



Eire Nua

SHANTALLOW NEWS

Sinn Féin
for a New Ireland!

Peace-Justice-Prosperity-Freedom

Number 48: 27 Eanáir 1978 - 27 January 78 - Published by Shantallow Sinn Féin

Brits in Shantallow Like Fleas on a Dog: Daily Raids

This past week has seen one of the heaviest presences of Brits on raiding forays in Shantallow for some time. Each day this past week, save Sunday, they were out in pre-dawn raids, terrifying peacefully sleeping children into squealing bags of nerves as the well-known "Big Knock" came to the doors. Families were left fatherless for days as the Brits in most cases took the men away with them, telling their wives "he won't be out for seven days, and maybe not then." (This was unnecessary harassment of these men's wives, as in no case was anyone held longer than two days, nor was anyone charged: these raids were designed solely to annoy whole families and coerce and intimidate them.

These raids come at a time when Mr Mason's obvious failure to "smash the I.R.A." has made him a laughing-stock throughout Ireland, and more importantly, when the support for the Republican Movement in Derry has grown stronger than ever before. Particularly with the successes of the Advice Centres, and with increasing support for those men and women suffering "on the blanket" in Long Kesh and Armagh, Mason and his crew find it necessary more than ever to intimidate civilians who support the policies of Republican Movement, particularly against the empty British political policies for these Six Counties. To Mason and his gang of Khaki-clad thugs, we say: It doesn't matter how often you raid Leafair and Moyola Drive (Monday), Moss Park (Tuesday) Shantallow (Wednesday), or Danesfort, Castlevue, and the Crescent (Thursday). Nor does it matter if you raid the backs of the Carranbane Walk flats (although God knows there is already enough rubbish back there!) We are the risen people, we are proud, and we will not be intimidated.

ONE FOR THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS

For those who are not fortunate enough to get out once taken away by the Brits, the story is a bit different. Consider the case of one Shantallow girl, Pauline McLaughlin.

According to Fr. Paul, her case "looks like becoming a legal record for the Guinness Book of Records." She has been held on remand -- and remember one is supposed INNOCENT

until proved guilty -- in Armagh Gaol for 17 months. This amounts to 68 long weeks -- almost double the average length of remand. In a recent Commons reply, Mr. Mason admitted 36 weeks to be the usual length of remand, and even said, "this is too long."

Fr. Paul says, "This tragic situation should be ended. The girl should get bail or the charges be dropped immediately." As well, this girl has been kept in solitary confinement the last 27 days in Armagh.

CHILDREN'S QUIZ (50p to the 1st child under 14 turning in a set of correct answers to the Sinn Féin Advice Centre, Shantallow)

- 1) What date did Brian Faulkner introduce internment?
- 2) What is the women's version of hurling called?
- 3) What does "Sinn Féin" mean?
- 4) What is the world's tallest dog?

Answers to last week's quiz:

- 1) Wolfe Tone isn't the Father of Republicanism.
- 2) 15 players on a hurling team.
- 3) "Eire Nua" means Sinn Féin's New Ireland, as outlined in our policy documents.
- 4) The first civil rights march in Derry took place on the 5th of October 1968.

Last week's winner

John Harkin
83 Ardnamoyle Park

CLERIC ON LASTING PEACE

Archbishop O'Fiaich isn't the only Christian who sees the futility of Britain's presence here in our land. Writing in the Irish Times recently, Rev. Joseph Dunne, former Director of the Catholic Communications Institute and who now works with Radharc Films and the Research and Development Commission of the Catholic Hierarchy, said, "The IRA will not be defeated by any kind of force. The activity of the British Army is one of the factors that gives it strength and life."

Among other things, he said, "Independence and unity for the island of Ireland is the only solution that offers any hope of lasting peace in the North."

TENANTS' ASSOCIATION FORMING

There is considerable interest in a tenants' association for the Carranbane Flats, and shortly residents will be circularised to invite their response to this idea.

==SPECIAL BLOODY SUNDAY EDITION

of "Republican News" -- with Special 8 page Supplement on Bloody Sunday -ON SALE NOW!!

BLOODY SUNDAY 6th ANNIVERSARY

This Sunday marks the 6th anniversary of the brutal and tragic murders by the Paratroopers on Bloody Sunday of 14 unarmed Derrymen marching peacefully for their rights in their own city.

The march forms up at Creggan shops at 2:30 p.m. this Sunday, and it is likely there will be buses going directly to Creggan from Shantallow shops, leaving about 2:15 p.m. (Watch for notices in the shops at Shantallow)

The march follows the same route as the original Bloody Sunday march and we are expecting a very large crowd, along with numerous bands and several prominent Republican speakers.

BILLETS NEEDED:

A number of people from out-of-town are coming up for the Bloody Sunday commemoration. If anyone can provide overnight accomadation for one or more people -- nothing elaborate -- would you please give your name in to the staff at the Shantallow Sinn Féin Centre, or any Sinn Féin Centre. Many thanks.

CONTINUED TORTURE AT STRAND RD. RUC

The case of a young Bishop Street man this past week deserves special mention, particularly as we come up to the anniversary of Bloody Sunday, where young men and boys died for marching for the basic right to freedom from unjust imprisonment.

This young man was awakened from his bed at 6 a.m. Monday by the loud thumps of the B.A. on his door and arrested and taken to Strand Rd. Barracks.

For the next 33 hours he was so severely and continually beaten that he passed out three times. He remembers coming to and the RUC and Brits walking him around the RUC yard to give him enough air to revive him for a further beating.

On one occasion during this marathon of beating and interrogation, this young man asked the RUC to shoot him -- THIS is what is meant by torture, no matter if Britain can twist Strasbourg's hand and call it merely "inhuman & degrading treatment." The next time his family saw him, it was in Altnagelvin Hospital on Tuesday.