

# An Phoblacht

Iml. 8. Uimhir 26. 10p. Iul 6, 1977.

It shall be the duty of the government of this Republic to make provision for the physical and mental well being of the children, to secure that no child shall suffer hunger or cold from lack of food, clothing, or shelter, but that all shall be provided with the means and facilities requisite for their proper education and training as citizens of a free and Gaelic Ireland. (1st Dail Eireann)

## FROM BAD TO WORSE IN

# PORTLAOISE

THERE MAY be a difference, following the general election in the 26 Counties, as to who has one hand in your pocket while the other grabs your throat, but it doesn't seem to have made much difference in Portlaoise. The hell-hole has gone from bad to worse.

The facts emerged during a Sinn Fein press conference in Dublin last Monday when two recently released prisoners gave details of just how bad Portlaoise Jail is at present.

The men were Tom Bannon of Longford, a member of the Sinn Fein Ardchomhairle and who was released after serving a six-month sentence for an alleged assault at the Claragh funeral; and Martin Ferris of Kerry, on bail, facing a charge of assault while in Portlaoise.

According to a Sinn Fein statement circulated at the press conference, the following are some of the major points which emerged when the two men were questioned as to jail conditions at present:

- Cell doors are opened each morning at 8.15 - 8.30 and are left open until 10.00 while prisoners have breakfast and mop landings. The men in the basement and E3 have an exercise period in the yard from 10.30 until 12.00 noon. The men in E4 are locked in cells from 10.00 to 2.15 p.m. Dinner is brought to cell doors at 12.00 noon.
- At 2.15 doors on E4 are opened and men have an exercise period from 2.30 to 4.00, while men in E1 and E3 remain locked in their cells. The evening meal is brought to the cells at 4.00 p.m. At 5.45 the cell doors are opened on E1 and E3 and these men have exercise from 5.45 to 7.15 while those in E4 are locked in their cells. Supper is brought to the cells at 7.30 and all doors are locked for the night.

### In solitary

● Eamonn O'Sullivan has been in solitary confinement for the last 10 days and this will continue for another three weeks. The Prisoners' O.C. has not seen his charge sheet and has not been told exactly why Eamonn is being kept in solitary.

The clergy have intimated that they realise conditions are degrading and inhuman but they say they cannot publish the fact for fear of being dismissed as chaplains.

● Visiting conditions remain the same as they have been since July 1976 - one prisoner to each visiting box. One wander takes notes of conversation while another stands behind the prisoner purely for the purpose of intimidation.

● Strip searches continue unabated. Every cell is

searched and every prisoner stripped at least once every two weeks. Random searches are also carried out at night. Four men on each landing are stripped every night. This is merely to degrade the prisoner as no search of the cell is carried out. Two warders and a garda enter the cell for the search. One warder does the stripping while being watched by the other warder and garda.

● Conditions are atrocious, humiliating and degrading.

### Stern choice

Jack Lynch and company will have to make up their minds quickly as to whether they wish to follow in the Blueshirt tradition, with the inevitable prospect of being thrown out of office when their turn comes, or pay heed to the people's wishes.

These are some of the problems facing them if they wish to cut adrift from the Blueshirts:

- Review all cases pending and which involve only forced confessions as "evidence".
- Make a clear statement, upholding the traditional "Judge's Rules" with particular reference to the law of evidence;
- Order an immediate public and independent inquiry into prison conditions;
- Clean up the Garda Siochana of its undesirable elements who, with Cooney's full authority, have been torturing the regime's political enemies;
- End censorship in RTE, allowing Sinn Fein the opportunity to put its policies for peace in Ireland before the people;
- Stand up to the Crown on the torture issue and Crown bullying of the Republican people of the north-east in general; and
- Honour the Fianna Fail pledge to seek a phased and orderly withdrawal of the Crown forces so that the Irish people can begin the task of reconciliation and reconstruction without alien interference.

Most of the people in these islands want peace and see only one way to peace in Ireland: foreign troops out. The figure in Britain in favour of troops out is more than 60 per cent. In Ireland it is about 80 per cent.

Why not a referendum of the entire people of Ireland on the issue of foreign troops out, under the auspices of an international body commanding respect and confidence? Why not even a survey?

But whatever Fianna Fail does the result is inevitable and Sinn Fein will be strengthening its campaign over the coming months.



Sinn Féin at Grunwick

Sinn Féin, London, members are manning the picket lines with their fellow English and Black workers at the Grunwick plant (see page six) because the Republican Movement is only too well aware that the issue at Grunwick is freedom from imperialist bullying. Picture shows the police facilitating a busload of scabs. The Brits have put Scarmán in charge of an inquiry into the spectacular. Does any politically-conscious Irishman require a more forceable nudge? Scarmán, of all people...

## Scandal of Dublin car files

WHY DOES every member of the Garda Siochana seeking to look at the files in the Dublin Corporation car registration offices have to sign for them, now?

## Growing crisis in Bush explained

Bush TV, Ltd., Santry, Dublin has reduced its work force from 600 to 200 in four years, and by July 7 another 28 will be redundant. Peard Tunney, chairman, local Sinn Fein Cumann and a member of the Union committee in Bush, asked about the facts and the future of this British firm.

These were the reasons given for redundancies:

- No control over cheap imports;
  - Ireland's involvement in the E.E.C.;
  - Little money circulating due to high unemployment.
- Outlook for the remaining 175 workers is poor. Neither the outgoing nor the incoming "Free" State regimes have a remedy for the dele queue.

Because, before the signing for the files was introduced recently files were disappearing... files of persons closely connected with members, relations and friends of members of the Coalition that has just been blown out of power.

Our information comes from a member of the Garda Siochana and his name, as will be understood readily, cannot be disclosed.

### Not paying tax

"It makes our job a lot more difficult," he explained, "this new signing on and off. But I can understand the reasons why. Files were disappearing.

"The files were disappearing because people in high places were travelling around in cars and not paying road tax and not paying road tax and not bothering to take out even insurance cover, in some cases.

"A number of women were involved. There should be a public inquiry into this. It might be a sort of an Irish 'Watergate'."

YOU CAN'T say you were not warned. But, for new readers, the above appeared in our last issue. And, as we prepare to go to press comes word of an attempt to bomb the Tunney meat plant in Clones.

A faulty detonator, according to reports, failed to activate 100 pounds of an explosive based on fertiliser. The hope of the bombers was that this choice of explosives would point the finger at the freedom fighters.

The objective was to bomb the new Dublin regime into being more Blueshirt than the Blueshirts themselves. Note the timing. The SAS work to a routine and always repeat themselves.

### Another SAS trick?

#### SAS trick?

ACCORDING TO information reaching this paper, one of the Crown intelligence agencies operating in the 26 Counties is planning an incident designed against the lives and property of people not involved in the Eireann struggle, the objective being not to give the impression that those engaged in the armed liberation struggle in the north-east are involved.

The situation we are all aware of is that the new Fianna Fail regime will feel itself obliged to increase repression measures against the Republican Movement as happened when the Offences Against the State (Amendment) Act was hurried up to the signature of Lester Bage.

The Republican Movement should take this as a warning and in the future situation, gone through, the paper's warning should be given the widest publicity possible.

## Brits out, peace in

## Tourists, yes; troops, no

Gaeilge: essence of our nationality

# An Phoblacht

Imleabhar 8, Iul 6, 1977. Uimhir 26.  
44 Cearnóg Pharnell, B.Á.C., Éire. Guthán: 747611.

## Débe

IS FEIDIR Liaimín a shamhlu i ndiaidh an toghachain agus liosta os a chomhair. Ar an liosta seo ta jobannaí do na buachaillí, iumhir a haon, a do, a tri, a ceathair (agus mar sin de, idir sheanadoiri, saoi sin cuirte, Comisún na Talun agus mar sin de) agus, ag bun an liosta, aon fhocal amháin: Doll.

Doll an cartúnai a fheic-tear cupla uair nó níos minní fós in aghaidh na seachtaine ar an "Irish Independent." Ní raibh sé ró-bháil ariamh ar Liaimín. Ní ar Chonchúr. Ní ar na comhleachaithe.

Is cinnte go raibh lámh ag Doll i mbriseadh an chomhrialtais i mBaile Átha Cliath mar, ó am go chéile, le ceithre bliana, cháin sé na hairí as a gcuid sotalachta, as a ndínáisiúnachas, as a seoiní-neachas, as a mbrúdiúlacht.

Bhí peann Doll chomh géar sin go bhfuair foireann an "Independent" ordú lonn gonnta ón eagarthoir, aimsir an toghacháin, nár chóir aon chártaín a chur isteach sa pháipéar go dtí go mbéad sé físeithe agus údraithe ag an mbas féin, ar eagla go ndéar-fadh an obair chéanna dochar don chomhrialtas, a raibh an tIldo chomh láidir sin ar a shon!

Ar aon chaoi, bhí an "dochar" déanta cheana féin ag an gcomhrialtas óir, mar a deir an seanfhocal, is minic a bhris béal srón agus, is eol dúinn, is fiormhnic a bhris an comhrialtas a shrón féin agus le fonn, le ceithre bliana anuas, más i ngan-fhios dó féin é go dtí an nóméad deireannach, nuair a bhí sé pas beag ró-dhéanach.

### Fonn díoltais

BHI FONN díoltais ar Liam agus ar Chonchúr agus bhí deis acu chun cur leis an bhfonn ceanna óir is é Flann O Riain an cartúnai a bhíúil Doll (gáiste) ina leasamh aige. Agus tá Flann ar na daoine tá ag díoltú fós as ceadáinas teifíse go dtí go dtugann RTE cothroim na Féinne don Ghaeilge.

