



REPUBLICAN NEWS

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'H' BLOCK—ONE YEAR OF RESISTANCE

While the armed struggle against British Imperialist aggression in Ireland continues, another heroic and courageous form of resistance to British dictates is taking place in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh and in the women's section of Armagh Prison.

180 revolutionary comrades are in naked solitary confinement, and Kieran Nugent who has come to symbolise the spearhead of that struggle for P.O.W. status enters his first year 'on the blanket' next Wednesday.

On the eve of the first anniversary of the Republican Movement and the revolutionary people salute this courageous resistance. Tributes to the men in H-Blocks and the imprisoned women in Armagh have come from prisoners in jails throughout Ireland and England. On similar protest in England is Shane O'Doherty who lies in naked solitary confinement in Wormwood Scrubs Jail, demanding the rights of a captured Prisoner-of-War.



Irish solidarity groups throughout the world have sent greetings. International revolutionary groups have applauded the show of determined resistance, and in Belfast protests are planned by Sinn Fein and the Relatives Action Committees.

ROOTS OF THE WAR

The logic of the Civil Rights campaign in '68, the pogroms of

'69, the repression of the People's Defence, and the institutionalised, regular terror of British soldiers since then led us to armed struggle and the conviction of the necessity for a national war of liberation were we to overturn the evils of British Imperialism and Loyalist supremacy.

With apologies to the determined People, even the logic and constitutional sectarianism

of the SDLP contributed to the necessity of armed struggle.

But the SDLP, like the Catholic Hierarchy, like the Fianna Fail nationalists, like the Catholic middle-classes abandoned in turn, at various stages, the principles which led up to the war, and which placed the oppressed and the oppressors on opposite sides of barricades, and which gave the Brits the privilege and monopoly of taking prisoners.

Mason and the British Government have scaled down their propaganda attacks since the phenomena of 180 persecuted people undergoing naked, solitary confinement is inexplicable outside of acknowledging the validity of their claims as Political Prisoners-of-War.

The mind of the criminal, or the irresolute in the case of sentenced loyalists

and Sticks, is dictated to by expediency. They don the criminal uniform, abandon principles, call the Screws 'Sir', and serve their time as easy as possible under the Rule and Law of the Establishment.

Our comrades, the revolutionaries of the oppressed Irish People, even when captured, interrogated, degraded, tortured, and imprisoned (and then maligned and persecuted) show resistance and courage.

Some day the complete story of their suffering will be told. The Republican Movement in its struggle against British rule hastens forward that day.

Today we salute you!

WEE ROY OPENS HIS BIG MOUTH

"On a number of occasions in the past statements have been made on behalf of the government that the IRA is beaten, defeated or on the run", declared Mr Alan Wright, chairman of the Police Federation at the annual conference of the federation on 6.9.77, and which was attended by Brit supremo Roy Mason.

Mr Wright went on to attack the No 1 Armchair General for issuing such provocative statements in justification of "prog-

ress" as they "invited" military action from the IRA which placed his members in danger: "...words can be as lethal as bullets."

Mr Wright justifiably believed his members to be in danger, but not as a result of a reaction by the IRA to an utterance of Mr. Mason. He knows that his members, in common with all members of the Brit war machine are in danger at all times as a result of their membership of that machine.

Operations against State Forces throughout '77 have been sustained and effective, and are fast approaching the level attained in '73 '74. Not are they in reaction to anything which the arm chair generals of Stormont Castle have said but as part of the ongoing war to remove the Brit.

In his address to delegates a day Mr Mason in fact did what Mr Wright had asked him not to do...spoke of continuing "police successes" against the IRA!!!

INSIDE

PAGE 6: Solidarity Message to Kieran Nugent and his Comrades on the Blanket as he approaches his 365th day in solidarity confinement.

LIBERATION OF EDUCATION

In one of our past articles "Educate to Liberate" we dealt with the education system which exists in Ireland. Through the medium of Pearse's writings, we saw how the philosophy upon which this education is founded is a philosophy which has as its main objective the maintenance of class divisions.

In this article we hope to present an alternative socialist philosophy which despite being controversial still needs looking at. In capitalist society education is an instrument of the dictatorship of the privileged classes. The landlord, and capitalist classes have tried to hook and by crook to use the hereditary domain of education to oppose the liberation of the ordinary people. Though the system has been criticised and apparently improved the ideas such as "those who work with their mind govern, those who work with their hands are governed", "going to school in order to become an official", "knowledge is private property" and "giving first place to intellectual development", still govern the system. The capitalist classes have along with their agents tried to use these fallacies to corrupt and poison the minds of the young so as to achieve their counter-revolutionary aim of subverting the emancipation of the working class and maintaining capitalism.

In order to transform schools into instruments of the socialist order inculcating socialist values it is necessary to consolidate and strengthen working class control over them. This idea will of course be met with the argument that "non professionals" cannot lead the professionals. This idea is in fact a manifestation of capitalist values. In schools based on socialist principles class differences would not exist and these principles would be safeguarded by the involvement of



workers, teachers and students. By this involvement it is the non professionals who can re-educate the professionals. In other words to have a real grasp of socialism one must learn it not only from books but from class struggle, through political work and through a close living relationship with the working people. This can be done through active involvement in such things as peoples' councils, action committees and Tenants Associations.

