

REPUBLICAN news



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MEDIA MYTHS

IN OUR conscious effort to organise against the British and resist their repressive rule we are making history, and we are way ahead of the enemy in the process.

The IRA has not been defeated, but, as is shown by the first six months of this year, goes on. The Brits cannot remove them from their strength — ghetto support; nor divorce the IRA from its rural bases.

Republican propaganda forges the lessons of history into our great cause of freedom.

England established herself here by using brute force, wholesale slaughter and by dispos-

sessing the natives. She did it over a period of 800 years, and every single day of her occupation in Ireland is our criteria for continued struggle.

England used total repression and total war; then from a position of strength "legitimised" her presence, and decorated it with laws and institutions.

It is against this "legitimised" background ("forget the past" is their advice!), achieved over a period of 800 years' subjugation, that

most of the media, the Church, the Sticks, the SDLP and other reformists join with the Loyalists/Brits in their bias.

None of this hypocrisy wears on us or our supporters.

Principle Number 1 for us is that Britain has absolutely no right to be here. All else flows from that.

MEDIA AIDS BRITS

This principle has transcended time whereas the collaborators of yesteryear, having retarded the struggle in exchange for establishment rewards, are notoriously dumped when the histories of national independence struggles have been written.

The Brits have merely tailored their excessive use of force to within limits agreeable to a media who can concede anyway the context of the British presence as legitimate!

Just like last week the tenor of most newspaper, TV and radio reports were favourable to the British Army slaughter of 3 unarmed IRA volunteers, but hysterically condemnatory of the IRA killings of armed RUC men.

It is a yardstick of the media that the British Army never murder (they just kill), and that the RUC never torture (under great provocation they just ill-treat). Houses are often searched (never wrecked).

But who are the Republicans? Why are they "terrorists" and "godfathers", who "intimidate and kneecap", and "murder" "innocent policemen" and "young soldiers", and who "hold whole communities to ransom".

And the poor Loyalists? Why they are just "paramilitaries", engaged mainly in "community and welfare work"; they are "created" by the IRA, and "got caught up" in the troubles.

The unmentionables are old Sammy Devenney, young Patrick Rooney, Willie Halligan, Brian Smith, Mrs. Worthington, Bloody Sunday, Brian Stewart, Majella O'Hare, and the rest of the long forgotten victims of "understandable mistakes".

As for the rights of the men in H-Block? Outside of 'Hibernia', the establishment media is unanimous; sure aren't they refusing to wear the criminal uniform.

Our struggle is based on the reality of people's sufferings, not the media's myths. Inside we print an experience "I am Sir, you are 1066", which is horrific reality in H-Block and which surpasses, but without media acclaim, the celebrated conditions in Colditz, Peter Niesewand in Rhodesia, or Solzenitzin's tales.

It is the British who are uncivilised, not us. They introduced violent death, torture and the prison camp into our history. We believe we have to destroy English rule in Ireland if peace and prosperity is to be achieved.

We have the will to do it, the support, the materials, the time, and we can make the sacrifices....

IRA execute informer

LAST SUNDAY 25th June the IRA in South Armagh executed Mr. Patrick McEntee from Crossmaglen, and a former member of the British Army.

In a statement they said that he had been "under observation for 18 months. He was then positively identified during a recent interrogation of a member of the State Forces".

The statement continued: "Mr. McEntee under interrogation admitted that he had passed information" to the Brits, "whom he met at a pre-arranged point on the roadway near Lislea, in South Armagh."

An IRA spokesman said that the informer on occasions left messages inside a matchbox, which was then placed in a crevice on a wall to be later picked up; that he was receiving regular payments for his information; and that informers in the past had been the cause of much local suffering, raids, arrests, jailings and killings.

ALL OUT ON 2nd JULY

**Sinn Fein Demonstration
Against 'H' Blocks (see page 2)**

WAR NEWS

The Irish Republican Army have issued us with statements claiming the following operations.

Friday June 23

BELFAST

A booby-trap set off by remote control injured three RUC men and one military policeman in Duncairn Gardens. The occupation forces were lured into a carefully planned ambush and were extremely fortunate in escaping without fatalities.

Jay Wear wholesale manufacturers, Lisburn Road, was badly damaged in a double explosion. All vol-

unteers returned to base safely.

Sunday June 25

CROSSMAGLEN

A 200lb bomb was set off by remote control and threw three members of the first Para regiment off their feet. The full charge failed to explode.

FERMANAGH

A member of a UDR patrol was killed and one was injured when their mobile patrol came under landmine and gun attacks from an 8 man A.S.U. using the M60 machine gun.



Andersonstown H-Block Protest "THEIR FINEST HOUR"



A MARCH and Rally organised by the O'Carroll/Tierney Sinn Fein Cumann was held in Andersonstown on Thursday June 22nd.

The march led by the Cahal Brugha Band followed by the O Carroll/Tierney Sinn Fein Banner and Lenadoon R.A.C. assembled at the Levadoon Shops and marched to the Busy Bee car park where the rally was held.

The Chairman's opening remarks in Irish called for support for the Irish P.O.W.'s in their fight for political recognition. He called for a one minutes silence which was observed in honour of, "Three of Ireland's bravest men, Vols. Brown, Mailey and Mulvanna, killed in action earlier in the week in North Belfast". The meeting expressed sympathy with their relatives and comrades.

A statement was then read by a speaker from the girls on Lock up in Armagh gaol pledging their support with their comrades in H Block and Crumlin Road gaol. They thanked the people who supported the fight of the P.O.Ws.

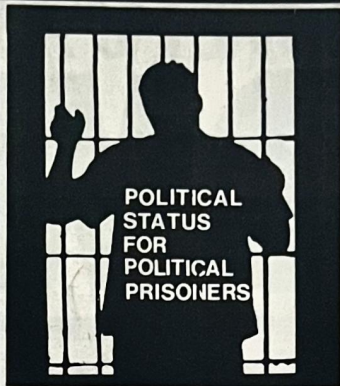
The women in Armagh, the statement went on, also refuse to be classified as criminals. Those who are sentenced are refusing to work and are presently locked up for twenty one hours per day — without parcels and with only one visit a month. The girls on remand are allowed out four at a time, subject to the whims of the screws. This came about because the girls refused the prison food as a token of solidarity with their comrades in "H" Block. "No matter what is meted out to us",

the statement continued, "We will continue to fight for recognition as Prisoners-of-War and we will stand alongside our comrades in H Block".

Leo Wilson, who is well known for his work in the A.L.J. spoke as the father of one of the Blanket Boys. His teenage son Padraic is incarcerated in "H" Block and defying the criminalisation policy. Leo Wilson gave a moving account of the sufferings of the Blanket Men and spoke of their high morale despite their ill-treatment. "These boys are not criminals", he declared. "They sought no personal gain — their only ambition was to seek the freedom of their country".

The Sinn Fein speaker urged the people of Andersonstown to make the ill-treatment and plight of the men and women protesting for Political Status a priority. "We cannot", she said, "turn a deaf ear to their plea for help, as they call out to us. They have sacrificed the young and best years of their lives in the stench and isolation of the hell hole that is "H" Block."

The meeting ended with a rendering of the National Anthem by the Cathal Brugha Band.



LURGAN RAC PROTEST

LURGAN Relatives Action Committee will hold a march and rally in Lurgan on Sunday 2nd July to highlight the plight of Republican Prisoners on the blanket in the H Blocks of Long Kesh, Crumlin Rd. and Armagh Gaols.

All organisations and

individuals who are interested in the retention of Political Status are asked to support the march and rally.

The march will assemble at Levine Rd. Kilwilke at 2.30 p.m. and will proceed to Francis St. for a public meeting.

