



IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING
POLITICAL WEEKLY

AN PHOBLACHT

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• "Get the hoods off our backs!"



• John Donaghy is forced away by the RUC from the scene of his brother Tommy's murder by pro-British forces

APPEASING BRITISH TERROR

"There is a clear pattern to these killings and it points firmly to collusion between the crown forces and the loyalists. Why are political leaders, powerful churchmen and the media silent about this? This point needs to be made forcefully and repeatedly because these same politicians, church leaders and large sections of the media are involved in an ongoing campaign of vilification against our party and its members and one of the logical consequences of this campaign is the murder of our people."

These were the words spoken at the graveside of Tommy Donaghy, the Sinn Féin activist gunned down by a British-sponsored loyalist murder gang on August 16th. He was the second Sinn Féin member assassinated by pro-British forces within a week. His comrade Pádraig O Seánacháin died at the hands of loyalist gunmen on August 12th.

After Tommy Donaghy was shot at his place of work at Kilkrea, County Derry, John Donaghy arrived at the scene but when he attempted to go to his fatally wounded brother he was man-handled by the RUC (above) who forced him away.

ANTI-REPUBLICAN PROPAGANDA

The words of Tommy Don-

aghy's former republican prison comrade Jim Gibney, quoted above, were echoed by Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams when he placed the recent killings of Sinn Féin members and other nationalists in the context of the heightened anti-republican propaganda by the political and hierarchical establishment:

"These attacks cannot be divorced from the campaign of vilification, censorship and misrepresentation of Sinn Féin in the media or the protracted efforts by anti-republican elements to demonise Sinn Féin activists. Those involved in these campaigns range from the British government, across the political parties from the unionists through elements of the SDLP and the Dublin parties to church leaders, sections of the media and of course British-sponsored agencies like the 'Peace' Train, FAIT and their fellow-travelers.

"Regardless of who pulled the trigger, all of them bear responsibility for the attacks on our members. They create the atmosphere

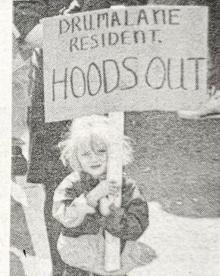
in which these attacks occur. They cannot absolve themselves from the deadly consequences of their rhetoric."

Calling for "calm and restraint" Adams said that republicans must "never give any credibility to British government efforts to present republican actions as sectarian". He pointed to the need for a real peace process and later in the week announced that he had written to the British and Irish governments, and to political parties, trade union and church leaders in both countries with a view to seeking open-ended discussions on the conflict and the "development of a peace process capable of achieving the political conditions necessary for an end to violence".

It is on their response to these calls for dialogue without pre-conditions that those politicians and clerics who shout loudest about ending violence and bringing peace, should now be judged.

Newry estate

The blaze of media attention on two men who were ordered out of Newry's Drumalane estate last week for anti-social activities ignored the reaction of the majority of residents there, hundreds of whom demanded "hoods out". See page 4.

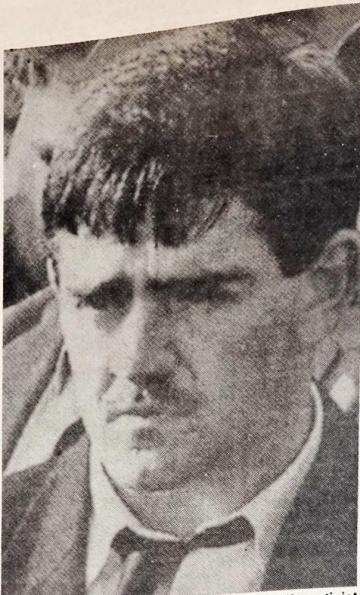
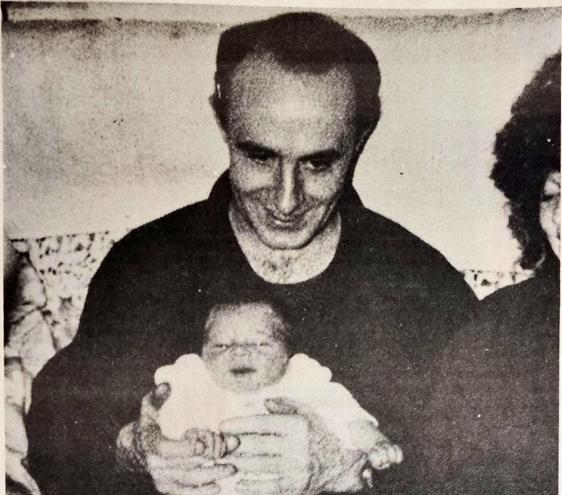


Drugs lies exposed

Recent efforts to smear the IRA with allegations of involvement in the drugs trade have shown the worst aspects of media distortion. AP/RN investigates. See pages 8/9.

Youths tortured

The renewed use of brutalisation by the RUC in their interrogation centres has been dramatically highlighted in the case of Damien Austin who was among a number of young Belfast people arrested and ill-treated in the last week. See page 5.



• (Above left) Tommy Donaghy, the Sinn Féin activist murdered by a loyalist death squad, pictured with his four-month-old son Seán (above) The second loyalist victim, Martin O'Prey

TWO DIE IN FURTHER WAVE OF BRITISH-INSPIRED TERROR

A RENEWED wave of intense activity by unofficial death squads, inspired by, and acting with, direct collusion from official British forces, has left two men dead and has led to increased fear among northern nationalists that a serious escalation of repression and terror is under way.

The latest killings, in Belfast and County Derry, came at the end of a week in which loyalists killed two nationalists, one a member of Sinn Féin, and wounded two others in an attack upon a minibus carrying women and children to visit republi-

can prisoners. The two deaths also came as loyalists, in three other incidents, attempted to kill nationalists in Belfast.

The first in the series of four attacks came shortly after 8am on Friday, August 16th, when two gun-

men, wearing balaclavas and combat jackets, opened fire on 38-year-old Thomas Donaghy as he arrived for work at the Portna Fishery near the village of Kilrea in County Derry. Thomas, who had served a 19-year prison sentence and who had been released from Long Kesh in 1989, was a member of Sinn Féin and had been the subject of death threats and harassment from the crown forces, who had informed him that his details had been leaked to loyalists.

An eyewitness to the shooting described how the gunmen emerged from behind a shed just as Thomas parked his Citroen Visa car. They shouted a warning to the witness to stay put or be shot and then

walked to within feet of their victim to shoot him in the head and chest. The gunmen then fled on foot along the banks of the River Bann.

Pointing out that the death of Thomas Donaghy brought to 13 the number of party members to have been killed by British forces or their allies — loyalist paramilitaries — Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams said:

"In almost all these cases information on the victims had come from British crown forces files... This murder cannot be divorced from the campaign of vilification, censorship and misrepresentation of Sinn Féin or from the multifaceted efforts by anti-republican elements to demonise Sinn Féin."

"Those involved range from unionists through to elements of the SDLP and Dublin parties to Church leaders, sections of the media and of course state-sponsored agencies like New Consensus and FAIT and their fellow travellers."

"Regardless of who pulled the trigger all of them bear a responsibility for attacks on our members. They create the atmosphere in which they occur."

CROWN FORCES COLLUDE IN BELFAST KILLING

Within hours of the killing of Thomas Donaghy, loyalists, with clear connivance if not active assistance from the crown forces, drove into the Lower Falls area of Belfast to kill 28-year-old Martin O'Prey, a member of the IPLO, in full view of British army watchtower which bristles with surveillance equipment.

O'Prey was in the living room of his Ardmore Terrace home (where he recently moved with his partner Yvonne and his seven-year-old step-daughter Doreen) when his killers entered from the rear of the house.

An eyewitness to the killing, who was visiting the home at the time, recounted what happened. He and O'Prey were in the front living room with young Doreen when two gunmen burst into the room. One shouted "right you bastard" before he and his accomplice opened fire hitting their victim in the head, chest and neck. The victim's daughter, with whom he was playing at the time was also struck once in the hand but was not seriously injured. No attempt was made to fire on the second man present.

As the gunmen fled the house O'Prey's partner Yvonne ran down the stairs only to be punched to the ground. The assailants ran out of the back gate and jumped into a red Ford Sierra which was driven from the scene by a third man.

Witnesses on the Falls Road spoke of seeing the car veer at high speed into Northumberland Street with the gunmen laughing and cheering. Here it would have had to negotiate security barriers and surveillance cameras before the gunmen dumped it in Crossland Court.

Local anger at the obvious connivance of crown forces in the killing led to local residents organising an anti-collusion picket on Wednesday, August 21st, at the foot of the Divis Tower flats complex which houses the British army observation post which would have had a full view of Martin O'Prey's killers entering and leaving their victim's home.

Articulating local feeling area Sinn Féin Councillor Fra McCann said: "This killing like that of taxi man Tommy Hughes on July 18th, took place in full view of the battery of surveillance equipment on top of Divis Tower and both took place on days when the normally heavy crown forces presence in this area was conspicuous by its absence. Both victims were also the subject of death threats and harassment by the crown forces."

ATTEMPTED KILLINGS

Friday evening was also to see a North Belfast man escape with his life when the weapon being used by his would-be killers failed to fire. The man, who asked not to be named, was walking along Churchill Street in the New Lodge Road area having returned from a night out when a gold-coloured car drew alongside him. The back seat passenger in the vehicle produced a handgun and made several attempts to shoot the man. Speaking after his ordeal the man revealed that he ran off just as the assailant again attempted to clear his weapon for firing. The car used in the abortive shooting sped off towards the Shankill area.

On Saturday morning, August 17th, a similar set of circumstances was to save the lives of two nationalists working in an estate agents at Cliftonville Circus which borders the Oldpark area.

The two men had just arrived for work when two youths entered their office. One produced a handgun and shouted "this is for you you bastards", he then attempted to fire but fled the scene when the weapon jammed, making off on foot into the Oldpark area.



• Tommy Donaghy's coffin is carried by Councillors Francie Molloy (left) and Brendan Curran, and by West Belfast MP Gerry Adams

Pádraig O Seanacháin

— devoted to the land he loved

PÁDRAIG O SEANACHAÍN'S 33rd birthday on Sunday, August 11th, was spent on the family farm baling hay amid the green sloping fields of Aghnahoo, beside Leitrim Hill and the home which he had refused to leave in spite of long-term intimidation. The next morning, less than a mile from the farm near the village of Killen, he was shot dead by loyalists acting on information from within the British forces.

The RUC were in the vicinity of the shooting at around 8.30am but Pádraig's mother, Mary, was unaware of her son's death until friends arrived at her home just after 10am.

The Shanahan home sits on a farm of dry arable land in a predominantly loyalist area and from there as a boy Pádraig attended Scrabagh primary school and then St Eugene's secondary in Castlederg. Friends from this period recall how on one occasion at the latter school Paddy, as he was commonly known, received a severe beating at the hands of loyalists, a common enough occurrence for local nationalists.

On leaving school he worked at a variety of jobs while always helping with work at home on the farm. At the time of his death he was employed by the Department of the Environment as a driver based in Castlederg.

Harassment and death threats from uniformed loyalists, many of whom know the Shanahan family personally, were a constant feature of Pádraig's life, but in spite of a long

reign of terror and threats, against himself and his family, he refused to be moved and would never apologise for his republican beliefs.

Pádraig was a member of Sinn Féin having joined the party during 1980. He contributed much during elections throughout the 1980s and always participated in the local Easter commemoration at Aghyaran where he took great pride in reciting prayers for the dead in Irish.

In 1989, he survived an attempt on his life at his home and was also among the mourners who came under attack in Milltown Cemetery at the funerals of the Gibraltar Martyrs.

LOVED MUSIC

Paddy was a member of Comhaltas Ceoltóiri Eireann and will be forever remembered for his love of Irish dancing which he practiced and taught at cultural gatherings throughout Ireland. Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann this weekend in Sligo will be the poorer for his absence, as this was always one of the high points of his year.



● PÁDRAIG O SEANACHAÍN

On Wednesday morning, August 14th, Paddy's coffin covered in his own Tricolour was carried from his home to the bottom of the family lane which was lined with hundreds of mourners including republicans from across Ireland. At all times, RUC Land Rovers hemmed in the mourners while hundreds of others in uniform and plain clothes gathered around Aghyaran Cemetery where they took hundreds of photographs of the mourners.

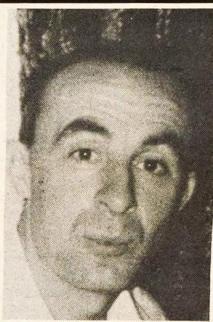
The case of this young republican must not be allowed to be interred with his remains. It is a matter of public record how his adult life was a litany of arrests, assaults, raids, harassment and death threats. Those



● Relatives and friends carry the coffin of Pádraig O Seanacháin

who eventually killed him may not have worn the uniform of the crown at the time but their information came directly from within the crown forces.

Pádraig O Seanacháin, republican, Irishman, political and cultural activist, understood his country's history which has seen many genera-



● TOMMY DONAGH

came one of the driving energies behind every facet of republican work in his local area. He was particularly active on prison issues but his activity ranged across the whole spectrum of political work. He was conscientious in his work and never missed any task.

Shortly after his release Tommy met Joan McCloskey; the couple set up home together and were to become inseparable partners. They only recently celebrated the birth of their son Sean Og.

Recently Tommy acquired employment at Portna Fisheries not far from his home village and the routine involved in going to and coming from work was to leave him open for regular abuse and attention from the crown forces. He had received numerous death threats from this quarter and had on several occasions been informed by the RUC that his detailed security file had been 'leaked' to loyalists.

As Tommy arrived for work on Friday gunmen acting on this crown force information cut him down. The Republican Movement has lost a dedi-

Tommy Donagh

WHEN unofficial state-sponsored killers, acting on information supplied from within the official state forces, cut down 38-year-old Tommy Donagh on Friday, August 16th, they killed a man who had dedicated his entire adult life to the cause of lasting and genuine peace and freedom for his people.

Tommy, born and raised at the family home in the village of Killea, had as normal a life as any other young lad from the village attending the one and only school for nationalists known simply as the Crossroads school, Killea. But as he entered his early teens events in the corrupt statelet into which he had been born began to have their effect.

In his early teens he was to witness the beginnings of the nationalist uprising in the Six Counties and was to be involved with others of his family and neighbours in the early Civil Rights campaign.

On turning 18 Tommy, like many

others of his generation, joined the ranks of Oglach na hÉireann in response to the unleashing of war on his people by the British forces and their loyalist allies. For the next three years he was to serve in the ranks of the IRA with great distinction until in July 1974 he was arrested and brought to Long Kesh where he joined hundreds of other nationalists as an internee. Tommy was among the last of those to be released when interment was suspended in late 1975. Immediately he rejoined the ranks of Oglach na hÉireann and again found himself playing a leading role in fighting the forces of occu-

pation in his native County Derry.

