching the registered pay agreement. All four companies have contracts with the Free State and one pays their employees the princely sum of 50p per hour while the legal rate is currently £2.59 per hour. Dublin Corporation, in particular, is assisting unscrupulous employers to exploit vulnerable workers. In an attempt to justify their policy, the Corporation have said that their "sole criteria for accepting a tender was price and reputation of the firm involved".

\*\*\*  
A detailed submission from the ICTU to Leinster House states that an income-related pension scheme remains a primary demand of the trade union movement. The submission — *Occupational Pensions, The Need for Reform* — states that the present law on the information rights of employee members of pension funds is totally inadequate.

It calls for greater information rights and urges the appointment of worker trustees to pension funds, legislation to stop sex discrimination in pensions, and the establishment of an Occupation-

al Pensions Board, which must include trade union representatives, to supervise, enforce and review pensions law.

\*\*\*  
The first-ever Irish consultative conference of the National Union of Journalists in Ireland, at the weekend, voted to call for a one-day strike by journalists when Leinster House next renews Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act. The motion was proposed by the RTE branch, whose chairperson informed conference that RTE journalists had voted by a two-to-one majority to take industrial action on the issue.

Also at the conference, a motion was passed condemning the "inhuman and degrading" practice of strip-searching in Armagh jail. The meeting also voted to contribute £5,000 of union funds to the Dunnes Stores strike fund. However, the motion which generated the most debate was one condemning SPUC's attempts "to obstruct and deny women access to information on fertility control and pregnancy counselling". Immediately after the vote on this issue was carried, the father of the NUJ chapel at the *Irish Independent*, Kevin Moore, who is also vice-chairperson of the union's Irish Industrial Council, announced he was resigning from the union and walked out of the conference.

\*\*\*  
The jobs of 400 workers at the Japanese Asahi company at Killala, County Mayo, are in jeopardy over management's determination to steamroll the workforce into accepting their dictates. At the centre of the dispute are nine electricians who were sacked when they refused to use their private transport for company business. Workers at the company's two plants are outraged at management's "negotiating" tactics on this issue and a spokesperson points to the fact that "talks were in progress when the workers, members of the ETU and the AUEW, were dismissed".

\*\*\*  
Further confirmation of the decline of the high-tech industry in the twenty-six counties comes with the closure of

Information Sources Ltd in Galway. The company ceased operations on Monday, October 21st, with the loss of 50 jobs, and a Limerick receiver, Dermot Fitzgerald, has been appointed. Information Sources Ltd was established in August 1982 for the purpose of compiling computer databases to service the software library market.

\*\*\*  
Sna sé chondae an tseachtain seo caite chuaigh gníomhaíocht na muinteoirí on NAS-UWT agus INTO i bhfeidhm ar gach ceantar oideachais. Dé Máirt 15 Deireadh Fomhair bhí 279 scoil dúnta le leathlae agus bhí níos mó ná míle muinteoir páirteach sa stailc. Dé Cheadaoin 16 Deireadh Fomhair bhí an gníomh céanna á ghlacadh sa limistéar thoir thuaidh agus Déardaoin bhí muinteoirí sna meán-scoileanna i mBéal Feirste agus sna bunscoileanna i gceantar an iarthair ar stailc.

\*\*\*  
The Dunnes Stores anti-apartheid strike at Henry Street, Dublin, has been escalated in recent weeks with round-the-clock pickets frustrating scab deliveries of basic foodstuffs.

Two of the Dunnes strikers, Karen Gearon and Michelle Gavin, returned from a nine-day visit to the United States on Tuesday week, October 15th, where they addressed the United Nations Special Committee Against Apartheid.

As well as speaking at a mass rally outside Citibank on 53rd Street (one of the largest investors in South Africa), the strikers met representatives from the ANC, South African Congress of Trade Unions and SWAPO. Talks were also held with former presidential candidate Jesse Jackson and Cleveland Robson, head of the US equivalent of the Dunnes strikers' union.

The visit was organised by the AFL-CIO, the American counterpart of the ICTU.

\*\*\*  
AnCO, the Free State training authority, found itself in the District Court this week after reneging on a promise to two former trainees. The pair were promised three months work after completion of a 16-week training course in career guidance schemes. They didn't even get to complete the initial course and found themselves back on the dole queue.

Rather than take this lying down, they initiated court proceedings against AnCO for breach of contract, but before the case reached court AnCO settled outside and reputedly gave the complainants £2,500 apiece.



**THE UNCERTAINTY** surrounding 25-year-old Derry woman Angela Whoriskey, whom the RUC appear to be pressuring to act as a paid-perjuror, continued over the past week, during which 11 local men and women were charged.

Of 14 people arrested in mass raids across Derry on Tuesday last, October 15th, 12 have since been charged with alleged IRA-related activities, on the basis of statements allegedly signed by Whoriskey. Of these, five were subsequently granted bail and one has been freed.

One of the accused, Philomena Little from Shantallow, who suffers from high blood pressure, had given birth to her second child only five days before her arrest, she was charged on Monday at a special court in the military wing of Musgrave Park Hospital, where she had been denied access to her baby, her family and her own doctor.

Meanwhile, details have emerged of brutal beatings suffered by several of those arrested during interrogation. By means of this ill-treatment, the RUC presumably intended to pressure several people into signing self-incriminating statements and/or acting as paid-perjurors.

#### ASSAULTED

In Castlereagh, John Donnelly was forced to stand against the wall for long periods, and when he collapsed or attempted to sit, he was pulled up by the hair and assaulted. Patrick McEleny, who is married with one child, and Tommy Mellon were also severely beaten.

Meanwhile the RUC seem intent on convincing Angela Whoriskey that there is no going back by separating her from all points of local contact, to the extent that last Wednesday her 18-month-old daughter, her father Henry, brother

# Tarnished justice



Last Thursday night, October 17th, a torchlight procession of 300 people marched from the Bogside to Derry's Strand Road RUC Station, where they mounted a half-hour silent vigil against the Derry arrests. The protestors, who included relatives of those arrested, and Sinn Féin elected representatives, refused to disperse despite a heavy and intimidatory RUC presence on the streets throughout the march and despite repeated RUC warnings that the peaceful protest was "illegal" and that everyone there was liable to prosecution.

Joseph and sister Marie were removed from Derry by the RUC. Whoriskey is charged with the killing

of RUC Inspector Norman Duddy in March 1982, and a bail hearing on Thursday last, October 17th, was clearly de-

signed to remove her into RUC custody, which the RUC presumably hoped would secure their hold over her. The application was supported by crown lawyers, but the High Court judge refused it, citing previous precedents, and also presumably out of fear of future criticisms of RUC-judicial collusion should Whoriskey eventually retract.

#### IMAGE

Similar concern at the tarnished image of the North's colonial judiciary was in evidence on Tuesday, October 22nd, when one of the accused, John Donnelly, who is charged with possession of a rifle, applied for bail.

Donnelly's lawyers pointed out that Whoriskey's counsel had stated in court last week that they do not necessarily accept her statements as true and voluntary. In response, Diplock judge MacDermott cautiously ordered the prosecution to determine whether or not Whoriskey definitely intends to give evidence.

MacDermott ordered the report to be given at a resumed hearing on Friday.

#### CYNICISM

The man freed on Monday was Thomas Mellon, Sinn Féin's Derry organiser, whose case shows the cynicism behind current RUC efforts to 'refine' the discredited paid-perjuror system.

Mellon was charged with alleged IRA membership. He was freed after a Belfast magistrate was told that he has twice been tried on exactly the same charge, covering the same period of time, on the word of paid-perjurors Robert Quigley and Raymond Gilmour, and was acquitted on both occasions.

"That seems to be an unanswerable point," said the magistrate in a gentle — and belated — rebuke to the RUC.

Mellon had been detained for two years on those previous charges — two such injustices, it would seem, are quite acceptable to the North's courts, but three are just 'a bit too much'.

## Trades unionists visit Armagh

A DELEGATION of nine trades unionists visited Armagh on Wednesday, October 23rd, following a meeting in London on Tuesday night. The delegation was led by the Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU) and included representatives from the Irish Labour Party, the Irish Socialist Republican Party, and the Irish Republican Socialist Party.

The delegation was met by the Armagh Trades Union Committee (ATUC) and the Armagh Trades Union Council (ATUC) at the Armagh Town Hall. The ATUC is a committee of the ATUC and the ATUC is a council of the ATUC.

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Matt Merrigan, outgoing president of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions, described the visit as a "visit of solidarity" and said that the delegation was "informed" of the issues of concern to the people of Armagh. He said that the delegation was "informed" of the issues of concern to the people of Armagh.

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The protestors then blocked the road for 20 minutes.

Members of the Clondalkin, Ballyfermot and Inchicore Stop the Strip-Searches action groups picketed Ballyfermot Senior College on Tuesday, October 22nd, where Coalition Minister of State for Women's Affairs Paula Ferrel was presenting certificates. Leaflets were handed out and the picketers stood outside the college for 20 minutes.

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#### STRIP-SEARCH PICKETS

The re-opening of Dublin's

and its collection of the would be seeking a visit to Portlaoise Prison to investigate allegations of strip-searching there.

The re-opening of Dublin's



James Coyle Wray points to the death threat to his son's life

that they are being terrorised and victimised by "state terrorists, masquerading in uniform as a law and order force protecting the community".

Sinn Féin councillor for the area, Mitchel McLaughlin, said that: "All such threats should be

noted down and taken seriously, considering the number of times threats like these have been made in the past, and the intended victim later murdered by the British army, RUC, SAS or loyalist groups, in mysterious circumstances."

## Derry death threat

IN THE EARLY HOURS of Tuesday, October 8th, British soldiers were spotted spraying slogans on the gable wall of the Wray home in the Bogside area of Derry.

The death threat — "Wray you are dead meat" — was directed at 22-year-old John Wray, who for almost a year now has been the victim of a rigorous and sustained campaign of intimidation and harassment by the RUC and British army. The victimisation of John Wray began soon after his release last year from three days of incarceration in Strand Road interrogation centre. Since that time he has

back three times by British paratroopers on Bloody Sunday 1972, and John has been taunted about his brother's death on countless occasions by RUC and British army personnel.

It is not surprising, then, that the family are taking last Tuesday's death threat very seriously. John's father, James Coyle Wray, spoke to AP/RN of his concern for his son's life, and said that people who are being terrorised by British army death threats should organise together and make it known to the public



**GARDAI** launched a vicious attack on members of the **Concerned Parents against Drugs movement (CPAD)** in Dublin's Liberties on Wednesday, October 23rd.

Since last weekend, local people and anti-drugs protestors from around the city had been picketing the house of a woman known as 'Ma Baker' and her family who are widely believed to be heroin-pushers in the area.

After the family finally left the house in Cathedral View near Clanbrassil Street on Wednesday morning, members of the CPAD and local residents occupied the house to prevent the family from returning. About 150 residents had gathered outside the house, which was surrounded by gardai.

Clad in riot helmets and armed with shields and batons, the gardai used a battering-ram and hatchets to break down the doors and get at the protestors who were occupying an upstairs bedroom. They then forced the protestors to run a gauntlet of batons and kicks, out of the bedroom and down the stairs. One occupier jumped out the window and was batoned as he fell to the ground.

## MERCILESS

Many people were injured in the merciless use of batons by the gardai. One man suffered a suspected fractured skull and was rushed to St James' Hospital.

Also badly injured was John Coombes of the Liberties CPAD who was knocked down by a black Maria and trampled by gardai. He sustained two broken toes and was also

**BY MAIRTI  
MACDIARMADA**

suffering from chest pains when he was taken to hospital.

Over 20 people were arrested and taken to Kevin Street Barracks. Many of these were injured and in need of immediate medical attention. They included several people with head wounds inflicted by batons and Sinn Fein member and anti-drugs activist Rose Dugdale whose arm had been broken after she was thrown down the stairs. The gardai refused to let relatives or friends see any of the arrested.

## ASSEMBLED

Meanwhile, a large crowd gathered outside Kevin Street Barracks. By 8pm around 300 people had assembled and the gardai began to release the protestors one by one, having charged them with breach of the peace, trespass and assault. As they came out they were greeted with enthusiastic applause and cheered through the crowd amid shouts of "Pushers out!" and "Gardai want the pushers in!"

Among those injured and arrested was John Hedges, Dublin Sinn Fein publicity officer, who was covering the protest for AP/RN, and John Crabbe, a Sinn Fein community worker in the South Inner City.

