

# REPUBLICAN NEWS

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THE VOICE OF  
REPUBLICAN ULSTER

## ALL OUT For Bloody Sunday March

Support the Derry Commemoration March  
Assemble 3.00 p.m. CREGGAN SHOPS DERRY.  
Sunday 29th January.  
Buses from Belfast organised by Sinn Fein.

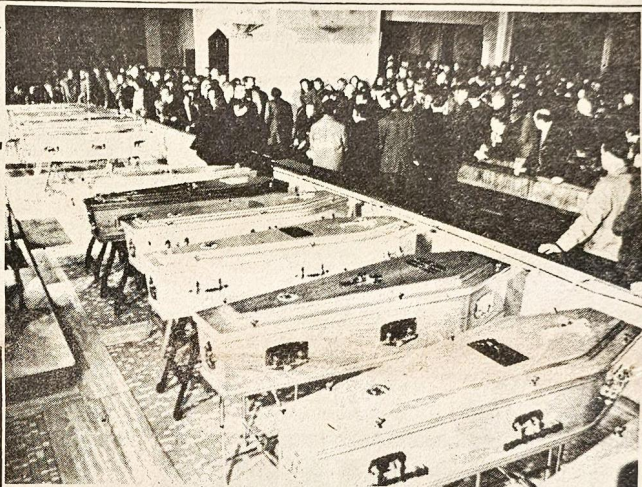
### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**SPECIAL 16-PAGE EDITION**  
Containing 8 page pull-out  
on BLOODY SUNDAY

## POLITICAL STATUS PROTEST GROWS



A member of Twinbrook RAC  
(His son is on the blanket)  
addresses the huge crowd  
who attended the ANTI-  
REPRESSION CONFERENCE  
at Coalisland last Sunday.  
For full report on the conf-  
erence see page 14.



### THE REAL MEANING OF BRIT RULE

13 coffins in Derry after the peaceful civil rights  
march was attacked on 30th January 1972.

## Six Status Prisoners End Up On Blankets

The sentencing of 6 political prisoners from Long Kesh on Friday 20th January, 1978 smacks of a contrived effort on the part of the British War machine to keep men in prison. The fact that several of these men were due for release over the next few months supports our claim that these men were victimised and framed by members of the British prison service. After sentencing, the men were taken to H-Block and told to don the criminal uniform. They rightly refused and are now 'on the Blankets'.

The 6, Seamus Clarke, Terence Clarke, Anthony Burns, Edward Crane, Patrick Barnes and Brendan Hughes were

sentenced to 7, 10, 3, 5, 2, and 5 years respectively for a purported attack on prison warders. According to the press reports of the trial the attack is supposed to have been commenced by Barnes on the way back from visiting his relatives, a most improbable action by all accounts. A more sensible account would be the reverse in our estimation. However, the other prisoners who came to Patrick Barnes' aid were also battered and beaten by screws. It is our belief that this type of practice, particularly for those men the British want to keep in prison will be repeated many times. It is interesting to compare this particular case with two others, one concerning Sean Flynn,

of Turf Lodge who had been arrested by British soldiers at the Grand Central Hotel. Sean was beaten unconscious and had to be taken to hospital to have head wounds stitched. His complaint of brutality brought British Army gunner Edmunds to court where he was fined £25.

The second case concerns a 16 year old Protestant from Dungannon, who stabbed two Catholics, one of them almost dying. No charge of attempted murder was brought, a lesser charge of 'causing actual bodily harm' was deferred by the magistrate when it was revealed that the youth was to join the British Army. Such is British law, such is British justice.



Peter Dowling takes a look at what Brit-thinking lies behind the recent and continuing attacks on "Republican News" and on Sinn Féin.

How the Brit policy of 'criminalisation' dictates not only the need for such suppression but also the chosen means.

Our recent front-page piece "The War in 1977" took a close look at Republican tactics during the last year. How switches in bombing tactics and increased militarisation of personnel targets fell within the Republican strategy of a long war of attrition to drive the Brits out.

Every so often it is also useful to take a step backwards, away from the daily war news, in order to take a good look at current Brit-thinking and strategy. To see how different measures of military repression, tricky political manoeuvres, and public propaganda pronouncements fit into the overall war picture.

#### NOT "MOTIVELESS" BLOWS.

The recent attacks on "Republican News", the Press Centre, Sinn Féin organisers and advice centres need to be fitted into the overall picture of current Brit policy. These attacks were not just 'motiveless' blows delivered by Brits blundering about in the dark, and should certainly not be seen just as aimless acts of repression.

Despite Mason's arrogant stupidity his jackboot attempt to close down this paper (or drive it underground) was not just a random one-off display of his petty vindictiveness. A reaction motivated by suddenly remembering our publication of Eliza-brit's August itinerary (as suggested by some commentators).

### REPUBLICAN NEWS



These attacks fit firmly into current Brit strategy and form a logical continuation of the Orange drift of Mason's policy as developed through 1977.

#### "REPRESSION AND RESISTANCE".

In fact the article "Repression and Resistance" published in the October 1st issue of this paper, forecast just such moves:

"The criminalisation part of the Brits' Ulsterisation policy has been stepped up. Criminalisation of not just captured Republican 'suspects' but of popular resistance and of all methods of struggle....

"Their aim is to clamp down on all forms of Republican rule and of 'hostile' local community organisations. Current harassment of the Falls' taxis and the recent closures of shebeens is but the thin end of the wedge....

"It would come as no surprise if amongst their next moves the Brits were to attempt further directly repressive measures. Possible attempts could be made to stifle republican political organisation and publicity."

#### NORMALISATION.

In order to grasp the full framework of repression it is necessary to go back over a bit of old ground on Brit policy. Also we need to introduce a third term, 'Normalisation', to our duet of 'Criminalisation' and 'Ulsterisation'.

Indications are that 'Ulsterisation' still remains the overall strategic Brit policy operating on two fronts.

On the political front it means 'devolving power to a local assembly' (the 'power-sharing' content of which has become increasingly less).

On the military front it means 'criminalisation' and the 'primacy of the police' (and of the UDR) with the Brits

# MASON'S

taking a back-seat role and being phased-down (but not out).

Now the grand purpose of Ulsterisation is 'Normalisation'. That is, to achieve a 'normality' in which 'the natives are pacified' once more, bringing about an 'acceptable level of violence' which will not threaten Brit interests and which will enable investment to prosper.

### REPUBLICAN NEWS



#### BUSINESS COLUMNS.

Two weeks ago, addressing the annual luncheon of the American Chamber of Commerce in London, Mason spelt out how his whole aim was to get 'news from Northern Ireland' away from the political columns of American newspapers and into the business columns.

He went on: "In everything we have done, we have sought to establish confidence on the part of the people of Northern Ireland in our determination to do everything possible in the economic and security fields to ensure the earliest possible return to normality".

To achieve their 'normality' (of poverty and sectarianism) the central tactic in the overall strategy of Ulsterisation is that of criminalisation.

## COWARDLY GOD-FATHERS

### MASON

## Partners in the Middle-East



Regular TV viewers will have noticed how Chief-Brit Mason has increasingly become like a misguided parrot, both in his speech and manner.

His public utterances are severely limited to a mere mechanical repetition of well-worn Brit jargon. By sheer repetition he seems to be trying to make his empty 'victory' claims come true.

But the more he parrots on, the more he shows up his miserable lack of

imagination and how his bird-sized brain is incapable of hatching up even the pretence of a political 'solution'.

Yet still this 'Great (Little) Dictator' vainly struts about 'his province' dreaming of glorious Empire days long since past. He proudly preens himself, while fantasising aloud how he has beaten the IRA. And single-handed at that.

Meanwhile (off-stage) the bombs continue to detonate - the war goes on! Thus reality breaks through. And it becomes increasingly obvious - not just to Republicans, but even to such as Lynch and O'Flaich - that not only is Mason an arrogant fool suffering from 'delusions of grandeur' but that there can be no Brit 'solution'.

# WAR NEWS

#### Wednesday 18th Jan.

In Derry five bombs planted on different floors of a five storey building housing a shopping complex, began exploding after 4 p.m. The Savoy Bar was among the targets bombed and destroyed.

In Montgomery St., Belfast, Ross's Auction rooms was firebombed. At 7.30 p.m. on the Lisburn Road in Belfast two bombs were hung on the grills of the windows of Smith and McClure supermarket. After an explosion a small fire broke out.

#### Thursday 19th Jan.

A Cash and Carry store in Lincoln Place, behind the Europa Hotel, burst into flames and was extensively damaged in a double bomb attack. A suspect car bomb near the

Albert Clock brought traffic to a halt throughout the city centre.

Derry Brigade IRA Volunteers using an M60 machine gun opened fire on an RUC jeep travelling along the Letterkenny-Lonemore Road. An RUC man was wounded in the back and two others received cuts and bruises.

A 300lbs car bomb exploded outside the Northern Bank in Cookstown, Co. Tyrone and injured 5 RUC men, two of them officers. Property in a 200 yards wide radius was extensively damaged.

In Dungannon's Scotch St, another car bomb exploded outside Sunbeam Cleaners. The two bombs exploded inside areas which up until 6 weeks ago were gated areas and restricted zones. The removal of the gates was quoted by Mason in his



December "Victory" speech as proof of the return to normality. After the car bombs exploded town business men and the RUC were debating over whether or not to put back the gates. Less security had undoubtedly increased trade (for those that survived the bombings!)

#### Friday 20th Jan.

In Fermanagh an RUC man was injured at Wattle Bridge,

Newtownbutler, when a device he was examining exploded.

A bomb was planted in a supermarket at Cabra, near Dungannon in East Tyrone. British soldiers discovered a big culvert landmine in the same area before it was detonated.

#### Sunday 22nd Jan.

Two bombs were thrown over a rear wall into a storage yard in the Spencer Road area of Derry. Six devices planted outside shops along the length of Belfast's York Street tied down British

soldiers for several hours.

#### Monday 23rd Jan.

11 members of Mason's demoralised troops and policemen were injured in a mortar bomb attack and in a "follow-up" operation. The injuries occurred during an operation when the IRA fired mortar shells at the British Army/RUC base in Forkhill, South Armagh. Each mortar contained 120lbs of explosives and shrapnel and were the biggest type used so far by the People's Army.

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE





by Peter Dowling

# MOTIVES

## OF STATE TERRORISM.

### Torture in and Ireland

The current repressive drift of Brit policy is highlighted by the recent arrival of General Creasey to renew a partnership with Mason, of naked brutality and systematic torture.

A partnership first formed in Oman between 1972 and 1974 when Creasey was leading the SAS forces there, and Mason was Brit Minister of Defence.

The methods used by Mason and Creasey to suppress the liberation forces there, were torture of captured 'suspects' (for which they were condemned by Amnesty International), napalm bombing of villages, and

### CREASEY



defoliate bombing of the peoples' crops.

On his arrival here Creasey is on record as being shocked that the "super-structure" of the Republican Movement had been left intact. An "error" which the Brits are now seeking to correct.

And criminalisation dictates that Republican publicity outlets (this paper, the Press Centre and tele), and Republican political organisation (Sinn Fein, Advice Centres and

### Attack on 'The People' paper

On Saturday night our local newspaper 'The People' was on sale in areas from Turf Lodge to Lenadon. The sales were extremely good helping us to cover the cost of production and telephone bills incurred in the Advice Centre.

However, the British Army were not pleased. In the Upper Andersonstown area a foot-patrol took the papers of the lads who were selling them and on noticing that the A/Town Centre make the papers the British Army threw the papers onto the ground and trampled them.

If they think that by this the British Army can intimidate either those who make the paper or those who sell it we have news for them. The paper will continue to be printed, containing the truthful news as long as there is a need for it. The harassment of the British Army will not deter us; in fact it will strengthen us to continue to give to the people an alternative and constructive method to help in their many problems.

### REPUBLICAN NEWS



#### CONFIDENT CAMPAIGN.

And "Republican News" can hardly be dubbed as the weekly paper of a 'criminal gang' just by torrents of Masonic abuse.

For the paper has waged a principled and consistent campaign as the true voice of Republican Ulster.

A confident campaign for Brits out, for the smashing of partition, and for the setting-up of a thirty-two county Socialist Republic. Weekly statements and regular articles have clearly explained the necessary military actions of the IRA. How not only daily experience, but also Irish history and global lessons, dictate that armed struggle is the only realistic road to win national independence from the Brit invader.

#### FAST PROJECT.

Obviously such sound Republican publicity is a sharp embarrassment to Mason. For 'criminalisation' means much more than just denying politi-

cal status to the POW's (in defence of which this paper has been in the forefront).

It involves the vast project of dubbing the Republican Movement as a 'criminal conspiracy'. It means painting Republican volunteers as having no other motives than self-gratification through violence and robbery. And thus equating the IRA, at best with teenage hooligans, and at worst with raving psychopaths and the Mafia.

So for 'criminalisation and normalisation' to succeed, all channels of Republican publicity and political organisation must be narrowed, if not closed.

#### CHOSEN MEANS.

But criminalisation and fear of the wrath of the risen people dictate both the need for suppression and the particular means chosen to attempt it.

