

**NO 41**

# FREE CITIZEN

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WEEKLY FRI. 17 JUL 1970

## GOVT MINISTERS IN ORANGE PARADES

BY CYRIL TOMAN

The "Twelfth" - our annual orgy of sectarianism and reaction - is over for another year. As usual, in the name of religion, workers, small farmers, and unemployed men were duped into marching along with the rich, the employer and the aristocrat, to a field where they listened to the annual Tory clap-trap about "Loyalty" (to the capitalist state) and "Unity" (between exploiter and exploited). As usual, the whole blasphemous farce received the blessing of Ulster's political clergy.

This year, having first insured that the "fenians" were securely out of the way behind barbed-wire entanglements, the Unionist Government were anxious to pretend that members of the Government had nothing to do with the Orange Order. They would have even liked to pretend that they did not owe their positions in Parliament to the Order.

It is true that Chichester Clarke did not walk, though it is the first Twelfth that he is on record as having missed. However, his Government colleagues were well represented at the "field", all helping to put over the old Orange myth that the exploiters and the exploited have something in common.

The Deputy Prime Minister J. Andrews spoke on the platform at Comber, and Captain John Brooke, one of the Prime Minister's Parliamentary Secretaries, spoke at Lisbellaw. The Minister of Education, Captain Long, was to be seen walking at Newtownards, and Brian Faulkner - up to his usual trick of running with the hare and keeping up with the hounds - marched at Ballynahinch in the morning before spending the afternoon in a helicopter with Chichester-Clark. The Minister of Finance, Herbert Kirk, marched in Belfast, and John Taylor at the Ministry of Home Affairs cut a fine figure as he carried the Union Jack up the Lisburn Road - past some of the worst housing in Belfast.

Houses or jobs were not of course mentioned by any of the Honourable or Reverend speakers. Because on the day that such subjects are mentioned, on the day that the poor dupes recognise Orangism for the humbug it is, on the day that the exploited and unemployed see that they have nothing in common with their aristocratic masters, on that day the whole obscene Orange edifice of sectarianism and superstition will come crashing down on the heads of those same Honourables and Reverends. May that day come soon.



### Specials on parade

"Dead but they won't lie down". That seems to be the message from L.O.L. No. 1970 which has been formed recently from ex-members of the B-specials. Their banner shows a B-special, gun in hand, "guarding" the six counties under the legend: God, Queen, Country.

The new lodge is for those die-hards who do not yet realise that British Imperialism needs a more modern and efficient army than the B-specials to protect its interests in Ireland. Needless to say, the new lodge was given a big welcome when it joined that elephants-graveyard of reactionaries - the Orange Order.

# QUEEN'S

by mike farrell

## MURDER GANG

The brutal attack on the Falls Road by the British Army last week finally shattered the belief of many people that this was an impartial force sent in by a benevolent British government to protect the victims of Stormont's bigotry. The Peoples Democracy had long maintained that the British Army was not here to serve the interests of the Irish people but of British exploiters.

But already there are voices raised to say that illegal curfew which turned the Lower Falls into a vast concentration camp and the wanton destruction of peoples homes were just the acts of Scots Protestant troops. This is nonsense. The Scots regiments may well be the most tuggish section of the British Army but it has nothing to do with religion. They attacked the Muslims of Aden with the same ferocity as the Catholics of the Falls. Anyway they did it under orders.

As a matter of fact the British forces here have shown themselves to be quite indifferent to religion. They attacked the Shankill very vigorously - though in different circumstances - last October. But they are not impartial. They are here to do the work of British Imperialism - and they will wade through blood to do it.

Those who blame the recent brutality on sectarian Scotsmen and think the decent British Tommy could never commit such crimes should cast their memories back a little. Over the last 20 years 3 ex-British colonies have felt the oppression of the British Army, Aden, Cyprus and Kenya.

### aden

In Aden between 1964-7 124 British troops were killed for a loss of 320 Arab civilians and probably as many more guerilla fighters. In February 1967 the Crater and Sheik Othmen districts - centres of resistance to the British - were occupied and put under curfew. 10 guerillas and more civilians were killed in this attack; no troops

were killed. Later in the same year 6 Arabs were killed in one day in Crater - there were no British casualties. Meanwhile the British forces operated the same type of emergency laws and internment camps that the Special Powers Act provides here.