At Easter 1977 Tommy was on an IRA operation. He was with an ASU planning to engage crown forces when they were surrounded by units of the British army at Slaughtneil near Maghera, the spot where not long afterwards his comrade Francis Hughes was to be shot and captured. Tommy was arrested and eventually sentenced to 19 years imprisonment. His arrival in Long Kesh coincided with the escalation in the blanket protest and Tommy immediately joined his struggling comrades and was to spend three and a half years on the protest before the hunger strike ended Britain's attempts at criminalisation.

NEVER MISSED A TASK

On his eventual release in July 1988 Tommy joined the John McGinn Sinn Féin Cumann in Killea and be-

came one of the driving energies behind every facet of republican work in his local area. He was particularly active on prison issues but his activity ranged across the whole spectrum of political work. He was conscientious in his work and never missed any task.

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Communities in mourning

MOURNERS arriving for the wake and funeral of assassinated Sinn Féin activist Tommy Donagh in Killea on Sunday, August 18th, were forced into running a gauntlet of both physical and verbal abuse from scores of RUC and British army personnel who had swamped the area in a blatant display of sectarian bigotry.

Tommy who was shot dead as he arrived for work on Friday, August 16th, was accorded a full republican funeral in accordance with his own wishes and those of his family. At shortly after 10am his Tricolour-draped coffin, preceded by a lone piper and followed by a large crowd of mourners, left the family home, closely hemmed in by crown forces, and made its along a two mile long route

lined with mourners to St Mary's Church for funeral Mass.

Afterwards in the adjoining cemetery following the recitation of prayers, the playing of a final lament and the laying of wreaths on behalf of his family circle, the leadership of the Republican Movement, seven Sinn Féin cumann, its employers and the Basque liberation movement Herri Batasuna, Jim Gibney, of Sinn Féin's

TOMMY & PÁDRAIG LAID TO REST

Six County Executive, who spent many years in prison with Tommy, delivered the graveside oration.

Jim paid tribute to Tommy describing him as someone whose "armour was his beliefs, his bullets were his words, spoken quietly but firmly".

TERrible BURDEN

Turning to his family's loss Jim observed that death, no matter how it comes, is always a terrible burden, but when it comes crashing down as did Tommy's it leaves family and friends numb: "We will not pretend that the republican community has not been hurt by Tommy's death. We won't pretend that his death will not send shock waves through across the nationalist people of this area, of course it will. We won't pretend that his killers have not robbed Sinn Féin of a valuable member, they have, but what we are proud to say here alongside his family is that our community produced a man of the worth and stature of Tommy Donagh and that it continues

to produce men and women with the fine and noble qualities and beliefs that he displayed throughout his life."

Referring to the circumstances of Tommy's murder Jim commented: "Tommy was the 13th member of our party to be murdered by pro-British death squads. He was the second member to be killed in a week."

"There is a clear pattern to these killings and it points firmly to collusion between the crown forces and the loyalists. Why are political leaders, powerful churchmen and the media silent about this? This point needs to be made forcefully and repeatedly because these same politicians, church leaders and large sections of the media are involved in an ongoing campaign of vilification against our party and its members and one of the logical consequences of this campaign is the murder of our people."

O SEANACHAÍN FUNERAL

A crowd of around 1000 mourners turned out on Wednesday, August

14th, for the burial of Sinn Féin activist, Pádraig O Seanacháin who was gunned down by state-sponsored killers near his family home on Monday, August 12th.

Many mourners, among them seven of Sinn Féin's councillors in the Six Counties, and members of the Ard Chomhairle and Comhairle na Sé Chondae, made their way through a strong contingent of crown forces to gather at the Shanahan family farm at Aghnahoo where Pádraig's remains were being prepared for removal to Aghyaran Church and cemetery for funeral Mass and burial. On the request of family members the funeral was conducted as a strictly private affair with Patrick's own tricolour being placed on the coffin for a short period as it made its way down the farm lane.

After a short journey to Aghyaran Cemetery the crowd, under close scrutiny from crown forces who photographed the entire proceedings, participated in a short and private religious ceremony before dispersing homewards.

British soldier killed

A British soldier attached to the Coldstream Guards regiment has become the latest trooper to lose his life in Britain's futile colonial war in the occupied Six Counties.

The soldier, who was part of a massive patrol operating in the countryside between Newtstownhamilton and Cullyhanna, South Armagh on Saturday, August 17th, had just entered a wooded area at Carrickavaddy when IRA Volunteers detonated a massive landmine. He died instantly.

CIVILIAN TRAGICALLY KILLED

IRA military operations in the Belfast Brigade area were overshadowed this week by the tragic death of local man James Woods who was caught up in an IRA grenade attack on British soldiers in West Belfast.

In a statement on the incident the IRA said:

"On Thursday, August 15th, as part of an operation mounted by our Volunteers, a vehicle containing a hoax device was driven into position at Springfield Road RUC Barracks. It was our intention to attack soldiers involved in a clearance operation.

"At approximately 9pm two of our Volunteers spotted two British soldiers crouched in position at the

corner of Gortfin Street/Iris Street. The Volunteers made their way, armed with an improvised grenade, to the side of a grass mound which was between them and the two soldiers. One then inserted a detonator into the grenade and lobbed it in the direction of the soldiers. It appears that at this point James Woods emerged from an alleyway which runs between Oakman and Gortfin Street and was fatally wounded by shrapnel when the device exploded."

"The Belfast Brigade deeply regrets James Woods' death and wishes to apologise most sincerely to his family."

BELFAST OPERATIONS

On Friday, August 16th, at ten minutes after midnight an impact grenade was thrown by IRA Volunteers at a group of RUC personnel who were firing plastic bullets from behind railings at the Gallagher York Gate complex in Belfast's North Queen Street. The grenade exploded on impact with the railings immediately beside the RUC men. Shortly afterwards three ambulances entered the complex.

The next day a series of IRA actions involving hoax bombs across Belfast saw British soldiers and RUC members come under concerted attack. The wave of IRA operations began when hundreds of crown forces personnel began responding to the first of what was to be a total of fifty hoax bomb alerts, many of which centred on British army and RUC bases.

British soldiers and RUC personnel involved in clearance operations came under attack at Henry Taggart Base in New Barnsley where at least one soldier was injured, at Woodbourne Barracks near Suffolk, at Oldpark Barracks in North Belfast, at Fort Whiterock on the edge of the Turf Lodge estate, at the Belfast Law Courts and at North Queen Street where five RUC men were injured in a gun and grenade attack. One explosive device was also thrown at Ballynafeigh Barracks in East Belfast.

Further operations were launched in Belfast on Tuesday, August 20th. In the first of these crown forces escaped injury when an RPG rocket narrowly missed an armoured jeep before exploding harmlessly on waste ground at the Springfield Road. Volunteers engaged in the operation also opened fire on the target patrol but it is not believed that anyone was hit.

Two other attacks came in the south of the city when fire was directed simultaneously at crown force positions at Donegall Pass barracks and at the central law courts. A total of 80 shots were fired.

DIRECT HIT

The Derry Brigade of the IRA have said that Volunteers under their command mounted a series of three attacks against crown forces over the past seven days. The operations came on Wednesday, August 14th, when a single grenade scored a direct hit on a RUC armoured car which was patrolling the Racecourse Road area of Shantallow on Thursday, August 15th, when a single grenade exploded inside the RUC's Strand Road headquarters and on Sunday, August 18th, when a single mortar bomb exploded at the Bishop Street British army base causing significant damage.

ARMAGH MORTAR

RUC personnel had a lucky escape in Armagh city on Friday, August 16th, when the patrol car in which they were travelling came



under attack in the Cathedral Road area of the city.

The armoured car was just passing a spot known locally as Sherry's Field when a single horizontal mortar was launched. The device failed to properly impact on the vehicle and the occupants escaped unscathed.

NEWRY RESIDENTS CHALLENGE ANTI-REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE

ON SATURDAY, August 17th two Newry men, Liam Kearns and David Madigan, whom the IRA have alleged to be part of a criminal gang in the Drumalane housing estate in the town, went to Newry Cathedral and claimed sanctuary.

They did so after a warning on Tuesday, August 13th, that the IRA was no longer prepared to stand back and allow a group of criminals to terrorise and intimidate the local community. Their action in seeking sanctuary also came at the behest of an alliance of anti-republican groups (most of which are sponsored by the British state) headed by the Workers' Party-front FAIT (Families Against Intimidation and Terror) who are cynically seeking to exploit the Newry situation for their own political purposes.

The original IRA action was explained in a detailed statement which named six men, Kearns and Madigan included, who were warned to leave Newry by Saturday, August 17th, or face "direct military action".

Three of the men left three days before the Saturday deadline, one subsequently appeared in a Dublin court where he pleaded guilty to stealing a car and drunk driving. This individual, who had stolen a vehicle on Thursday, August 15th, and careered around Dublin in it, was sentenced to three months which was suspended conditional on him complying with the court's order to leave the jurisdiction within seven days!

Of the three who remained, one, Hugh Brown, issued a public statement disassociating himself from FAIT and the Workers' Party, whom he acknowledged were using him for their own purposes, admitting

presence of these men in the cathedral is an interesting spectacle to the many groups and individuals who, over the years, have vainly sought the support of their church in opposing the abuses of the state."

MEDIA CIRCUS HALTED

Responding to exactly those sentiments, three members of the family of murdered Sinn Féin activist Tommy Casey, who have been subjected to an ongoing campaign of intimidation by the crown forces, went into their local church in

Cookstown and sought sanctuary saying that they were much more in need of church protection than the Newry duo. This action which came on Monday, August 19th, had the effect of bringing the media circus which had been venting its spleen on Sinn Féin to a sudden and embarrassing halt.

For their part the IRA in South Down issued a further statement to the media on Monday saying: "As and from noon on Saturday, August 17th, Volunteers under our command have been instructed to

take specified action against named individuals who have disregarded a directive from Oglach na hÉireann, supported by the vast majority of local people, to leave Newry. Oglach na hÉireann states that our actions will be taken at a time and place of our choosing.

"We further call on all the people of the area who have suffered as a result of these individuals to rally behind the groups and organisations who have declared their intent to cleanse the area of all anti-social elements."



Parents protest at victimisation of children

AS TEENAGERS in the Beechmount and Ballymurphy areas of West Belfast continue to be targeted by the RUC for intimidation, assault and arbitrary arrest, local parents have held a series of pickets and protests to highlight the victimisation of their children.

A picket of Grosvenor Road RUC Barracks, held by over 40 outraged relatives on Monday, August 19th, was followed two days later by a picket of the Henry Taggart British army Barracks, and came in the wake of a sweep of arrests of young people in Ballymurphy and Beechmount last week.

On Saturday, August 10th, three teenagers from Ballymurphy were charged in connection with a bomb attack on a joint British army/RUC patrol and are currently being held in Crumlin Road Jail awaiting trial. The sole 'evidence' against 18-year-olds Michael Beck and Hugh McLaughlin, together with 17-year-old Anthony Garland, rests on incriminating statements made during a series of brutal interrogations over a five to six-day period in Castlereagh Interrogation Centre.

Following a pattern of brutality which has become all too familiar in Castlereagh over the last year, the three teenagers complained of being repeatedly slapped and punched on the back of the head, inducing severe headaches, disorientation and confusion. They also complained of having their testicles squeezed and being threatened with burns from a lighter.

Outraged local parents say that the RUC are waging a campaign of terror against their children, who are continually harassed on the streets, assaulted, arrested, tortured and imprisoned. Since the charging of the three Ballymurphy youths, a further five young people have been arrested and are currently being held in Castlereagh Interrogation Centre, while the threat of ar-

rest and incarceration has forced a number of other young people to leave their homes and go on the run.

BEECHMOUNT

In a similar scenario in Beechmount, five young people were taken from their homes and placed under arrest last weekend and are being held in Castlereagh. For families living in the Beechmount area of West Belfast, last week's arrests were the latest in a series of arrests and assaults of young people in their community which began last May with the arrest of 11 teenagers, including two 15-year-old school children.

Amidst allegations of torture and ill-treatment during interrogation, on the sole basis of so called 'confessions' four young men were subsequently charged in connection with the death of an RUC man and moved to Crumlin Road Jail on remand.

VOICE OF THE INNOCENT

In the wake of the terrorisation and brutalisation of their children by the RUC, parents from both the Beechmount and Ballymurphy estates in West Belfast, have come together to form a group to highlight the plight of their children. The group, calling itself, Voice of the Innocent met for the first time on Monday, August 12th, and immediately organised a series of protests and initiatives to highlight the campaign against RUC intimidation of youth.

Ballymurphy spokesperson, Kevin Nolan said that the group, which includes over 60 parents and



● The picket on Monday last, outside Grosvenor Road RUC Barracks, by relatives of young people from the Ballymurphy and Beechmount areas who have recently been tortured by the RUC

relatives of young people experiencing RUC harassment, chose the name Voice of the Innocent because their children were innocent and the parents were their only voice. He continued:

"British crown forces are harassing and assaulting our children on the streets, arresting them from their homes and terrorising and brutalising them in Castlereagh. Our young people should not have to live in fear of assault, arbitrary arrest, detention, torture and imprisonment."

"Parents in Ballymurphy and Beechmount are determined to put a stop to this campaign of terror unleashed by the RUC on our communities. We have been picketing barracks. We have spoken to our MP, Gerry Adams and we are contacting Bishop Patrick Walsh of Down and Connor. The group also intends to ask Cardinal Daly to visit our community and hear our grievances. We are our children's only voice. We are determined not to be silenced."



● Parents from Beechmount and Ballymurphy have formed a group called Voice of the Innocent to highlight RUC intimidation of youth

Youths ill-treated in Castlereagh

VICTIM DESCRIBES TORTURE ORDEAL

HIGHLIGHTING the plight of young people in Beechmount in May this year AP/RN carried an extensive interview with a 17-year-old college student, Damien Austin, who was one of the eleven teenagers to be arrested, held and beaten in Castlereagh Interrogation Centre, before being released without charge. Now he has been held and tortured again, with a court challenge to the ill-treatment leading to his release.

Over the last three months Damien has been subjected to ongoing harassment from the RUC on the streets near his home and is currently pursuing three cases of assault against the RUC. In last week's sweep of arrests Damien Austin was once again targeted by the RUC and arrested from his home in the early hours of Saturday morning. Forty-eight hours after his arrest, Damien's family were informed by their solicitor, that their son had been severely beaten. This was confirmed by an RUC doctor and later by the boy's own doctor who was allowed access to Damien on Monday night. In the light of this, Damien's family issued a writ of Habeas Corpus to force the RUC into producing their son before a court.