An open 'legal' banning of "Republican News" and Sinn Fein (which could be authorised by two Masonic strokes of the pen) does not fit policy needs. More subtle means must be chosen.

For normalisation dictates that people including republicans, should 'officially' be allowed to engage in 'normal' legitimate political activity, such as organising Sinn Fein and producing "Republican News". This is especially true given the current world-wide protests at the banning of black papers in South Africa.

And nakedly repressive moves will produce much more response both from the risen people and from foreign opinion than will more subtle and gradually repressive moves.

So the raids had two main ways of attempting to gag us and to suppress Sinn Fein's positive political developments.

#### FIRST METHOD.

The first method was to try to find, and 'legally' establish, some hard evidence of "Republican News" and Sinn Fein being run by, or linked with, the IRA.

Thus to be able to bring so-called 'criminal charges' (such as IRA membership, criminal conspiracy, or possession of incriminating documents) against workers from "Republican News" and Sinn Fein. Thus to 'criminalise' both the paper and the press centre, and also Sinn Fein and the advice centres.

This desperate attempt at closure by 'criminalisation' failed miserably.

#### SECOND METHOD.

The second method was to seek to systematically harass and disrupt our publicity and political work to such an extent as to severely restrict them.

To attempt to demoralise our workers through personal harassment and through continually mucking up their work-

### REPUBLICAN NEWS



#### SHOW OF 'STRENGTH'.

The second long-term function is part of the ongoing process of seeking to edge the sectarian RUC back into the areas. A process so central to Ulsterisation.

The well-advertised use of four hundred peelers, up and down the Falls Road, was a blatant attempt to try to stamp the authority of the RUC over Republicans. To try to produce feelings of helplessness in the nationalist community by the apparent free writ of the RUC.

As a return to 'normal' policing it was a 'show of strength' for propaganda purposes; while also fulfilling the purpose of being a trial run (under the guiding hand of Scotland Yard) for any future large 'policing' operations.

The reality of this particular 'policing' display was that the RUC were backed-up by their usual large force of heavily armed Brits. Even so, a Republican patrol narrowly missed scoring a direct hit on them in the Divis Flats.

#### REPUBLICANISM STRENGTHENED.

In conclusion we can say that Mason's attacks were a calculated gamble which failed miserably.

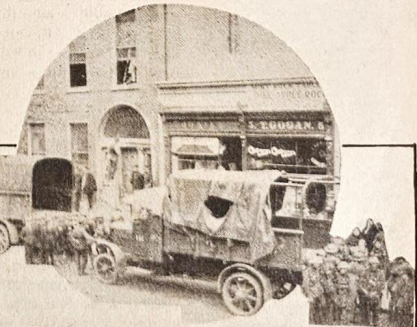
Both our political organisation and press service have been strengthened by coming through this round of repression. In fact Mason has helped us to put "Republican News" more strongly on the map, not only in Ireland, but in Britain and further afield.

Future expected attacks will be similarly resisted and will be turned back against the Brits to expose the futility of their search for a British 'solution'.

There will be no criminalisation as the heroic struggle goes on in the Kesh and in Armagh; a struggle backed-up by the RAC and Sinn Fein on the streets.

There will be no Ulsterisation as the risen people continue to reject both the sectarian RUC and the UDR; and as the political compromisers of the SDLP fail in their plots.

There will be no 'Normalisation' until we win a Socialist Republic free from the invading Brits and their parasitic puppets.



British forces raid Sinn Féin headquarters at No. 6 Harcourt Street, Dublin.

Sixty years ago our 'peace-keepers' were using the same 'democratic' means of suppressing Sinn Fein as they try to use today.

The Brits have always feared the wrath of the risen people so much that their armed fist of repression is directed not just at military resistance but at any Republican political opposition.



# SUPPLIED STATEMENT FROM ARMY COUNCIL

We have been asked to release the following supplied statement from the Irish Republican publicity Bureau Dublin:

"Army Council Declaration."

"The Republican Movement is determined to pursue and to help establish 'The right of the People to the ownership of Ireland, and to the unfettered control of Irish destinies.'" (1916 Proclamation).

"This means that the disparity between the waging of the national liberation struggle in the occupied six-counties, which we are visibly geared to, and our low level of political agitation in the 26-counties must be breached.

"This was shown clearly by the recent Lynch interview. Irish people rallied to him and the media supported him when he came under attack.

"We did not expect succour out of Jack Lynch since ideologically we are poles apart. Sentimentally Lynch may be a nationalist but his new Ireland would be like the present Ireland — a land for the gombeen men.

"We know the history of Fianna Fail and while

vocal Republicanism has 32-county overtones it certainly has not the integrity of 32-county objectives. In the past Fianna Fail governments with expertise were able to neutralize the IRA by pretending to be striving for the same objectives as the IRA, and so, people were told, the IRA was only an obstacle in the way of Republican objectives.

"We predict that this same guff will shortly be

pedaled as Lynch assumes the role of 'Official' spokesman for Irish unity, and continues the Free State role as censor of Irish Republicanism.

"We note also the recent statement of Archbishop Tomas O'Fiaich where the same demand for a British withdrawal was intimated via an independent six-counties. While we welcome the Archbishop's call for Brits out we thoroughly reject and would resist the imposition of such a latently fascist political structure. It would place the Irish people in a greater strangle hold than at present and the totality of the subsequent suffering would be far greater than the path which we outline to the democratic Socialist Republic.

"We repeat, we are no appendage to Fianna Fail, nor are we simply a Brits Out Movement. We don't intend winning the war for Lynch to win the peace.

"The present corrupt and exploiting system has to be overturned and can only be overturned as a revolutionary spirit is kindled in the hearts of the subject people in the 26-counties. This represents the biggest threat facing the ruling-class of partitioned Ireland. Lynch and the Brits agree that such 'dangerous' thinking (which is by no means new) is springing out of the long and intense patriotic struggle in the six-counties and the support for that struggle from Irish people in the 26 counties.

"Lynch believes that the speedy conclusion of that struggle by safely satisfying the minimum 'Nationalist' demands will neutralize 'dangerous' radical Republicanism. The British presently disagree, and fearful of all Republicanism think they can neutralize it with a policy of murder, repression and terror whilst buying off the local population at the same time with a minimum of short-term economic improvements.

enough. Peace and Prosperity will only come to Ireland when the Irish people are united in complete political, cultural, economic and national control of their own country and all its resources.

"In the words of the democratic programme of the first dail: 'We declare that the nation's sovereignty extends not only to all men and women of the nation, but to all its material possessions, the nation's soil and all its resources. All the wealth and all the wealth-producing processes within the nation, and . . . we reaffirm that all right to private property must be subordinated to the public right and welfare.'

"Jack Lynch does not even pretend to agree with such a programme. Fianna Fail Nationalism is the philosophy of sell-out. But it is dangerous nevertheless.

"When the Brits are forced to leave they will attempt to leave a neutralised political structure behind them. The ingredients of a Fianna Fail / SDLP / IIP link-up in a six-counties independence scenario is one way for them to do so. It must be opposed.

"We confidently believe that the Brits and any combination they produce cannot match the onward growing determination of the Republican people to establish the socialist republic.

Signed, P.O'Neill."

## TABLES AND PIGS

Evenin' all!

This week's special recommendation goes to Constable William John Alexander McCaughey (26) of Lurgan RUC Special Patrol Group. An imaginative sort Willie, he has been charged with stealing a table, worth £17.50p from Elsie Kelsey, the Mayor of Lisburn. Elsie Kelsey, now there's a very wonderful and loyal person. I wonder what Willie wanted her table for? Answers on a postcard only please, to me at the paper. Small prize for the best suggestion.

Sometimes I have been known to criticise some of our magistrates for the savage sentences they mete out to some of our funloving UDR gunmen, repists and thieves, but this week I take great pleasure in congratulating Gerry McCanny, RM. At the juvenile court in Cookstown last week a loyal young man appeared charged with knifing two teagues - sorry, members of the minority. McCanny gave the usual old guff about how it "was inconceivable that one human being could inflict such serious

by  
The  
Brigadier



wounds on another human being". He then went on to defer sentence for six months to allow the youth, who, naturally, "came from a good family", time to join the army. Good man, Gerry, we in the UDR will be pleased to have him.

Five years for poor old David Farquhar (32) of Glenhead Road, Glenwherry, Ballymena. Davy, a member of the RUC Reserve used his Walther to hold up a filling station and hi-jack a car. Got caught. Silly fellow! And may I say that I have the utmost sympathy for my old chum Major Derek Randle, described as "the blue eyed boy of the Royal Corps of Signals", or, "the gambling Major". He was convicted at the Old Bailey of taking £25,000 in bribes from the wily Persians. Suspended sentence - well, he did go to school with the judge of course!

Another vicious sentence was the £50 fine given to Private Stuart Hobbs from Army HQ Lisburn. He

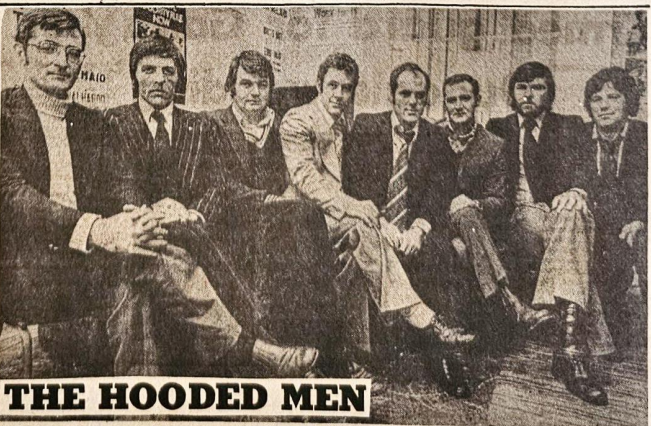
pleaded guilty to dangerous driving in Andersonstown last July. He also happened to knock down and kill an old age pensioner on the zebra crossing, but then, the Lisburn magistrates took the view that "Army pigs are unsuitable for road use". Well, I know quite a few people who wouldn't disagree with that.

"The British presence in the six-counties is political imperialism, it represents strategic control. Lynch has merely suggested that the Brits should take just their uniforms out. Such verbalised Republicanism will not achieve anything. A Britless Ireland is not

As you know, I always like to give credit where it's due, and so a special thanks to Davy George Brass monkey Wilson of Bellaghy. An ex-Navy man, Davy has earned his peculiar nickname by going out, in plain clothes with the local regiment of the Army, late at night and pointing out the houses of suspected trouble-

makers/teagues etc, to them. Since Davy gets very little bloodmoney for this, we, in Magherafelt UDR, considered that it was high time he received the public recognition he deserved. Thanks, Davy, and good luck!

Bye for now, your old chum. The Brigadier.



**THE HOODED MEN**

Pictured at the press conference in Dublin on Wednesday last are some of those who recieved the 'HOODED TREATMENT'

The men are to challenge the European Courts ruling that Britain was not guilty of torture. (FULL STORY NEXT WEEK)





# REPUBLICAN NEWS



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**SPECIAL EDITION**

## EYE-WITNESS ACCOUNTS OF BLOODY SUNDAY

**"Many of the victims were shot in the back"**

It is an indisputable fact that many of the 13 shot dead on 30 January 1972 in Derry were shot in the back, and while running away from the beserk Paratroopers. Even the whitewashed "Widgery Report"—the official British government enquiry into the massacre admits as much. The following is more authentic and first-hand:

### BLOODY SUNDAY: from Pacifist to Realist

I was just over 14 years of age at the time of Bloody Sunday, but the events of 30 January 1972 remain as clear and precise as the day itself.

My sister, brothers, and other close relatives walked up the steep hill from the Brandywell to march under the banner of "Civil Rights." We had come prepared for trouble, and had with us cotton wool soaked in vinegar to offset the effects of the C.S. gas we expected to be thrown at us in this banned march.

A crowd of about 4,000 had already assembled at the Bishop's Field, Creggan, when we arrived and this gave a boost to everyone's morale.

The crowd showed the same excitement as that of previous successful marches, and we were optimistic of reaching a spot somewhere near our destination, Guildhall Square.

A few young girls handed out placards bearing the names of internees from Derry, and banners proclaimed the various Derry districts, as well as some out-of-town support.

By the time we were moving off, the crowd had risen to about 7,000—further encouraging us. We marched triumphantly down Rathlin Drive, Southway, and through the Brandywell, singing songs which were agreed by all to give no offence to any political viewpoint.

All along the route, groups of people joined in the march, many of whom I was surprised to see marching with even the remote radicals of the Civil Rights Association.

We proceeded through the Brandywell, and on up Westland Street in the Bogside. My family and I were at the front of the march, and as we looked down the street from the top, we were amazed to see the thousands of men, women and children—a mass of people who spread from the top of the hill to well beyond the Bogside Inn.

We moved along Laburnum Terrace, down Creggan Terrace, and into William Street, not knowing what the next twenty minutes would hold in store for the peaceful citizens of Derry.

In the middle of William Street, the march was stopped for a time as rumours of a youth and an old man being shot from a bakery were beginning to cause panic among the people. Most of the women with children moved through Glenfada Park and Colmcille Court housing complex towards Free Derry Corner, waiting to see what would happen.

