

It will be a long & hard summer

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6 July
no.13

The heat of working class anger is beginning to scorch the feathers of the ICTU. On the eve of their Annual Conference in Bundoran, the High Command of Congress have patched up another **compromise** with the FUE bosses. While in the wake of the *partially* successful postal strike *(see our article on p. 3)*, teachers, oil workers, nurses, paramedics and building workers are all processing high pay claims, the Congress statesmen are **desperate** in their frantic search for compromise.

The push and militancy of workers all over the country shows Congress for what it is : **a piece of the State inside the Labour Movement**. But what makes this branch of the State so deadly is that thousands of working people still believe in its honesty and representativity. While **Roberts, Murphy, Nevin, Carlin & Co.** openly collaborate with the bourgeoisie, working people still heed their words and take their advice. *(See article on Trilateral Commission re Dan Murphy).*

The implications of this are **serious**. On the one hand, it saves Fianna Fail from total collapse, from a serious Governmental crisis. Fianna Fail are in bad trouble and the ICTU are helping them out. On the other side, it **divides** the Labour Movement between those who correctly see the sell-out and begin to act independently and the others who continue to take the road of collaboration.

Either you plead unity and accentuate the divisions or you **rupture the bullshit and create unity**. Two lines - two forms of organisation - two ways of being politically active.

One leading to defeat and compromise.

The other **open-ended, adventurous and communist.**

We are taking the second.

" It would be no exaggeration to describe the past year as one with more than its share of events, many of them traumatic in character, not only for Congress but for individual Unions "

"Traumatic" is a fairly accurate description of the crisis experienced by the Irish Congress of Trades Unions (ICTU) inside the widespread working class offensive we are living through. The ICTU plays a key role in managing and controlling the movement of the working class, by imposing limits and restrictions on the demands being made by working people.

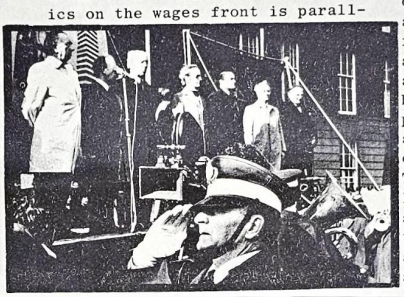
Harold O' Sullivan is the man who wants *something done* about unofficial strikes, who wants to rationalise and streamline the Unions in order to consolidate Congress power. No doubt he had a major influence on the executive acceptance of the new Federated Union of Employers (FUE) offer. This new agreement is an important coup before their annual Conference and a response by the Public Service Unions to the heavy card of 7% ceiling on Public Sector pay increases, announced by Fianna Fail.

While the ICTU, in response to the discontent and anger among working people, has secured a larger pay increase than in previous agreements (and without the extensive restrictive clauses on industrial action), its function is to dampen the tide of working class militancy and more importantly to retain the status quo. Open class conflict and confrontation is a direct threat to the



power of Congress as well as the survival of the Fianna Fail Government. The combination of unofficial strikes, breakaway Unions, expulsions and rejection of Wage Agreements and Understandings has undermined the role of Congress as the 'official' and sole negotiator on behalf of the " Labour Movement ".

For Fianna Fail, this backdown by Congress gives them the breathing space they so badly need. Fianna Fail is a weak Government in crisis. Their acrobatics on the wages front is paralled by an inability to move on the taxation front. Butchers are refusing to deduct the 2% levy from the farmers, while the National Housewives Association has threatened to take to the streets if the 2% levy is translated into price increases. And they can take no comfort from the international situation either; US capital is preparing itself for a deeper recession and Thatcher is heading into a battle with the mining Unions who are demanding a 65% wage increase. The international character of this crisis can only increase the pressure on Fianna Fail as they attempt to stabilise an economy over which they have only partial control.



What is needed now is to strengthen the offensive of the working class, capable of making real, long-term gains. The 1% difference between this new deal and the National Understanding rejected by 2:1 on May 23rd, has already been more than eaten away by vicious price rises in bus and train fares, electricity, petrol and the cost of food. This attack on the living standards of working people will continue. The Post Office workers have learnt well that to struggle for a living income means to confront the State in all its aspects.... and that means the Union leadership too.

McDONALD GOES ON

McDonalds went back to the High Court on Monday 2nd July to look for yet another injunction - this time to make all picketing on a Saturday illegal.

Many strikers and supporters had refused to accept the previous ruling of the court which declared that pickets should only be placed between 10 am and 10 pm, and should consist of no more than three people. And so mass pickets have been organised every Saturday afternoon. It is to stop the mass picketing that McDonalds went to court.

McDonalds have used every trick in the book to weaken the resistance of the strikers, from intimidation of pickets to importing from America their own anti working class intelligence agents and industrial psychologists. Judge Hamilton has decided to make his ruling on Thurs. 5th July. Whatever the ruling the mass pickets must continue, the strike is going into its 4 th month and those strikers still left need all the support they can get.

ITGWU officials have played a major divisive role over the past few weeks, threatening to suspend strikers for breaking the injunction. Are they aware that Mickey Mullen broke the injunction restraining people from occupying Wood Quay or will they also threaten to suspend Mickey. It is worth wondering whether the Union are worried about their special relationship with other US multinationals, with whom the IDA organises "sweetheart deals" giving the ITGWU closed shop agreements before a factory is ever built.

The strikers are smaller in number and divided between those who toe the ITGWU line and militants fed up with the legalism and foot-dragging of the Union, and willing to use whatever means necessary to end McDonalds exploitation of workers in this country.

Solidarity March

The sun was on the side of the supporters of the **McDonald's** strike and the **Post Office workers** for a joint march on Sunday June 17th. With a pipe band, Trades Council banners and lots of prams, icecream and good spirits, over 1,000 marched passed the two McDonald's premises to the G.P.O. Post Office workers halted and shouted *Sieg Heil* with hands raised to the lines of Gardai protecting this anti-worker boss from the U.S. While many of the original strikers have now taken other jobs, this small strike has become symbolic of anti-working class American-style strike breaking.

"The name of O' Connell St. has been besmirched with the Celtic name of McDonalds" said John Carroll of the ITGWU. *"This company is concerned not with these two establishments but with the 25 establishments they want to open in this country ".*

In an amazing departure from the demand for **the right to Unionise** at McDonalds, Michael Mullens his voice quavering asked the attendence to :

*" Take this message back to your families and workplaces - McDonalds is not here to stay - McDonalds must go ! "*Applause and shouts of **OUT! OUT! OUT!**

Mass Picketing of McDonalds continues every Saturday between 12 and 3 pm. All are welcome and invited.