When all the people had been released 'Whacker' Humphries, a leading anti-drugs activist from St Theresa's Gardens, who had also been detained, spoke to the crowd:

"We have seen today the extent of police brutality. We know the gardai have been protecting drug-pushers but we

# Vicious garda assault on Concerned Parents



● John Hedges, Dublin Sinn Fein PRO (left), and other CPAD supporters are brutally dragged into garda custody

say to them that Ma Baker doesn't get back no matter what they do."

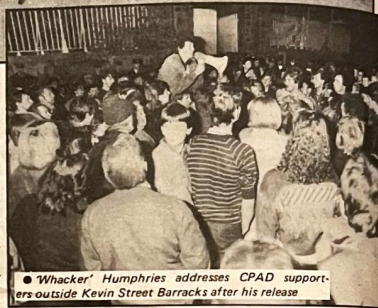
He said that in the house they had found a contact number for the local barracks and for the garda Task Force.

## GARDA COLLUSION

The true extent of the garda collusion with suspected drug-pushers can be gauged from the fact that the protestors also found containers filled with

petrol and milk bottles in the bedrooms of the house. The gardai had been in and out of the house several times yet turned a blind eye to what was obviously a preparation to petrol-bomb the anti-drugs protestors.

The overwhelming feeling among the people on Wednesday night's protest was that the community had scored a victory against drug-pushers despite the brutality of the gardai.



● 'Whacker' Humphries addresses CPAD supporters outside Kevin Street Barracks after his release

# Section 31 under fire

**BY MAIRTI  
MACDIARMADA**

**OPENING** a meeting of over 300 people in Dublin's Liberty Hall on Thursday, October 17th, Nicky Kelly described Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act as censorship "worthy of a totalitarian form of government".

He said that the Repeal Section 31 Committee had been formed to oppose political censorship of the media in all its forms. Kelly pointed out that a large section of political opinion was excluded from the airwaves by Section 31 and the committee was pledged to defend those disenfranchised by the legislation.

Before introducing the main speakers, he outlined the provisions of the ministerial order under Section 31 and the history of its implementation.

The first guest speaker was Sean MacBride who described Section 31 as a "grave breach of the fundamental human right of free speech". He said that he disagreed profoundly with the Supreme Court decision which had upheld Section 31, and linked this with the continuing collaboration between British and Free State forces and the Supreme Court decisions in regard to extradition. The rights of the individual were under attack and censorship was a basic part of that process.

Ulick O'Connor said that there was no country in the world where the censorship of people for their links with political 'violence' was less logical than in Ireland. For years the Republican Move-



● Michael Farrell speaks to the Liberty Hall meeting

ment had been urged by constitutionalists to "enter politics" and now that Sinn Fein had become involved in elections the answer was censorship by the state.

John Doyle, president of the Union of Students in Ireland, which is affiliated to the campaign, said that Section 31 was totally undemocratic. It went beyond the mere exclusion of Sinn Fein and IRA spokespersons from RTE because it created an atmosphere of self-censorship in Montrose. This affected RTE's news coverage not only of six-county events but all current affairs.

Journalist and historian Michael Farrell

stated that RTE had become a laughing-stock in its coverage of political events with silent film of Sinn Fein speakers, and *Today Tonight's* interviews by proxy Faul and the loyalists. Farrell stressed the importance of exposing the duplicity of Fianna Fail on Section 31 which had been introduced by them in its original form.

## INACTION

In the open discussion which followed, RTE journalists came under fire for what was seen as their inaction on censorship. However, in what Nicky Kelly

described as an "unprecedented decision by both broadcasting and print unions", an Irish consultative conference of the National Union of Journalists has called for a one-day strike when Section 31 comes up for renewal next January.

An anti-censorship motion put before the conference on Saturday, October 19th, was amended by the RTE branch of the union to make specific reference to Section 31 and to call on the NUJ industrial council to organise the strike of all journalists in newspapers and broadcasting on the day of its expected renewal.



BY JANE PLUNKETT

THE recent ordeal of three County Tyrone cousins in Gough Barracks has again highlighted the sordid methods used by the RUC in their desperation to glean any information from the nationalist community.

In the notorious Gough Barracks Interrogation Centre, Armagh, RUC Special Branchmen physically assaulted the three men, offered large sums of cash and threatened imprisonment and death, in an attempt to pressurise the three into working for them in the Carrickmore area.

Cousins Barney Gallagher (22), Cathal Kelly (23) and Danny Gallagher (24) were arrested from their homes in the Loughmacrory area at around 7am on Monday, October 7th, and taken to Gough under seven-day detention orders.

During repeated physical assaults on the second day of his detention, Barney Gallagher was throttled, held forcibly against a wall, and kicked in the groin. He was also beaten several times about the head and ears.

#### RELEASED WITHOUT CHARGE

The RUC cynically claimed that if Gallagher agreed to collaborate "there'll be no call to give us anything for six months, so nobody would ever suspect you".

However, Barney Gallagher continued to ignore them, and was released without charge the following Saturday.

Danny Gallagher was also intensively interrogated in Gough for 12 hours each day. He was subjected to continual verbal abuse, his family were abused, and he was physically assaulted several times.

"On Monday they kept pushing me off



● DANNY GALLAGHER, CATHAL KELLY & BARNEY GALLAGHER

the chair and lifting me up by the hair. Three or four times they banged my head off the wall, and on Tuesday they did it more."

# BRIBES AND THREATS IN GOUGH

On Tuesday evening he was examined by a doctor who noted bruising on his head and shin.

"They offered me £200 if I could find a dump, £500 for every rifle. They showed me money in a wallet. An RUC man said that if I didn't cooperate by next year I'd be in prison or dead. They said they could get the UVF to do it."

#### SIGN STATEMENTS

Cathal Quinn was also assaulted, offered cash and subjected to death threats. Both he and Danny Gallagher were told that, if they would sign statements 'confessing' to a small part in alleged IRA activities and if they agreed to work for the RUC after their release, they would get a "light" sentence.

Despite this intense pressure, both remained silent, ignoring the RUC's threats, and they were released without charge on Friday, October 11th.

These latest incidents follow persistent harassment of the Gallagher family, which has included frequent, sometimes weekly, house raids, and threats against other family members.

And on Monday night, October 21st, Barney Gallagher was again arrested by the RUC and held outside Carrickmore Barracks for two hours while his car was ransacked. At 5am the next morning, he was detained outside his house by a large force of RUC and UDR and held for about ten minutes on his way to work.

#### HARASSMENT STEPPED UP

The RUC has recently stepped up their harassment, particularly of young people, in the Carrickmore area, local Sinn Féin Councillor James McElduff told AP/RN this week.

"The RUC has shown again that they are prepared to use any method of blackmail. Anyone who is arrested and subjected to RUC threats or blackmail should contact Sinn Féin immediately on their release, since publicity is their only form of protection."

McElduff also reminded local people to report to Sinn Féin all incidents of harassment and sightings of undercover crown forces.

## RUC arrest Lurgan children

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

OUTRAGED PARENTS in Lurgan, North Armagh, are seeking legal advice following the illegal abduction and questioning of their children by the RUC on Sunday, October 20th.

Jean Harbinson from the nationalist Lurganratty estate was one of three parents who were alarmed to discover their children had been ordered into an RUC landrover and questioned in Lurgan Barracks following the shooting of an RUC man at the golf club earlier that day.

She told AP/RN:

"We tell our children to stay away from strange cars, not to talk to strange men and the RUC come and put them into strange cars. They could have taken them anywhere. Only that people saw them being taken and told me, I would never have known where my son was or what was happen-

ing to him."

Rory Harbinson (13) had been playing with friends in a popular wooded area near the golf course when the shooting took place. Shortly afterwards, Rory, Linda Wright (14) and two other teenagers were questioned about the shooting by the RUC, before being ordered into a landrover. They were then transferred to an RUC car and told to crouch down so that no-one would see them.

#### BRIBED

In the barracks, the children were bribed in an attempt to get



The scene of the children's arrest

them to talk. After bringing in sandwiches, an RUC man told the children they would get lemonade if they answered questions.

Linda Wright recalls: "We didn't know what to do. I was shaking. The RUC man went out after he banged the table and told us we'd get pop when we began to answer his questions. When he came back, he drew out a plan of where the shooting had taken place and

where we'd been standing. Michelle was biting her nails and he hit her on the hand and told her not to bite her nails."

When Mrs Harbinson arrived at Lurgan Barracks, she was at first informed that her son was not there. However, when she persisted and gained admission, she discovered the children sitting alone in the interrogation room and took them home immediately.

## Road safety measure rejected

BY NUALA DOHERTY

THREE HUNDRED RESIDENTS from the Derrybeg and Carnagat estates in Newry marched to the town centre on Saturday, October 19th, to highlight the dangers faced by children crossing the Camlough Road, ten days after a young boy had been knocked down and killed.

Since 1982 three people have been killed at the same black spot on the Camlough Road, which divides the two estates. The latest victim was 14-year-old Bernard Hughes. Tragically, his 16-year-old sister was killed on the same spot three years ago.

Residents from Derrybeg and Carnagat have made continuous protests to the DOE about this hazardous road, but so far have received no satisfaction.

#### MEETING

At a meeting with representa-

tives of the DOE road services and residents in Newry's Town Hall, on Monday, October 21st, Bernie Hughes, father of two of the road victims, blamed his children's deaths on speeding motorists, poor road lighting, faulty traffic lights and inadequate road signs. He suggested several ways in which the DOE could make the road safer.

One proposal was that ramps be put on the road, which would force motorists to reduce their speed.

This proposal was immediately

rejected by an RUC chief inspector for who attended the meeting on invitation from the DOE. His interest in the people's safety soon crumbled when the proposal for the ramps was put forward and his true concern became quite apparent: the continued RUC patrolling of nationalist areas, which the ramps on Camlough Road might hinder.

#### NOT SATISFACTORY

Sinn Féin councillor for the area Brendan Curran attended the meeting in the town hall and afterwards told AP/RN:

"Despite the fact that three people have already been killed on this road, the DOE have continued to talk of road improvements in the long term. This is not a satisfactory response to



● DOE official under pressure from local residents in Newry

concerned local people. We will be continuing our protests, demanding immediate action, so as to prevent more unnecessary deaths."



BY KEVIN MCCOOL

# ROSSVILLE

## BASTION OF RESISTANCE

FOR almost 20 years Rossville flats in Derry's Bogside has figured prominently in that city's history. The people who lived and still live there have survived fire, flood, raids and massacres. Their spirit has not been broken by their surroundings or by the frequent attacks by the crown forces. With the first phase of demolition of the flats completed, AP/RN traces the history of Rossville flats and shows how what was intended as a tool of repression by the unionists of Derry became a bastion of resistance since the Battle of the Bogside in August 1969.

IN A RECENT article entitled 'Architecture as Colonialism', English Architect Brian Anson wrote "many longstanding community cultures have been violently destroyed under the guise of architectural development". This is exactly what happened to the generations-old Bogside community in the 1960s, when a widesweeping redevelopment scheme — of which high-rise flats formed part — was pushed through against the wishes of the great majority of the 5,000 people it affected.

A front-page headline in the *Derry Journal* of February 21st 1961 announced that "the Lecky Road area of Derry city will be so utterly changed in about ten years time as to be unrecognisable, if revolutionary plans are carried to their ultimate conclusion."

Revolutionary plans were something that the unionist-controlled Derry Corporation hoped never to have to introduce. Since the foundation of the Orange state, they had ruled the Catholic majority Derry city mainly through the political control of the gerrymander — by situating all Catholics in the South Ward of the city and building as few houses there as possible.

BY the late '50s, the misery and deprivation wrought on this sectarian policy of neglect was nearing a crisis point and an Act of Parliament of 1956 had made it compulsory for local authorities to redevelop substandard housing. The Corporation and the Housing Trust would have to build new homes for the Catholic Bogside, but the South Ward had already reached saturation point — there was no space left to build on.

Flat construction was the one way which would allow the unionist Corporation to build without having to extend the city boundary and thus upset the political balance by which they remained in control. Flat construction was the architectural craze of the '60s but, in the hands of the Derry unionists, it became a very useful tool to keep the 60% Catholic population of the city politically powerless and poverty-stricken for further generations.

The unionists and their architects quickly drew up plans for six blocks of 15-storey high-rise flats to be built

on the one remaining piece of land in the South Ward — an old cattle market in the Bogside, just below the city walls. (Three storeys and eventually three blocks were deleted from the plan when it was discovered — that 15 storeys would obscure the scenic beauty of the unionists' beloved Derry walls).

