

DERRY BULLETIN 19 Mar 81

Derryman - Next to go on Hunger Strike !!!

PATSY O'HARA, A TWENTYFOUR YEAR OLD VOLUNTEER IN THE INLA IS TO GO ON HUNGER STRIKE AT 12 MIDNIGHT ON SATURDAY. PATSY AND RAYMOND McCREESH FROM THE DROSSMAGLEN AREA WILL JOIN BOBBY SANDS AND FRANCIE HUGHES WHO ARE ALREADY ON HUNGER STRIKE FOR POLITICAL STATUS.

PATSY O'HARA WHO COMES FROM THE BISHOP STREET AREA IS CURRENTLY SERVING EIGHT YEARS IN LONG KESH FOR POSSESSION OF A HAND GRENADE AND SINCE HIS SENTENCE IN MAY 1979 HE HAS BEEN ONE OF THE BLANKET PROTESTERS.

Patsy's story is not untypical of many in this community who have suffered over the years since the present struggle began. His elder brother was interned in 1971 and another brother, Tony, was himself imprisoned for five years.

When Patsy was fourteen he was shot in the foot by a British soldier after they had opened fire on a group of youths standing at a barricade in the Brandywell.

Since then Patsy's life has been one of total involvement in the struggle against British Imperialism, eventually resulting in his arrest and subsequent imprisonment in 1979.

The people of Derry can gain no real satisfaction by the fact that yet another Derryman has been forced to take this disastrous step in facing the tortuous struggle of a hunger strike.

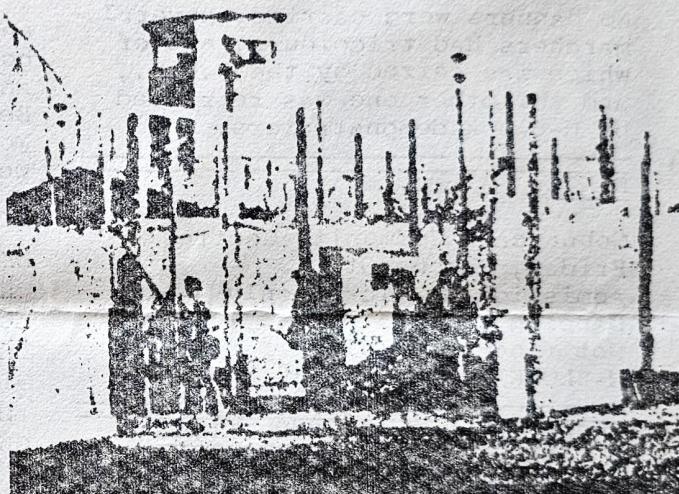
But, those who know Patsy O'Hara fully recognise his personal commitment and determination and are well aware that he will go the whole way to secure political status for his comrades and himself.

Please Note....

DON'T FORGET THE DEMONSTRATION ON FRIDAY; EVERYONE TO ASSEMBLE AT PILOT'S ROW - 3.30 pm.

A CRECHE WILL BE ORGANISED IN PILOT'S ROW FOR ANYONE WHO WANTS TO ATTEND. BRING YOUR CHILDREN TO THE FRONT DOOR.

THERE WILL BE A TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION ON SUNDAY NIGHT. DETAILS WILL BE ANNOUNCED.



RUC brutality

WHILST EVERYONE'S MIND IS FIRMLY SET ON SEEING AN OUTCOME TO THE HUNGER STRIKE, THERE ARE STILL THE REMAINING PROBLEMS OF BRITISH BRUTALITY TO CONTEND WITH.

On Tuesday evening a sixteen year old youth from the Creggan area suffered severe facial injuries after being struck at point blank range with a plastic bullet. The youth who was searching the William Street area for another member of his family was so badly injured that he required a three hour operation.

The injuries he received included a broken jaw, loss of most of his teeth, severe loss of blood and extreme shock.

The injuries were inflicted by the so-called forces of law and order, the RUC. Regulations stipulate that both plastic and rubber bullets are to be ricocheted off a wall and/or the ground and in this case, as in so many others, this regulation was completely ignored by the RUC.

WATERSIDE DEMONSTRATORS ATTACKED

As marchers made their way down Spencer Rd, harrassed by R.U.C. all the way, they were ambushed by a crowd of 100 loyalists, firing glass and bottles at H-Block supporters.

The R.U.C. made no effort to stop the attack. In fact they seemed to be in collusion with the loyalists.

It was fortunate that there were no serious injuries, several people suffered cuts and bruises and no arrests were made other than a H-Block protester who was held illegally for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour.

No banners were carried, several marchers had tricolours, one of which was seized by the R.U.C., and the other one was retrieved by H-Block demonstrators.

DANCE

Gobnascale Community Centre
Friday, March 20th
Admission by ticket only -- £1
Dancing till 2 a.m.
Hot food available
H-BLOCK/ARMAGH APPEAL FUND

ROSEMOUNT H-BLOCK COMMITTEE.

On Saturday March 14th Rosemount H-Block committee held a very successful one day shop in a local hall.

A miscellaneous quantity of items were collected from the local community and the combine work of members was generated into a fund raising effort for the H-Block campaign, which succeeded in obtaining over £110.

BELFAST YOUTH CONFERENCE

The first National Meeting of Youth to discuss and plan action on the H-Block/Armagh issue was held in Belfast on Sunday, March 15. A number of youth from Derry attended. Many constructive and useful ideas came out of the conference, and it is hoped that a National co-ordinated youth movement will be set up to organise youth throughout the 32 counties on this issue.

SHANTALLOW HUNGER STRIKE CENTRE

The hunger strike centre for Shantallow, Carnhill and Galliagh is located in the Sinn Fein caravan at the Shantallow shops. It is open each day from 1pm til 5 pm and from 7:30 to 8:30 pm on Mondays and Thursdays.

A YOUTH MEETING will be held in the near future to organise the youth of these large area -- see Caravan for details. The AREA Action Group meets every MONDAY night at 7:30 p.m. in the Centre -- everybody welcome. We are especially looking for more members from the new estates in Galliagh, as work will be heavy in the next few weeks.

PUBLIC MEETING in SHANTALLOW
on SUNDAY, March 29, 3 p.m. We hope to get the Community Centre and there is a possibility that Bernadette McAliskey may speak. More details later.....Everybody welcome.....

DEMONSTRATE THIS FRIDAY.....

Last Friday (13th March) some 200 demonstrators blocked off the expressway and Strand Road at the bottom of Great Hames St. The protest was peaceful, the hunger strike supporters simply sat down, sang and chanted slogans. About five minutes before the protest ended the RUC attempted to move in and clear the road. They would not have succeeded if it were not for the fact that a number of individuals disregarded instructions and threw stones thereby causing those sitting on the ground to move. It must be remembered that all protests are peaceful. Women and young children take part in these protests and their wellbeing is of primary importance. Such behaviour in future will not be tolerated.

COME OUT THIS FRIDAY. ASSEMBLE PILOTS ROW 3.30 pm SHARP.

SUPPORT THE BLANKETMEN !

VICTORY TO THE HUNGER STRIKERS !