The postal strike is over. Anger and discontent among postal workers is still high. As the return to work was announced, groups of postal clerks in Wexford, Killaloe and Galway stayed out of work. A national meeting of clerks has been called for two weeks time to consider further industrial action. They are far from happy with the settlement terms. Overall some gains have been made by the strikers. This week Faulkner has announced plans to reorganise the entire postal and telecommunications service. His objective is to ensure that the extent of the damage incurred by the bourgeoisie over the last 5 months will not be repeated. Fianna Fail's plans are to break up the service into two separate bodies - one for post and the other for telex and telephones. The clear intention behind this is to divide the workers and undermine the effectiveness of action taken to improve working conditions. These two bodies are to have semi-State status, run on the lines of the ESB and CIE. Capital needs stability for profits. Restructuring the postal and telecommunications service is one means to achieve a healthy environment for capital. Resistance to the projects of Fianna Fail on this score will be a key battle to be fought by those workers over the next few years.

Below, we print an interview which took place with a postal worker in Galway just as the strike was officially ending. It is an attempt to review the course and development of this battle which has been a central part of the working class offensive in the 26 Cos over the past months. Other comments and contributions from people on the issues raised here would be very welcome.



P.O. WORKERS BATTLE



Can you give us an overall view of how the strike has developed in your view ?

The way I see it - this strike was never really intended to be such a huge confrontation with the Government. We weren't really prepared for that. Maybe the Union saw it that way from the start but we just thought it would be one more in a long list of disputes. But it became a national strike - everyone is talking about it, elections are being fought on it, you can't have no mind on it : either you are for the workers or against them.

Do you think that Fianna Fail coming into power 2 years ago opened the way for this type of a battle ?

Well, it was more like the other lot being thrown out. But also, it was building up for a long time. They were all talking about the 'recession' then suddenly we were supposed to be in a 'boom' but wages were the same. I think most workers felt they had lost out badly over the last few years and now was the time to get it back.

We've argued that Fianna Fail is an anti-working class Government. Would you agree with that ?

Well, they all are, aren't they ? But Fianna Fail got in this time with the idea that a few bits and pieces would get everyone on their side. It wasn't so simple. Most of what they did was for the middle class and the farmers - rates, car tax and the rest. And they were all on for keeping the workers down. Now, they know they have a fight on their hands and getting real stubborn ...but we won't be easily moved either.



Do you think this strike will be a victory for postal workers as it ends ?

It's hard to answer that. I don't think we're going to get a lot of extra money but at the same time I think Faulkner is going to be forced off his high horse. In away, that's the main thing now. That's the way I see it.

What have you learnt about organisation and fighting the State through this strike ?

First of all, I would say that among postal workers organisation is very patchy. Sometimes, in some places, it is good. But we're not united. I mean it's the one Union alright, but there's big differences in how far people are prepared to go.

You talk of Independent Working Class Organisation - we didn't have that. It's difficult for me to see how it could happen. This was a national strike. What one set are prepared to do in Sherriff St. is one thing - they were willing to take the bastards on, but there's so many who don't want that. Now, if we want to close down the post and have an effect so that we can win, then we need everyone out. That's where the Union comes in. It's not money - we saw little enough of that. But they get everyone on strike at the one time. We need that.

I think it will be a long time before we can have everyone prepared to take on the Government all the way - not just a handful here and there. And that's where your Independent Working Class Organisation comes in. What worries me is that people will have to cut themselves off - I think it's children and responsibilities which hold people back, and it is hard enough just taking care of those things without mentioning anymore.

4 LIMERICRISIS — AT THE



1 Lana Knit Workers

As the Euro candidates rejoiced in the news of their new £30,000 , 312 workers collected their cheques for the last time at Lana Knit in Shannon. Only 97 workers remain. Many of those made redundant were with the company for 10 to 15 years. News of the redundancies was kept to the minimum. As one worker put it, *" never before have so many jobs been lost with hardly a mention in the papers ! "*. Only one local paper gave good coverage and the national papers hardly touched the issue. This practice is in line with the local bourgeoisie who are desperately trying to prevent any adverse publicity against multinational capital. The redundancies had been expected but no one expected them to take place on such a large scale. For many workers the news brought an end to a long period of uncertainty and difficulty in making decisions about the future.

LANA KNIT is a subsidiary of **JONATHAN LOGAN INC. of New York.** The factory, which was one of the first firms to set up in the **Shannon Industrial Estate** opened up 19 years ago. It was one of the biggest employers in Shannon and at one time provided almost 500 jobs. Two-thirds of its production was exported to the US, the remainder being produced for **Butte Knit, London** whose main outlet is **Marks and Spencer.**

The reasons for the closure were given on an unsigned leaflet distributed to the workers by management. These were :

1. *The rate of inflation in Ireland.*
2. *The rise in transport costs.*
3. *Movements in currency valuation.*
4. *Decline in demand for knitted fabrics.*

In practice this means that the company were unable to find ways to increase the rate of exploitation of Irish workers. The concentration of fabric production in the Far East where the rate of exploitation is very high made Ireland progressively less attractive as a center of production. The fact that the parent company refused to find ways to get Lana Knit on its feet despite persistent lobbying by the local management in Shannon, **SFADCO** (Shannon Free Airport Development Company) and the **IDA** (Industrial Development Authority), gives us some idea of the plans of the parent company. They made a quick kill early on this year when Lana Knit bought over 20 second hand machines from the parent company and for which the 26 Co. State paid an undisclosed subsidy. This type of operation, under what is known as *Transfer Pricing* was explained in issue 10 of Rebel, in an article on the multinational Ely Lily. After 250 hours of production the machines were stopped. It appears the bottom had fallen out of the market.

Restructuring

The appearence of the ex-managing director of Lana Knit who left to set up production in England and who has markets for material led to speculation that a reorganisation of the Shannon plant was being undertaken which would result in increased production in the future but in a situation where wages and conditions would change and reflect the need for a cheaper and more productive workforce. This remains to be seen. The possibility of these behind the scenes actions seem to underlie the statements from Shannon development that *" the intention of Jonathan Logan Inc. was to reorganise its base at Shannon in line with present market demands "* and by Frank Prendergast the Regional Secretary of the ITGWU when he referred to the failure to find markets in both Europe and the USSR, *" there was a lack of interest on the part of the parent company "*.