### cyprus

In Cyprus between 1954-8 the full weight of military occupation was felt. Hundreds were killed or interned and torture was constantly used to obtain confessions from E.O.K.A. suspects. In an incident reminiscent of the Falls attack troops raided the village of Paphos in 1956 breaking furniture, smashing up houses and leaving 50 people in hospital. The crowning incident was in Famagusta on October 3rd 1958 when after the shooting of an Englishwoman troops went berserk. They rounded up every Greek Cypriot between the ages of 15 and 30 and arrested 650 people. Of these 3 were killed and 250 injured. The attitude of the British army was summed up by the G.O.C. General Darling: "The only E.O.K.A. terrorists (official word for guerrillas) I am interested in are dead ones, not live ones".

The most naked use of force was in Kenya during the Mau Mau Emergency from 1952 to 1960. The British press at the time was full of lurid tales of Mau Mau atrocities against white settlers but when the Emergency ended in 1960 a total of 68 Europeans had been killed while the British and their puppet local police had killed 10,000 Mau Mau. One incident in Kenya caught the attention of the world. On the 3rd March 1959 a group of 85 detainees from Hola detention camp were marched out to dig an irrigation ditch. They were accompanied by 90 warders armed with rifles, riot shields and batons. The detainees refused to work and were attacked by the warders. 11 men were beaten to death and over 45 were seriously injured.

This is the record of the British forces in other outposts of the Empire and it could be extended by the story of their deeds in Malaya, Borneo, Greece, and Palestine.

When this army attacks an area and terrorises its inhabitants they do it, not because they are religious bigots, but because they are the murder machine of British Imperialism, the last defence of the exploiters when their interests and those of their local puppets are seriously threatened.

## MISINFORMED

One of the two Stormont ministers who spoke at Monday's Orange Demonstrations was Captain John Brooke, ex-soldier of the Queen and the man with special responsibility for the Government Information Service. In spite (or because of) this position his speech at Lisbellaw was peppered with juicy pieces of rumour and misinformation.

It appears that Brooke had it from the best sources that there had been no Orange parades anywhere near Ballymacarrat to 'provoke the 'rebels' to 'the murders they committed'.

The marchers who paraded along the Newtownards Road to Gertude Street were doubtless of a different type.

The gallant counterer of fairy tales then told his audience that Lodge members from Kilmore, Co. Cavan, had been prevented from attending the demonstration by threats that Kilmore Cathedral would be burnt down if they did. No evidence has been found to substantiate this, but then, perhaps, Brooke and his Information service define a rumour differently from everyone else.

After warning his audience not to pay heed to spurious rumours spread by unsavoury characters he told them the following spurious rumour. A rumour had been circulating, he claimed, that the Springfield barracks had been attacked by a horde of screaming papist rebels. Two policemen had been shot. Amidst outraged gasps and cries of 'burn the bastards out' he very quietly denied this rumour.

What his motives were in spreading this mixture of fantasy and lies is anybody's guess. Perhaps it runs in the family?

j keenan

## Lootin' Boys Choir

Eric Jacobs, a Sunday Times reporter who wasn't arrested for breaking the non-existent curfew, spent his time being shown round the Falls Road by the Military and no doubt enjoyed their liquid hospitality. In return he wrote a snide little article which appeared last Sunday and which practically canonised the British Troops.

However more revealing than his many paragraphs were the words of a song composed by Privates Downes and Humphrys of the Devonshires, to be sung to the tune of 'All kinds of Everything'. The first few lines read:

'Shooting and looting all through  
the night  
Dreary and weary we're ready to  
fight

Gathering guns and ammo  
To make the I.R.A. swear  
But where the trouble is we'll  
be there.'

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

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# LOUGH NEAGH SCANDAL Persecution Continues

by mike farrell

## LETTER

Last week readers of 'Free Citizen' may have read an article entitled 'Republicans and the Crisis', and then believed that it was an official policy statement from P.D. Nothing is further from the truth. The article which was unsigned (contrary to P.D. policy) was submitted by a comrade whose total lack of knowledge on the subject must have been obvious to everybody.

A prominent member of the 'Officials' spoke angrily to me on Saturday in Armagh about the article. Likewise 'Provisionals' have quite rightly expressed their indignation at unsubstantiated slurs cast against them.

In the article the writer states: 'We clearly sympathise with much of the content of the Sinn Fien statement of July 7th'.

'We' meaning Peoples Democracy. The Central Committee nor Branches have discussed this statement. Nor do I believe P.D. wants to get embroiled in a dispute that is not of our making.

