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• Hugh Annesley — the face of British counter-insurgency

ANNESELEY — THE GODFATHER

EVEN BEFORE its transmission RUC Chief Hugh Annesley and Peter Brooke were trying to dismiss the damning evidence of the deep involvement of the crown forces in the planning and carrying out of murders of nationalists, under the cover-names of loyalist paramilitaries, contained in the Channel 4 documentary broadcast on Wednesday.

So contemptuous of nationalists was Brooke that he asked that any evidence should be given to the RUC, the force at the very heart of the renewed public controversy over collusion. The RUC, equally contemptuously, referred back to the farcical Stevens Inquiry.

The programme provided further confirmation of the republican assertion that the loyalist death squads are co-operated with and ultimately directed by the crown forces. The sinister Central Co-ordinating Committee (five loyalist terror groupings including the UDA and UVF) need not necessarily be the central controlling body for this strategy — the evidence has shown that the crown forces at many levels assist, direct and fund the loyalist killers, or where necessary, simply ignore them and allow them to carry on their campaign.

This fits into the overall British government strategy of beating down nationalist resistance to its rule by every means possible. The godfathers of loyalist terror may sit

on this secret committee but there is nothing secret about the real godfather, the man who is the public face of British counter-insurgency — Hugh Annesley.

THE PROGRAMME

Channel 4's *Dispatches* programme revealed evidence that prominent loyalists including senior RUC officers, bankers, solicitors and loyalist politicians are actively colluding with loyalist paramilitaries to target nationalists for assassination.

The new pan-unionist group called the Central Co-ordinating Committee which claims to have up to 60 members who meet regularly in Orange halls, community centres and hotels throughout the Six Counties was implicated by the pro-

gramme in a number of recent killings and attacks upon nationalists.

The documentary claimed that victims targeted by the group include human rights solicitor, Pat Finucane whose murder in February 1989 was claimed by the UFF. Lurgan man Sam Marshall who was shot dead by the UVF, as he left Lurgan RUC Barracks in March 1990 and UVF killings in Cappagh last March in which three men died.

During the 60 minute documentary a member of the new group claimed to have met supporters of the RUC 'Inner Circle' or 'Inner Force'. The loyalist source said that normally Inner Circle representatives would approach the Central Co-ordinating Committee and advise on the timing of individual attacks.

According to several loyalist informants interviewed in the programme not only is intelligence passed from members of the RUC

who have access to security files but also that RUC officers provide safe passage for the death squads carrying out the actual attacks.

Quoting the attack on Boyle's bar in Cappagh as an example one loyalist interviewed on the programme stated that members of the RUC Inner Circle drove ahead of the UVF killers to ensure that the squad had safe passage through two crown forces checkpoints in the area.

PRIOR WARNING

Commenting on the Stevens Inquiry an informant on the programme states that loyalists were given prior warning of the inquiry team's proposed moves so that their tracks could be covered.

Reacting to the revelations and the dismissive response to them by Brooke and Annesley Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams said:

"Denials of collusion by apologists for the actions of British crown forces and loyalist murder gangs ring hollow against the weight of evidence available. It is a matter of common knowledge within the nationalist community that information gathered by the British crown forces regularly and routinely finds

its way into the hands of loyalist killers."

ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT

Referring directly to the Stevens report Adams said:

"The conclusion drawn by nationalists after the report was published was that the British government had done absolutely nothing to stop collusion. Events this year suggest that its intelligence agencies are again actively involved in directing the efforts of loyalist death squads."

This latest collusion controversy comes just 48 hours after the RUC informed a further 25 nationalists that their personal details were now in the hands of loyalist paramilitaries. The people, all of whom live in West Belfast, received visits from the RUC throughout Monday, September 30th. In an example of the RUC's manner of informing those at risk, one elderly woman living in the Lower Falls area became very distressed when RUC men laughed and jeered as they informed her that her son's details were in the hands of a death squad. She was told "Get some bars on your door, both you and him are in line for being shot."

LATEST VICTIM Kevin McGovern

OPINION

A plasterer's mate

LARGELY UNNOTICED amidst the political turmoil commanding the attention of the public in the 26 Counties went the visit of the Dublin government's Foreign Minister Gerry Collins to the United Nations. Collins addressed the General Assembly on September 27th and referred to Ireland in the manner to which we have become accustomed from representatives of the Dublin government. So much so that the correspondent of the *Irish Times*, Seán Cronin, was moved to comment that "an interested outsider might have difficulty discovering the nature of the Northern Ireland problem from Mr Collins's remarks..."



● Collins — has fostered ignorance of British rule and hid the shameful failure of the Dublin government through two decades of crisis.

What the UN delegates were treated to was I'veagh House-speak, a bland script drafted by officials in the Department of Foreign Affairs in the language of the Brooke process. The historical background to the conflict was not alluded to and much emphasis was placed on "increasing co-operation" between the Irish and British governments. "Some progress" had been made towards "getting a political dialogue underway".

Not content with assisting the British government in its attempt to convince international opinion that it is doing something constructive in Ireland, Collins followed this up with another batch of lies. He lauded the Hillsborough Agreement as "a valuable mechanism of co-operation" between the two governments in ending employment discrimination, promoting "evenhandedness" in the behaviour of the "security forces" and improving the administration of justice and respect for human rights.

He went on to tell the representatives of the world's nations that his government was opposed "as a matter of fundamental principle to all recourse to violence".

"Such methods are deeply undemocratic and morally repugnant. They cannot succeed, because they are based on the mistaken assumption that a solution can be found through coercion."

Of course Collins was not referring to the wholesale use of violence by order of the British government on whose authority is implemented the shoot-to-kill policy which claimed the life of Kevin McGovern the day after he spoke. Collins was grateful for the ignorance of those of his listeners who knew nothing of British coercion in Ireland, past or present. He was certainly not going to inform them.

As Peter Brooke tries to plaster over the cracks in the crumbling Six-County state to present an acceptable facade to the world he has a willing helper in Gerry Collins. The little plasterer's mate from Limerick is a pathetic sight as he trots after his senior partner but the other side of the comedy is the tragedy which has resulted from the failure of the Dublin government to campaign internationally for peace and self-determination.

It was entirely appropriate that Gerry Collins should perform this task of keeping the world in ignorance. It was he who 20 years ago this week, as Fianáil Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, first imposed the censorship order under Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act, a law that has fostered ignorance among the people of the 26 Counties about the true nature of British rule and hid the shameful failure of the Dublin government through two decades of crisis.

Faced by the RUC, two of the students stopped but, in what appears to have been a moment of panic, McGovern ran off. Residents from the nearby Greenvale estate reported that they heard three bursts of gunfire as the RUC fired at the fleeing teenager, who was shot less than 100 yards from his companions on the brow of a hill on Westland South Road. Local witnesses said that the crown forces gave no warning before opening fire. A resident who lives close by said: "There was no shouting of 'stop' halt or I'll fire' before the shots."

STUDENT MURDERED IN RUC SHOOT-TO-KILL OPERATION

A 19-YEAR-OLD agricultural student was shot dead when he walked into an RUC shoot-to-kill operation close to the nationalist Greenvale estate on the outskirts of Cookstown, County Tyrone.

The youth, Kevin McGovern, was walking through the Greenvale estate on Sunday evening, September 29th, on his way to a local disco with two fellow students from the Loughrey Agricultural College, when shortly after 11.30pm the three teenagers were confronted by a gang of heavily-armed RUC men on Cemetery Road.

Despite the prompt arrival of an ambulance, McGovern, who sustained a number of shots to the upper back, died at the scene.

RUC LIES

In an initial statement an RUC spokesperson claimed that an RUC officer opened fire when the fleeing teenager threw an object towards the patrol. In a blatant example of 'news management' later RUC statements claimed that an object only 'appeared' to have been thrown. However, in the follow-up operation, no object of any description was discovered by the RUC at the scene of the shooting.

As the circumstances surrounding the teenager's death began to emerge it became clear that following a tip-off concerning a possible IRA operation, the RUC had mounted a shoot-to-kill operation intended to wipe-out an IRA unit.

An IRA statement confirmed that its members had aborted an attack, involving a Mark 12 horizontal mortar, because a civilian saw them loading it into a car. The RUC then admitted that they had received a call warning them of an IRA attack 40 minutes prior to the shooting of McGovern. However, the number of crown forces personnel involved



● KEVIN McGOVERN

and the manner in which they were deployed clearly indicates that the RUC must have known about the IRA operation for considerably longer, at least several hours. It was fully deployed their personnel and established a 'killing zone' in an area where they hoped to trap IRA Volunteers. With the area stated out by several dozen heavily-armed RUC personnel, including masked and camouflaged RUC gunmen, clearly the RUC were there to kill whoever they selected.

In the event they shot an unarmed teenager, who against the backdrop of continuing crown forces harassment, intimidation and assaults, panicked and failed to stop when confronted by a squad of heavily-armed RUC men on a dark road late at night.

ANGER

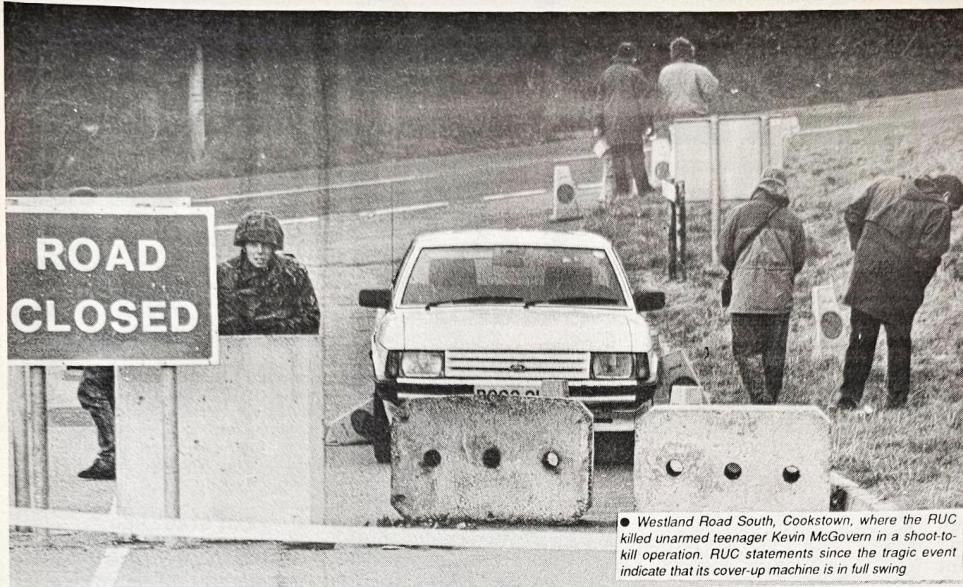
Anger in Cookstown at the shooting manifested itself in the form of a hastily organised demonstration and flower-laying ceremony at the spot where the youth was killed.

At the demonstration, held at 3.30pm on Monday, September 30th, a fellow student of the youth told a crowd of over 100 local people that it was utterly disgraceful that a young man had been so callously cut down for absolutely no reason.

Reflecting this anger, local Sinn Féin Councillor Seán Begley said that the background to the shooting was one all too familiar in nationalist areas where the RUC had moved in prepared for an operation which was only ever going to have one outcome, the death of a nationalist at the hands of killers trained and authorised by the British government to shoot first and ask questions later.



● People from Cookstown, County Tyrone, leave flowers at the spot where the RUC murdered Kevin McGovern on Sunday night



• Westland Road South, Cookstown, where the RUC killed unarmed teenager Kevin McGovern in a shoot-to-kill operation. RUC statements since the tragic event indicate that its cover-up machine is in full swing

RUC inquiry unacceptable

AS has been the case in all RUC shoot-to-kill incidents, the RUC's initial statement into the killing of Kevin McGovern bore all the hallmarks of a carefully constructed cover-up.