The young men and women, however, were undeterred and insisted on going to their planned destination. They proceeded a short distance down

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### FROM BLOODY SUNDAY 1972 TO H-BLOCK 1978

I remember Bloody Sunday so well. I was thirteen years of age and my parents had taken me on the march. It was a clear bright January day, cold but pleasant. We joined the crowds at the Bishop's Field in front of the Creggan shops. I was cheered by the colourful banners, and the splendid optimism of the huge crowd. Stewards lined us all up and away we went.

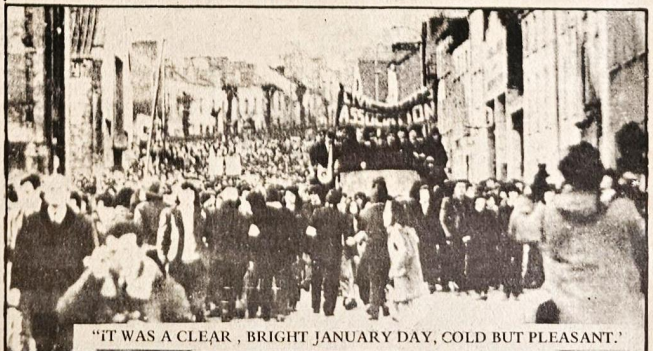
I vaguely remember rumours of the Brits having been seen taking over buildings along the route, and we knew that the Paras were in Derry, fresh from their triumph over unarmed civilians near Magilligan prison camp. But the rumours in no way troubled the

mood of the crowd, which was one of great solidarity, almost a festive mood, due no doubt to the huge turn-out, which was later calculated at about 20,000.

Anyway, by the time we reached William Street there was already talk that two people had been shot by Brits up around the top of William Street. As is usual in big marches, we assumed this to be merely another story. The Brits stopped us at William Street and there were minor disturbances. The Brits used dye on the crowd, and the march organisers then called on us all to march to Free Derry corner as an alternative spot for the meeting.

Some of the crowd had reached Free Derry corner and the others were making their way up when suddenly firing broke out all around us. People scattered everywhere. Intense firing came from the Derry Walls, from Brits swooping in from William Street and Abbey Street. Screaming women and children ran in utter panic, hiding behind houses, cowering in tiny gardens, everyone running in all directions, seeking cover, no matter how flimsy. My parents and myself and other people lay behind a wooden fence near Glenfada Park, and for how long we stayed there I have no re-

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"IT WAS A CLEAR, BRIGHT JANUARY DAY, COLD BUT PLEASANT."

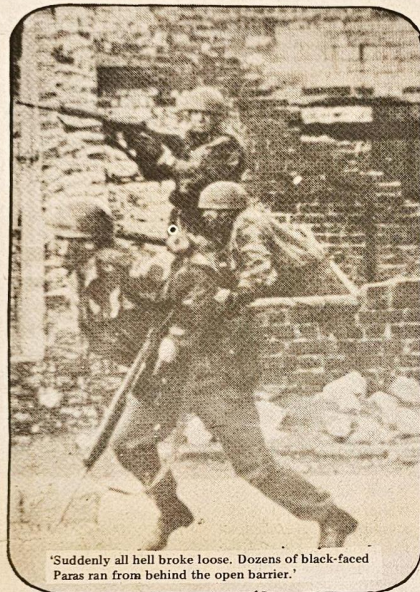


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## BLOODY SUNDAY : from Pacifist to Realist

William Street and came to a halt at the Williams Street/Chamberlain Street junction. A short distance from this junction a Brit barrier had been erected to prevent our passage. A few young fellows out for "a bit of crack" as it is known locally started throwing stones at the shielded Brits, calling names that would be considered mild compared

I ran to Glenfada Park across William Street, after my older brother, and already saw boys I knew from school lying with blood gushing from gaping wounds. A Para with a face like a madman ran towards the corner I'd crammed into, along with a few others. Very few of us knew or believed what was happening to them. I ran then, and probably



"Suddenly all hell broke loose. Dozens of black-faced Paras ran from behind the open barrier."

with what the Brits are called today. This went on for a short while. C.S. gas was then thrown and due to this, the percentage of women and girls were cut even more, as well as the few remaining children.

Suddenly, all hell broke loose. Dozens of black-faced Paras ran from behind the open barrier. Then the endless bullets began, and screams and panic which to this very minute of writing I can still hear. We scattered through all the side streets, my sister screaming for me to hurry up. Then the Paras separated the crowd, driving a band up High St., back up William St., and across Chamberlain St. to the High Flats.

People huddled in corners looking for cover that wasn't there. Girls screamed, and then people began to fall to the ground.

"As I gazed at the faces of some of the dead and dying, blood streaming from their mouths and wounds, I felt nothing but anger - not sadness."



broke the Olympic record from Glenfada Park to Free Derry Corner.

After the shooting stopped, and ambulance started screaming up to the High Flats, I ventured back down to see if any of my relatives were among the butchered. As I gazed at the faces of some of the dead and dying, blood streaming from their mouths and open wounds, I felt nothing but anger—not sadness.

Since then we have marched many times for the same principles as those 14 martyrs, and in defence of the rights of the Irish nation, and in commemoration of our fellow citizens. I only hope all who read this can say the same. If they can't I ask them, "DO YOU REMEMBER BLOODY SUNDAY?"

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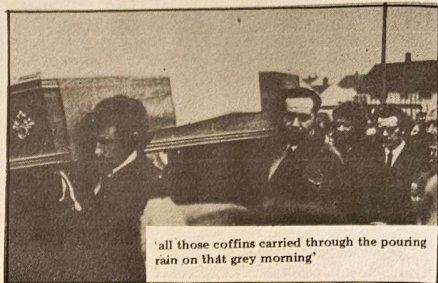
## FROM BLOODY SUNDAY TO H-BLOCK

collection. It seemed like hours.

Eventually the shooting died and people began to emerge from their hide-outs. There was such shock, such disbelief, that everyone seemed under some form of trance. We wandered about, little groups stood trying to explain what had happened. And then the stories of the dead and wounded. No one knew how many had been shot, how many arrested. Crying people stumbled around, seeking relatives and friends they could not find, and over the whole area an aura of death lingered.

I remember unrelated images. A man's eyelash stuck to a wall, pools of blood round the High Flats, the wail of sirens in the distance, dusk falling and crowds of people gathered, deep in conversation and despair. It wasn't until later that night that the full extent of the slaughter was made known, 13 dead and around 30 wounded.

The butchery, the shock of seeing my own people shot dead all around me, the sense of outrage, will never leave me. After the funerals, all those coffins carried through the pouring rain on that



"all those coffins carried through the pouring rain on that grey morning"

grey morning, the utter desolation which affected every single person in Derry, these are pictures I will carry to my grave.

And yet, in a strange way, the atrocities of Bloody Sunday awakened something within me. I came to see that people will die while on alien invader claims our land. I realised that Brit rule in Ireland was characterised by such naked acts of terror. They try to cow the people, intimidate and degrade them. And it was such realisation that led me to become an active member of the Republican Movement. I saw that only by the removal of the Brit presence from Ireland could peace and justice flourish, and the Republican Movement seemed the only organisation willing and able to remove the Brits from our soil.

Now I am on the blankets in Long Kesh, but I have no regrets. I know what price my people have paid in countless generations, and my spirit cannot weaken when I think of that terrible, terrible day in 1972 when British Paras cold-bloodedly murdered 13 people on the streets of my city.

I have seen the most Britain can do, but she cannot break the spirit of resistance, and ironically it is Britain which has helped create the spirit of resistance because of her murder and torture of the Irish people. And when Britain has finally left our land, what finer memorial to the spirit of Irish resistance can be have than that of the memory of all those who died on the 31st January 1972, on the streets of Derry.

## ITALIAN JOURNALIST:

### 'I HAVE NEVER SEEN SUCH DISCIPLINED MURDER'

Fulvio Grimaldi, an Italian photographer and journalist, and his English-born journalist wife, Susan North, gave the most graphic description of the shattering events they saw on Bloody Sunday.

Grimaldi, from the Italian magazine, "Sette Giorni", swears there had been absolutely NO PROVOCATION before the British Army opened fire: "There hadn't been one shot fired at them. There hadn't been one petrol bomb thrown at them. There hadn't been one nail

bomb thrown at them. They jumped out, and, with unbelievable murderous fury, shot into the fleeing crowd."

"I was already in the front line of the march as the march approached the barricade erected by the military in William Street. There were a few exchanges, a few throws of stones, not very heavy, and after about three or four minutes, the Army moved up with this water cannon and sprayed the whole crowd with coloured water.

Then the crowd dispersed."

"Successively it returned and threw some more stones; nothing as I have seen in other places in Northern Ireland, nothing really very heavy."

"After which gas was used massively by the Army, and the crowd dispersed towards the meeting place, which was at Free Derry Corner. As the crowd was moving away, I would say about a couple of thousand

CONTINUED ACROSS PAGE



# Derry's Bloody Sunday

*Priest tells of  
'point-blank' shots  
at trapped boys*



**FATHER OF  
BLOODY SUNDAY  
VICTIM  
INTERVIEWED  
ABOUT THE  
6th ANNIVERSARY**

The father of James Wray, one of the 14 Derry Civil Rights marchers murdered by the Paras 6 years ago, was interviewed recently by a member of Sinn Féin in his Bogside home.

In the course of the interview, Mr. Wray said that he thought that "the ideals of the men murdered on Bloody Sunday had not been realised."

He thought that the survivors of the massacre had failed the victims, inasmuch as the injustice and repression were still very much the order of the day. "Injustice has increased since Bloody Sunday rather than decreased."

Continuing his comments, he said that the people allowed themselves to wallow in apathy. "Although people do get discouraged, they should stand up and be counted if the values of peace, justice and humanity are to be retained."

Mr. Wray, of Drumliff Avenue in the Bogside, also said that "those who died on January 30th, 1972 could suffer no more from British oppression. But, the people left behind have to suffer continued harassment and indignation by the occupying British Army."

In concluding, Mr. Wray called on all Derry and Irish people to honour the men murdered on that day by attending the demonstration in remembrance of the men and the ideals they marched and died for. Only by the establishment of peace, justice and freedom can their deaths that terrible January day sit years ago be made to mean something.

Tarlac O'Neill,  
Eamonn Lafferty  
Cumann, Creggan.

NOTE: The following letter is taken from the Irish Independent, Feb. 4, 1972 where it appeared as a letter to the Editor.

## CALLOUS, BRUTAL MURDER

Sir:

May I be permitted to give an account of what I personally witnessed in Londonderry on Sunday afternoon. The march had all but dispersed due to the concentration of C.S. gas, which proves a deterrent which cannot be fought against. I found myself roughly level with, on my right, the high rise flats and on my left the new low flats in Rossville Street. Three armoured vehicles entered the foot of the street and two came to a halt about 30 yards from a small crowd—now perhaps 200 people, since the main body were assembling at the other end of Rossville Street for a meeting.

I watched while Paratroopers descended from these and took up firing positions on one knee. At this stage I presumed they were about to fire baton rounds at the youths who faced them.

One youth went down and was carried towards me behind the gable end of one of the low flats.

He was shot in the stomach and died within a few minutes. Father Bradley and myself did what we could for him and when I looked up, it was to see four bodies lying in the centre of the street—one of whom was shot several times and seemed to die instantly.

There were about twenty people, including one woman with me huddled behind this gable end. Three youths from among us panicked and ran away from the soldiers towards the low flats. I watched as they were shot dead by the soldiers.

During all this time, there seemed to be continuous firing from the Paratroopers. At no time did I see or hear any gunfire, nailbombs, or petrol bombs fired at the troops.

I can quite categorically state that none of those I saw shot dead was in possession of any offensive weapon.

When the Paratroopers arrived next to us, Father Bradley and myself were refused permission on three occasions to attend to the wounded and dying—this with the most foul abuse and some blows from rifle butts. I was brought to a lorry, batoned into it and taken to the Army Base on the Strand Road. We were kicked out of the lorry and forced to run between two lines of rifle and baton-wielding troops.

I was held from 4.45 p.m. until 11.40 p.m. during which time I witnessed some quite gratuitous and sickening brutality by the Paras on the prisoners—kneeing in the groin, stamping on feet, kicking on shins, and on one occasion a young 16-year-old being beaten so hard he had to be

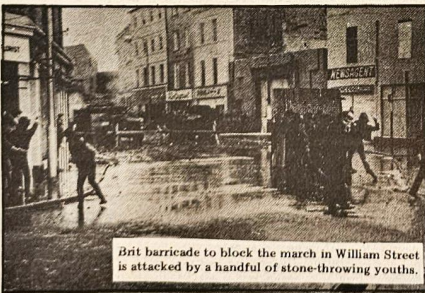
propped up against the wall to keep him upright.

Eventually we were 'identified'—a word which means the soldiers chose three people at random and dragged them away to be charged with stone-throwing. I now find myself with bruised legs, arm, and some back pain. I was lucky. Many others from the second lorry-load had faces smashed and heads cracked during their journey to the Army Centre.

