

The Lark & the Freedom Fighter



BOBBY SANDS, P.O.W., M.P. for Fermanagh/S.Tyrone

"Like the lark, I too have fought for my freedom, not only in captivity, where I now languish, but also while on the outside, where my country is held captive. I have been captured and imprisoned, but, like the lark, I too have seen the outside of the wire cage . . . I refuse to change to suit the people who oppress, torture and imprison me, and who wish to dehumanise me. Like the lark I need no changing. It is my political ideology and principles that my captors wish to change. They have suppressed my body and attacked my dignity. If I were an ordinary prisoner they would pay little, if any, attention to me, knowing that I would conform to their institutional whims . . . I have been stripped of my clothes and locked in a dirty, empty cell, where I have been starved, beaten, and tortured, and like the lark I fear I may eventually be murdered. But, dare I say it, similar to my little friend the lark, I have the spirit of freedom that cannot be quenched by even the most horrendous treatment. Of course I can be murdered, but while I remain alive, I remain what I am, a political prisoner of war, and no-one can change that".

From the writings of BOBBY SANDS

Born in Belfast 1954. Joined the Republican Movement in his teens. Arrested and imprisoned by the British in 1973. Arrested again and imprisoned in October 1976. Sentenced to 14 years in September 1977. He immediately joined the "Blanket" protest for Political Status. He went on Hunger Strike on 1st March 1981. Elected M.P. for Fermanagh/S.Tyrone on 9th April 1981 by 30,492 votes. Died in Long Kesh prison on 5th May 1981 after 66 days without food. He died that others might be free.

— MAY HE REST IN PEACE —