Tamall fada ó shin cuir-eadh os comhair na cúirte é agus gearradh finéid air. Dhíultraigh sé an fhinéid a fós agus dúirt sé go mbeadh sé sásta dul isteach sa phríostán, mar rogha.

Is amhlaidh a chuir Conchúr moill ar an bpríostán úd. Fágadh é mar a bheadh cláíomh Damocles os cionn an Rianagh. Ach an tseachtain seo caite, agus b'fhéidir mar an rud nimh-neach deireannach a bhí ar chumas an chomhrialtais a dhéanamh, baineadh feidhm as an gcláíomh céanna. Agus isteach i bPríostán Mhóin-seoighe leis.

Chruthuigh Conradh na Gaeilge agus Gaeilgeoirí go maith sa mbaibhite seo agus an chéad tráthóna tar éis don Chonradh eagar a chur ar chúrsaí chruinnigh trí scór duine, lena bhfógraí agus lena gcláire, lasmuigh den phríostán.

Chun an ceart thabhairt do RTE thug foireann na nuachtá poiblíocht bheadh don

# Dúrún na seachtaine: cé scaoil saor an cartúnaí?

bhfeachtas. Ach, mar a mbeifí ag súil leis ar na soolta seo, ní dhéanna na trí nuachtáin laethula aon cheo faoi sin. Ní raibh aon pheictiúr ar na páipéir sin ná aon sceal faoin bhfeachtas mór ar éirigh leis an gConradh a chur in eagar.

D'éirigh leis an bhfeachtas sa chaoi gur 'foc duine' an fhinéid agus scaoileadh an Rianach saor trí éis dhá oíche a chaitheamh sa chillín.

### RTÉ a d'foc?

DE GHNATH, is é an rialtas a iocann a leithéidí nuair nach n-oirreann an phoiblíocht dó. Sa chóis seo tá seans ann go raibh lámh ag dream éicite eile ann, an t-eagas fríth-Ghaelach úd, FLM.

Faicim mar seo é, go n-oirfeadh sé don dream céanna beagán airgid a ioc mar fhinéid chun deireadh a chur leis an bpoiblíocht a bhí i ndán don Rianach agus dá chúis go deireadh na seachtaine dá gcoinneofaí istigh é.

Nó an amhlaidh a bhí lámh ag RTE ann? Bhí i gceist ar an Conradh picéad mór láidir a chur ar RTE dé hAoine na seachtaine seo caite agus ba dheacair aon phoiblíocht faoi sin a mhúchadh.

Is dócha nach mbeidh a fhios againn a chóiche cé a d'foc.

Tugtar faoi deara nár íoc éinne finéidí le agus gur chaith sí an tseachtain ionlán istigh. Ach tá Ite Ní Chionnach ina ball den Phairtí Pobhlachtach Soisialach Éireannach. Sin an díriocht.

Ní heol dom go bhfuil aon bhaint ag Flann O Riain le páirtí polaitiúil ar bith cé go ndearna sé cartún uair amháin don iris a fhoilsíonn Fianna Fáil ceithre uaire sa mblain.

Bhí Flann i gcónaí sásta a pheann a úsáid in éadan muintir Fhianna Fáil nuair a shíl sé gur thuill sí a leithéid, rud atá sách soiléir ach breathnú isteach sa mbláit-chán dá chuid cartún a d'fhoilsigh "Pobal" thart faoi dá bhliain ó shin.

Tá Flann O Riain dílis don Ghaeilge agus don náisiún. Tá sé fírdhaonna. Tuigim mór. Bhí Gúdaigh eile ann le sin t á sé ar na cartúnaíthe is fear sa tír agus, ní fear-acht daoine eile, tá an fhirinne ag roinnt lena chuid oibre.

### Cara mar dhe

AN UAIR dheiridh a raibh an Conradh ag clamsán faoi dhúine éicite a bheith tar éis finéid a fós as Gaeilgeoirí ba bheith sa phríostán ar son na

Gaeilge, ba é Deasún Breatnach bhí ar an nuáocht, i 1966, agus ba é Fianna Fáil a chuir isteach i Mpoineoighe é.

Teastas árachais i nGaeilge (nó san dá theanga) a ba chúis leis an agóid agus ba é Miseach a d'eaighruigh an feachtas (ach bhí an Conradh, Gaeilinn agus eagrais eile na Gaeilge tabh thiar den iarracht).

Dar leis na húdaráis i mBaile Átha Cliath, cara 'sa chléir' a d'foc an fhinéid. Mheabhruigh Deastán, ar theacht amach dó, mar a mheabhruigh Flann an babhta seo, nár rinne aon chártaín aon job sin ach dearg-namhad.

An bhfuil an príostán i ndán do dhaoine eile fós go dtí go mbeidh RTE sásta géilleadh don réasún agus do chearta na Gaeilge agus a háit chuí a thabhairt don teanga náisiúnta?

Ní fios. Ach tá liosta ann agus daoine ionraice, idir fhir is mhná, ag fanacht leis an gceas ar maidin go moch... nó an sceal on gConradh, go bhfuil an litir fáite agus go bhfuil RTE chun é féin a iomparr mar is cóir, feasta.

### Shalom aileicum

NI HEOL dom go bhfuil mórán bainte ag maor na Y Chorcaigh, Gearóid Y Goldberg, leis an nGaeilge ach is amhlaidh a sheas sé féin agus a mhuintir i gcónaí leis an teanga.

Fear íach cineálta tá ann, fear a bhfuil trua aige don té tá trua, fear a bhfuil an-mhíneach aige, chomh maith, mar a chruthuigh sé nuair a thug sé fianaise in éadan brúidiúlacht na nGardaí i gCorcaigh.

Dúirt sé gur airigh sé a chiant ag scréacaíl agus é faoi chéasadh ag daoine áirithe sna Gardaí. Rinne an stát an-iarracht faoi é a scantradh, chun nach dtabharfadh sé an fianaise sin uaidh, ach theip ar an stát.

Mar gheall air sin agus go leor leor eile tá ardmheas ag muintir Chorcaigh air, mar a bhí ar a mhuintir roimhe.

I 1870, measaim, a tháinig muintir Goldberg go Corcaigh den chéad uair, iad ag teith-sadh on Liotúin, paite a raibh na Gúdaigh faoi ionasí mpor. Bhí Gúdaigh eile ann le sin t á sé ar na cartúnaíthe is fear sa tír agus, ní fear-acht daoine eile, tá an fhirinne ag roinnt lena chuid oibre.

Fearadh Fáilte rompu i gCorcaigh. Ní hamháin sin ach shrothuigh Comháire Chorcaigh go ndéanfai tithe a thógáil dóibh. Dearmad faoi sin ní dhéanna muintir Goldberg riamh. Chúitigh siad go mith don náisiún nuair a bhí na hOglaigh ag troid in éadan na himpíreachta in 1919, 1920 agus 1921. Chuidigh siad leis na hOglaigh sa chogadh in éadan an "tSar-



Ite Ní Chionnach

stáit." Tá clú phoblachtóirí ar an gclann i gcónaí.

Ar dhúine de mhuintir Bhéal Feirste Atá Gearóid Bheal agus dúirt sé an lá póist a bheadh, tar éis é bheith ainmnithe ina mbaor, go mbeadh sé ag tabhairt cuairte ar Bhéal Feirste sár i bhfad.

B'fhéidir le Dia go mbeadh deis aige gníomh fínteach a dhéanamh in éadan barbar-acht na bpéas agus na saigh-dipuraí agus na Corpnach i gcoitinn. Go maire sé an nuáocht agus go mba fada bun é.

NIOR EIRIGH liom an leabhar beag nuá úd leis an mBreatnach, Fíred Ffransis, "Tíochaid Lá," a léamh ina ionlán go fóill, ar chúiseanna áirithe, ach molaim go spéir é.

Níor mhiste é léamh in éindí leis an mbileog a raibh trácht agam fúthi ar na mallaibh agus tá scríofa ag Pól O Croideáin i nGaillimh. Is iad an dá aghaidh den bhonn céanna iad.

An cineál cainte, nó fealsúnachta, tá ag Fíred, ar ndóig, is é an rud ceanna é tá á rá agamsa sa cholún seo le fada an lá, ach eagar níos fearr uirthi, réasúnach níos fearr, crut ní ba loighicídla agus ní ba calaíntiúla.

An rud a deir Fíred faoi ghalar na Breitine Bige tá sé chomh fíor céanna faoi ghalar na hÉireann. Tá sé an-spéisiúil an méid tá ráite aige faoi "náire," faoi thús an leabhair.

Ní fheadar mé an bhfuil leabhar eile fós a dhíth, leabhar a scríobhas síceolaí agus é ag cur béime ar an náire úd, cé go bhfuil an chuid is mó dá bhfuil le rá scríofa ag Fíred, b'fhéidir.

Lairiam ar Phoblachtóirí fíos a chur ar an leabhar seo láithreach bonn ach dhá phunt a chur chuig an gConradh agus a rá leis na foilsitheoirí an tsoineáil a choinneáil (níl i gceist ach suim beag ach tá fiacha le glanadh chun go bhfoilsíodh siad leabhar éicite eile ar aon dul leis an gceann seo tá faoi mheas).

Is féidir an leabhar seo a fháil ach scríobh chuig: An Siopa Leabhar, Conradh na Gaeilge, Sráid Fhearchair, Baile Átha Cliath, Éire.