Newry S.F. Picket



THE PICTURES above and below show the Father Murphy Sinn Fein Cumann who have been holding a picket in Hill Street, Newry for the past eight weeks in support of the Republican P.O.W. in H Block, Long Kesh.

The Father Murphy Cumann calls on the people of Derrybeg and the Newry people in general, especially the ex-Republican Prisoners, who should know how much suffering the men in H Block are enduring, to show some support for these brave young Irishmen in their determined fight for P.O.W. Status.

— P.R.O. Father Murphy, Sinn Fein, Derrybeg, Newry.



DERRY H-BLOCK FLOAT



SINN FEIN COMHAIRLE CEANNTAIR BEAL FEIRSDÉ

Call on all Republicans, on all people who hunger for Justice

to MARCH on SUNDAY, 25th JUNE

In support of Irish P.O.W.'s on the Blanket in "H" Blocks, Long Kesh and 'B' Wing, Crumlin Rd. Gaol. These men suffer because they refuse to submit to the British policy of criminalisation. They suffer and endure for Ireland and for us the people of Ireland.

Marchers will assemble at 2.00 p.m. at the points below

Twinbrook, Lenadoon, Andersonstown.....Shaws Road
Clonard, Colin, Pool.....Clonard Street
Beechmount, Iveagh, Broadway.....Beechmount Ave.
Turf Lodge, Gransha, Upper Andersonstown.....Glen Rd. Roundabout
La Salle, St. James, Whiterock, Westrock, Ballymurphy,
New Barnsley, Dermott Hill.....Bottom Whiterock Rd.
Short Strand, Markets, Newington, New Lodge, Ardoyne,
Unity Flats, Lower Falls, Divis Flats.....Waste Ground Divis Flats

RALLY WILL BE HELD IN FALLS PARK AFTER MARCH



'I AM SIR, YOUR ARE 1066!'





We print below
another article
smuggled out from
within the H-Blocks.

It was written by a young
West Belfast Republican.

I MUST have died last night because when I awoke this morning I was in hell. I don't really know how I got here. I don't think I done anything to deserve being here.

But I am here and I am suffering terribly. I think I am in some sort of tomb, I can not see as everywhere is in total darkness. I have no clothes on me except some sort of rag around my waist.

The floor of my tomb is covered in a wet mushy substance, the source or nature of it I don't know. There is revolting stench lingering in the darkness and the air is warm, heavy and humid.

There is something soft and damp lying in the corner which seems to be some sort of bedding to lie upon.

I can hear heavy booming noises echoing all around me like thunder. Somehow it reminds me of heavy doors closing. I checked the four walls of my tomb, there appears to be some sort of a door in one of the walls.

I can't understand my being here, what I wonder will become of me? I know I am a human being, although I'm naked and bearded. I can think and breathe. Am I in hell or some sort of limbo?

I can hear heavy footsteps approaching. They stop quite near to me. There is someone or something nearby, I can hear it moving and breathing. It is watching me. More noise directly outside my tomb, a rattle of metal against metal. A square form of light begins to materialise revealing an entrance as a door swings open.

A figure stood in the grey dim light of the doorway. It was a human figure, dressed in what appeared to be some sort of black uniform. It stood scrutinising me in silence for several seconds, before letting out a terrifying yell that sent shivers shooting through my body, "I am sir!" the words echoed around my tomb, "I am a Sir!", it bellowed again "I am a Sir, you are 1066".

The door slammed shut with a loud explosive boom, killing the dim light where the entrance had been. Still afraid to move I stood in the total darkness. What is 1066, I thought. Obviously it is me, but I can think, speak, smell and touch, I have all my sense, therefore I am not a number. I am not 1066 I am human, I am not a number, I am not 1066!

Who or what is a Sir? It frightened me, it was evil. I sensed its hatred of me, its eagerness to dominate me and its potential violent nature!! Oh! What will become of me?

I remember once I had a family. Where are they? Will I ever hear or see of them again?

Its watching me, once more the door opens again. The dim light gives off a little illumination revealing the black uniform figure at the doorway. "I am a Sir" it said, "here is your food 1066".

A bowl was thrust into my hands as the door slammed. Before the light died I caught a glimpse of the floor. It was covered in filth and rubbish. There were several maggots clinging to my legs. The walls were covered with a mass of flat bloating flies.

Once again I was terror stricken, I paced the floor aghast at my surroundings. The bowl in my hand was gold, it contained some sort of porridge or gruel, the smell from it revolted me. I set it down on the floor.

Pacing the floor in total darkness I became engulfed with depression and despair; I wished I was dead. "But I am dead", I said aloud, "I can't even kill myself" I thought.

A breeze, I felt a breeze coming from the wall behind me. Feeling about I touched a piece of cloth, I tugged it and it fell. A light of great intensity hit my eyes, temporarily blinding me. My tomb became illuminated with light, revealing a window divided with concrete bars. Stepping closer thousands of lights of every size and colour appeared in my view. These lights were perched upon mountains of barbed wire that glittered and sparkled amid beams of the ink-black horizon.

Another step forward and still looking straight ahead a small building loomed up in front of me, displaying a dozen or so windows, all of which were brightly lit up. Several naked figures appeared at each window. The building was thirty yards away; I could see that all the figures were bearded, they all seemed to be fairly young but all their faces were pale and haggard. They were young men but had old Men's faces. Was I gazing at death?

These figures kept staring out at nothing, or pacing too and fro. Footsteps again!

I turned, apprehension again gripping me, to await my door being opened again. My new found curiosity having diminished, I fell deeper into the depths of depression and despair. The thought of what lay on the other side of the door tortured me.

"CONFORM"

The door swung open, and several black uniformed figures stood there surrounding a very small fat evil looking person who evidently was the leader. They all glared at me, and then began to spout at me again, "I am a Sir", "I am a Sir", "You will conform", "Conform", "Conform". They all grabbed me and started to beat me and kick me while screaming, "You will conform", "You will conform in H-Block 5."

I awoke shouting and rolling on a filthy mattress on the floor. "Where am I?" My cell mate said, "are you alright Sean?"

"Where am I", I said.

"You are in your cell", you must've been having a nightmare", he said.

My cell door opened a black uniformed figure stood there.

"Food", he said.

"What was that mister?", I said.

"You call me Sir, your in the 'H' Block now! Your in 'H' Block 5. Don't forget it 1066!"

Demand PoW status

STATEMENT FROM P.R.O. H4 Block

Marked increase in harassment

IN WHAT seems a last ditch attempt by the Northern Ireland Office to break the H-Block Blanket Protest before the Autumn election in Britain there has in recent weeks been a marked increase in harassment of Republican prisoners here, resulting in a further worsening of conditions and a heightening of tension to a dangerous level.

Three weeks ago upwards of 100 prisoners were transferred from H3 and H5 to H4 which already housed 30 Republicans and 40 Loyalists, who are now engaged in the blanket protest.

This most recent harassment began with the increase in physical attacks by screws on Republican prisoners. This type of harassment began in 'A' Wing of H4 and has spread to other wings in the block.

Several cells were hosed down by the screws soaking mattresses and blankets in the process. They refused to change either mattress or blankets. The prisoners effected have had to lie on the stone floor when sleeping, covering their naked bodies in a damp blanket.

The prison authorities are now attempting to cope with an acute shortage of prison orderlies by drafting in several mentally sub-normal prisoners to work as orderlies in H4 Block. There are two orderlies who at the time of their sentencing were recommended for "careful psychiatric supervision", throughout their detention. Both these orderlies are being encouraged by the screws to hose down Republican prisoners and throw slops in through our cell windows. On Saturday last there was several prisoners attacked and beaten up by the screws.

Nerves reached breaking point the following day when the prisoners, on returning from Mass, found their cells sprayed with highly concentrated disinfectant. The fumes from this caused nose bleeding, vomiting and in some cases fainting among the prisoners.