At the court hearing, held in Belfast High Court on Tuesday, August 20th, presiding Judge Nicholson accepted an undertaking by the RUC to suspend further interrogations and adjourned the hearing until the following day. Within hours of the preliminary court hearing Damien Austin was released without charge.

SEVERELY BEATEN

Still visibly shaken a day after his release, Damien Austin told AP/RN how he had been repeatedly beaten and threatened by teams of RUC interrogators who told him that they were going to "stitch him up" and lie telling the court that he had made a verbal admission of guilt during interrogation. Repeatedly punched in the stomach and head, kicked in the groin, held by the throat and choked, threatened with execution, disoriented and afraid, Damien was told by his interrogators that all he needed to do was to say he was "sorry". Damien continues:

"The beatings started during the first interrogation. The chair I was sit-

ting on was pulled from under me and I fell to the ground. I was dragged up, punched, kicked and choked. I was interrogated by eight RUC men working in teams of two. I was beaten by all of them but one. I was interrogated from 8.30am until midnight every day, with only a short break at midday and around teatime. In one interview, a detective shook me by the head and pulled my ears back. He pulled my ears so far back one started to bleed [because of a prior injury, one ear had four stitches]. The RUC man pulled my injured ear so hard two of the stitches came out and the ear bled severely, covering the front of my T-shirt with blood."

Amid severe physical brutality, Damien was also subjected to psychological stress. He was told by his interrogators that they would make him "go mental". Damien was also subjected to death threats. He was told that the RUC would take him to the back of the yard and shoot him, that he would be shot dead before Christmas and his father would be killed alongside him.

AMNESTY ADOPTS CASE

During his four day ordeal in Castlereagh, Damien Austin was seen by four RUC doctors, all of whom confirmed his allegations of ill-treatment. After frequent representations by his solicitor, Damien was also seen by his own GP, who examined his patient accompanied by RUC Doctor Loan. Both doctors confirmed that Damien was being subjected to ill-treatment.

After detailed analysis of Damien's case and in close consultation with the Six-County based Committee for the Administration of Justice, the human rights group Amnesty International informed the Austin family that their organisation would be formally adopting Damien's case for investigation.

New Lodge Mother targeted

A YOUNG MOTHER with two children, Bernadette O'Neill, from the New Lodge Road area of North Belfast, has become the latest target for the RUC in their ongoing attempts to force members of the community into informing on their friends and neighbours.

Bernadette (21), a single parent, was asked to attend North Queen Street RUC barracks on Monday, August 19th, allegedly in connection with a civil action against her. On arrival at North Queen Street barracks, Bernadette was taken to an interrogation room where she was introduced to a Detective Constable Kelso. Kelso quite bluntly told her that he could arrange to have the charges against her quashed if she was prepared to supply the RUC with information on republicans in the New Lodge area. She was told to "take a week or so" to think it over.

On her release, Bernadette, although still shaken by the ordeal, immediately contacted a Sinn Féin representative in the local advice office.

Sinn Féin candidate in the forthcoming North Belfast by-election, Joe Austin, who also met with Bernadette O'Neill, advised her to contact a solicitor and lodge an immediate complaint against the RUC. Commenting on the latest exposure of the RUC's obnoxious informer policy Joe Austin said:

"The RUC prey on people they identify as particularly vulnerable within our communities. Using a combination of threats and bribery, the RUC attempt to entrap people into acting as informers in complete disregard of the stress and danger into which they are placing their victim. Bernadette O'Neill, a young single mother, living alone, refused to be drawn into the RUC's web of intrigue and corruption, instead she immediately made her predicament known by contacting local Sinn Féin representatives and her solicitor. I would advise anyone who is unfortunate enough to find themselves in a similar situation to do the same."

Westminster elections — have you claimed your right to vote?

Were you born in the Six Counties and if so are you registered to vote in Westminster elections?

The deadline for registration — the end of the month of August — is now approaching. If you live in the 26 Counties and have left the Six Counties within the last 20 years you are entitled to vote in elections to the Westminster parliament. Please contact Sinn Féin Head Office IMMEDIATELY for more information.

Sinn Féin
44 Parnell Square
Dublin 1.
Phone 726100/726932

Vicious attack by RUC gang

A GANG of RUC men launched a vicious attack, severely beating three South Armagh men, as they made their way home on Friday evening, August 16th.

Shortly after 11pm a group of RUC men travelling in three cars drove into Camlough, South Armagh. As the bulk of people left for home and the streets began to clear, the RUC launched a calculated and vicious assault on three young men. Twenty-three-year-old Jim Evans spoke of his ordeal to AP/RN.

"I was standing outside the Village Inn when six RUC men attacked me with batons." In the ferocity of the attack Evans said that he fell to the ground. "I was repeatedly kicked and almost lost consciousness. I was very dazed but I remember being dragged into a car and driven to Bessbrook barracks. I was not arrested, I was just dragged into the car and forcibly driven away."

"At the barracks, having recovered consciousness, I realised that my nose and face were bleeding heavily and I asked to see a doctor."

ANOTHER BEATING

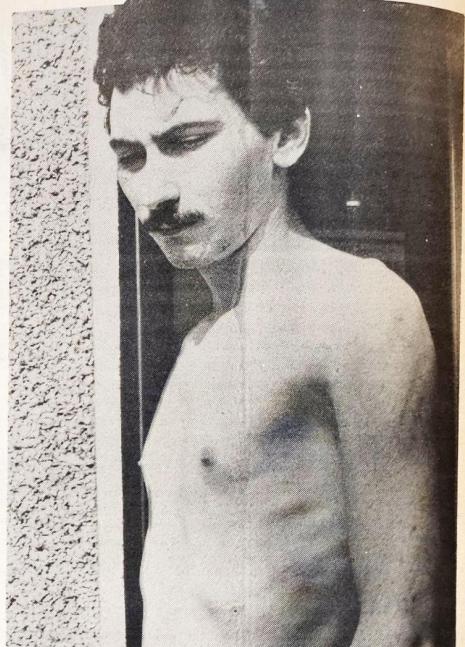
The injured man's request for a doctor was to earn him another beating from his RUC captors, after which Evans was told to "clean himself up if he wanted to be released". After his release Evans

made his way immediately to Daisy Hill hospital.

"I was detained at the hospital for over five hours while doctors examined X-rays of my chest and back and monitored my condition. I required three stitches to a wound in my head."

In similar assaults by the same RUC gang two other men, both in their early 20s, were battered with boots and batons. Peter McParland required immediate hospital treatment and received nine stitches to a head wound, and John Goodfellow suffered severe bruising to his left arm and back.

Despite the fact that none of the three men were at any time during the assault placed under arrest by their RUC attackers, all three were forcibly taken to Bessbrook barracks, from where they were later released. All three men are currently seeking legal advice in relation to their assault and illegal detention. Commenting on the attack, local Sinn Féin Councillor Connor Murphy asked whether "in the wake of such a malicious and calculated attack upon the Camlough community, will Cahal Daly be publicly condemning the RUC perpetrators of this crime".



● Jim Evans — the young Armagh man was one of the victims of the RUC attack on Camlough residents



● A week after the loyalist killing of Pádraig O Seanacháin the people of Castlederg are once again under attack from the crown forces

CROWN CURFEW AND RAIDS IN CASTLEDERG

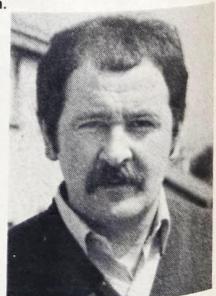
SINN FÉIN Councillor for Castlederg, Charlie McHugh, has slammed the crown forces following the imposition of a virtual curfew of nationalist sections in the town by a massive crown forces raiding party which entered the area less than a week after loyalists killed local Sinn Féin activist Pádraig O Seanacháin.

Hundreds of crown forces personnel carrying digging equipment moved in after first light on Tuesday, August 20th, and began entering nationalist homes in one of the most extensive search operations mounted in the town in recent years. Raiding continued throughout the day and into the night.

As darkness fell the crown forces retreated to barracks only to re-emerge at first light on Wednesday when they began a widespread search operation of gardens, outhouses and sheds. The British operation is still under way as AP/RN goes to print.

Commenting on the invasion of Castlederg, Charlie McHugh said:

"It is galling that the crown forces can be so blatant in their attempts at demoralising our community, attempts which I can state will fail. Only last Wednesday we buried Pádraig O Seanacháin. His killers struck and escaped acting with the full knowledge that they had nothing to fear from their sponsors within the crown forces; now to reinforce that message, we the community are under attack and are being subjected to virtual martial law."



● CHARLIE MCHUGH

MARRIED WOMEN URGED

BY LIAM O COILEAIN

PRESSURE is growing on the Dublin government to put up and pay up, following the European Court of Justice's decision that Irish women were discriminated against because the government failed to implement an EC equality directive on time. It is estimated that 40,000 Irish women are owed some £200 million in social welfare back payments since the European Court of Justice ruled in favour of Ann Cotter and Norah McDermott earlier this year.

The case is centred around the European Community Directive on Equal Treatment of Men and Women in matters of Social Security, agreed by the EC member states in 1978. It stipulated that all member states would abolish sexual discrimination in their social welfare systems within six years.

The crying need for the directive was obvious. At the time married women were discriminated against in social welfare payments in a number of ways. Married women were only entitled to unemployment benefit for 12 months as against 15 for men. Married women in receipt of unemployment benefit, disability benefit, injury benefit, invalidity benefit and unemployment supplement were all paid £5 a week less than their male counterparts. It was harder for married women to qualify for unemployment assistance and any dependant allowance payments for their spouses or certain child allowances.

But the 26-County government only introduced the necessary legislation to comply with the directive in 1985 and it wasn't until the following year that these most obvious aspects of discrimination against married women were finally ended.

REFUSED TO RECOMPENSE

However the government, despite its illegal delay in implementing the EC directive on equality, refused to recompense the estimated 40,000 women who were discriminated against while in receipt of various social welfare payments in the period between December 1984 and when the necessary amending legislation came into effect in 1986.

CLAIM YOUR DUES

The Free Legal Advice Centres (FLAC) helped two women, Ann Cotter and Norah McDermott, take a case against the government, starting a protracted legal battle. In January 1985, the High Court referred the case to the European Court of Justice. In March 1987, this court decided in favour of the women. The case then went back to the Dublin High Court which found that the women were entitled to claim their arrears. The state appealed this decision to the Supreme Court, which, in September 1989, referred the case back to the Court of Justice to settle further questions which had arisen in the case. Although, during the course of the case, the Dublin government conceded that the arrears in social welfare payments were due to the two women, it has stubbornly refused to compensate the thousands of other women affected.

COMPLAINT LODGED

In February 1991 FLAC lodged a complaint with the European Commission (EC), claiming that the 26-County government had

breached the Treaty of Rome by not implementing the directive on time and by not paying up. In March 1991 the EC said that it was starting proceedings against the 26-County government because of its failure to comply with EC law. If the government fails to comply within two months with the steps the EC will recommend later this year, the EC will initiate proceedings against the state in the Court of Justice.

In March the European Court of Justice ruled again in favour of the two women and on June 6th the state finally paid them their money. In July the court further ruled, in a case taken by another Irish woman, that the Irish courts were not entitled to impose any time limits on the claims of married women for arrears. The Dublin government now has no excuse for refusing to pay up, says FLAC, which has worked long and hard to publicise the case, but the non-governmental organisation does not have the resources to pursue more cases.

There are currently an estimated 3,000 women who have already, or are about to go

to court to claim their entitlements, 1,900 of these being initiated through FLAC. Although the administrative headache of processing so many cases is over, Eamonn Carroll, of FLAC's head office in Dublin, told AP/RN that the office receives an average of 40 calls a day from married women looking for advice on how to claim their entitlements. The organisation has been so flooded with such queries that its other areas of work have suffered. He expressed satisfaction that such a high percentage of the women have taken action to claim their dues. Aside from those women who have taken cases, many more women have written to the Department of Social Welfare claiming their arrears.

CAMPAIGN NEEDED

FLAC is hosting a seminar on Wednesday, September 11th from 10am-1pm at 48 Fleet Street, Dublin, where the Irish National Organisation for the Unemployed (INO) is based. With the INOU and the Council for the Status of Women, FLAC will brief women's groups, welfare organisations, trade unions, other voluntary organisations and interested parties on the case and it hopes that a campaign can be launched to put public pressure on the government to cough up what it owes. One major problem facing claimants is that although every one of the government's legal arguments failed, the European Court of Justice has the power only to order payment in individual cases. That is why a campaign is necessary to secure payment for everybody. Eamonn Carroll of FLAC said that the seminar will hear the concern of groups such as the INOU that the money, when eventually paid, may only be given in a robbing Peter to pay Paul manner, ie, taking it from the existing social welfare budget.

The Dublin government has details of all the married women who could have claimed the file and FLAC is urging that those files be gone through and each woman paid what she is owed. Official stinginess seems to be the only obstacle remaining.

FLAC is urging any married woman who feels she is due arrears to contact the Department of Social Welfare directly, in writing, stating her RSI number, the benefit she was claiming between December 1984 and May 1986, and informing them that she is claiming arrears for that period. It advises married women to contact a solicitor or the state's Legal Aid Board for representation in any action against the department.

BOYCOTT THE NORTHERN BANK

A BOYCOTT CAMPAIGN in protest against the sectarian employment record of the Northern Bank was announced this week. Equality, the newly-formed campaign for justice in Six-County employment, has called on bank users to transfer their accounts from the Northern to other banks and to refuse to use the banknotes it prints.

It has also asked customers to cancel their Access or Mastercard credit cards obtained through the Northern and take a credit card from any other company. The campaign intends to target other discriminatory employers similarly in the future.

The Northern Bank has an outrageous record of discrimination. Only 16% of its employees are Catholics. But, among more senior posts, the ratio of bias is even worse. At the Northern Bank, a mere 8% of branch managers and 14% of assistant managers are from the nationalist community. In a state where Catholics number around 40% of the population, it is

not hard to see the deliberate hand of discrimination behind these figures.

Equality is this week distributing some 10,000 leaflets throughout the Six Counties, explaining its boycott programme. It points out that "refusing Northern banknotes symbolises our refusal to accept discrimination and economic inequality". The nature of the campaign will permit everyone in the nationalist community, including the young unemployed who have some economic muscle, and people of goodwill in all sections of the local and international communities, to play active roles.