It is essential if we are to have a successful revolution in education to have a working class leadership which will in co-operation with the fighters form a revolutionary three-in-one combination with the activists among the students,

teachers and workers in schools and colleges who are determined to carry the revolution in education through to its end.

Through the successful establishment of peoples' councils this three-in-one combination can be achieved and the situation can be arrived at where teams of workers can struggle-criticism and transformation. We can start now to build this system from the bottom up by using the community councils. Only by exercising working class leadership over the schools can the old education system be thoroughly reformed and the revolution in education be carried out.

In this "open-door" schooling while the main task will be to study, students shall also learn

military affairs etc.. They shall also criticise and repudiate the beliefs and ideologies of the privileged classes.

Education in a new society shall not mean that those who work with their minds govern and that those who work with their hands are governed. No longer shall intellectuals bury themselves in books and remain divorced from the working people, from physical labour and practice. They shall go to the factories, to the country and to the army and become integrated with the working-class.

No longer shall children go to schools to become officials. This is a capitalist inspired incentive aimed at creating class divisions. In the new socialist order expertise in one field shall not be considered superior to expertise in another. Present day society with its education system extols private enterprise, exploitation of man by man, class differences and the pursuit of personal profit.

Socialist society with its corresponding socialist education will be orientated towards man's humanity towards his fellow man so that the intellectuals and the workers, teachers and students will be inclined to use their own particular gifts for each other's betterment. In this sense knowledge is not private property because the mind will be put to the use of the community which has enlightened it.

To transform schools into instruments of a socialist society it is necessary under the guidance of socialist thought to build up a contingent of working class teachers who are not only socialist minded but professionally proficient.

With the establishment of the three-in-one combination we can learn from each other and hasten the development of working class intellectuals. In this combination working together creates a greater understanding and appreciation of each other's position in society. Through contact and participation in each other's field of expertise we will develop a common bond which will reflect the values of the new society.

Most of our present intellectuals come from the "old" society and from families of non-workers. Even those who come from worker families are still middle-class intellectuals because the education they have received has been middle-class education. To meet the needs of a socialist revolution they must be determined to discard this outlook. We too must remodel our outlook so that we can play our role in managing and transforming the education system.

The revolution in education is a profound social revolution for it is a struggle on the educational front in which socialism triumphs over capitalism. There is no construction without destruction. Destruction means criticism and repudiation, it means revolution. It involves reasoning things out which is construction. Put destruction first and in the process you have construction.

By
SOLON,

LONG KESH

other things, that is to say they shall not learn only book knowledge but shall learn such things as industrial production, agricultural production and

POLITICAL STATUS PROTEST

The Central Relatives Action Committee continued its series of marches with a march in the Clonard area. These marches are intended not only to mobilise people to defend the Political Status of our prisoners, but it also helps to strengthen local R.A.C. committees.

At a rally following the marches speakers on behalf of the Central Relatives Action Committee, Clonard R.A.C., and Sinn Féin addressed the meeting. The chairperson in opening the meeting reported that she had just been told that a young man had been

taken from his house in the Whiterock area in the last 24 hours. He had been taken to Castlereagh Torture Centre, and this morning had been brought to the Royal Victoria Hospital suffering from perforated eardrums, and serious injuries around the face and body. This case

shows that Castlereagh is still being used as part of the strategy of the British Government in its continuing attack on the Political Prisoners.

The speaker for the Central Relatives Action Committee said that while the 180 prisoners

continued in 'H' Block to fight a heroic battle to defend their political status, however they were being subjected to a vicious campaign of Brutality. They needed our support, we must intensify the struggle..

The speaker from Sinn Féin said that while President Carter spoke about violence in the 6 Cos, he had nothing to say about the attack on the basic human rights, which the British Government has continuously pursued. The struggle for Political Status was an important element in the National

Liberation Struggle. The speaker on behalf of the Clonard R.A.C. said that there was 6 young men from the Clonard Area in 'H' Block fighting for Political Status, she appealed for support for the local R.A.C. "we must remember that these young people were in 'H' Block because they defended the people against the oppression of the British army. It is our duty to defend the prisoners."

P.R.O.
CENTRAL RELATIVES ACTION COMMITTEE.

SLAN AGUS BEIR BUA,
SOLON.
LONG KESH

NIGHTMARISH STORY OF RAID, ARREST AND CHARGE

The following story reads like a nightmare. It is the story of Occupied Ireland under British Rule.

Statement made by Mrs Greta Fusco, 161 Whiterock Road, Ballymurphy on Monday 5th September 1977, describing the events of Saturday morning 3rd September 1977.