As a result of these incidents the prisoners smashed their cell windows. Later on Sunday the screws refused to replace leaking tea mugs and cracked eating utensils to prisoners in 'D' Wing H4. Despite repeated requests by the Wing D/C, the screws insisted that prisoners with broken tea mugs and plates would just have to do without. It was then decided by the prisoners in the other 3 Wings to throw away their utensils until the screws replaced the broken mugs. The screws response was to serve us all our meals, even tea, in a small plastic bowl, despite the fact that a stock of replacement utensils is held in the Wing canteen.

This latest step up in harassment by the prison screws comes in the wake of increased calls at home and abroad for the restoration of political status for prisoners of war in the Six Counties.

This reaction by the Northern Ireland Office to the ever increasing pressing to close the 'H' Blocks is typical of all that we have come to expect from the Brit Government.

However this and any further attempts by the screws to break the morale of us on protest will be met with the same determination and resolve that has carried the blanket protest for the past 2 years to what must surely be the brink of victory in 1978.

- PRO H4 Block, Long Kesh.

BRITISH 'JUSTICE' INSIDE ARMAGH GAOL

A PROMINENT feature of Brit harassment over the past ten years has been the manner in which Republican prisoners have had to serve out their sentences the hard way.

The following statements were smuggled out to "Republican News" from within Armagh gaol. The first is from the Republican P.R.O.:

"We would like to highlight the harassment by the screws of our visitors. Not content with being gaolers they are now working as detectives as well. This is substantiated by recent incidents which have happened to our visitors. On one occasion one of our comrades' visitor, when entering the gaol was directed to go to the RUC at Armagh Barracks in order to prove her identification. The screws said they were dissatisfied with her I.D."

Another aspect of prison harassment can be seen from the following statement sent to us by a woman protesting prisoner.

I have been a 'Protest Prisoner' in Armagh gaol for almost one year now. I am serving a four year sentence. I had a baby daughter in March of this year, and I decided that it was best to send my child out to my family when she was six weeks old. The reason being

that as a 'protest prisoner', I serve a double punishment: Not only are we locked up for each day that we refuse to work but we also lose remission on a day to day basis. So, if I had kept my child with me, I would have had to part with her when she was one year old, and still have two years to serve. Whereas, if we had our rightful status as political prisoners, I wouldn't have had to part with my child at all.

From Monday 29th May, I had been sick from the effects of the heat and had been receiving medical attention. On Wednesday 31st May, I felt very sick and had started to vomit. My cellmate called to the 'screw' and explained the situation, then asked her to open the door of the cell. The 'screw' told her not to be cheeky! and walked away. My comrades also shouted repeatedly for her to get someone as I was ill, but although there were several screws on the wing at the time, none of them would respond and despite numerous calls to get one of the medical staff, they continued to ignore us. Among the screws there was one in particular who seems to derive great pleasure in continually antagonising us. At 5.35 p.m. my celldoor was finally opened. I was the last prisoner to be unlocked, though they knew I was sick. I went directly to the P.O. and complained about the treatment, naming the screw responsible. The P.O.'s attitude was both unconcerned and patronising. I knew that it was futile to complain any further as nothing would be done.

I returned to my cell and a nurse came to see me. She took my temperature and pulse, gave me tablets to stop me vomiting and told me to see the Doctor, which I did. The next morning I was up on a charge of verbally insulting a screw, more or less undermining her so-called authority. I went in front of the Governor that afternoon. We had a conversation during which he asked why I had not made a complaint in the regular

(Continued on page 8)

★ 'ON THE BLANKET' ★ IN B WING, CRUMLIN

THE PROTEST for political status is taking place in three centres, Long Kesh 'H' Blocks, 'B' Wing, Crumlin Road Gaol and Armagh Womens Prison. There are almost 350 men and women taking part in the protest.

Six Republicans in 'B' Wing Crumlin outline the conditions they are held in.

"We wish to inform our readers about the conditions the six of us are held in. We are kept in solitary confinement and are put on the boards every 14 days for 3 days. We are allowed to wear a towel and an old pair of gym slippers, which occasionally are thrown away by the crims.

No one who hasn't been through solitary confinement can know what it is like to sit all day alone. We are allowed one book per week but recently a certain screw has been ripping the books up to prevent us reading them. We

are not allowed papers, radios, or tobacco. All we get in our monthly parcel is hankies, soap and shampoo.

Now the Boards: What happens is a P.O. comes into our cell and orders us to put on the uniform, we refuse and are placed "on report" that afternoon we are brought out naked to see the governor, we are kept standing in the middle of the wing until he is ready to see us. We are brought before the governor he reads out the charges we refuse to answer.

Then we're sentenced to three days confined to cell

(boards) 28 days loss of remission, 14 days loss of pay, 14 days loss of privileges. Then our cells are cleared of everything except a water container and chamber pot, we spend the 3 days with nothing except a towel, winter or summer.

On May 24th we refused to go to the governor naked. We asked to be allowed to wear a towel as it was degrading and embarrassing to stand naked in the middle of the wing before the governor. This was refused and approx. 20 to 30 screws were brought in and we were forcibly taken up to the governor naked. Some of the men had their arms twisted up their backs and their hair was pulled, we refused to stand up for the governor. We were held up by two screws.

This week has seen another attempt to break us. We were told that when we left the cell we had to do so naked. We refused to leave the cell at all. The governor told us then that we could wear towels when leaving our cells. Some of the men who were on the blanket here last year lived for 7 months naked all the time on a No. 1 diet for 3 days every time they were on the boards. We have told the governor that we would be willing to wear the trousers to Mass. But he has refused us.

I forgot to mention that the only reason we were allowed the slippers is because of medical reasons and they were recommended by the doctor. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people who are supporting us and it heartens us to see such massive support and also the R.A.C. for all their work."

Slain Belfast Volunteers laid to rest



Vol. Dennis Brown



Vol. Jacki Mealy



Vol. Jim Mulvenna

"LET US NEVER FORGET THEM. NEVER LET THEM BECOME NAMES ON A PIECE OF COLD MARBLE, TO BE REMEMBERED ONCE A YEAR".

THE DULL dismal weather added to the tragic scenes as the three volunteers, Dinny Brown, Jacki Mealy and Jim Mulvenna were carried on their final journey from their districts in North Belfast. All three coffins were carried to the edge of the Bone area as thousands of local people paid their last respects to the dead men.

As the cortege passed along Oldpark Avenue the RUC and Brits attempted to stop the procession until the tri-colours were removed from the coffins. But the mourners pushed past the RUC and continued the journey to Milltown.

At one stage mourners were angered at two RUC men who stood laughing at the hearses.

Hundreds of people turned out on the New Lodge Road and Unity Flats to pay their respects.

As the shrilling wails of the lone piper hung in the air, the Falls Road came to a stand-still as the procession slowly made its journey up it.

Thousands of people lined the route and many people mourned openly. One old woman commented about the hundreds of coffins she had seen in her life time "Go up the road. All for the same cause".

Many of the mourners, ex-prisoners, who had served time with one or more of the dead volunteers, expressed disgust at the manner in which their friends had met their death. "Cut down like animals" was the most common of phrases. Some others said that the Brits had "dog killed" on this occasion and would regret it.

The procession stopped to allow IRA comrades to fire a volley of shots over the coffin as a final salute.

Slowly the procession moved on to the cemetery to the new Republican Plot where the bodies would be interred.

While the last post was played a British army helicopter flew low overhead in an attempt to drown the bugler. "They never let up", said one of the graveside mourners. "We can't even bury our dead in peace", said another.



Mourners listen as the bugler plays "The Last Post" over the coffins of the dead volunteers.



As the coffins were lowered into their graves Liam Hannaway of Belfast Sinn Fein, lead the crowd in a decade of the Rosary, in Gaelic.