The redundant workers are to receive 3 and a half weeks pay for every years service and a lump sum of £200 per person. While the workers agreed to accept this offer and declined the offer by the Union to try for more, there is an amount of dissatisfaction with the settlement. Some workers wanted the Union to go for 10 - 12 weeks redundancy money and for negotiating a special case for those over 50 years of age. But this settlement is the average which has been negotiated with multinationals in the country, and the management produced a lot of paperwork to show why they should pay little or no redundancy money. The Union was intent on the *norm* and never really tried for more. The feeling among the workers was that more could have been got but that there was no clear way of getting it.

Men over 50 will find it difficult or impossible to get work. The work processes at other plants like Burlington and IX are different. These workers will also lose out on their retirement schemes. Their only choice is to continue payments from their own pockets. The company has already been on a 3 - day week for the past four winters. If they are still out of work in 2 months time, pay-related benefits will be cut by 25 % . The redundancies will be felt heavily in Shannon town. Many of the early residents of Shannon town worked in Lana Knit, many of whom recently bought homes in Shannon.

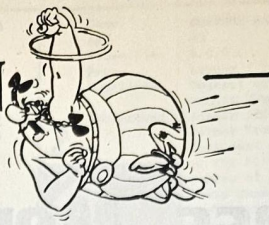
2 Mixer

51 workers at Krupp's in Limerick are to be laid off on Friday 30th July. This is the second time that lay-offs have happened in Krupps this year. 13 workers were laid off just before Christmas.

There is a lot of speculation among workers that this last spate of lay-offs is only the beginning. It is thought that unless things 'pick up' up to 200 workers may have to lose their jobs by next Christmas.

Krupp's has been in Limerick for the past 14 years. The recent lay-offs are the first ever in the history of the company. In the past there has been some internal reorganisation affecting some sections which resulted in relocation of some workers.

JUNCTION



3 Alumina

Eleven carpenters who are members of the UCATT and INUW walked off the site on Thursday 14th June after a disagreement with a supervisor. They placed an unofficial picket which all the workers on the site refused to pass. Aughinish Island is the site of the £287 million biggest-ever industrial project undertaken in the 26 Cos - the Alumina products project involving Alcan and Annaconda two vast multinationals. There are 650 workers affected by the dispute.

The carpenters are employed by Christians Nielson, Collen Brothers on the building of the Marine Terminal. Early in the week, Frank Prendergast, ITGWU Regional Secretary, Alderman and former mayor of Limerick intervened and had the picket lifted on Tuesday. He worked out a deal with management where shop stewards and management will meet every Friday to review conditions and sort out problems before they arise....

Alumina Contractors Ltd., the major contractors expressed grave concern as the dispute ignored the agreed procedures worked out between the Company and all the Unions concerned,. At a Press Conference in the Shannon Arms recently, the personnel Manager for Alumina Contractors Ltd. stated that there had only been 40 minutes lost since work began in June 1978. And despite the atrocious weather conditions all Winter only four hours were lost through wet-time.

hiKRUPPS

This situation is a result of a Company decision to stop production of parts for a mixer and just import the parts from Germany instead. Assembly will still continue here. It is also apparent that there has been a recession in the market for Krupp's products; stocks are building up.

The workers are involved in negotiations for some form of compensation. None of them qualify for redundancy money, as they all have less than three years service. They figure that the company is rich enough and has made enough on the backs of Irish workers, that they should come up with some deal for those who have lost their jobs. With Krupp's Limerick has become a hot area for lay-offs. Ferenka, Lana Knit, Clover Meats and now Krupp's - where does it all end.

4

Cabinet Factory Reshuffle

The strike at the Irish Art Cabinet Factory in Limerick lasted for five weeks. In Rebel no. 12 we reported on the outbreak of this dispute. Throughout the period of the strike the management were involved in a campaign of starving out the workers and forcing them into submission through bluff, intimidation and blatant attempts to divide the strikers.

Management tricks

At a meeting on June 19th with Mr. Lamon of the National Union of Woodworkers and Woodworking Machinists the owners offered the workers a choice of 3 solutions :

1. Accept redundancy for 2 workers one of them, the main spokesperson for the strikers. The rest of the workforce would be kept on as long as the owners calculated the firm was viable. All workers, including the 2 for the chop, would get notice, redundancy pay and holiday pay. On top of this (sic) they offered a lump sum of £500 to be divided among all the nine workers if they agreed to work 10 hours of overtime for free. Alternatively £250 was offered if they refused to do the overtime.
2. All return to work. Acceptance of the phasing out of the workforce (which would probably result in the two workers being given their notice in the near future). No guarantee of jobs for any length of time.
3. Immediate closure of the plant and the calling in of a liquidator.

This attempt to divide and reorganise the workforce was defeated by the strikers who went for option 3. The owners said they would give the position on paper by the following Thursday and undertook to close and cease production as soon as the picket was removed. The management then began to back down. At the Tuesday meeting, all the talk had been about the losses over the past years. By the Thursday, the talk had changed to lamenting the great loss to Limerick IF the place closed down.

On the Friday, the strikers went into the building and removed their tools. Up until then, the scabs had been using the strikers tools. Later on Friday, the boss approached the pickets with their notices. The workers refused to accept notice.

In discussions with the strikers the full extent of the bad pay and conditions became clear. The owners are seen by all as a bad type of employer. Their attitude to workers is like the conditions of the early years of the industrial revolution in the last Century. No singing or talking is allowed on the job. In Winter two miserable electric heaters were turned on for 2 hours to 'heat the place up' - and the workers left to freeze for the rest of the time. The floors have shifted and structurally the building is unsound.

One worker who left his job in order to use his skills as an independent craftsman was reported to the State by the boss. The result was that he (with 8 children) was cut off welfare at Christmas. As there is no contributory pension, one man stayed on working until he was 84 years old, and towards the end when he knocked off early due to fatigue, this was deducted from his miserable wages.

The whole place is operated as a fiddle. In the books are grossly exagerated heating expenses, phone bills for non-existing phones, repairs that never happened and many jobs never entered . It should come as great news to those who have spent up to £3,000 for a table and six chairs or £700 for a wardrobe that in reality the mahogony is back to back plywood, so skillfully polished by underpaid workers, that you would not know the difference. Those nice looking mirrors with that mirror that falls off and which are sold for £70 each are made by one of the bosses in his spare time from leftover pieces of wood and plywood.

The level of dishonesty by the owners, their callous disregard for their workers and their morbid preoccupation with their factory along with their greed for money is nothing new. There are many more in Limerick.

6 I. Class Membership

In the last issue of Rebel we examined the background, the beginning and the internal structure of the Trilateral Commission. In this article we will study the membership of the Commission. The political perspectives advocated and the political implications of Trilateral politics will be examined in a final article in the next issue of Rebel.