I might perhaps be counted as a reasonably credible witness as a Roman Catholic priest, a university lecturer (in philosophy), and at present Dean of the School of Humanities at the New University of Ulster.

I suppose that at present my feeling are of sickness, disgust, and I am afraid, anger. All I can hope is that some time in the future forgiveness and love will replace these. Till then, is it too much to ask that the truth be told and Westminster face the question of responsibility for what I, personally, can only see as callous and brutal murder?

REV. Terence M. O'Keefe  
School of Humanities  
New University of Ulster  
Coleraine, Co. Derry.



Brit barricade to block the march in William Street is attacked by a handful of stone-throwing youths.

Marchers near Free Derry Corner being drenched with CS gas.



got away by lying flat on his belly."

Signor Grimaldi was asked about the mood of the people in the Bogside while all this was happening. He said, "It was panic, it was sheer despair, it was frustration. I saw people crying, old men crying, young boys who had lost their friends of 15, 16 and 17 years, crying and not understanding. There was astonishment. There was bewilderment; there was rage and frustration."

"It was the most unbelievable... I have travelled many countries. I have seen many civil wars and revolutions and wars. I have never seen such a cold-blooded murder, organised, disciplined murder, planned murder."

people—completely peaceful because they had been drenched with gas and they could hardly breathe, and many were sick—suddenly in the area behind Free Derry Corner—Rossville Flats, I think it is called, the big square in front of those flats—the Army, the Paratroopers, moved in on Saracens."

"And other Paratroopers followed on foot, and they jumped out. The people were thinking they would be given another dose of gas and scattered very hurriedly and they really

fled towards Free Derry Corner. The army jumped out and they started shooting in all directions. I took pictures of this, I took recordings of this, and there is no doubt whatsoever that there wasn't the slightest provocation."

One journalist from another paper asked him at the time, that in view of the British Army claim that they had been shooting at snipers on top of the flats, whether he had seen any dead or wounded other than in the streets. He went on:

"Let me tell you what I saw. Now, they were only in the street and in the squares. I saw a man and a boy crossing the street, trying to get to safety, with their hands on their heads. They were shot dead. The man got shot dead. The boy, I think, was dying."

"I saw a young fellow who was wounded, crouching against a wall. He was shouting, 'Don't shoot, don't shoot.' A Paratrooper approached and shot him from about one yard. I saw a boy of about 15 protecting his girl friend

against the wall and then proceeding to try and rescue her by going out with a handkerchief and with the other hand on his hat. A Paratrooper approached, shot him from about one yard into the stomach, and shot the girl,

"I saw a priest approaching a fallen boy in the middle of the square, trying to help him, give him the Last Rites perhaps, and the Army—I saw a Paratrooper kneel down and take aim at him and shoot at him, and the priest just

.....





Just after 4 p.m., as the crowd of people drifted back to Free Derry Corner, choking on C.S. gas and many of them now sick, British Paratroopers burst into the Square in front of the High Flats in Rossville Street, in 4 Saracens and on foot. At first the Saracens advanced slowly over the waste ground, but then roared in a weaving line through the crowds of fleeing people, who screamed as they ran.

When the Saracens screeched to a halt and the Paras burst out, they began firing almost immediately.

The first to die was 17 year old Michael Kelly, who was standing less than 120 yards from the kneeling Paratroopers. Because of the mingling sound of the rubber bullet which were also fired immediately beforehand at the crowd, only those actually helping him knew he was shot. Three boys standing next to him were shot in the next fusillade without realising they were under fire. The bullet entered his abdomen "blowing half his stomach away," according to one horrified eyewitness.

#### PINCER MOVEMENT

Like a violent war film, the Paratroopers began a pincer movement on either side of Rossville Street. Some raced into the waste beside a two-storey block of Maisonettes on the far side of the street. Some remained in the street to prevent anyone from slipping forward through the surrounding Brits.

"What followed was a kaleidoscope of violent death," in the words of the **Sunday Independent** report. "To those who were watching, the stone-throwing, rubber bullets and C.S. gas were a normal feature of life. Very few had ever seen a human being die violently. On this occasion however, they were watching not one but a continuing series of deaths in circumstances that could only be charitably described as near-butchery."

Among the women, almost without exception, there were two reactions. One reaction went from incredulity to horror. Then, at a certain point in the killing when their minds could no longer accept the reality of it, they went into hysteria, blocking out the events that went before. In recollection, they could tell you very clearly what happened up to the moment they can no longer accept reality. Then they just said, "I went hysterical." The second reaction of another group of women, who maintained their sanity, was to look after the victims in their immediate vicinity.

Two such women were in Kells Walk, a two-storey block overlooking the soldiers when they first opened fire. Kathleen Kelly had been looking for her son when she heard her sister say, "Oh, God! They're shooting!" Then she saw a soldier shoot a young boy and realised

what was happening. Her sister went hysterical and tried to get to the window to stop the soldiers. Mrs. Kelly grabbed her as she shouted down. A soldier who looked up immediately fired a live round at them.

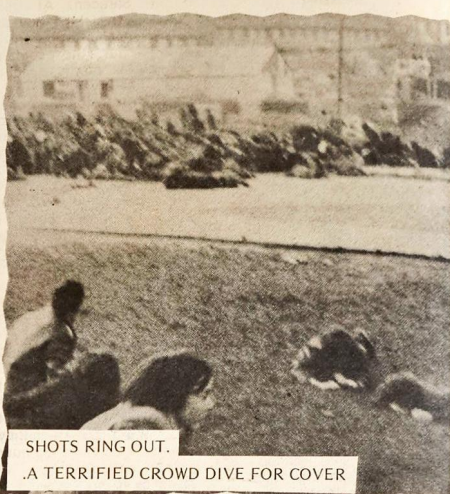
#### OWN SON LAY DYING

A young child who was in the room at the time was sprayed by the broken glass, and had to be rushed to Altnagelvin for an emergency operation. Mrs. Kelly did not know it then, but while she watched in horror as boys were shot in front of her, her own son lay dying further up the street.

#### EX-SERVICEMAN'S ACCOUNT

Barry Liddy, who was further up the street against a gable wall where Mrs. Kelly's son had just been shot, was holding back Fr. Denis Bradley, a local priest, as the bullets whizzed past. Liddy, (45) who had served with the British Army both in Palestine and Korea, is no stranger to sudden death or the sounds and emotions of battle.

He decided to step out with a white handkerchief in his hand to lead the priest out to three dying boys at the barricade. As he stepped out, the handkerchief was shot out of his hand and he dived back to cover. The photographs show him pulling back a girl, with the white hankie in his hand, minutes before he stepped out.



SHOTS RING OUT.

A TERRIFIED CROWD DIVE FOR COVER

#### CRAWLED TO DIE

As Liddy watched from the safety of the wall, a boy who was shot crawled up the street against the wall of the high flats. Suddenly, Liddy saw two more bullets go into him with the cloth of the boy's coat at his shoulder disintegrate under the impact. By some superhuman effort of will, the boy managed to get inside the door of the high flats, where he died. (This boy was Hugh Gilmore).

#### GOOD SAMARITAN BLOWN TO BITS

Just around the corner of the same flats, 41 year old Barney McGuigan was listening to a boy moaning in pain down at the barricades. He told the people beside him that he "couldn't just let a boy like that die on his own." He stepped out around the corner in full view of the Paratroopers crouching in firing positions at the bottom of the street. Barry Liddy describes what happened next:

"It was like that film, 'Soldier Blue,' where this boy's face suddenly

disintegrated. Well, Barney McGuigan came out with his hands raised in supplication and the next thing half his face disappeared."

#### DESPERATE WRESTLE OF YOUNG BOY WITH PARATROOPER

Around the corner of the flats, Bernard Gilmour watched an ascending toll of horror. His brother was to die minutes later at the other end of the block of flats, only yards from this scene. Bernard saw a young boy desperately wrestling with the barrel of a soldier's gun as the Paratrooper tried to bring it around to point into his stomach. Eventually, the soldier, who was older and heavier, got the barrel right and fired it into the boy. Half the flesh on the lower part of the boy's back came away in the blast.

#### BEATEN WHILE TRYING TO STOP MURDER

A boxer who lived in the High Flats ran out in despair and tried to punch



THE THEN Fr. DALY, WHITE FLAG OF TRUCE IN HAND, LEADS THE WAY FOR ONE OF THE WOUNDED.



Kevin McElhinney (17)



# DAY



off the soldier with his fists. In the melee, they couldn't shoot but a group of soldier wielded rifle butts and beat him into the ground instead. For some reason they didn't shoot him, but when a boy who had seen them shoot at Father Daly ran into the open and shouted: "Shoot me, but don't shoot the priest," they shot him in the leg.

## THE MASSACRE

It was around this time that four different witnesses saw three young boys, with hands on their heads being led over to one of the armoured personnel carriers on the waste ground below the flats on the way to what numerous eyewitnesses called the most appalling massacre in the whole affair.

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## BEATEN WHILE TRYING TO STOP MURDER.

A boxer who lived in the High Flats ran out in despair and tried to punch

differ slightly on what happened next but not on the result.

## A LIFE SAVED

Gilmour says that a soldier ran after the two who had spilled out. One of them was McDaid. He says that the soldier covered the two of them with his rifle and took them back to a point close to the Saracen. At this moment, the third boy in the Saracen, apparently seeing that the soldier was gone, made a lone dash for safety.

According to Gilmour, the soldier spotted the third boy running and shouted something like, "Don't let that bastard get away!" Then he turned quite deliberately and shot the other two boys, both of whom had their hands on their heads, and one of whom was crying. The soldier then put them back into the Saracen. Gilmour says one of the boys was McDaid.

Mrs. Friel, who did not see the third boy try to get away, saw the two boys get out of the Saracen and says they didn't attempt to get away. She insists that they were shot down as Gilmour says, defencelessly, at a wall close by.

Gilmour says that the Saracen then drove away, and as it did so, the body

a Catholic priest, Fr. Irwin, was anointing two men who had been shot. A woman came to him, overwrought, and told him there were three people shot in one of the Saracens.

Father Irwin, who had already given four people the Last Rites, went down to the door of the flats and asked a soldier for someone in charge. He was sent to a Paratroop Sergeant. The Sergeant denied there was anybody in the Saracen and would not let him go to it.

Father Irwin returned to the Flats, where the woman again insisted that they were there and pointed out the particular armoured car to him.

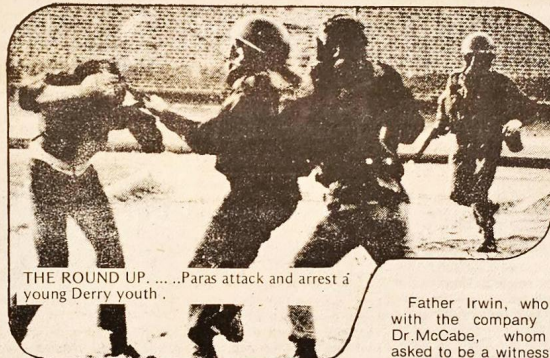
## PILED LIKE BAGS OF SPUDS

This time, the priest was determined he would get

others, he was still warm. I couldn't lift them off the bottom boy, who was still lying face down in a pool of blood. If that boy was dead when he was put in, he would have suffocated because of the position he was in. (In fact, the boy's tongue had swollen to fill his mouth, cutting off his air supply, as though he'd suffocated under the others).

When they gave the Last Rites and were climbing out of the Saracen, the head of the Knights of Malta arrived.

He tried to get into the back of the Saracen to see if he could give medical aid, but the Paratroop Sergeant pulled him out, refusing to allow him to see if there was any hope of saving the three, and slammed the doors of the Saracen. The time was between 4.30 p.m. and 4.45



THE ROUND UP. ....Paras attack and arrest a young Derry youth.

of Mickey McDaid fell out. The Saracen then drove up to the barricade some distance away, where it may have picked up another body. Then it returned to the waste ground to pick up the body of Mickey McDaid again. The Saracen then remained on the waste ground.

## LAST RITES

Meanwhile, on the first floor of the High Flats,

to the Saracen and he ran across to it past the Sergeant, who followed him. When he opened the back of the Saracen, Fr. Irwin saw three boys.. "piled like bags of spuds on top of one another," in the back.

Another priest, Fr. Mulvey, came in to help and they both climbed in to the back. "Mickey McDaid was lying on top. When I tried to shift him from the top to get at the



John Young (17)



James Joseph Wray (23)



Michael Kelly (17)



William McKinney (27)



Michael McDaid (21)



Gerald Donaghey (17)



Gerald McKinney



William Nash (19)



Kevin McElhinney (17)



Bernard McGuigan (41)



Jack Duddy (17)



John Johnson



Patrick Doherty (30)



Hugh Gilmour (17)



# THE ROUND UP. AN EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT

given by Barry Liddy who had previously been a member of the British Army, serving in Palestine & Korea.

Barry Liddy had been standing with a priest, Father Bradley, after he was first shot at when trying to get to the dying on the barricades. The priest was in a state of shock and Liddy had his arm around him trying to give him comfort. A boy nearby was squatting down near the wall in hysteria, crying. "They're going to kill us all. They're going to kill us all."