Meetings are also planned to



• Equality, the newly-formed campaign for justice in Six-County employment, have called for a boycott of the Northern Bank because of its discriminatory employment practices

promote the formation of local and regional boycott committees. It is hoped that the publicity generated by the campaign and a widespread

withdrawal of business will severely damage the Northern Bank's reputation. The executive committee of Equality has expressed its willingness to meet with the bank's management to discuss its abysmal record on Catholic economic equality.

GETTING HIGH ON LIES

SENSATIONAL HEADLINES alleging IRA involvement in drugs and racketeering have recently reappeared in sections of the media. In this article AP/RN looks at the background to this latest propaganda campaign and exposes as lies the stories which even the gardai and RUC have been forced to refute.

BY ART MacEOIN AND MAIRTIN MAC DIARMADA

IT WAS in the 1970s during Roy Mason's term of office as direct-ruler that the British government and its pliant media began depicting the IRA as "gangsters" and the word "godfathers" first came into common usage. Stories concerning IRA "gangsterism" flooded into reporters through the RUC and British army. These included stories that republican funds were being embezzled by IRA personnel, and that the IRA was involved in racketeering and all varieties of crime.

While this gangster hysteria has to some extent been toned down over the years, due mainly to the fact that the wild stories can never be proven, and that even the RUC at times has to publicly dispute them, the theme regularly recurs. Now,

much more refined and subtle, it appears in newspapers and on TV courtesy of media bosses in Britain and Ireland who relish sensationalist anti-republican stories.

In the current phase of the national liberation struggle such psy-

IRA drug myths exposed

chological warfare has played an ever more central role. The war is now being waged in what has become known as the 'age of mass communications' or the 'information era'. Radio and television beam messages directly into our homes and we are inundated with news and information from various sources throughout the day. Through these media the British and their allies can more easily disseminate

false information which by the time it is disproven or denied has already had the desired effect on the population.

PSYOPS

Since the early 1970s selected members of the British civil service and British army working in the Six Counties are trained in the techniques of Psychological Operations or 'Psyops'. The British army's Land Operations manual describes psyops as "the planned use of propaganda or other means, in support of our military action or presence, designed to influence to our advantage the opinions, emotions, attitudes and behaviour of enemy, neutral and friendly groups".

In 1980 former British army press officer Colin Wallace admitted that much of the information he had given journalists in the Six Counties was "black propaganda" and "misinformation" aimed at discrediting various individuals and groups. The feeding of misinformation to the media complements a bias which is already inherent in an industry controlled by the ruling class.

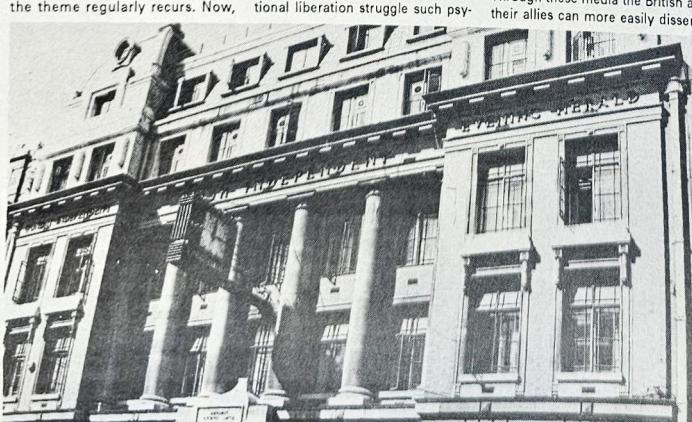
In February of this year reports surfaced that "paramilitaries" in the north were involved with drugs trafficking. BBC Northern Ireland's Security Correspondent Barry Rowan interviewed a senior RUC of-

ficer on the matter. The RUC man alleged that the IPLO and loyalist groups were involved in such activities but when asked by Rowan whether the RUC had any evidence that the IRA was involved, he replied that they had not. Nonetheless the story that "republican paramilitaries" were involved in the drugs trade was carried without qualification by other media, giving the impression that it was the IRA that was in question.

As the war in the Six Counties has dragged on and the County political and legal establishment has been drawn further into the British counter-insurgency network the Irish media has followed suit. Operating in a climate of fear created by repressive legislation including Section 31 it has proved fertile ground for the dissemination of anti-republican black propaganda and misinformation. One feature of this has been attempts to link the IRA in the public's mind with the seedy underworld of the narcotics trade.

FLIGHT OF FANCY

The *Irish Independent* of November 26th, 1988, ran a story headlined — "IRA-Mafia cocaine link leader jailed". The story concerned the jailing of John O'Boyle for attempting to import cocaine into Britain. The case revealed a link between organised crime in Detroit and London but the alleged IRA connection was a piece of nonsense which the Indo used to sensationalise the story for Irish consumption. The article, which was not attributed to any journalist, alleged in a wild flight of fancy that: "As well as smashing the cocaine conspiracy, Scotland Yard also halted plans for the American Mafia and the IRA to



● Independent newspapers from where much of the anti-republican sensationalism and black propaganda emanates

TDs point to IRA as crime kings

Rackets probe demand

Police-cut "incentive" to IRA feared

I.R.A.—Mafia cocaine link leader jailed

d drug deal - where's the POST BAG

The Provo connection

RA drug plot smas

Deal could have netted £20m a week



join forces." However, the only other reference to Ireland or the IRA came in the last two paragraphs:

"If the Mafia-IRA alliance had succeeded, the terrorists would have been taking a cut of the huge profits to fund their arms buying..." and here's the punch line. "But, possibly fearing a trap by security services Provo representatives failed to turn up at a meeting in Glasgow and shortly afterwards the whole plot was blown wide open." In other words there was no such "Provo connection" as the sub-headline claimed.

The recent period of the Brooke Tally and the Dublin government's involvement in an attempt to find an internal settlement in the Six Counties witnessed the latest anti-republican propaganda offensive in the press.

It was evident from the beginning of the talks process that the 26-County media was being used as a conduit through which the Dublin establishment would try and prepare the ground for whatever deal they may have ended up agreeing with the British and unionists. When it became clear that the dumping of Articles Two and Three of the 1937 Constitution would be one of the main unionist demands, these articles became the focus of a one-sided debate in 26-County newspapers which was obviously aimed at preparing the way for a referendum on the issue. The emphasis was that the articles were an anachronism and an obstacle to peace and progress.

The second phase of the southern media campaign came into operation when editors and leaders generated a debate on the possible re-introduction of intern-

"The IRA and loyalist terrorists have put aside their ideological differences to pursue a common objective along with traditional criminals—profit from drugs, art theft and Angel Dust."

Brady provided no foundation for his story other than an unsubstantiated claim that gardai had stopped a car near the border which contained "two leading Provisional IRA activists and a known loyalist paramilitary figure". In the piece he quoted such impartial figures as unionist MP Ken Maginnis who claimed that the IRA was involved in the sale of the illegal cattle growth promoter Clenbuterol, popularly known as Angel Dust, but admitted in the same article that "British anti-terrorist detectives" had never linked the IRA to the drugs trade. He was forced to concede also that "the tough stand taken by IRA activists and Sinn Féin members in cracking down on drugs dealers in the Republic has cast doubt on any involvement by the organisation in the narcotics trade".

On June 14th, Cork's *Evening Echo*, carried a story headlined "Drugs war in Cork". The opening paragraph began—"Ruthless Dublin drug gangs—one of which has Provisional IRA paramilitary links—want to use Cork as a distribution base for drugs smuggled into this country along the south west coastline." It also alleged without proof that "The intense rivalry between dealers has led to a shooting incident in a pub in which one of them brought down a Dublin gang together with IRA 'muscle'." It added that unnamed "anti-terrorist gardai are convinced that republican and loyalist paramilitaries have teamed up with Dublin criminals in drug peddling and other rackets such as the importation and distribution of Angel Dust.

"A percentage of the profits will go to IRA and loyalist coffers."

A number of other articles followed in the press alleging that the IRA was selling and distributing Angel Dust. None of these articles provided any proof or evidence of any description to substantiate the claims but many referred to unnamed "security sources" who were "satisfied" of an IRA link.

The volume of reports making spurious claims about the IRA and Angel Dust reached such a stage that on August 2nd, 1991, Sinn Féin's Martin McGuinness felt it necessary to issue a statement on the affair saying that:

"Republicans condemn without

reservation the use of angel dust". He added that Sinn Féin "strongly disapproves" of its use and the party's attitude to the substance is "the same as our attitude to hard drugs". He went on to say that the drug "presents a health threat to anyone eating contaminated meat and its use by unscrupulous individuals also places at risk a major part of our agricultural industry, both north and south."

ANOTHER OUTBREAK

A month after the spate of spurious IRA/drugs stories in Cork there was another outbreak in Dublin. This again emanated from *Independent Newspapers* in Abbey Street. "Garda drugs squad targets IRA members" said the headline on page two of the *Evening Herald* on July 20th. "Members of the Provisional IRA are heavily involved in drug racketeering, the head of the Garda Drug Squad disclosed today" it began. The article under the by-line of Kathleen Magee quoted Detective Superintendent Tony Hickey, head of the Garda Drug Squad, as saying that "there are some individuals who are involved with the IRA who are also involved in drugs". There was no more mention, let alone evidence, of the "IRA link" in the piece which went on to describe the drug scene in Dublin.

When contacted by AP/RN the Garda Press Office said that Detective Superintendent Hickey had been misquoted. Later Hickey himself contacted AP/RN and said that he had not used the words attributed to him in the *Evening Herald*. He said that what he said was that "maybe on occasions individuals who had been involved with the IRA 'might have been involved' with drugs. Hickey said he had spoken to freelance journalist Kathleen Magee who told him that her story had been altered by the *Herald*. The purpose of the change, including the headline, was obviously to sensationalise the spurious "IRA link". (AP/RN was unable to contact Kathleen Magee to confirm this.)

AP/RN then spoke to the Deputy News Editor of the *Evening Herald*, John McHale. He defended the story and said that the gardai had not been in touch with the *Herald* to correct it. When challenged on the sensational headline he told us that "headlines are up to the sub-editors".

MISINFORMATION

The *Herald's* misinformation was

bad enough; what was worse was that it was taken up two days later by the *Evening Press*. The July 22nd edition featured a report by Jo Corcoran with claims that the IRA was involved in "cross-border smuggling, drug dealing, illegal gaming and Angel Dust" and said that a probe into these activities was to be considered by the new Dáil crime committee.

"TDs point to IRA as crime kings" ran the sub-headline and the piece quoted Máirín Quill of the Progressive Democrats, chairperson of the committee, who referred to "the IRA's increasing involvement in crime down here". She called for the setting up of a special Garda unit to deal with IRA "racketeering" and said the committee should call in expert witnesses to "find out the extent of the problem and make a report". Who these expert witnesses were and what the nature of their evidence would be was not hinted at and most of the article consisted of the fumblings of Fine Gael Justice spokesperson Séan Barrett and his far right Louth colleague Brendan McGahan.

The piece mentioned that the gardai are investigating the "possibility" that a gaming machine racket "may have been funding the Provos". Two sets of accounts for a Dublin leisure centre were found by gardai in a raid and "the owners are said to have links with the Provos in (you've guessed it) Dundalk".

But what, apart from such speculation and innuendo, was the basis of the entire report? It was apparently the statement attributed to Drug Squad chief Tony Hickey, "lifted" by the *Evening Press* from the rival *Evening Herald* two days earlier, and now disclaimed by him. (Hickey told AP/RN that he had not spoken to the *Evening Press*).

ANTI-REPUBLICAN

The Hickey affair was a classic example of anti-republican sensationalism. It highlighted the irony that when Dublin was racked by a heroin epidemic in the early 1980s, the Dublin government and sections of the media attacked the involvement of Sinn Féin members in the Concerned Parents Against Drugs Movement. They attempted then to portray a popular anti-drugs movement as "vigilantes" and a "Provo front". By 1991 their black propaganda has come full circle.

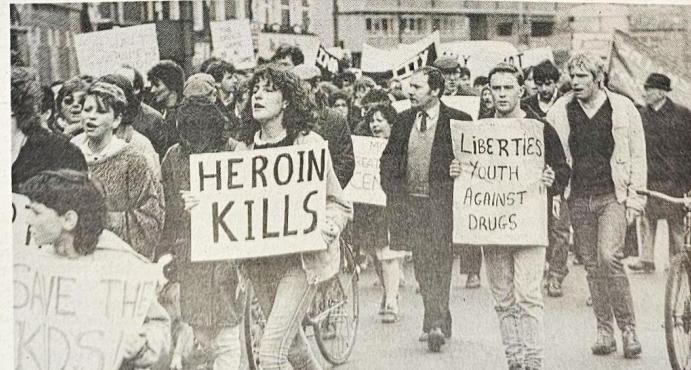
On Tuesday, July 23rd, the IRA strongly refuted the reports that it was involved in drug selling and other criminal activities. In a statement issued in Dublin the IRA said:

"The Irish Republican Army categorically denies recent media reports that it is involved in drug running, allegations that have already been discounted, even by the RUC."

"These reports are periodically recycled by British government sources. We challenge their authors to substantiate the stories and the so-called evidence on which they are based."

"Failure to do so will demonstrate that there is no such evidence."

This IRA denial was not carried by any of the papers, including the *Evening Press* and the *Herald* which had run the sensationalist stories days before. With the media high on lies it was, once again, the readers who were denied their right to information.



● The irony of the latest media propaganda campaign is that the popular anti-drugs movement, Concerned Parents Against Drugs, was itself attacked by the media in the early '80s as a "Provo Front".

Tyrone Garden of Remembrance finally dedicated

A CROWD of several thousand Tyrone people took to the streets of Carrickmore last weekend to participate in the pageant and parade organised by Tyrone National Graves Association to mark the historic dedication of the county Garden of Remembrance.

Plans to build a Garden of Remembrance for County Tyrone first got underway in 1927 with the formation of a committee under the auspices of the County Tyrone Association. By 1931 with work still in progress the RUC, through the then

Emergency Powers Act, forced work to halt and ordered the dismantling of the monument. By the 1950s work had again progressed and a monument adorned the Carrickmore site. In 1954 a loyalist bomb wrecked the site leaving only a mar-

ble figure of a Volunteer intact.

That figure has now been incorporated into the present monument at the completed Garden of Remembrance. The ceremonies on Sunday, August 19th, marked the end of a long and often arduous job commenced by the original committee and seen through the years by Tyrone National Graves.

Sunday's events got underway at 3pm when crowds formed up outside the Patrician Hall to be led

through the village by a local republican colour party. Bands from across County Tyrone, accompanied by a visiting band from Cullyhanna in South Armagh, added colour and life to the procession as it made its way to the Garden of Remembrance. Here ceremonies were chaired by Sinn Féin Councillor Sean Begley.