The geographical as well as social class distribution of the Trilateral membership 'naturally' follows the founding premise of the organisation "....designed to bring the best brains in the world to bear on the problems of the future. "

For the Trilateral Commission " the world " inevitably implies North America, Japan and Western Europe. Even within Europe, the Trilateral Commission has limited its membership to people from the E.E.C. countries ; only Norway, and very recently Spain, have provided members outside the EEC set-up.

The narrow range of countries involved gets reproduced accurately in the class and occupational breakdown of the Commission members. (see graph).

Bourgeois Majority

The powerful and influential bourgeois classes are well represented with the absolute majority of industrialists, bankers and politicians. Then come their mouthpieces : the academics and the journalists and TV men. Finally there is a small percentage of Trade Unionists - hand-picked to, obviously, provide a populist varnish to the band.

'Exclusive ' though this Commission is, its narrowness and class bias is further distorted by design - as well as by the elitism of ' *personal contacts*' This is flagrantly obvious in the U.S. membership where the Trilateral objective of influencing the agents of political power has produced a situation where the entire Carter Administration was either recruited en bloc into the Trilateral or became a member of the Administration because of Trilateral connections.

The totality of the U.S. foreign policy team , with its front-runners **President Carter, Vice-President Mondale, Blumenthal, Cyrus Vance and Andrew Young** and the advisers **Brzezinski , Cooper, Solomon and Bergston** , are members of the Trilateral. The implications for U.S. foreign policy must be clear.

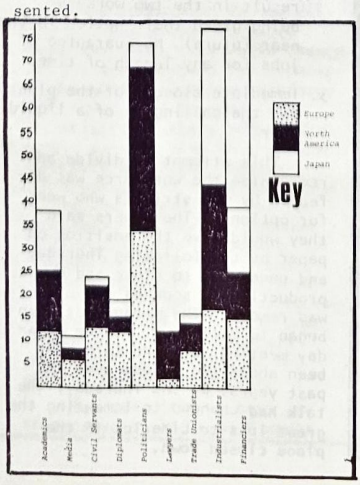
In other countries, the membership list suggests the huge outward reaching tentacles of a U.S. based and dominated structure. A chain is generally forged with other countries by the links of

a. U.S. Ambassadors or former Ambassadors (R.N. Gardner - Ambassador to Italy, A. Armstrong Ambassador to the U.K. 76 - 77, G.Bush , Permanent Rep in the United Nations (70-73) and then Director of the CIA , and others)

b. Members of bilateral Committees, such as the Japan/US Economic Council (from the US , the Sec. of the Treasury Blumenthal and the President of the Bank of America W.Clausen - from Japan S.Hara Chairman of the Bank of Tokyo,N.Hasegawa President of the Sumitomo Chemical Company Ltd and others) or various Atlantic Committees.

c. Already established international policy institutes which provide an essential linking structure in the Trilateral web. In the U.K., for example, both the Royal Institute for International Affairs and the outright counter-revolutionary International Institute for Strategic Studies are well represented (Sir A.Knight member of the RIIA and Chairman of Courtaulds, A.Shonfield , the Director of the RIIA , and others). The Directors of the International Affairs Institutes of Japan (Fuji Kamiya), Canada (P.Dobell), Germany (K.Kaiser), Italy (C. Merlini) and Norway (J.CSanness) are all members of the Trilateral.

Alongside this tentacular structure a second channel of links is provided by the heads of various multinational corporations as well banks. Some twenty members (out of a total of 180) have connections with the Rockefeller Group. Other well-known names such as Exxon, Shell, IBM are well represented.



Given the role of international finance, and the multinational banks in particular, the representation of the banking world in the Trilateral Commission is very sound. The Chase Manhattan Bank, National Reserve Banks from the U.S., Italy, Japan), the IMF and the World Bank are all in the impressive list of Presidents and Chairmen of the banking world.

The Trilateral

These international links are the major connections which draw the European and Irish membership of the Trilateral Commission together. The European membership relies heavily on the **European Movement** - and other individuals who have shown strong inclinations to a united Europe. In the U.K., for example, the Chairman of the European Movement (Lord Harlech) , the one-time Deputy Director (Alan Williams) and the Director of the Britain in Europe Campaign (Sir Con O'Neill) are all members.

In other European countries, the list of Trilateral members sounds like a roll-call of the early history of the E.E.C. Kohnstamm and Wellenstein from Holland, Delouvrier and Gaudet from France, and indirectly G.Schroder from Germany all worked together in the European Coal and Steel Federation - the forerunner of the E.E.C. The Chairman of the European Trilateral Group G.Berthoin (also President of the European Movement) and R,Marjolin (Prof. of Political and Eco. Science with Chase Manhattan and Shell connections) were very very close to the father of the E.E.C. Jean Monnet.

Many feed into government committees.

Overall, it can be argued that the European membership of the Trilateral, compared to that of the US, or even Japan, is weak in its coverage of politicians of the first rank (though usually there is one in each country) and senior civil servants (except in France) . On the contrary though,it is exceptionally strong in industrialists, financiers and diplomats - **many of whom feed into important Government advisory committees.**

This dislocation reflects accurately the different political structure of Europe and the U.S. In the U.S.A. politicians and industrialists are **one and the same** thing. State and capital overlap directly . In Europe, with the exception perhaps of France, the State still retains a certain relative autonomy from capital and civil society.

These last remarks are very crucial if we are to understand the basis of Trilateralism, its sphere of influence and the possible political implications of its very existence.

With such a web of membership Trilateralism does represent a radical new departure in international politics. A departure worth noting and preparing against.

1



Name : ROBINSON MARY
Age : 34
Education : Trinity College
Harvard , King's Inns
Party : Labour (Senator)
Functions : Lecturer , barrister
Background : Vice-chair of Irish Council of European Movement
Chair of Irish Association of European Studies
Member of Vedel Group on Powers of European Parliament
While in Trinity active right-winger opposing all democratic and progressive students.
Active in " womens issues " but considers the womens Movement a " radical fringe " .
Executive member of the Trilateral Comm.
Favours changing Articles 2 and 3 of the Constitution.

2

Name : DESMOND BARRY
Age : 43
Education : U.C.C.
Party : Labour (T.D.)
Functions : Council of State
County Councillor
Background : Former ITGWU official
Former Treasurer and Vice-President of Irish Council of the European Movement.
Member of 8 State or semi-State Committees or Boards.
Member of Anti-Apartheid League.
Chief Whip of the LP
'Considered ' a liberal.
Member of the Dail/Seanad Committee on Secondary legislation of the EEC



3

Name : KILLEEN MICHAEL
Age : 50
Education : TCD - Econ. and Po.Sci.
Background : Managing Director of the IDA
Director of Shannon Dvpt. Coras Tractala
Former Deputy-General and General Manager of Coras Tractala.
Worked in the Dpt. of Industry and Commerce
Vice-President of Irish Council of Eur.Mvt.
Favours European unity
Vigorous defender of international capital investment in Ireland.