But, I feel personally that there are matters in the article that can be contradicted. For instance the writer claims that the Lower Falls has remained peaceful for the last year. Did he deliberately forget to mention that the P.D. who had a bookshop were robbed in broad daylight in full view of 'Officials' and the 'Culprits' were never caught. Was it deliberate that he never mentioned that 'Provisional' republicans were terrorised out of their homes and sought refuge in schools because they did not swear allegiance to the 'Officials'.

Worse again he infers that trouble in other areas was instigated by 'Provisionals' to bring about a sectarian conflict. I say to him - prove it, or withdraw it.

He calls them the worst kind of 'Green Tory Gunman', again he should substantiate or withdraw.

The comrade should read the Republican News No. 2, especially the article: 'To our Protestant Irishmen', and explain were it differs from 'Sinn Fien statement July 7th'. Finally, I am not denying comrades in the P.D. different viewpoints about the 'Republican Crisis', but it should always be made clear that they are personal views and not P.D.'s. Our time would be better spent building our own organisation.

Fraternally yours,  
Gerry O'Hare.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The author of last week's article, Republicans and the Crisis, was John Gray.)

TWO LOUGH NEAGH FISHERMEN, ANTHONY QUINN, WERE SENTENCED TO 2 AND 3 MONTHS IN JAIL AT COOKSTOWN COURT AT THE BEGINNING OF JULY. SIX OTHER FISHERMEN WERE GIVEN SUSPENDED SENTENCES AND 8 WERE FREED. THESE SENTENCES ARE THE LATEST STAGE IN THE PERSECUTION OF FISHERMEN ON THE LOUGH, THIS TIME BY THE GOVERNMENT RUN FISHERIES CONSERVANCY BOARD.

ON MAY 18TH ROBERT WEAVER, THE CHIEF INSPECTOR OF THE BOARD, AND A COLLECTION OF HIRELING BAILIFFS SEIZED A LORRY-LOAD OF FISHERMENS' EELS AT THE LOUGHSHORE. THE ACTIONS OF WEAVER AND CO. WERE QUITE ILLEGAL. THEY BLOCKED THE ROAD WITH THEIR CAR AND FORCED THE LORRY-DRIVER TO HEAD TOWARDS ARMAGH. WHEN THE OWNER OF THE LORRY APPEARED, WEAVER HIMSELF SEIZED THE KEYS. THIS WAS HIGHWAY ROBBERY OF THE OLD STYLE.

When the fishermen learned their eels were seized - Weaver didn't inform them - they went to Armagh and took the lorry back. For recapturing their own property they have been jailed. For his highway robbery 'Dick Turpin' Weaver has got off scott free.

Outstanding in the case was the usual police perjury - the R. U. C. backed Weaver and his hirelings all the way and swore there had been an individual identity parade when in fact all the bailiffs and police had come in together and squared up their story - and the behaviour of Gerry Lennon, Grand Master of the Hibernians and Nationalist Senator, who is solicitor for the Conservancy Board. Lennon pushed this case against the fishermen harder than Desmond Boal who acts for the Company has ever done and did his best to get them all jailed by bullying and hectoring all through the trial. It just goes to prove that there is no worse Tory and exploiter than the green gomben men like Lennon.

These cases are vital to all the fishermen. For some time the Toome Eel company has been scared to attack fishermen but now the Conservancy Board are doing their dirty work for them. There is a close link between the Board and the Company. The Board does not touch fishermen who sell directly to the company, not through the Fishermens' Co-operative, and Lennon went directly from the Court in Cookstown to the Company's office in Toome when the cases were first heard. Moreover a taped interview between Lennon and a witness in another fishery case was recently found in the Company's offices.

In this incident Weaver and his henchmen took the law into their own hands and hi-jacked the fishermen's eels. If they get away with this they will walk over every other fisherman until they break them.

It is vital that the appeals be fought hard. Two things are needed, money and solidarity. The Fishermans' Association which is supposed to represent the men has made no attempt to help, but money can be sent through the P.D. and there will be local fund-raising efforts. Solidarity can best be shown by pickets on the court and on Lennon's and Weaver's offices and a protest meeting in Cookstown. Details will be announced later and everyone who supports the fishermen's struggle should support them.

## APOLOGY

Because the Editor was ill last week, Free Citizen was produced by an emergency crew. Unfortunately, the practice of attributing all major articles was not followed. We apologise for any misunderstanding which have been caused, and would like to reassure our readers that articles printed in Free Citizen reflect the views of their respective authors and are not necessarily the official viewpoint of the Peoples Democracy.

## MEMBERSHIP

I would like to become a member of the People's Democracy. I enclose a fee of 5 shillings.