Initial media reports based entirely on the official RUC version had the RUC coming under attack and being forced to open fire in order to save their own lives. It was claimed that Kevin McGovern or one of his two companions had thrown an object at police and after calls to halt the police then opened fire, killing the youth and arresting the two others. Once it became apparent that neither the dead youth nor his friends were IRA Volunteers

the RUC quickly began to modify its statements.

Commenting on the RUC's account of the killing, Sinn Féin Cookstown Councillor Sean Begley described it as "a manufactured statement intended to excuse the shoot-to-kill tactics of the RUC" and he called for a full public and impartial inquiry which he described as the only avenue by which the truth would be established.

Since the killing, the RUC has

announced that the incident is to be investigated by the so-called Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC), a body purportedly set up to investigate complaints against the RUC. The involvement of this body was dismissed by Councillor Begley as being totally inadequate saying that "the actions and statements of the RUC since that tragic event indicate that its cover-up machine is now in full swing".

ANNOUNCEMENT REJECTED

The announcement by the RUC of the IPCC's involvement was met

with scorn by Sinn Féin, the SDLP and the civil liberties group the Commission on the Administration for Justice. The dead man's brother, Dr Sean McGovern has also rejected the IPCC's involvement and has said that he and his family "want to know why an unarmed teenager ended up being shot".

The full circumstances surrounding the killing will never be fully known unless it is allowed to be investigated by a truly independent body. Even the IPCC itself has recently acknowledged that it does not have sufficient powers to thoroughly investigate serious incidents.

Since its formation in 1988 the record of the IPCC in addressing complaints against the RUC has been appalling. In three years the commission has only once been asked to investigate an incident in which a civilian was killed, that was the killing of teenager Seamus Duffy by a plastic bullet. On that occasion the Commission decided that no disciplinary charges should be preferred.

ABYSMAL RECORD

On the overall question of complaints against the RUC the role of the IPCC is abysmal. There are an average of over 2,000 complaints against the RUC each year but the Commission supervised only 111 cases in 1988 and 175 cases in 1989, 40% of which it had still not dealt with by the end of that year.

In recent years hundreds of complaints have been made against the RUC over ill-treatment of suspects in custody. In some instances compensation has been paid to the victims, but in no single case did the commission uphold any of the complaints or initiate proceedings against any of the RUC personnel involved.

It should also be noted that of all the cases of civilian deaths at the hands of the crown forces only one conviction has been obtained. In this case, the soldier found guilty of the murder of Thomas 'Kido' Reilly was released and was back on duty with his regiment within 18 months.

The political reality is that after 22 years of continual conflict the British state has evolved and developed a legal and judicial system which is closely interlinked with the state forces and establishment. The Independent Police Complaints Commission was from its inception intended as no more than a PR screen behind which the beatings, the torture, and the killings could continue. That situation is unlikely to change and any hope that the McGovern family have of seeing justice done will certainly not rest with the IPCC.

Death squad kills Belfast newsagent

A 63-year-old CATHOLIC shop-keeper has become the latest victim of pro-British death squads who are currently intensifying their campaign of terror against the nationalist community.

Larry Murchan, who owned a corner shop in St James' Road was gunned down as he prepared to open his business at 8.50am on Saturday, September 28th.

The gunmen, who arrived and fled in a hijacked white Astra car, shot Larry five times in the head and chest as he emerged from the rear of the shop where he had just completed his morning routine of burning rubbish before commencing the day's business.

Larry Murchan who hailed originally from South Armagh, but who



• Shop keeper Larry Murchan was gunned down by a pro-British death squad as he opened up his St James' Road shop (above)

had lived for most of his life in Belfast, was a well-known local shop keeper who was notable for anything for his lack of any type of political involvement. This fact was testified to by his family, Sinn Féin and the SDLP, all of whom described his death as a purely random sectarian killing.

Responsibility for the killing was claimed by a pseudo-gang calling itself the Loyalist Retaliation and Defence Group, a flag of convenience also used by the self-styled Combined Loyalist Com-

mand in another killing, that of neighbouring shopkeeper, John Carson, who was gunned down last month. On this occasion too the 'excuse' given for the killing was that Larry Murchan had sold *An Phoblacht/Republican News*, a claim which was categorically denied by AP/RN general manager Dessie Mackin, who stated that Larry Murchan had 'never stocked the paper nor expressed an interest in stocking it'.

Commenting on the killing

AP/RN editor Micheál Mac Donncha said: "The trotting out of this excuse for the murder of Larry Murchan is ludicrous, even leaving aside the fact that he was not one of AP/RN's outlets. It shows the killing to have been purely sectarian. Shops which do stock AP/RN do so provide a service to their customers in the same manner as they stock a wide range of other political newspapers, and an array of Irish and British papers. "We fully appreciate that some of these retailers are now placed in an intolerable position and would fully understand if they ceased to stock the paper. But our sales and distribution and service to our readers will continue and expand. Such murders, which ultimately are the responsibility of the British government, make the wide distribution of AP/RN's uncensored news even more important."

HAUGHEY CLINGS TO POWER

"Those who bring the party into disrepute, cause dissension or refuse to accept decisions democratically arrived at can no longer remain in the party ... are its policies to be decided for it by alien influences, by political opponents, or worst of all by business interests?"

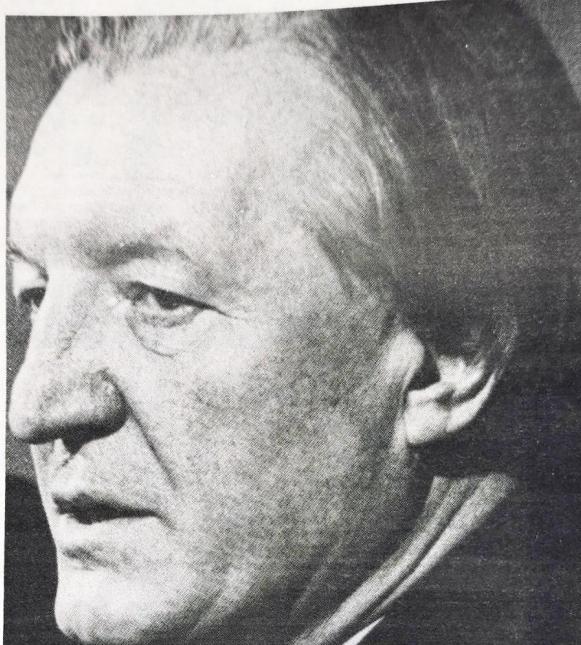
SO SPOKE CHARLES HAUGHEY after he survived a vote of 'no confidence' in February 1983. Haughey won by 40 votes to 33. Even though Charles Haughey emerged from a six-hour meeting of the Fianna Fáil parliamentary party on Wednesday still leader of the Dublin government the scene was very different from 1983.

This time Haughey could not rely on the surges of support he once received from the Fianna Fáil grassroots which for him have all but withered. The answer to the last part of his 1983 question was now clearly 'yes' as he entered the meeting amid a fresh wave of disclosures about financial scandal between Telecom Eireann, Michael Smurfit and Dermot Desmond. Haughey still determined to hold onto political power despite the continuing revelations of financial scandal, tax evasion and abuse of public trust, deflected the blame away from his troubled government.

Chief Whip Vincent Brady showed what a short memory both he and the government have, when he tried to claim that the current scandals are to do with private sector dealings. Obviously the multi-million pound Aer Lingus Holiday fraud, the Goodman Inquiry, Greencore and Telecom Eireann slipped out of the government's consciousness. Maybe they have finally realised that the private individuals they appointed to public positions of trust acted only in their own interests. (The power of these interests was demonstrated again on Wednesday when the Smurfit-owned printers of the *Phoenix* magazine refused to print an article giving further details about the sale of the now infamous Ballsbridge site to Telecom.)

AGENDA OF GREED

It doesn't take much intelligence to realise that Chris Cormford, his fellow board members and Michael Smurfit, to name but a few, were always working in the private sector. Maybe that's why the government decided to sell as much of the public sector, the



• Haughey's lust for power and his determination to hold onto the leadership has had long-lasting consequences for the Irish people

property of the Irish people, to the private sector, because those responsible for running of the public sector already had their own agenda of greed.

Haughey's lust for power and his determination to hold onto the leadership has had long-lasting consequences for both Fianna Fáil and the Irish people. The current spate of corporate and financial scandals has brought to three the number of leadership challenges to Haughey in the last ten years. The truth is that in the 12 years of Haughey's leadership of Fianna Fáil he abandoned

piece by piece whatever remaining vestiges of republicanism and concern for social justice Fianna Fáil possessed. Haughey became the best friend and patron of the emerging corporate class, the people whose abuses of public position and trust bestowed on them by various governments, but particularly Haughey's, now dominate the political agenda.

The question of Haughey's leadership dominated Fianna Fáil throughout 1982-'83. Haughey had failed in three consecutive elections. His political survival through this

RUC under fire in Coalisland

TWO RUC MEMBERS of a mobile patrol which had just emerged from Coalisland Barracks in County Tyrone on Wednesday evening, September 25th, sustained blast injuries when the armoured vehicle in which they were travelling suffered a direct hit from an impact grenade.

The car which sustained significant blast damage was just going over the brow of Platter's Hill, less than 100 yards from the barracks, when the attack took place. Although injured the driver managed to race from the scene before the vehicle came to a halt.

The following day, crown forces in Tyrone again came under attack

when a total of 60 shots were fired at a British army patrol which was operating on a hillside overlooking the nationalist village of Cappagh.

The attack, on Thursday afternoon, saw three Volunteers armed with assault rifles engage the troops who had saturated the Cappagh/Galbally area throughout

the day. There were no reports of any injuries in the attack.

DERRY ROCKET ATTACK

The crown forces have denied that any of their members were injured in a gun and rocket attack which was mounted against Bellaghy barracks in South Derry on Friday afternoon, September 27th. Mounted from the Diamond area of the village, four Volunteers launched a single rocket and fired several dozen shots at the main barracks look-out post. Damage to the base was confined to the post and to the perimeter fencing which was peppered with gunfire.

CITY CENTRE DISRUPTION

Dozens of IRA Volunteers were mobilised in Belfast on Friday, September 27th, to place elaborate hoax bomb devices outside eleven

crown forces bases across the city causing massive disruption and tying down large numbers of crown forces personnel.

During the crown forces' operations to clear these devices RUC men and British soldiers came under fire at Woodbourne, Oldpark, North Queen Street and Henry Taggart Barracks.

The following day an RUC Land-Rover, which was part of a joint British army/RUC mobile patrol, took a direct hit from an improvised grenade device. The vehicle which was struck by the device as it drove along the Antrim Road in North Belfast. There were, however, no reports of any crown forces injuries in the attack.

DUNMURRAY TRAGEDY

In a tragic accident for which the IRA has issued a full apology, two

period has been the subject of two books and endless conjecture. Haughey's press secretary P J Mara, summed up in many minds the result of internal struggles between Haughey and the parliamentary party, with the words 'Uno dux, una voce' (One leader, one voice).

EXIT STAGE RIGHT

For Haughey the maintenance of his control meant that no opposition to his leadership could be tolerated within the parliamentary party. This led in 1985 to the exit of O'Malley, Molloy and Harvey from the parliamentary party. Ironically, the remaining 20 TDs that make up the current Coalition government are of Fianna Fáil origin. Haughey, having quashed any dissent from his leadership within the parliamentary party, galvanised Fianna Fáil in the mid '80s to pose a serious challenge to the ailing Fine Gael/Labour coalition.