Begley introduced Patsy McManon of Tyrone NGA — one of the founding members of the association — who was accorded the privilege of unveiling the memorial plaque at the site. The 1916 Proclamation was then read by Paula Kelly whose Volunteer brother, Paddy, was among the eight soldiers of Oglach na Heir-eann who died in the Loughgall massacre.

TREE PLANTED

Following the reading of the Tyrone Roll of Honour Tommy O'Neill, a local republican veteran, planted a tree at the site in honour of all those who had given their lives for the republican cause. Begley then introduced the guest speaker South Armagh Councillor Jim McAllister.

McAllister, thanking those gathered for bestowing the honour of speaking on him, said that the unveiling marked a fitting tribute to all those who down the long years of struggle had sacrificed and struggled to ensure that Ireland would attain her right to nationhood. He paid special tribute to those who



• JIM McALLISTER



• Local veteran Tommy O'Neill has died in the current campaign, describing them as participants in the final phase of the liberation struggle.

After launching a bitter and scathing attack on those engaged in historical revisionism McAllister stated that the beautiful monument in Carrickmore was testimony to the spirit and determination of Northern nationalists who had borne witness to the realities of British rule and who by their actions, had attested to the unquenchable desire for freedom.

Calling for people to rededicate themselves to the unfinished work of this struggle McAllister concluded by handing back to Sean Begley who called on the Martin Hurson Band to close the ceremonies with a rendition of *Amhrán na bhFíann*.



• Thousands marched through Carrickmore's main street on Sunday to mark the dedication of the county Garden of Remembrance

FREE DERRY MARCHES ON

IN DERRY on Sunday last almost 1,000 people took part in a march jointly commemorating the 20th anniversary of the death of IRA Volunteers Eamonn Lafferty — the first member of the IRA in Derry to be shot dead by the British army — and Jim O'Hagan, who was killed accidentally, and the 10th anniversary of the death of Michael Devine, the last republican prisoner to die in the 1981 Long Kesh hunger strike.

As the march, led by members of all three families, made its way to Free Derry Corner, it halted briefly at Kildrum Gardens in Creggan, where Eamonn Lafferty's brother placed a wreath at a memorial marking the spot where Eamonn died.

Further along the route, both marchers and spectators got a chance to hear again the rousing rattling of the customised bin lids so colourfully decorated by the

young people of 20/20 Vision.

The meeting at Free Derry Corner began with local man Damien Nixon singing the commemorative ballad *Forever on My Mind* which pays tribute to the ten hunger strikers.

This was followed by a poem about Michael Devine penned by his friend Finbarr Doherty. The crowd then observed a minute's silence in memory of all people who have given their lives for "the right of Irish people to freedom and self-determi-

BIN LID BANGING

Mitch McLaughlin, Derry Sinn Féin councillor, then delivered the main address, stepping in at short notice to replace Pauline Davey Kennedy who was attending the funeral of Thomas Donagh.

He began by saying that the banging of bin lids during the march was a fitting reminder of the resistance of the hunger strikers and the courage of Eamonn Lafferty and Jim O'Hagan.

"I remember speaking to Eamonn Lafferty the night before he died when he had to sleep in a car in Central Drive because he was guarding Creggan Estate.

"Back in the 1970s there would only have been about 10 families in



• The youth of Derry were prominent in the commemoration for Volunteers Eamonn Lafferty, Jim O'Hagan and Mickey Devine

but we know better than that. We are the people who faced down the interrogation centres, internment, shoot-to-kill and attacks on our funerals and we will continue to do so until we get self-determination and democracy."

Damien Nixon then sang *The Ballad of Joe McDonnell* and the rally dispersed when Derry's Spirit of Freedom Flute Band played the National Anthem.



• DODIE McGUINNESS

RUN URCHOIDE

Le Marcus Mac Ruairí
AG CUR SIOS ar eachtra a tharla i dtéach i rith cuardaigh i nDóire dúirt Dodie McGuinness, Comhairleoir de chuid Shinn Féin sa chathair, go raibh run urchoide ag saighdiúir Sasanach nuair a ghlaic siad grianghraif de gach seomra sa teach. Nuai a cheistigh bean an t-iad cad é a bhi taobh thiar de sin dúirt siad go raibh siad a nglacadh ar eagla don damáiste a dhéanfai i rith an churdaigh.

Cuireadh an bhean agus a triúr páistí i seomra amháin ag túis an churdaigh agus dúradh leo fanacht ansin go dtí go mbeadh sé criochnaithe. Ag an phointe sin thug si faoi deara go raibh ceamara 35mm ag ceann de na saighdiúir agus é ag tosnú ar ghrianghraif a ghach rud.

Scaipeadh ghrianghraif phearsanta agus i treocheann na mná ar an urlár agus glacadh grianghraif diobh fosta.

Ag labhairt i ndiaidh an churdaigh dúirt an bhean go raibh inniúirthi anois go dtífeadh na grianghraif isteach i láthair na ngrupáil páramhileata díseachá.

BAOL

Ag caint ar an eachtra dúirt Dodie McGuinness go bhfuil eolas ag Sinn Féin ar cad a tharla. Dhírigíth sí aire ar an bhaol go gcuirfeáin grianghraif ar bhallaí bheairne ag RUC nó Arm a Breataine. Dúirt sí fosta go dtíseápnáidh sé go bhfuil sé mar aidhm ag na Broitáin ag damáiste a dhéanamh nuair atá teach a cuardach acu.

Cuairt toorthúil ag toscaireacht Bascach

Le Eoghan Mac Cormaic

DE REIR LEIS na Bascaigh a bhi ar an toscaireacht go hEirinn le linn na míosa seo ba choicis an toorthúil a raibh acu. Chuairg siad ar turas sé lá tar éis tréimhse a chaithearm i mBéal Feirste agus thug siad cuitearann ar Ard Mhaca Theas, ar Thír Eoghaín, Dhoire Theas, Cathair Dhoire, agus beagnach an méid sin stopanna arís agus iad ag trasnú na Sé Chontae cúpla uaire.

Ní raibh an scéal go maith na gó hárachas i gcoináil ar doibh. Is éigí ceithre lá bhi siad i láthair ag socraití de bheir bhall de Shinn Féin, ag socráid Phádraig Uí Sheanchaín i dTír Eoghaín agus ag adhlacadh Thomáis Uí Chonchaidh i nDóire. Bhuaill coid den toscaireacht le Tomás dhá lá sular dún-mhároibh é, nuair a bhi siad ag caithseamh oiche i nDóire Theas, agus b'abhar brón doibh nuacht a bháis, díreach mar a b'abhar brón nuacht basána triúr do gomráid fein in ionsaí i San Sebastian ar an maidín Sathairn.

Ach bhi grinn ann sa turas chomh maith, agus iorónach nach beag uaireanta. Ar an lá ar fheastail siad ag ofigí Chomhairle Mhaghaire Fiolla bronadh carbhait ar Andon Gorostaga, comhairleoir Herri Batastuna tar éis dó magadh a dhéanamh gur chomhair-

Féile phríosúin Bhóthar na Croimghlinne

FICHE BLIANA ó shin bhí priosún na Croimghlinne plódaithe leis na sluaite imthreorannaithe — daoine brúidiú greasáilte ag Arm a Breataine. Iarrachta a bhi ann leis an phobal náisiúnach éiríte a smachta.

Théip ar an bheartaiocht smachtaí sin — ní thioicfadh leis an rialtas Sasanach meanma an phoball náisiúnach a chloí. Sa lá atá inniu ann tá leatrom ar imirt sa phríosún céanna go fóill. Ach le déanáil thaispeánáin na cími poblaictacha i mbóthar na Croimghlinne nuair a meanma dochloite nuair a d'earraigh siad fóill bhéag idir 4u-11 Lúnasa.

I láthair na huairé tár a priosún caidéach agus an cónas coiscteach. Coimtear na cími poblaictacha faoi ghlac 22 uair a chloig in aghaidh an lae sna cillí beaga mífholláine atá ar snáth leis na ciaróga, feidhidi aisteacha eile agus corrúch. Binn orainn agóid a dhéanamh fóil le héilimh bheagthábhactacha a bhaint amach agus ni bhuidh cead agáin úsáid a bhaint as an bhéagán aiseanna atá ann. Déantar iarrachta na poblaictaigh agus na díseoirí a chur le chéile in éadan a dtóir.

Tír sháile an chime

polasai a tharrainginn contúirt agus foreigean ar na cími. Agus bionn údarás an phríosún beagtinginneach faltanásach, a ghearradh píonós beag gan fáth ar na cími. Córás atá an chun na cími polaitiúla a chur faoi chois.

Is faoin chórás seo a d'earraigh muid an fhéile. Agus cé go raibh muid ag snáth in aghaidh ruth an leatrom d'éisigh linn. Baineadh usáid mhaith as an nóncha níomáid d'acailocháil taobh amuigh sa chlós le clár forleathan imeachtaí a reachtáil. Bhí comórtas spóirt ar siúl le linn na seachtaí — peil, rith, lúthcheala agus clúichí grinn mar an rás "spúnóig agus oráiste". De Sathairn (10u) i gcomhar leis na cími poblaictacha a fuad an domhain, bhi muid uilig páirteach sa rás urraithe le hairgead a shaothrú do na náisiúnach Gaeilge.

Nuar a bhi na himeachtaí briomhara

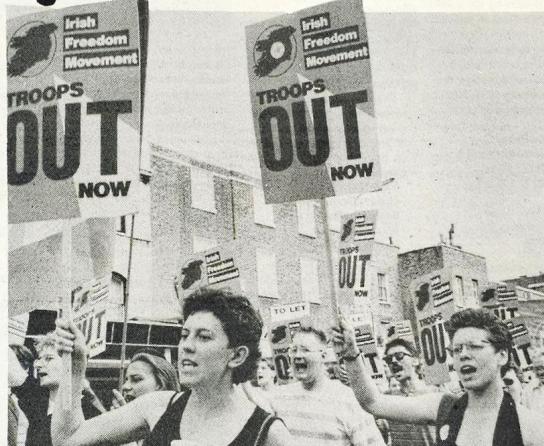
seo thart, eagraidí imeachtaí a thastáil ar n-acmhainneáin intinnéach. Baineadh suíth mhór as tráth na gceist, agus abháir mar chultúr, thireolaíocht, chúrsáil reatha agus stair na hEireann san áireamh. Leanadh den intleachtachas le diospóireacht faoin imthreorannu.

Ach ba i mbhuaic an féile an coimcheol oiche Dheardaoin (8u) leis an imthreorannu a chumhainn. Cé nach raibh córas na fuaimé an-eifeachtagh mar gheall ar dhoirse tromá na gillí ar dúradh na hamhráin amach orthu (an sean-nós poblaictach) b'aoibhinn an oiche i. Is ionamai címe a nochtáil bhuiléil an cheoil, ach bhi roinnt éile nár bhí fheidid iad a chur ina dtost — seo na daoine a bhfuil guth mar ghothrobar an bháis acu.

Ar an drochúair bhi cúpla címe nach dtioicfadh leo bheith páirtacht san fhéile mar círeadh chun na gclára iad (an t-ionad píoníos sa phríosún) Ach tá taithí againn ar an tsuarachas ofiúigí agus theip ar údarás an phríosún an fhéile a scriosadh. D'fhulaing an címe poblaictacháidh cuid mhór píoníos a círeadh an t-imthreorannu i bhfeidhm arís tó 20 bliana ó shin. Ach macasamhail an pobal náisiúnach fadhfhalangach, táimid ag seasmhána fóide go fóill. Tá meon na saoirse dochloite.

— le Camshúil

Ag labhairt amach i Londain



• An agóid in éadan imthreorannu i Londain ar an 10u Lúnasa

GHLAC níos mó ná mile duine páirt i máirseáil i Londain ar an 10u Lúnasa mar chumhneacháin ar imthreorannu agus na stailceanna ocras. I dtuaiseart na cathrach i gceantar Islington a bhí an mórháil ina raibh bannal cheoil o Dhoire agus Ghlascú páirtacht.

Labhair Martha Ellis, deirfiúr le Dóise Ellis leis an slua ag an chruinniú ag deireadh na máirseála agus cuireadh floradh roimpi. Dúirt si go raibh Dóise ag dul ar aghaidh leis an troin in aghaidh chasadh ina choinne agus gurb é an tsíl is fearr chun cabhrú leis ná tacú leis an bhfeachtas frithiseachadha.

Ar son Shinn Féin mhól Micheál MacDonncha, eagarthóir *An Phoblaicht/Republican News*, iad uilig a bhí ag obair sa Breatain ar son aistíarraingh rialtas Westminster ó na Sé Chontae. Dúirt sé, áfach, go raibh a lán daóine mishásta leis an seicheatach agus an t-easaontas a bhí ag baint le cíud de na heagras a bhí ag obair ar cheist na hEireann ar an eite chlé sa Breatain.

Dúirt sé nár chóir d'aoine grúpa seilbh a ghlaicadh ar an streacháil Eireannach. Aontas or son aithantaú na hEireann a bhi uainn, a dúirt sé, agus ba chóir fáilte a chur roimh gach uile duine a bhi a bhffabhar an bunéileamh ar son aistíarraingh an Breataine agus neamhspleáchas mhuintir na hEireann.

Am ba leír go raibh na daóine a chuir an cheist ag taispeáint forisbhúi i bpóist rud a bhí le rá ag na Bascaigh. Lá amháin, áfach, stád buíonn den RÚC grúpa acu i nDóire, agus toisc nach raibh Béarla ag na Bascaigh (i suiomhanna mar sin), bhi ar dhuine a bhi in éineacht leo teangeala a cheannamh.

"Where are you from?" arsa an péas. "Euskadi!" arsa an teangeaire.

"You ask them?" arsa an péas.

"Euskadi!", arsa an teangeaire. "Sin ainm a d'aire."