THERE was nothing ironical about the choice of a cattle market for the site of the flats. Ten years later a unionist Mayor of Derry was to say on visiting the Rossville flats, that they weren't fit to put cattle in, but in the '60s the 'Londonderry' Corporation thought the flats more than good enough for Catholics. The plan for the Rossville flats was meant to be a political experiment which, if successful, would be repeated right across the six-county state wherever the unionist gerrymander was threatened.

The people of the Bogside, however, were not willing to see their area 'so utterly changed as to be unrecognisable'. The Bogside community of the time had a warm, thriving social life, and the majority of Bogsidians, though they lived in incredibly overcrowded and cramped old terraced houses, did not want their area redeveloped if it meant the destruction of their community. And they definitely did not want to see 12-storey monster flats rising up in their midst. Many people owned their own homes and businesses and the redevelopment scheme planned to wipe out 87 shops and 27 public houses and to replace

them with only 40 shops and 8 public houses. Though most of them, by their own admission, were politically naive at the time and used to accepting the decrees of the church and state without question, nevertheless, the people of the Bogside set about organising resistance against the redevelopment scheme and the flats.

A survey taken in March 1961 found that, out of 145 Bogside families interviewed, 97% were totally against flats of any kind. There was already evidence coming from America and Europe that high-rise flats were a social disaster and some Bogsidians had lived long enough in the tenements of Glasgow to sense that high-rise flats were the same thing all over again.

HOWEVER, the unionists of Derry, with their means of political control already chosen, were not used to listening to the passive pleas of Catholics. They issued vestment orders, and in their usual sectarian manner set about brutally bulldozing the Rossville Street area, and building high flats.

The passive resistance of the Bogsidians was not enough and, even though some (like Thomas Keys and Ellen McDonnell) fought to the last and had to be forcibly evicted, the people of the area more or less stoically accepted the demolition of their homes and hummed the tune of *Little Boxes* (a song in the charts at the time) as Laings the builders constructed their new high-rise homes.

Looking back on it now, those who tried to resist development realise that they were fighting a battle they could never hope to win. For the nationalist party had

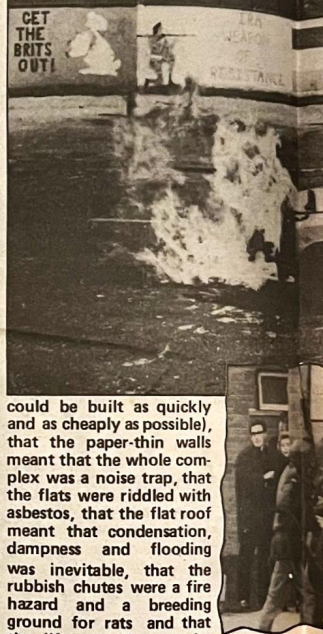
approved the plan and was openly campaigning for high-rise flats and, more importantly, the Catholics of Derry were living in inhuman conditions of squalor (the housing list was nine years long) and could not be expected to resist the temptation of a fully-decorated flat with fitted coverings, an inside toilet, a bathroom and hot water.

THE first residents moved into the flats in May 1966 and found them to be "beautiful and luxurious", like dream homes compared to the hovels they had been living in before. The dream-home syndrome didn't take very long to wear off though.

A headline in the *Derry Journal* of October 1967 quoted a Liverpool Professor of Architecture as saying that "High-rise flats will be ghettos of untouchables in 30 years time". The Rossville flats were to be ghettos in less than a third of that time. Before the end of 1967, the Rossville residents had already made their first major complaint to the Housing Trust, when the courtyard of the flats, promised as the children's playground, was converted into a city centre car park.

When Housing Trust architects and officials escorted people around their model show-piece flat, they said nothing whatsoever about the multiple social and health problems that the residents would have to face during the next 20 years. Instead, prospective tenants were told of the 'modern design and labour-saving features of the new flats', which was exactly what they wanted to hear.

DESPITE their desperation for decent accommodation, it is doubtful if people would have moved into the flats had they been told the whole truth — that the flats were constructed to a very cheap design using the Sectra system of pre-fabricated units (so that they



could be built as quickly and as cheaply as possible), that the paper-thin walls meant that the whole complex was a noise trap, that the flats were riddled with asbestos, that the flat roof meant that condensation, dampness and flooding was inevitable, that the rubbish chutes were a fire hazard and a breeding ground for rats and that the lifts would never be regularly maintained and so never work properly.

The residents were to discover all these things very soon but the biggest problem in their first year was adjusting to the change of environment. New residents, especially old people, went through a drastic change in lifestyle. A present resident of the flats, who was middle-aged when he first moved in, remembers that it took him two years to adjust to an environment of lifts, stairwells and overhead balconies. How the old people and those with young families adjusted, he still does not know. Many old people had phobias about going into the lifts and often remained in their flats for days, afraid to go out.

THE people of the Bogside had been coaxed, tempted, bullied and bulldozed out of their caring, close-knit community

— where, for all the misery, many still found themselves isolated in a cold environment with off no feelings, unity warmth, unity warmth, unity warmth.

And the most of all was that had moved into was very difficult possible, to get out realised very soon were trapped and in a brutal environment which no architect bureaucrat would

When the fight in 1969, the flats were presented opportunity to the on these conditions had condemned in these conditions confronted with the violence of the and 'B' Specials



# FLATS



— where, for all their poverty, many still had a garden, a backyard and a local corner shop — and now found themselves socially isolated in a cold, inhuman environment which gave off no feelings of community warmth or attachment.

And the mocking thing of all was that once they had moved into the flats it was very difficult, if not impossible, to get out. The people realised very soon that they were trapped and imprisoned in a brutal environment, in which no architect, planner or bureaucrat would live.

When the fighting broke out in 1969, the people of the flats were pressed with an opportunity to see their frustrations on the regime which had condemned them to live in these conditions. When confronted with the open, naked violence of the leading RUC and 'B' Specials rather than

the institutionalised violence of flat-building), this time their response was not so lame or passive.

When the sectarian police forces of the loyalist state invaded the Bogside in August 1969, 'HM Prison Rossville' backfired on its creators and became the bastion of the defence of the Bogside, so entering the folklore of Derry forever.

A few teenagers climbed up on to the roof of the flats and from this commanding height hurled petrol bombs into the middle of the rampaging hordes of RUC and Apprentice Boys sending them scurrying for cover. While the loyalist forces were held back by a constant hail of petrol bombs from the vanguard on the roof, a barricade was thrown across Ross-

ville Street and, although all the CS gas canisters of the RUC were concentrated on the roof of the flats, it was so high up that the wind blew most of the gas away and the defenders of the Bogside remained 'untouchable'.

Eventually, after 48 hours of bitter resistance, during which a giant catapult was erected on the roof of the flats, the RUC invaders were repelled and the tired fighters of the Bogside emerged victorious. When the smoke cleared, the Tricolour and Starry Plough flew over the Bogside from the roof of the high flats, signalling to the RUC and their Orange masters that an oppressed people had risen from their knees and the days of unchallenged unionist domination were over.

The Rossville flats had proved to be strategically decisive in the battle and no one had any doubt that without

them all would have been lost. The vanguard on the roof were the heroes of the city, quickly immortalised in the traditional street ballad *The Battle of Foxes Corner*:

"Come now lads and raise your hats,  
Here's to the lads on top of the flats,  
Down Rossville Street they drove the cops,

At the Battle of Foxes Corner."  
The last verse refers directly to the bulldozing of the Bogside community and the fighting spirit of the Bogside people in their new high-rise homes.

"Foxes Corner is knocked down,  
In the flats in the market the people are found,  
They put up a fight to the very last round,"

Farewell to Foxes Corner."

**T**HE RUC have never forgotten the humiliating defeat inflicted on them that August in 1969 and, ever since, they and the British army have been punishing the people of the flats. So not surprisingly, the flats have been besieged, curfewed and brutally raided countless times in the last 15 years.

It was on Bloody Sunday 1972 that the crown forces wreaked revenge on the rebellious inhabitants of Rossville flats, when the inner courtyard of the complex was turned into a murderous shooting gallery by bloodthirsty British paratroopers. When the massacre began, the peaceful demonstrators ran to the flats for refuge and protection, but 14 people were never to escape.

The day-to-day punishment value of high-rise flats has aided the British army quite considerably in their ceaseless campaign of persecution against the people who live there. Throughout the '70s, the flats were deteriorating rapidly and the residents were left to suffer the brutal conditions because the Housing Executive (HE) was using the 'troubles' as an excuse to do only minor repairs. All the people have ever got from the HE is broken promises and cosmetic spruce-up campaigns.

**R**ESearch is now uncovering the emotional traumas and multiple health problems suffered by people in high flats.

In common with all such complexes, there is a constantly grey atmosphere of social isolation, alienation and demoralisation. Rossville residents have always come together in times of emergency (such as the massive fire last year) to form action groups and demolition committees, but they are still loathe to say that there is a community spirit in the flats, at least not in the sense of the warm neighbourly feeling they remember from their old homes in the Bogside. High-rise flats do not make for a warm community spirit, instead they leave a stigma and a sense of hopelessness in the minds of their inhabitants.

The difference between the residents of the high flats of Rossville and Divis and those of other high flats and tower blocks outside the Orange

state is that, while they all suffer from the same social problems and social stigma, and have to deal with the same type of housing officials, on top of all that the people of Rossville and Divis have to suffer a foreign occupation force waging a continual war of repression on their doorsteps.

**A**FTER the 'Operation Motorman' invasion of July 1972, the British army, knowing the strategic worth of the flats, set up three observation posts on top of the roofs, from where they could keep a close surveillance on the whole of the Bogside area.

This never prevented the youth of the Bogside from using the flats to wage ferocious pitched battles with crown forces throughout the '70s, during the hunger-strike period and right up to the present day when the Bogside republican youth used the very walls of the ready-to-be demolished block as missiles to be hurled down on the RUC and British army beneath them.

Nor has the British army occupation ever prevented the IRA from using the flats to mount daring acts of resistance. On November 24th 1973, two British soldiers were executed by IRA Volunteers who went up in the lift and opened fire on the observation post. This hated post was a continual target for IRA attacks right up to and during 1982 when it was finally dismantled. Less than a year ago, in November 1984, in another daring attack in the Rossville Street block, two British soldiers were seriously injured when the IRA detonated a controlled bomb in an empty flat on the eight floor.

**D**ESPITE the fact then that high-rise flats are an environment which breed feelings of apathy, despair and powerlessness in the face of authority, there has always been a strong, courageous spirit of resistance in the great stairwells and concrete balconies of 'HM Prison Rossville'. Community morale has at times been low.

But at other times — such as the tenth anniversary of the Battle of the Bogside in 1979, when the flats were turned into a three-day no-go area, and during the hunger-strike and after when republican murals began to be painted all around the flats, and again in May of this year when Derry Sinn Fein youth held an all-night concert of Irish traditional music in the courtyard, the spirit of freedom in the hearts of the people has risen high above the inhuman conditions and soul-less environment which gave it birth.

The British colonial rulers, their army, and their architects, are afraid of this flame of resistance, set alight by the petrol-bombs of August '69 and burning brighter than ever today in the Rossville flats. This is why they have ordered the demolition of the first block.

The Rossville flats were built by the Derry unionists in the '60s to politically control the Catholics of the Bogside, and the British army, in

the '70s and '80s have tried to utilise the architecture of the flats for social control.

**T**HE enclosed structure and design of the complex has made it easy for the army to seal off and contain the people inside, during their frequent raids and curfews, by placing armoured personnel carriers across the few exits (on Bloody Sunday, the courtyard of the flats was very easily turned into a firing range in this way).

The alienating and claustrophobic environment of the flats was intended to demoralise, traumatise and terrorise the inhabitants and to psychologically torture them into giving up all notions of rebellion or defiance. But the people of the flats have reacted fiercely to every attempt to wall them in (every time a wall was built around the flats it was immediately knocked down) and refuse to bow down to all oppression (military, social or architectural). This has changed the thinking of British military strategists into viewing the flats as a breeding ground for 'terrorism' and of more use to urban guerrillas than it is to the repressive state.

So, in the new counter-insurgency architecture being perfected in the six counties over the last 17 years, the Rossville flats will not exist. The new model environment (which, in the eyes of the 'experts', will produce model citizens) is the scenic suburban housing estate (built to military specifications) with wide-open spaces and cul-de-sacs to make surveillance from the air easy, one exit/entrance which can easily be sealed off, and reinforced, tarmacadam pavements to make the estates riot-proof and able to withstand the weight of heavy armoured vehicles.