In opposition between 1982 and 1987, he opposed Section 31, political extradition, the Hillsborough Agreement, the Single European Act and government cutbacks. Remember the billboard 'Health cuts hurt the old, the sick and the handicapped...there is a better way'. His return to power in 1987 showed once again the memory loss that afflicts him. Haughey maintained broadcasting censorship. He passed the Extradition Act into law. He endorsed Hillsborough. He welcomed EC union without question. He embarked on a comprehensive downgrading of the health and social services. He endorsed the now discredited privatisation process.

Haughey's political survival is still not assured. His dominance of the cabinet has been weakening since the departure of Brian Lenihan. His determination to manipulate and control both Fianna Fáil and government has created a political/economic crisis. Whatever remained of the credibility and integrity of the Dublin government has evaporated. Forty two speakers spoke at Wednesday's meeting. All of them were public representatives elected by Irish workers, tax-payers, farmers and the unemployed, the seemingly powerless people of Ireland compared to the Smurfits and Desmonds. Only two asked Haughey to step aside.

WAR NEWS

civilians were accidentally struck by a commandeered vehicle which veered out of control on Upper Dunmurray Lane on Monday evening, September 30th.

The accident occurred as Volunteers were speeding from the scene of a grenade attack on Dunmurray RUC Barracks. The vehicle, a Ford Orion had just rounded a sharp bend in the road when it veered into a wall before crossing the road and striking 18-year-old Amanda Stewart and her boyfriend Roger Elwood (25). Roger Elwood tragically died from his injuries on Wednesday afternoon, October 2nd. Amanda Stewart is still confined to hospital.

BY LIAM O COILEAIN

ANTI-EXTRADITION campaigners took to the streets again on Saturday, giving notice that the issue is very much alive and reminding people that as Fianna Fáil buries itself deeper in scandal that party is not going to be allowed to forget the scandal of its extradition policy.

On Wednesday, October 2nd, Dessie Ellis's trial in London on British conspiracy charges got underway. Later this month (October 22nd) Crumlin Road escapees Paul 'Dingus' Magee, Michael McKee and Tony Sloan appear in the Supreme Court in Dublin for the final legal battle against their extradition to the Six Counties.

Bands from Dublin and Belfast participated with up to 1,000 people in the march to highlight these cases and to demand an end to the unjust practice of extradition. Contingents from Belfast, Cork, Monaghan and Leitrim joined the mostly Dublin crowd. Robert Russell, handed over by the Dublin government in 1988 and subsequently released when he won his appeal against his unjust conviction, was amongst the protesters.

At the rally outside the GPO after the march, Martha Ellis, sister of Dessie who is facing conspiracy charges having been extradited after a 35-day hunger-strike said: "Conspiracy charges make you guilty until you prove yourself innocent. They make you guilty because you're Irish. They make you guilty because you're republican. They make you guilty because the British authorities have decided to stich you up and they're not going to let little things like justice, legal niceties, or the fact that you never set foot in that country, get in the way."

SCURRYING TDs

Martha had just returned from a highly successful tour of Australia to highlight her brother's case where she received wonderful support from the trade union movement and from Australian MPs. "It's a contrast to going into Leinster House where TDs actually run away from me," she said. "They see us coming and off they scurry. They don't want to face up to what's been done to my brother, especially Fianna Fáil TDs." She reminded the people that the Dublin government "handed him over knowing he had no chance of justice, knowing that not one reform had even been suggested to that corrupt and anti-Irish judicial system".

Back on the justice trail



• Saturday's march against extradition in Dublin's O'Connell Street

Alistair Rutherford, Irish Anti-Extradition Committee chair, pointed out that Ellis still doesn't know what charges he'll be facing, and that the case "is seen by all people as a mess". He said that the main non-campaigning work of the committee around the case is to try and ensure that as many respected international observers attend the trial as possible.

Following Dessie's extradition the British changed the charges against him because they felt they had not got enough evidence to convict him. The original charges were subsequently re-introduced. Rutherford criticised the Dublin government's inaction to protect Ellis's rights after his extradition, especially when the charges were changed. He said that the government "should then have stated quite categorically that Dessie must be freed and returned to this country". Rutherford said

that the government has now "a clear option" to end the flawed extradition process, by letting the three remaining extradited go and by refusing to accept any more British warrants. "It is essential that people go away and get involved in their own areas to hopefully bring the process of extradition to an end by Christmas," he concluded.

Tony Sloan addressed the crowd briefly, thanking those who had campaigned on behalf of himself and his fellow extradited and asking people to keep the dates of their Supreme Court hearing and Dessie's trial in mind.

Kathleen Murray spoke on behalf of those Irish prisoners facing extradition in Europe. She particularly mentioned the case of Donagh O'Kane, Pauline Drumm and Patrick Murray, who all face extradition from France to Germany. She called on the French, given



• MARTHA ELLIS

the chances of a fair trial in Britain, to give an undertaking that "if the three are extradited to Germany then they will not be re-extradited to Britain".

Dublin County Councillor Richard Greene also addressed the crowd, paying special tribute to those who have weekly attended the Dublin Anti-Extradition Committee picket in support of Dessie Ellis outside the British Embassy in Ballsbridge for six months now. Greene said that the lack of media coverage of the picket was an "indictment of the Irish media".

LONDON MEETING

Over 150 people turned out in London for a 'Justice for Dessie Ellis' meeting at the Conway Hall in central London on Wednesday September 25th. It was the final meeting in a tour of four English cities; other meetings were held in Liverpool, Birmingham and Leicester. Addressing the London meeting were Labour MP Ken Livingstone, Piers Mostyn of the Haldane Society, Paddy Joe Hill and Dessie's father Noel. Noel Ellis told those present that British people defending Dessie's rights were also defending their own rights while Ken Livingstone called on the Dublin government to defend its citizens by refusing to extradite them to Britain.

The Campaign for Justice for Dessie Ellis handed in the largest petition against extradition yet gathered in Britain to the 26-County Embassy in London and picketed the Old Bailey on the morning of the first day of Dessie's trial.

The Dublin Anti-Extradition Committee picketed the Dublin Departments of Justice and Foreign Affairs on Wednesday at lunchtime to protest at his extradition and the lack of protection of his rights after he was handed over.

ELLIS TRIAL OPENING DELAYED

THE OPENING of the trial of extraditee Dessie Ellis at the Old Bailey in London was adjourned until noon on Wednesday, October 2nd, following an application by Ellis's defence counsel.

Geoffrey Robertson told the trial judge that he had been presented with fairly dramatic and complex new scientific evidence which he had to study. Judge Swinton Thomas, the trial judge who secured the unjust conviction of the Winchester Three, agreed to an adjournment until noon. Robertson also indicated that there would be an application to stay the trial permanently on grounds of an abuse of process. The abuse of process cited will concern the controversial changing of the charges against Ellis and the re-instatement of the

original charges by the Crown Prosecution Service and also arguments that Ellis cannot be tried under English law on the original charges, the charges not being applicable as he was never in Britain.

The rest of this week is expected to be taken up with legal arguments and the trial proper is scheduled to commence on Monday, October 7th. Supporters of Dessie Ellis from the Justice for Dessie Ellis campaign, as promised, protested outside the court demanding his release.



• (Left to right) Mark Phillips (solicitor for Martin Foran) Councillor Phil Murphy, Noel Ellis, a campaign supporter and Father Taaffe

Heart-warming solidarity

"AN important political exchange and a heart-warming and practical experience of international solidarity" was how Sinn Féin's spokesperson on Culture Bairbre de Brún described her recent visit to Euskadi.

The visit from September 19th—28th covered two important events in the Basque calendar. These were Egin Eguna, the international festival organised by the nationalist daily paper *Egin* on September 22nd and Gudari Eguna the Day of the Freedom Fighters on September 27th, when marches are held in almost every town and village throughout Euskadi to honour those engaged in the fight for independence.

On Friday, September 20th, Bairbre de Brún, addressed a commemoration in Tolosa in honour of the ETA freedom fighters and in particular Jon Erezuma, Inaki Ormaetxea, Patxi Itzur, Jokin Leunda, Juan Mari Ormazabal and Joan Carles Montejudo who lost their lives in the previous 12 months. De Brún attended a massive demonstration in Donostia (San Sebastian) on Saturday, September 21st, against a planned motorway through the area which has met with widespread op-

position and sparked a major initiative to produce and promote an alternative plan.

The following day de Brún was at a Sinn Féin stand at Egin Eguna, before participating in the wider events of the festival, which lasted through the day and into the evening. Other stands in the international section included those from Corsica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Palestine and Columbia as well as a host of solidarity committees.

On September 24th, the Irish representative spoke at the launch in Donostia of a Spanish version of Gerry Adams' book *The Politics of Irish Freedom*. The book launch, organised by the editors and publishers Txalaparta in one of the city's major bookshops, was attended by Spanish state radio, a local radio station and two major Basque newspapers. The translation of the book was carried out by Mixel Sarasketa, a Basque political pris-



• BAIRBRE DE BRÚN

oner whose translation into Basque of Bobby Sands' diary is due to be published in October.

During the tour Bairbre De Brún met with Herri Batasuna, and a number of language, women's and prisoners' organisations as well as doing several press interviews. Recurring questions in the interviews were about press censorship, shoot-to-kill, the recent upsurge in loyalist assassinations and the position of the Irish language.

On Friday, September 27th, the Irish visitors were taken on a tour of the Town Hall in the coastal town of Lekeitio where they had an informal meeting with the mayor, Juan Carlos San Miguel. Later that evening the pair participated in the activities to commemorate Gudari Eguna.



• Five-year-old Mario Johnstone from Turf Lodge who was assaulted by British soldiers

Child injured by British soldier

SINN FÉIN Councillor Lily Fitzsimmons, who represents the Turf Lodge area of West Belfast, has described as "despicable and inexcusable" an attack by a British soldier upon a five-year-old child.

The councillor's comments came following an incident which occurred on Thursday evening, September 26th, in the Monagh Drive area of Turf Lodge, near one of Belfast's largest British army bases, Fort Jericho.

Mario Johnstone was playing with other children outside his home at 6pm, when a patrol of eight British soldiers entered the street. As is often the case, he and other toddlers were running alongside the soldiers pulling at their uniforms. During this child's play Mario was grabbed by a soldier and thrown into a garden fence and hedge.

Mario's father and mother, Robert and Collette told our reporter that the child, who remains extremely upset by the incident, suffered bruising and scrapes to one arm and leg and suffered an asthma attack as a result of the assault. They have lodged a complaint with the RUC and are seeking to bring legal action against the soldier involved.

Austin meets Amnesty & Labour

DAMIEN AUSTIN, the Belfast youth who has been made the subject of an Amnesty International Urgent Action notice, has met with representatives of the human rights group at their London offices.

Damien, who was accompanied by his mother Janice and members of the Free the Beechmount Five campaign and the Voice of the Innocent group, met with the human rights group on Monday, September 30th, at the start of a two-day visit to England.

The Amnesty meeting, which concentrated on the situation regarding the continuing harassment of Damien by the crown forces, also focused on how other young people were being ill-treated at the hands of the RUC and were subsequently ending up in Crumlin Road Jail charged on the sole basis of vigorously contested statements.

The second major engagement for the delegation was a visit to Brighton where they had been invited to speak at a Labour Party Conference fringe meeting, along with Billy Power of the Birmingham Six and Labour MPs Ken Livingstone, Peter Hain and Bernie Grant.

They also availed of the opportunity presented by the visit to conduct a series of interviews and to engage in the lobbying of trades unionists, Labour MPs and party activists.