"On behalf of the Republican Movement, comprising. Sinn Fein, and kindred organisation, I offer the family of these young men our sincere sympathy and I hope that God will comfort them in their lonely hours". He then went on to introduce Johnny Johnston from Derry who gave the graveside oration,

"A Chairde,

What words I have I will use to try to convey to the families of these brave men my deepest and heartfelt sympathy on their tragic loss.

"I never met these young men but I know their calibre, because I've met others like them who have travelled the same road as they have and I know the feeling that lingers deep down inside the relatives of these men as they stand around this graveside. The same feeling of despair and loneliness has haunted countless numbers of generations of Irish people who have laid to rest their loved ones who died in the centuries old war to free Ireland from British rules.

"Perhaps the comfort for these families will come when they remember the small love-talk they had with their husbands when they were alone together. Talking about the future for their children and hoping that their children would never experience the suffering of imprisonment and arrest as they had done.

"These men all experienced imprisonment, and had felt the British bullets in their bodies, before today. But still they didn't give in. They didn't lie down. They became active again. Let their determination be our inspiration for the future. There is a debt owed to these men and to their families; we must repay it.

"These men took up the gun in the hope that their young children wouldn't have to take it up.

"This situation was forced upon them by the policy of the British, which is designed to keep down the Irish people. But the bravery of these men has shown the British that we are never going to lie down, until we get what is rightfully ours, our Freedom.

"This war will continue and there may be many more war widows to follow coffins, and fatherless children, because the British refuse to leave us in peace.

"These men died in the sure knowledge that others will step forward and take their place in the struggle.

"Let us never forget them. Never let them become names on a piece of cold marble to be remembered only once a year."

When the oration ended the gathered mourners began to quietly disperse. Many evidently burdened with the enormity of the tragedy, walked with their heads slumped downwards.



Mourners march behind the three Tri-Colour draped coffins on the Falls Road.

THIS WEEK we print the final part of our series of extracts from the book "War on the Mind" by journalist Peter Watson.

Obviously we do not agree with the overall politics of the book - of how to give imperialism a human face. However, we believe that the extracts we have printed on internationally developed interrogation techniques should be of good use to those of our readers unfortunate enough to fall into the hands of British military intelligence and the RUC Special Branch.

During the Korean War some 7000 Americans were captured. Roughly one in three of the American prisoners collaborated with the Communists in some way, either as informers or as propagandists. In the twenty prison camps, 2730 (roughly 30 per cent) died, the highest mortality rate among prisoners in U.S. history.

The unusual sight of American soldiers 'confessing' that the U.S.A. had a germ-warfare programme against China (and taking part in other propaganda broadcasts directed against the interests of the U.S.A. naturally attracted a great deal of attention. What were the methods used to achieve these remarkable changes?

To begin with, squads of captured American personnel would be placed in a general camp. The first efforts were directed at destroying the unity of the squad; leaders would be discouraged from acting as leaders and if they persisted would be moved to a special camp for 'reactionaries'. (It has to be remembered that all the time the prisoners were uncertain as to their fate; the dread of being killed no doubt made the personal situation much worse than it must appear to the reader.)

Another tactic was the development of the informer system. The captors understood enough group dynamics to know that in any group someone would turn informer from his own personal needs - to gain satisfaction, to feel superior and so forth. But they also ensured that, in the early stages at least, no one suffered as a result of informing. All they would do was have a chat with the man who had been informed upon and say that they realized he was really a 'victim' of society and sympathize to an extent. This ensured two things: first, that the informer was not picked upon by his fellow group members and thus information kept coming in; second, longer-term prisoners ceased to trust anyone. This helped to break up the group, added to the soldiers' insecurity and anxiety, and made thought reform that much easier.

BRAINWASH

Then came the indoctrination sessions. These were made up of both formal lessons and informal talk sessions. After capture the prisoners, expecting torture and possible death, were instead told that they were not held by their captors to be responsible in any way for the war. That responsibility was laid at the door of 'Imperialist Wall Street Warmongers'. The prisoners could not help but be grateful. Capitalizing on this feeling, the formal lessons did not try, unlike so much propaganda, to foster communistic feelings in the POWs, but rather to 'unsell' America. No Marxist tracts were used: instead articles from the American press and American literature were used.

Items were selected to show up the contradictions in American life, and to show how some people were still making a lot of money back home while 'these boys' were being captured. Post was censored so that they received only 'Dear John' letters, bills or bad news. In the informal self-criticism sessions, the soldiers stood up and confessed the error of their ways, criticized their own conduct and apologized to their fellow prisoners for this straying. It was a form of self-informing to the enemy and it succeeded in creating yet more feelings of guilt and anxiety. It was the first step in collaboration. Contrary to popular view, the amount of pressure applied by the captors was NEGATIVELY linked to giving in - the more it was needed, the less likely it was to succeed. About 12 per cent of all POWs accepted the Koreans' ideological teaching to any degree, but little relationship was found between the degree to which a man accepted the captor's ideology as his own and the extent to which he collaborated.

OLD TECHNIQUE

The main difference was the way a man responded to promises of preferential treatment. In other words, men who were influenced by, and accepted, material favours were those

who collaborated: 91 per cent of the resistors were not in the least swayed by the enemy's promise of rewards; but the same can only be said of 8 per cent of the collaborators. They were opportunistic. The bag of prizes included everything from better food to money. Collaboration was achieved in Korea by the old technique of blackmail. One would not expect to learn that if you wish to change someone's opinions you should pay him a small amount of money rather than a large amount. Yet this is precisely what you should do IF, as in brainwashing, the person's changed position is to be made public. It is as if paying a man too much smacks of bribery whereas a small amount counts as legitimate earnings. This is presumably what the Koreans practised when they only gave SMALL privileges for collaboration. Other experiments have shown that the prisoner is more persuaded by a captor who leaves his threats vague than by one who makes them explicit. Conversely, a captive who holds information which the captors want should make it clear that he knows what they are after. He is likely to be treated with more respect. The more the captive indicates that he understands the psychological reasoning behind threats the more the wind is taken out of the threateners' sails.

The most effective strategy in reducing aggression directed towards oneself has been found to be where the 'victim' matches his aggression to the 'aggressor'. In a prison camp this option will often be unrealistic yet, as with other research, this does encourage people to use whatever power they have, rather than adopt a completely passive role.

Clearly, if interrogation or brainwashing is going to be an aspect of capture, then it is the duty of the soldier to resist it. Any training he can be given in this thus makes a lot of sense. At the lowest level, merely making the soldier aware of the techniques available is a help, on a 'forewarned is forearmed' principle. But it is even more effective to give the soldier EXPERIENCE of these techniques: recent reports indicate that British naval officers in training on Dartmoor, Belgian paratroopers and U.S. Special Forces personnel in Germany have been doing just this.

RESISTANCE TRAINING

A study of resistors and collaborators in Korea concluded that the best way to look at the problem of building resistance is to think of interrogation and brainwashing as a stressful situation where the people either remove the stress by withdrawing psychologically from the situation (the resistors) or by taking some action to remove it (the collaborators).

Resistors and collaborators have more in common with each other psychologically than with others. In many cases collaboration should be seen more in a group context than an individual one. Where the Communists succeeded in breaking down the structure of the captives' groups, their hierarchy and so on, the ensuing group disorganization contributed substantially to the lack of resistance.