**S**O that a much more secure and insidious prison can be built in its place, 'HM Prison Rossville' is being pulled down (and just like the Rossville flats in the 60s, the new military housing estates are being portrayed as dream homes).

This is the long-term counter-insurgency plan but at the moment the plan only includes the demolition of one block and the sealing-off and separation of the other two blocks from each other. With the Rossville Street wing gone, the British army will find it easier to keep a close watch on the inhabitants and will be able to invade and occupy the flats with even greater ease than before.

Derry republicans, however, should not bemoan the end of the flats just because they are a symbol of resistance. The Rossville flats should never have been built in the first place, and when all three blocks finally come down, the people can regard it as a victory.

Once again British counter-insurgency 'experts' will have to learn a hard lesson. If the Hell Blocks of Long Kesh, Armagh, Divis and Rossville cannot hold the free spirit of a risen people, then what chance do new 'military-planned' housing estates have of containing and controlling that spirit of freedom?



BY CHARLIE McFADDEN

THE Dublin government's long-awaited response to the urgent and growing problem of homelessness in the twenty-six counties was finally published on Thursday, October 17th. Called the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 1985, it was initially welcomed by Sinn Féin as "a small step in the right direction".

This is a recognition by Sinn Féin that any improvements (no matter how small) which alleviate hardship and suffering are generally to be encouraged. The statement went on, however, to make a number of valid criticisms.

Disappointment was expressed that:

- The Bill does not impose any statutory obligation on local authorities to provide accommodation for the homeless;
- There is no absolute obligation on central government to provide funding to local authorities who take their obligations to the homeless seriously.

#### SIMON

At a press conference last Friday, Brian Harvey, information officer for Simon, also welcomed the Bill. While describing it as a "positive and constructive development", he also stressed that the Bill did have "a number of major defects".

For example, the Bill states that the local authorities only have to "take such steps as they consider appropriate" to ensure that accommodation is provided for homeless people. Simon maintain that a local authority which gives a tiny grant to a voluntary organisation providing assistance to the homeless, therefore, could be considered "within the technical requirements of the Bill".

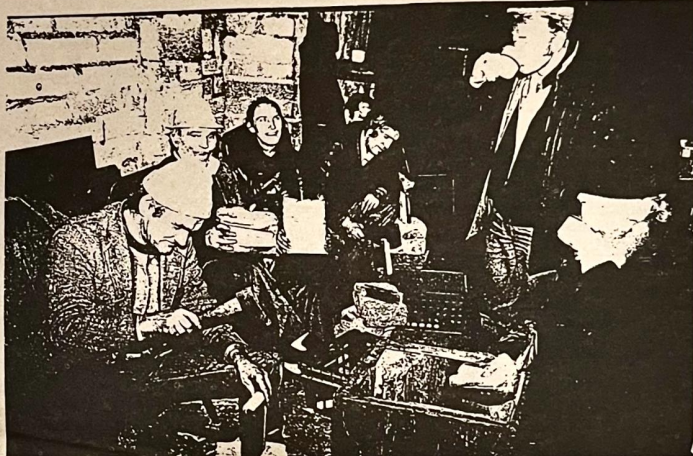
#### 'INTENTIONALITY'

Criticism was also levelled at

# A small step in the right direction



• BRIAN HARVEY



the inclusion of the 'intentionality' clause. This clause allows an authority to turn away anyone who they deem to have made themselves intentionally homeless. But according to Brian Harvey:

"We have found from our studies of the British situation

that some local authorities who do not wish to operate the (Homeless Persons) Act have used the intentionality clause to turn away substantial numbers of homeless applicants... In other words the Act is used in Britain as a means whereby local authorities faced with cash short-

ages can regulate housing demand."

He then went on to cite a number of cases where people had been declared intentionally homeless in Britain.

For example the House of Lords' decision which ruled that people are intentionally homeless

if they leave a property from which they are due to be evicted before the eviction takes place. "That is, you must go through the full experience of actually been thrown out on the street", Harvey commented.

#### JUDGEMENTAL

Other defects include the inclusion of the clause whereby homeless people must be 'deemed capable of independent living.' Simon have consistently stressed the need for supportive and after-care services to be provided to homeless people after they have been re-housed. Brian Harvey describes this clause as "scandalously judgemental" and rightly points out that it does not apply to any other local authority tenant.

The definition of 'homeless' in the Bill is described as too narrow by the Simon statement, which says that:

- Women who have become homeless because of domestic violence are outside the scope of the Bill;
- People threatened with homelessness are not included;
- Travellers are not included.

Simon concluded by stating that they would be making "vigorous representations" to all bodies concerned to ensure that the Bill is amended.

#### CONDITIONS

However, even if the Bill is amended to meet the Simon Community's requirements, it will not do away with the social and economic conditions which created the problem in the first place.

In other words, while the Bill goes some way to tackle the symptoms of homelessness, the basic causes remain untouched. Preventing homelessness, and indeed all social evils, calls for a planned and integrated policy involving the health, housing, education and social services working on a co-ordinated basis to attack these causes.

Until such a policy is formulated homelessness will remain an unnecessary injustice.



## Derry debate

IN PREPARATION for next month's Ard-Fheis, Derry Sinn Féin held a well-attended day-long internal political meeting in the Rosemount Gaeilars on Saturday, October 19th.

The aim of the meeting was to provide an opportunity for all local republicans to come together for serious political discussion on crucial issues that will figure in this year's Ard-Fheis. It took the form of open discussion around four major topics: What is a republican? (presented by Mitchel McLaughlin), Sinn Féin in the councils (Gerry Doherty and

Aidan Harkin), Abstentionism (Tommy Carlin and Tony Doherty), and Sinn Féin, where are we going? (Paddy Logue).

Afterwards, Mitchel McLaughlin commended the high level of debate and expressed the wish that the success of the Derry event would encourage Sinn Féin in all other areas to organise similar events.



• Buckingham Buildings

DUBLIN Sinn Féin have repeated their call for tenants in the North Inner City Buckingham Buildings flats complex to be rehoused.

Speaking after a Dublin City Council Housing Committee inspection with the tenants on Thursday, October 17th, Sinn Féin's Councillor Christy Burke said:

"The conditions in which these people are compelled to live are disgraceful. Today's tour has reinforced Sinn Féin's previously-expressed view that Dublin Corporation should declare Buckingham Buildings unfit for human habitation and rehouse the tenants immediately."

## No Buckingham Palace



• Christy Burke (third right) and other Dublin City councillors pictured during their inspection



# Ionad pobail na Seanchille

LE SEOSAMH CNÁMH

TÁ SINN FÉIN ag seasamh le ceardchumainn sa chás a d'éirigh an tseachtain seo caite nuair a tugadh cead do na chomhairleoirí Dílseacha úsáid a bhaint as ionad pobail ar Bhóthar na Seanchille.

Tá oibríthe pobail ag bagairt go gcuirfidh siad feachtas ar bun chun troid in aghaidh úsáid an ionaid ag polaiteoirí. S'iad an triúr polaiteoir atá i gceist ná comhairleoirí George Seawright, Comain agus Coggle.

Tá an triúr sin, atá ina n-ionadaithe i gceantar na Cúirte, i mbun scéime le seilbh a ghabháil ar an ionad chun feidhm leithleasach a bhaint as do na pair-tithe aontachta.

"Ta mí-úsáid seo airgead na ndaoine a iocann rátaí ar siúl anois agus Coiste Seirbhíse an Phobail i Halla na Cathrach ag cur ina lúf ar ghrúpaí pobail uile go gcaithfidh muid gearradh siar ar chaitheamh airgead an phobail," a deir oibrí pobail amháin.

## CRUINNÍÚ

Thit an eacatra go hiomlán amach i ndiaidh cruinníú a bhí ann ar an 9ú lá de Mheán Fomhair ag Coiste Seirbhíse an Phobail. Ag an chruinníú d'arr Seawright agus a chairde ar an ch-

oiste úsáid an fhoirgnimh ag 77 Bóthar na Seanchille mar 'áras comhairleoirí'. Ní raibh a fhios ag an fo-stiurthóir a bhí ann an raibh udarás acu sin a dhéanamh nó nach raibh agus chuir sé fios ar an Dlíodóir Bhaile leis an chúis a scrúdú agus tháinig sé amach glan in aghaidh mí-úsáid seo aiseanna an phobail.ii.

I litir chuig an choiste dúirt an dlíodóir.

"B'é an moladh ná go dtabharfaí cead do chomhairleoirí úsáid measartha mór a bhaint as an ionair sa doigh go dtig leo buail-eadh lena dtoghdoirí chun iad a chomhairliú agus le cruinnithe a reachtáil, agus go mbeidh an costas leictreachais, costas na teasa agus costas an ghutháin le h-íoc ag an comhairle.

"Ta brón orm a rá nach bhfuil cumhacht reachtúil ar bith ann a thabharfaidh cead don chomhairle áis den sort a sholáthar dá bhail.

## FOIRGNEAMH

Naoi lá níos déanaí áfach, i ndiaidh cruinníú idir an triúr comhairleoir, Dlíodóir an Bhaile,



Cléireach an Chomhairle agus Stiúrthóir Seirbhíse an Phobail. Dúirt Cathaoirleach choiste Seirbhíse an Phobail, "go mbeadh an foirgneamh ar fáil d'ionadaí pobail an cheantair."

Dúirt comhairleoir Sinn Féin, Seán McKnight: "Níl oibríthe pobail sásta bheith ag obair sna hionaid

fhad agus a bhíonn polaiteoir ar bith ag úsáid an fhoirgnimh agus ciallaíon sin nach mbíonn an ionad ar fáil don phobal nuair a bhíonn Seawright agus a chomh-aontachtóirí ann.

"Léiríonn seo gur cuma leo fá mhuintir a gceantair fein agus nach bhfuil siad ach ag tabhairt aire dá gcuspóirí pearsanta."

## Fianna meeting attacked

A young member of Fianna Éireann in Wexford had a gun put to his head when local gardai broke up a meeting in the town recently.

Members of a new Fianna slua in Wexford town were meeting with Sinn Féin members on Sunday, October 13th, to organise the forthcoming Liam Mellows commemoration, when several armed Special Branchmen, backed up by a large force of uniformed gardai, arrived.

Five Fianna members were arrested, as well as three members of the Padraig Ó Pearaill Sinn Féin cumann, including Jimmy Kavanagh, the PRO. All eight were held in Wexford Barracks for several hours before being released without charge.

Wexford Sinn Féin has issued a strong condemnation of the incident and describe it as "an extreme measure of intimidation".

And in a series of raids in Tralee, County Kerry, three men were arrested and held in Tralee Barracks under Section 30 of the Offences against the State Act.

On Wednesday, October 16th, five homes in the Tralee area were raided by members of the Special Branch led by Detective Sergeant Timothy O'Callaghan. The raids started at 7am and two of the houses raided were those of prisoners' families. One young man, on a visit to his sister, was arrested and held for four hours.

Two Sinn Féin members, Peter O'Sullivan and Noel Murtagh, were also arrested and held after their flat at Rae Street, Tralee, was raided and personal items and Sinn Féin literature seized.

O'Sullivan was released after eight hours and Murtagh after 12 hours. Both were photographed, fingerprinted and interrogated.

## KAVANAGH

PAUL KAVANAGH. All letters, etc., should be sent to Paul Kavanagh (1888), HMP Gartree, Market Harborough, Leicestershire (instead of Wormwood Scrubs).

## TORTHAÍ CRANNCHUR

South Down Comhairle Ceantair

Ten Week Draw

Fourth Draw — October 7th: £100: Hugh Maginn, Hilltown; £50: Mick Doherty, Annabroough.

Fifth Draw — October 14th: £100: Sean McGreevy, Kilcoo; £50: Gerard King, Drumroad.

## GET WELL SOON

ON Tuesday, October 22nd, Fr Piaras Ó Duill was savagely beaten and stabbed with knives by two intruders at his home in Dublin. His injuries included minor stab wounds to the legs and suspected fractured ribs.

The staff of An Phoblacht/Republican News wish Piaras a speedy recovery.

## Media bias against Irish

BOTH Downtown Radio and the Belfast Telegraph newspaper have been challenged by Sinn Féin for their discrimination against Irish speakers.

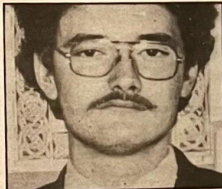
Sinn Féin's cultural department was the only body to make a written submission to the Independent Broadcasting Authority in its review of Downtown's application to retain their local radio contract. The submission argues that ultimately only an all-Irish station can meet the needs of Irish speakers and learners but, in the short-term at least, a one-hour programme in Irish and a learners' programme is required.