Liddy was reassuring him when a paratrooper suddenly came running around the corner firing across the road as he came. His shots were to kill 30-year-old Paddy Doherty, who was crouched down behind the High Flats across the street.

The Para hadn't been expecting to see people behind the wall when he came around and as he came by them, Fr. Bradley whom Liddy was still holding-reached forward and grabbed the barrel of his rifle. "For God's sake," the priest said, his voice quavering in horror, "have you not done enough damage today?"

"MOVE OR YOU'RE DEAD" The Para shook off the priest and pointed the gun at them. To Barry Liddy he shouted either: "Move and you're dead!" or "Move or you're dead!" For a heart-stopping moment, Liddy didn't know which until the Para shouted, "Up against the wall!"

As Fr. Bradley and Liddy turned to the wall, Liddy saw four young boys at the wall and he suddenly got a premonition that they were going to make a break for it. "For God's sake, don't run," he whispered across at them, "They'll shoot you."

## SHOT DOWN WHILE FLEEING IN TERROR.

As he said this, the four of them began to run. Liddy grabbed one boy. The other three were into the alleyway before they were shot. (The red-haired boy, 16 year old Pat McGinley, was to turn up in Barry Liddy's home several days later to thank him for saving his life.)

After this shooting the remaining seven or eight standing at the wall with their hands over their heads were led away.

They were brought into a courtyard at the end of the maisonettes where other prisoners were standing.

## ROUND-UP PLAN.

(What Liddy and the others didn't know was that they were now to become a part of the second stage of the Paratrooper

operation planned so carefully for that day. The initial stage was to tackle and defeat the I.R.A. in a textbook operation during an open battle.

Stage Two involved taking several hundred prisoners after the battle. RUC personnel were on duty all day in the huge interrogation shed in Fort George, down the Strand Road, waiting for the flow of prisoners to begin. Everything was set up for the "softening up" and interrogation of numerous captives after the fighting had ended.)

A soldier came down and ordered Fr. Bradley away from the others but another Lance Corporal came and countermanded the order, and for a time Fr. Bradley stood alone in the centre of the courtyard.

Eventually, he was led away to the end of the line of prisoners. Barry Liddy was not to see him again, as he was presumably released.

Another priest, who wore a black sweater, tried to go with Fr. Bradley but was pushed back into line. The soldier poked the priest, Fr. O'Keefe, in the stomach with his rifle, saying "Where's your f...ing collar then?" every time he protested that he was a priest.

## ATTEMPTED TO DEFEND HIMSELF — 28 STITCHES.

Two other prisoners had been taken a short time earlier. One was Nobby Clarke, a taxi driver, and another was 14-year-old Myles O'Hagan, who had come down in Clarke's taxi to try and help the wounded.

Clarke, a very tough Englishman-of all things to be caught up in such a situation-takes no nonsense from anybody and that included the Paratroopers on this occasion. He fought off the soldiers who tried to assault him and they eventually overpowered him and forced him into a Saracen and then fired rubber bullets into the cabin while he was inside. He got 28 stitches in the Altnagelvin emergency room afterwards.

The prisoners were soon moved. When about 30 had been gathered, they were run on the double down into Little James Street, about 400 yards from where all the shooting took place. They were held there for a time and then marched through a narrow barrier where Paratroopers about 20 in all were lined up on either side with yellow coloured hoses which they

savagely beat the 30 or so men who passed them.

This was part of the "softening up" process which Lt. Col. Derek Wilford planned for the expected flow of I.R.A. prisoners. The Brits' plan was grinding on with the inevitability of a wound-up clock, long after the original purpose to it/logical to the demoralised Brits who planned the operation-so clearly did not remotely fit the actual situation.)

## BLEEDING, BATTERED PRISONERS

The prisoners, battered, with many of them bleeding, were forced on to a truck with blows and curses. One of the last to get on of the 30 was a woman. Her hand had been cut and the blood was dripping from it. As the people in the truck squatted on the floor, which had been laid out with special triangular pointed irons for the occasion, the woman began to shout at one of the soldiers guarding them all.

She began to wave her hand at the soldier, spraying him with blood continuously. "You shot enough of us today," she kept shouting at him, "but you'll never keep us down!" The soldier screamed at her to shut up, but she kept this up on the journey to Fort George, three quarters of a mile away.

Inside the barracks, they were taken from the truck with another gantlet to run this time with three Alsatian dogs, one chained to a wall, and two held, snarling viciously, by handlers.

For Barry Liddy, it was almost a return journey. He actually worked as a barman in the Naafi a hundred yards from where he was taken for interrogation. He had collected his wages there at 2.15 on the previous day.

They were all beaten again with the same rubber hoses—these were packed as

part of the Paratrooper equipment for their day in Derry, we later learned from Paras who deserted in disgust afterwards. By the time they got into the shed, where a number of members of the Coldstream Guards who are based in Derry stood, many of the prisoners were in bad physical shape.

Inside the shed, a tall soldier with glasses held another Alsatian dog, and there were about ten RUC personnel standing there, as well as some plainclothes men.

For the next fifteen minutes, the prisoners stood with their hands against lime-painted walls while Paras went up and down the lines, beating them and jeering. One would order them to lower their heads. When they did so, another Para would come along and beat them savagely for obeying the first soldier. When they raised their heads on his

Corporals Cleary and Brothers (these may be false names they mentioned, to throw off from the tracks any aspiring avengers) that perpetrated one of the most appalling brutalities on the prisoners.

## SADISTIC BRUTALITY.

A boy named McLaughlin had been forced to stand by the heater for over half an hour with his head close to the heat. Then one of the Paras came over to him, grabbed him and suddenly and with full force brought his fist right into the boy's groin. McLaughlin must have passed out because he collapsed on the ground and his head banged loudly against concrete floor.

Another Paratrooper picked up the boy and asked him did he want a drink. McLaughlin said "Yes," and the Paratrooper asked him



Slain in cold-blood

instructions, the first Para would return and beat them for disobeying him. This went on for some time.

After two hours at the wall, the men were brought back to the blackened wire restles in the centre of the floor, and made to stand with their hands on it. Barry Liddy, from serving in the bar, knew many of the Grenadiers standing around. One of them, a staff sergeant called Wilkinson, asked him if he was all right but Liddy would take nothing from them.

Liddy eventually blacked out, and when he came to, someone was easing his hands off the barbed wire. He was given a chair to sit on and then a doctor who is attached to the Grenadier Guards came to examine him.

Liddy told the doctor he was getting very bad pains in the back of the head—he'd been struck several times there by the Paras and the doctor gave him a single tablet and left him there on the chair.

Around 8.15 p.m. a group of Paras returned to the prisoners and the brutality went on. This time, they had nicknames for people, a well-dressed prisoner was Flashy Paddy; a long-haired one was Gypsy Paddy.

It was this group of Paras, who were said to include

to open his mouth. When McLaughlin did, the Paratrooper spat into it.

All of those summonsed—only those badly injured were charged were put up against a wall and photographed with one of the Paratroopers. It seems obvious that the pictures would help the Paras to know who to identify in court when the time came to give evidence on the matters.

Finally, nearly all of the 60 who were arrested were released. At 12.30 a.m. Monday morning, Barry Liddy was released. He was so badly injured that he had to drag one of his legs behind him as he made his way from the shed. As he left, Lt. Frazer of the Grenadiers came out to say that Liddy's pass had been withdrawn (to get into Ft. George for work in the bar), but that if Liddy asked for Frazer, in the morning, he'd clear him for work.

"You must be joking," he said. "You can't be serious. I'll tell you right now if they were dying in there, I wouldn't even wet their lips."

Liddy limped on out the gate, where a waiting car took him to his home to wait for an ambulance which took him immediately to Altnagelvin Hospital.

General Ford's day of glory was over. For it, he would later be personally awarded a medal and decorated by the Queen of England.



PADDY DOHERTY CRAWLS TOWARDS A WOUNDED FRIEND — SECONDS LATER HE WAS DEAD— SHOT DOWN IN COLD BLOOD BY THE PARATROOPERS.





DERRY  
30th JANUARY 1972

# Brit PLAN To KILL

Incredible though it may seem, there is evidence that those who died on Bloody Sunday were not murdered in blind rage by undisciplined Paratroopers gone berserk. Evidence points very clearly that the victims were caught up in a calculated manœuvre by British Army Land Commander General Ford, aimed at wiping out the IRA in Derry.

The plan was put together by Ford, along with Colonel Maurice Tugwell, a senior operations officer in Derry, and Lt. Col. Derek Wilford of the 1st Battalion of the Parachute Regiment. Even by their own twisted standards, their plan failed miserably, for a gruesome slaughter of civilians continued for about 20 minutes, without a single armed IRA volunteer being seen or shot at by the Paratroopers.

This opinion is simply one among several, and it stresses the military tactics the Brits displayed previously in Belfast prior to Bloody Sunday. Other theories, including those concentrating on the obvious political advantages to the British in the Six Counties, and also to the then existing Stormont regime, of a massive, brutal and violent rout by the Brits of this huge march against internment, are obviously important. The calculations of the Stormont Security Council, on which Lord Long Kesh himself Brian Faulkner sat, were also in close consultation with the British Land Commander and the O/C of the Paras. It seems clear that, given their well-known Fascist personalities, the tactic of "shoot em off the streets; the more dead the better," would have particularly delighted these fanatic Loyalists, and in fact has been put forward time and again since Bloody Sunday in all the Loyalist newspapers as an example of an "effective" tactic.

## GUILT

To quote one 1972 source and say, "Never was British military blundering more tragic," (Sunday Independent) risks understating the brutal reality and in some way diminishing the guilt of those Paras, especially the officers, who took part and who clearly saw, long before they finished their butchery for that day, that those who became their victims were unarmed civilians running away in terror from what seemed Paras gone berserk. The question which must be asked, of course, is how much of this "military reasoning" set forth in the plans unearthed after Bloody Sunday (and in some cases revealed by Paras and other Brits themselves who were too disgusted by the entire massacre to keep to security rules) were actually believed to be true at the time by the officers and politicians responsible for these plans? And how much of this was simply the "public plan," set forward for those British Army members and politicians with access to such plans? but who may have had a weaker stomach for cold-blooded

murder of unarmed men and boys, and could possibly have objected to a more straightforward plan to massacre the Civil Rights marchers along the lines of the favoured Loyalist tactics mentioned above. That there may have been some Brits or politicians who would have objected to straightforward plans for massacre for motives of simple political and military advantage to the Stormont regime cannot be over looked.

## YELLOW CARD?

The story of what was cold-bloodedly planned as a British military operation and which broke into history as the Bloody Sunday massacre has its roots in the policies adopted by General Ford for British Army operations in Belfast. According to one source at the time (1972), the tactics used in Belfast, and then Derry, are simple.

They are not guided by the "Yellow Card", that bit of paper carried by Brits in the field laying down the supposed conditions necessary before they can open fire. Instead, soldiers like the Paratroopers who find themselves involved in "troubled areas," are now allowed to shoot any male of military age within the vicinity of any shooting incident.

"This license to kill is not publicised but an examination through press reports of the high number of men killed since internment was introduced in 1971 will show strong grounds for believing many of these were innocent victims who were killed under General Ford's new edict," say one mild-mannered 1972 source, the Sunday Independent from Dublin.

General Ford was known to be well-pleased with his policy in Belfast, which he claimed at the time "has wrecked the IRA organisation" (Where have we heard this claim recently, Mr Mason?) In Derry, he was looking for some chance to put his same tactic into operation, and win a bit of fame and possibly a medal or promotion. He saw the Civil Rights march on the 30th of January as his golden opportunity to accomplish "the same in Derry."

His plan backfired and won him infamy instead (although he did get his medal from the Queen), because, quite frankly, the British Army knew very little about what was happen-

ing in Derry at the time. Believing their own propaganda that there would be guns at this march, they prepared for a military battle. But again, this does not excuse them.

## NO GUNS

Even when they saw clearly there were no guns on Bloody Sunday, their officers saw no reason for changing a plan which seemed so ingenious, simply because the marchers were all unarmed civilians, with more women and children than men of military age. With an icy brutality, they carried out what they could blandly describe as their "operation", merely to experiment with the effect.

## TWO SHOT EARLY ON

Let us look now at the actual events of Bloody Sunday. At 3.40 p.m., as the Civil Rights march moved away from the British military barricades in William Street, set up to prevent the march from reaching its stated objective, the Guildhall, a British Army sharpshoot on the roof of Stevenson's bakery in William Street took aim and shot an elderly man and a boy in the legs. Neither was seriously wounded, although one was hurt by a ricochet as well. This unprovoked shooting was part of a carefully calculated plan.

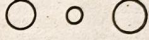
## DRAW OUT IRA

The British expected at this point that news of the shooting would spread through the crowd, "to where the IRA men were". Colonel Tugwell believed that the by-then angry crowds would urge the IRA forward to fight the British Army on grounds the Brits had carefully chosen. The Brits gave the IRA about 20 minutes, by which time they believed the IRA would get themselves organised and move with their weapons conveniently into William Street to meet the Brits in a face-to-face battle. Days beforehand, in the operations rooms of British Army H.Q. in Derry, four o'clock was set as the time this "operation" would be in full swing.

