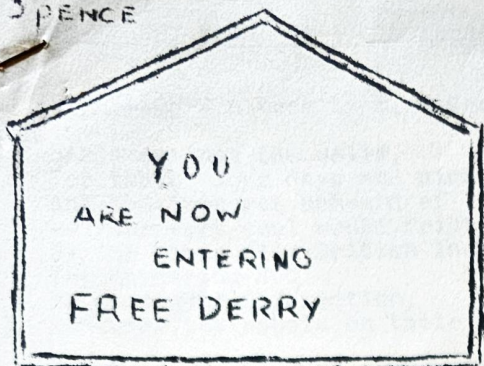


1st copy, #4 (Collector's item)

3 PENCE



FREE DERRY NEWS

No. 4
To Brian
Lead article
author
love from
Martin

PROVISIONAL SINN FEIN -- DERRY CITY -- 1 la Lúnasa '75 -- 1st August '75

"Believing that the British Government has no right in Ireland, never had any right in Ireland, and never can have any right in Ireland, the presence in any one generation of Irishmen of even a respectable minority ready to affirm that truth, makes that government forever a usurpation and crime against human progress."
-- James Connolly, 1916

* * * * *

MIAMI -- Instrument of British Expediency

In the early hours of Thursday this week, the still of the night was shattered by the rapid reports of sectarian gunfire, which killed 3 members and seriously injured another of the popular MIAMI showband.

The ambush and eventual slaughter was obviously well-timed and rehearsed to near-precision. It makes one wonder if the assassins were briefed with up-to-date information on Brit and UDR movements before the actual bloodthirsty killing took place. If so -- WHO TOLD THEM?

The motivations leading to this premeditated butchery aren't fully clear, but according to authentic sources, there is reason to believe that the Ulster Central Intelligence Agency -- which claims as prominent members high-ranking officers in the RUC, UDR and B.A. -- was responsible. Further assassinations from this extremist Loyalist group, attached to the U.V.F., are expected.

Whatever role -- direct or indirect -- the British played in this slaughter isn't clear either. As yet there is no direct proof of S.A.S. involvement. But if Bloody Sunday teaches us anything, our understanding of the ruthless nature of British counter-insurgency measures which the British overlords employ to keep sectarianism alive and instill fear into the community. Their purpose? In order that we accept a return of the "impartial" RUC and the institutions this despised and barbaric force serves and protects -- namely, all shades of bigoted Unionism and the financial interests of British capitalism. By B.Mc.Clelland

REBELLION - a poem by E. McCormick

Hands against the walls,
for three long days and nights,
And beatings yet unheard of
-- your very soul would fright --
By the black-clad British lackies
The murdering RUC
To gain some information,
And keep the rebels on their knees.

Too long our land has suffered
at the hands of these cheap crooks
Too long our people took it all
-- the blows, the words, the looks--
The look of hate in the soldier's eye,
the word of scorn he spoke
The blows which were delivered,
'Till Irish bones were broke.

But yet our lads they took it all
then answered one for one:
For those are the rules and
we have the tools: the pen, the bomb,
No more we'll have to suffer the gun.
the early-morning raid
For Irishmen have sworn revenge
and now once more is said:

We've neither King nor Kaiser,
but Ireland's 32.
We won't bow down to the English Crown
no, this we'll never do:
For Irish blood flows in our veins,
on Irish soil we grow,
And we'll never rest
Til we've done our best
to see the British go.

CREGGAN VANDALISM

Recently Sinn Fein in Creggan have
received reports of a disturbing
nature of Vandals operating in the
wee hours of the morning, wrecking
anything they think is easy meat,
for instance, parked cars left un-
attended by their owners because
they trusted the goodness of all
their neighbours.

We in the Republican Movement
ask you, the Vandals: what pleasure
do you get in ripping off car fenders
or bending window wipers? Are you
really so numbskulled that you don't
realise you're doing the Brits job
for them, by tormenting the people
of Creggan who for over six years
have suffered at the hands of the
Brits you are obviously trying to
imitate. We in the Provisional
Republican movement demand you now
cease all acts of vandalism immedi-
ately.

OUR SYMPATHY to Rosemount dog, Cocoa
a young nine-month old Doberman who
had his left eye bashed in by a
passing Brit patrol recently. The
dog is a child's pet....