Soldiers with a better political grasp appeared to be better resistors than those who were less knowledgeable politically. But whether this was specifically due to their political knowledge for their natural interest in politics or to their higher general level of education is an open question. Since the Korean conflict, the military have, however, taken the liberal arts and the social sciences a lot more seriously -



SHING — WAR ON THE MIND

COERCIVE METHODS FOR ELICITING INDIVIDUAL COMPLIANCE

or at least have devoted more time to them in training their men. We can now proceed to a description of the more sophisticated special techniques under consideration or in use by the military to teach resistance to interrogation. Some of these were certainly taught to soldiers who fought in Vietnam because, as that war drew to a close, and many of the returning veterans grew disillusioned with their homeland, they passed on these techniques to some of the terrorist groups then spawning in the U.S.A. California police were at one stage very worried about the scale on which this was happening. One of the earliest accounts of resistance training was entitled 'Psychiatric aspects of training for honorable survival as a prisoner of war'. This account begins by questioning the concept of 'breaking point' beyond which a man will invariably break down. It quotes evidence to show that people vary over time in their ability to withstand stress and it is clearly helpful for trainees to be told this, to give them faith in their ability to 'soak up' punishment. A second point is that techniques tend to be fairly rigid and therefore the various stages of brainwashing may be anticipated by the captives and this also forearms them to some extent.

EDUCATION

Thirdly, 'It is vital to educate the combat member with regard to the overall nature of the conflict, the significance of the role of his organization, and the importance of the behaviour of each member thereof after capture.' This should include, a clear cut account of the enemy's activities in the past - especially, if possible, from someone who has actually experienced them. Lectures, films, demonstrations and personal participation are all recommended. 'The endurance of some physical discomfort may actually be helpful', though physical pain or injury need not occur. Training that familiarizes the trainees with the fear reaction is also a help and need not be linked too closely with any particular method. It should be pointed out that a good show of resistance in the early stages means that prisoners are likely to be left alone in the future. The experience of objectionable food is also a help and may make difficult diets easier to bear in the future. The men are specifically told that it is possible to go ten days without food, that they can travel 150 miles or more during that period with proper pacing, that hunger pangs often diminish after seventy-two hours and that they can exist for six months on half their usual diet - all of which can be made doubly meaningful if they train on long treks with short rations. The men are also told that a large percentage of enemy threats will be bluff, that the enemy will impose a demanding schedule, and use isolation to try to make the captive more suggestible. Men are taught ways of 'not hearing', to expect intensive interrogation after an initial softening up, and that they can accept some of what the interrogator says without losing their overall judgement. They should know that they can go without sleep for up to five days without harm, that they may have to stand for forty-eight hours, that a delirious reaction usually achieves some release and that this can be simulated. So far as indoctrination is concerned it is rare for physical coercion to be used; invariably it is psychological, and usually group-oriented. What counts here is that the soldier is well briefed on the war he is fighting and who and what his enemy is.

METHOD

1. Enforcing trivial demands

2. Demonstrating 'omnipotence' and 'omniscience'

3. Occasional indulgences

4. Threats

5. Degradation

6. Control of perceptions

7. Isolation

8. Induced delirium and exhaustion

VARIANTS

Enforcement of minute rules and schedules Forced writing

Confrontations Pretending to take cooperation for granted Demonstrating complete control over victim's fate Tantalizing with possible favours

Unpredictable favours Rewards for partial compliance Promises of better treatment Fluctuation of captor's attitude Unexpected kindness

VARIANTS (continued)

Of death or torture Of non-repatriation Of endless isolation and interrogation Against family or comrades Mysterious changes of treatment Vague but ominous threats

Prevention of personal hygiene Filthy, infested surroundings Demeaning punishments Various humiliations Taunts and insults Denial of privacy

Darkness or bright light No books or recreations Barren environment Monotonous food Restricted movement Absence of normal stimuli

Complete physical isolation Solitary confinement Semi-isolation Isolation of small groups

Semi-starvation Exposure Exploitation of wounds Induced illness Prolonged constraint Prolonged standing Sleep deprivation Prolonged interrogation or forced writing Over-exertion Sustained tensions

EFFECTS

Develops habit of compliance

Suggests futility of resistance

Provides positive motivation for compliance Reinforces learning Impairs adjustment to deprivation

Cultivates anxiety, dread and despair

Makes continued resistance seem more threatening to self-esteem than compliance Reduces prisoner to concern with 'animal' values

Fixes attention on predicament Fosters introspection Frustrates all actions not consistent with compliance Eliminates distractions

Develops intense concern with self Deprives victim of social support Makes victim dependent on interrogator

Weakens physical and mental ability to resist

TORTURE

- A world wide evil.



"IF WE lose our capacity to be outraged when we see others submitted to atrocities, then we lose our right to call ourselves civilised human beings."

Forthright words from Brazilian journalist Vladimir Hertzog who himself paid the price. He was found dead a few hours after being detained in Sao Paulo, Brazil, last October.

Torture as policy is not confined to H-Block and Castlereagh, but is world-wide. Embarrassed by the US government's support for the Chile regime which is estimated to be the world's worst, Henry Kissinger was compelled to admit: "A government that tramples on the rights of its citizens denies the purpose of its existence."

The other country cited along with Chile is Iran whose Shah is supported by the British establishment and whose Arabian Gulf allies are being propped up by the Brits formerly under the command of Creasey (of Six Counties notoriety).

In Chile, according to

reliable church sources, 1,000 people are estimated to have been put to death by secret police in the last three years since Allende was overthrown. In one wave of arrests 2,000 were lifted—370 were never seen again. Victims who live through the torture are transferred to a detention camp. Of 83 women at Tres Alamos camp 72 said they had been tortured by beating, rape, electric shock and burnings with lighted cigarettes.

In Iran similar torture "on an unprecedented scale" was reported by French lawyer Jean Michel Braunschweig who investigated conditions there last

year for the International Commission of Jurists. Estimates of the number of political prisoners range from 25,000 to 100,000.

The Shah, who claimed there were only about 3,500 such prisoners, added "But these are not political prisoners. These are Marxists, killers, terrorists..." (Where have we heard that line of reasoning before?) In fact, among those arrested and tortured in Iran were distinguished writers and intellectuals.

In Guinea a common torture is confinement in a cell too small to allow a prisoner either to stand up or lie down. A former prisoner, now in exile testifies: "The cell was about 4ft. by 2 ft. There was no window, no light, no bed, no place to go to the bathroom. For eight days I had no food or water."

Unfortunately, H-Block cells are not unique in the world today.

In Russia a common way of dealing with dissidents is to declare them insane and lock them away for years in mental hospitals. Low calorie diets and drugs produce pain and suffering as acute as more physical methods of repression.

Meanwhile, according to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, "No-one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment." Almost every state on earth pays lip service—but often little else—to that principle.

—Eldrida, Sinn Fein Foreign Affairs Bureau.

"Political Status will be won"

"POLITICAL STATUS for prisoners-of-war is no new idea, in every theatre of war prisoners have always been taken and accorded political status as a right. There is a situation in the North today where two opposing armies are locked in battle. The Brits on one hand and the IRA on the other. It was the Brits who declared that the present conflict was a war and they have admitted this countless times.

Republicans don't demand political status because they wish to improve conditions within the prisons. The real issue is a propaganda one i.e. the Brits determination to class Irish opposition as criminal and therefore all involved in military activities against them as criminals. Their propaganda has fostered this idea throughout the world, and everywhere that the Brits refer to the present troubles in the six occupied counties such names as "God-fathers", "Grandmothers of hate", "terrorists", is the common language used to describe Republican soldiers in the field.

The early days of this conflict saw Billy McKee and his comrades win this right but the Brits cleverly perverted the course of the conflict. They introduced sectarian murder, they fostered the Loyalist/Nationalist split to their own end. They split the Nationalist people by the Sunningdale agreement and having done this they then attempted to discredit Republican prisoners, believing that the Republican forces were so weakened by the turn of events that they would never be able to rally massive support again.

Unfortunately for them they have totally misread Republican sentiment, for the massive demonstrations are on the streets again. Everywhere throughout the North from Belfast to Derry and from Dungannon to Glenarm people are rallying around to defy the Brits and their oppressive measures.