## Why publicise torture?

THERE ARE two tactical considerations regarding publicity of the state use of torture, one in favour, one against. To an extent, torture thrives on publicity. The greater the publicity, the greater the effect on morale.

But, if the patriotic forces are fighting for freedom they are fighting for truth which is an integral part of freedom; and this makes it obligatory to tell the full and entire truth about enslavement, of which torture is a component.

When Republicans publicise torture we are not talking to ourselves. To us it is a reality, as it was to our fathers and our fathers' fathers. It is an indelible part of our people's memory.

We publicise it and document it in the hope of awakening the consciences of those among us whose sense of nationality has been blurred; those who are unaware of the barbarities taking place because they have little knowledge of history and have not yet been caught in the circle of official viciousness; and even those who are safely ensconced in the ruling class but who, nevertheless, have some remaining sense of justice, of dignity. And, of course, we dwell on these obscurities to inform our brothers and sisters abroad.

Torture, in general, may be bad for morale. But there is an aid to morale in the realisation that most modern states resort to torture only when all other means have failed. Thus, the use of torture is a tacit admission of the success of the revolution and a last-ditch effort to thwart it.

Finally, never in the history of man has torture succeeded in obliterating an ideology. The reverse is true. Nevertheless, though torture politicises and increases the opposition to the torturing regime, there is an obligation, in humanity, to do all in our power to end it.

By bringing sufficient moral and whatever other force may be necessary to end the torture taking place in Ireland today we will be strengthening the revolution to a very considerable extent.

There is more than enough material available now to indict the Crown and its Dublin allies in Strasbourg and before the United Nations. It is essential to open the necessary files without delay, and get the legal processes started.

International pressure must be brought to ensure that we will not experience the same scandalous delays as ensued in the last Strasbourg case against the Crown, which was found guilty, but which, with its Dublin allies, keeps the torture machine running at full speed.

## Consulate occupied

Thirty protesters under the umbrella group, Relatives' Action Committee, took over the American Consulate in Queen St., Belfast. The protest began at 2.55 p.m. and ended at 3.25 p.m. The protesters were out to highlight the demands of political prisoners' status for the men in

H-Block, Long Kesh. They choose the American Consulate because of the recent outburst of Senator Edward Kennedy who has been canvassing against Americans aiding the people of Ireland, according to a Committee statement.

# SUPPORT THE PRISONERS

Send a subscription today to: An Cumann Cabhrach, 44 Cearnóg Pharnell, Baile Átha Cliath, 1, ÉIRE.

# BOMB SQUAD BRUTALITY



PATRICK HACKETT

AN IRISH Republican prisoner who had lost part of an arm and a leg was treated brutally by bomb-squad police who interrogated him in hospital.

## Police threats and bullying of maimed man in hospital

The prisoner is Patrick Hackett from Tipperary, who was sentenced to 20 years at the Old Bailey on June 30 after refusing to recognise the court with his two Irish colleagues.

Hackett, known as a quiet and shy man, but well liked by his workmates, was injured in an explosion in London and picked up by the police.

The Prisoners Welfare Group in London, which defends the rights of Irish political prisoners, is asking the health authorities for an investigation of the ordeal Hackett says he was forced to undergo.

### Authorities

The authorities include management at St Stephens hospital, Fulham, London; the Kensington, Chelsea and Westminster area health authority and the North Thames regional health authority.

In a statement made last May, Patrick said:

I wish to state here, everything that was done to me while under interrogation by plainclothes officers in St. Stephens hospital, Fulham.

### Dragged

On numerous occasions I was dragged up off the bed by the collar of my pyjamas into a sitting position and beaten about the face. On other occasions, after long periods of interrogation (which usually took place at night) I was beaten continuously on the face with a plastic Lourdes water bottle to keep me awake.

Sometimes they had to wipe my face with a cold wet cloth so as the doctors and nurses wouldn't notice anything before leaving the room.

They would often pull me up into a sitting position and start to shake me violently to keep me awake and rock me back and forward roughly on the bed and start questioning again. They also kept prodding me on my wounded arm and leg with a biro.

On one occasion (when I

refused to answer them) they caught me by the arm where it had been amputated, and started squeezing. When I still refused to answer they squeezed and twisted it again.

I would like to state that during these physical assaults there were always two detectives present, and while one was doing the assault the other was keeping an eye out to make sure there were no nurses around.

One morning when the detectives came in they said that I was rotten with gangrene and that the doctors had left it too late to amputate my left leg. A couple of days later, they came in and started jeering and laughing and saying: 'They're chopping off the other leg tomorrow.'

### Interrogations

I would like to say that during most of my interrogation the same two detectives were involved.

On one occasion a nurse came into the room during interrogation with drugs for me. The detective started

arguing with her and told her to leave, in no uncertain terms. The nurse refused and replied that if I didn't get the drugs they wouldn't be able to ask me any more questions as I would be dead.

### Threats

They said that if I didn't tell them the truth they would start bashing the stumps of my leg and arm with wooden clubs until the blood and flesh started oozing out of them.

One morning one of the detectives came in very excited and giving off about all the wild goose chases I was sending them on, and said he was going to shoot me.

He went out of the room to get, as he said, the gun of the armed guard — and the other detective pleaded that if I gave him even a small bit of information he would stop him. They also threatened to kill my mother and sisters, or to point them out to a Loyalist hit-squad after visiting me unless I would give them information.

I would like to say that though these threats seem unreal now, at the time and the state I was in (completely disorientated) they seemed real enough to me.

The buzzer in my room wasn't working, so I asked the armed guard one night to call a nurse. He just told me to shut up and go back to sleep.

I awoke later and asked him for a glass of water, he said 'If you don't shut up I'll blow your fucking head off.' On another

occasion the armed guard was encouraging me to try and escape saying 'there's nobody here only you and I' and his hand on the revolver.

There were a few of the uniformed officers decent enough I would like to say that shortly before I left hospital a senior detective from Scotland Yard came to see me. He was alone and just before he left, he asked me if I had any complaints to make against the police.

I said that I had, but then he wouldn't even listen to me. He said that I imagined it and left.

None of the senior detectives was brutal to me, but it's my opinion that they had both Cousins and Parnell to do the dirty work for them, and I am certain that both these

officers did it with the approval of higher authority. I also want to say that the reason for writing this down is not to gain sympathy from anyone. I just want the Irish public to know the truth. As Irish Republicans, we are prepared to suffer for our cause, and we are prepared to suffer even more because we are right. Everything told here is exactly as it happened.

The others convicted at the Old Bailey of plotting with Patrick, were: Adrian Vincent Donnelly (37), steel fitter, Castlefin, Co. Donegal (life, five times over) and John Hayes (27), Co. Tyrone (20 years). All three refused to recognise the court.



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This poster was designed and published by Irish International Solidarity, a Continental group, and presented to the Republican Movement. Copies are available from Sinn Féin at 5p each.

## Six jailed Irish are innocent

— Father Faul

SIX IRISHMEN jailed for life in connection with the Birmingham pub bombings of November 1974, in which 21 people were killed, are innocent.

This is stated in a new book published by the two priests famous for their relentless pursuit of justice and human rights — Rev. Denis Faul of Dungannon and Rev. Raymond Murray of Armagh.

“Terrible incidents often result in serious consequences to other innocent people in the vicinity. A chance of history, a coincidence of facts, can result in other innocent people having their lives and those of their families destroyed in the vortex of the whirlpool,” the two priests state in their book “The Birmingham Framework”, to be distributed in Ireland, Britain and America.

“We think this happened as a result of the Birmingham bombings,” the authors write.

“We believe that the six Irishmen condemned to life imprisonment for the bombings are innocent.”

The two priests recall the statement by Daithí O Conaill, the Sinn Féin vice-president, in December, 1974, in which he said

none of the six were members of the IRA. He stated that an investigation into the bombings was taking place.

“We challenge the Provisional IRA on the publication of this book to reveal the results of their detailed investigations,” the priests continue.

Fathers Faul and Murray say of the “trial”

“It was not fair. We are hoping that studies by legal and forensic experts will bear this non legal opinion of ours out. We resent the fact that the men were refused leave to appeal.

“We feel that the case will have to be re-opened. At present we feel they are hostages for the good behaviour of other Irish in England.”

“An idea of the extent of the injustice against these men, mainly middle-aged and family men, can be gleaned from the fact that the warders who beat them up in Winstone Green Prison were not convicted by the British jury.”

“It has been suggested to us that it is vain to try to prove the

innocence of these six men of humble origin because the admission that a serious miscarriage of justice took place, or that a deliberately contrived plot to pervert justice was concocted would so seriously indict the British police and the British judiciary.

“We reject this argument as we believe that there are many fainthearted men in Britain in the media and the professions who will consider this grave matter seriously. We believe that the truth has a power of its own. It emerges almost by its own power,” the priests point out.

### Fined £10 for selling lillies

Vincent Kenny, Druminchin, Carrigallen, Co. Leitrim, was fined £10 at Arva, Co. Cavan, Court, last week, for selling Easter lillies outside the church at Carrigallen on April 9 last.

This is a face damaged deliberately by a foreign soldier in Belfast recently, firing a rubber bullet with lead inside at point blank range.

Mr. S. Robinson and a friend were passing through a Crown checkpoint at 18.00 hours on a Friday night when they became victims of an unprovoked attack.

It was 23.30 hours before Mr. Robinson reached hospital because the soldiers drove him around the city first in a jeep. He has lost his left eye; his nose is broken; and he is scarred for life.