• DAMIEN AUSTIN



• One of the many Basque delegations who have been in Ireland on international solidarity visits

Workers post strike notice

WORKERS in An Post, only a matter of months after being forced to take to the streets to combat the company's vicious 'viability plan', find themselves again forced to threaten industrial action. This follows the refusal of management to comply with a 15-month-old Labour Court ruling guaranteeing staff a 6% pay rise. The Dublin government's Department of Finance is attempting to link this rise to measures designed to secure the 'viability' of the company.

Over 88% of Communications Workers Union members voted in March in favour of taking industrial action on this issue. An indication of the 'fairness' of the refusal to implement the rise can be gleaned from the fact that management grades in An Post have received an increase of 15%. The company wants to delay paying up until it can secure swinging cutbacks involving 1,500 job losses and the closure of 550 sub-post offices.

Sinn Féin spokesperson on the economy, Councillor Caoimhghin Ó Caoláin commented angrily on the threat of strike action by the 6,200 workers, saying that "it is all the more ironic that workers are placed in this situation following recent disclosures of million pound deals being done which benefited those in top management positions in both the private and semi-state sectors."

"Recently it was revealed that over £200 million in outstanding taxes could be collected if extra personnel were given to the Revenue Commissioners. It is apparent that the present government is content to screw the PAYE sector while those in big business and those in top management positions can abuse the unique position of immunity they have been given by this same government."

He referred again to the current round of scandals which now seem to have enveloped most of Ireland's top capitalists, and not a few political figures as well, saying: "The cries of 'no money' and 'economic restraint' so often directed at PAYE workers and the unemployed have no credibility especially in view of the abuses committed by those in a position of wealth and power in this state."

Trade unionist challenges state censorship

THE HIGH COURT in Dublin on Friday, October 11th, is to carry out a judicial review of RTE's use of Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act against a trade unionist.

The court proceedings result from RTE's action in extending Section 31 to cover Larry O'Toole, a spokesperson for striking workers at the Gateaux factory during the dispute at the company's Finglas factory last year.

O'Toole, a member of the Bakers' Union National Executive was elected chief spokesperson by the workers at the Finglas bakery. But he was prevented from representing their views on air because of his membership of Sinn Féin.

RTE's Head of News, Joe Mulholland, excused the station's action by stating that "any person who is a member of Sinn Féin...will not be permitted to broadcast on any RTE programme." However, O'Toole is contending that Mulholland's is an incorrect interpretation of Section 31 in that the Order censors only those who are acting in the capacity of spokesperson or representative of Sinn Féin which doesn't apply to those like O'Toole who was solely speaking on behalf of his co-workers.

The O'Toole case is central to the question of civil liberties and democratic rights. An appeal has been issued to trade unionists, community activists and all those concerned with freedom of speech to show support for O'Toole's fight against this extension of state censorship by attending the High Court on October 11th as observers. A Free Speech Legal Fund has been established and donations to help defray the legal costs of the case can be made to the TSB, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin 1. Account number 990601. 21366730.

FIANNA FAIL TD LINK IN COMPANIES CONTROVERSY

BY ART MAC EOIN

FIANNA FAIL TD Ivor Callely, who admitted his involvement with a Dublin company at the centre of a recent financial scandal, is also associated with another company operating from the same address and which is attempting to overturn an unfair dismissal ruling in favour of two of its workers.

It recently emerged that Callely, who is the chairperson of the Eastern Health Board, was a sales manager at Eurokabin Ltd, a forklift hire company based at Baldoyle Industrial Estate. The High Court in Dublin ordered the winding up of Eurokabin on Wednesday, September 5th, following a hearing in which there were allegations of fraud against the management.

The court heard that the company had operated a scam which involved raising money from various financial institutions for forklift trucks which were never purchased. Dublin's financial community was rocked by Eurokabin's liquidation which it is estimated will cost them around £5.5 million.

What is interesting about the affair is the fact that Ivor Callely was chairperson of another company operating from the same Baldoyle premises as Eurokabin. When asked about this recently Callely initially denied any involvement with the firm, Appollo Engineering, but later

admitted that he had been a non-executive chairperson of the company. Appollo recently laid off up to ten workers.

The company are currently appealing a court decision in favour of an unfair dismissal appeal by former employees Joe Behan and John Doyle. Following their sacking in October of last year, management representatives failed to turn up for arbitration at the Labour Court and this resulted in strike action at the plant.

INJUNCTION

Despite the fact that Appollo used the same reception area and phone lines as Eurokabin as well as sharing management staff, the company successfully applied for an injunction against pickets being placed at all the gates on the grounds that the two companies were separate.

Joe Behan's sacking breached all normal redundancy procedure in that he was the longest serving



● IVOR CALLELY
worker at the plant. He maintains that the reason for his dismissal was his refusal to sign an agreement on the repayment of a loan. This had been arranged for him with a finance company by one of Appollo's directors, Dominic Murphy.

Relations between management and staff at Appollo had been poor before the strike, low pay and unhealthy working conditions being the two main bones of contention. An ironic twist to the tale is that in 1988 when Callely was himself sacked from a sales job with a south Dublin pharmaceutical company, he took an unfair dismissal against his former employers, which he won.



● Pickets at the Appollo Engineering plant in Baldoyle Industrial Estate in October 1990

WHILE the following article concentrates on the state of sea fisheries in the 26 Counties, the fishing industry in both partitioned states in Ireland faces very similar problems which need similar measures to solve them. The problems for the Six-County industry are compounded by its being considered part of the British fleet for policy purposes, grants and quotas. It is separated from the 26-County fleet with which it shares common needs and difficulties.

BY ART MAC EOIN

DESPITE THE FACT that Ireland as an island nation is particularly suited to sea-fishing, its fishing industry is still extremely small by EC standards. Fishery and forestry account for less than 1% of total employment in the 26 Counties, which is 64th in the table of ship-owning states and has a smaller merchant fleet than landlocked Switzerland.

Among the advantages sea-fishing could have in Ireland is that it offers jobs in areas where there are few other opportunities. It would thus enhance regional economic development. Irish fishing has, however, never had its potential exploited for the benefit of Irish people, due both to colonial underdevelopment under the British and the fact that successive Dublin governments have failed miserably to develop the industry. An industry which could provide much needed employment and contribute significantly to the economy of this country is instead being used for the advantage of other countries.

The shortsighted and neo-colonial nature of the régime which came to power following British withdrawal from the 26 Counties led to abject state neglect of fisheries. It was not until 1931 that the Dublin government responded to this chronic under-development by establishing the Irish Sea Fisheries Association, a state-sponsored, co-operative organisation. This was eventually succeeded by Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) in 1952.

For a decade after its foundation BIM was involved in the administration of the Boat and Gear Scheme whereby fishermen had access to equipment on hire-purchase terms. BIM also engaged in vessel operation, boat-building, fish auctioning and the provision of ice plants, fish depots and processing establishments.

But in 1963, the 26-County government decided to curtail BIM's role and downgraded it to a developmental authority. By 1965, BIM had largely finished its involvement in marketing and processing. Integration is so vital to the development of a strong, viable fishing industry that there was an obvious need for state involvement, but this was contradictory to the ideology of those running the 26-County state.

NO UNIFIED POLICY

Responsibility for fishery policy, legislation and finance was thrown from one government department to another over the following years and the failure to grant it the status it deserved severely handicapped development. There was no unified policy or co-ordinated plan to develop the industry on a state-wide basis. Due to

pressure from fishermen and others working in the industry, the Dublin government finally established a Department of Fisheries in 1977, later renamed the Department of Fisheries and Forestry.

A report drawn up by a harbour consultant for the Dublin government in 1960 pointed out how Irish harbours were outdated and not suited to modern fishing vessels and drew attention to the lack of shore facilities. As a result of the report's recommendations, the government in its Programme of Sea Fisheries Development (1962), nominated five growth centres at Killybegs, Castletownbere, Passage East, Howth and Galway. Passage East was later replaced in the scheme by Dunmore East and Galway was replaced as a centre in 1981 by Rossaveel.

Some improvements occurred over the following decades. The number of 26-County fishing vessels over 50 gross tonnes increased from 15 in 1962 to 222 in 1983 with over a third of these being over 100 gross tonnes. But the size structure of the fleet remains small compared with those of the developed countries, consisting mostly of boats without an inboard motor. The majority of fishing expeditions last for a day or less and fishing is carried out in the main close to the coast.

Three quarters of fishing employment and of the total catch in the 26 Counties is on the west coast from Donegal to West Cork. While improvements in investment in fish processing have occurred over the decades, this needs to be vastly improved. Two thirds of the catch is now processed, mainly by freezing. There are 70 relatively small processing plants and although employment in this section has doubled since 1970 to 1,700, it is only half of those employed in the industry. The opposite is the norm in most other European fishing countries, again indicating the underdevelopment of the Irish processing sector.

POTENTIAL FOR GROWTH

In other countries fish are processed to a higher finished degree than fish processed here — again, showing room for further expansion in the industry. Ireland is ideally suited to exploit its Atlantic location by encouraging foreign fleets to land their catches at Irish ports to be processed by purpose-built processing plants. This would again increase the potential for employment.

Ireland's sea-fis



— a wasted

The amount of fish eaten by the Irish people is still low by international standards, though it is increasing. There is room for a massive increase in consumption and only by thorough, rigorous marketing will Irish people's attitudes towards fish as a food be changed. Increased availability of fresh fish would also contribute to increased consumption.

Many parts of the country still lack

a supply of fresh fish, though decentralisation is ensuring fresher fish in provincial towns with fish being brought straight from ports. This also reduces transport costs. A factor in helping the improvements in transport and marketing has been the establishment of fishery co-operatives, with the Dublin fish market, through which nearly all the fish consumed in the 26 Counties once had to go, di-

minishing in importance.

Even with the improvements made in transport, marketing and processing, things are far from satisfactory at present. There is lack of co-ordination in the industry and relationships between different sectors are often poor. Increased integration of catching, processing and marketing is needed. Under the current system of private ownership of vessels



Irish fishing has never had its potential exploited for the benefit of the Irish people

Fishing industry



Resource

and private control of processing and marketing, the main scope for greater co-operation would seem to be in the development of co-operatives.

BRUSSELS TAKES OVER
Since the 26 Counties joined the EC, Brussels has taken much of the control of our fisheries out of Irish hands. It is ironic that just as advances were beginning to be made in the industry following hundreds of years of exploitation at the hands of a foreign power and decades of neglect by native administrations, the deck was swept from under the feet of Irish fishermen once again by a foreign parliament. Since the state joined the EC Irish fishermen have been battling the dictates of the new Brussels bureaucrats, which had serious implications for the Irish fishing industry.

By the early 1970s, the fishing activity of other countries' fleets in waters off Ireland had greatly increased, due partly to the fact that some EC countries were now excluding foreign fleets from their waters. Irish fishermen encountered serious supply problems and measures were introduced which curtailed fishing activity.

The 26-County state's fishery limit had been extended from three to 12 nautical miles from the coast in accordance with the European Fisheries Convention of 1964. Certain fishing rights (permission to fish in 26 miles of the new limit) within the 26 Counties' 12 mile limit were granted to Belgium, Britain, France, the Netherlands and Spain.

Prior to the 26 Counties joining the EC there were protracted negotiations concerning fishery limits, because EC policy provided for full access to the waters of each EC state. This would have had serious detrimental effects on the Irish industry because of its dependence on inshore fishery. Eventually agreement was reached whereby there was a derogation from the equal access principle; special regulations would apply to Irish fisheries for an initial period of ten years at the end of which there would be a review of arrangements. The agreement provided for the continuation of the six mile limit around the coast with exclusive Irish rights in parts of the six to 12 mile zone and increased fishing rights for some member states in other parts of that zone.