Mairtin O Muilleoir, Sinn Féin cultural spokesperson, stated:

"There are at least 60,000 people in the six counties who have some knowledge of Irish while hundreds of thousands regard Irish as their national language and wish to see it promoted. The boom areas for Irish in the North fall within Downtown's catchment area."

## ANGLICISATION

Sinn Féin chairperson of Magherafelt District Council Lughaidh Mac Giolla Bhrighde has written to the European Bureau



● L. Mac Giolla Bhrighde

for Lesser-used Languages (EBLL) to complain about the persistent anglicisation of his name by the Belfast Telegraph.

As a result, the secretary general of the EBLL, Donall Ó Riagain, wrote to the Telegraph informing them that it was EEC policy to protect minority languages and asked that the Telegraph cease using a concocted translation of Mac Giolla Bhrighde's name.

The Telegraph had claimed that they only use their made-up version of the name because "all would be familiar with the English form".

## King challenged in Derry

FOUR Sinn Féin councillors confronted British minister Tom King on his arrival at the council chambers in Derry on Wednesday, October 23rd.

The British Secretary of State arrived at about 4.30pm after a day of unprecedented RUC and British army activity in Derry. He was flanked by a contingent of RUC and Special Branch but despite this the Sinn Féin councillors managed to have a face-to-face confrontation.

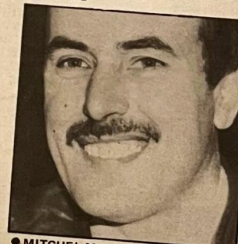
Councillor Mitchel McLaughlin challenged him on his colonial role in the six counties and asked whether, after 2,500 deaths in this latest phase of the struggle, including numerous British soldiers, he did not think it was time that Britain got out of Ireland.

At this point, Councillor McLaughlin was forcibly manhandled away from the council entrance, while other Sinn Féin councillors shouted questions at the British minister, who was being bundled into the council by his bodyguards. The Sinn Féin councillors were removed from the scene to shouts of "Warlord King" and "King, you are playing with Irish lives".

The British Secretary of State



● TOM KING



● MITCHEL McLAUGHLIN

then went into a reception with, among others, SDLP mayor John McNicholl and SDLP Councillor Pat Devine.

## Advances for language

THE SMALL Gaeltacht community of Rath Cairn, County Meath, has carried off the top prize in 1984-85 Glór na nGael competition, designed to find the

areas in Ireland which do the most to promote an Ghaeilge.

The results were announced on Wednesday, October 23rd.

Other prizewinners were West

Belfast and Derry, Derry Gaelgeoirí scooped the prize for the Best New Entry in the country.

The West Belfast Committee was adjudged the best in the six counties and also received awards for promoting the Irish magazine Agus and in the section for city areas.

An area in the Short Strand, Belfast, has been renamed by residents with the support of Sinn Féin. The new Irish street name, Cuirt Cíneal Éoin, was erected at Perry Court by Sinn Féin spokesperson Joe O'Donnell.





## Diary

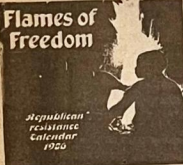
THE 1986 Republican Diary is now available and will be on sale at the Sinn Féin Ard-Fheis.

The pocket-sized diary, which is slightly smaller than last year's edition, can be obtained in one of four different colour covers (brown maroon, green or dark blue). The attractive plastic cover is embossed with gold logo and lettering. The diary contains a wealth of new features and information, and is sure to be a popular Christmas present for many people.

Individual copies cost £2.50 (9p or 1p3 (please add postage) and bulk rates are available on request.

Orders should be sent to Republican Publications at 2a Monagh Crescent, Belfast (Tel: 620788) or 44 Parnell Square, Dublin (Tel: 726932).

To avoid disappointment, please place your orders early.



## Calendar

NOW ON SALE — the 1986 Republican Resistance Calendar entitled *Flames of Freedom*.

The new-size calendar, 30cm X 43cm, commemorates the 70th anniversary of the Easter Rising and the centre spread is illustrated with the Proclamation and photographs of the seven signatories. Full-colour photographs of republican murals in Belfast and Derry are featured on the other pages, with quotations from the IRA, P.H. Pearse, James Connolly and Bobby Sands. Past republican events are mentioned on each day of the year and the back page has a full-size photograph of the South Armagh Division, O'Donnell's Column.

Individual copies are available at 99p and 10p (please add postage) and bulk rates are available on request.

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# mála poist

## Obscene practice

A Chara,

We believe that the treatment of the women prisoners in Armagh is disgraceful, and we thought that details of our own treatment here in Brixton might help to highlight the obscene practice of strip-searching.

During September Martina Anderson and myself were forced to undergo the following searches: Martina had 18 strip-searches, and I had 16. Each of us had at least 116 body-searches. Martina had two cell-changes.

These cell-changes take place during our meagre 'association' time. We have been assured that our only entitlements are to be fed, wear clothes and have one hour out of our cells each day. We are locked up for a minimum of 18 hours daily and are 'tucked in' at 4.30 each afternoon until morning, with the exception of the weekends, when we are locked up at 3.30pm.

'Body-searches' are as distressing as strip-searches. They involve having one's entire body mauled, hair, mouth, ears and inside the trousers.

Reading accounts of how other Irish prisoners are being treated makes me feel ashamed to complain at all, but we thought it important to give figures on the searches here, if it helps highlight the unacceptability of strip-searching and the corruption of the whole prison system and its enforcers.

Ella O'Dwyer,  
Remand Prisoner  
Brixton Prison



● George Seawright leading loyalists in Portadown, County Armagh

## LOYALIST BULLY-BOYS

A Chara,

Not for the first time in a couple of weeks, we have been subjected to threats of violence from loyalist politicians. We have heard George 'burn the Papists' Seawright publicly declare that he is ready to lead squads of car-bombers into Dublin.

Paisley on the other hand, has warned us that loyalists have a well-stocked armoury and are prepared to resist to the death any attempts to push them, at the point of a bayonet, into a united Ireland. Surely Paisley's utterings finally prove that members of the RUC and UDR are making themselves, and their legally-held weapons, available for 'active service' in loyalist murder squads.

This is certain proof of the fact that no members of the security forces are impartial and that they are repressive bodies set up and maintained to silence nationalist dissent. There is only one road to democracy in Ireland and that is the road to a 32-county socialist republic, free both politically and economically.

Sean O'Maolainn,  
Baile Átha Cliath.

## Dishonest talk

Dear Editor,

John Hume is reported as saying to the Irish Medical Association in Cork (*Irish Times*, October 14th) that the problem in Ireland was "complex, went back a long way and had to do with problems between Britain and Ireland". This is hardly a very perceptive analysis but then, perhaps, the doctors in Cork do not want to hear a more coherent and a more honest analysis of the situation.

Once again Mr Hume fails to tackle the central issue — the immoral and illegal British occupation of this country. He diverts attention from this central issue by talking about "relationships" and "healing" and other side-issues.

Is he arguing for the presence of British soldiers because as he says 99% of Catholics prefer to be stopped by them on lonely roads? How does he know? His skilful use of words and emotional blackmail may appeal to the 'nice' people but they only reveal the bankruptcy of his ideas. This dishonesty about the situation here is a great obstacle to progress. This policy of appeasing the British government by referring to the past relieves the British government of any compulsion to treat the matter seriously and urgently.

Mr Hume talks about healing divisions. But doctors will understand that there can be no healing till the knife is removed from the wound. The British presence has created the divisions in our country.

It is patently obvious to say that there has been 'real change' here since 1969. What kind of progress?

There has been no progress in the sense of a more just and equitable society. There has been no progress in the sense of a more united and peaceful Ireland. There has been no progress in the sense of a more democratic and accountable government.

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ALL letters should be addressed to: The Editor, *An Phoblacht/Republican News*, 51/53 Falls Road, Belfast, or 44 Parnell Square, Dublin. Letters should be written as clearly as possible, preferably on one side of paper only. Names and addresses should always be included, even when not for publication.

require a privileged group in order to maintain control. Neither can there be true reconciliation till there is justice and justice requires the removal of the British involvement in the affairs of the Irish people.

This kind of dishonest approach by Mr Hume will not do. Repeating clichés about "non-violence" and "spilling sweat" is not good enough. The first requirement is honesty.

Joseph McVeigh,  
Irvinestown,  
County Fermanagh.

## Visions

A Chara,

The need for socialists and nationalists to unite in the struggle for national liberation is underlined in republican theory and practice. James Connolly explained that the quest for national and social liberation go hand in hand. Neither can be achieved without the other. The 1916-21 period evidenced unity in action.

However unity in action of nationalists and socialists does not eliminate inevitable tension between the two on an ideological level. The advanced nationalists who, as Ciaran McManus states (*AP/RN*, October 3rd), "do not see the relationship between the struggle for political and economic freedom" are without that vision that socialists possess to see capitalist/imperialist oppression in its total context — political, economic and social.

It is because the advanced nationalists do not discern beyond political forms the class nature of national and social oppression that is present in the reason they do find commonality with Tory-type socialists.

Weakness in a revolution is not a crime. It is a crime to be weak in the face of a revolution. It is a crime to be weak in the face of a revolution. It is a crime to be weak in the face of a revolution.

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## Wall of silence

A Chara,

In reply to last week's letter on strip-searches and plastic bullets, I want to point out that in the past campaigns of this nature have achieved little.

I know that in England we must do our utmost to smash through the wall of silence that the British establishment has erected around their war in Ireland. However, the effectiveness of describing to people how humiliating strip-searches are or how many kids have been killed by plastic bullets is limited. People in Britain just respond by spouting well-known examples of IRA 'atrocities' and arguing one's need for repression to prevent further massacres.

If Britain is to maintain

its rule in Ireland it has to do so by terror. Unfortunately, we are not so many neutral states, and we are not so many neutral states, and we are not so many neutral states.

Deirdre Gibson,  
Wrexham,  
North Wales.

## Stop extradition

A Chara,

The recent quick-fire extradition of Dominic McGlinchey hot-potato-like back to the South coincided accidentally with the formation of the South Armagh Anti-Extradition Committee (SAAC).

This committee is pledged to bring an end to the shameful activities of the Free State government who would surrender Irish citizens on the mere suspicion that they may

be a case to answer. We demand that the Free State government and judiciary stop this now. We maintain that these extraditions are disgraceful violations of the Irish Constitution and international law which give protection to political prisoners.

In the weeks ahead, this committee will organise a campaign of protest and action aimed at securing the release from unlawful detention of Brendan Burns and Robert Russell. We would welcome the co-operation of other newly-formed committees and pledge to work with them to end this vile practice of extradition.

Michael Donegan,  
PRO,  
SAAC.



● JOHN HUME

the history of Sinn Féin and the IRA 1918-27 shows that those advanced nationalists (Griffith, Collins, de Valera) who repudiated socialism were one by one to seek accommodation with imperialism and stamp their seal of approval on the Treaty institutions of partitioned Ireland, in order that capitalism might be made secure.

The conviction of the nationalist in national liberation is pitched on an abstract, aspirational level. The conviction of the republican socialist, however, is grounded on real material conditions out of which there emerges the ideal of national and social liberation to which he or she is transfixed. For this reason "the incorruptible inheritors of the fight for freedom in Ireland" are the working class and their political representatives, the republican socialists.

Sean Cullen.





tv

# REVIEW

## Pearls of wisdom

BY AINE MARTIN

THE things I do for the TV Review! Last Sunday evening I endured a full 45 minutes of the two most boring individuals ever watched on TV. I watched and lips — all in vain.

A married couple, highly-paid for doing absolutely nothing, totally out of touch with reality, incredibly bland and as bright as two five-watt bulbs — yes, the royal parasites, the English prince and princess of Wales.

The sychophantic Alastair Burnet — when he wasn't crawling around the floor licking their feet — asked totally inane questions leading to equally inane answers. Who could not be left excited and breathless to know that the young Brit William "chose his own shorts and shirt" for his first day at school? That dumb Diana changes her clothes three or four times a day when on tour?

The dreary duo felt that "it'd be quite easy to do nothing" in their 'job' but

"The important thing is to serve the country and the people and the Commonwealth". Those "rather dreadful riots in Toxteth" made Big Ears more aware of the problems of young people in deprived areas, while Noddy is concerned about the deaf because "I've got all my senses"!!!

They mouthed platitudes, smiled sickly-sweet at one another and the camera, and said exactly nothing of consequence. All in all, it was as exciting as a day at a Workers Party conference. Well, to be fair, maybe it wasn't quite that bad.