On 30th Nov. 1978 , Mary Robinson,in a letter to Hibernia, admitted her membership of the Trilateral and argued that she was *"....aware of the risk of corruption or contamination, which can result from close contact with bankers, representatives of multinationals and right-wing politicians. The choice is a straightforward one: either to boycott all bodies which contain such people among their membership, or to work with fellow socialists within the group to influence the Trilateral Commission to direct its attention and resources to the urgent problems of world development.....etc etc ..."*

In fact, Mary Robinson told us nothing new except that she is active and influential in this elite band of reaction. We have since learnt that Mary Robinson convenes the meetings of the Irish members in Leinster House..... whether that is ethical or not we are not in a position to answer.

Mary Robinson is also Vice Chairperson of the **Irish Council of the European Movement.** In that capacity she works in close co-operation with **Barry Desmond, Michael Killeen & Michael O' Kennedy** - all members of the Trilateral Commission. Here are their profiles.

Robinson and her fellow socialists.

Name : O'KENNEDY MICHAEL
Age : 42
Education : Maynooth , UCD, King's Inns
Party : Fianna Fail T.D.
Function : Minister of Foreign Affairs
Background : Former senator
Irish rep at Council of Europe and OECD.
Former executive and Vice-President of the Irish Council of the European Movement
Member of the Dail/Seanad Committee on Secondary legislation of the EEC.

4



One interesting aside which connects Michael O'Kennedy and Barry Desmond is their support and membership of the **Anti-Apartheid Group .**

All these people are also members of an obscure Dail Committee called **Dail/Seanad Committee on Secondary Legislation for the EEC.** Nobody knows much about this Committee except that it is very active and produces constant reports on all kinds of subjects. Another member of this Committee is **Senator K.Whittaker** who distinguished himself recently by calling on the Government to

(continued on page 8)

al Commission

II.

Irish Members

This tentacular growth of U.S. influence in world politics has inevitably made some serious inroads in Irish politics as well. To our knowledge, EIGHT political personalities have had direct connections with the Trilateral Commission , while a number of others have had more indirect and peripheral dealings.

As far as the Trilateral is concerned, the most important Irish member is **MARY ROBINSON** - who is an Executive member . An appointed member of the Seanad and a recent member of the Labour Party , Mary Robinson is well-known for her ' liberal ' and progressive views on such themes as contraception, womens rights, family law etc. Here is her profile:

8

(continued from page 7)

increase the intervention of the Army in situations of strikes. Whittaker is also a member of the Trilateral Commission. Here is his profile.

Name	:	Whitaker Kenneth
Age	:	63
Background	:	Top civil servant in Dept. of Finance for over 20 years. As Secretary, produced Plan for Economic Development, which as the first economic plan opened 26 Cos to foreign capital. Instigator of Lemass - O'Neill meetings. Instrumental in negotiations for EEC. Set up the ESRI with a Ford Foundation Grant. 1970 - 1977 Govenor; of Central Bank. 1977 - appointed to Senate by Fianna Fail (refused Party Whip.) On board of many public and private Cos.

5



Two lesser known members of the Trilateral are Myles Staunton and F.H.Boland. Less ' public ' than the people mentioned so far they carry on their subversive work quietly and away from the harsh light of publicity.

Name	:	STAUNTON MYLES
Age	:	43
Education	:	Clongowes and University of California.
Party	:	Fine Gael Senator
Background	:	Poultry farmer Company Director Former T.D. Vice-President of Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Co-operation Member of Dail/Seanad Com. on Secondary legislation for the EEC.

6



7



Name	:	BOLAND H. FREDERICK
Age	:	69
Education	:	Clongowes, Trinity, Harvard Chicago, North Carolina
Background	:	Director of Fitzwilton Guinness Irish Distillers I.B.M. Investment Bank Independent Newsp Insurance Corp.of Ireland Cement Ltd. Member of the Royal Irish Academy. Former Chancellor of Trinity Former Irish rep in the U.N. Former Ambassador to U.K. Negotiated Marshall Aid.

Finally there is the dark horse of the band. This fellow is a very recent member . His name is **Dan Murphy** and is at present General Secretary of the **Civil Service Executive and Higher Officers Association** - a ' Trade Union' of sorts. Little is known about him except that he worked in the Department of Transport and Power for three years between 1965-68. But as it is usual for Trilateral members he is about to rise in stature for - we predict - he will be elected unopposed to a high position in the General Meeting of the ICTU in Bandoran which is taking place as these lines are being written.

Name	:	Murphy Dan
Age	:	32
Functions	:	General Secretary 11 years of Civil Service Executive Union. On Secondment from Dept. of Transport & Power.
Background	:	ICTU Executive since 1972. Vice-President ICTU Member of National Economic & Social Council European Social Fund Committee Employer-Labour Conference Working Comm. Public Services Comm. Congress since 1969 International & EEC Committee of ICTU.

8



NAMES ASSOCIATED WITH THE TRILATERAL COMMISSION

Alza Corp.	*Honeywell Inc.*
American Express	*Hudsons Oil*
Anaconda	*IBM*
Arabian Oil Co.	*Imperial Oil*
Banque de Paris	*Internat. Nickel*
Bank of Amer.	*Japan Airlines*
Bank of Eng.	*Lehman Bros.*
Bank of Tokyo	*Levi-Strauss*
Barclays Bank	*Lloyds Bank*
Baring Bros.	*Mitsubishi*
Beechams	*Mobil Oil*
Bell	*Mobil Oil*
Blohm-Voss	*Morgan Trust*
British Air.	*Nikon*
British Steel	*Orion Bank*
Cargill Inc.	*Pan American*
Caterpillar	*Peugeot-Citroen*
Chase Manhatten	*Phillips*
Coca Cola	*Proctor & Gamble*
Contin. Oil	*Pye*
Courtaulds	*Quaker Oats*
Deere & Co.	*Rand Corp.*
Dunlop	*Rio Tinto Zinc*
Exxon	*Rolls Royce*
Fiat	*Rothmans*
First Chicago	*Rothschild*
Ford	*Sears-Roebuck*
General Elec.	*Shell*
General Foods	*Sony Corp.*
Weston Ltd.	*Standard Oil*
Guinness	*TWA*
Hanover Trust	*Texaco*
Hewlett-Pick.	*Time Inc.*
Hitachi Ltd.	*Toyota*
Honda	*Unilever*
Xerox	*Westinghouse*

...& Subs

Outside these 8, there are a few others like **Garret Fitzgerald Frank Cluskey and John Hume** who participate in occasional meetings or consultations but are not official members. Fitzgerald, for example, played a prominent role in the **BILDEBERG meeting** which took place in Torquay - England in 1977. Cluskey went to the Washington meeting of the Trilateral at the end of 1978.

