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FAULKNER

Li-General Harry Crawford Tuzo

WOULD YOU BUY A USED CAR FROM MR BRIAN FAULKNER, PRIME MINISTER OF NORTHERN IRELAND? WHO WOULD AFTER LISTENING TO WHAT HE SAID LAST WEEK. HE IS PERHAPS THE LEAST LIKED, LEAST TRUSTED AND MOST BLATANT OPPORTUNIST PRIME MINISTER WE IN THE NORTH HAVE EVER HAD THE MISFORTUNE TO GUIDE US. IN AN ATTEMPT TO STEER A MIDDLE COURSE, FAULKNER BROUGHT INTO HIS CABINET HARRY WEST, THE SHADY PLANNER FROM FERMANAGH, AND DAVID BLEAKLEY, THE POLITICAL OPPORTUNIST FROM NILP.

Having thus established his good credentials as a tight-rope walker, Faulkner is now attempting to re-write history. Last week he claimed he resigned from O'Neill's cabinet because the pace of reform was too slow. This is just not true.

Faulkner resigned because he realised O'Neill was tottering and Faulkner hoped his resignation would push O'Neill out and allow him the Premier ship. This was not to be, Clarke defeated Faulkner by the one vote, leaving him in the wilderness for two years. Last week a liar, this, a strong right wing. Having tried to push the army into shooting at anyone acting suspiciously, Faulkner in his frantic efforts to appease his right wing critics, has persuaded the British Government to agree to the setting up of a new full time unit within the U.D.R.

What we are now to get is a new full time force recruited from the ranks of the UDR, and approximately 600-800 strong. When after August 69 the UDR was announced, it was part of a plan to abolish the 'B' Specials. Now in fact the UDR has gradually come to replace the 'Bs'. The new force obviously

will merely continue the tactics of the old 'B' Specials. Certainly the fact they will be an integral part of the Army and under its command should fool no one.

In military terms there is no justification for the new force. We already have 19,000 British Troops on full time duty and 4,000 part-time U.D.R. men, plus 3,000 full time police many of whom are now armed. There is also a police reserve for times of trouble. With new equipment such as crowd control machines and the infamous stun gun as well as the normal equipment of today's Professional killers, the British Army needs no assistance.

But this new force is needed to bolster the political position of Faulkner. Already Tuzo has made it clear he expects some political solution is necessary to relieve his poor harassed army who unfortunately are not allowed free rein here; they have to observe the normal democratic procedure; so unlike Aden, Malaya, Kenya and Cyprus where the troops had free licence to kill and 'terrorise the terrorists' (Mad Mitchs phrase).

So something has to be done. The shattering of confidence in Faulkners Government has been quick. The chaos of murder, ambushes, explosions, gun-battles, etc. has meant the almost collapse of Faulkners spineless coalition Government. On the one hand the grass-roots of Unionism, now appalled by the weakness and fumbblings of Faulkner have swung to Paisley and Craig. The beginning of Sundays Orange March in Dungiven can only

further disillusion the Orange masses in the Unionist Govt. Faulkner now becomes another Lundy.

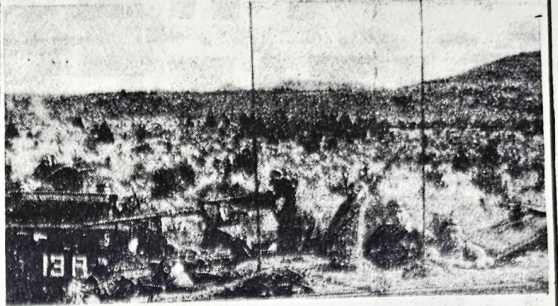
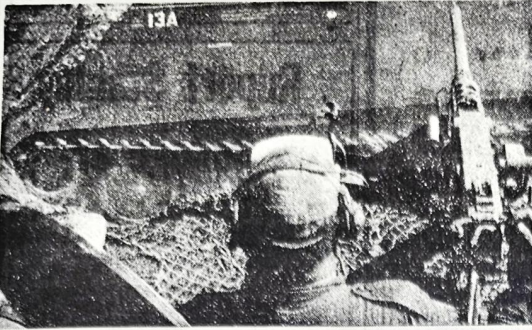
On the other hand the boob by Maurice Hayes in making off the record comments to Irish reporters is symptomatic of how even members of the administration regard the Faulkner cabinet; totally dishonest and untrustworthy. All the signs are there of a tottering Government desperately trying to regain credit by returning to the old style traditional Unionism.