Joanne Hayes was interviewed on *The Late Late Show* last Friday night. Her appearance caused an uproar among the self-righteous, holier-than-thou protectors of our

collective conscience and the phone-lines to RTE were hotter than a poker in Hell.

The discussion continued on Sunday evening on *Late Late Extra*, when the findings of the Tribunal were criticised by those journalists who followed the proceedings throughout. It was pointed out a number of times that the report failed to resolve the question it was set up to answer — why did the Hayes family confess to a crime they did not commit? Instead, it amounted to an indictment of Joanne Hayes on the basis of evidence which simply did not exist.

Judge Lynch stated that "she placed her hands around his neck and stopped it crying by choking it and the baby did not breathe again". No concrete evidence was presented, at any stage, to support this.

It was also stated on the show that an 'expert' psychiatrist described Joanne Hayes as a "sociopath" and "histrionic" after having met

● **Noddy and Big Ears:** a pampered pair of parasites her for only 15 minutes in the court and never having spoken a word to her previously. As was observed: "You can hire your own expert to say whatever you want them to say".

The most important question of all is one which still remains to be faced — why are single women afraid to have children in this country? Any number of 'tribunals', 'amendments' and 'committees' will not change the attitude of the narrow-minded and uncaring.

We are supposed to be a Christian nation and yet the treatment meted out to single

mothers shows us to be far from that. Our cruelty to one another is an eternal shame. I bet you're glad God isn't an Irish Judge.

Channel 4's *Right to Reply* allows viewers to comment on the programme of the previous week. This week it clearly showed how tolerant the British people are of criticism of their army.

The *Dunera Boys* on Channel 4 last week was a two-part series about the treatment of German and Austrian internees — many of them Jewish — during the Second World War. In an obviously understated manner, it showed Brits pushing their prisoners about, and looting the prisoners' property. Generally, the Brits were shown as brutal louts.

This caused a hysterical reaction among the viewers. "British soldiers could not have behaved like this!" wrote one irate viewer. Another wrote that she personally knew one internee who had been well-treated, so there! One upset viewer was brought into the studio to attack the series producer, with help from the presenter.

Doesn't it show how well British propaganda on the North is working when the British public can so clearly believe that their soldiers can do no wrong?

video

## Controlling the environment

BY KEVIN MCCOOL

A few weeks ago I got the chance to view Derry Film and Video Collective's new video, *Planning*, when it was shown in the Bluebell Bar in the Brandywell. The video, as the title suggests, is about the role that architecture plays in society and the power that planners and architects have in controlling and manipulating our lives through the environment they create for us.

The makers of the video illustrate the points by examining the redevelopment, over the last ten years, of the Bogside and Brandywell areas of Derry. The cruelty and callousness of the architects of this redevelopment is brought out in an interview with an elderly resident of a Brandywell who, for once in a video, is given the time and the opportunity to describe how the thriving community there was destroyed and old age pensioners removed to new housing estates on the outskirts of the city, many to die within a few years from the shock of the drastic change in lifestyle.

It's not just that "...planners never consider the wishes of anyone" but, since the early Seventies, planners and

architects here have played a major role in the Kitsonian strategy of normalisation and pacification. This is the central theme of the video and local people point out examples of military planning in the Derry landscape, such as the redevelopment of the Rossville Street and Lecky Road area, the main centre of rioting and resistance in 1969. Now the area is open to the British army, with a flyover running into it and a major road network running through it, and an old peoples home and community centre strategically placed to deter anyone from rioting. Locals also reveal the hand of the military in the new housing estates with their cul de sacs, 'easily sealed off' single entrance/exits, and concrete traffic valves that allow RUC

and British army jeeps to pass but stop ordinary cars.

These are reminiscent of the early Seventies when the British army sealed off 'danger areas' with dragon's teeth or ramps. Now, in the Eighties, they have the permanent barricades they want, built into the new estates from the beginning as raised planting structures put there to 'cut down the accident rate'.

The success of this video is that, through searching and intense camera-work, interviews with local people, and a brilliantly sinister musical score, it shows just how clever

and insidious current counter-insurgency architecture is. At the same time it links military planning of the Eighties with the historical role that architecture has always played in controlling working-class people.

Every generation of architects designs new dream homes for us, thereby hoping to buy our silence. But a point made by a resident of the Rossville flats is that these dream homes, whether high-rise flats or suburban housing estates, are simply new slums and ghettos.

To most people architects

are invisible and the violence and oppression of architecture can be easily ignored, but in this video architects are exposed. I urge all republicans who are seriously interested in building a new society to see the video.

The RUC have already seized a copy and I'm sure that they are finding it as interesting as we did that night in the Bluebell Bar in the Brandywell.

● *Planning* is produced by Derry Film and Video Collective, 36 William Street, Derry. Price £40Stg; hire £15Stg.

leabhar

## Domhan gan dóchas

LE PÓL Mac DARA

ÚRSÉAL BEAG anseo agus é suite sa saol-iarthionscailíoch. Tá dhá scéal ann ag rith gualainn ar gualainn agus iad ag teacht le chéile ag deireadh an scéil.

Ta ceann amháin ag deighleall leis an saol a chaitéir in éirínn mílteannacha, sit nach bhfuil coincheapanna oideas-cháitheimh aimsir nó mairéachfála sibhialta, mar is eol dúinn iad, ag na carachtair. Tá an teama físi go n-ór le sonraí ann chomh maith, i dtaca le forbairt Inteachtúil an phríomh charachtair, Rurc,

tar éis ba mháthair. Cúileann an dara scéal síos ar an dá mhórchomhacht ar domhan, Pax Dei Inc. agus iad ag gníthim i dtreo cogaidh lena chéile.

● *Thaobh carachtair* de 'se Rurc an ceann is speisialta. Bíonn sé scartha amháin ó chéile dhúine eile sa scéal ar

dúis, de bharr a shoinseantachta. Ní thuigean sé bás a mháthair — ceapann sé gur ag imirt cleasa air ad si nuair a thiteann sí marbh ar úrúir na cistine. Ní thuigean sé na drochsmoileanta atá thabhair thair den bheirt úd Hektar agus Lubaire — a chuid comharsa.

Ach dleight ar ndiaidh, forbraíonn sé agus deirhead thair thall bíonn sé scartha amach athuair ó na comharsaith uilig sa scéal: ó gníomh, arthar fhuirseachsa ceannair na mórchomhacht; ó laige a



mháthair, a gheill don droch rud chun é a chorthú agus ó smaoine sa dálocha gairisúla Hektar agus Lubaire — de bharr a chuid aisingeachta, aisingil gíondar agus grá. Uaidneann an t-údar stíl

gonta, garbh agus gairidil. Ach ní gan fáth seo ar ndóigh agus é ag tabhairt léiriú ar shaoil bunaithe ar luachanna mar gheall druidisil, marú gan trocaire, fuath éad agus saint.

An t-éon locht a thagaim ar an leabhar ná an easpa cúra a thugtar i leith Rurc. De bharr na heaspas seo tá deacrachtaí ann le haois Rurc; tá sé maol, gaothaí buachaill air agus leidhmíonn sé mar fhear óg tuairim 's a fíche bliain d'aois. Seachas sin níl ach ard-mholadh agam don leabhar agus don comhacht nua foilsitheoireachta a chur an leabhar os an gcomhair.

● *Pax Dei* le Michael O Broisáin Taibhse a d'fhoilsigh, Luach IR£2.00.

## Imeachtaí

**IRISH NIGHT**  
Featuring The Southerners  
Thursday 24th October  
Dundalk Bar  
**DUNDALK**  
Táille £1 (incl. sandwiches)  
Proceeds in aid of  
Mini-bus Appeal Fund

**STOP THE STRIP-SEARCHES**  
**WHITE LINE PICKET**  
5-6pm Friday 25th October  
O'Connell Bridge  
**DUBLIN**

**IRISH NIGHT**  
Featuring Sheeban and  
Perfect Strangers  
Friday 25th October  
Town Hall  
**NEWRY**  
Táille £2

**IRISH SOCIAL NIGHT**  
Friday 25th October  
First  
10-11pm  
**DUNDALK**  
Táille £1

Organised by  
An Cumann Cabhrach

**SOCIAL NIGHT**  
Featuring Sheeban and  
Perfect Strangers  
Friday 25th October  
The No.5 Club  
5 Blessington Street  
**DUBLIN**

Táille £1  
Organised by Sinn Féin

**MARTIN GUIGLIAN**  
& PAT GUIGLIAN  
**WELCOME HOME BENEFIT**  
Music by Caipín  
8pm Saturday 26th October  
Belvedere Hotel  
Great Denmark Street  
**DUBLIN**  
Organised by Sinn Féin

**SINN FEIN WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT**  
**GENERAL MEETING**  
Sunday 27th October 3.00pm  
**BELFAST**

Contact any Belfast cumann for  
further details. Those needing  
crèche facilities should contact  
Maura McCrory in advance.

**STOP THE STRIP-SEARCHES**  
**PUBLIC MEETING**  
8pm Wednesday 30th October  
No.5 Blessington Street  
**DUBLIN**  
All welcome

**SOUTH ARMAGH ANTI-EXTRADITION FUND-RAISING FUNCTION**  
Featuring local artists  
9pm Wednesday 30th October  
Gaelic Football Club  
**SILVERBRIDGE**  
South Armagh  
Táille £1

**VIDEO SHOW**  
'Plastic Bullies —  
The Deadly Truth'  
8pm Thursday 31st October  
County Bar  
Rialto  
**DUBLIN**

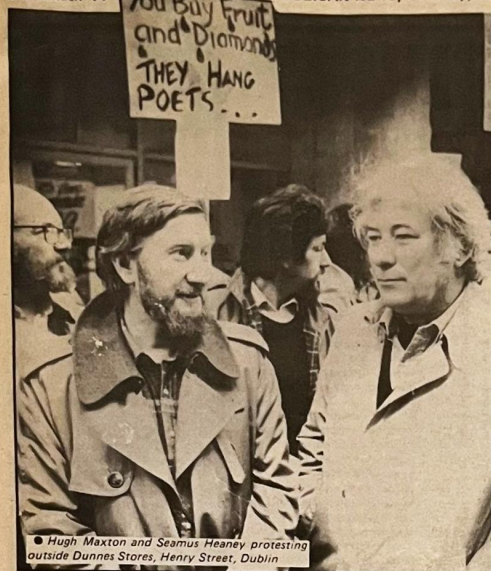
**NATIONAL GRAVES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL NOVEMBER CEREMONIES**  
Sunday 3rd November  
11.15am: Mass, St Joseph's Church, Berkeley Road  
12.15pm: Assembly at Mountjoy Jail  
1pm: Visit to patriots' graves  
Glasnevin Cemetery  
**DUBLIN**

**STOP THE STRIP-SEARCHES MASS PICKET**  
6pm Wednesday 6th November  
Palmerstown Road  
**DUBLIN**  
(FitzGerald's residence)

**STOP THE STRIP-SEARCHES MARCH**  
2pm Sunday 10th November  
From Ardoyne Memorial  
To Unity Flats  
**BELFAST**

**STOP THE STRIP-SEARCHES PICKET**  
3pm Sunday 10th November  
Outside Armagh Jail  
**ARMAGH**  
Prominent speakers





● Hugh Maxton and Seamus Heaney protesting outside Dunnes Stores, Henry Street, Dublin

## We will remember

The brutal hanging of South African poet Benjamin Moloise by Botha's apartheid regime provoked a storm of protest from literary figures here in Ireland.

On Saturday, October 19th, within hours of Moloise's murder, Irish poets gathered outside Dunnes Stores in Henry Street, Dublin, to demonstrate their outrage at the barbaric act, their opposition to the apartheid system and their solidarity with the courageous young anti-apartheid strikers. Amongst the literary figures in attendance was the world-renowned Irish poet Seamus Heaney, accompanied by fellow poets Hugh Maxton and Liam O Muirthile.

In Belfast, the Sinn Féin Foreign Affairs Department mounted a picket on Dunnes Stores in the Park Centre, Donegall Road, also in protest at the hanging. Over 50 people participated in the demonstration which called for a boycott of Dunnes Stores because of their continued sale of South African produce.

Like the murders of Irish hunger-

strikers, the hanging has exposed to world opinion the intransigence of right-wing regimes everywhere, and in particular the hypocrisy of Thatcher's Britain in refusing to impose sanctions against South Africa at last week's Commonwealth gathering.