Right on schedule, shortly after 4 p.m., the Paras moved in to meet the expected battle. Their faces were blackened; they carried only rapid-firing rifles, and the screens on their helmets were turned back to given them a clear view.

They were packed into four Saracens, which first moved slowly and then roared in through the crowds of now-fleeing people, weaving in and out, on the waste ground near the High Flats in Rossville Street.

The events which followed are now the terrible history of British murder on Bloody Sunday.



Dr. Raymond McClean, a Derry doctor and recently former Mayor of Derry, was present at the post-mortem of the 13, and states, "Most of them must have been running away when they were shot. The most significant part of the tragedy and I want to emphasize this is that a man and a teenager

were shot well away from the others in William Street, FIFTEEN MINUTES BEFORE THE SHOOTING.

"I know this was true. I was there and treated them in a house they were taken to. Neither had a weapon. They were just shot down", said Dr. McClean.

# THE CONTRAST OF THE ABOVE THEORY WITH THE WIDGERY REPORT

The following excerpts from the "Widgery Report" clearly indicate the cloak under which the British wish to keep the facts, about a plan to "defeat the IRA in Derry" which failed so infamously, so bloodily, so embarrassingly, before the eyes of the world:

"If the Army had persisted in its 'low key' attitude and had not launched a large scale operation to arrest hooligans the day might have passed off without serious incident."

"The intention of the senior Army officers to use 1st Para as an arrest force and not for

other offensive purposes was sincere."

"When vehicles and soldiers of Support Company appeared in Rossville Street they came under fire. Arrests were made, but in a very short time the arrest operation took second place and the soldiers turned to engage their assailants. There is no reason to suppose that the soldiers would have had opened fire if they had not been fired upon first."

"Soldiers who identified armed gunmen opened fire upon them in accordance with the standing orders on the Yellow Card. Each soldier was his own judge of whether he had identified a gunman. Their training made them aggressive and quick in decision and some showed more restraint in opening fire than others... Notably in Glenfada Park, firing bordered on the reckless. These distinctions reflect differences in the character and temperament of the soldiers concerned."





# SIX YEARS ON: AN ANALYSIS

BY PETER DUFFY.  
(Assistant PRO,  
Derry Sinn Féin  
Comhairle Ceantair).



Bloody Sunday, to date one of the most horrific slaughters of defenceless civilians in the Western world this century, is remembered annually. It is symbolic of how an oppressed people laid down their lives in peaceful unarmed resistance to the ugly farrago of British imperialism in Ireland: internment without trial, discrimination in jobs and housing, denial of basic freedom of speech and expression. As was proved so conclusively on that fateful January Sunday in 1972, when 13 Derry citizens were brutally murdered by soldiers from the First Paratrooper Regiment (fourteen died later from injuries received), Irish men and women could not walk the streets of their native cities in safety from the English invader. Totalitarianism was the order of the day.

The slaughter of January 30, 1972 was yet another repetition of previous British atrocities in Ireland. Only unfortunately for the British war-machine, on this occasion their premeditation did not allow for the presence of the news media, and subsequently that day the eyes of the world were trained on England's Vietnam.

Regardless of the gross falsification of Bloody Sunday by the notorious Widgery Tribunal, which was exclusively designed at creating a myth of Republican guns being present, and so pave the way for the condemnation of those who fomented such a callous slaughter. The truth could not remain hidden, and subsequently Bloody Sunday entered the annals of history—forever a boundless emblem of an unarmed people's self-sacrifice in opposition to the British murder-machine in Ireland.

## AN ANALYSIS 1972-1978.

Having reflected briefly on the incident which shocked the civilised world, the role of this article is to analyse in depth the political activity of the intervening years from 1972 onwards. In regard to the anti-imperialist movement, this article tries to interpret the impact of its logic, the clarity of its vision, and therefore fundamentally reveal the reasons for the continued futility of attempted reformism of the Six County system.

Bloody Sunday was a cold-blooded act of despotism aimed at crushing the spirit and resurgence of the Irish nationalist people, but as has been proven not only on this occasion, but throughout England's long repressive reign in Ireland, that spirit and desire for political and social liberation cannot be subdued in any form or fashion.

## RENEWED RESURGENCE 1972

In the immediate period after Bloody Sunday, the will of the resistance movement in the Six Counties to defeat once and for all the grotesque facets of Sassanach imperialism increased both physically and mentally. As the courageous people of the nationalist ghettos helped with renewed strength and determination the Irish revolutionary struggle. The Republican move-

ment rewarded their persistence with success on both military and political fronts. Ogligh na h-Eireann volunteers struck decisively at British targets. Political developments progressed considerably for the Republican Movement with the publication in June 1972 of Eire Nua: The Governmental Programme, which set forth plans for a Federal structure of government for the four provinces and a draft charter of rights.

Meanwhile, in pro-establishment political circles, 1972 saw the emerging to the fore of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, founded in 1970 with money from the Rowntree Trust, infamous for diversion of anti-imperialist struggles. The S.D.L.P. was in later years to turn full circle from representatives of parts of the nationalist community to defenders of the British establishment in the North.

July 1972 was a month which saw further British aggression in Ireland in the form of Operation Motorman. The mass saturation of the most daring and enterprising free society in Europe, the "Free Derry" area, claimed two lives—one civilian and one volunteer of Ogligh na h-Eireann at the hands of the British. Although destroying an unique community, it failed totally to destroy the spirit or strength of the people of that community.



1973 STORMONT REPLACEMENT

September 1973 saw the first unsuccessful attempt at enforcing a direct replacement for the collapsed Stormont regime of 1972. The Sunningdale conference came to grief, as would future British-imposed solutions, on one form or another of Loyalist intransigence, whilst the people witnessed the rapid transformation of former colleagues to little more than

establishment puppets. The Republican Movement continued the march forward for political and social freedom. Successes were continued on all fronts, and previous to Sunningdale, Sinn Féin had continued its education of the people on social policy with the introduction in May of that year of the document entitled, "The Quality of Life in the New Ireland."

## 1974 ASSEMBLY FALLS

1974 was to complete the S.D.L.P. transformation from representatives of the nationalist people to representatives of imperialist interest in Ireland. This was the year of the final sell-out not only of the internees by this band of opportunists, but also of the rent-and-rate strikers. The Assembly came to grief in May 1974, as a direct result of pressure from the Loyalist General Strike. When faced with community polarisation, the Westminster backed down, and so another attempt at restoring devolved government to the Six Counties failed miserably.

As the Assembly fell, Sinn Féin and the entire Republican Movement continued its progress when in May, the month of establishment political failure, Socialist Republicanism took a step further on the road to victory with the introduction of "Mining and Energy: The Sinn Féin Policy." This represented a further development of policy on the control and development of Ireland's mineral wealth and other natural resources. In direct opposition to Britain and other foreign exploitation of Ireland's natural resources, the Republican Movement had proposed in detail plans for the ending of the economic stranglehold over our island and maritime possession, and its subsequent replacement with Irish control in the interests of the Irish people.

## 1975 CONVENTIONAL FALLS

1975 brought Britain's final attempt to date to fill the political vacuum in the Six Counties, with the implementation of a devolved assembly of political renegades, characterised as a "convention." But

yet again, this curious gathering of various shades of Unionist opinion—including the Catholic S.D.L.P. and the "Liberal" Unionists of Alliance—was finally withered, through political bankruptcy in the face of continued Loyalist intransigence. By this stage Loyalist opinion, although remaining sterile and uncompromising, was hopelessly divided in overall policy through inter-party squabbles. Even the most dimwitted political commentator saw clearly that Unionism would never again regain its strength and solidarity of pre-1968 "normality." By late 1975, the S.D.L.P. was also on the slide. A decreased performance in the Convention election, coupled with a pathetic showing on entering this latest enforced "solution", was rapidly removing any remaining air of credibility from the party of opportunism. In Sinn Féin's "Boycott the Convention" campaign of May 1975, the media failed to report and indeed completely misrepresented the large-scale success of the Sinn Féin campaign, when 57% of the nationalist electorate refused to participate in the election.

## ANTI-EEC CAMPAIGN

June 1975 saw an anti-EEC campaign by Sinn Féin, but despite a well-drilled campaign warning the Irish people in all 32 counties of the economic disaster of membership of the European community, the majority of voters accepted EEC membership. Sinn Féin had already formally declared its stand on the Common Market question in a statement issued by An Ard Comhairle as early as Feb. 24, 1962, in which the Irish people were urged to fight this new sell-out.



How correct that prediction—from the days before "the split"—has proved to be. This, coupled with the warnings of June 1975, were unfortunately for the most part ignored, with the resulting adverse effects of rising prices, mass unemployment figures and exploitation of Irish natural resources by foreign multi-national concerns. The continued invasion of our fishing limits by foreign trawlers is a very prominent example of such an unfortunate result of EEC membership.

## THE TRUCE OPPORTUNITY

But the most important and prominent event of 1975 was the Bi-lateral Truce between the IRA and the Crown Forces, negotiated in Feale, Co.Clare, in late 1974. The coming year was to witness the eventual disintegration of this excellent opportunity for Westminster to declare its intentions of withdrawing from Ireland, due to persistent British breaches of the Truce by aggression on the nationalist community.

## 1976—CONTINUED BRITISH REPRESSION

1976 must surely be remembered for the tragic assassination in October of Marie Drumm (Sinn Féin) by pro-British elements. The Republican Movement, deeply shocked at Marie's murder, pledged itself to continue the struggle until final victory.

In March of 1976, Special Category status was removed from the statute book with respect to political prisoners in Six County prisons sentenced for political activity carried out after March 1st. This removal of political status led to the refusal by Republican prisoners to wear criminal garb, and their total rejection of all attempts to classify them as criminal. This led to the "blanket" protest where men were kept naked, save for a blanket, in H-Block Long Kesh. Women Republican prisoners in Armagh also joined this protest.

## 1977—LITTLE CHANGE

Similar to the year previous, 1977 brought no great strides from establishment circles. In fact, the British economy and the British presence in Ireland continued to slide. Note the regular removal of large contingents of British troops, and needless to say, the unsuccessful attempts by Roy Mason and the British war Generals to further impose a policy of "Ulsterisation", increased RUC and UDR recruitment being a prime objective.

In May 1977, Sinn Féin published "The National Offshore", another important document on the subject of the ownership, development and protection of our offshore resources.

The struggle for the retention of political status in the jails and prison camps continued through out this year, and by the end of the year over 250 prisoners were "on the blanket".

In October, Seamus Costello, (Chairman IRSP) was tragically assassinated by British agents in a Dublin suburb. IRSP attributed his murder to a British undercover squad operating in Dublin. In mid-December, Colm McNutt, also of the IRSP, was die in similar circumstances in William St. Car-park, Derry.

## ON REACHING 1978

This article can only be concluded with a general summarisation of the events of the past six years and their relevance to the present.

Distinct symptoms of British rule; sectarian assassination of nationalist people by pro British murder gangs, establishment brutality, widespread unemployment, rising prices, etc., still exist. In the case of sectarian assassination, although it has dropped off in number, it can be turned on or off as the political circumstances seem to demand lending considerable weight to the theory that these atrocities have British involvement in numerous cases.

As past events proved without doubt, Bloody Sunday failed to suppress republican resistance. Indeed, the courageous people of the nationalist ghettos developed from a reformist people to a revolutionary vanguard at the forefront in the liberation of mankind. The Six County state cannot be reformed, and history has proven this. One thing is certain, the events of the past six years remain foremost in the minds of this generation. Spurred on by Bloody Sunday, we will do our best to ensure that the events of January 30th will never be repeated, and that the vision of successive generations—a free and independent Ireland—will become a reality.





# THE FIRST BLOODY SUNDAY



On Sunday morning, November 21st, 1920, fourteen leading members of the British Secret Service met their deaths in Dublin as a result of Republican Army action. This was a powerful blow against British Army morale and pride.

Revenge was in the air that day, and the Crown Forces, having decided to take reprisals, picked Croke Park as their target. About ten thousand people were gathered there to watch a challenge game between Dublin and Tipperary, which commenced at 2.45 p.m. Play was scarcely ten minutes in progress when an aeroplane circled the field and let off a Vercy light, quickly followed by a burst of machine-gun fire.

Immediately, armed British Forces surrounded the grounds and without warning opened up with machine guns and rifle fire from dominating ground. Members of the Royal Irish Constabulary with fixed bayonets charged up the outside road, lorry loads of Black and Tans, Auxiliaries and British military all joined in, firing

volley after volley on the defenceless spectators. In a moment, the pleasant picture was changed into a bloody pandemonium. The scene was indescribable, as the thousands present sought every means to escape from the deadly fusillade. Many of the startled crowd threw themselves flat on the ground. Thousands raced

for the exits while bullets swept up and down the playing pitch. Hundreds were trampled on by waves of stampeding human beings.