• An toscaireacht Bascach ag an mórháil i mBéal Feirste Dé Domhnaigh, 11u Lúnasa

Imeachtaí

FREE DESSIE ELLIS PICKET
2-3pm every Saturday
British Embassy
Merion Road
DUBLIN
Organised by the Dublin
Anti-Extradition Cmte

ANTI-EXTRADITION MEETING
meets 6.45pm every Tuesday
Dublin Resource Centre
Crown Street
DUBLIN

PICKET ON US EMBASSY
opposing US policy in Central
America
11.30am-1pm
every Saturday
Ballsbridge
DUBLIN

SUMMER SCHOOL
Third Desmond Greaves Summer
School
23rd to 25th August
Irish Labour History Museum
Beggars Bush Barracks
Haddington Road
DUBLIN
Fee £10 Full School (£3 individual
sessions, unwaged half price)
Bookings Ph 973154/305792

PICKET FOR PAMELA KANE
2pm Saturday 24th August
Outside Limerick Jail
LIMERICK
Dublin Bus leaves
Kilbrack Station 9.45am
Northside Shopping Centre 10am
Parnell Square 10.15am
Nutgrove Shopping Centre
10.30am
Táille £5

FUNCTION
Belated welcome home
for Gerald Rooney
Music by Terry O'Neill
and other guest artists
Saturday 31st August
DUNDALK
County Louth
Táille: £2.50

VIDEO SHOWINGS
The H-Block Hunger Strike'
EAST LONDON
Monday, 2nd September
Four Corners
113 Roman Rd, E2
Tube: Bethnal Green
SOUTH LONDON
Tuesday, 3rd September
G7 Balfour Street, SE1
Tube: Elephant & Castle
WEST LONDON
Wednesday, 4th September
Aras na Gael
Salisbury Rd NW2
Tube: Queens Park
NORTH LONDON
Thursday 5th September
Red Rose Club
Seven Sisters Road
Tube: Finsbury Park
All showings start at 8pm
Discussion, Bookstall and
Refreshments
Admission £1.00/50p concessions
Organised by the Troops Out
Movement
(continued on page 13)

Fun-run thanks

A Chairde,

With over 400 republican POWs throughout Ireland, Europe and North America, having on August 10th successfully completed their annual sponsored fun run in aid of Irish language medium education, I would now like to thank all those relatives, friends and language activists who took the time and effort to gather sponsors, thus ensuring the success of this venture by the prisoners. The money raised will hopefully make a significant contribution to lessening the financial difficulties experienced by those involved in Irish medium education.

However, to secure the fun run's successful conclusion, it is important that at this stage the sponsorship money is collected as soon as possible and forwarded to either:

Bairbre de Brún,
147 Andersonstown Rd,
Belfast BT11 9BW.
Phone: 0232 301719.
or
Marcás Mac Ruairí,
648 Racecourse Rd,
Shantallow,
Derry.
Phone: 0504 359747.
Martin Molloy,
Culture spokesperson,
Long Kesh.

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Movement
(continued on page 13)

A Chairde,

We the Republican POWs of North Belfast ask the people of the Oldpark Ward, to vote Sinn Féin on August 28th.

Vote Joe Austin

A Chairde,

The people of our areas know all too well the bigotry imposed by the unionist-controlled City Hall, by voting Joe Austin we can help break this sectarian regime.

The SDLP/Alliance/Workers' Party do not serve the interests of the nationalist community. They have shown this by their willingness to support the British government, a government which has constantly harassed, degraded and, in many cases, murdered members of our community.

Sinn Féin is the only party which addresses these issues. They work the situations that affect our people on a day-to-day basis, even though hindered by state-imposed censorship. This year commemorates three major anniversaries in the Republican calendar.

Therefore, as a symbol of resistance and opposition to British occupation in Ireland, vote Joe Austin on the 28th to help smash part of this British régime.

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Paul McLarnon,
Paddy Flood,
Sean Montgomery,
Martin Meehan (Jnr),
H-Block 4, Long Kesh.

Magnificent demonstration

A Chairde,

The magnificent commemoration demonstration which took place in Dunville Park, Belfast, on Sunday, August 11th, was irrefutable proof to the English that their barbarous treatment of the ten who died on hunger strike in 1981 instead of suppressing republicans added greatly to their support. Yet, even after 800 years of robbery, torture and massacre they have not the gumption to admit that their attempts to crush the Irish have been a total failure and their reprehensible atrocities serve only to strengthen Irish resolution to pursue the old struggle until freedom is won again as it was in 1922 before the betrayal.

What was most satisfying

and encouraging about the great demonstration on Sunday was to see the vast number of young, and very young, boys and girls so deeply moved and inspired by the memory of the heroic martyrdom endured by the patriots who died on behalf of us all in a truly altruistic spirit. It is up to us to prove that we are worthy of their sacrifice, sublime as it was.

Padraig A Mac Sandair,
Dún Laoghaire,
County Dublin.

Garbage disposal

A Chairde,

I was very moved by the spirit of Danny Gill's letter (*Ap Phoblacht*, 1/8/91). Sadly, the situation in the Six Counties has changed very little since the British Labour government sent in the troops some 22 years ago. The colours of British army uniforms still decorate the streets of Belfast and Derry, while the landscape remains criss-crossed with steel fencing, barbed wire, borders and barriers.

When I think about these marks of colonialism I am reminded of the words of Gramsci's "the old is dying and the new cannot be born". (Antonio Gramsci, *Selections from Prison Notebooks*, p276, 1971). In the Six Counties the remnants of the old imperial order are being propped up by the forces of the Crown and instead of the "new" being born there's a fossilisation of the inequality and barbarity of the old. Think of an empty shell you may find on the seashore, one that is beginning to crack at the sides, in time it will crumble and completely disintegrate. One day the empty structure of the old imperial order in Ireland will crumble, in the same way. Currently, however, it's proving extremely resistant.

Tragically the Six Counties is where the fossilised contradictions of the old order — Protestant privilege, discrimination, sectarianism, etc, are being preserved. The Catholic hierar-

chy plays its part here, as do the British army and other crown forces. In this fossilised state where the old can't die and the new can't be born all sorts of morbid symptoms appear: fear, hatred, the ghastly rituals of killing and so on. Historically, it has been the fate of Irish peoples to be caught up in this in-between state. Ireland has always been the arena where the unresolved tensions — the garbage — of British colonialism have been disposed. As a divided country Ireland continues to perform this dubious role. How can such a fragmented and divided country establish relations of equality with Britain and other European countries? Are we to be convinced by the arguments that the dismantling of partition is no longer required? Why is it so difficult for unionists to imagine themselves as members of a 32-County state — a country they could be proud of?

Clearly Britain has got to out of Ireland. The struggle for the "new" — a new culture that will help to unite Ireland and provide space for individuals to define themselves in terms other than sectarian ones — will involve the dismantling of the grotesque British military apparatus and the removal of British jurisdiction from the Six Counties. I fear the birth pangs may be painful — because what is at stake is Britain's historic identity as an imperial nation-state. But perhaps one day all the peoples of Ireland will walk together and talk together and exchange ideas in a country that is no longer being used as Britain's imperial pit-latrine.

Kathleen McMullen,
Brixton.

Fógra: Could Danny Gill, London, please forward his full address to the Editor as correspondence has been received for his attention.

More coverage for 26 Counties

A Chairde,

The importance of *AP/RN* especially in the 26 Counties cannot be overstated. Each week it cuts through the lies and censorship of the British and Irish establishments. The paper is well laid out and the articles very readable. I have one criticism of the contents.

Recently I have noticed that the coverage given to the problems facing the people of the 26 Counties has been almost non-existent.

For example in the 18/7/91 edition one page out of 16 was devoted to these problems, the 27/7/91 edition less than half a page, the 1/8/91 edition one quarter of a page!

While I recognise that the staff at *AP/RN* have a lot of stories/issues to fit into 16 pages each week, by only giving one and three quarter pages out of a total of 48 (three editions) is in my opinion limiting the potential of the paper, movement, and struggle as a whole.

The paper should be made more relevant to the 26 Counties, giving more coverage to such issues as low pay, unemployment, the rip-off in car insurance, the crisis in farming, the sectarian attitude of the Catholic Church, the scandal of Smurfs' Kildare County Club, which will cost you £125,000 for life membership while a large section of the population live in poverty. The list is endless.

Sinn Féin members are already involved in these issues and as a party we have policies on all of them. The problem is that we don't have enough publicity geared towards highlighting the issues and Sinn Féin's position on them.

We cannot expect the people of the 26 Counties to question what is happening in the Six Counties if they have not started to question what is happening to themselves, and we cannot have a 32-County socialist Republic without the 26 Counties!

Brian Stanley,
Portlaoise.

Conversion

A Chairde,
My 'Brit' girlfriend of the last 12 months is now a firm sympathiser of the Republican Movement. This is not primarily because of the months of listening to my 'lectures' or reading extracts from *AP/RN*.

The conversion came thanks to the British press. We went to London for the march commemorating the 10th anniversary of the hunger strikers and 20th of interment on August 11th. She was amazed at the numbers of people present and the orderly conduct and very impressed with Dessie Ellis's sister's speech.

However, she simply refused to believe such a turn out would not be reported in the national press — all the traits of my labours came home. No reports, so finally the penny dropped. Censorship is a fact.

Thank you Fleet Street.
Kevin Mullen,
North Shields,
Tyne and Wear,
England.



Hands Off Our Daniel!

A Chairde,

I read with horror the terrible attack on Daniel O'Donnell in last week's *Flying Column* (15/8/91). Just when the British Country Music Association was implementing its anti-Daniel, anti-Irish decision you took their side and kicked this leading Irish artist when he was down. How low can you sink?

I have been a fan of Daniel's for years. I well remember when I first heard him playing at a local hotel. It was right at the start of his career and I have been a fan ever since. In fact Daniel's poster hangs beside the 1916 Proclamation in my bedroom! I cannot understand what provoked your attack on this innocent man making a living from entertaining people. Is it the old Irish "beggarney" raising its ugly head and dragging down successful people again?

Please *AP/RN*, Hands Off Daniel!

Angry Daniel O'Donnell,
fan,
County Westmeath.



The most encouraging thing about the march and rally in Dunville Park on Sunday, August 11th, was the participation of so many young boys and girls inspired by the heroism of the hunger strikers



Banned drama blows cover on Stalker affair

FOLLOWING the legal ban on the showing of *Shoot to Kill* on RTE television Sinn Féin obtained a copy of the four-hour programme, and showed it to journalists in Dublin on Friday, August 16th. Here AP/RN reviews the programme.

ON AUGUST 16th, RTE was scheduled to broadcast the first of a new two-part drama documentary, *Shoot To Kill*, which dealt with the still unresolved Stalker 'affair'. Part two was to be screened the following night.

The RTE programmers were sure they had a winner on their hands. Firstly, they allocated it two prime-time slots, of the sort usually reserved for the real 'giants' of the small screen like Gay Byrne. Secondly, they also indulged in some rather heavy pre-screening publicity, again of the sort usually reserved for the small screen royals.

The programme never went out. Just when you, I, the programme-makers and quite a few other people thought it might be safe to venture into the murky waters of the Stalker affair again, up pops a familiar old obstacle — in the roundt of one John Hermon.

Concerned apparently, at the manner of his portrayal in the programme, Hermon sought and got an injunction which, for the present at least, prevents RTE from broadcasting *Shoot To Kill*. Now there have been quite a number of attempts to unravel (publicly) the truth behind this sorry episode, not least amongst them contributions from the BBC and RTE. And of course, there has been Mr Stalker's own rather excellent book. In all of these the heavenly aura surrounding Hermon — built by an effective RUC Press Office and a slavish, lazy press — has been dimmed somewhat.

So why such anxiety over one single programme, especially one which arrives on the scene when the whole affair is, apparently, no longer of any consequence?

OFF THE RAILS

Shoot To Kill was made by Yorkshire TV, under the direction of one Peter Kosminsky. One George Thorburn acted as a consultant. And it was this fact which probably caused our friend John to go off the rails.

For the two years during which Stalker was at the head of the inquiry, Thorburn acted as his number two. Following Stalker's frame-up and removal, Thorburn continued to work on under Colin Sampson. Shortly after returning to normal duty he left the police force.

What is important about his account is this: four days a week, for two years, Thorburn was in the Six Counties managing, monitoring and supervising proceedings — whilst Stalker flew in at regular inter-

vals to check the lack of progress.

Thus, Thorburn's account is, at the very least, as important as that already delivered by Stalker. And in certain respects, given his everyday presence, it is even more damning.

Also, Thorburn saw and pronounced himself satisfied with the finished programme.

LEGITIMACY

Consequently *Shoot To Kill* has a legitimacy which hitherto has been possessed only by Stalker's own written account of the affair. And it certainly shows. This is a powerful, tight, well-written and uncompromising piece of television. It certainly surpasses any Irish-related piece of TV to have been screened in recent years. *Shoot*



• TP McKenna who plays the part of the worried and obstructive John Hermon

To Kill tackles and confronts issues which others either skirted around or shied away from altogether.

Part one deals with the events leading up to and immediately following the three separate shooting incidents: the killings of Sean Burns, Eugene Toman and Gervaise McKerr, then the killing of Michael Tighe and the wounding of Martin McCauley and, finally, the killings of Seamus Grew

and Roddy Carroll.

No punches are pulled. The killings are dramatically reconstructed in the manner in which anyone either involved in, or with any knowledge of the case, is certain to occur.

No checkpoints and no cars crashing through them. Rather, heavily-armed RUC units simply shoot on sight. In the shooting of Michael Tighe (the haystacked) armed RUC officers are seen discussing whether they should 'finish off' the injured Martin McCauley now or later, a claim made by McCauley to his doctor and obviously given much credence by the investigating team.

In the reconstruction of the Grew/Carroll killings we are shown two RUC Special Branch officers being stopped by a Garda at a border checkpoint, as they follow their targets' car into the South. The impatient RUC officers wait as their car is checked. Out rushes one very embarrassed Garda who, having discovered their identity, hurriedly apologises to the pair before waving them on.

The whole programme is full of such touches. In short, the makers of *Shoot To Kill* clearly decided that, unlike previous dramas, their's would not be constrained by diplomatic and political niceties from confronting certain issues — such as Garda, ahem, 'co-operation'... And it is from that courageous decision to paint as true a picture as possible that *Shoot To Kill* derives much of its power and resonance.

Part two deals with the arrival of Stalker and his team in the Six Counties and the manner in which, from day one, their efforts were hampered and obstructed by all and sundry: RUC Special Branch, Hermon and the officers involved in the killings.

What exactly Stalker, Thorburn and the team have got themselves into is clearly (and somewhat comically) shown very early on. As Stalker gives his team an opening

bribe, an RUC Constable arrives and declares that "we've got those files you were waiting for".

"Good," replies Thorburn, "just bring 'em in and stack 'em over here for the moment."

"I have them here" says the RUC man, whereupon he produces three flimsy folders, each containing no more than a few sheets of paper. The astonished look on Thorburn's face says it all. The files in question were those relating to the internal RUC investigations into the three separate shooting incidents — three of them most controversial events in the recent history of the Six Counties.