Also it has recently come to our attention that a number of important ICTU personalities like **R.Roberts and D.Nevin** have worked in conjunction with Trilateral members on a Report on Industrial Relations. Which may go some way towards explaining the political positions of these individuals.

Also important to note is the work of Trilateral members like Whittaker in relation to the war in the 6 Counties through their participation in organisations like **Co-operation North**. Further, a number of meetings have been taking place in the **Glencree Reconciliation Centre** where members of the U.D.A. , ex-Peace Movement people, Garret Fitzgerald and members of Provisional Sinn Fein have had *discussions about federalism* and other such matters.

As a conclusion, it can be safely argued that Trilateralism will increasingly influence Irish politics not only in a general sense but in particular through areas like

* European integration
* NATO and neutrality
* Nuclear Power
* Political prisoners
* Unity of the 32 Counties.

The subversives of the Trilateral are among us. They work in the Dail, in the Trade Unions, in political Parties, in public and not-so-public meetings, through the media, through gossip. They have to be isolated, located, politically criticised, fought against. Their objective is clear:

" We have come to recognise that there are potentially desirable limits to economic growth. There are also potentially desirable limits to the indefinite extension of political democracy-"

(from The Crisis of Democracy)

Such politics are anti-working class and anti-communist through and through. In the next issue of Rebel we will study in detail the political solutions advocated by the Trilateral Commission. In the meantime, we urge our readers to respond to these articles with any further info they may have. We also ask all of you who are reading these lines to circulate the information as widely as possible. The more people know about the Trilateral the less effective that reactionary band will be.

CLASSified

Trinity College was host to the latest in the Christians for Socialism Seminars on Saturday June 16th. With the theme *Socialists and the National Question* the morning session closed in a shambles of cross-shouting and abuse between participants. In the afternoon, Seamus Rhatigan of the Socialist Party, John Goodwillie of the Socialist Labour Party continued what the British and Irish Communist Organisation had presented in the morning. Again, in the absence of strong chairing, the S.P.I. theme of *rooting out nationalism from the labour movement* was met with jeers, heckling and catcalls instead of the discussion the 50 or so in the audience expected.

•••••••

Representatives of the Shannon Development Company and the Government have met to discuss the proposed *substantial rent rises* for dwellings on the Shannon estate. Shannon - the State-controlled town with no local authority - has been hard hit by the loss of jobs at Scripto and Lana Knit, whose former workers will now face the dole and a rent rise.

★

Two weeks ago in Greenfields in Galway, local people took on Galway Corporation. The fight was over allowing traffic into their area. Local people say that without any proper play area, they are not willing to let traffic up the streets. They erected bollards to stop the cars at the entrance to the estate, and when the Corpo sent diggers to get rid of them - women, children and men sat down and blocked the road. So far the people are winning. The diggers were forced to leave. Watch this page for more news.



One Friday 15th June, 4 young boys were caught in the Mayfair Supermarket in Mayfield Cork and taken to the Bridewell. They were beaten and charged with *breaking and entering*. One of the boys was caught with a packet of chewing gum in his pocket. After 8 hours in the Bridewell, parents still hadn't been informed. Two of the boys were aged 15, the others 16 and 17. Three of them had no previous convictions. A court set-up in the police station remanded the boys in Limerick prison for the week-end. ..they were refused bail. On Monday the 4 boys were brought handcuffed into the courtroom. One of the 15 year olds with his hand still bandaged and thumb in pin from a fracture received when his hand was jammed in a door in the Bridewell.
The case was adjourned until monday 2nd July.

Democracy?

According to one of the talleymen of the local election candidates, the total of voters for Dublin's DARNDALE estate was 50.

We print below a summarised version of a report sent to us from a comrade in West Cork of a meeting organised by the East Cork branch of the Anti-Apartheid Movement on June 18th. The theme of the meeting was *Irish Political Parties and the Fight Against Apartheid*.

Speaking to the meeting were **Dr. Kadar Asmal**, law professor from TCD and chairman of the IAAM (Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement), **Sean Kelleher**, Sinn Fein - the Workers Party (SF-WP) ; **Paddy Hegarty**, TD, FG; and **John Brosnan** MCC, FF. **Eileen Desmond**, LP was unable to attend at the last minute.

The shallowness of the politicians supposedly representing our interests was soon detected by the packed gathering. Paddy Hegarty argued that *the Irish people could not do nothing* or else the baddies (China, Russia and Cuba) would intervene in South Africa. John Brosnan following falteringly in the steps of his recently deceased father, was almost as uniformed, although he at least admitted his ignorance.

Sean Kelleher, on the other hand, showed some understanding of the situation in South Africa and argued for an Irish delegation to be sent to the area to observe at first hand. He challenged the Government's dreadful voting record in the United Nations and pointed to the flood of racist propaganda in the Irish media. 20,000 free copies of *To The Point* , a pro-apartheid South African magazine, and paid visits by Irish journalists were given as examples of this.

The key address of the evening was delivered by the South African exile Dr. Asmal. Asmal captivated the audience with his profound knowledge of the South African situation. He urged politicians to do more than pay lip-service to the fight against apartheid. *"South Africa is the only country in the world to enshrine racism in its constitution "* he said. *"For 60 years the majority of its people used non-violent Ghandian methods to affect change, but the Government answered these pacifist calls with bullets and imprisonment "*. Asmal added, *"In South Africa it is illegal even to be non-violent in your political tactics. This is why the pacifist Steve Biko had to be murdered in jail, lest his spirit of liberation infect others "*.

To the shock of the audience, Asmal cited a whole array of statistics, proving that the EEC is the *lifeblood of apartheid*., and that multinationals with oil, banking, mineral, and nuclear interests, such as Shell, BP, Total (remember the Betelgeuse) are providing unlimited loans, resources, and mercenaries. He pointed out the the EEC parliament had recently adopted a report which supports apartheid - contrary to the UN, World Council of Churches, the Vatican and the world trade union movement.