In April 1975 Irish fishermen staged a temporary blockade of six major ports to try to force the Dublin government to put up a stronger fight on the question of fishing limits, and to institute a fuel subsidy and work out a coherent plan for the development of fishery resources. None of these aims were attained, but the protesters gained much public sympathy.

DEMANDING RIGHTS

In the mid-70s, the battle to obtain an exclusive, Irish 50 mile fishing zone was being waged by Irish fishermen. Wide support was gained from the public and across a considerable stretch of the political spectrum. In 1977, the EC claimed jurisdiction over a 200 mile zone with exclusive limits

of six miles for EC states. The fishermen pointed out that open access would result in depletion of fish stocks, jeopardise the development of the industry and seriously affect their livelihoods. The other member states had much more highly developed fleets and had already depleted the fish stocks around their own coasts. Irish fishermen argued that catch quotas would not be an effective means of protecting Irish interests as they could not be properly enforced. They also objected to the fact that the EC would not give a preferential role to the coastal state in managing resources and that allowing other countries to take 'historical catches' would discriminate against an undeveloped fishery trying to expand. Despite high profile protests by the fishing community, the Dublin government had by 1978 given up the fight for a 50 mile limit.

In 1983, the EC agreed a Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) which is to operate for 20 years, though subject to review after ten years. This involved little change in 26-County fishing limits, with maintenance of the six mile zone and some withdrawal of traditional fishing rights of other states in the six to 12 miles zone. The 26 Counties was allocated 4.3% of the total EC allowable catch, a proportion which Irish fishermen pointed out compared unfavourably with the state's share of EC waters.

The fish stocks available to Irish fishermen are greatly affected by foreign exploitation. Only one fifth of the catch in the sea areas next to the Irish coast is taken by the 26 Counties

and there is a decline in Irish activity outward of the exclusive territorial limit, with two thirds of the 26-County catch being taken within 12 miles of the coast.

The main organisations representing the interests of those engaged in the industry are the Irish Fishermen's Organisation and the Irish Fish Producers Organisation. The IFO is mainly associated with the larger skipper-owners. There is a severe lack of union organisation among the fishing crews and in order to defend the interests of deck-hands, in particular, there is need for improvement.

Brian Doyle, a retired fisherman based in the fishing town of Howth to the north of Dublin and whose three sons now work as fishermen, spoke to AP/RN regarding his feelings on the current state of the Irish fishing industry:

"It is very difficult for Irish fishermen trying to make a living. The costs of running and maintaining a boat are very high. Apart from this there is the scarcity of fish, the Irish Sea is being overfished, drastically overfished. There is no fishing plan formulated by the government."

LIP SERVICE

He feels that the 26-County government merely pays lip-service to the Irish fishing industry. On the EC he says, Irish fishermen have got a very raw deal: "We were treated like the sacrificial lamb. The Irish fishing community are one section of the people whose voting power is very weak. Scant heed is paid to us. But the truth remains that an acre of sea either on the north, west or south coasts is as good as any acre of land. They can farm equally as well in Holland as they can here but they haven't got the waters to fish. We must introduce protective legislation before it's too late, before we become totally controlled from Brussels and we don't have a government at all, only a lot of

stooges who will do what they're told."

"We need also to curtail the amount of fishing. To cut it down possibly to three days a week. But if we are doing that we must ban all boats from fishing our waters. By doing that it makes it uneconomical for the Spanish and the rest to come fishing our waters. Because if it's allowed to continue in the present manner there will be no fish left. In 1992, under the Single European Act, they will crucify us."

"The Dutch have built tremendous, huge fleets. We don't need boats like that because we don't have that far to travel, but we do need a deep water fleet to take the fish in our own waters."

"There must be a way of financing fishermen the same way that farmers are financed. After the oil crisis in 1973, Celtic Sea fishing was taken away from us. Fishermen had put a lot of money into getting new boats, but they were put in a situation where part of their programme was to fish the herring on the south coast and when that was taken away from them by the EC they faced major problems. Their repayments stayed the same, their costs increased and a lot of boats were repossessed. That should never have happened but the government allowed it to happen. They maintain this soft approach of going to Brussels and bartering away our rights in exchange for getting short-term levies for the big farmers who are still in control."

Speaking of Howth itself, he pointed out the absence of any fish processing factories: "All of our prawns are exported to the North of Ireland where they are processed and then sent back up here again. There is no jobs given here."

(continued on page 10)



● The 26-County government merely pays lip-service to the Irish fishing industry

(continued from page 9)

The state pumped £12 million into the redevelopment of Howth harbour, supposedly for the benefit of the fishing community as well as Howth Yacht Club. The Howth Yacht Club marina, paid for by the taxpayer, is a private facility. Meanwhile those in the fishing community say that they did not get all that they were promised by the government: "I was involved with the Balscadden Bay Cooperative. We lobbied to get the harbour developed. Much of what we were supposed to get never materialised," says Brian Doyle. The site which should have had processing and auctioning facilities built on it lies idle. It is owned by the Department of the Marine.

Doyle believes there should be a curtailment or banning of what is known as pelagic fishing and beam trawling in the Irish Sea. The huge boats engaged in this type of fishing could not be sustained in that they act like vacuum cleaners in the sea: "What is the point in some making a lot of money over a short period of time to the detriment of everybody making their living in the long run? Some of the modern technology being used is destroying the Irish fishing industry."

Much could and should be done to develop the Irish fishing industry. Ten fish species account for 90% of the recorded catch and the 30 varieties of fish commonly caught represent only one eighth of the species living in Irish waters. There is a lot of scope for the better use of resources through catching more of the fish which are not controlled by quotas and by landing and marketing those fish species which are not of commercial significance at present.

FISH FARMING

Fish farming has been grant-aided since 1970 and a lot of growth has occurred recently. There are many difficulties and most of the current activity is small-scale cultivation of oysters, mussels, salmon and trout, most sites being on the west coast.

One worrying feature of salmon-farming is the threat it poses to wild salmon stocks. Most Irish rivers have at least one unique strain of salmon, which has evolved since the Ice Age to become ideally suited



● For the Irish fishing industry it is still a struggle for survival

to conditions there. Now geneticists are worried that when farmed salmon escape, as they do in large numbers, they will interbreed with native fish weakening the strain and possibly causing it to die out.

There has been much criticism of fish farming's polluting effects, with good reason — in Finland water pollution by fish farms is greater than the combined pollution of the chemical and fertiliser industry.

If fish farming is to be developed in Ireland certain conditions should be adhered to. Existing fish farms should come under the strictest control and frequent monitoring of the water quality should be undertaken by the local authorities. A

switch to shell-fish farming would be positive in that it presents none of the above problems and dangers. Research could also be carried out into the idea of developing 'fish-ranching'. This is in effect 'free range' fish farming and is problem-free when compared with intensive methods. Salmon are 'farmed' successfully in countries such as Sweden and Norway.

Apart from the innovations such as those mentioned to develop the potential of fisheries in Ireland, much more needs to be done, including spending money on improving harbour facilities and the development of fish processing.

Even within the confines of the

EC the Irish representatives need to assert the right to implement certain policy objectives. These should include exclusive fishing rights up to 50 miles and preferential treatment in the allocation of EC quotas up to 200 miles. Account must be taken when allocating quotas that the industry is still developing. The potential for a developing industry must be taken into account when allocating quotas. The Irish fleet badly needs upgrading to develop trawlers capable of fishing long distances. But because of over-capacity in the EC as a whole, Brussels is now actually demanding a reduction in the size of the fleet. To ensure the survival of the Irish industry there

would have to be a derogation for Ireland as a whole, a demand that would need firm action by a Dublin government, something which has been completely lacking in the past.

The importance of the sea and its great economic potential has not always been widely appreciated by Irish people, except those like fishermen who are directly involved in it. That has been the case up until recent times, but renewed public concern and the needs of the fishing community have to contend with decades of neglect and mismanagement by the Dublin government and the sale of our resources to Brussels. For the Irish fishing industry it is still a fight for survival.

Sinn Féin National Finance Committee

NATIONAL DRAW

FIVE WEEK PRIVATE MEMBERS DRAW

Monies and stubs MUST be returned this week



£10,000 or a CAR

and over £8,000 in other prizes to be won

Commencing on Saturday 12th October, 1991
and subsequently on each Saturday
concluding on Saturday 9th November, 1991.



ALL ENQUIRIES TO:
NATIONAL FINANCE COMMITTEE,
44 CEARNOG PHARNELL,
BAILE ATHA CLIATH 1

AG COSAINT NA DOCHOSANTA

DUIRT aire na Breataine faoi choinne priosúin sna Sé Chontae, an Tiarna Belstead, ar an chlár teilifise Counterpoint ar UTV, Deardoain seo caite go raibh na Breatainnaigh chun leanúint ar aghaidh ag cur iachall ar chímí poblachtacha agus dilseachá maireachtáil le chéile i briosún Bhóthar Chroimghlinne i mBéal Feirste

D'ainneoin na trioblóide leanúnai sa phriosún toisc an polasai seo chuir Belstead in iúl nach raibh rún ar bith ag rialtas na Breataine a pholasai a athrú.

San agallamh cuireadh ceist ar Belstead cad chuirte a raibh címí poblachtacha agus dilseachá scártha óna chéile sa Cheis Fhada ag an riarrachán ansin agus nach raibh na cími scártha i mBóthar Chroimghlinne.

Níor fhreagair Belstead an cheist seo éfach. Ina ionad duirt sé go raibh lion na gcamí sa Cheis Fhada ag titim i gceann agus go mbeadh 70% de na cími atá i mBóthar Chroimghlinne faoi láthair ag dul go dtí Machaire Rabhartaigh agus go Magilligan, priosún a bhfuil na cími measctha le chéile. Níor luigh sé éfach, nach raibh bunús na gcamí i mBóthar Chroimghlinne ina gcamí polaitiúla ar chor ar bith agus mar sin nach bhfuil san fhiú seo ach. Níor duirt sé ach oiread nár bhí an Cheis Fhada an t-aon ait sa choras priosún sna Sé Chontae ina bhfuil coras scártha i bhfeidhm. Tá na banchimí polaitiúla i Machaire Rabhartaigh scártha óna chéile chomh maith.

ROGHA SÉANTA

Thar rud ar bith eile níor duirt sé go bhfuil an rogha séanta do chímí ar atchur bheith scártha óna chéile, rogha atá ag cími polaitiúla atá daortha sna Sé Chontae.

Nuir a chuireadh ceist ar Belstead ar shil

Trí sháile an chime

BUS-RUN GO LOURDES

le Joe McQuillan H3

AR DUL ISTEACH
sa chillín móra
dom an lá faoi
dheireadh (is é sin
cillín 26, cillín
caidrimh) thug mé
Seán faoi deara,
aghaidh bhró-
nach, théin-truaimhleach air, le trí gheansáil agus
dhá phéire bríste á chaitheamh aige. Le guth iséal
chogar sé liom go raibh sé marbh nach mó le
slagháid. D'imirgh mé chomh tapaídh agus thioc-
fadh liom. Ní raibh sin amuigh agam.

Síos an dorcha liom agus nuair a bhí mé ag dul thar chillín Michael, fear as Doire, shiúil sé amach, bhuil leis an fhríne a rá bhí
sé ag scáubail a chos go mall. D'íarr mé air a raibh cearr leis.

"Ach, tá mo chnaípe déanta agus níor chodhal mé neáil go maidin
de bharr na péine agus tá sé mar sin le seachtaín anuas. Táim ag
fanacht leis an saíneoláí scáile a fhéiceáil. Tá beirt eile sa sciatáin
ag freastal ar an dochtúr chomh maith le píanta sna glúine acu".