M15 AND KINNEO

Shoot To Kill also goes much, much further than other accounts in one very crucial respect. Just prior to the six shootings (all in the space of a month) three RUC men had been killed in an explosion at Kinneo. The explosives used came from a haystack which both RUC Special Branch and M15 had under surveillance. That much we knew. And what has always been suggested is that the six killings were essentially revenge shootings on the part of the RUC.

However, the theory advanced by *Shoot To Kill* is that RUC Special Branch and M15 allowed the explosives to be moved and used in order to protect an informer, by deflecting attention away from him.

As Thorburn says to Stalker at one point: "Maybe three country coppers is a small price to pay to keep your top source sweet!"

In fact, it is this theory which *Shoot To Kill* advances as the most likely explanation for the real basis of the Stalker affair. And remember, they are not working on supposition, rather the evidence of a man who was privy to a lot more knowledge than most.

Equally important — especially as far as The Great British Public are concerned — is the fact that *Shoot To Kill* portrays this affair not as the devious doings of a bunch of madcap, bloodthirsty Paddies (thus confining it within the Six Counties), but shows explicitly from the outset that the more one dug into the case, the clearer the hand of M15 became in the whole affair, the DPP and the direct rule apparatus come up smelling of something far less pleasant than roses. So much for Ulsterisation.

The fact that the makers stuck closely to Thorburn's story — concentrating on the inquiry — resulted in one refreshing result. There is no vilification of the 'terrorists' as the 'real evil'. Such moralising — a vital ingredient in most other dramas — is left for others. *Shoot To Kill* is a straight, factual account. There is no hidden agenda.

No wonder John Hermon is worried. *Shoot To Kill* threatens to raise, once again, issues which he and others were sure they had successfully buried. Also consider the far greater impact which TV, as opposed to the printed word, has.

It needs to be shown as widely as possible. John Hermon's obstruction must not be allowed stand. There are fundamental issues at stake here.

Imeachtaí

(continued from page 12)

BIRTHDAY FUNCTION

The Irish Brigade
10 years on the road
Guest artists
Saturday 7th September
Wexford Inn
Wexford Street
DUBLIN

DEBATE

Why is there a war in Ireland?
Guest speaker: Aly Renwick,
ex-British soldier
7.30pm
Wednesday 11th September
Conway Hall,
Red Lion Square
LONDON WC1
Admission £1.00 waged,
50p unwaged
Organised by
Troops Out Movement

DRAW RESULTS

PDF Transportation Draw

1st prize £100: E Halligan, Armagh; 2nd prize Portlaoise Mirror; T McGinley, Armagh; 3rd prize Gents Wallet; (McCornail), Newry; 4th prize Lady's Purse: May Brogan, Drogheada; 5th prize Gents Belt: N. Loughran, Keady.

JOIN SINN FÉIN

SINN FÉIN is dedicated to forcing a British withdrawal from the occupied Six Counties, the re-unification of our country and the establishment of a democratic socialist republic.

If you would like to join Sinn Féin fill in the form below and send it to Sinn Féin, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Age: _____ Tel: _____

Sinn Féin's demands

Sinn Féin's ultimate objective is to create the political conditions necessary to secure a true and lasting peace in Ireland. This can only be achieved by:

- The ending of partition arising from British rule in six of Ireland's 32 counties;
- British disengagement from Ireland and the restoration to the Irish people of the right to exercise self-sovereignty, independence and national self-determination;
- The setting of a definite date within the lifetime of a British government for the completion of this withdrawal;
- The disarming and disbandment of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and the Ulster Defence Regiment as part of the military withdrawal;
- The calling of a Constitutional Conference to which all political parties would be invited. This conference to be responsible for determining the nature and composition of an emergent national police service and the judiciary. If Britain was sincere about disengaging and was committed to an orderly transference of power, this could be achieved with a minimum of disorder;
- The unconditional release of all political prisoners.



• Actor Jack Shepherd plays English police investigator John Stalker in the four-hour film



Old guard coup crumbles

IN THE most breath-taking series of events in the Russian capital since October 1917, the three-day Soviet coup crumbled on Wednesday after determined resistance from the people of Moscow and Leningrad. The resistance was centred on Boris Yeltsin, the highest elected official in the Soviet Union (USSR). The attempt to depose Mikhail Gorbachev failed, leaving Yeltsin in a position of greater power.

Tanks moved into the centre of Moscow early on Monday morning and an eight-person "emergency committee" announced it had taken power. Mikhail Gorbachev, president of the Soviet Union, was captured by military units acting under its orders. Boris Yeltsin, the hugely popular Russian president, was not arrested and 48 hours after the coup splits began to emerge among the new rulers.

The "emergency committee", under Gorbachev's former vice-president Gennady Yanayev, comprised key figures in the Soviet military-industrial complex which is profoundly worried by the Gorbachev reforms. It seems to have expected a passive reaction by civilians and the support of both the entire army and the KGB, the secret service. But it was disappointed.

Its initial proclamation had a very familiar ring to it. Old friends like "political adventurers" made their appearance. Unnamed "extremist forces" were intent on "ruining the state and seizing power at any cost". As usual in such events, a "mortal danger" loomed over "our great motherland", while the answer was to "restore law and order straight away". The state had become "ungovernable".

VIOROUS TONE

Gennady Yanayev's own statement adopted a more vigorous tone. The "most important objec-

tive" was to provide security and, in doing so, the ruling committee intended to "liquidate anti-constitutional, ungovernable and essentially criminal military formations". It was a clear warning to the Baltic states where the Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian governments have been setting up their own defence forces.

The new leader indulged in a fancy when he refused to say that Gorbachev had been deposed. The former Soviet president

was "undergoing treatment" for "high blood pressure". As the day wore on, the plotters were said to have demanded a resignation letter from Gorbachev, which was refused. He was held under house arrest in the Crimea after refusing to climb down.

Yanayev showed that he wanted no argument with foreign powers. He promised to abide by all previous international treaties. Disarmament and the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact were unlikely to have been affected by the coup. The state-of-emergency committee's gaze was turned inwards, on domestic matters.

Central among these is keeping the Soviet Union together as one state. Over the last two years, the Baltic republics, Georgia, Moldavia and a number of others have

sought to leave the Soviet Union. The current political shape of the USSR is largely a result of the carve-up of the world by the three allied powers after the Second World War, and is against the wishes of many of its constituent nations.

Mikhail Gorbachev tried hard to preserve some sort of union among the states and, after considerable negotiation, he forged an agreement with nine of the republics, including Russia where Yeltsin is president, to form a fairly loose federation. The "nine-plus-one" agreement involved a change of name from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the Union of Soviet Sovereign Republics and transferred substantial power from Moscow to elected parliaments in the republics. This was a direct assault on the power of the bureaucratic, old guard in Moscow and it is no coincidence that the coup was launched on the very day before some of the republics were due to sign the agreement.

The state-of-emergency committee included Valentin Pavlov, Gorbachev's prime minister, interior minister Boris Pugo, defence minister Dmitri Yazov, KGB chief Vladimir Kryuchkov and two more junior officials. They seemed to have little respect for either the intelligence of the public or the promises they made to Mikhail Gorbachev.

Among the key figures of the coup, KGB boss, Kryuchkov, is a former state prosecutor and helped to put down the Hungarian uprising. Yazov was partly responsible for the failed military policy in Afghanistan. But Pugo seems the most willing to use force against protesters. He is from Latvia but, despite any emotional ties he might have with his birthplace, he ordered his troops to fire on Latvians, killing four people in February.

UNDERSTOOD WEAKNESS

They clearly understood the weakness of Mikhail Gorbachev. The president's initial popularity has evaporated over the years as he chopped and changed over reforms. Economic chaos is likely to bring starvation by the winter. Unemployment has grown frighteningly and prices have risen. Yanayev's government promised to provide food, cut prices and raise wages. These promises, designed to win over the population, were almost certainly empty. In any case, they were not believed.

Boris Yeltsin's response was to

give the most public challenge to the coup he could make. He climbed onto a tank which had arrived outside the Russian Parliament, to deliver a ringing condemnation of the new government and to demand the freeing of Mikhail Gorbachev. He later branded the plotters as criminals. Between 50,000 and 100,000 people gathered in Leningrad to support Yeltsin.

On Tuesday night came news that Valentin Pavlov had fallen victim to the "illness" which afflicted Gorbachev and this was accompanied by an unconfirmed rumour that defence minister Yazov had also been forced to resign. Thousands of demonstrators surrounded the Russian Parliament and barricades were erected. When a small group of armoured personnel carriers and tanks tried to test the mettle of the protesters, they were driven back with petrol bombs and missiles.

The determined popular response showed to the conscript, mostly Russian, troops of the Soviet army that Muscovites were willing to die for liberty. Suddenly, the remaining plotters found that the Soviet Union has changed utterly over the last few years and that their orders were just not being obeyed. Even Communist Party leaders of some of the republics began to condemn the overthrow.

SUPPORT LOST

Faced with the danger of a prolonged civil war, the plotters began to lose their remaining support within the army. Their last throw seems to have been an eleventh-hour attempt to renegotiate some sort of arrangement with Gorbachev. Kryuchkov rang Yeltsin to invite him to a meeting in the Crimea with Gorbachev and the remaining coup leaders. The KGB boss and his hapless colleagues then fled hot-foot to the southern resort.

Effectively, they were abandoning their positions. Defence minister Yazov ordered the army units to withdraw from Moscow and the crisis receded. Yeltsin ordered the arrest of the plotters.

Yanayev's coup was doomed from the start. His ham-fisted excuses for it show he does not really understand the changes which have happened in his country. It is impossible to turn back the clock to the days of absolute state control, the people have shown that they won't accept that.

OBITUARY

FRANK MAGUIRE

THE DEATH occurred on Monday, August 12th, after a long illness, of former Sinn Féin Councillor Frank Maguire of Clones, County Monaghan. A sincere republican, Frank is mourned by all his family, friends and comrades who turned out to pay their last respects at his funeral three days later.

Frank Maguire was born in Clones 65 years ago and lived for most of that time in O'Neill Park in the town. He was a republican all

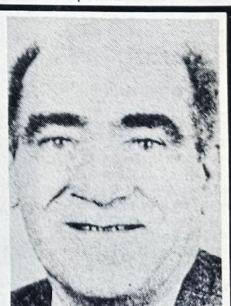
his life and a Sinn Féin councillor on Clones Urban District Council from 1974 to 1979. At his funeral in Clones Cemetery on Thursday,

August 15th, the graveside oration was given by Pat Treanor of Clones Sinn Féin. Referring to Frank's wide range of activities during his full life Pat said:

"Frank was a singer and a song-writer, a story-teller and a story-writer, a musician and an historian, and in his earlier days Frank had been a footballer and a fireman. His greatest love was Irish music and nothing delighted him more than to see young people, especially his grandchildren, playing Irish traditional music."

"During his long illness his courage was exceptional. Rarely did he complain, although we know there were painful times during the last six years."

Pat Treanor said that as a republican Frank put his point of view in all company he mixed in. Unfortunately his dream of a united Ireland with justice and peace was not achieved in his time but



he made it clear that he fully supported those who continued to strive for that goal.

The Republican Movement in the Clones area expresses deepest sympathy to Frank's wife Kathleen, his daughters, sons, brother and sisters and all his family. I measa laochra na hEireann go raibh sé.

REMEMBERING THE PAST

AN PHOBLAHT/REPUBLICAN NEWS, Thursday, August 22nd, 1991 — Leathach 15



• The Battle of Vinegar Hill 1798 (inset) Michael Dwyer

MICHAEL DWYER

BY PETER O'ROURKE

MICHAEL DWYER, one of the most daring and fearless guerrilla leaders of 1798, was born in the Glen of Imaal, near Baltinglass, County Wicklow, in 1770.

Under Dwyer, the County Wicklow insurgents held out for five years, the longest of any county in Ireland, against the British army following the 1798 Rising, maintaining the spirit of independence right into Robert Emmet's day.

During the Rising of 1798, the Wicklow United Irishmen, led by

Dwyer, Joseph Halt, Hugh Byrne, Martin Bourke and Samuel McLalister, fought side by side with the Wexford United Irishmen at numerous battles, including Tubberneering, Gorey, Arklow and Vinegar Hill.

Following the defeat of the United Irishmen at the battle of Vinegar Hill in June 1798, Dwyer who had succeeded Halt as leader in November, withdrew with his men to the Dublin and Wicklow mountains, from where they carried on the bitter fight against the British forces for nearly six years.

FITTING TRIBUTE

A military road was cut through

the heart of the mountains, from Glencree to Leitrim in Imaal, with barracks every four miles along the route. These barracks, and the Military Road which runs for over 20 miles into Glenmaluce, are fitting monuments to the bravery and efficiency of Dwyer and his Wicklow men.

Dwyer agreed to join Robert Emmet in the ill-fated Rising of 1803, but never received the signal to rise. He and his men arrived from their hide-out in the Wicklow mountains too late to be of assistance.

He fought on until December 1803; by which time nearly all his comrades had been killed, taken prisoner or transported. Nothing was left but to surrender; and he gave himself up on condition that he should be allowed to emigrate with his wife and his family to America.

The agreement was ruthlessly broken by the English and Dwyer was transported to Botany Bay — one of the worst convict settlements of Australia and Van Dieman's Land.

Michael Dwyer died in Liverpool, New South Wales, on August 23rd, 1826, 165 years ago this week.



NOTICES DEADLINE

All notices should be in our Dublin or Belfast offices no later than 5pm Monday for inclusion in that week's paper

Comhbhrón

CLEARY. Deepest sympathy is extended to our comrade Brendan Cleary and family on the death of his brother Michael. From the republican POWs, Portlaoise.

CREAGH. Deepest sympathy is extended to John Creagh and all of the Creagh family on the death of their father. From Hughie, Mary and family.

CREAGH. Deepest sympathy is extended to John and family on the death of their father. From Seán, Trish and family.

CREAGH. Deepest sympathy to Dave, Seán and family on the death of their father. From Liam Murphy.

DONAGHY. In memory of Thomas Joseph 'Tommy', who died as a result of bombing, August 16th. Dearly loved son of John and the late Mary Donaghy. Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for him. Tommy will be forgotten in death. Always remembered by his father, sister Ann and entire family circle.

DONAGHY. Murdered by the enemies of Ireland. Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for him. Always loved and remembered by his brother Gerry, wife Margaret and Ann Marie.

DONAGHY. Murdered by cowards on August 16th. Mary, Queen of the Gael, intercede for him. Always loved and remembered with pride by sister Mary, husband Barney, Sharon and Ciara.

DONAGHY. Murdered by cowards on August 16th. St Joseph, pray for him. Always remembered by Uncle Tommy.