By now it is clear that the whole reform programme is in jeopardy. Repression not Reform has been the slogan of Faulkner, Heath and the rotten Capitalist system. Now it is imperative that all unite to resist repression and press ahead with the reform of this sectarian state. For it is in reforming the six counties that we dismantle the whole system. & R.



For the past four weeks the Government Propaganda Services' booklet, Ulster 71, has been on sale at the Unionist White washing display beside the Botanic Gardens. In trying to be fair to Stormont, we have given this time before releasing on general sale our own commentary, entitled 'The Real Ulster 71'. To counter the Government policy of glossing over the resultant side effects of their particular brand of sectarian Capitalism, we have, in our booklet, produced a true picture of what life in Ulster 1971 is really like stripping away the sugar coated exterior to expose the rotten core of criminally high unemployment, low wages and slum housing. The real 'Ulster 71' will be on sale from Saturday 12th June and will cost 5p, its 15 pages being well worth the money. Buy one, in fact, buy buy two and give one to someone else. When you look at 'Ulster 71' be sure you look at it through the eyes of the 'Real Ulster 71.'

saor eire



Saor Eire was founded in the late sixties when dissidents left the Republican Movement to align with elements on the Irish political left and form a Revolutionary guerilla group. Their first task was to expropriate arms and then to finance their group. This they did by a number of daring bank raids and it was these which brought them to the notice of both police and public. Their most prominent militant, Frank Keane, was extradited from England to face charges relating to the death of a Garda during a bank raid last December. Jack Lynch alleged Saor Eire were involved in kidnapping plots against prominent politicians and used this as an excuse to re-enact the Offences Against The State Act which opens the door to the Curragh and internment without trial.

Beyond these basic facts, few people in Ireland know anything about Saor Eire. However, The Red Mole, an English left-wing publication has this year carried two full articles on Saor Eire, the most recent containing the manifesto of this organisation. Utterly opposed to Imperialism which "has never meant anything but foreign domination and oppression of our people, despoilation, economic exploitation and absolute subordination to the military and economic needs of the British ruling class, a permanent wasting away of the human resources of the nation and finally the mutilation of partition, imposed by the Empire and bringing with it chronic economic stagnation on both sides of the border and the institutionalised division of the working class in the six counties", Saor Eire is dedicated to smashing and replacing it with a Socialist system. However, their Socialist system which would 're-incarnate among modern conditions in Ireland, the best communal values and principles of the ancient Gaelic Tribal society', is based on a idealised concept of Gaelic Ireland. Life then was certainly not easy for there constant wars and cattle raids and democracy was only a pious wish.

There can be no attempt to revitalise a dead way of life. In analysing the failure of the Irish national revolution Saor Eire make effective criticism of certain movements. The failure has been basically a political question. Those who saw revolution in terms of purely military questions totally ignored political reality. Those Republicans who used the land courts to take back land from the landless men of the West during the War of Independence were playing into the hands of Imperialism. For Imperialism is not just a military presence- it is a social system, and that social system which oppresses the small farmer and landless labourer must also be smashed. In the national democratic revolution three basic demands are necessary. (1) National Unity (II) Economic and political Independence. (3) The Land Question.

Saor Eire believe all three have still to be fought for, The drift of men from the land and the creation of large estates means the Land Question has still to be settled. National Unity still remains to be achieved and economic and political independence certainly does not exist in the Free State.

In resolving these three questions militarism will itself not succeed; but then neither will any brand of 'Socialist' policies. Merely sloganising Connolly without understanding the nature of Irish society will do more harm than good. Saor Eire believe that in fighting Imperialism we must recognise that the Free State ruling class is "one of the loyal custodians of H.M. garrison in Ireland" and that only those who want to root out their system root and branch, who are prepared to go all the way against the Free State, can really oppose that master, British Imperialism". In fact "since the inception of the Irish Free State it has murdered more Irish Patriots in suppressing the independence than the forces of Imperialism have". Therefore Saor Eire rightly demand that revolutionaries should be prepared to oppose Imperialism and free Statism.

The Saor Eire manifesto also attacks the political leadership of the 'Official' Republicans. "For though they may indulge in Socialist phrasemongering they have divested the Republican Movement of it's revolutionary potential by dismantling and undermining it's armed wing. They talk of two stages in the Irish revolution. First we establish territorial unity and then we tackle the question of property relations in the 32 counties. What do they think the Free State will be doing while they try to unite the country. There can be no distinct separate stages in the Irish Revolution- the stages overlap and the tasks posed are inter-woven, thus giving uninterrupted revolution which will drive out the forces of British Imperialism and their agents once and for all from Ireland".