This is but one example of the forces of “law and order” being supported so determinedly by the Dublin regime.

# Overlooking fascist and Israeli positions at Ain Ible, Lebanon

## IN THE TRENCHES

FROM JACK GALE

# C.O. W. IN A



Lebanese fighters with an Israeli helicopter downed in southern Lebanon.

TO ENTER the front-line trenches of the joint forces (Palestinians and Lebanese lefts) in south Lebanon is a great privilege.

No capitalist journalists can come here. To enter this position - 500 yards from the fascists and Israeli-held village of Ain Ible - you have to have a permit signed by the top leaders of the joint forces.

We have one because we are recognised by the Palestinian Liberation Organisation and its Lebanese allies as revolutionary comrades.

They have taken every precaution for our safety before and during this visit.

As we reached the foremost position in the trenches, our Palestinian comrades pointed to a building in front of Ain Ible village. That is the most advanced position reached by the fascists. Now there are fascists and Israeli snipers all around it.

### Snipers in action

Months later their snipers opened up with 500-calibre heavy machine guns and US-made M16 rifles. Our position was 500 yards away, but the M16 is accurate up to 800 yards. And the 500-calibre machine guns have a range of five miles.

The enemy is anxious to inflict some damage because they lost a tank here last week. When their firing was maintained the military commander of the region - Comrade Kamal - moved us further along the trench where there was more cover. Also this placed us opposite a bunker in case shelling started.

The bunker, he told us, was an old Roman tomb, 2,000 years old. Now it shelters the living, not the dead.

Sniping continued and got close. The 20-year-old Palestinian fighter Maher gave a grin and said: "I wonder how it will end with you?"

With Maher was his cousin Ahmed. Ahmed is 16 years old and he has been a fighter for nearly four years.

He is the youngest fighter in this post. But in other positions a little further back there are Palestinian 'Cubs' - comrades aged 13 to 15.

The sniping became a little bit too frequent, so First Lieut Sulaiman - the company commander - moved away from our position.

### Defiant shots

A few moments later rapid machine-gun fire burst from our lines.

The enemy replied with two or three more defiant shots, then there was silence.

Their men decided to keep their heads down - the lucky ones, that is.

Comrade Kamal is considered the 'captain in command' of this region of the battle front.

But, despite the use of officer terminology, there is no similarity between this fighting force and a bourgeois army. This is a revolutionary army.

These men live together, eat together, fight and sometimes die together.

"We do not have ranks, but cadres," said comrade Kamal, who was trained in military academies in Syria, the Soviet Union and China.

"It is decided by what we can give and what we can sacrifice."

Later, comrade Kamal took us to another Palestinian fighting position, again overlooking Ain Ible.

The joint forces have constructed an anti-tank artillery position here.

Outside the village, and on this side of it, the fascists and Israelis had moved two armoured jeeps carriers, one 75mm cannon and two 500-calibre machine guns.

We examined one of their

### CURSALEM TRACHA FOREIGN AFFAIRS

machine-gun posts through field glasses. It could be seen quite clearly.

A couple of days ago the fascists established a machine-gun post even closer than the nearest one is now. It was in a place where it could have done considerable damage to our position.

But there is a very experienced fighter here called Jihad. He is 21 years old. Jihad led a night patrol and blew up the three-man enemy machine-gun position.

The fascists have not tried to get that close since.

### Artillery position

From here we can see the mountains from where the Israelis fire their shells at the Palestinian and left-wing town of Bint Jbail. It is also the place where they send up their reconnaissance planes.

There is an Israeli Phantom flying overhead now as we crouch in the dug-out.

The commander points to a village called Maroun Al-Ras. The joint forces hadn't put any troops there because it wasn't militarily



▲ As enemy vehicles were about to enter the Brit post in North Howard Street, Belfast, on the night of June 29, they were ambushed by Oglighne na hEireann. Two were acknowledged killed. The C.O., Lieut. Col. John Hemsley (above, pictured in Musgrave Park Hospital) was among the injured, the 100th to be wounded this year (last year 288 were wounded).

# Was Cosgrave aware of that 55th. anniversary?

I AM THINKING of beautiful, supernatural things such as the spirit of freedom and whether the dead who died for Ireland, particularly those never allowed a vote or any share in democracy, whispered a message to their grand and great, and great grandchildren, nephews, nieces, kith, kin and comrades, on June 16 last, telling them to stop the anti-national madness of a second Cosgrave.

I am wondering, too, why Mr. Quising Cosgrave picked the 55th anniversary of the scandalous gerrymandering and perversion of a Dail decree in 1922 to coincide with the election just over.

He did it, apparently, against the instinct for electoral self-preservation of his major adherents.

Was he that confident that the spirit of freedom and the aims of revolution could be suppressed in Ireland for ever?

### le Maire Comerford

Fifty-five years has been a long time. If there are no improvements in literacy or in the size of classes in schools attended by the under-privileged, I refuse to count it an improvement if the pubs are richer and the prisons fuller.

People who get no chance in life still sleep under the stars.

### Agreement reached

At the time of the election of 1922 Michael Collins and Eamon de Valera had made an agreement which would have created a coalition government with the duty to postpone the national decision on the Treaty for six months, until a new electoral law could be passed, a new register made, the new constitution put before the people and the Treaty itself more deeply examined.

This pact was made law in a Dail Eireann decree.

There was famine in parts of Ireland, due in part to the after-war world slump and, in part, to the banning of fairs and markets under English martial law.

Unemployment was rife from Belfast to Cork. Everyone admitted that the people needed peace. The pact was an effort to secure it.

Because nominations were agreed in advance under the terms of the election, it did not matter much that the electoral register was out of date since 1918.

But, when the agreement was broken and a group, acting after the event, claimed to have had a national verdict on the Treaty, giving them authority to reject the National Coalition, things got serious.

The outgoing Ministry, headed by Arthur Griffith, then a

mentally sick man, should have called the Third Dail, but they were by then only a group of eight or so leaders.

Michael Collins all the time had been the leader of the strongest element in the pro-Treaty party. In the new Dail, obviously, he would hold the balance of power. The "Treaty" had been carried by only seven votes.

In this situation, democratic politics became impossible, apart from Coalition, and the group which was led by Cosgrave senior, during the illness and at the death of Griffith, turned to violence.

With the help of the English government they armed themselves with artillery and attacked the Four Courts. It was the beginning of the civil war, during the night of June 26-27, 55 years ago.

Liam Cosgrave junior flew out to dine with Queen Elizabeth last Tuesday, June 27. I wonder what good it will do him or Garret Fitzgerald.

### Shooting of 80

Before this election coercion of Republicans had reached a point near and not unlike that reached by Cosgrave senior when he executed 80 young men by firing squad.

It was the thought that these 80, and many others had had no votes in the 1922 election, which put it in my mind that some of the youth of today knowingly or instinctively acted as proxies for them, or for today's prisoners.

As one of a group sitting round the fire in Wood's of Donnybrook, we often got Liam Mellows to tell again how he evaded arrest with Alibeth O'Monachain, when they were pursued in the mountains of Clare after the Rising.

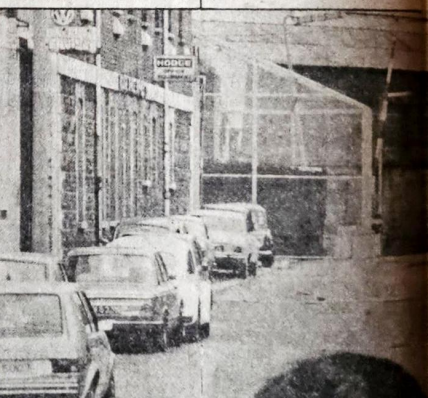
A figure seemed to move before them in the night. They were sure it was Pease, recently executed.

# Fear drives out the settlers

According to Ian Smith's publicity 2591 freedom fighters in Zimbabwe have been killed by his illegal regime over the past five years, including 673 this year and 84 this month; and his forces have lost 357, including 125 killed in this year so far, including 23 this month.

According to Smith's statistics, 1,754 whites fled the country in May. This topped the previous highest figure of 1,158 recorded last December.

So far, this year, Zimbabwe (population 6,000,000 Blacks and about 270,000 whites) has lost 4,917 whites through emigration. Last year's loss was 7,072.



necessary. Maroun Al-Ras remained a neutral village. But the Israelis shelled it.

Then they offered to send in the Israeli Red Cross, but the people refused. They said: "The Palestinian Red Crescent is at Bint Jbail. We want them."

### Own land denied

In the other direction, we can see occupied Palestine - what the Zionists call Israel.

Back in Bint Jbail, the commander there - Abu Othman said: "The minimum right for us to live in our own land is denied us."

"British imperialist is responsible for our problem. It is your duty to make this clear to the youth and the working class."

"It is our duty to fight imperialism and to have good relations at the same time with the British people, especially with the revolutionaries."

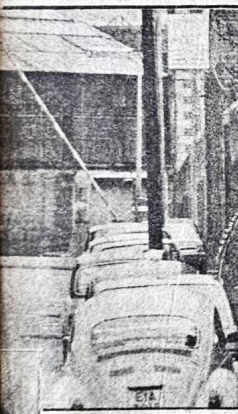
"Israel is not just our enemy. It is the spearhead of world imperialism, and we can and must deal it a heavy blow."



# OUNDED BUSH



Below the scene of the ambush as seen by the attackers. It took considerable nerve to stage this ambush, as can be imagined from this picture. At bottom of page, one of the two killed, Pte. Michael Harrison (19), Dinnington, Sheffield. See also page eight.