The dead and wounded lay on the ground, as armed men poured into the Park at the Canal end, and with the help of rifle butts moved back the people pushing forward. Hundreds were held for interrogation, while others were forced back towards the gate at bayonet-point by Royal Irish Constabulary and Auxiliaries, and searched for arms by British soldiers as they passed out of the Park, to face further hordes of armed police and soldiers in the surrounding streets.

All held inside were kept with their heads above their heads for over an hour. A small elderly priest amongst the prisoners attempted to make a

protest. A foul-mouthed Black-and-Tan knocked him to the ground. Instantly, a tall, well-built priest stepped out and felled the 'Tan' with a smashing blow on the face before he was himself left on by a dozen heavily-armed Brits and badly beaten.

The players were made to line up against the Railway Wall. They were covered by a firing party. The officer-in-charge had his orders: three of the players were to be shot for any man of theirs shot. Fortunately for the players, there was no shooting, except that from the Brits.

The result of this atrocious attack on unarmed civilians was the murder

of fourteen and the wounding of sixty-three, some of whom afterwards died of their wounds. They were mainly country people. The victims included a number of women and children. One boy was bayoneted; two women shot dead.

Among the fourteen dead was Michael Hogan of the Tipperary team, who presented a pathetic spectacle as he lay on the sod in his football togs. He was shot through the mouth.

Michael Hogan's remains, accompanied by the surviving members of the team, arrived in Clonmel on the following Wednesday, and thousands of people joined in the funeral procession. He was buried in his football togs, his coffin was draped with the Tricolour and laid in the grave by men who had witnessed the frightful scene of his killing.

The Hogan Stand at Croke Park has been named in honour of this martyr to the cause of native games. Each succeeding year since, a simple ceremony in Croke Park commemorates this holocaust, which along with Derry's Bloody Sunday, ranks among the most cold-blooded outrages in the history of British atrocities in Ireland.



Two who died on Bloody Sunday 1920 were Brigadier Dick McKee (Dublin Brigade) and his Vice-Brigadier Peadar Clancy. These two men and a friend Conor Clure, who was not even a volunteer, were murdered while being 'interrogated' in Dublin Castle.

As with the Croke Park massacre these men were murdered in revenge for the execution of fourteen British Special Branches earlier in the day. Shown above is the room in Dublin Castle especially arranged by the British to pretend that the three men were shot while trying to escape.

Brig. Dick McKee



Vice Brig. Peadar Clancy

## THE MASSACRE OF NEWTOWNBARRY 1831

(from an ancient copy of "The Green Book", published around 1850).

In June, 1831, the cattle of a Mr. Patrick Doyle, of Tombrick, Newtownbarry, Co. Wexford, were seized for tithe, claimed by Rev. Mr. McClintock, a connection of the pious Lord Roden, and his bishop brother of philanthropic notoriety. Although the sum claimed did not amount to more than about £2 6s. 0d., which, besides, was denied to be legally due till November, the cattle were advertised to be auctioned in the Parson's name, on Saturday, 18 June. This was the market-day, and accordingly there was a large crowd assembled to attend the sale.

About 150 of Lord Farnham's Orange Yeomanry, and 40 police, who were kept in readiness, with 50 rounds of ball-cartridge each, in the yard of His Lordship's agent, Captain Gorman, were turned out to guard the cattle on their being taken from the pound. Some of the people began to jeer the Yeomen upon the use they were applying their new clothing and

arms, and a few stones were thrown by some children in the gathering crowd. The Yeomanry fired, until 14 people were shot dead upon the spot, and 26 wounded.

Some saved their lives by swimming through the River Slaney. A ball grazed the head of Mr. Patrick Doyle's eldest son, John Doyle, sweeping away one of his eyes, and depriving him of the sight of the other. He is still living, (at the time of the writing) a melancholy monument to the cruel effects of "the union of Church and State."

Another young man, whose name was Miley Doyle, was deprived of his life that day. He was a fine handsome fellow, six feet high, made in proportion, universally liked in the neighbourhood, and only in his 22nd year. But the most horrible incident in this tragedy was that of Mary Mulrooney, through whose body, and the body of the unborn child she was carrying, a musketball tore, leaving the lifeless and bleeding remains of both exposed to the public eye.

Yet, for all the blood shed under the patronage of this Law-

Church and Orange mode, No Redress Was Obtained—No Punishment inflicted! Instead, we read a quote from the newspaper, "Comet", of June 26th, 1831, "It is agreed on all hands, that they (the police), only discharged their pieces in the air, and that Captain King, Chief of Police acted with humanity and forbearance."

Two stanzas from a poem written a few days after this massacre remind one of Bloody Sunday.

And the balls of the Yeomanry  
Flew far and wide,  
And maidens plunged shrieking  
in Slaney's red tide:  
The blood of the peasantry  
gushed over the turf  
As their lips foamed in death  
like the rock-beating surf.

And there lay the mother  
distorted and pale!  
Yet her butchers were praised  
in the *Warrior* and *Mail*;  
For our judges are silent, and  
justice unknown,  
Though the dark tale of carnage  
o'er Europe hath flown!

## FOLK SOUNDINGS



of the leading folk groups in Ireland.

A few months ago the club invited Na File up from Cork to provide an evening's entertainment. This proved to be a very enjoyable night and hopefully they will be

back in the future. I can only hope this will be a series of such evenings and a lot of the top groups in both Traditional and folk will be booked to play.

Last week's comment about the GAA is my own personal opinion and not the papers as such.

Apologies to the Cluann Ard, they have recently cut price to the sessions—it is now free!

ANTONIO LABHRA.

The Andersonstown Social Club is one of the top Folk Clubs in Belfast. Every weekend it provides regular folk groups and special guest folk groups.

Formed in 1971 it has consistently stayed a purist folk club, while other clubs formed on the same lines have diversified to pop and rock.

Regular groups who play there are the Freeman-Blackthorn. These two groups have gained wide recognition as two



# PICKET AT THE KESH

The Relatives Action Committee organised a protest picket at Long Kesh on Saturday January 21st. Supporters of the R.A.C. carried placards highlighting the degrading and inhuman treatment being perpetrated by the British Government against the POW's, who are held in 'H' Block Long Kesh.

The Relatives Action Committee feel that it is important that the places where the prisoners, who are fighting for Political Status are being held are subject to demonstrations in solidarity with the POW's. We believe that it is of paramount importance that the conditions of the POW's should be continuously exposed. It must not be forgotten that the political

prisoners held in 'H' Block Long Kesh, 'B' Wing Crumlin Road Jail, 'A' Wing Armagh Jail are held in total isolation. The men in the Blanket are still existing in a naked state in their cells, that because they get no exercise in fresh air, and live in an environment subject to the glare of the artificial strip lighting the vast majority of the prisoners have problems with their eyes. The prisoners are getting insufficient food, and what food they get is always cold. The POW's have no washing or toilet facilities, this particular practise on the part of the prison authorities is calculated to humiliate, and dehumanise the prisoners. The prison screws have stepped up the vicious



RAC PROTEST IN LONG KESH CAR PARK - SATURDAY 21st JANUARY

physical assaults on the POW's. All the actions of the British Government and the Prison authorities is calculated to break the morale of the Republican POW's, and force them to accept Criminal Status.

The Westminster Government has failed in its attempt due to the iron will of the POW's, but the people on the outside must keep up the struggle on the streets. We are fighting to establish that the POW's are

political idealists who have been engaged in a War of National Liberation.

PRO  
RELATIVES ACTION  
COMMITTEE.

## STATEMENT FROM SENTENCED POW'S

We have been asked to release the following supplied statement from the PRO sentenced Republican POW's Long Kesh.

"On Thursday afternoon (12.1.78) A search-unusual in itself because it occurred at 3.15 p.m.-uncovered a tunnel in cage 12. 75 men were moved out of the cage into other cages before lock-up that night. The next morning we were informed by an assistant governor that a small amount of cannabis had been found in Cage 12. If we are to believe the administration this unique find was discovered in a tobacco tin simply left lying about.

Because of the inconsistencies of this incident, and in view of the fact that a similar claim was made approximately

18 months ago, which was totally unfounded, we firmly believe an attempt is being made to smear the Republican POW's in Long Kesh.

On Thursday afternoon no mention was made of anything other than a tunnel having been found. It was not until all our comrades had left cage 12 that this allegation was made, if anyone had been in possession of this substance they had ample opportunity to get rid of it, and knowing the serious consequences, particularly if it fell into the hands of the administration, its hard to believe they would simply have left it lying about.

After intensive investigations the battalion staff have found no indication of anyone having been in the position to have or leave this stuff lying about for the administration to find.

This incident, in conjunction with others this week and the knowledge of the attempt about 18 months ago at the same stunt leads us to believe the administration have embarked on a policy to promote dissension among POW's by provoking a 'witch-hunt'. In the eyes of the public at large they are attempting to blacken us to curb support for, and draw attention away from the issues of the H-Blocks.

We are confident that the public knows the Republican position in regard to drug pushers etc., and will not be taken in by this latest mud-slinging from the establishment.

PRO LONG KESH.

## Letters to the editor



A Chara,

It may have come to your notice that Roy Mason is continually trying to threaten the Republican Movement with long terms of imprisonment in that 'Hell Hole H. Block' or by his Murder Machine, S.A.S. 1st Battalion Paras, RUC etc, etc, but let me make it quite clear to him and his foreign government, all his military technique and strength, their wild ambition of alienating the Republican Movement from the people, will come to nothing. We are the people, we come

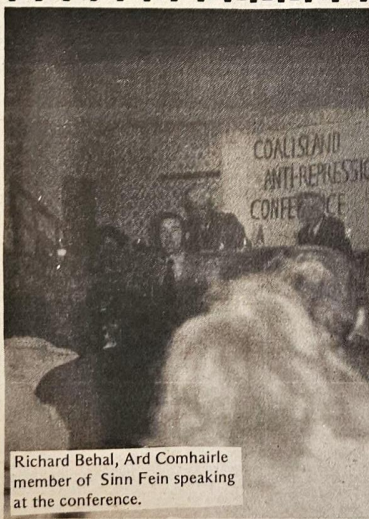
forward from the people to fight his foreign war machine. The struggle of the Irish people for over 800 years has proved to the freedom loving people of the world that Mason, his H Block, murder, and black mail, will not stop the Irish struggle for the people and their country. To quote one of our National heroes, P.H. Pearse; IRELAND UNFREE SHALL NEVER BE AT PEACE.

SIGNED: P.J. BLAIR  
CAGE 9 LONG KESH.

## R.A.C. RALLY

Short Strand Relatives Action Committee defend Political Status march and rally. Sunday 5th February March assemblies Advice Centre Moire Street. 6 p.m.

## Coalisland Conference



Richard Behal, Ard Comhairle member of Sinn Féin speaking at the conference.

The Anti-repression Conference on Sunday last was seen as a success in bringing together anti-Imperialist and anti-Unionist groupings from all over the 32 counties of Ireland.

The Coalisland Relatives Action Committee had organised the conference, a body, which delegates to the conference were told, had been formed in the Coalisland area after a number of local people had been tortured at the hands of the RUC one of whom was Mr Peter Mc Grath.

The purpose of the conference was to highlight torture and repression being used as a political weapon of Roy Mason and the conditions of boys and girls in H Block 'B' Wing Crumlin Road Gaol Armagh

and other prisons throughout Ireland and England.

The massive turnout of at least 1,000 people is an indication of the change of mood in nationalist circles and a boast to the confidence of all who are concerned with the prisoners issue.

Representatives from Trade Union and left-wing groups north and south called for a united-front and united working class action to combat the use of torture and to highlight the withdrawal of political status.

The Strasbourg verdict was criticised on several points one of which was that the court's findings had set the guidelines which constitute torture too high therefore giving the torturer an almost free hand or wide scope in his practice.

The silence of the Catholic Church and her apparent unwillingness to condemn the goings-on in the torture centres was raised by several speakers. It appeared that it was safe to criticise Russia, Chile or South Africa but when it came to Ireland it was not considered important enough.

As the conference progressed it was apparent that there was unanimous agreement that the use of torture was a political weapon and torture itself was not the whole problem. The British presence in Ireland was the root of the matter and torture was being used as one of England's weapons to maintain their presence.

It was significant that the  
CONTINUED ACROSS PAGE





# NEWS FROM ENGLAND

## ALBANY PRISON

The Governor of Albany prison, Leicester, and his Screws are waging a campaign against Irish political prisoners in order to make their visits as difficult as possible. All visitors to Irish politicals in Albany have to give three days' notice of visits; since December the prison has consistently contacted relatives to tell them that their visit is cancelled and that no other date is available. Prisoners have been told that only one of them at a time may have a visit and this means that many families cannot visit at the only time convenient - at the weekend.

On 17 December Ray McLaughlin's wife who had travelled from Birmingham, was half way through her visit when Screws told her that another

visitor had arrived and that unless she cut short her visit the other prisoner would have no visit at all. Tony Madigan was told that he could have no weekend visits and as a result he had no visits over the Xmas holidays. When he wrote to his MP to complain about this the Home Office refused to give the MP his mother's address and the prison refused to allow Tony to write to his mother to explain what had happened.