SECURITY FARCES strike again

Once again we've witnessed the UDR
being robbed of their weapons. The
"security" of these so-called
"security forces" is about as tight
as a size 10 Dr. Martin's boot on
a new born baby.
How stupid do they think the public
is? Last month they lost almost
250 weapons, which were hurriedly
"found" in a regular UDR haunt (a
slurry pit), by -- of course --
the UDR. 250 was too many to go
unnoticed, especially by the press,
but 6 -- well, that's apparently
just between friends -- or brothers
or comrades, because that's who
stole the guns.

The UDR are as unacceptable as
the infamous B-men, who they are
striving to surpass in the amount of
hate they can generate from the
population at large.

-- Sean Dolan cumann

THE CITY FLAG

As the marching season approaches,
the "other side" wants hunting put
up on the Bridge and the Civic flag
displayed prominently on the Guild-
hall. Ivor Canavan spoiled the
debate by informing the Council that
the City flag was lost since the
Guildhall was blown up.

The call for the raising of the
flag came as no surprise to many --
perhaps the manner or the excuse was
the shock. Is the 12th of August a
"Civic" occasion for the people of
Derry? (Well, for some of the City
plus half of Sandy Row and the Shan-
-kill.) I wonder what the definition
of "civic" occasion would be --
would it be the enthroning of a new
Bishop, the anniversary of the patro
saint of the City, Civic week? Why
wasn't the flag displayed on these
occasions?

Perhaps it doesn't depend on the
wishes of the majority of the town's
residents, but on those who will be
visiting Derry on that date. The
time has come to drop these sectarian
occasions and work together to build
a new Ireland.

-- p.r.o., Sean Dolan cumann

SUPPORT ANTI-INTERMENT CAMPAIGN

The Republican Prisoners incar-
cerated in Magilligan P.O.W. Camp
urge all free-thinking people to
support the anti-interment cam-
paign. UNITE with the organisers in
their demand for the immediate and
unconditional release of the
internees....

END INTERMENT NOW!

~~XX~~

x D E M O N S T R A T I O N *** SATURDAY, 2nd AUGUST x

x

x At Ulsterbus depot (Foyle Street traders site) x

x

x Be there! 3.00 p.m. *** PROTEST ACTION AFTERWARDS x

x (details to be revealed at the rally) x

x SUPPORT THE RIGHT OF ALL POLITICAL HOSTAGES TO FREEDOM x

x -- Organised by Provisional Sinn Féin x

~~XX~~

WE REMEMBER, JOHN HUME -- DO YOU? "HEROIC BRIT?" --

John Hume in 1969 said, as vice-chairman of Derry Citizens Action Committee: "The truce is off. There will be a return to militant action. We wish to make it clear that we never regarded the programme for civil rights as finished. We reiterate our TOTAL COMMITMENT (yes, John?) to a militant programme of action."

Remember the Commitments? If you can't find anyone around in the SDLP to ask (or if you can find them around somewhere, but somehow they just can't remember), WE can remember: BOYCOTT OF STORMONT and a RENT AND RATES STRIKE (with no arrears -- remember Austin Currie telling you to go out and drink the rent money?)

The SDLP's latest committment seems to be to a HIGHER SALARY for their Convention members: I'm sure you can all understand how hard it is to make ends meet on only £50 per week.... Relax, John Hume, you can keep your family fed now -- with £63 a week that ought to buy them bread, spuds and even the occasional fish supper... (Sixty-three pounds a week ought to let you invite Paddy Devlin over for tea some nights, if he starts looking hungry...) *****

starts looking hungry...?

What's the Difference???

Murdering an Irish child isn't a crime, as we are once again taught so well: Lance-Corporal Foxford, who shot dead a young Irish boy, was sentenced to THREE YEARS -- But later had his sentence QUASHED BY A COURT OF APPEAL.

A former Brit who deserted to Sweden after killing a UDR thug in Belfast was accused by Judge McDermott of being a PSYCOPATH.

Aren't they all?

BRITAIN forced Partition on
Ireland against the wishes of the
Majority. Now Britian once again im
itates a Deomocracy by stating that
"no one will force the 6 Counties
into a Republic against the wishes
of the Northern majority"

No, despite the dishonesty of
of the red-haired soldier who
let his name and supposed
"heroism" be broadcast all over
the news at 1 p.m., 6 p.m., the
main British and UTV news that
day. We refer to the story of
the woman "saved from drowning"
by a "heroic British soldier",
and carried in the Journal and
Telegraph as well as on all radio
and television newscasts.