Last week in Belfast more foreign soldiers were killed, in an operation claimed by Óglaigh na hÉireann (pictures, left). The interview, reproduced below from the English socialist review, "Big Flame," gives an idea of how Britain's "cannon fodder" got involved in the war and how they are reacting to it... The ex-soldier interviewed now is an active member of the Troops-Out Movement after two spells of duty in the Crown's imperialist war in Ireland's north-east.

**Why did you join?**  
"I was unemployed and sacked because I was working round a pay rise for apprentices. I was trade-union orientated (on the AUEW junior workers' committee in Birmingham) but a bit pissed off with it all."

**What type of enlistment did you take?**

"I joined on a three-year commitment in Birmingham, as a regular. I was sent first to a recruitment centre in Sutton Coldfield and then moved to a training depot."

**What type of training did you get?**

"5.30 up; 6 to 6.30 breakfast; 6.30 to 8, cleaning rooms, room inspection and preparation for parades; 8 on parade and inspection; 8.30 to 9, drill, then 9 onwards, weapon training, PT, more drill and education."

**What type of "education"?**

"English, maths, map-reading, etc., and field craft - camouflage, organising ambushes and things like that. We were also involved in films depicting mock battles between English and Russians. Also, later, a preparation course for Northern Ireland."

**What was involved in the preparation for the Irish war?**

"Instruction on the yellow card (arrest card) and the blue card (the circumstances under which you can open fire). We also did a new shoot-to-kill course that was experimental at the time but it is now standard training. I also passed a test as a marksman."

## Early sense

**What were your experiences in the barracks?**

"We started with a platoon of 50 blokes. By the time the course has finished there were just about 15 of us left. The rest had mostly decided to buy themselves out before the six-week time limit, because the training programme was too heavy. Others had reacted against the platoon sergeant, who was a right bastard."

"On the first weekend exercise that we had, down south, two guys had actually fallen off a bridge into a river and broken arms and legs. There was also an attempt to throw the platoon sergeant off the bridge which, unfortunately, failed."

"After five weeks we did a passing-on parade, which meant we could proceed to the next part of the course. This consisted of heavier duties - helicopter, tank, anti-air, CS gas training. There were a lot of accidents on

## WHY DID YOU LEAVE?

# 'I just cracked up'

this part of the course. After six days one guy actually cracked up with tension. He refused to march or anything."

**How long was it before you reached Ireland?**

"I got there in December 1973, after 18 weeks of training. I was based first in Derry, in Ebrington Barracks. During my joining interview with the C.O., a car-bomb went off outside the barracks and I thought, 'Oh, God! The next two years are going to be like this.'"

"To begin, we were sent on the Reinforcement Training Course, which consists of one week looking at the history and politics of Northern Ireland. This involved a study from the potato blight of 1840 through to 1973."

"For example, the Black-and-Tans were explained to be so brutal because they were ex-WW1 servicemen whose training in the trenches had made them ready to shoot at anything."

"There was no questioning of why they were there. That was completely ignored. The course also included briefing on the political situation in Ireland at the time. That included things such as briefing reports on the top I.R.A. men, militants and dissidents, such as Bernadette Devlin and the extreme right-wing politicians such as Paisley."

"Names were specifically mentioned, photographs shown round and sound recordings of their meetings played back for us for quick identification."

"We were shown how to use long-range night sights, 'twiggies', so we could observe houses at night. We were taught about the information centre, which could give us information on any particular person within two

minutes and about paramilitary organisations other than the I.R.A., such as the U.D.A. and the U.V.F."

## Patrol work

**What was involved in work in the cities?**

"Usually we were given a briefing before the patrol and a dossier on people to arrest. We went out in groups of six, three men on foot, three supporting in an armoured car."

"I was permanently in the cars because I was a communications bloke. I was taught specifically to be a vehicle commander, to use most types of weapons, including CS gas, Browning heavy machine gun and the old Lee Enfield .303 rifle as well as the new 9mm automatic pistol and the self-loading rifle. I used the car's Browning on two blokes once."

**What were the circumstances?**

"There had been some shooting at 'squaddies' on foot and I saw two blokes running along a back alley. I was also getting the fucking shot at myself at the time. Then I opened fire with the Browning and managed to shoot a bloke's leg off."

**Were you sure that they had been shooting at you?**

"Yes. When I was shooting I was so frightened that it was like an automatic reaction. It's like a machine. You just switch on, you don't consciously think about what you are doing. Say, if a two-year-old kid had come out of a doorway, I wouldn't have been able to tell the difference."

"When we found the guys - we found they were two 15-year-old kids. That made me really think. It just seemed too horrific."



vehicle and over to Derry and into a cell."

"Then we waited for a medical team over from Belfast. The army just covered the incident up and discharged him after a couple of months in the army mental hospital near Portsmouth. I really ended up there myself."

**Why did you leave?**

"Because, basically, I cracked up."

**Were you in Ireland during the Birmingham pub bombings?**

"Yes. The reaction was that the platoon of Birmingham blokes went on the rampage in Strabane. People were hassled, wandering around with split heads. They just went on the general rampage."

"Women were accused of being sluts and shouted at and so on. When the official complaints went in they were covered by the reaction to the bombings in Birmingham."

**They didn't see any grounds for complaints as nobody had actually been shot or anything.**

"Shortly after that I went on leave. When I came back there were mass arrests going on. People pulled in for no particular grounds and being interrogated."

## Questioning methods

**Do you know anything about the interrogation techniques used?**

"Yeah. Sensory deprivation was used. They put them in a room, sometimes with a mask on their faces so they couldn't see anything or hear what was going on."

"Also 'spread eagling': they were put up against a wall with their arms and legs spread out, leaning on their finger tips, to make all their muscles cramp up and immobilise them."

"Among those arrested were people who had previously given 'squaddies' a bit of lip. Most people hated us, anyway, just completely hated us. You could feel it. You couldn't talk to them, even."

"One 14-year-old, nicknamed (At leanant at chul)

## Spike Island

OVER the past fortnight a most curious thing has been happening in London. "The Irish Press" extremely fat and no-longer-young London editor, Aidan Hennigan, has been complaining to Brit journalists that, many years ago the I.R.A. forced his uncle to eat glass!

The ridiculous Hennigan does not explain where or in what circumstances this bizarre episode took place. It is nowhere recorded - but he does tell it with feeling.

The truth is that Aidan is a sadly disillusioned man. To understand why we must consider first, the set-up of that fun-loving band of brothers who like to be known in Fleet Street as the "Irish press corps."

They include representatives of the Press, Indco, Times, "Cork Examiner", RTE and "The Sunday World".

They are to be found drinking in the afternoons - also occasionally in the mornings, sometimes in the evenings as well. In fact, now that we come to this, about it, almost any hour of the day - in the King and Keys pub, hard by the "Daily Telegraph" building in Fleet Street. (It was managed until recently by Mark O'Donnell, brother of Tom, "saviour-of-the-Gaeltacht" O'Donnell).

## Embassy man

Their chief mentor is Dermot Gallagher, press counsellor, Irish Embassy ("Cork Examiner") - to name but the chief offenders - reported that the Brits were terribly worried about the possibility of a Lynch Government.

In fact, the Brits couldn't care less, knowing Lynch of old. The entire thing was for Irish consumption. Imagine the Consternation

He it who fed stories to Brit papers about the evils of Haughey; the shocking things which would happen if F.F. got in, etc., etc.

This, of course, was no part of Gallagher's function. Diplomats are supposed to be "neutral".

## Toeing the line

But Dermot was convinced the Blueshirts were certis and wanted to be seen to be on the winning side - in the hope of favours to come.

Reflecting his line, Hennigan, Nicholl (Independent) and Roisin MacAuley ("Cork Examiner") - to name but the chief offenders - reported that the Brits were terribly worried about the possibility of a Lynch Government.

Imagine the Consternation

when FF hacked up! Not only has Gallagher give up all hope of quick promotion, he is worried about his present job. And not without reason.

He can expect little consideration from a government he had denounced in advance as "unsafe".

His journalistic camp-followers are little better-off. Hennigan, in his chats with Brits, had not only tipped the Coalition - he had else again. A bit of a PDR in her younger days, she now sits dumplily in London boozers delighting right-wingers with her uninformed "opinions" on Ireland's north-east.

The story about his poor uncle's glass-mashing is designed to explain away this "aberration". ("So bitter are my memories, I made this slight error of judgment" and so on.)

## Openly partisan

Luckiest man of all is the lispng Andrew Shepherd, who got back to Dublin just in time.

Another shameless Fine Gael hack, he touched lucky for the diplomatic correspondent's job left vacant when Liam Hourican became Dick Burke's messenger boy in Brussels at £13,000 p.a.

His open partisanship during his time in London would have made him a back-marker in the race for Hourican's job had it not been completed before the election.

Rein MacAuley is something else again. A bit of a PDR in her younger days, she now sits dumplily in London boozers delighting right-wingers with her uninformed "opinions" on Ireland's north-east.

## Deeply wounded

Kindly folk say that she has her eye on a Telegraph job and is making the right noises; but those who have listened to her recently believe that, now she has £6,730 p.a., and mixes with Brits every day, she actually believes all the

bullshit she babbles.

It might seem strange that a group of journalists would align themselves so firmly with one set of politicians, and see their own fortunes as tied up with them.

## Out of touch

But the "Irish press corps" in London regards itself - and is regarded by some others - as somehow, the representatives of the country within British journalistic circles, expressing the national will, as it were.