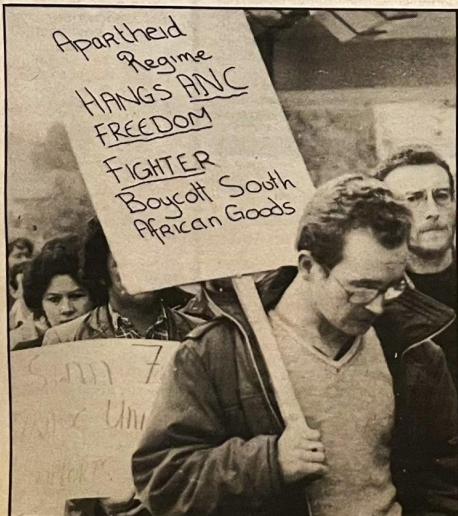
The ANC has denounced Thatcher saying:

*"We will win, we will remember — Britain is seen as part of the problem, not part of the solution."*

### DERRY

A meeting of Derry City Council on Wednesday evening, October 23rd, passed an emergency resolution proposed by Sinn Féin Councillor Mitchell McLaughlin. The motion read:

*"That this council abhors the hanging of Benjamin Moloise, the black South African poet, and affirms the council's total opposition to the apartheid policies of the South African regime."*



## WORLD VIEW



● Mrs Mamike Moloise protesting outside Pretoria Central Prison after her son, Benjamin Moloise, had been hanged

## South Africa

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS poet and activist Malesela Benjamin Moloise was executed at dawn on Saturday, October 19th, by the South African regime. The ANC described the hanging as a "cold-blooded, premeditated murder". In the riots, both on the eve of the execution and the days following it, the South African regime murdered at least another nine people including two youths aged 13 and 15. Hundreds more were wounded including children as young as seven years old.

And the regime showed their pure hatred and contempt for the black community, not only by ignoring international pleas for clemency, but by the cruel treatment of Moloise's mother Mrs Mamike Moloise. Mrs Moloise was not only refused per-

mission to see her son the day of the execution, but was also refused custody of the body. The prison authorities stated that the body of Benjamin Moloise would remain "the property of the state", a situation all too familiar to republican

families, both in the occupied six counties and the twenty-six counties of Ireland.

Over the past 12 months 14,000 people have been charged in connection with resistance and protest in South Africa. Of these, 5,000 were between the ages of ten and 16 years. In the past six months over 300 people have been killed by the regime and at least 100,000 wounded. In that same period over 20,000 have been arrested. In the ten years between 1960 and 1970, 120,000 people were jailed for 'political offences'; between 1976 and 1979 a further 44,000 were jailed. Many thousands were murdered, including over 600 school children during the Soweto riots. And those figures are just the tip of the iceberg. The arrest figures are from those reported by the media — many more go unreported. These unreported arrests are of those charged with public violence, damage to property, sabotage, illegal gatherings and arson. The most remarkable point of this is that despite the terror and repression unleashed on the black population by the white racists, the black population refuse to give in, remaining defiant and unbowed. In the latest ANC statement, they declare:

*"The continuing street confrontations with the enemy's armed forces show that our people are massive numbers, not only want a new order in our country but are also prepared to sacrifice life, if need be, to bring it about."*

But it is the words of Benjamin Moloise, simple and to the point, that echo the sacrifices of the people. On the day before he was executed, during a last visit by his mother, Moloise said: *"Tell the world — freedom is at hand."*

## Mossad

WHEN THE Palestine Liberation Organisation assassinated three Israelis in Cyprus three weeks ago, the world's media went to great pains to describe the Israelis as "innocent tourists". But evidence has been produced which reveals that the three were in fact high-ranking Israeli intelligence agents of Mossad, the Israeli secret service. Ironically the evidence came to light after the three tourists were named, and the same names popped up in a flag-waver for Mossad — Richard Deacon's book, *The Israeli Secret Service*.

It turns out that the woman assassinated was Sylvia Rafael. She was in fact the leader of the Israeli espionage team and was responsible for directing spying and conspiracy operations against the Palestinian community in Cyprus. The book goes on to describe her in gushing terms as the "new emancipated female secret agent, the modern and much more efficient counterpart of Mata Hari".

Rafael was a South African by birth, and although she was accepted into Mossad during the 1960s she was never accepted in Israel as Jewish. One newspaper report stated — "despite all she did for her adopted country, the unbending rabids would not relax their rules". During her period with Mossad, Rafael was sent to Jordan to spy

on the PLO. There she posed as a freelance photographer, Patricia Roxburgh. Her job at that time was to act as 'agent provocateur' between the Jordanians and the PLO. Eventually the Jordanians did turn on the PLO, murdering many hundreds of Palestinians in 1970. This period became known as 'Black September'. But the actions of Jordan were governed more by hatred of Syria (who supported the PLO), than by any actions of the Israeli secret service.

Rafael was arrested in Norway in 1974 after attempting to murder Abu Hassan Salameh, head of the PLO's intelligence. Rafael bungled this badly, murdering a Moroccan waiter, Ahmed Bonchikhi, in mistake for Salameh. She served two years of a 5½-year sentence for this, One



of her more 'successful' operations was the eventual murder of Abu Hassan in Beirut in 1979. Hassan was blown up by a radio-controlled bomb as he drove down a street in Beirut.

It is no wonder that the Israelis went to such great lengths to exact revenge on the PLO, by bombing the PLO's headquarters in Tunisia. The assassination of the three agents was a major blow to the Israelis, and their rage knew no boundaries when the Cypriots refused to extradite the three PLO guerrillas. The Israelis had requested the extradition of the PLO members under the European Extradition Treaty of 1957. But the Cypriots stated that the provisions of this treaty did not cover the case of the three detained i.e. they are political prisoners.

## Peru

OVER 30 POLITICAL PRISONERS were killed and at least 60 more were injured when warders and paramilitary police brutally put down a revolt in Peru's largest prison in the capital city, Lima.

The revolt, on Friday, October 4th, when prisoners, members of a Maoist guerrilla organisation Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) took over their wing of the Lurigancho Prison in protest at the brutality of the warders. The warders replied to this action of the prisoners by deliberately setting fire to the prison wing. In the ensuing inferno 30 of the prisoners were either burnt to death or were suffocated by the smoke and fumes.

When news of the massacre reached the other 6,000 prisoners, they immediately staged a mutiny, erecting barricades and taking over the whole prison. The prisoners demanded the resignation of prison governor Manuel Aquezo and Justice Minister Luis Gonzalez Posada, and

demanding that the warders who murdered the prisoners should be brought to trial. Within hours the prison was surrounded by hundreds of paramilitary police, armed with shotguns, assault rifles, tear gas and dynamite. The police then stormed the prison, blowing down walls to reach the prisoners. During the battle to regain control of the prison, over 60 prisoners and 20 police were badly injured.

This has been the second major revolt in a Peruvian prison. In June 1984, 32 prisoners were killed at El Sexto Prison in the centre of Lima. Since 1981 over 100 prisoners have been killed or 'died' in dubious circumstances in Peru.

activists and trade unionists. Other evidence of Pinochet's intent to crush all opposition is the growing number of attacks carried out by right-wing terror gangs. These terror gangs are composed of members of the police or army. Their speciality is torture, and ultimately murder. There have been over 200 attacks so far this year. In one such attack a gang burned crosses onto the face and breasts of a young church social worker, Marcela Pradenas, with a domestic iron.

## Chile

AT LEAST five prisoners were killed and 25 injured when security guards opened fire on them during an attempted breakout from a Santiago prison last Friday, October 18th. The prison — Santiago Penitentiary — is the main holding centre for 'political subversives', mainly trade union activists.

At the time of the shooting, top trade union leader Rodolfo Seguel, whom the Pinochet regime had imprisoned for trying to organise resistance against their rule, was re-

moved, along with other leading trade unionists, to another prison. The Pinochet regime have put into force another state of emergency, which has enabled them to round up hundreds of politicians,



# Secret ballot over Sligo street name

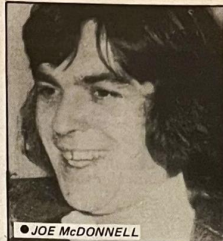
RESIDENTS of a Sligo housing estate are being asked to vote, by secret ballot, on a proposal to change the name of their street from Joe McDonnell Drive.

Sligo Corporation decided on the plebiscite at their meeting on Monday, October 21st, and ballot papers are to be sent to all residents of Joe McDonnell Drive in Sligo's Cranmore estate.

Local republicans, and the Sligo branch of the National Graves Association (NGA) in particular, are angry at the media coverage of what they feel amounts to one resident's objection to the street-name. RTE's *Countrywide* on Tuesday, October 15th, carried a report on the alleged row about the estate name, but refused to interview or even quote anyone from the National Graves Association, who originally requested that Joe McDonnell be honoured in this way.

In a press statement (which was sent to the *Countrywide* team involved in the report), the NGA point out that Joe McDonnell received over 6,000 votes in the Sligo/Leitrim constituency, and the name was decided by a democratic vote of Sligo Corporation.

Eddie Feeney, the man who is trying to get the name changed, claims that children from Joe McDonnell Drive would be "affected" by growing up in an area "named after an IRA man." The NGA statement dismisses this, pointing to the fact that other streets in the Cranmore estate are named after six IRA men, Harry Benson, Seamus Devine, Joe Banks, Patrick O'Carroll,



JOE McDONNELL

Tom Largin and Brian McNeill, who were killed in action on Ben Bulbin in 1922.

"The children living in these areas of Cranmore estate don't seem to be affected by living in streets named after dead patriots", commented NGA spokesperson Matt Murphy.

Connolly, succeeded in travelling back to Ireland in time for the 1916 Rising.

Throughout Easter Week, the young Mellows commanded the republican forces in Galway, almost the only county outside Dublin to respond to the Rising. Following the surrender, he went on the run and eventually escaped to America where he worked with John Devoy and negotiated and organised the importation of arms from Germany to Ireland.

He returned to Ireland on October 24th 1920 and became active in the IRA as Director of Purchases. He represented East Galway in the First Dail and played a leading role in opposing the Treaty of 1921.

Mellows fought in the Four Courts in June 1922 and, following the surrender of the garrison, was arrested and imprisoned in Mountjoy Jail. In his famous *Notes from Mountjoy*, he explained the Republican Movement's social policies of state control of industry, transport and banks for the benefit of workers, farmers and the nation.

While these radical changes were advanced republican policy and had been enshrined in *The Programme of Democratic Control* (the Social Programme) adopted by the First Dail, the Free State government published the notes in an attempt to brand the republicans as communists.

"It was just the bare outline of his thoughts," wrote Peadar O'Donnell, "It is a matter of great regret that no fuller statement of his views had been secured while there was yet time."

In December 1922, along with Rory O'Connor, Joe McKelvey and Dick Barrett, Liam Mellows was executed without charge or trial by the Free State government.

MCKENNA, Finbarr. (H-Blocks). Happy birthday and all the best. From Mrs Donnelly and family.

MULLEN, Seamus. (H7-Block). Birthday greetings, Seamus. From your sister Gemma. Hope to see you soon.

SORAGHAN, Seamus. Birthday greetings from Maura, Peter, Johnny, Gary and Kevin, Newbliss.

SORAGHAN, Seamus. Happy birthday, "Jas". From Betty and Frank, Midway.

SORAGHAN, Seamus. Happy birthday, Seamus. From Mum and Dad, Tully.

SORAGHAN, Seamus. Happy birthday, Seamus. From Amanda and Cath.

SORAGHAN, Seamus. Happy birthday, Seamus. From Mick, George and Peggy.

WYSON, Leo. The Republican POWs, incarcerated in Armagh, Long Kesh, Magilligan, Crumlin Road, Portlaoise and in prisons throughout England and the United States and their best wishes for a speedy recovery to their friend Leo Wilson. Your tireless efforts on our behalf are sincerely appreciated. Tiochfaid arís.

MCKENNA, Finbarr. (H-Blocks). Happy birthday and all the best. From Angela and Tracy.



Pictured at a meeting in the Mansion House, Dublin, in May 1921 between republican and Free State representatives are (left to right) Sean Mac Eoin, Sean Moylan, Eoin O'Duffy, Liam Lynch, Gearoid O'Sullivan and Liam Mellows

## REMEMBERING THE PAST Liam Mellows

BY PETER O'ROURKE

ONE of the most clear-thinking and far-sighted republican leaders was Liam Mellows.

Mellows was born in Manchester in 1892 and reared by his grandparents near Inch, County Wexford. He began work as a clerk in Dublin in 1905 and joined Fianna Éireann shortly after its foundation in 1909.

Appointed Fianna organiser in 1912, he worked closely with Coun-

tytes Markievicz in building up the organisation throughout Ireland.