While P.D. basically agrees with this, we certainly dont agree with Saor Eires concept of struggle. They envisage small independant groups working throughout the country engaging in sabotage and political work amongst the masses. Later a guerilla front will be formed and by a blood sacrifice like 1916, they will act as a detonator to mobilise the masses against Imperialism and Capitalism. Certainly we agree that "it is the not the quantity of Marx digested that makes a revolution but the ability to prepare for, take part in, and make the revolution that matters", but independant groups just will not be able to mobilise popular opinion. Their very nature precludes popular support, for no one will know who is responsible for which action, and aimless sabotage will only alienate the masses.

It is necessary that revolutionaries combine in an Irish Revolutionary Movement, dedicated to leading the struggles of the Irish people, to raising their level of consciousness by all methods of struggle necessary and by raising fundamental political questions about the nature of Irish society so that the people will clearly support action for the Workers Republic.

gerry ruddy.

insultan army

British Imperialists, particularly of the officer-class, have a surprisingly deep desire to be liked and thought of as honourable 'good chaps'. The anti-imperialist Irish realise the hypocrisy of this attitude eg contrast the smooth words of Freeland on TV with the barbaric actions of British troops towards the people of the Lower Falls during the 'curfew' period last year. What sort of person is the typical British officer? What sort of institution is it that moulds his personality? Let us look at British Imperialism abroad in order to answer the questions. Said Bin Taimw was last year deposed as Sultan of Oman and Dhofar which are part of the oil rich Arabian Gulf. The good Sultan's progressive policies may be judged from the fact that he kept four negro slaves who were forbidden ever to raise their faces from staring at the loor. He refused to use the country's oil wealth to help his people so the people rebelled, led by the Quara mountain guerrillas who were aided by socialist countries. The British led army of the Sultan was there to protect 'democracy' and the oil kept flowing westwards. Things became so bad, the officers connived at a coup by the Sultan's son Qabus Bin Said, but the reality of power had not changed. There are two types of officer, according to Captain Sir Ranulph Fienner, a former mercenary in Oman himself, the 'contact' man or mercenary and the two year

direct posting man from the British army. The former man was usually a former member of the British forces. These men earn up to £3,000 per annum in the service of imperialism which is pleasantly tax free. Let me introduce typical Capt. Spike Powell, described by Fienner himself as having the friendliest of natures. This friendly man has fought on the side of the Fascist pig Ian Smith (himself a nice ex-RAF good chap) in defence of the Rhodesian Ministry's totalitarian state. He also ambushed Irish troops in the Congo for Tshombe's pay cheque. Good old Spike shows no signs of yearning for a bowler hat writes Fienner approvingly. This is the sort of rattlesnake who the bourgeois press tells us defends the 'free world'. Fienner, whose article appeared in the Observer 6/6/71, tells us the kindly British chaps are training 'commando style killer groups' all with the worthy aim of stopping the doctrine that has poisoned too many Dhofar minds' ie Socialism. This is British imperialism in action - the smiling face when it suits them, the vicious defence of bourgeois vested interests at home and abroad, the extermination of all who oppose them and strive for the good of the common people. So to Farrar Hockley and his crew of officer scum we say - You are the extremists, we know the nature of your reactionary game, get the Hell out of Ireland!

Ronnie Bunting Jnr.

DRUMS

Lambeg-blattering has just suffered a setback in Lurgan. Local Orangemen, backed by the North Armagh Unionist Assoc. (chairman Paisleyite Allasdair Black) went to the trouble of organising a Grand Drumming Gala in Lurgan on Saturday 12 12th June and they automatically expected it to be included in the local Ulster '71 Fortnight. But the Craicravan Festival Committee decided last week by 4 votes to 3 to omit the drumming gala from its official programme. Lurgan Orangemen are dumbfounded at the decision. The leader of the snubbed pro-blatters is Councillor Sammy Gardiner, (This is a Protestant country and it is up to us to keep it that way). Sammy and the Paisleyite North Armagh Unionist Assoc. are furious at this insult to Lurgan loyalists. Said Allasdair Black 'I do not wish to comment on our drumming gala being omitted from the Festival programme except to say that I am by no means pleased with what has happened. But we are carrying on just the same.' Saturday 12th June should be an interesting day in Lurgan with the official Festival programme (including the band of the Royal Irish Rangers) going on in Lurgan Park and the unofficial Lambeg-blattering Gala (including the North's three major drumming clubs) going on in the grounds of Brownlow House - which is directly opposite the park and is approached by the same street. The mingling rival crowds might find more than drums are banged.