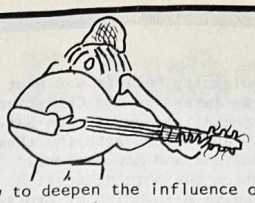
In conclusion, Asmal argued for adopting some concrete suggestions and putting pressure on the Government to :

1. Argue to close the EEC 's South African Embassy
2. Stop emigration to South Africa.
3. Ban sportsmen and cultural events going there or coming here.
4. Make illegal the recruitment and service as a mercenary.
5. Stop all loans etc. to the regime.
6. Stop entrance of South Africans to this country.
7. Reject the Internal settlement.
8. Support the World Community views inside the UN.

Charles Hayes thanked the speakers and reminded the audience that Mrs. Thatcher's Tory observers at the recent Rhodesian elections had declared it *fair* even though the country is 90% under martial law and hundreds of thousands in concentration camps. As proof of the election fraud, he cited that in two areas the turnout had been 101% and 108% respectively, while prisoners, allowed to vote for the first time, turned out a perfect 100% vot. Fr. Slattery ended the meeting (recently returned from Zimbabwe) by warning the audience about easy platitudes over violence.

" It would be arrogant for us to tell them how to win their independence. Our role is to give them support ".

Back to the Point !



Thousands and thousands are requested to attend the 2nd Anti-Nuclear Power Show at Carnsore Point Wexford on August 17th - 19th.

Money, food, marguees, music, exhibitions and site preparations are being organised by a collective from anti-nuclear groups all over the country. The Power Show which will be held, as last year, at the ESB site where Jack Lynch tells us 2 nuclear reactors will be built.

The demonstration will be a response to the EEC HEADS of Government statement of intent to expand the nuclear programme in Europe. Comrades from the anti-nuclear movement in Europe, US and elsewhere are invited to participate in this fifth mass assembly of the anti-Nuclear Movement in the 32 Cos.

This annual demonstration on the proposed site of the reactors is itself an important national statement of resistance to the nuclear plans and follows a year of anti-nuclear activity across the country which was largely a product of last years successful and enjoyable rally.

This year the emphasis in workshops and discussions will be how to deepen the influence of the anti-nuclear movement amongst working people, assessing the political direction of the movement and the strategy of the pro-nuclear forces in Ireland and internationally.

Some of the finest musicians in the country have already said they wish to contribute to the show and theatre, film and video shows are also planned.

For those in Dublin who want to help organisers meet every Wednesday in the MEETING PLACE in Dorset Street where benefit gigs to raise money for Carnsore happen each week.

ANTI NUCLEAR MOVEMENT



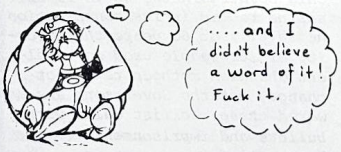
Cork fun & games

On Saturday 21st July, the Cork North City Anti-Nuclear Group are organising an Anti-Nuclear Power Show. It starts at 3.00pm with an exhibition of all contributors to the Arts and Posters competition and judging of entries. The competition is open to City and County under 19 and over 5's. Also the video of Carnsore 1978 and an anti-nuclear film, workshops and music.

At 8.00 pm a major Carnsore Festival benefit will include Southpaw, Jimmy Crowley & Stokers Lodge, Champain and Tony Ryan & Friends. Adm to concert is 50p. While the group is fighting for the right to use Connolly Hall, the venue is not yet confirmed. Keep your eye on the walls of Cork for details of venue.

CORK-CARNSORE TRAIN - tickets available this year must be bought in advance. At this event on 21st July or in
Ursula's Record Shop, Natural Foods, 30 Paul St., Swaps Shop McCurtain St.





On Saturday 30th June, a member of the Cork North City Anti-Nuclear Group was arrested and taken into custody for distributing leaflets. He was one of those attending the film *The China Syndrome* a film about a core meltdown in a nuclear power plant... a horror film..... yet, a similar type of accident occurred in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania about 3 weeks after the film was released. The leaflet being distributed drew attention to that nightmare and to the F.F./ EEC/multinationals plans for 2 nuclear stations at Carnsore Point Co. Wexford, uranium mining in Ireland and the investigations taking place in the Wicklow Mts. for a nuclear waste dump.

One of the 'patrons' complained and the man was asked to leave the foyer of the opera house. He moved to the footpath outside and was immediately snatched by by the police and shoved into a police car. Many of those attending the film were shocked by the police action and protested at the man's arrest. He was charged with *"obstruction"* and *assaulting a police officer*. To a courtroom packed with anti-nukes last Monday, the case was remanded until friday July 27th. Sounds like a date to remember and a time for some protesting in and around the courtroom. The case starts at 10.30 in the morning so anti-nukes heading for Cork will need an early start.

Fianna Fail and the EEC have decided that Ireland will go nuclear irrespective of the 'public enquiry'. Their cards are on the table. A week later the first arrest of an anti-nuclear activist takes place in this country, for distributing a leaflet on the dangers of nuclear power. A number of months ago, other anti-nukes in Tipperary were harrassed by the police. Capital and State needs nuclear....that much is clear. The history of this industry so far is of bribery, corruption and murder. We need to be well prepared for a battle that will have many sides to it - that will require our imagination and our power and our capacity and willingness to fight with all that have, to do whatever needs to be done to halt the march of nuclear destruction into this country.

Cork North City Anti-Nuclear Group meets every Tuesday at 8 pm above Hydes Restaurant in McCurtain St.



NICARAGUA

The **Sandinista National Liberation Front** fighting for one year now against the 40 year long dictatorship of **General Somoza** have organised a *Provisional Government*. Its political wing - the **United Peoples Movement** has for a direction a 9 person **Sandinista National Directory.**

Representing the Sandinistas in the Provisional Government will be **Moises Hassan**, a 37 year old University scientist, teacher and political leader. Accompanying him will be Daniel **Ortega**, a nationally known Sandinista and guerilla leader. A wealthy industrialist **Alfonso Rebelo** has been invited to join the Provisional Government representing employers and business interests. The widow of assassinated newspaper owner, **Pedro Chamorro-Violetta de Chamorro** is present, presumably for the middle classes.

500 guerillas were fighting ing in a column in Eastern Managua - the capital - on June 19th. However, the Sandinistas expect to establish a new capital in the town of **Rivas**. Volunteers have joined them from other Latin American countries. 30 of the Columbian Embassy staff responded to their call. Military aid from Costa Rica, Venezuela and Mexico has now transformed the former guerillas into an alternative regular army to the U.S.-backed National Guard.



President Somoza

A Sandinista guerrilla with captured automatic rifle guards a Nicaragua National Guard deserter



Stability operations

What goes on inside the U.S. Embassy in countries *friendly* to the United States ?