Upon the foundation of the Irish Volunteers the following year, he became a member of the Provisional Committee and was sent to Galway as Volunteer organiser for South Connaught. Arrested and deported to England, Mellows, assisted by Nora

McKENNA, Francis. (Portlaoise). Birthday greetings, Pat. Wishing you all that money wish for yourself. From the Thompson family.

BELL, Pat. (Portlaoise). All the very best on your birthday, Pat. From your comrades and friends in the Clarke/Smith Sinn Féin cumann, Finglas.

DUGGAN, Harry; WALSH, Roy. (Portlaoise and Wormwood Scrubs). Birthday greetings to Harry Duggan and Roy Walsh. From the Glasgow Irish Republican POW committee.

DUGGAN, Harry; WALSH, Roy. (Portlaoise and Wormwood Scrubs). Happy birthday comrades and best wishes for the future to you both. From an Cumann Cabhrach, Walkinstown, Dublin.

DOHERTY, Eamonn. Love and best

wishes on your birthday, Eamonn. Thinking of you always. From Angela.

LYNCH, Martin; WRIGHT, Marie. (H-Blocks and Armagh). Belated birthday greetings, Just wishing you both everything that you wish for yourselves. All the best. From Pol and Patricia, Andersonstown.

McCABE, Francis. (Portlaoise). Birthday greetings, Finbarr. Hope to hear from you soon. All my love. From Ann, xxx.

MCKENNA, Finbarr. (H-Blocks). Thinking of you today and always. From all the girls of Andytown pool team.

MCKENNA, Finbarr. (H-Blocks). Happy birthday. You're one year older. All my love and best wishes.

MCKENNA, Finbarr. (H-Blocks). Here's wishing you all the best on your birthday. All the best. From Angela and Tracy.

## Irish Lesson

BLAKE, Peter; MCGOLDRICK, Tom. (15th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vois Peter Blake and Tom McGoldrick, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died on active service on October 27th 1970. Fuairead bas ag bhráthair ar son saoirse mhuintir na hÉireann. Always remembered by their friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

CORRIGAN, Peter. (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Peter Corrigan who was murdered by loyalist gunmen on October 25th 1982. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Republican Movement.

CORRIGAN, Peter. (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my son Peter Corrigan, who was brutally murdered on October 25th 1982. Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for him. Remembered and missed by his father, Joe.

CORRIGAN, Peter. (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my husband and of father Peter Corrigan who was murdered by members of the UDR on October 25th 1982. Memories grow fonder as years go by when you long for a face and a voice that is gone, no longer in our lives to share, but in our hearts and in our ways there.

From his daughters Dymna, Marie, Katherine and Belle, son Martin, sons-in-law Robbie, Patsy, Oliver and Gerard, daughters-in-law Caroline and all his grandchildren, Armagh.

CORRIGAN, Peter. (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our brother Peter who was murdered by loyalist gunmen on October 25th 1982. Sadly missed and always remembered by brother Frank, Sean and families.

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Martin who was killed in action on October 24th 1971. Saint Anthony, pray for him. Not just today but everyday we remember. Always remembered by Mary and Jim Scullin and family.

FORSYTHE, Martin. (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Martin Forsythe who was killed on active service on 24th October 1971. Troid se agus fuair se bas ar son saoirse na hÉireann. Always remembered by the Martin Forsythe family.

MAGUIRE, Dorothy; MEEHAN, Maura. (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vois Dorothy Maguire and Maura Meehan, who were killed by Brits while on active service on October 23rd 1971. Fuairead bas ar son saoirse mhuintir na hÉireann. Always remembered by their friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade, Cumann na mBan.

MAGUIRE, Dorothy; MEEHAN, Maura. (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our sisters Dorothy Maguire and Maura Meehan, who were killed by Royal Green Jackets on October 23rd 1971. Sweet and proudly are memories silently kept of sisters we loved and will never forget. No words of warning, no last farewell, but in our hearts you will always dwell. Sadly missed by Mickey (H3-Block) and Paula.

MCKENNA, Martin. (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Martin McKenna, 3rd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed as a result of a car accident whilst on active service on October 23rd 1979. I maeis laochra na nGael go raibh a nam dílis. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

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## COMHBHRON

BRADY. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Bobby Brady who died recently. From Patrick McGovern, Ann Higgins and Brian and the kids, Dublin.

BRADY. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family circle on the sud-

den death of Bobby. From Cormac and Niamh King, Sean Madden and Lily. Joe Clarke and Desmond Finn, Dublin.

KELLEHER, Maura. The Joe McDonnell Sinn Féin cumann, Bantry, extends deepest sympathy to Sean Kelleher and family on the death of his sister Maura.

## Irish Lesson 148

Translate

Duine an-tábhachtach sa chultúr Gaeilge ab é an file fadó. Sa chóras poiticeil bhí an file nó an tollmair an chomhábhléir leis an tascach agus an t-espáig. Ní hamháin gur chum na filid dánta agus aortha - bhí siad ar stair, aithech chomh maith. Dúradh go raibh cumhacht draochtúil ach an file, ach go háirithe ach anoir a chum sé. Creid-eadh gur féidir leis an air oirine a mháir. Ní hionadh é mar sin go raibh meas ag daoine ar an bhfile!

Tábhachtach - important

Ní hamháin - it's no surprise

Ta meas agam air - I respect him

Córas solais - social system

Ollamh - professor, fully trained poet in Gaelic tradition

Taoiseach - leader, chieftain

Easpag - bishop

File - poet

Fíliocht - poetry

Chum sé amhrán - he wrote/composed a song

Dán - poem, work of art

Aoir - satire

Ar chomhleibhléir - on a level, at the same level

Stair - historian

Cumhacht - power

Cumhacht draochtúil - magical power

Translation

The poet was a very important person in Gaelic culture in the past. In the social system the poet or professor was on the same level as the chieftain or the bishop. Not only did the poets compose poems and satires - that were historians as well. It was said that the poet had magical power, especially the satire he wrote. It was believed that a satire could kill a person. It's no surprise then that people had respect for the poet!



THE indigestible cuisine of British army cook-houses and canteens is certainly having its effect on the squaddies. Take the case of poor Grenadier Guardsman Frank Freeman who was arrested with a dreamy, satisfied smile on his face as he lay on the floor of the Hoobrook Chip Inn, Kilderminster, covered in grease from chin to toe, the carcasses and bones of chickens and fish scattered all around him, three hours after the shop had closed.

It was, said his defence counsel, "a drunken lapse", he was actually burgling the place!

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WHATEVER sort of meat the legs of Dungannon RUC constable Karl O' Rork are made of, they certainly made an impression on the black Labrador which was passing Karl and a colleague in

the town's Market Square. As the RUC man got within dining distance, the dog lunged at him and bit him on the right thigh. The NSPCA is investigating.

\*\*\*

THE recent riots in Britain would appear to have raised public awareness somewhat, if the BBC's *Blankety Blank* programme of last Friday is anything to go by. When it came to the head-to-head game, the finale of the show, the word to be matched was 'Plastic'.

To the embarrassment of the show's presenter, Les Dawson, the word picked by a panel member was 'bull-et'.

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SINN Fein Ard Oifig has certainly been on its toes this year and, despite a tight deadline, has managed to produce an entirely bilingual *Clar* for this year's Ard-Fheis.

The same cannot be said of the Dublin govern-

ment — official promoter of the Irish language — which had no Irish translation available of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 1985, published on October 17th last!

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SEEMS like the Accounts Staff of AP/RN at 44 Parnell Square haven't caught on to the fact that, just like the families of employees of Kellogg's Cornflakes, they cannot enter the company's competitions.

They correctly guessed that the photograph of the 9-year-old 'angel' was, of course, Ian Paisley, who was at the GPO (putting up posters in the dead of night last year) but who 'didn't fight there'.

Sinn Fein Director of Publications Danny Devenny asked if it was Gerry Adams!

On the advice of Mrs B. Turner, Brookfield, Dublin, the £10 goes to An Cumann Cabhrach.

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THE Free State's increased border security has certainly left its rear exposed.

In the early hours of Saturday, October 5th, raiders swooped on the Baldonnel Air-base canteen — behind the guardroom, no less — and captured significant quantities of cigarettes, sweets and track-suits (just in case

they had to do a runner with the loot?).

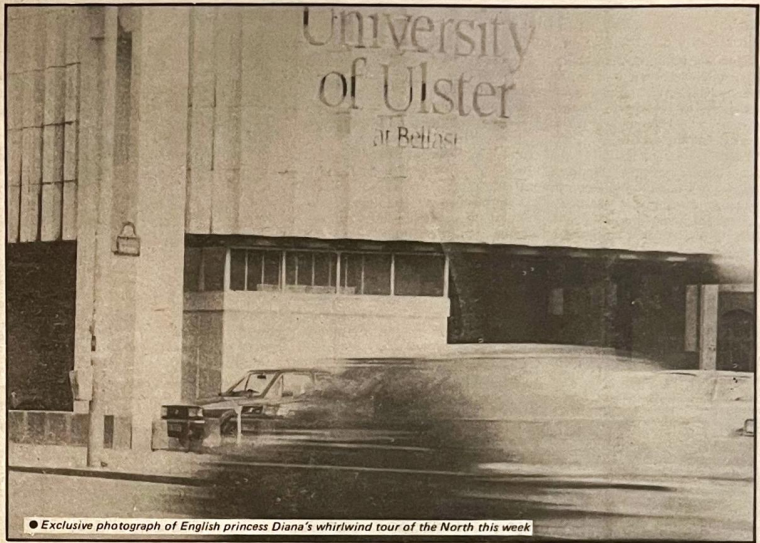
Intelligence sources inform me that a similar military exercise was carried out in the Curragh last week but unfortunately lines of communication broke down (he ran out of 5p pieces) before a full damage report could be compiled.

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BENJAMIN Molise, who was murdered by the South African government last week, was the 87th person to

# The Liam Og Column

## A drunken lapse



● Exclusive photograph of English princess Diana's whirlwind tour of the North this week

be hanged since the beginning of the year. Another 210 are awaiting execution. In 1984, 80 people were hanged, in 1983, 50 were hanged and, in 1982, 74 people were hanged.

Molise's body will remain state property and in about a week's time his mother will be given a grave number indicating where he has been buried.

Like 27-year-old Bobby Sands, 28-year-old Benjamin Molise died for the right of a people to be free. Like Bobby Sands in his prison diary, the young poet on death-row wrote about his maker and the cause he was dying for:

"Why must we fear death?  
Death fears no-one.  
Whoever is created from dust to dust must return one day.  
The time and mode of my death have already been decreed.  
Am I lucky?  
The guessing game of my destiny awaits me no more.  
Nobody can be proud of his relationship with God if the uncertain becomes certain."

God is the only knower of the unseen.  
I am proud to be what I am,  
I am proud to have done what I did.  
The storm of oppression will be followed by the rain of my blood.  
I am proud to give my life, my one solitary life."

## Dúirt siad

"According to the basic principle of war we have the right to retaliate. We have the right to kill, we have the right to plant them six feet under, where they belong."

— Loyalist George Seawright, who boasted that he would personally lead car-bombers into Dublin.

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"Some people are good on the box, and Sinn Fein's Martin McGuinness is one of them. Unionist Gregory Campbell is not. It is not his fault, but his face is mean where McGuinness is open, his voice is strident where McGuinness's is calm."

— Mail on Sunday's television critic, perhaps revealing the real reason why the *Real Lives* BBC programme was initially banned.

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"I was particularly angry when I saw representatives of the Ulster Workers Council — the men who bore a terrible responsibility for the violence — being lionised on BBC programmes... I had no doubt that the UWC had been helped all along by the BBC's treatment of the strike as an industrial dispute and not a political stoppage."

— From Northern Ireland by former Labour direct-ruler Merlyn Rees, just published.

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"It can be argued that the UN's seal could give the agreement a quasi-treaty status. In effect, it could be tantamount to an acknowledgment by the Republic before 159 nations of the legal status of Northern Ireland within the United Kingdom for as long as the majority of people living there so wish."

— Irish Times report on the disastrous effect any lodging of a London-Dublin agreement with the UN would have, effectively undercutting articles 2 and 3 of the Constitution of the twenty-six counties.

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"The Irish government is thought to be unhappy with the cardinal's blanket condemnation of violence and would prefer him to single out the IRA for special criticism."

— Irish Press report speculating on the reason why Garret FitzGerald snubbed Archbishop O'Connor of New York by refusing to attend a special Mass to mark the 40th anniversary of the UN.