children? enough to eat



On June 18th another demonstration will be held in support of the campaign for Free Milk by the Belfast mothers, who we understand are to organise a petition which the public will be requested to sign at Royal Avenue. Already the campaign has received tremendous support in England, and many of the Labour controlled councils are expected to follow the example of Merthyr-Tydfil, Manchester and Hackney in putting the cost of Free Milk onto the rates. Everywhere socially conscious people are up in arms against this attack on the working class which must be seen against a background of cuts in the welfare service, wage restraint and inflation as the British Government tries to enter the Super Capitalistic Common Market. And in the interests of the money grabbing profiteers behind this government it is the working class children who suffer. Already the effect of the increase in school meals is beginning to show. The figures for Belfast Corp. meals department (which covers 150

schools) shows a drop of 13864 full price meals for 1st week May 1971 compared to 1st week May 1970. Everywhere schools report a fall off in children attending for school meals. The children's alternative is a packed lunch, or more likely lemonade and crisps. Obviously many children are simply not getting enough to eat. Their parents cannot afford the

increased prices. Thus we find in Belfast in the past year a crippling burden placed on working class families by 3 acts:-

- 1 Increased bus fares
- 2 Withdrawal of Free Milk
- 3 Increased price of school meals

In the interests of the working class it is imperative that resistance begins. A campaign to retain Free Milk must be kept up and extended until every family in Ulster supports the demand of Free Milk for the kids.

BRID MCGLADE

No unity for the unions in Europe

RONNIE BUNTING

A supposed benefit of British entry into the EEC is a strengthening of international links. This is the sort of line parroted by traitors to the Labour movement such as Harold Wilson. Her in Ireland we know how a weak Union set-up has led to gross exploitation of workers, particularly unskilled workers such as those of Cantrell & Cochrane where ludicrously low wages are forced upon the mainly female workers and where only fitters have Union representation. In Europe this type of situation would be even more readily available for employers to exploit.

Only in West Germany is the Union movement as cohesive as the British movement. In the rest of the Common Market the Union movements are split 3 or 4 ways. There are Social-Democratic, Catholic and Communist groupings, each having it's own European and international centre.

If, as it is often said, European Trade Unionists would welcome British and Irish entry, this would be in the hope of a more rational organisation being built up with our help, rather than a comradely desire to see us share the entry benefits dubious as these are. What has in fact happened so far is that the capitalist bureaucrats of Brussels have ignored the Trade Unions or bought off the right wing leadership eg the occupation of the Renault works by workers against the wishes of the Main Union. The Unions have been divided and they are ruled. This is the case even in Italy where a fragile alliance between the three main groupings exists.

If Britain and Ireland take the disastrous step of joining the EEC, the TUC will probably affiliate to the EFTA-TUC the body of which it is now a member. Both of these bodies embrace the social-democratic unions; belonging to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU).

EEC-TUC is moving towards close links with the Catholic Unions organised in the World Confederation of Labour and now attempting to shed their religious trappings. However there are no links with the French and Communist Unions, both of which are the leading bodies in their countries. The EEC-TUC is not trying to promote links beyond the informal. This is because of the breach between the ICFTU and George Meaney's AFL-CIO in America. Meaney withdrew all funds because affiliates of the ICFTU had initiated fraternal with unions in communist countries.

Attempts are being made to get Meaney to change his mind. If the French and Italian Communist Unions were to be invited into the Market fraternity these effects would fail.

It is a sorry story. Division of the workers and oppression by the Bureaucrats. All the pointers are that the British and Irish Unions would not be able to become part of a transnational organisation capable of meeting the disastrous problems which would be posed by Common Market membership. Readers who are union members should make every effort to swing their union to a no entry position.

TOPPING RIDES AGAIN



Slowly but surely Ulster's Jackboot Judges are whittling away the last frail hopes anyone had left in the great 'British justice'. The latest pronouncement of Judge Topping leaves no doubt that, in his court, the quality of mercy will by no means be strained - anyone bringing an appeal before him is now threatened with having their sentence greatly increased if "they persist in an appeal which has no chance of success". Topping's past comments could be regarded as stupid or even criminal but this one is CRIMINALLY STUPID. Is it logical to assume that a person, knowing they have no chance of success, would continue with the time consuming, frustrating, mentally agonising and costly business of appeal to a higher court - unless of course they KNEW THEMSELVES TO BE INNOCENT, AND WRONGED BY THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM. Conceding that even Topping must have a little intelligence, he must be aware of this logic himself; so we can only assume this to be a clear case of intimidation of those who might challenge the system. At last he has shown himself clearly to be on the same level as the Crumlin screws. They use brutality to intimidate - his club is 'justice'. Another step into the open is taken this week by 'Tootsie' Tuzo. "I believe", he said "that over half the Catholic community have sympathy with the Republican movement and a quarter would in some way aid extremist groups." The mask of the unbiased British Officer is crumbling. In the centuries old tradition of his predecessors in uniform in Ireland he is resorting to sectarianism to win for him his battle against the working classes - split the community, divide and conquer. Legal phraseology would term it Incitement to Hatred - Topping take note.