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# A POLITICAL CLERIC

BY 'JOE HILL'

"I PRAY TO GOD THAT THE PM WILL GIVE THE R.U.C. BACK THEIR GUNS."  
(REVEREND MARTIN SMYTH, JUNE 29th 1970).

This clerical gentleman obviously has a hot line to the Almighty. At the field at Finaghy he personally claimed to know that God himself had set up this statelet. "Ulstermen didn't really want it, but it was God's will."

Who is Martin Smyth? He is presbyterian minister of Alexandra Church. He is deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ireland and of Belfast and has succeeded in edging out the senile (85) John Bryans. By Orange standards he is young, ambitious, and an unscrupulous bigot. He is also the 'author' of a tawdry 15 page piece of Orange propaganda which was rushed out last September just after the attempted pogroms of August, entitled "In defence of Ulster". This is an ill-written rag-bag of hysterical generalisations,

absurd lies and pathetic ramblings. It includes such gems as "The Unionist government's wonderful housing record", a fiction that even Faulkner has had to admit as such, and "there has been no discrimination" which even Cameron couldn't accept and which the so-called reforms of the government are designed to rectify - how come we need a central housing authority? When it comes to the police Smyth becomes a real defender. "The police force have always been impartial", and the B-men "were kindly Ulstermen with big hearts" we are told. Not surprisingly nothing is said of the

murders of Devenny, Gallagher and McCloskey, the Baillie Report and the admitted misconduct of the police in the Bogside and at Burntollet. To crown it all we are informed that "most R.C.'s left their homes voluntarily last August and some fired them themselves". What, no pogrom?

So much for this minister's efforts to promote harmony, peace and Christianity. But the matter is more important and merits more attention than the slaverings of such a demented mind generally would, for Smyth is ambitious and power-hungry. The Presbyterian Church, especially with its historical record behind it, should repudiate this bigot now. As the soon-to-be-head of the Orange Order he will be meddling in politics more than he as a minister ought. We have already too many political so-called 'men of God' about the place, we can certainly do without another.

The Rev. Alfred O'Connor, rector of Drumglass, speaking at the Orange demonstration at Pomeroy, declared: "For those who don't know, the Orange Order has been in existence since the Garden of Eden." No doubt the moral of that story is that Adam would have been all right if he stuck to eating oranges.



The Rev. Martin Smyth, Belfast County Grand Master, speaking from the platform at Finaghy.

## U.D.R. SEIZE FRUIT

An advertisement for the Ulster Defence Regiment appearing in all newspapers this week asks the question "Is the New Regiment really Necessary", and goes on to answer it by saying "If there is trouble, the Regular Forces will need a strong, well organised force to back them up".

Just what a fine force is "backing up" the Regular Forces (or khaki killers) may be surmised from this little incident which happened near Armagh.

Some members of P.D. driving to the 'Release Bernadette' demonstration, were stopped by a motley crew of the U.D.R. They were 'frisked' and their car searched and nothing was found.

Indeed these felonous P.D. members had almost penetrated the nation's defences when the sharp eye of an eighty-year-old member

of Currie's Fusiliers spotted a terrible offensive weapon. There it lay in the boot of the car..... an unexploded red tomato.

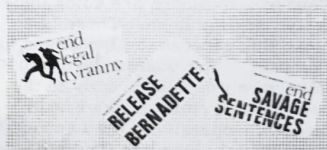
Not even pausing to think (which might have taken several hours) the octogenarian soldier seized the red weapon. "I'll have to confiscate this," he wheezed, his limbs stiff with rigor mortis, "it's an offensive weapon."

What is the Secret of the Red Tomato?

How did an 80-year-old, ex-B-special come to see through the P.D.'s crafty schemes? How did an 80-year-old ex-B-special come to be carrying a rifle and groping after fruit in the backs of cars on the public high way? And what will happen to the tomato?

FIND OUT IN NEXT WEEK'S EXCITING EPISODE.

## STICKERS



Self-adhesive stickers are now on sale to raise money for the P.D. Legal Defence Fund. There are three different designs, shown above. They are sold in sheets of 12 at 1/- per sheet (4 of each design). The stickers measure 1" x 2" each, and may be obtained from 88 Ladybrook Park, Belfast.

Payment up to 3/- can be in the form of 4d. stamps.

## MEETINGS

BELFAST PD MEETING  
EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT 8pm  
34, BERRY STREET  
(off Royal Avenue)

ARMAGH PD MEETING  
EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT  
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