Political Status will be won both by the people on the streets and by those gallant lads, Kieran Nugent and comrades who suffer daily in total defiance of the Brits criminalisation policy. Already Britain has suffered a set-back in her International propaganda campaign, she again finds herself the laughing stock of the world. Amnesty International has found her guilty of organised torture within her interrogation centers.

We in the Republican movement also keep in mind that 92% of the convictions in the courts today are based on confessions and it takes very little imagination to deduct how the confessions are extracted. So let us support the prisoners' demands for political status. Let us not only demand political status but BRITS OUT AND PEACE IN as well.

—South Tyrone
Comhairle Ceantair
Sinn Fein.

New show of support in Glasgow

TWO SOLIDARITY MEETINGS

AN AUDIENCE of 65 people, mainly housewives and school-children, watched a showing of "Home, Soldier, Home" in St. Bridget's Primary School, Torylen Glasgow 20th June.

The film, made by the United Troops Out movement, seeks to show the brutal and repressive role played by the British Army in Ireland through the words of ex-soldiers. It also deals with the use of the army as strike breakers in Britain itself.

The showing was organised by Socialist Unity a left-wing coalition contesting an election in the area. Before the film, Matt Montgomery, chairman of the Irish Defence League, spoke. Attacking the silence of other parties on the Irish question

he stressed the need for solidarity with the Irish National struggle. He pointed to the possibilities that exist in Glasgow for building a solidarity movement and appealed for support from the audience for the July 9th Prisoners demo in London.

Socialist Unity candidate Chris Bamberg also spoke. He dwelt on the treatment of prisoners in Ireland, North and South, and in jails in Britain. He pointed out that Glasgow school leavers who had no jobs to go to were being rounded up into the British army. He called for an end to army recruitment in schools.

Republican and other left wing literature on sale, including Republican News, sold out as

the audience left the hall.

At another meeting in Glasgow held on the 20th June which was attended by fifty people, a resolution was passed affirming unconditional support for the liberation struggle fought by the Irish Republican Movement.

The meeting organised jointly by the Michael Gaughan Cumann Glasgow Sinn Fein and the revolutionary Communist Group and addressed by speak-

ers from both organisations, emphasised the importance of self determination for the Irish people, and support for the P.O.Ws notably by attending the P.A.C. demonstration in London on July 9th.

It was also proposed that further meetings expressing solidarity should take place with the view to building a strong solidarity movement in Glasgow.

BRITISH 'JUSTICE' INSIDE ARMAGH GAOL

(Continued from page 4)
the manner, i.e. get a board paper and write out the complaint, the board paper is then sent to the N.T.O. for investigation. I told him I didn't have any faith in that method, it was the police investigating the police. The end result was always the same, the allegation was always proved unfounded.

I said that if prisoners made no written complaints it was merely because the knew they would come off the worse for it. He then told me he was going to be lenient with me, because he had spoken to the medical staff and they had told him I had suffered a great deal from the effects of heat stroke and the Doctor's written report confirmed this. I asked why no one would come up to open

the cell door for me. The screw concerned admitted that she had no keys. I then asked, "why, when she did get the keys was I the last to be unlocked, when she admitted herself she knew I was unwell? I got no answer to that question. The Governor again stressed that he was going to be lenient with me because of the medical report. Then he said that he found me guilty of undermining one of the officer's authority and I got 10 days lock-up and lost 14 days remission.

This is just a minor incident, but one which quite clearly illustrates, yet once again the sort of justice meted out to Republican prisoners.

—A Protest Prisoner
'B' Wing-Armagh Gaol

HANDS OFF IRELAND! No4

THEY TIED his two ankles with fine rope of thick cord tightly together. There was a big length of rope left over and he was stood against a wall not too close to it. When they asked him a question and he gave his answer they would shout "Lies" and they would pull the rope from under him. This went on for a long time.

We don't want British laws or British occupation of any kind. Belfast mothers of Irish political prisoners. Articles in this issue of Hands Off Ireland include: 'British Terror', statements and reports from relatives of Irish prisoners of war; 'The British Left and Irish Republicanism', Diane Fox; 'Solidarity Works Both Ways Comrades', Jim Reilly; 'Connolly and Irish Freedom — Part 1', Roy Spring.

Price 20p + 10p postage. From RCG Publications Ltd (RN), 49 Railton Road, London SE24 0LN.

NO-AND NO AGAIN TO A NUCLEAR FUTURE

... by Liam Henderson

THE FREE State Government, backed by EEC, British and US interests, are planning to impose nuclear power on the Irish people. The current Free State project, through the ESB, for FOUR nuclear reactors at Carnsore Point in Wexford is still another example of the political weakness and dependence of the Free State and Fianna Fail on international capitalist interests.

The first reactor, planned for immediate construction, will cost something on the region of £800 million — assuming current prices. This will be, and by far, the LARGEST single investment in the troubled history of the Free State. Fianna Fail have rejected widespread demands for an inquiry into the nuclear proposal — they want no debate, no discussion, no circulating information on nuclear power. And not for 'good' reason.

Who needs nuclear power?

Nuclear power, the result of the nuclear war industry of the 40s and the 50s, is controlled by a few giant multinationals who want to keep their profits high: WESTINGHOUSE and GEC, both US-based, have been through a serious crisis over the last few years. Orders for new reactors have fallen from 68 in 1970 to 12 in 1977. Carter does not want nuclear power in the US — the Americans know it's dangerous and uneconomic. So, Westinghouse and GEC have to solve their crisis by exporting nuclear reactors: where to? to the dominated countries of the world, to Brazil, Iraq, Argentina, the Philippines and...Ireland.

Underlying this import of nuclear power in Ireland though there is a very spurious argument about 'need' which must be examined. The ESB argue that the 'economy' needs more energy — so we need nuclear power. Of course, when the Free State says 'the economy' it means those who have power and control the economy — but, what about the unemployed, those thousands upon thousands of young people leaving school and looking for their first job — do they need nuclear power?

Our answer is NO — nuclear power DOES NOT CREATE JOBS — on the contrary, it destroys employment. In England, since nuclear power was brought in, the number of jobs in the energy industry has fallen from 150,000 to 30,000. Try and convince the power workers that they need nuclear power...those living on welfare, the small farmers who are being smashed by the EEC, the housewives — do they need nuclear power? The answer again is NO. Over the last 5 years the living standards of the working people have been cut to the bone — people can't afford to pay their ESB bills as it is. Yet we are told we need nuclear power because we "need more energy". In fact, the only people who really need more energy are the big multinationals with their machine dominated industries which destroy more jobs than they create. And the needs of capital can never be the needs of the people — class interests are squarely opposed to that one. The nuclear reactor itself



will create about 200 (yes two hundred) highly skilled jobs which will be probably filled by technicians of the multinationals. 200 jobs for the cost of £800 million — that's some cost per job. And that is for a reactor whose life-span is only 20 years...after that it is simply scrapped and scrapping it (or de-commissioning it, as it is called, in nuclear jargon), costs more than it cost to build it. If that kind of money was spent on proper housing, on building forests on bogs, on improving the health service and the schools, on doing research on wave, wind and sun power, the amount of jobs and the amount of energy which would be created would bear no comparison to the nuclear sham. But then that kind of decision making would need a government of the people, would need peoples power, not Fianna Fail.

The health and physical

dangers of the nuclear industry are also very substantial. Both the raw material, uranium, controlled again by the same multinationals, and the process itself involve huge quantities of radio-activity. A nuclear plant is radio-active for thousands of years after it is no longer in operation. Uranium, once processed, becomes plutonium — plutonium is the most deadly substance known to man. One millionth of a gram can cause lung cancer. A lorry carrying 25kgs (50 lbs.) of plutonium, the normal weight of a lorry-run, if it had an accident, would release 400 million cancer doses. And let nobody tell us lorries don't have accidents — the polluted and oil destroyed beaches are far too many to have any illusions on that score.