We publish the true facts of the case as follows:

the cases as follows:
Derryman Paddy McCallion was walking along the Quay-side Sat. fortnight when he saw a woman go dangerously near the water. The woman saw Mr McCallion watching and the next thing had slipped into the water. No one else was about when Paddy McCallion ran to the water's edge and saw the woman paddling around in the Foyle. So, acting on his own good sense, he flagged down a passing car. A Derryman got out, and although he couldn't swim and didn't have a rope or float, agreed to help. Together they flagged down a passing lorry.

The driver of the lorry had a rope, and they were just preparing to rescue the woman when up comes a routine B.A. mobile patrol. A soldier got out, and they saw the lorry-driver's rope, and took over the "rescue" -- which involved jumping down a hole at the Quayside, tying the rope around the woman's waist and pulling her up (She'd already swam to the pilings and was grabbing on to them, and wasn't in any real danger...) Then the soldier, who didn't bother to take off more than his flak jacket for this "rescue", and hardly got wet, had to be pulled up by the rope, too. The B.A. then drove away, without waiting for an ambulance for the woman, or for the RUC to be called or notified (which if they were concerned, they would have done.)

IF IT WASN'T FOR DERRYMEN, particularly Paddy McCallion, no one would have seen this happen,

**** THIS PAGE RESERVED EACH WEEK FOR ARTICLES FROM THE PRISONS ****

-- They can imprison our bodies but not our spirits --

STATEMENT FROM SENTENCED PRISONERS, MAGILLIGAN P.O.W. CAMP:

We, the sentenced prisoners in Magilligan, declare our solidarity with and full support for our comrades in Long Kesh, on their stand against the new degrading search measures adopted by the camp administration there.

We too note the increase in petty restrictions on the part of our jailors during this delicate period of Truce, making life unbearable for us.

The complete denial of all medical treatment to men in Long Kesh if they do not succumb to this latest act of oppression can only lead to the same situation which prevailed before its total destruction.

As was proven in this camp in October of last year, we will not stand idly by if the men in Long Kesh are forced to take that same stand again.

-- Seosamh 6 Donnaile
p.r.o., Republican Prisoners

* * * * *

AN GIALI ("The Hostage", for all you who don't speak your own language) is the camp paper at Magilligan, and the Editor of An Giall was able to provide us with the following lead article from the latest issue. Many thanks.)

WITH THE ARREST OF DAITHI 6 CONAILL, THERE HAS BEEN MUCH SPECULATION in the media that the Truce may not hold much longer. To the general public this may seem to be the case, but to us in the movement it is nothing more than ardent newspaper reporters lost for a good story -- as was confirmed by the leadership in a statement shortly after the arrest -- to the effect that the truce would hold despite attempts by the Dublin government to end it.

WHY THEN SHOULD THE DUBLIN GOVERNMENT WANT THE TRUCE ENDED? Particularly since they have always expressed their desire for peace in the North. Could it be that all their previous peace talk was little more than political expedience -- i.e., that it suited them at the time to condemn the actions of Oglagh na hÉireann in order to stay in favour with the British and protect their own selfish interests. But now with a negotiated Truce in operation, and the prospects of the British presence being removed from the North greater than ever, panic has gripped Leinster House resulting in the more blatant measures being used to harass and arrest many Republicans who have played a part in the establishment of the present Truce. Daithi 6 Conaill being the latest victim of their efforts.

JUST WHAT DOES COSGRAVE, COONEY, O'BRIEN, LYNCH, etc., STAND TO LOSE if the Brits pull out? Obviously with a capitalist system prevailing within the 26 Counties, any indication of a socialist threat would be bitterly opposed by them and what better way to get at Republicans than to destroy the Truce and force the Brits to go for a military solution in the North -- thus safeguarding their selfish interests, for another few years at least. At the minute the 26 Cos. are ripe for revolution and the gombeen "Republicans" of Leinster House know it. They know too that when we succeed in ridding the 6 Counties of the Brits that it won't be long before the people of the South take to the streets, in support of the Republican Movement, and against the corruption which exists within the 'Free State'!

HOWEVER, this does not mean that everything is rosey regarding the Truce. It simply means that we will not be goaded into taking action by the Southern junta. If the Brits fail to honour the terms of the Truce, then we will be faced with no alternative but to resume hostilities against the British. It must also be remembered that the possibility of Civil War in the Six Counties remains, truce or no truce.

-- Slán Libh.

* * * * *

(Heroics, continued)

and the woman could still be paddling around in the Foyle. Without the intervention of Mr McCallion, there would have been no rope, no passers-by stopped, and no help. Thanks to Mr McCallion...