David Campbell

SOCIALIST LABOUR ALLIANCE

The second two day Conference of the S.L.A. will take place on Saturday June 27th in St. Marys' Hall, Bank St., Belfast. Delegates and Observers welcome. See next weeks 'Free Citizen' for more details.

APOLOGY

Missing this week, another saga in the sorry story of 'What Capitalism Means' by John Mc Guffin. Due to his laziness and absence the fifth in this series on pollution has not appeared this week. However next week the Baron writes again.

REMEMBER ANTI-EEC PUBLIC MEETING AT CITY HALL ON SAT 19th JUNE. ORGANISED BY ANTI-EEC COMMITTEE. MEETING STARTS AT 2.30. HEAR THE CASE AGAINST THE COMMON MARKET.

BELFAST P D MEETS THURSDAYS 8pm in the POSTER DESIGN WORKSHOP JOY'S COURT OFF JOY'S ENTRY, ANN ST. IRISH HISTORY LECTURES ALL WELCOME

WEST BELFAST PD MEETINGS EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT AT 8.9B GLEN RD BELFAST. MEMBERS AND PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS WELCOME.

ARMAGH PD MEETINGS EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE PIPERS CLUB ALL SOCIALISTS WELCOME.

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NO WORK

Joe Wilson (1841-1875)

I's weary I's wretched, I wander forlorn
I sign for the next an' then wish for the
morn;
For rest brings no comfort an' morn
little more,
In both mind and body, I's worn out
and sore.
Chorus: What wretchedness, what
misery
There's no one can tell,
Except them that's been out o' work
like mesel!
I wander to places an', try to get work
Where 'call back again' is the foraman's
remark.
This hopeless an' cheerless I pass many
a day.

Though pay-week comes round, it to
me brings no pay.
No work yet! - heartbroken I bend me
ways home
No work yet! - tell them I really
think shame.
For dependance is painful, though it's
on your own,
Thought to comfort and cheer you,
they try all they can.
There's none can imagine the anguish I
feel
When I sit down at home to me own
humble meal;
Each bite seems to choke's - the day
seems full long
An' all that I do, why I feel though

'Twas wrong
Me father folks dull, though he strives
to look glad
An' says that it's nowt to the troubles
he's had;
Me mother smiles kindly, though sad
like the rest
An' whispers 'cheer up, lad, an' hope
for the best.
It cannot last always! - I hope afore long
Wi' work I'll be freed from sad poverty's
bang
For without it, home's dreary - the
fire's bright spark
Turns gloomy an' dim when you find
there's no work.

Jerry McCourt, unable to find work in Ulster, joined the British Army in 1950 at the age of 17. Being 'unskilled' he was put into bomb disposal work, the most dangerous of the lot, and served in the campaigns in Korea, Burma, Kenya and Cyprus. By 1957 he had had enough and came home to settle down. Being unskilled he found himself in one dead-end job after another - the latest as a plasterers mate with Belfast Corp. at the princely bring home wage of £11 per week. His payment for risking his life for others is a Dock area slum which about to fall down of age and disrepair. With three children and another due at Christmas, he asked the Corporation for a house at the Wandsworth estate just beside where he works, not an unreasonable request. The Corpor-

ations reply was that he was a sitting tenant - so no. Jerry doesn't understand this as he had already been offered a choice of houses in 'Turf Lodge, Andersonstown and Ballymurphy, but this he had to turn down as the bus fares to work would have been too much to take out of his wages. Jerry's plight is just another example of religious and class discrimination for it is a well known fact that the bureaucrats at the City Hall sit in judgement on us all to see whether we speak with the right accent or if our politics are the right colour. Meanwhile Jerry is vainly trying to fight the rising damp, the rats and a kitchen wall which is about to collapse, while the house he asked for has been lying VACANT FOR 2 MONTHS.
MAUREEN CAMPBELL

NOW THEN! NOW THEN! NOW THEN! NOW THEN! NOW THEN!