And to add to the scenario of a nuclear future let us remind ourselves that nuclear power will have to be defended by the Army — they are putting fully armed squads behind Securicor vans these days — you can imagine what they will do with lorries carrying plutonium. Those who live and work in the area, and particularly the workers of the plant, will be subjected to strict surveillance, phone tapping, security clearance etc. There will be, of course, no right to strike. That process is a process of MILITARISATION of the society. Civil rights go by the wayside when the security needs of nuclear power dictate. The implications for the working people would be enormous — NATO would be on the wings planning the whole affair.

In every country where objections to nuclear power have been voiced through public protest, they have been met with State violence. In Malville, France, last summer, one demonstrator was killed by the CRS. If we are to judge the reaction of the Free State from the anti-asbestos demonstrations couple of weeks ago, the battle against nuclear power will be long, protracted and probably quite violent. But this is a battle, as Guevara used to say, that must be fought — win or lose, it must be fought.

Special Branch surveillance of British students

BRITISH COMRADES report that secret surveillance of students seems to be on the increase.

Earlier this year Strathclyde Special (Branch) (SB) called at Paisley College of Technology in Glasgow and questioned a student on the 'political activities and sympathies of his colleagues'. Tax free payments were promised in reward. This incident brought an

official apology from the police but refused to satisfy students. And rightly so far evidence of further snooping has come to light.

One of the latest incidents involves students at Leeds Polytec who state that when they put their facilities at the disposal of the Anti-Nazi League their phones were tapped. Special Branch photographers have themselves been



Anti-nuclear demonstration

The first Irish mass anti-nuclear demonstration takes place in Carnsore Point — Wexford between 18th - 20th August 1978. The weekend will have exhibitions of alternative sources of energy; there will also be forums of discussion and debate, good music, food, enjoyment and a demonstration on the Sunday with speakers etc.

We're standing up to the imposition of nuclear power by the EEC and the 26 Counties State. We want your support in building a national 32-County mass anti-nuclear movement.

For further information contact:
Carnsore Point Festival Committee,
c/o 168 Rathgar Road, Dublin 6.

NOTES FROM THE CAMPUS

snapped by Cambridge students while at the Grunwick dispute.

And Keele students have sacked an employee who helped SB compile a list of left-wingers. Here two SB interviewed this man about 'dangerous types' on the campus. Also City of London Polytec reports undercover surveillance.

Members attending the Workers Revolutionary Party conference at Llandudno were photographed — again by police. SB visited two Sussex schools recently to inquire into the political views of teachers. Then there was the request to a local newspaper for all unpublished pictures of people attending an anti-abortion picket; and the striking workers from Reinforcement Steel Services who while occupying their plant found correspondence from their boss to the local police chief on the political activities of staff.



All this comes four years after the General Orders of the Metropolitan Police were leaked which said SB are to be informed of all known political or industrial meetings and demos, are to take shorthand notes at such meetings especially remarking on violent and inflammatory speeches and to follow up arrests and court cases.

Merlyn Rees — of renowned six county fame — has reported to the British Parliament that Special Branch men in England consisted of Metropolitan Police 409, provincial 850, ports and airports 300 and when openly cornered on the surveillance issue he remarked: 'The Special Branch does not keep lists of people because of their political view'. Need we say any more?"

Report on United Troops Out Movement London Conference

'We are part of a worldwide movement'



Horace Campbell making a brilliant speech in which he described British policies in Kenya. He is a lecturer and a member of the committee to defend detained Kenyan writer Ngugi wa Thiong'o.



George Lennox addressing the Conference. While serving with the Brits in Aden, Lennox exposed British torture methods. He was sent to jail for 3 years on a trumped up charge.



A representative of ZANU bringing the Conference the greetings of the oppressed people of Zimbabwe. He told how the Brits are trying to sabotage the Zimbabwe liberation struggle.

"IT WAS marvellous to hear the ZANU speaker; to hear him speaking of 700 or 800 years of Ireland's struggle, and of how moved he was by the RAC women's words about the prisoners. Such contacts should be maintained, for we are part of a worldwide movement."

This note of thanks was sent to the United Troops Out Movement after the Conference on the Role of the British Army. The Conference was held in London on June 10th. Many of the 250 people who attended expressed similar feelings.

There were many excellent speeches packed with information. On the one hand we learnt about the devious strategies of the British state for suppressing liberation movements throughout the world and revolution at home. On the other hand we learnt about the resistance of the oppressed people to British policies in the Third World, in Ireland in Britain.

The presence of British ex-soldiers on the platform showed that there is resistance even inside the imperial army.

The film 'Mau Mau' was shown at the start of the Conference. It gave a very moving picture of the sufferings of the Kenyan people under the harsh British regime.

NEW FILM

The new film 'Home, Soldier, Home' was a partic-

ular success, and requests for future bookings are flowing in.

In the film, ex-soldiers speak out against the colonial role of the British Army, and tell of their often horrifying experiences. The interviews are intercut with anti-war songs and powerful film of past British colonial wars, the present war in Ireland and the army's strike-breaking operations in Britain.

FIRST TIME

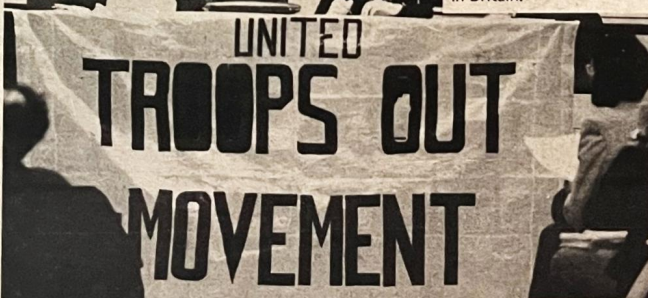
'Home, Soldier, Home' will be shown at the World Youth Festival in Cuba in July, and it is hoped that it will tour Ireland in the summer. It will also be shown throughout Britain in coming months.

The Conference brought together for the first time speakers describing many different aspects of British policy: its tactics in the Third World, its urban counter-revolutionary operations in Ireland, its 1984-style war preparations in Britain.

Above all it was very moving to see on the same platform speakers from Zimbabwe, Malaysia, the West Indies and Ireland, together with British ex-soldiers.

Truly we are part of a worldwide revolutionary movement. We hope that meetings throughout Britain in the future will take up the same theme.

The new film can be booked by writing to: Home, Soldier, Home, c/o Information on Ireland, 1 North End Road, London W.14. The standard hire charge is £10 plus postage and return. Donations would be much appreciated to pay off large debts.



Horace Campbell, John McGuffin and Phil Kelly. Phil Kelly outlined the British Government's counter-insurgency preparations in Britain.



Kathy Johnson from Belfast Relatives Action Committee, telling the conference about the struggle of the prisoners in H Block and Armagh Gaol. The two RAC representatives received a very warm welcome.

**POLITICAL STATUS
IS A RIGHT**

Elizabrit gets 'special' welcome in Germany



Banner supporting 'H'-Block prisoners in Germany.



Elizabeth Royce approaches Mainz protestors "check point".



Mainz demonstrators walk 2 feet in front of Elizabeth Royce carrying 'H' Block banner.

TWO WEEKS ago the West German Ireland Solidarity Committee (W.I.S.K.) staged a successful demonstration in the town of Mainz. They were demonstrating against Elizabrit's visit there.

Before her arrival a small fire-bomb exploded in one of the shops close to her route. This caused a flurry of nervous activity amongst the special branch men. In fact the fire caused a fifteen-minute delay for her "welcome".

