

IRISH FRONT DERRY CITY

ST. PATRICK'S DAY MARCH 17TH

PRISONERS' DAY

MARCH & RALLY

The Irish Front is now calling for a massive show of solidarity on St. Patrick's Day with all political prisoners in the north, south and in Britain. This solidarity is of primary importance at this point in time when we consider the horrific revelations emanating from police stations and prisons. These foul and vile practices that are being carried out in the name of "law and order", must be resisted if any measure of human rights and dignity are to be restored.

The March will assemble at the Creggan Shops at 2.15p.m. and proceed to Guildhall Square where a rally will be addressed by prominent speakers. Before the march moves off, balloons bearing the names of prisoners, and the gaols in which they are held will be released, so that people may be encouraged to adopt a prisoner and write to them on a regular basis. Prior to the speeches, a play will be held based on torture and intimidation and the repression of prisoners generally. A number of bands have accepted invitations to attend, and floats depicting prison conditions will participate. Invited speakers include General Tom Barry of 'Flying Column' fame from Cork, and the daughter of James Connolly, Mrs. Nora Connolly O'Brien. On this historic occasion let it be said of us all that we did not forget our prisoners in this the hour of their need.

POLITICAL STATUS MUST STAY

END HARASSMENT AND TORTURE!!! REPATRIATE THE PRISONERS!!! GENERAL AMNESTY NOW!!! TROOPS OUT NOW!!!

CASTLEREAGH - ANOTHER TORTURE SHOP

Over recent weeks, the transfers to Castlereagh Interrogation Centre from RUC Headquarters at Strand Road, Derry has resulted in an intensification of torture methods on arrested persons, and access to friends, solicitors and doctors becomes virtually impossible. In early February five young Derrymen were taken to Castlereagh, and were subjected to all types of physical and mental torture. One young man was stripped naked, had his hands tied and was literally hung from a hook, while being subjected to all types of insults and assault. At a recent Press Conference held in the Bogside, relatives revealed that legal action was now being taken against the Special Branch detectives responsible. At least sixty S.B. men working in relays, were involved in the interrogations. One was told, "No Bishop Daly or Fr. Faul will help you now... It's Castlereagh you're in". The relatives were not informed that the men had been taken to Castlereagh, and on establishing such, they were refused visits and did not see them until they appeared at court, which for some was over a week later. The arrested men had been refused food and denied sleep. One of the five had had tufts of his hair pulled out during interrogation. Others were covered in bruises and in one case the beatings were so severe that the S.B. men had wrapped one of the men in ice to reduce bruising, before he was to appear in court.

The IRISH FRONT calls on all citizens to express their opposition to such torture practices, and point out that under such extreme measures many men and women have been, and will be subjected to such a degree of pain that they will sign anything or say anything just to obtain an end to their inflicted suffering. We demand that any statement, oral or written, obtained through torture be made inadmissible in a court of law. We believe that only by exposing these practices, and organising public protest, can such tortures cease. Public opinion therefore must be mobilised and the whole question of prisoners and police malpractices must be made an issue of urgent concern.