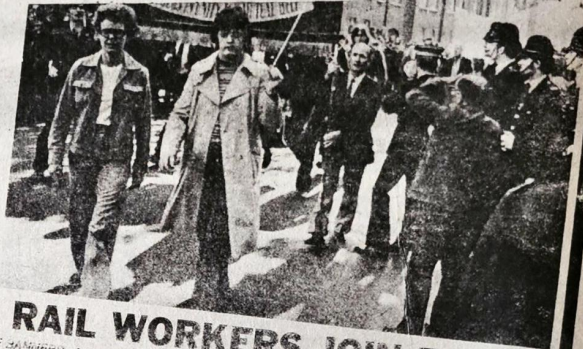
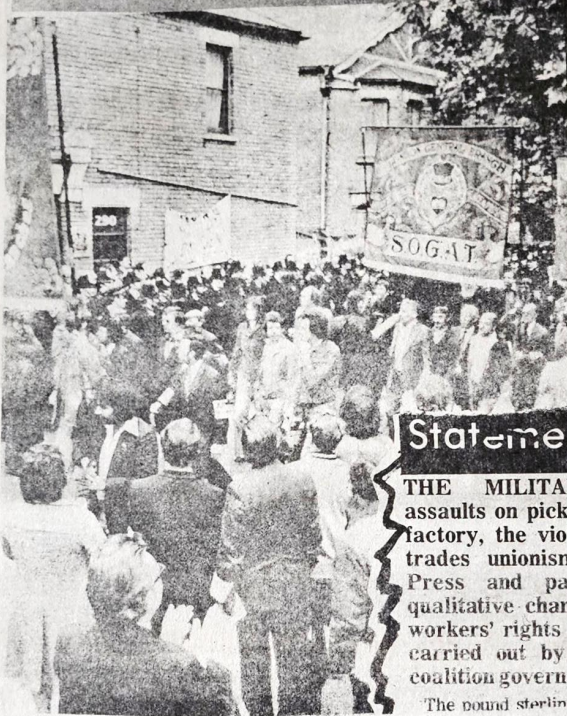
When it is discovered that they are nothing of the sort, that they are totally out of touch and represent sweet F.A., they are deeply wounded where it hurts - in their pride and pompous self-esteem.

There's more. Watch this space...

## le Scoopie-do



# FLASHPOINT GRUNWICK



## RAIL WORKERS JOIN THE PICKET LINE

RAILWORKERS in the train drivers' union ASLEF of the Midland Railway, the branch of the National Union of Railwaymen, joined the picket line yesterday at Grunwick. They carried banners for the National Council for the Unemployed (Corby), the National Council for the Unemployed (Wichworth) and the National Council for the Unemployed (Wichworth).

We welcome the call by London Region UCATT for a mass picket of builders on Friday, Wednesday and the call by the London printers for Thursday. Further, we urge the entire movement to support the call by the Yorkshire and Welsh miners for a massive day of action (July 17).

### Statement by the

**THE MILITARY-STYLE police assaults on pickets at the Grunwick factory, the violent denunciation of trades unionism in the capitalist Press and parliament, mark a qualitative change in the attack on workers' rights and conditions being carried out by the Liberal-Labour coalition government.**

The pound sterling today is worth only 55p to the Labour



● Lord Justice Scarman is to head the Crown's court of inquiry into Grunwick. Another Whitewash?

who very well may be faced with a similar situation in the 26 Counties, if Fiamma Fail acts true to form.

What a pity that I.C.T.U. did not use some of its considerable financial resources to finance the presence of a token Irish worker representation alongside the Sinn Féin picketers among the Grunwick militants, complete with banners.

#### Remember Connolly

Connolly would have been quick to do so. But such action is not too late yet and Republicans in the trade union movement should press for such a physical proof of solidarity.

Heavens knows, there are a sufficient number of unemployed men and women available.

To win against the international conspiracy, however, every nation must solve its own national problem, regain national freedom and return to the struggle for those oppressed. But national victory will be speeded by international solidarity against the common international capitalist enemy.

That is the basic reason why Grunwick is so important in the Irish context.

#### Same struggle

Will the Grunwick spectacular, tame though it may be in comparison with what has evolved in Ireland, all 32 counties of the country in terms of establishment brutality, bring the English working class to its senses?

Clarify for them the general class issue common to Ireland and English, that the war in Ireland's north-east is the same, essentially, as the potential war inherent in the Grunwick situation: The freedom of man?

It may appear odd to some Irish people, even to some Republicans, for us to point out that the English are just as much in need of liberation as the Irish, the Welsh or the Scots.

We refer, of course, not to the privileged English ruling class but to decent English workers exploited by that ruling, imperialist clique.

The Irish freedom fighters are an integral part of the struggling brotherhood of man; and that brotherhood, in this century, means "that most respectable class" (to update Wolfe Tone) everywhere.

The Grunwick picketers are as much our brothers in that international struggle for freedom as are the Bristol guerrillas, the



ETA fighters in the Iberian peninsula, those of the newly awakened Occitan resistance in southern France, the Catalan activists, the PLO patriots of the Middle East, the Eritreans on the verge of victory against the imperialists of Adis Ababa, the blacks and Puerto Ricans and native people of America, and their equivalents in every continent.

Admittedly, that is happening at Grunwick is the liberation struggle in embryo. The struggle could be aborted. The Crown might be persuaded to quit the bank, to leave the picketers with the "famous victory," so that they might better go back to sleep again instead of throwing themselves into the common struggle against imperialism in Ireland. Time will tell.

But this much is certain. Irishmen (such as the Sinn Féin participants) and Englishmen who recognise the common imperialist stamp on the Grunwick spectacular and the Irish armed struggle have an obligation to educate those many people who are supporting the Grunwick mass picket by sheer instinct, emotionally, without being aware of the full, political and economic dimensions.

Thankfully, the Irish trade union movement, through I.C.T.U., has made public its full support for the Grunwick picketers. An I.C.T.U. public analysis of the Grunwick affair would have been useful because it would have helped to educate Irish workers

YEARS AGO we pointed out that the Crown was practising in Ireland's north-east for the inevitable confrontation between the "haves" and the "have-nots" in Britain. We quoted that favoured apostle of imperialist thinking, Kitson who, like Hitler, planned, printed and published it and who, unfortunately, was not taken seriously in time by those who count — the mass of trade union members.

Are we witnessing the beginning of that confrontation the Grunwick strike and the all-out Crown effort to break it with uniformed police, secret police, agents provocateurs, establishment brutality, police framing and well conditioned judges?

When the Crown introduced its anti-Irish legislation in Britain, the National Council for Civil Liberties of Britain (along with others, including the Republican Movement) interpreted it as a means to give the police far more power than they needed or was good for them or civilians, forecasting that that same power would be used to bully English workers. Unfortunately, the mass of those same English workers, as a class, were not awakened by the Irish experience nor even by Kitson himself.

## Hull Irish victimised

IRISH and black prisoners were singled out for harsh and brutal treatment after the Hull Prison riot last year, a report of a public inquiry into has made clear.

The four-day inquiry, the report of which has been published, was organised by the National Prisoners' Movement (PROP) at the end of May in London. It found that the cause of the riot stemmed from the excessively harsh regime imposed by the prison staff.

The report refers to an incident of solitary confinement which was out of proportion to the offence committed, as in Portlaine Jail at present. This was one of the flashpoints for the events which led to the riot.

During the public inquiry depositions from pris-

oners, in addition to stating that Irishmen and Blacks were singled out for brutal treatment, states that and knees and sing "God Save the Queen". When they refused were badly beaten.

The report concludes that there was ample evidence to sustain these allegations.

The report will recommend to the British Government that it establish an official inquiry into the Hull riot. It condemns the punishment inflicted on the protestors.

The report says that PROP is worried about conditions in other prisons throughout Britain and particularly at Albany, where conditions are viewed with "grave disquiet".

# Credit unions in handcuffs

CO-OPS - why they fail or succeed" by Ehdrida, Sinn Fein Foreign Affairs Bureau (An Phoblacht, 1/6/77) made the point that "Co-operatives aiming to restore initiative to local level are very much part of Republican thinking", but went on critically to examine how they actually work in various parts of the world.

It is vital to the success of the Eire Nua projects in this field that there be further examination of co-operative enterprise abroad, their difficulties and how these could be avoided here.

Sinn Fein was one of the first political organisations in Ireland to call on its members in 1957 to join the Credit Unions then being

formed and to declare its support for these emerging co-operative savings and credit associations.

It should be noted that Bishop Kavanaugh and other eminent Catholic sociologist-detractors were at that very same time opposed to the Credit Union idea, declaring that they would never work in Ireland.

Today, the Credit Union League of Ireland represents 450 Credit Unions with 400,000 members and £50,000,000 in assets. They did work and, with success, came the approbation and countless blessings from the Hierarchy.

The co-operative, socialist ideal of Eire Nua, however, is based on the "Comhar na gComharsan" philosophy which is founded on the right of worker ownership and is native to the Irish way of life, as well as being co-operative or distributed in character.

Each individual worker, declares Eire Nua, will own an economic unit of the means of production - farm, workshop, business or share in a factory or other co-operative. This is true industrial democracy. Credit Unions will play an important role in this type of development.

Pending the achievement of our Republican freedom an economic resistance movement was to be built up "to defend the interests of the Irish people against exploitation, whether from foreign interference or from native capitalism; to democratise industry and to promote the Comhar na gComharsan philosophy" (Eire Nua).

It is my contention, therefore, that Sinn Fein must examine the present role of the Credit Union League of Ireland, which is affiliated on a per capita basis to the Credit Union National Association of America (C.U.N.A.).