Well, we all know. Visas, passports, work permits, parties, visits of businessmen and old ladies - that's all.

Or is it ?

The H.Q. of the U.S. Army has published a handbook for secret service agents operating clandestinely in European countries. This handbook/manual carries the serial number FM 30-31 B and is entitled STABILITY OPERATIONS INTELLIGENCE FIELD MANUAL . (see reproduction of cover below). It was first edited in 1970 and almost certainly revised every two years. Major Keller of the Pentagon in a letter to the Spanish magazine TRIUNFO - who first published details of the manual - confirmed that such a manual did in fact exist.



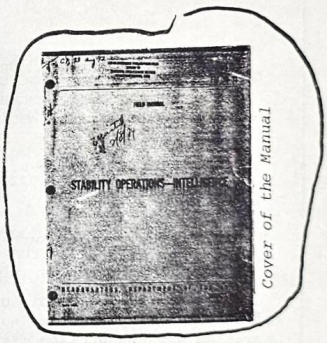
Gen. Westmoreland - Author of the Manual

The handbook is 100-pages long divided neatly in 10 chapters with four appendices. The wording is of heavy military jargon type and is "....*designed for use in association with U.S.Embassies or U.S.military Bases*".

The manual explicitly states that economic , political and military intervention are all *options* for U.S. intervention in countries " *Threatened by communism* " . The manual sees communism as a process escalating in clear and distinct stages. At each point (stage) "*...decisive interventions* " are examined designed to resolve the ' threat ' at that level.

Separate sections deal with *psychological operations, how to handle politicians, contact with agencies likely to combat communism,* right through to naked war situations , which are envisaged as "*...insurrections* " .The intervention of U.S. agents, the manual says, " *can take many forms* " .

In aggressive language, the manual goes through ways of *counter-spying, methods of infiltration of organisations and political parties, interrogation and ' open war '.* What is most bizarre about this manual is not that it exists, which is in itself no surprise , but that it envisages intervention in situations of open working class offensive as exists today in this country.



Cover of the Manual

Manual FM 30-31 B elaborates on the U.S. Army's worries and headaches over the development of communism "...*not similar to Soviet - Eastern bloc communism* ". ' Stabilisation " is a recurrent theme of the contents, stabilisation by any means necessary. There are sections on the setting-up of para-military groups and even *inflitration of social worker groups.*

So 43 Elgin Rd. may after all not be such a peaceful and friendly Embassy. It could very well be a centre of STABILITY OPERATIONS. A bit like the LOW INTENSITY OPE_ RATIONS of Brigadier Kitson .

A subject matter to investigate this one , for sure !

Editorial

The first 6 months of 1979 have been a period of intense and deep economic crisis. The incapacity of capital and its ruling Party - Fianna Fail - to control and overcome this spiral of ups and downs has provoked a political situation where *nothing* is certain and *everything seems possible*. Working class people are confronted with a Government which prides itself in rigidity and lack of response to the demands of the people , which wants to centralise decision making and control, but which is also *a weak Government* which is continuously forced to give way - at times in full panic.

This creates a definite vacuum in Irish politics where the peoples enemy is so unsure and paralytic that it destabilises the peoples side as a result. Whether this sort of *hit-and-run* type of politics is planned or unconscious is immaterial. The implications though are very important. For, on the peoples side clarity and unity of purpose don't rule O.K. The inconsistency and divisions among the ruling class are **reflected symmetrically** among the people. And that makes the situation in the 26 Counties open and potentially explosive but not, definitely not, revolutionary.

In this period, Revolutionary Struggle has argued and tried to put into practice a form of politics and organisation which breaks sharply with the traditional divisions of economics/politics or Trade Union / Party. In issue no.6 of Rebel we defined this form of organisation thus:

"....Organisation, working with other people similar to yourself, is the only way to rediscover ways and means of building a society fit for intelligent human beings out of the misery of capitalism. Organisation is direct control of facts (analysis) and direct control of activity as well as the objectives of action (programme) . Now how many people in Trade Unions, in the Labour Party or in any other organisation which ' pretends ' to represent the working class can truthfully argue that they are in direct control of the ideas, the facts and the activity - as well as the objectives of that activity ? "

Recent developments, the post office workers strike and the ICTU acrobatics over the wages issue show clearly that Trade Unions are not - cannot be - that form of organisation. But the answer lies neither in the blind wish of many ' lefties ' to turn those Trade Unions to the left or - at best - make them capable of looking after the workers' economic demands while the ' Party ' takes care of ' politics ' . It is this division which is in the heart of many schizophrenic attitudes to politics in Ireland. Last week, in the High Court, the legal men of the ITGWU refused to represent members of the Union - striking workers at MacDonald's - because they had broken a State Court injunction. An affidavit signed by the Branch Secretary of the no.4 Branch gave details of how the Union collaborates with the repressive forces giving them a roster of names of those who were to be on the ' official ' Union picket. And then people wonder why every single militant on that picket gets visited by the Branch. Tell me who your friends are to tell who you are.

** ** **

Last weekend in Kilkenny, comrades of RS from all different parts of the country met to discuss these questions - and more specifically the role and function of a communist organisation in this process. We discussed our experiences in the anti-nuclear movement, in workplaces, in the different communities around the 32 Counties. We looked at our strategy and compared views and ideas of how it has worked or how it can be improved.

Our collective primary objective is to build a tight revolutionary communist organisation capable of deepening the crisis of capital and (with working class people) able to defend working class gains and interests.

This is our objective. The need for independent working class organisation can only be answered by the class itself. In the contradictory but convergent development of the two separate strands of our work we see the only possible basis for the development of a working class Party.

On the basis of our work and analysis over the last four-five years we see as our primary target of attack **the process of concensus / control and legitimacy attempted by capital in this country in collaboration and conjunction with international capital.**

These (necessarily) summarised points of strategy will be explained and debated around in the coming issues of Rebel. As an organisation we realise fully that the point made by the comrade working in the Post Office (see p.3) : *" All this involves sacrifices and heaviness and many are presently not prepared to go through this "....*is only too true. But isn't he expressing the fundamental difference between those who define themselves as militants and the other very few who are giving themselves to the task of building organisation for communism. Not forgetting that only a couple of hundred miles north there are a good number of brothers and sisters who are giving all they have - including their lives - for a free and united Ireland. It is this reality of our 32 Counties which weighs heavily on our decisions and makes us - as the comrades of Republican News recently informed us - *" more conscientious ...to these issues than many other similar groups "* . That is at least what we would like to believe and if the Republican comrades agree it makes us so much stronger.

If you like REBEL and you want to know more about Revolutionary Struggle - write to us .

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