DONAGHY. Murdered on August 16th. Padre Pie, pray for him. You will never be forgotten Tommy. From Uncle John and aunt Lena.

DONAGHY. Murdered by cowards on August 16th. Queen of the most holy rosary, pray for him. Always remembered by his aunt Rose, husband Johnny and all the family.

DONAGHY. Murdered by the enemies of Ireland. St. Joseph, pray for him. Always remembered with pride by niece Patricia, husband Kieran and wee Barry.

DONAGHY. Murdered by the enemies of Ireland. Our Lady, Queen of the Gael, pray for him. Too good in life to be forgotten in death. From nephew Séan Ferguson, wife Karen, Séánín and Caitriona.

DONAGHY. Deepest sympathy is extended to Joan and baby Seán and Donaghy family. From the Duncan family.

DONAGHY. Deepest sympathy is extended to Joan and baby Seán and Donaghy family. From the Lochrie and Campbell Sinn Féin Cumann, Drumintee.

DONAGHY. Deepest sympathy is extended to Joan and baby Seán and Donaghy family. From the Jordan Sinn Féin Cumann, Jonesboro.

DONAGHY. Deepest sympathy is extended to Joan and baby Seán and Donaghy family. From the McGinn Sinn Féin Cumann, Kilrea, South Derry.

DONAGHY. County Derry/SW Antrim Comhairle Ceantair Féin deeply regret the death of Tommy and extend to his family our deepest sympathy.

DONAGHY. Deepest sympathy is extended to the Donaghy family on the death of Tommy. From the Seamus Steele Sinn Féin Cumann.

DONAGHY. Deepest sympathy is extended to the Donaghy family on the death of Tommy. From the Fergal O'Hanlon/John Davy Sinn Féin Cumann, Lavey.

DONAGHY. Deepest sympathy is extended to the Donaghy family on the death of Tommy. From the Maghera Sinn Féin Cumann.

DONAGHY. Deepest sympathy is extended to the Donaghy family on the

death of Tommy. From the McCusker/McMullan Sinn Féin Cumann, Swatragh.

DONAGHY. Deepest sympathy is extended to Joan and baby Seán and Donaghy family. From Henry and Claire Cushnahan, Toome.

DONAGHY. Deepest sympathy is extended to Joan and baby Seán and Donaghy family. From Peter McAleese, Toome.

DONAGHY. Deepest sympathy is extended to Joan and baby Seán and Donaghy family. From Peter Gallagher, Toome.

DONAGHY. Deepest sympathy is extended to Joan and baby Seán and the Donaghy family on the death of Tommy, who was slain on August 16th in Britain's interest. Tommy will be forgotten. Always remembered by Gerard Magee, Long Kesh.

DONAGHY. Deepest sympathy is extended to Joan and baby Seán and the Donaghy family on the death of Tommy, murdered by pro-British thugs on August 16th. Sadly missed but always remembered by the McPeake family, Brackagh, Maghera.

DONAGHY. Deepest sympathy is extended to Joan and baby Seán and the Donaghy family on the death of Tommy, murdered by pro-British agents on August 16th. Sadly missed but always remembered by the Brendan Convery Band, Bellaghy.

DONAGHY. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Tommy Donaghy murdered by pro-British agents. Always remembered by Séan J Nash, Bradford, England.

MAC MURCHADHA. Déanamh Glúaiseachta na Phoblachátar Chontae Luimnígh comhbarach ó chrot le bean chéile, clann, gaolta agus carde Eamonn Mhír Mhurchadha a d'ag le déanamh. Dilis do mhaolachas na hEireann agus do mháthair a bhí ann. Tá sé i gceannas Stáinínis síos ó dhá snaom.

MAC MURCHADHA. Déanamh comhbarach ó chrot le Déirín, bean Eamonna Mhír Mhurchadha, a chlann, gaolta agus carde Eamonn a fuair bás ó chianaithe. Fear moí gráifil a thug minseach agus ardu croí d'achan duine a bhailiú leis. Cuimhneoir air go bráce. Leabha i measc laochra na hEireann aige, ó Chorlach Mac Curtáin.

MAC MURCHADHA. Déanamh Cumann Ul Úraig/MacMurchadha comhbarach ó chrot le clain Mhír Mhurchadha, Rinn óg Cúinach, Co Phortláirge, bhí báis agus carde Eamonn ar an 23 Lúnasa 1991. Sheas sé do dhilis riamh leis an tsean agus ar sonas saorise ar dtíre. I measc laochra na hEireann aige, nGael go raibh sé.

MAC MURCHADHA. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Cliona and Aine on the death of their father Eamonn. Our hearts are with both of you, your mother and family during these sad days. Mary, Queen of the Gael, grant him rest. From Christine, Amanda and Adrian McShane.

MAHER. Deepest sympathy to Ben on the death of his mother on Sunday. From Dublin Sinn Féin.

MAHER. Comhbhrón ó chrot do Ben Maher as ucht báis a mháthair le déanamh. O Aengus.

MAHER. Comhbhrón ó chrot do Ben Maher as ucht báis a mháthair le déanamh. O Aengus Ó Dalaigh.

MAHER. Deepest sympathy to Ben on the death of his mother Ellen on Sunday. From the McGovern family, Drimnagh.

MAHER. Deepest sympathy to Ben on the death of his mother Ellen on Sunday. From the McGovern family, Drimnagh.

MAHER. Deepest sympathy to Ben on the death of his mother Ellen on Sunday. From Tony Ó Ríabha, Mary and Robert O SEANACHAÍN.

MAHER. In proud and loving memory of a great Irishman, Pádraig Ó Seanchaín murdered by a pro-British death squad. Le beannacháin iad a fuair báis ar sonas saorise na hEireann. Always remembered by Barra Mac Giolla Dhuibh, Crumlin Road Prison.

WRENN. Deepest sympathy is extended to the wife and family of Tony on their recent bereavement. From Gerry and Pauline.

Beannachtaí

12th wedding anniversary. All my love. From your loving wife Carol. **XXX**

FITZSIMMONS, Harry (Crumlin Road). Happy birthday. From QT, Joe, Cookie and Mark.

KAVANAGH, Paul; **NORDONE** Stephen (Full Sutton and Gartree). All the very best on your birthdays this month. Regards to all POWs with you. From Mary and Patrick, Buncrana.

KEARNS, Gerard (Portlaoise). Happy

12th wedding anniversary. All my love. From your loving wife Carol. **XXX**

MCVEIGH, Tom (Crumlin Road). Happy birthday Tom. Thinking of you always. Love Dad and twin sons.

MCVEIGH, Tom (Crumlin Road). Happy birthday Tom. Thinking of you always. From all your brothers and sisters.

BRADLEY, Eamon (9th); **DEVINE**, Mickey (10th); **HUGHES**, Patrick (19th); **MADDEN**, Noel (19th); **OHAGAN**, James (20th); **ROWNTREE**, Oliver (19th). In proud and loving memory of Volunteers Eamon Bradley, Mickey Devine, Patrick Hughes, Noel Madden, James Ó Flanagan and Oliver Rowntree. I measc laochra na hÉireann ráithín siad. "They may kill the revolutionary but never the revolution," always remembered by their friends and comrades in Oglach na hÉireann.

DEVINE, Mickey (10th Ann). In proud and loving memory of Vol Mickey Devine. Always remembered by the McCreesh family, Camlough, at home and abroad.

HUGHES, Patrick; **MADDEN**, Noel; **ROWNTREE**, Oliver (19th Ann). In proud and loving memory of Volas Patrick Hughes, Noel Madden, and Oliver Rowntree.

tree, killed in action August 22nd, 1972. Always remembered by the Newry Martyrs/John Mitchell Sinn Féin Cumann and Newry P.D.F.

WATERS, Brendan (7th Ann). In proud and loving memory of Vol Brendan Waters, who lost his life fighting the British occupation of our country on August 8th, 1984. Always remembered by his friend and comrade Kenny, Portlaoise.

WATERS, Brendan (7th Ann). In proud and loving memory of Vol Brendan Waters, who lost his life fighting the British occupation of our country on August 8th, 1984. Always remembered by his friend and comrade Hardap, Portlaoise.

Admháil

TOM SMITH FLUTE BAND. The Tom Smith Republican Flute Band, Dublin, would like to thank the people of Twinbrook, Poleglass and Lenadown for their hospitality during the anti-internment rally weekend.

CASSIDY. To all the good people with whom I stayed during last week's Noraid tour. Go raibh mille maith agaibh, Kay Cassidy.

BRADLEY, Eamon (9th); **DEVINE**, Mickey (10th); **HUGHES**, Patrick (19th); **MADDEN**, Noel (19th); **OHAGAN**, James (20th); **ROWNTREE**, Oliver (19th). In proud and loving memory of Volunteers Eamon Bradley, Mickey Devine, Patrick Hughes, Noel Madden, James Ó Flanagan and Oliver Rowntree. I measc laochra na hÉireann ráithín siad. "They may kill the revolutionary but never the revolution," always remembered by their friends and comrades in Oglach na hÉireann.

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THE FLYING COLUMN

THE GARDAI are to abandon their traditional tie in favour of a clip-on version. Cunning villains resisting arrest have apparently taken to half-strangling gardai by using their ties as weapons so the brave boys in blue pleaded with their superiors for a less lethal (and easier to fasten) model.

"We have been agitating for some time to have them replaced because of the safety risks they posed," said a Garda Representative Association spokesperson. Barrack master Chief Superintendent Tony Mulligan is expecting 10,000 clip-ons to arrive shortly at the Garda's HQ in the Phoenix Park.

This loosening of the blue collar is not expected to result in any dramatic changes in Garda attitudes, although there is always the possibility that in individual cases an overzealous fastening technique could have resulted in a constricted flow of blood to the brain. That could explain a lot.



VISITORS from the Basque country "help Special Branch detectives with their inquiries" after they had paid a fraternal visit to the Sinn Féin Bookshop in Dublin. Just another example of how the boys in blue help the tourist industry.

JAMES SMYTH from Rosslea pleaded guilty at Fermanagh Court to having a quantity of wash, using a still, manufacturing alcohol and having spirits on which the Customs and Excise duty had not been paid. He was fined £300.

The Fermanagh man who had been caught making potheen for the second time asserted when questioned by RUC and customs officials that "It may be illegal but it's not a crime".

OUR OLD FRIEND Chester Stern, in collaboration with Mervyn Rees in the Zimbabwean capital, Harare, writes in one of the tabloid rags on Sunday that the Queen of England and John Major may be the targets of a "bizarre terror link-up between the IRA, PLO and Saddam Hussein's Iraqi hitmen".

According to the dynamic duo, conveniently unnamed intelligence agents have apparently uncovered this terrible plot to disrupt the Commonwealth conference in Zimbabwe. Windsor, Major and 55 other heads of state will be there in October.

The bombing of the conference hotel last month which caused £1 million of damage has been linked to an Iraqi hit team, arrested in another hotel overlooking the US Embassy, who were deported in March. The razor-sharp agents soon picked up "close links" between

the IRA and the PLO and to cap it all off, when the Sheraton Hotel was bombed last month, there was a PLO delegation staying there at the time. This delegation had connections with "a roving IRA cell".

The foiled March attack was ordered by Saddam, says Stern and Rees, because he was angry that Zimbabwe had chaired the UN Security Council during the Gulf War.

"When that attack was foiled, he saw the opportunity to further damage American interests by bombing the Sheraton Hotel — and used his established terror links with the IRA to support a Provo attack against the Commonwealth."

FORMER BRIT POLICE OFFICER Peter King has caused a lot of bother following his conviction for theft, deception and false accounting at Lewes Crown Court. The bent ex-bobby was responsible for payouts to informants and supergrasses throughout Britain, being in charge of the informants fund for the No. 6 Regional Crime Squad, responsible for Surrey, Kent and Sussex.

King pleaded guilty to stealing £12,000 from the Regional Crime Squad while working as office manager for them and asked for 111 other offences to be taken into account. Over a three-year period he used a police American Express card to go on expensive holidays, including a £984 trip to Los Angeles with his family and lived a life of luxury until he was caught. He even bought camera equipment which he claimed was for police work. He was jailed for 14 months but he is said to have threatened to divulge addresses of informants to his fellow prisoners.

King is currently being held in segregated custody in prison hospital but a senior detective warned "if he chooses to be vindictive it could be devastating".

THE Whitbread Brewery in England has offered a total of £13,000 to the winners of its Volunteer Action Awards. We would advise AP/RN readers who would like to nominate the action of their choice, (My own favourite is the Downing Street mortar attack) to please refrain from naming the Volunteers concerned in the interests of security. Our English readers might like to ring Whitbread at 0272 252000 for further information and a nomination form.

A DRUNKEN Royal Marine who sped the wrong way down a road escaped jail in an Exeter court because he had been to the Gulf.

Leonard May, stationed at Poole in Dorset, was two and a half times over the limit when he drove 20 miles along the A38 dual carriageway towards Exeter. He was fined £1,360 and banned from driving for a year.

SCOTTISH VILLAGERS have received an official apology after Brit and US marines staged a mock battle in their midst.

Residents of Range Cottages near Arrochar in Dumbartonshire had their sleep interrupted at 3am on a Sunday in June by explosions and the sound of heavy machine gun fire. Over 70 heavily armed troops stormed through houses and gardens, leaving hundreds of cartridges lying around in their wake, many of them live

blank rounds which could cause serious injury if mishandled.

Dumbarton MP John McFall said that the apology from the Earl of Arran at the British Ministry of Defence was welcome but that the incident was "a ridiculous and unacceptable state of affairs which caused the nuisance and distress".

Special Branch

They whistle, they grunt, they groove and they're in Charles Bar, Dublin on August 10 and 11.



The RTE Guide warned us of this and I missed it. Damnation! (Apologies to The Brilliant Trees.)

ON TUESDAY, August 20th, RTE reporter Bob Powell took the Soviet ambassador to task for the new Soviet leadership's "censoring" of the media.

Is this the same RTE (and the same reporter) who refuse to interview members of a legal, registered political party because of Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act?

Would RTE condemn Section 31 as state censorship if it was Russian?

Or are Bob Powell and his colleagues just paying lip service to media freedom?

I think we should be told.

AS TWO Newry hoods continue to claim sanctuary in the town's cathedral with the full support of the Catholic church and Cardinal Cahal Daly it is worth recalling the experience of IRA Volunteers Tony Meade, Denis Foley and Willie Reilly in Armagh in 1958.

Following an abortive attempt to plant a mine outside the RUC barracks in Irish Street in Armagh the trio made their escape in a taxi, running into St Patrick's Cathedral.

The sanctity of the church was not much in evidence that day when the RUC stormed the building and arrested the three hiding in the confessionals.



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