From these fees, and those paid by thousands of Credit Unions throughout the world - mostly sponsored and set up by C.U.N.A. World Extension of Washington - C.U.N.A. controls the so-called education schemes of the Credit Unions, provides the "expenses paid" trips for organisers and so forth, international get-togethers and conferences.

There are only two conditions, in fact, for affiliating to the Credit Union League of Ireland. One is that your fees are up to date and the other that loan protection and life insurance should be through the League with CUNA Mutual, another rich

## Postmhála

source of funds and an effective control body for CUNA.

Recently, St. Joseph's Aviation Credit Union, which represents 3,740 members of the Aer Lingus staff, was denied the right to attend the Waterford convention (Evening Herald 26/4/77) because it had terminated its insurance contract on December 31st last.

This Irish industrial Credit Union was told it must return to the U.S. group, although it could make considerable savings by carrying the insurance itself with the support of underwriting by an Irish insurance company.

The real weakness of the Credit Union movement here is, of course, that it is no longer imbued with the Antigonish social ideal of bringing ownership to the workers, significant ownership, as expressed in Comhar na gComharsan philosophy.

It never will be so motivated: C.U.N.A., imbued with welfare capitalist ideas ever since its foundation by Edward Filene 50 years ago, will see to that.

Fileme capitalist Boston merchant, who spent 1,000,000 dollars of his own trading fortunes to establish C.U.N.A. and defuse the revolutionary social power of co-operative credit, succeeded in impregnating even the Antigonish movement of St. Francis Xavier University, Nova Scotia, with his capitalist thinking.

That, of course, is why producer co-ops, as Ehdrida points out, are few and small scale experiments where they do exist. Let Sinn Fein members of Credit Unions press for the revival of the early co-op ownership ideals of Antigonish, detailed by Dr. M.M. Coady in his book, "Master of their Own Destiny". They will then have struck a blow for the ownership of Ireland by the people of Ireland and against foreign, capitalist interference in our credit co-ops.

-M. O'Callanin, Brattington Road, London W.9, Sasana.

## SINN FEIN, MILFORD

Private members draw:  
First prize: Harp, Catherine Begley, Toome.

Second prize: Handbag, John Hefferty, Gap.

Third prize: Wallet, Kathleen Gallagher, Creevy.  
Go raigh mile maith agabha.

## WALK OUT

REGARDING your report, "Crown politics from Belfast pulpit", there is no political diatribe being FORCED on the congregation.

If those people had any guts and the courage of their convictions, they would walk out en masse and remain away until the clergy changed their tune.

When will the Irish people realize that the Catholic Hierarchy is the greatest single obstacle to the removal of the British presence?

It is my firm conviction that any man who would betray his own people is incapable of speaking the word of God.

-Seamus McWeeney, Spring Street, Monroe, Nua Eabhrach, Meiricea.

## Emergency powers abused again

Harassment by the secret police continues in Ballymun, Dublin. A member of the Mc Cabe-O'Quigley Cumann was arrested for a second time on his way to the weekly meeting place. He was taken to the Bridewell and held until 3.00 hours the next day.

While detained the political police raided his home and picked up a neighbour who was not a member of Sinn Fein. He, too, was brought to the Bridewell, fingerprinted and questioned.

The wife of the Cumann member has been harassed several times by the secret police. Recently the woman had a miscarriage. This degrading of people is contrary to the U.N. Charter of Human Rights.

## Homage to our patriot dead

The annual tours of national graves and memorials will commence in Glasnevin Cemetery, Dublin, on Sunday, July 3 and will continue on the following four Sundays this month.

The tours will be conducted by the chairman of Na h-Uaighneanna Naisiunta (National Graves' Association). Patrons are asked to assemble outside the main gate of Glasnevin Cemetery at 11.30 hours.

## Eire Nua Carrier Bags

These plastic bags are available from:

Craft Shop, Cearnóg Pharnell, Baile Átha Cliath, 1, Eire.

Also from Siopa Eire Nua, Carriga Airt, Co. Thír Chonaill, Eire.

£13.00 for 500; £23.00 for 1,000.

## The Last Post

A valuable historical record containing the names of those who have given their lives for the cause of Irish freedom. Published by the National Graves Association. Available from the Republican Craft Centre. Price £2.00; Postage and packing 20p extra.

## CUIMHNEACHAN

## Stagg - Gaughan

From this year onwards commemoration will take place on Sunday, August 14. Details later in this Page. This year's

## CRAFT CENTRE

### Leather goods

Ladies' leather Handbag, made in Long Kesh, shoulder style . . . £20.00  
Ladies' leather Handbags, made in Long Kesh, clutch style . . . £10.00  
Ladies' purses, made in Long Kesh . . . £5.00  
Gents' wallets, made in Long Kesh . . . £5.00  
(plus 40p post and packing)

### Ornaments

Miniature Harps; Irish cottages . . . £2.00  
Miniature Round Towers; Washing Wells . . . £1.50  
Miniature Rocking Chairs; Horseshoe key holders . . . £1.00  
(plus 40p post and packing)

### Jewellery

Silver Phoenix Badges . . . £2.50  
Gold Phoenix Badges . . . £10.00  
Silver Phoenix medallions . . . £7.50  
Gold Phoenix medallions . . . £25.00  
Ladies' Silver Phoenix rings . . . £4.00  
Ladies' Gold Phoenix rings . . . £12.50  
Gents' Silver Phoenix rings . . . £6.50  
Gents' Gold Phoenix rings . . . £25.00  
(plus 25p post and packing)

### Records

Long playing records: Those marked with an \* are also available in 4 Track cassettes.  
\*Ireland Live On, by Saoirse . . . £2.50  
\*Hang my country, The story of a Tragedy . . . £2.50  
\*20 Rebel Songs . . . £3.00  
\*The Bloodstained Bandage . . . £3.00  
The price of Justice, by Kathleen Lavery . . . £2.50  
England's Vietnam . . . £2.50  
Ireland, the fight goes on, by the Men of No Property . . . £3.00  
\*18 Rebel Songs . . . £3.00  
\*Ireland, United, Gaelic and Free . . . £3.00  
\*Best of the Wolfhound . . . £3.00  
\*Freedoms Sons by Wolfhound . . . £3.00  
\*Smash Internment . . . £2.50  
\*Irish Songs of Freedom, Vol. 1, 2 and 3 . . . £3.00  
\*The Winds are singing Freedom, by the Barleycorn . . . £3.00  
\*Paddy Reilly at Home . . . £3.00  
\*The Life of Paddy Reilly . . . £3.00  
\*The Town I love so well by Paddy Reilly . . . £3.00  
\*Rites of the I.R.A., by the WolfTonnes . . . £3.50  
\*Let the People Sing, by the WolfTonnes . . . £3.50  
\*Till Ireland a Nation, by the WolfTonnes . . . £3.50  
\*Fish to the care, by the WolfTonnes . . . £3.50  
\*Across the Broad Atlantic, by the WolfTonnes . . . £3.50  
(plus 40p post and packing)

Singles: (All prices 70p plus 20p post and packing)  
Long Kesh: Up and Away, by the WolfTonnes;  
My Little Armalite: Prove Birdie, The Ballad of Michael Gaughan  
Provo Lullaby: Brave Frank Stagg, by the Wolfhound.  
The Town I love so well, by Paddy Reilly.

Portlaoise Jail, Crossmaglen, by the Freeman.  
Call or phone or write: Craft Centre, 44 Cearnóg Pharnell, Baile Átha Cliath, EIRE.

## Sinn Féin

# Educate that you may be free

Education officers of each Dublin Comhairlecheantar draw attention to the WEEKEND EDUCATION COURSE to be held on July 9 and 10 next in the Sinn Féin clubrooms, 8, Blessington Street. All Sinn Féin members in the Dublin area who have not taken the course are invited to attend.

Programme: Saturday, July 9, 14.00 - 19.30 hours (with one hour tea break).  
Sunday, July 10, 11.00 - 13.30 hours.

Cumann officers are asked to encourage new members to be present at this course. But veteran members with queries on aspects of Sinn Féin policies also will be welcome.

●Contact your Cumann Rúnaí NOW.

## An Cumann Cabhrach

### JUNE DRAW

- 1st No. 275
- 2nd No. 050
- 3rd No. 018
- 4th No. 966
- 5th No. 917
- 6th No. 017
- 6th No. 044
- 7th No. 072
- 8th No. 226

Coiste Bhaile Átha Cliath.

## Comhairle Cúige Laignean

### BALLADS and traditional music

Cock Robin, Athy  
Deardaoin, July 7  
20.30 hours 50p

## Ceol traidisiúnta (Irish traditional music.)

Fox's Glencullen.  
CLADDAGH and JERRY CRILLY.

Wednesday July 6  
Dul isteach: 6p  
Bar Extension  
20.30 to 12.30  
Sinn Fein, Cumann Michael Gaughan

## QUIZ

We are extending the deadline for the last quiz for one week. The feature will be continued in our next issue.

## LONDON RALLY

SINN Féin in England will hold a national rally and demonstration on Sunday July 31 to mark the 1971 introduction of internment without trial by the British.

The rally will assemble at 2.30 outside the Crown in Cricklewood and march down Edgware Road to Hyde Park, where the rally will be addressed by members of Sinn Féin from London, north of England and Home Counties.

Speakers from other revolutionary organisations in England also will address the rally. The march will be led by the James Connolly Flute Band from Glasgow.