Bhí Dicky ag magadh níos déanáil sa lá go raibh cuma otharlainne
ar an sciatáin toisce go bhfuil an oiread sin de dhaoine ann a bhfuil
tinneas orthu. Bhí sé ag smaoineamh gur chóir dúnne turas a shocru
go Lourdes. Le sin thosaigh Sean ag déanamh casachta, bhi sé mar
mhadadh ag tafann. Scap achan duine óna thimpeall.

MIORUILTI

Leath uaire solar scairt na bardaigh "faoi ghlas" d'fhogair siad go
mhéadh 'cluiche peile' ar an pháirc mhór againn an tráthnóna sin.
Chuaigh Seamus ó dhúine go duine ar lorg ainmneacha peileadóirí
(mas é sin an focal ceart le tabhairt orthu). Ansin shocraigh sé na
fóirne a roghnú. Michael ina chúl báire, Seán ar an eiteádhas agus
ar aille. Ar nás na gaoithe bhí slagháid Sheáin ar shíúl, droim Michael
ar bhisigh, agus an dhlíúine ag obair gan arraing.

Scrios Dicky an fógra 'bus-run go Lourdes' a bhí sé ar ti cur in
airear an bhalla sa seomra bia — ní thiocfadh le Lourdes miórúilt
nios fearr a dhéanamh.

sé go mbeidh sé níos sláiníula do na cími dá
mbeidh scártha óna chéile lean sé leis an
teanáine turíuil ag rialtas na Breataine —
nach mbeadh trioblóid ar bith sa phriosún
marach go raibh "collusion" idir an dá
taobh i mBóthar Chroimghlinne.

Ar an chlár shéan iarchimí poblachtacha
agus dilseoirí a scaoileadh saor ar na mallaibh
an ráméis seo. Duirt siadsan go raibh an scéal
seo faoi 'collusion' dochreidte nuair a bhí an
dá dhream a ionsaí a chéile ag chuirte seans a
fuair siad agus go raibh cuid de na hionsaithe
seo chomh fiochmaí sin gur gortaidh cími
go dona go rialta.

Thug ceann de na poblachtóirí sampla den
chineál amaidí a chothaíonn an polasai
comhtháithe sa phriosún nuair a d'ínis sé go
raibh iarchimí poblachtach Tommy Braniff sa

chillín béal dorais leis an dilseoir atá cúisithe le
marú a athar. Chomh maith sin bhi dilseoirí ar
an leibhéal céanna le poblachtóirí a raibh a
cuid cáipéisí 'slándala' ina seilbh acu sular
cuireadh sa phriosún iad.

Mar a duirt gaolta dilseachá a bhí ag
déanamh agóide lasmuigh den phriosún. "Bhí
an fir seo scártha óna chéile ar an taobh amuigh,
sna scoileanna, san ionad oibre, ina gcuim
ceantracha agus bhí siad ag troid in eadán a
chéile, mar sin cad é an chiall iad a bhrrú le
chéile anois go bhfuil siad ar an taobh istigh?"



● Priosún Bhóthar Chroimghlinne

Dinnéir scoile

LE EOGHAN MAC CORMAIC

NACH cóir an saol uaireanta? Seo mé, ar
feadh na mblianta, ag smaoineamh nach
mbeinn in imhme moladhl a thabhairt do
Mhaggie Thatcher ariamh, ach anois
agus mé ag cuimhneamh ar an tsúi go
ndearna an bhean iontach crua úd iarrach
a deireadh a chur le córas na ndinéar
scoile, maith an bhean.

Anois is duine mise a bhfuil ard mheas aige do
riachála an díli maidir le ceist an sub judice, agus mar sin
níl mé chun morán a rá faoi na casanna airtíte úd atá
faoi scrúdú faoi láthair Greencore, Irish Helicopters....
(Lion isteach do rogha scannal fein a léitheoir). Mar a
duirt an duine sin liom inné, agus muid ag fanacht sa
scuaine don anraíth saor in aice faoi choinne mleáin
daibhro, "Roinn na Séadáil Dialanns" ba chór a bhunú i
dteach Laighinn ní déanamh siad an chuid is mó dá
ngnó amach ó sholas an lae.

Ar ndóigh is deacair a chreidiúint uaireanta, cé
chomh domhain is a ritheann an chaimiléireach. Tá sé,
mar a dúirt polaitíor inteacht an tseachtaíne seo, cíud
den cultúr aistí aonair. Cíud haois agus aonair.



● Thatcher — rinne sí iarrach deireadh a chur le dinnéir scoile

Agus an bhfuil a fhios agat cá háit ar thosaigh an
cléasaocht seo ulig? Ag diol ná dtíceadai dinnéir scoile
i gclósanna scoile, sin an aít. Sna clósanna a thosaigh
na boir mhóra a saolta margaochta, ceannachta agus
diol, agus teimid anois toradh na tréimhse sin. Nach
deas an rud, mar sin, go raibh Maggie ag déanamh a
dicheall le dinnéir scoile a chriochnú. Sure, ní raibh si
ach ag smaoineamh ar an leas sa todhcháil, nach raibh?

Shinn Féin, nó tuilleadh eolas a fháil
faoi Shinn Féin nó ar ngníomhartha
agus ár bpolasaithe, lion an fhoirm
thios agus seol é chuig Sinn Féin, 44
Cearnog Pharnell, Baile Átha Cliath 1.
Aimh

Seoladh

.....

..... Aois

BALLRAIOCHT SHINN FÉIN

Is é bunaidhm Shinn Féin
aistítharraingt na Breataine ó na
Sé Chontae, athaontú ar dtíre
agus bunadh phoblacht
shóisialach dhaonlathach.

Más mian leat bheith i do bhall de

Imeachtaí

FREE DESIE ELLIS PICKET

2-3pm every Saturday
British Embassy

Merton Road

DUBLIN

Organised by
the Dublin Anti-Extradition Cmte

ANTI-EXTRADITION MEETING

6.45pm every Tuesday
Dublin Resource Centre
Crown Street
DUBLIN

ANTI-EXTRADITION PICKET

5pm-6pm every Tuesday & Friday
During Ellis trial
O'Connell Bridge
DUBLIN

PICKET ON US EMBASSY

Opposing US policy in Central
America
11.30am-1pm Every Saturday
Ballsbridge
DUBLIN

FREE SPEECH FOR MARY

ROBINSON CAMPAIGN

Weekly meetings

3pm-4pm Every Thursday

An Stol Brón

MacCurtain Street

CORK

LEICESTER PRISON PICKET

In commemoration of Noel
Jenkinson and Sean O'Conaill
1pm Saturday 5th October
Transport leaves 12noon
Cambridge Street
BIRMINGHAM

Organised by Irish Republican
POWs Campaign, Breatain

BENEFIT DISCO

11pm Saturday 5th October

Connolly Hall

Essex Street

DUBLIN

Organised by the
Russell/McDonnell Sinn Féin
Cumann

GRAND DRAW — FUNCTION

Smash Censorship Campaign

Gatby's

Saturday 5th October

Table £2.50

NEWRY

EDUCATIONAL DISCUSSION

"Why Does Britain Stay in Ireland?"

7.30pm Wednesday 9th October

Conway Hall

Red Lion Square

LONDON WC1

Admission: £1 waged/50p
unwaged

Organised by Troops Out
Movement

FILM AND SOCIAL

An INC fundraiser

Border roads film and social

9pm Thursday 10th October

Connolly Hall

Essex Street

DUBLIN

SINN FEIN REGIONAL
MEETINGS

Longford/Westmeath/Meath/Louth

Castlereagh

CASTLE POLLARD

County Westmeath

8.30pm Friday 11th October

All members and
supporters to attend

Carlow/Kilkenny/Wexford

Home Rule Club

KILKENNY

Thursday 24th October

All members and supporters to
attend

CHE GUEVARA
COMMEMORATION

Debate & videos

8pm Friday 11th October

"Che Guevara: His importance and
relevance to us"

Speakers: Alderman Declan Bree,
Marius Schoon, Rose Duggdale,

Robert Ballagh

Saturday October 12th,

11am: Anti-Imperialist videos

1pm: Maria's Story (El Salvador)

2.30pm: Dragons' Teeth
(nationalism culture and
revisionism in Ireland)

4pm: Challenging Imperialism and
the New World Order

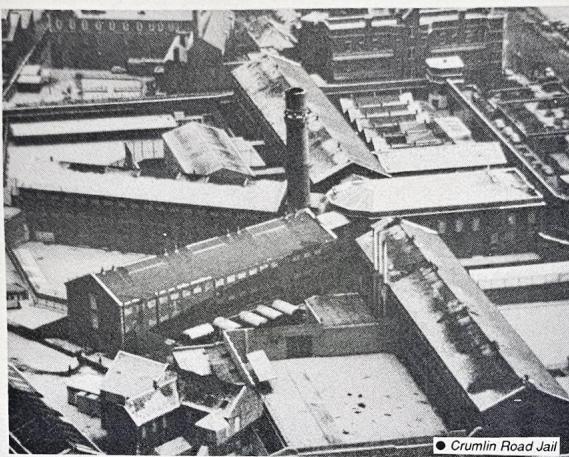
Connolly Hall, Essex Street

DUBLIN

(continued on page 13)

Mala Poist

The Editor
58 Parnell Square
Dublin 1



• Crumlin Road Jail

Crumlin Road crisis

A Chairde,

As the crisis in Crumlin Road Jail reaches epic proportions the response of the Northern Ireland Office would be laughable if the situation were not so serious. Instead of addressing the genuine problems of appalling conditions and violent clashes, Lord Belstead, British Minister for Prisons, threatens to withdraw facilities from prisoners. This begs the question: what facilities?

Prisoners are allowed out of their cells for 90 minutes exercise per day and occasional evening association. Often we are denied washing facilities or a brush to clean our cells. We are refused toilet facilities or the opportunity to empty our chamber pots — consequently the cell floor and landings are swimming with urine. Warders in wellingtons and protective clothing carry our meals (usually cold and inedible) and pass them through this filth. Rubbish is not cleared away and is heaped in corners for the mice to play with. The stench is insufferable. In addition to these health risks, when we do leave our cells (say to go for a visit) we are liable for attack from loyalist prisoners, sometimes in collusion with bigoted warders.

The NIO meanwhile have directed all their attention at issuing misleading statements in a damage limitation exercise. They claim that prisoners are not injured when in fact dozens of us have received hospital treatment in recent months. They claim that prisoners have created the bad conditions through protest. When in fact we want to wash ourselves and keep our cells clean but are frequently not allowed to do so. They implied that we wrecked the chapel. When in fact repub-

lican prisoners are not allowed this facility and had no part in such a protest.

Republican prisoners are not engaged in any campaign of prison protest. Instead we have attempted to negotiate better conditions and to keep the tension in here to a minimum. This sensible and reasonable approach to the problem has been rebuffed by an intransigent prison administration who are intent on forcibly integrating republican and loyalist prisoners to make a political point. The only way they can do this is by locking all prisoners in their cells and withdrawing all facilities. They then try to provoke republican prisoners through petty punishments and sectarian antics.

The situation is now out of control and can only be stabilised by the implementation of segregation. All we ask is that we are kept in a hygienic environment safe from violent attack and with educational and recreational facilities. This can only happen when a system of segregation is introduced.

Segregation is a human rights issue which must be supported by all those who believe in the human and civilised treatment of prisoners.

PRO 'C' Wing,
Crumlin Road Jail.

Paisley on the Balkans

A Chairde,

Whatever about the rights and wrongs of the war in Yugoslavia (and I admit I sympathise with Serbian fears of a return of Croatian fascist atrocities such as those in the Second World War) Aula Hoare (Mala Poist, September 19th) should be careful about citing Ian Paisley's endorsement of Serbia as a reason for Irish republicans to be against it.

from their beds in the early hours by these people and forcibly taken to the notorious Castlegragh. There they have been locked in cells and for hours are interrogated, while disoriented, tired and terrified. These young people have been physically and mentally abused by their interrogators, with the full backing of the law. They have been forced to sign so-called confessions.