On 14th January the aunt of Sean Smyth was told that she could not have a visit that she had booked a week earlier. All other visitors to Irish prisoners Albany have met this kind of obstruction. In addition all women visitors are

subjected to a body search by a woman police matron who also sits in on the visits despite the fact that the prison rules state quite clearly that only Screws can sit in on visits.

It is clear that the authorities in Albany have decided on a campaign of harassment against Irish political prisoners and their families. They have even stooped so low as to steal prisoners' property. Tony Madigan found a great deal of his property 'missing' when he was transferred from Parkhurst and it was from Albany prison that the personal writings of the late Sean O'Connell disappeared.

(COURTESY PRISONERS AID COMMITTEE LONDON).

## French United Socialist Party supports Republican Movement

The following statement was agreed to by both the Republican delegation in France and the United Socialist Party (PSU).

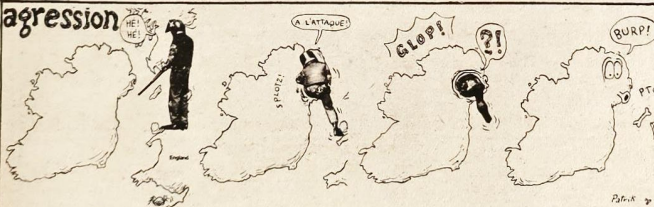
"A delegation of the National Board of the P.S.U. entertained an Irish delegation, constituted by one member of Sinn Féin and one member of Irish Republican Socialist Party.

The Exchange of views was about the following points in relation to Ireland: The situation of prisoners in Ireland and England, The conditions of Custody and the actual

status of these prisoners. The repression against the opponents to the British Occupation in North Ireland, Breaches of Elementary Human Rights, The use of Ireland as a Laboratory for repression (accelerated Development of Repressive methods against mass movements) The Politics of military, police and judicial collaboration with some European Governments, (France, RFA) The question of the right to political asylum. The exchanging of repressive experiments.

The delegations agreed that they will strengthen their links in order to make the French population know the real nature of the situation in Ireland and the struggle of the Irish people North and South together, to the Re-unification and the constitution of a Socialist Republic.

The P.S.U. supports the struggle for prisoners liberation, withdrawal of British Troops and enforce the right of self-determination to the Irish people."



Cartoon taken from the January issue of 'Ireland Libre' (Free Ireland), the monthly paper of a Paris-based Irish solidarity group.

## TRADE UNIONISTS SUPPORT 'HANDS OFF IRELAND' RESOLUTION

On Sunday last over 300 Trades Unionists voted in support of the "Hands off Ireland" resolution put to a Union Conference in Harlow (Essex) by ATCC Member and shop steward Michael Holden. The conference was held in the neighbourhood association hall near the town centre.

Putting the motion to the floor Michael Holden said - "It is necessary now than at any other time for British Trades Unionists to demand loud and clear their complete opposition to the Labour Government's campaign of Brutality and intimidation upon the people of the occupied area of North East Ireland. Now is the time for the 'silent majority' to make their view known to their Union Headquarters and the TUC. The day when criticism of the British Army and RUC could be dismissed off-hand as republican or IRA propaganda had come to an end. Persistent and strong criticism keep being levelled from a wide variety of sources and any person present at today's meeting who had been to Belfast or Derry during the past few years could not say otherwise.

Overwhelming proof exists showing brutality to be officially approved and practiced on a wide scale. Lessons learned by the Army and RUC are being adopted slowly but surely by the police in Britain, and the Grunwick Strike was a glaring example of how things are going to be in this country in the future.

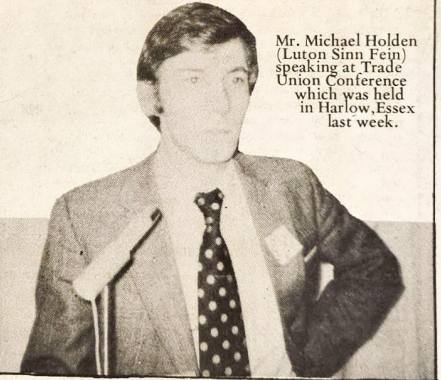
Recently the assistant Gen. Secretary of T.S.S.A. pointed out that the violence on the Grunwick picket line was not

caused by the picketing trades unionists, but by the police, who waded in with their fists, knees and boots. This was common practice in Northern Ireland. I was recently informed by a reliable source that the London Police were on the verge of using CS gas to break the picket lines and crush the opposition of Trades Unionists at Grunwick. The use of the army to break the firemen's strike, again, is ominous. On all fronts, workers and working class organisations are under attack. The media are working hand in glove with the establishment, they pay lip service to what is happening in Rhodesia and South Africa, yet remain silent on the attempted closing down of the 'Republican News' in Belfast - an area which they claim to be 'Home Ground'.

The onus is now back on us, the ordinary shop floor trades unionists. We must be prepared to fight them, to expose them, to use every political weapon at our disposal."

The following resolution was seconded by Ruth Anderson of C.O.H.S.E. the Nurses Union, and was passed unanimously.

"This conference deplores the campaign of intimidation being waged against the minority in Northern Ireland by the British Army and RUC, and calls on the TUC to protest in the strongest possible terms to the Labour Government and demand an end to it. Furthermore, we demand an independent investigation be conducted into the recent raid and suppression of a legitimate newspaper, 'Republican News'. By the British Army."



Mr. Michael Holden (Luton Sinn Féin) speaking at Trade Union Conference which was held in Harlow, Essex last week.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

increased use of torture coincided with the CRIMINALISATION policy of Merlyn Rees, and continued by Roy Mason. This policy was aimed to portray the present Liberation Struggle as a CRIMINAL conspiracy, the removal of Political Status and the use of the non-jury Diplock Courts are also part of this policy.

The conference also agreed that the establishment press gives little coverage to the cases of torture. The attempted suppression of the 'Republican News' is seen as a clear attempt to silence opposition or protest to what is going on. In order that torture and repression be successful it is necessary to silence the opposition press.

Several speakers stressed the need for a Mass Move-

ment which would bring the issue of Torture back to the streets. This Movement would be composed of all those groups and individuals who are concerned with the torture issue and the plight of political prisoners. The movement would include the 26 counties where repression and torture was also being practised.

Speakers representing the Republican Movement said that while agreeing with the sentiments expressed on rebuilding a mass movement it was important to realise the draw back and advantages of this strategy.

The success of the mass movement was subject to the degree of state violence and it is important to recall the fear which developed among the anti-unionist people albeit

gradually after the mass murder on Bloody Sunday.

Ultimately the revolutionary leadership of any mass movement must accept the need for armed struggle to obtain its objectives and this was a fact which those on the left in Ireland must accept.

Several proposals were accepted all of which condemned the refusal to grant Political Status to the prisoners, the conditions in the H Block and other prisoners in Ireland and England, and the use of torture in the RUC interrogation centres.

The most significant proposal was from the Belfast Central RAC which asked that the conference take steps to convene a delegate conference to organise activity on a 32 county basis. Each organisation C.R.A.C., Coalisland R.A.C. and others who support and



Mr. Jim Gibney (Belfast RAC) addresses the conference.

participate in protests, pickets, demos etc will have representation on this committee. However, each organisation shall

retain the right to its autonomy and the right to campaign on its own demands. The proposal was unanimously passed.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

## WAR NEWS

Inside the shelled base soldiers were buried underneath rubble. Helicopters were used to bring the soldiers to the main Bessbrook Army base and to Musgrave hospital in Belfast. The lorry from which the mortars were fired was checked by a so-called British Army "expert" and declared safe. When 2 RUC men

attempted to drive the vehicle away it blew up and they were very severely injured.

Tuesday 24th Jan.

Two bombs were hung on wire grills at the Sportsman Inn at Derriagh, near Belfast. The Inn had previously been attacked two weeks ago, but the latest bombs started a major fire.

## Hume tries back door

John Hume of the S.D.L.P. in the last few days has made an attempt to steal the political clothes of our Movement. His reference to a Federal solution to the Irish situation in last Saturday's "Irish Times" is an indication that the policies of our Movement are the only ones which will bring stable Government to the whole island. British withdrawal and the establishment of a Federal Socialist Republic has been the mainstay of our political thinking over the past 9 years, and we will not permit any pseudo-unionist party like the S.D.L.P. to steal our policies.

John Hume in particular is on record for stating that the Republican Movement was devoid of all political ideas save for the bomb and the gun. At a time when the British Government have no 'solutions' to offer for the S.D.L.P. to become involved in, that they now turn to the

policies of Sinn Fein to lift themselves from their political doldrums.

We now restate our position with regard to the Irish question. We demand a British withdrawal, phased and orderly, so that the way may be paved for a coming together of all shades of opinion in the country. The Federal solution advocated by Sinn Fein would be based on the four historic provinces of Ireland, so that provision could be made properly for the safeguarding of all rights of every citizen, irrespective of religion. In the Ulster context this would afford the Protestant community a real say in the governing of the New Ireland.

All the 'imposed settlements' of the British Government have failed. Sinn Fein's solution has now become a reality.

ULSTER EXECUTIVE SINN FEIN.

## BRIT ARRESTED BY BRITS

On Thursday night on the Creggan bus down at the Guildhall, a Brit got on the bus and ordered everyone off. The people refused to move, weary after a hard day's work, whereupon the Brit threw his rifle out the door of the bus, tore his beret off and threw it on the ground, and shouted, "That's it! I'm searching no more of these buses!"

The people naturally were amused, agreeing what a great idea this

was of his, but his Sergeant didn't see the humorous side of it and sent for two Red Caps (Military Police) who came and lifted their former comrade.

Apparently the people of Derry are not the only ones sickened by endless Brit raids and searches.

COURTESY OF SHANTALLOW NEWS.

## Correction Correction

SPECIAL BLOODY SUNDAY EDITION.

In the introduction to the article "SIX YEARS ON: AN ANALYSIS" on page 12 of our Special Edition on Bloody Sunday it reads: "13 Derry citizens were brutally murdered by soldiers from the First Paratrooper Regiment (fourteen died late from injuries received). It should read (another died later from injuries received)

## IN MEMORIAM

MCNULTY PETER.  
O/C B. Company Sth Down Batt. Killed on active service Jan 26th 1972.

This day is remembered and silently kept, no words are needed, we will never forget. Always remembered by his comrades J.J. McClean, Chris Devlin, Long Kesh POW Camp.

MCNULTY PETER  
O/C 'B' Company South Down Command, Irish Republican Army.

In proud and loving memory of our friend and comrade. Always remembered by the McNulty/McGorrian Sinn Fein Cumann, Castletown, County Down.

JOHN STONE.

In loving memory of our dear friend John, killed in action. No words are needed we'll never forget. Always remembered by Mick and Ann Maguire and Family.

STONE

In proud memory of our friend Lt. John Stone who died on active service Jan 21, 1975. Always remembered by Jean McComb & Family.

STONE

In proud memory of our friend Lt John Stone. B Coy 2nd Battalion. I.R.A. who died January 21, 1975 While on active service. He who dies for Ireland lives. Always proudly remembered by his friends. Al, Vinty, Micky.

## TORCHLIGHT RALLY IN NEW LODGE

NEW LODGE RELATIVES ACTION COMMITTEE.

Torchlight Rally, Sunday 29th January Assemble at Sinn Fein Centre 7.45 p.m. March in support of Political Status.

## BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Kieran 'Zack' Smyth. H.5

Greetings on your 18th Birthday Kieran. We are with you each day in spirit. All the very best. From Mum, Seany, and your brothers Raymond Dane Sean and wee Liam.

KIERAN 'Zack' Smyth H5.  
God Bless you Kieran on your 18th Birthday With all our love. From your granny and Granda.

CIARAN (ZACK) SMYTH.  
Greetings on your 18th Birthday Zack from Deborah and Dan. The back room is waiting for you when you get out if Betty doesn't mind...solidarity brother.

KIERAN SMYTH.  
All the best ZACK on your 18th and first on the blanket. From Mrs Doherty and family, on behalf of Robert in H. Block.

# CAPT. NERVEWRECK PART TWO

**LORD SHOOTY AND HIS RALS**  
A "NOTES BY CORNAC" PRODUCTION

WELL, GOING ARE WE TO PLAY COWBOYS AND INDIANS?



WISE UP NERVEWRECK! WHY SHOULD WE CELEBRATE THE GENOCIDE OF THE INDIANS? REMEMBER WOUNDED KNEE!!

**BRITZ OUT OF IRELAND**



BESIDES - WE'VE GOT BETTER THINGS TO DO - WE'RE GOING TO A TROOPS OUT DEMO!

BUT I CAN'T GET INVOLVED IN THAT! I'M PART OF THE BRITISH RULING CLASS! I'M LORD SHOOTY - AN ARISTOCRAT!



DON'T WORRY - WE HAD NOTICED!



YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A PACK OF OF UPPITY PROLETARIANS! I THINK I'LL JOIN THE NATIONAL FRONT!



(NOT YET, DEAR BOY, WE HAVE OTHER PLANS FOR YOU!)



CONTINUED NEXT WEEK