Despite the fact that the whole route was controlled by British and German special branch and military police and that one member of the committee was arrested, the committee were still able to set up a protest "check point" in front of the Royal Rolls Royce.

Slogans demanding political status for the prisoners and victory to the IRA were held up about six feet from the front of the Royal Rolls.

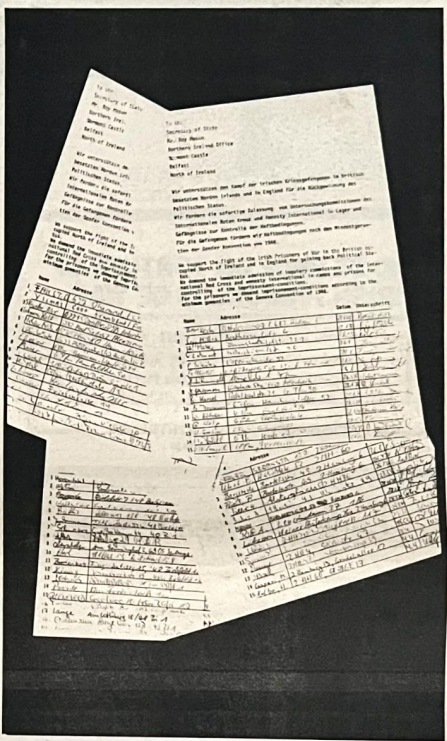
Millions of German and other foreign TV viewers witnessed the

demonstration live. They could see and hear the connection between Elizabrit and the torturous conditions in Long Kesh.

Our picture opposite shows just how close the protestors were to the Brit's number one mascot.

A short time later members of the committee were attacked and assaulted by the German special branch.

The W.I.S.K. have also collected thousands of signatures from German people demanding political status for Republican prisoners. We print a small sample of the petition forms below.



British students pledge support

AT THE end of what has been one of the most active years for Irish activists and supporters in Middlesex Polytechnic, a highly successful meeting was held at the Trent Park site of the college recently. The speakers were Micky Montgomery from Derry City, one of the 14 hooded men whose cases went to Strasbourg; Eilis Carlisle from the Belfast Relatives' Action Committee and Jane Crawford on behalf of the International Tribunal on Britain's Presence in Ireland.

Von McClarey opened up the meeting from the chair on behalf of the Union Executive and expressed pleasure at the very large attendance. The audience, composed mainly of English students then listened in hushed amazement to Micky Montgomery's description of what Britain's peacekeepers had inflicted on him during interrogation at their hands. Speaking quietly and without bitterness, as one of the audience later remarked, he reduced his audience to a horrified and stupefied silence.

As a sharp compliment to Micky Montgomery, Eilis Carlisle not only gave further evidence of British brutality

in Ireland, but told the meeting that the Irish people would never give up their fight for dignity and freedom. She remarked that, while she in no way wished to offend the students present, they should realise that many young Irish men and women had no chance of going to college, as the best years of their lives were being wasted away inside Roy Mason's prison camps. Her account of the conditions endured by the men in H H-Block demanding to be recognised as political prisoners drew sympathy from the audience. She ended by calling for support from the Union in forcing the British Government to recog-

nise them as prisoners of war.

Jane Crawford said she considered that cases such as these and the death of Brian Maguire in Castlereagh had to be investigated; this was the reason for the International Tribunal which would draw attention to the facts which had not been brought out as censorship in the media had recently shown. It was necessary to build support not just in the student movement, but internationally and throughout the labour movement.

The meeting ended with a collection for the Tribunal and the RAC and a commitment to extend the level of solidarity work within the College.

● For further information on this article please contact either Paddy Prendeville (01-328-1545) or Von McClarey (home: 01-254-0685/day 01-804-1958).



(Left to right): Micky Montgomery, Eilis Carlisle, Von McClarey, Jane Crawford, answer questions at meeting in Middlesex Polytech.



(Left to right): Eilis Carlisle, (R.A.C.), Von McClarey, (Chair), at Middlesex Polytech Meeting about 'H' Block Prisoners.



BELFAST BOY 'ON THE RUN'

In Memoriam

Fourth Anniversary
In Proud and Loving Memory
of
Vol. Gerard Craig &
Vol. David Russell
Derry Brigade,
Oglaigh na hEireann
Killed on active service
27 June 1974

Always remembered by their
comrades in the Republican
Movement.

Derry Brigade Staff & the
Volunteers & Officers of 1st
Battalion, 2nd Battalion, 3rd
Battalion, Oglaigh na
hEireann
Cumann na mBan
Fianna na hEireann
Cumann na gCailini

Derry Sinn Fein Comhairle
Ceantair & Cumainn Bogside,
Shantallow, Creggan,
Brandywell, Waterside &
Derry
PDF
National Graves Association

"God has given us strength &
courage & counsel, May he
also give us victory".

END SILENCE ON TORTURE OF IRISH PRISONERS OF WAR

Demonstration
Sunday 9th July Assemble 2.30pm
Speakers Corner Marble Arch

Prisoners Aid Committee
P&P 182 Upper Street London N1

Cork Sinn Fein thanks

ON SUNDAY 18th June Cork
Comhairle Ceantair Sinn Fein
held a very enjoyable supper
dance at Norwood Court Hotel.
This function was one of the
best attended in recent times. A
group of Na Fianna from San
Francisco also attended. Two

members of the Cork Voluntary
Pipe Band entertained our guests
with a selection of Irish Airs on
pipes. We of Cork Comhairle
Ceantair wish to thank everyone
for their support.

— Is mise
Pat O Leary P.R.O.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Mac Biorbhaga (A Wing Crumlin
Rd. Gaol). Breithla athis 19th do
Liam. Níl aon fear an ti agus ta ar
teach folamh agus ta me ag smaoi-
neadh le tusa gach la o mair.

Breithla athis 19th do Liam. Ta
bron ag an teach lena mna do ach
uabhar acu ort — O do Dheirfiur
Treasa agus Aisling.

Happy 19th Birthday to our Grand-
son Liam with love and pride from
your Grandparents, Elisabeth and
Phelim Murphy.

Happy 19th Birthday Liam. Hope
your next is spent in freedom.
They'll try to break your resistance
in a hundred ways or more, but we
know this will strengthen you and
make you stronger than before.
From all your friends and comrades
in the John Rooney, Fennell,
McDonnell Sinn Fein, Twinbrook.

Congratulations Liam on your 19th
Birthday. Your day will come and
justice will prevail. With pride from
Uncle Paddy, Auntie Maria, Denise,
Sean and Kerry.

Birthday Greetings Liam on this
your 19th Birthday. They may try to
break your spirit and treat you with
contempt, but how proud are we to
have a friend so dedicated to the
cause to make our land a nation
free from British claws. May God
bless and take care of you from all
your friends in the Twinbrook
R.A.C.

Happy 19th Birthday Liam. Let's
hope your next is spent in freedom.
These words are few but mean a lot
to tell you Liam we haven't forgot,
your still the biggest nut. From all
the Kirkpatrick Family.

*The Republican people of
the 400 + 500 blocks of Carnhill
salute your courage, Dixie, 1
year on the blanket on 16th
June. Happy 21st birthday on
June 22nd.

One year 'on the blanket'

Dixie Elliott, H Block, Long
Kesh

1 year on the blanket in protest
for P.O.W. Status on June 16th.
21 yrs. old on June 22nd.

"We admire your courage &
steadfast dedication to your
principles. — SHANTALLOW
SINN FEIN.

"Congratulations, son, on this
first anniversary of your year on
the blanket. They may put your
body in prison, but your heart,
mind and spirit is still proud and
free. Happy 21st birthday —
next year in freedom, we hope.
Mother, Father and all the
family.

"Best wishes and congratula-
tions, Dixie, 1 year on the
blanket. Happy 21st birthday
from the Republican people of
Ardnamoyle Park.