It took 16 years to prove just how the "voluntary" statements were extracted from the Birmingham Six. Torture has played a major part in the Six Contests since 1971, with little or no pressures from Church spokesmen for it to end. Last month, Amnesty International issued an "Urgent Action Order" on behalf of 17-year-old Damien Austin, a victim of serious physical abuse. The treatment of this youth cannot be condemned enough, although to date it has been condemned by none of your standing in the Church. There are numerous young men currently being held in Crumlin Road Jail after being forced to make statements in the way which I have described, but thankfully Damien Austin's family doctor gained access, and reported his terrible state which resulted in legal action to secure his release. I am sorry to say the other young men didn't get a release.

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• John Murphy,
Birmingham.

Vietnam & USA

A Chairde,

It is with great disappointment that I respond to "Empire Without Clothes" ... disappointment first to think that, as thousands of Vietnam Vets lay across the country without arms, legs, or the chance ever again for sanity, we should dismiss them as "whole young Americans". Dara MacNeill would portray them too righteous for our sympathy or warranted pride. To assume that we should actually pay a country still holding and torturing our men is truly sad — tortures as heinous as the English pleasure in.

Perhaps, had our men been returned, their post-war assistance would have been different. My second disappointment is to see that half page of valuable newsprint so wasted — utilise it to place emphasis on educating those yet able to support Northern Ireland. Existing here is a huge body of Irish-Americans well able to provide both financial and political support. It is with great hardship that I have been able to bypass British propaganda and attain the horror in your truth. There should be merit given to educating and, thereby, maximising resources to allow for self-sovereignty and independence.

Geraldine R. Curtin,
Oakdale,
NY,
USA.

Serbia & Croatia

A Chairde,

With reference to Yugoslavia, I was surprised to read in Anthony Coughlan's letter on behalf of Amarcord-Ireland 2000 (AP/RN September 5th) an apparently easy acceptance that "independent Croatia is not permitted (sic) to maintain its present boundaries leaving the Yugoslav Federation". Surely one does not really defend the right of Croatia to self-determination and independence if one then supports the right of Serbia to impose partition on it. Of course it may have been a mistake and insensitive for independent Croatia to adopt the flag of the state of Croatia when it came into being with the help of the Germans and was ruled by



• Castlereagh Interrogation Centre



• Andrew Strong — an astonishing voice

Believe the hype

ITS GETTING well nigh impossible to find anyone with a bad word to say about *The Commitments* — the film about a young working class soul band from Dublin's Northside, which appears to have enthused and enchanted countless numbers around the globe.

Indeed, probably the only ones grumbling are those directors whose own cinematic efforts have been swamped by the near deluge of acclaim that has accompanied Alan Parker's latest offering.

Currently, I believe, the film sits at No 2 in the US box office charts, whilst the film's soundtrack nestles comfortably at No 8 in the music charts. No mean achievement that. Indeed, it all seems a little bemusing. What's so fascinating about a small soul band from Dublin, a band who never seem to play anywhere bigger than a good-sized pub?

Perhaps even more curious is the manner in which the film has been received here at home. It was always predictable that *The Commit-*

ments

would, initially at least, get good press in Dublin. But it has continued to be so — an expected begrudging's black-lash has, so far, failed to materialise.

Less predictable was the manner in which the film's success abroad has been treated here at home. Implicit, in the hearty hauls of self congratulations that have ensued forth from those who 'ponder' and 'comment' on such matters has been the fawning attitude that success abroad somehow legitimises and respectabilises it here at home. It got the stamp of approval in the US etc and therefore OK for us to start liking it now. There is also the feeling that success manages in some obscure fashion to act as an affirmation for national self

esteem. We look abroad for approval.

BLATANT NONSENSE

A similar type of nonsense existed around the Irish soccer team in the lead-up to the World Cup. Our boys were gaining respect from the world. Indeed, some political and business 'leaders' even went so far as to suggest that the resultant massive boost to national confidence would have a beneficial effect on the country's GNP! Blatant nonsense. Indeed, as anyone who dimly remembers those few wild weeks last year will affirm, it is probable that the GNP fell drastically around that madcap period. Proper order, too.

Anyway, back to the film. I approached *The Commitments* with a horrible sinking feeling that it would take the line of least resistance and produce nothing more than expletive-louthing young stereotypes, that would revert to patronising and clichéd portraits. Not a bit of it. At the conclusion of

the showing I was at the whole cinema broke into a spontaneous round of applause — quite a regular occurrence I've been told. When was the last time you felt that way inclined, let alone witness a whole cinema do so?

The Commitments breaks radically with the popular (and rather thin) Irish cinematic tradition. The film is wholly urban and documents the decidedly less than pretty side of urban life. Run down flat complexes, barren housing estates, graffiti, wreckage, vandalism and — amidst the chaos — ordinary working class people struggling to keep some semblance of sense in their lives. This is not the breathtaking landscape of *The Field*, nor the folk quaintness of *The Quire Man*. This is Ireland 1991 — where the majority of the population dwell in urban centres. It is the Ireland of high unemployment, single parents, crime, drugs and violence. One scene is shot in an over-crowded Werburgh Street dole office where the main character — Jimmy Rabbitte Jnr — informs an official who has questioned his ability to find work for two years that "We're a third world country, what can ye do!"

"What d'you play?" asks Rabbitte.

"Well, I used to play a bit of football at school," responds a shifty looking youth. Eventually, after some confusion, Rabbitte asks the youth why he came.

"I saw all the people queuing up and so I just joined in" he says; before adding, "I thought you were selling drugs!"

Quick, snappy jet pieces like this — too many to recall — move the film along energetically. And it's full of music. Wonderful, exuberant, infectious soul played passionately by the film's band. And yes, Andrew Strong truly does possess an astonishing voice. As you sit through the version of "Try a Little Tenderness" without at least tapping a foot, then you're probably dead Joey 'The Lips' Fagan; horn-player extraordinaire, perpetual 16 year old and the band's spiritual mentor.

This is a film that celebrates life and hope and generally makes you feel good all over. As the late lamented Blades — Dublin's finest ever soul band — might have said, this film has 'got soul!' Believe the hype and see it.

Inspiring stories

IT IS ONLY in the last decade or so that the task of rewriting women into Irish history has been taken up. Republicans have played no small part in this, helping to right the wrong of exclusion of women from our story.

That is not to say that there is any room for smugness — there is still an awful lot of ignorance among republican men of the true role of women past and present. However, it is no coincidence that the women in the 20th Century who made the most publicly prominent contributions to Irish life were in the main republican women. They were usually among the most radical, the most dedicated and the most tenacious in the struggle for freedom.

The names of Maud Gonne and Constance Markievicz are the most well known but even

at this level of prominence in national affairs there were other women who have been largely forgotten. Then there is the mass of ordinary working-class women whose names never appear on the pages of history but who were the silent builders of society.

The Women's Commemoration and Celebration Committee currently has an exhibition at the Dublin Civic Museum in South William Street entitled *Ten Dublin Women*. It examines the lives of ten women who lived in the first half of this century, some prominent in public

BY
MAIRIN
MAC DIARMADA

life, some obscure. All of them were outstanding in their own way from the street trader Mary McCarthy to Rosy Hackett the staunch republican trade unionist; from Sara Allgood the famous actress to Dr Kathleen Lynn, Chief Medical Officer of the Irish Citizen Army and Surgeon General of Dáil Eireann. The story of the latter's work for the people of Dublin through St Ultan's Hospital which she founded with her Citizen Army colleague Madeleine French-Mullen is particularly revealing.

The hospital catered for the poor of Dublin city and pioneered the use of the BCG vaccination, becoming the headquarters for the scheme. The notorious Archbishop John Charles McQuaid objected to



the scheme at St Ultan's — he opposed the hospital as there was no Catholic Church control and Protestant and Catholic staff worked side-by-side. Eventually public opinion forced him to drop his objections but the hospital never received the funding it required.

• A book with essays on

the lives of the ten women accompanies the exhibition and is excellent value at £2. It includes an introduction by Margaret MacCurtain who deals very well with the need to rewrite women back into history. The exhibition continues at the Civic Museum until November 16th.

Imeachtaí

(continued from page 13)

MEMORIAL LECTURE

10th Anniversary Hunger-Strike
1pm Saturday 12th October
Speakers: Sinn Féin
IBRG, KWA, TPLF, Labour
Movement, Hunger-Strike relative
Josiah Mason Hall
Central Library,
Chamberlain Square
BIRMINGHAM
Organised by the Irish Hunger
Strike Commemoration Committee

VIDEO

"The H-Block Hunger-Striker"
Speakers: Prisoners' Transfer
Committee
Member of 1991 Black delegation
to Belfast
2pm Saturday 12th October
Room 121
Brixton Town Hall
Acme Lane
BRIXTON

SEAN TREACY

COMMEMORATION
3.30pm Sunday 13th October
KILFEACLE
County Tipperary
Speaker: Pat Hackett

WREATH LAYING CEREMONY
200th Anniversary of founding of
United Irishman
4pm Sunday 13th October
Croppy Cross
on the Navan Kingscourt Road
NAVAN

BENEFIT FUNCTION

Featuring: Erin's Pride
Guest Speaker
Friday 18th October
The Granite
Riordan
COUNTY WESTMEATH
Organised by Westmeath Sinn
Féin

FUNCTION

Featuring The Irish Brigade
Saturday 19th October
The Lawns
BALLYFERMOT

MUSIC & POETRY NIGHT
Night of H-Block Music and Poetry
8.30pm October 25th
Bairbreac Arms
NAVAN
All welcome

INC AGM
10am Saturday October 26th
Teachers Club
Parnell Square
DUBLIN
All members welcome
Social in evening

SLOGADH SINN FEIN
Aoine-Domhnach 8-10U Samhain
Óstán Radharc an Earragail
Gaoth Dobhair
CONTAE DHUN NA nGALL
Costas 135
Clárú le Marcus Mac Ruairí
Roinn an Chultúir Shinn Féin
64 Bóthair an Ráschúrsa
Dóire
Fón 359747

DRAW RESULT

POW Department

Monthly Raffle

1st Prize, Painting: W. Brennan, No. 93; 2nd Prize, Mirror: S. Smith, No. 370; 3rd Prize, Framed Hankie: D. Peavoy, No. 320; 4th Prize, Proclamation: P. McGlynn, No. 333; 5th Prize, Purse or wallet: P. Bell, No. 97.



OBITUARY

Frank Cahill — a guiding light

THE DEATH occurred on Sunday, September 29th of Frank Cahill from Belfast. After a long and painful illness, Frank died peacefully at his Ballymurphy home surrounded by his family.

The son of the late Joseph and Josephine (Susan) Cahill, Frank was born at the family home in Davis Street, Belfast in 1925. One of five sons and four daughters, theirs was a republican household which was to suffer throughout many years of struggle. From an early age Frank was to become aware of the suffering and sacrifice of republican activists.

In 1942 he accompanied his mother on daily visits to Crumlin Road Jail to deliver meals to Tom Williams, then awaiting execution

for the killing of an RUC man. His brother Joe, originally sentenced to death, had his sentence commuted to life in Crumlin Road. A few short years later Frank was to join Joe in prison. Aged just 17 Frank was the youngest of the inmates in 1943.

Frank was to serve two further periods of internment without trial. In 1957 he was arrested and held for a period of four years and from 1971 he spent almost two years in the cages of Long Kesh.

