

# POLITICAL STATUS

**WE CAN WIN! – WE WILL WIN!**  
**WE NEED YOUR HELP**

## **THE SITUATION AS IT STANDS . . .**

Since March 1st this year several girls and men have been charged with committing acts of a political nature contrary to the laws of the British Government.

## **TREATED AS "CRIMINALS" . . . .**

(What Merlyn has in store for our comrades).

1. They will be classed as criminals. Their actions as Political Idealists will be ignored.
2. They will be forced to wear prison garb – refusal to do so can mean solitary confinement, stripped naked in a "punishment" cell for an unlimited period of time.
3. Prison work of the most soul destroying kind will be forced on them, (sewing mail bags or scrubbing floors). Again refusal will result in punishment.

## **PUNISHMENT . . . . (The corner stone of the Prison System)**

According to the Authorities, Prisoners have no "Rights" just "Privileges". Refusal to conform to the Regime will result in loss of privileges – i.e. visits exercise, contact with other prisoners, loss of remission.

## **WHAT ARE WE ASKING YOU TO DO? – PROTEST, PROTEST, PROTEST!!**

Remember what a united mass movement can do – has done in the past? Get out on the streets, picket, march. Be persistent, be adamant, be convinced that your sons and daughters, our comrades, will **NEVER** be treated as common criminals, will **NEVER** have to don Prison garb, will **NEVER** spend months locked in "solitary" because he/she refused to bend the knee.

Be determined to smash this system as we smashed Stormont.

Yes, we can win – If we care enough.

**BE WITH US IN OUR STRUGGLE,  
BE WITH OUR COMRADES**

Issued by – 'A' COMPANY, ARMAGH GAOL.

---

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, pledge my full support and backing to the Republican Prisoners of War in the prisons of the British occupied Six Counties of Ireland, in their fight to be recognised as Political Prisoners.

I, further back them in their call for Merlyn Rees to abandon his policy of treating Political Prisoners as criminals. His words can not alter the fact that Republican Prisoners were not convicted because of self gain, but were imprisoned because of their courageous resistance to the British presence in Ireland.

In other words they are – Political Prisoners – Nothing Else!

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

To: Treatment of Offenders Branch, Northern Ireland Office, Stormont, Belfast.  
**ISSUED BY THE REPUBLICAN PRISONERS OF WAR, ARMAGH GAOL.**