All members of Sinn Féin and their supporters are urged to support the rally by attending in person. All Cumainn and Comhairlecheantar banners should be displayed.

A dance and social will be held on the eve of the rally. Tickets and further details can be had from:

Box 8, 182, Upper St., London, N.1.  
("The Irish Post" refused to publish this advertisement on "legal advice").

# Portlaoise: Louth demands inquiry

THE NEED for an independent inspection of conditions at Portlaoise prison, other than that of the Visiting Committee, was unanimously backed by Louth Co. Council at its last meeting. The Chairman, Mr. P. Moore, said that there was a general "uneasiness" about the position at the prison.

## 'I just cracked up'

(Ar leanúint ó lech. 5)

'Maggot', used to resist us totally. He put up barricades across the streets, anything to disrupt us. He lobbed bricks at patrols. The barricades he made out to be booby-trapped, a little wires showing. He organised groups of kids to stone patrols and so on, day after day.

"Sometimes I had really bad nightmares even after a couple of months out there and you are supposed to do 18 months. "I ended up so cracked up that they would not let me do patrols or even guard duties.

"I was a company messenger boy then. My wife even tried committing suicide on two occasions and so did others. Being on duty was that bad that the only time that you felt safe and had any privacy was in the bog."

*You were over there when the Ulster Workers' strike was on, weren't you?*

"During the Ulster Workers' strike I spent the first half in Derry, where I was on Emergency (two minutes) call out. We were ordered to go to petrol stations and try and keep them open.

"Because of the total extent of the strike, it started off a series of riots in Derry. We had to go and shoot sheep in Strabane to get food.

"The Derry side of the strike collapsed because the majority wouldn't allow it to take place. The army had to bring in supplies, that was 'scab' on the workers on strike."

## More on dole

There are at least 160,124 unemployed people in Ireland, 109,470 in the 26 Counties and 50,654 in the Six. The Six Counties figure is the worst since 1940, where 11.2 per cent. are on the dole. The figure will rise steeply before the summer is out.

Blackest spot is Strabane (34.9 per cent.), followed by Newry (27) Dungannon (24.3), and Belfast (nine). But the Belfast figure camouflages Ballymurphy (35) as the Dublin figure (eight) camouflages Ballyfermot (35).

# As lár an chogaidh

FROM THE WAR ZONE

## MONDAY, JUNE 22

**BELFAST:** Three RUC men were injured when a bomb exploded at a hardware store in Townsend Street. They had just entered the premises after receiving a report that a suspicious packet had been left there.

**LURGAN:** Oglagh na hÉireann in the town admitted responsibility for knee-capping a local man who had informed the RUC of the whereabouts of a hi-jacked car.

**BELFAST:** Two cassette-type incendiary bombs exploded and caused severe damage to the Silver Grill restaurant in Commarkert.

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

**BELFAST:** In one of the most daring and well executed ambushes of the present campaign one member of Oglagh na hÉireann in Belfast shot and killed two soldiers and wounded three others, including the C.O. of the Third Battalion Light Infantry, according to a sup-

plied statement. The volunteer, believed to have used an Armalite rifle, positioned himself about 100 yards and fired five shots as two military vehicles were turning round a sharp right-hand bend into North Howard Street.

Each shot scored a direct hit, killing two privates, wounding the C.O., a Brit padre and another regular soldier.

Later the Brigáid Bheal Feirste (Belfast Brigade) took responsibility for the attack (pictures, centre).

Again he urged the Council seek admittance of a deputation to the prison.

Mr. J. Connor seconded Mr. Browne's proposal on the visit, while the chairman agreed that the admittance of an "independent" deputation might clear up some of the "uneasiness" for justice had not only to be done, but to be seen to be done.

Mr. Moore believed a deputation from the General Council of County Councils might carry more weight, and added that the matter could be raised when the body met in Dundalk.

## Why refused?

Mr. McCabe wondered why such men as Rev. D. Faul had been refused a visit to Portlaoise and he believed that a visit by an independent body would allay some of the fears.

The Council agreed to seek admittance of a deputation and to raise the matter at General Council of County Council level.

## The reply

The committee said that after escape attempts, free association had been ended.

On educational facilities, a wide range of text books were provided, but the "Provisionals" refused to co-operate with a questionnaire on the subject of their needs.

Strip searches and tight control over visitors were found necessary after explosives were "smuggled" into Green Street Courthouse.

Outdoor exercise was allowed to prisoners during fine weather.

There was a special recreation room, two films a week, and TV every night.

Prisoners could also take part in craft work but refused because they refused to be strip-searched.

Additional clothing was refused by some prisoners, and the committee found that the food was hot and well cooked, that there was a generous supply of hot water, and some men were "too lazy" to polish their boots although polish was available.

There was no solitary confinement at the prison, but there had been instances of "close confinement" and prisoners locked up 23 hours a day "in the interests of good order and discipline."

## 'Unsatisfactory'

Mr. F. Browne, who raised the matter originally, found the committee's report unsatisfactory and not consistent with statements he and other bodies such as the Association for Legal Justice had received.

## Sinn Féin active in Finglas

THREE public meetings were held by the McCabe-Quigley Cumann, Sinn Féin, recently in west Finglas. Speaking on the Saturday prior to the "Free" State elections, K. Farrelly explained the Aire Nua policy and told those present that neither the Coalition nor Fianna Fáil had a policy for a united Ireland.

Speaking outside one of Dublin's largest churches in west Finglas, Sean Meagher outlined the "Brits-Out, Peace-In" campaign and K. Farrelly told the parishioners about Sinn Féin's policy for a 32-counties government. Peadar Tunney reminded them of some 3,000 men and women in jail for their country. He urged the people to join Sinn Féin, to work for Aire Nua and he asked them to continue their support for the prisoners' dependents.

The Coalition's anti-Irish policies had been rejected at the polls, Peadar pointed out. The electorate now had silenced the voice of Patrick Cooney and Cruise O'Brien.

Join Sinn Féin now for a new Ireland. If living in Finglas, Ballygall, Ballyman or Drumcondra, contact: C. Marshall (phone - 420980)



## Shot dead in street

IN 1943 Jackie Griffith, a dedicated Republican, was shot dead by the secret police in Dublin.

Last Sunday there was a good turnout for the annual commemoration of this cowardly, unprovoked attack on a patriotic Irishman.

Our picture above shows the local Sinn Féin Cumann, called after Jackie, on parade from Ringsend to Mount Street where the murder took place, following Mass in St. Patrick's. Liam Davitt is pictured (left) placing the wreath.

The oration was delivered by Aindrias Ó Ceallacháin who pointed out that, despite the financial crisis, three carloads of secret police had been directed to spy on those present.

# Television could save Welsh and Irish

## Nollaig Ó Gadhra concludes his series

RATHER than decrying the advent of TV, Professor Williams saw it as the one factor which can ensure that the retreat of their national language over the past 100 years not only will be halted but that the past three monoglot generations in the parts of the country where this applies will have been the only such three generations in Wales's long history.

The same, he suggests, can be true of Ireland if the right policies are adopted. Despite the discouraging record to date, he refused to believe that we are sufficiently stupid not to grasp the opportunity.

Professor Williams's views of the rights of Welsh-speaking citizens are also of interest. Naturally, he refused to accept English-only forms from the authorities. Even if his parking-ticket was in Welsh normally he went to court to defend himself.

He was more concerned about the right of the Welsh language to be heard and used in such instances than in any personal rights to force his linguistic preferences on the system.

More often than not, while he lived, he found that the police and all those involved were only too glad to oblige him to collect the parking fine through the medium!

## Personal example

Similarly, he found there was little chance today of the same was not true even a decade ago perhaps - that he would get a gas-bill or an electricity bill in English only.

"I am not terribly concerned about my personal fight to get billed in Welsh", he said. "But I am concerned about the fact that most of my Welsh-speaking neighbours probably do not get such bills, and what makes me even sadder is the realisation that most of them do not even ask for them."

It is a situation not unfamiliar to those in Ireland who know the Gaeltacht areas. As in many other cases, personal example in one's own neighbourhood is very important for those who, like Jac L. Williams, believed in the right of the ancestral tongue to a future.

He made the point that it is sometimes easier for the language defender to go to jail for refusal to pay a parking-fine in English than to convince the local shopkeeper that his billheads should be bilingual.

Naturally, this controversial man has his critics. The sharpest are to be found within sections of the Welsh language movement itself. But he held very strongly to the view that each of the weaker languages in Western Europe will have to come up with the means of its own salvation.

We can learn from each other, but, in the end, it is every

national language movement for itself.

However, he insisted, the first step is a brutally realistic analysis of the situation in which we find ourselves. Then the bridgeheads and the co-ordination of the impact of those bridgeheads.

Jac L. Williams faced the linguistic facts of life. The results of his approach, now bearing fruit in Wales, demand that, at the very least, we listen to him.

## CROWN 'JUSTICE'

RECENTLY in Derry Assizes two men faced charges of manslaughter in separate court cases. A man (a civilian) got life. The other, a member of the Royal Hampshire Regiment, stationed in Ballykelly, got three years.

This is ironic in a week when Mr. Roy Mason announced his new security package to deal with "terrorists". When one considers that Mason has included in his latest announcement that one can get life for conspiracy to "murder", it makes a mockery of the whole meaning of justice.

Another very interesting point in Mason's package is the announcement that young soldiers will be sent to Ireland to carry out S.A.S. type activities.

Once again Britain has responded to Unionist blackmail and the minority population of the Six Counties will suffer as a result, according to a statement from Sinn Féin, Derry.