Frank married Tess Lee from

Brown Street. They were to have eight sons and one daughter. The family moved to their present home in Ballymurphy in 1961. From that date until he finally succumbed to illness Frank was a fearless and tireless fighter for the rights of the people throughout the greater Ballymurphy area. There are many physical monuments to Frank's memory and his work which are visible throughout this once demoralised and neglected area of Ballymurphy and further afield — Ballymurphy Tenants Association, Ballymurphy Resource Centre, Ballymurphy Health Centre, Newhill Community Centre and the business and education units in Conway Mill.

Frank was a guiding light in making people aware of their own worth and strength; together and united they broke down many bureaucratic barriers constructed to keep them cowed, weak and divided. The people now have more hope for the future based on a self-confidence due in no small measure to the work of Frank Cahill. He will be missed not only by Tess and family but also by those for whom he struggled. Our sympathy is extended to them all. I measa laochra na nGael go raibh a anam uasal.

British lawyers on tour of North

THE ABUSES AND EXCESSES of the corrupt British judicial system in the Six Counties have come under detailed scrutiny with a 14-strong team of lawyers from the London-based left-wing legal pressure group, the Haldane Society, having conducted a fact-finding tour of the North.

The Haldane Society delegation, who ended their week-long tour on Monday, September 30th, intend to return to London where they will compile a comprehensive report on their findings which will be published in full early next year.

The group, which included the society's chairperson, Bill Bowring, and was headed by Katie Armstrong Myers, described the purpose of their visit as carrying out a thorough investigation of the Diplock court system, the effects of the removal of a suspect's right to silence, and

the growing number of serious allegations about ill-treatment and torture of suspects in RUC custody.

The group met a wide range of interested parties, including members of the Diplock judiciary, representatives of the pressure group Voice of the Innocent, relatives of the Beechmount Five and representatives of Sinn Féin and the Committee on the Administration of Justice.

Speaking after his meeting with the delegation, Sinn Féin's legal affairs spokesperson, Paddy McManus said that he was en-



● PADDY McMANUS

couraged by the depth of knowledge and perception shown by members of the delegation about the situation in the Six Counties: "Research work carried out in the past by the Haldane Society into the workings of the Diplock courts has been of great value and assistance to those battling to aid victims of the system. The proposed report, coming as it does ten years after their last major study, is timely and welcome."

"I raised with the delegation the possibility of their organisation opening a permanent office in Belfast to facilitate more effective monitoring of the Diplock system, the suggestion was taken on board by them and will be seriously considered."

STALLING TACTICS ON MANSION HOUSE

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL's Protocol Committee met again on Friday, September 27th to consider Sinn Féin's application to use the Mansion House for the party's ard fheis. Attempts to exclude Sinn Féin, originally orchestrated by the Workers' Party, are continuing but a decision has been postponed for the second time due to divisions amongst the committee.

Sinn Féin has signed the declaration required of hirers of the Mansion House by the City Council when the booking for next year's ard fheis was made but the City Manager still refused to accept the deposit. The Protocol Committee was to make a final decision on the issue but failed to come to any agreement.

It is believed that the Labour Party group on the committee wanted "in the interests of democracy"(!) to exclude all parties from the building but this was opposed by Fine Gael who want a Sinn Féin only ban. The Fine Gael line was apparently supported by the Workers' Party. Independent Councillor Tony Gregory

argued vehemently against the exclusion of Sinn Féin while Fianna Fáil, which had voted against the exclusion attempt at the last meeting, sat on the fence on this occasion. The meeting broke up without any agreement except that the leaders of the party groups should meet to formulate a position to be put to a full meeting of the City Council.

Commenting on the outcome of the meeting, Sinn Féin General Secretary Lucilta Bhreathnach said: "Dublin City Council is acting undemocratically and using stalling tactics. This is a deliberate disruption of our legitimate political work and should not be allowed to continue."

Belfast to host women's conference

THE Sinn Féin Women's Department has announced details of the party's forthcoming annual women's conference which this year is being held on November 2nd in Belfast's Conway Mill. The conference takes up the theme of the celebration of resistance and will deal with some of the major issues affecting women's lives in Ireland today.

The conference opens on the Saturday morning with discussion on women's health and in the afternoon looks at

movement over the last ten years has left women's groups lobbying separately for the little money governments are prepared to grant these essential services for women," says the Women's Department in the programme for the conference and goes on:

"It is time to build a united women's movement to put these issues on the political agenda. How can this be done?"

The conference is open to the public, both men and women. Billets can be arranged for those travelling from outside Belfast. To book these or for more information on the conference contact the Sinn Féin Women's Department, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin or 51/55 Falls Road, Belfast.

The schedule for Saturday, November 2nd in Conway Mill is as follows:

10 — 10.30am	Registration
10.30am — 12noon	Women and Health
12noon — 1pm	Lunch
1 — 2.30pm	"The funding of women's services — political implications for the Women's Movement."
2.30 — 2.45pm	Short break
2.45 — 4.30pm	Women prisoners issues, including strip-searching and the 1980 hunger-strike.

Finish with play.
Creche facilities available.



THE FLYING COLUMN

IRA GANGS MOVE INTO EURO DISNEY

Convicted terrorists found among workers on big building sites.

MICKEY MOUSE ALLEGATIONS

It's official. The IRA has infiltrated Disneyland!

At least that's what the *Sunday Express* is claiming. The article is penned by one Barrie Penrose, a name which may yet rank alongside the great tabloid fiction writers like Chester Stern.

According to Penrose the IRA has infiltrated the massive Euro Disney resort near Paris, many top operatives working on the site. The *Sunday Express* concedes that Disneyland may not be regarded by the IRA as a legitimate target but makes the usual easily made allegations of protection rackets and arms smuggling to fill out the scéal.

A particularly sinister aspect of the story, though, is that Penrose actually names individual Irish people who he says are working on the Disney site. There may be more truth in a Walt Disney script but people in the Six Counties have been targeted by loyalist death squads for less.

STATUE for bomber of countless civilians.

The British Queen Mother is to unveil a statue being erected in London to honour Royal Air Force (RAF) commander, Sir Arthur 'Bomber' Harris, (right) the man dubbed 'Butcher' Harris for his Second World War carpet-bombing of German cities which killed more than 130,000 civilians.



The RAF's Bomber Command Association plans to honour its "hero" with a £100,000 statue outside the RAF Church in London, St Clement Danes. But the statue, which will be unveiled next May, has brought protests from the mayors of German cities flattened by Harris's blitzes against civilians.

In the last weeks of the war, the British punitively turned Dresden, Würzburg and Pforzheim into "skeleton cities". In

just two nights' bombing of Dresden and Pforzheim, the RAF killed over 130,000 civilians.

Dresden's Lord Mayor, Herbert Wagner, has asked the British government to scrap the statue. "I do not wish to mitigate Germany's war guilt," Mayor Wagner explained, "but Harris's carpet-bombing of civilians was not militarily justifiable."

The RAF Bomber Command Association, though, has dismissed German sensitivities, arguing that British cities were attacked but, at the same time, claiming it is not honouring a policy of retaliation when everyone knew the war was over.

Maintaining that "we had to bomb urban areas" to hit military targets, Group Captain Ken Batchelor said: "We regarded Sir Arthur Harris as a forthright commander who was carrying out the orders of the British War Cabinet."

FOUR FORMER MEMBERS of the West Midlands Serious Crimes Squad who successfully 'encouraged' six Irish men to confess to the 1974 Birmingham pub bombings are to be charged with perjury and plotting to pervert the course of justice.

The most senior figure to be charged is ex-Detective Superintendent George Reade, author of the infamous Reade Schedule, a document manufactured by the police and which played a vital role in convicting the Birmingham Six. Detective Sergeant Colin Morris and former Detective Constables Terence Woodviss and Rex Langford will face the same charges.

ALSO IN THE WEST MIDLANDS, the deputy head of the West Midlands Police legal department has been suspended after bailiffs arrived at the force HQ in Birmingham in connection with an unpaid bill of £5,700. Trevor Rodgers, a senior civilian official, is suspended pending an inquiry into how a disc jockey's claim against the force was handled.

A FOUR-PAGE LEAFLET ENTITLED "You Can Help To Prevent This" has been issued by the British Ministry of Defence, which is drawing up "security vigilance areas" around all armed forces camps in Britain for fear of IRA attack.

Hundreds of these leaflets have already been distributed to people in Hereford, where the SAS is based. A Ministry of Defence spokesperson said:

"Security is always under review. When necessary, extra steps are taken."

ALL THIS TALK of tightening up security reminds me of the case a week or so back where a mentally-ill woman was found by her family at their East London home, wearing full riot gear.

She had stolen the clothing from Scotland Yard and had also broken into at least three other police stations.

She was not charged but Scotland Yard announced it was again stepping up security.

Dúirt Siad

Those who bring the party into disrepute, cause dissension or refuse to accept decisions democratically arrived at can no longer remain in the party... are its policies to be decided for it by alien influences, by political opponents, or worst of all by business interests? — Charles Haughey, February 3rd, 1983, after 41 Fianna Fáil TDs called for a meeting to discuss revelations of telephone tapping when he was Taoiseach.

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*I marvel at his eloquence — I wish I could do it. But he is prostituting a great gift. — Reverend David Winter, former head of BBC religious broadcasting, commenting on a sermon by Ian Paisley, *Independent on Sunday*, September 29th.*

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I think there is an awful habit, especially in a newspaper story like Ireland, to fall back on old assumptions, government ideas, to put what one is trying to report in the framework which it is most convenient for it to be reported in the eyes of government, that is to say, you divide Northern Ireland's problem up into political and security. Mrs Thatcher did this and it's remarkable how many British newspapers went along with this theory without saying, 'hang on, we've got a reporter there, that's not what it's about'. — Robert Fisk on RTE Radio's Saturday View, September 21st.

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In the North, I often found when I was reporting here that if you reported any incident which reflected badly on the British army or perhaps attracted some sympathy for a perfectly innocent Catholic family, totally unconnected, for example, with paramilitary affairs, there would be the suggestion you were pro-IRA. Reporters working in the Arab world have an identical problem when they report on the activities of the Israelis if those activities do not reflect well upon the Israelis. It is suggested they are anti-Semitic which is an equally gross lie. — Robert Fisk.

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*What our financial analysts would have us believe is healthy economic activity is rather an elaborate salvage operation which has as its basis the assumption that people are an obstacle to, rather than the purpose of, wealth creation. The "successes" of Telecom and Greencore represent the economics of the closing-down sale — an artificial buoyancy made possible by the destruction of everything for which previous generations split their sweat and blood. — John Waters in the *Irish Times*, Tuesday, September 24th.*

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Police like I've never seen anywhere in the world: with riot shields and tear gas because that's the only way they can control the population. — Sky News' Eastern Correspondent, Dan Damon, who was speaking on Thursday, September 19th, about Yugoslav police oppression of Albanians in Kosovo province. Desperate Dan obviously hasn't seen the RUC in action.

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*I don't know if RTE showed much of the TUC Congress recently but, if it did, North Kerry people will have seen Ballylongford man John Flavin figuring prominently in a show of hands in support of Neil Kinnock. I hope John's faith in the red-haired Welshman doesn't come unstuck. There are many who believe that Kinnock would be every bit as unyielding as the Tories on the Irish question. Recently the British Labour Party has begun a strong move for the Irish vote in the general election that's only a matter of months away. A photograph of Kinnock beside a portrait of James Connolly was seen by many Irish people here as the ultimate in political opportunism, with many pointing out that if Connolly were alive today, his republicanism would be anathema to Kinnock. — John Barrett's 'London Calling' column in the *Kerryman*, September 13th.*