I was in bed with my husband John, and my four children aged 6 to 1 year three months were asleep when we were awakened by the rumbling of Saracens and banging at the door. It was about half past five in the morning. We knew it was a raid so we got dressed and I looked out of the window. I looked out and I saw between twenty and thirty soldiers in the neighbourhood. There were two Saracens and four soldiers outside No. 151 where my mother Mrs. Annie Smith lives. I opened the door. There were a group of soldiers at the door. They walked into one of the rooms and told me to bring the children downstairs. I brought two of them into the sitting-room where my husband was and the soldier in charge made us witness his search of his men. Some of the soldiers went upstairs and John went with them. They searched the two bedrooms and the attic and lifted the floorboards on the landing.

I followed another party of soldiers out to the scullery. When they had finished searching the working kitchen I went into the sitting-room. Meantime they had brought in a gelly-sniffing dog who found nothing. About this time John came down to the sitting-room with the other two children.

Three soldiers then began to search the sitting-room. There was a knock at the door and after a few minutes one of the soldiers came into the sitting-room. Most of the soldiers left their guns standing in the hall but this one had his rifle with him. He gave it to another soldier to hold while he was "searched" and went straight up the stairs. Then he ran down again and the front door banged behind him.

Another soldier called out "Bring him up here". My husband went upstairs and the next thing I heard was him calling "Greta Come up here". I met him racing down the stairs. He was shaking with anger and shouting "The B...s have planted ammunition on me." I went mad and started shouting at all the soldiers in the sitting-room. My husband went to go into the kitchen to get a drink of water but a soldier grabbed at him and would not let him out.

I heard laughing and I looked out the back window. I saw the soldiers standing there laughing his head off. I tried to get out to the kitchen to get John a drink of water but I ran into another soldier. A Policewoman who grabbed me by the arm and tried to throw me back into the sitting-room. I still have the scratch marks on my arm. I got past her, I think, because I had the baby in my arms, and I got the water and came back and gave it to John. I went back towards the hall and I saw a Military Policewoman come in the door. The hall was full of soldiers. There was a khaki bag lying in the hall. I said: "I want to see that ammunition that was supposed to be found in this house." They said: "Your husband has already seen it." There was a soldier in the hall with a camera focussed on my husband and me and I slammed the door on him. A soldier gave my husband the search form to sign. It was marked with F which means Find. It said no damage was caused. This was about 7.30. My husband refused to sign it.

The next thing a couple of soldiers came in and one of them grabbed John and said: "I arrest you in the name of the Queen". I said: "Death Queen". They took him out and pushed him into the Saracens. I tried to run out after him but the Military Policewoman pushed me back into the house.

I gathered up the children and went across to my Mammy's where the search of her house was just ending. I wasn't told where they were taking my husband or how I could find out or what unit had searched the house or who was in charge of the search.

There were damaged floor-boards in the front-balcony and on the landing and a large hole left in the floor of the bathroom/toilet which could have been very dangerous for my little children. Yet the search note said that no damage was caused to our house. It also said that the search only lasted from 6 a.m. to 6.15 a.m. whereas the soldiers were there from about 5.30 a.m. until after 7.30 a.m.

The Military Policewoman followed me to my Mammy's house where the search was just ending. Eventually the soldiers left there as well. Later on I went to tell my parents and I heard from John's aunt that someone who was released after questioning in Springfield Road Police Barracks had seen him and heard him being abused and threatened by the soldiers.

At about 12 mid-day someone telephoned Castlereagh Interrogation Centre for me and I heard that they admitted that John was held there under Section 10 of the Emergency Provisions Act. I was also put in touch with the Association

for Legal Justice and asked them to try to get Oliver Kelly to act as a solicitor. I met a member of Sinn Fein who told me about a similar case in Bombay Street where two rounds had been planted during a house search but the judge had dismissed the case.

I telephoned Castlereagh again on Saturday night and I was told by Castlereagh that John wouldn't be out in the near future and when I rang again I was told not to be ringing until mid-day on Sunday. I rang about one o'clock on Sunday and I was told there was no change, that everything was still the same. About 1.30 a friend came in with word that John was in the Royal Victoria Hospital. I and my girl friend got a lift straight down. I met the man who had alerted me at the entrance to the hospital. He told me where John was and that he had seen him walking handcuffed in the corridor. He was then tripped up and dragged along by the hair and thrown against a wall.

I went to the Casualty Department and I saw a nurse. She told me that John was away. I insisted that I wanted to see the doctor who had treated him. Whilst I was waiting with my friend I looked at the entries in the book and I saw: John Fusco '1.00 Eye.' The doctor came and said that he had bruises on his eyes but that he was not worried about them. He said that what he was worried about was his ear. He was losing a lot of blood from the ear and there was a buzzing in his ears. He wanted him back the following day so that an ear specialist could examine him but he suspected a fractured ear-drum. He said that he had asked my husband how he got injured and he had said that the CID or the Detectives did it. I asked him were there any bruises on his body and he said that he hadn't examined his body. We then rang Castlereagh from the hospital and were told: "Circumstances haven't changed". I said: "That's very funny. I'm ringing here from the Royal Victoria Hospital and I have just been speaking to the doctor who treated him for the injuries he got from his beating." She said: "I can assure you that he got no beating here." I said: "I had heard a doctor was going in to see John and that I wanted a report."

I rang Castlereagh again at nine o'clock and I was told that he had been shifted to Townhall Street and changed. The woman on the phone refused to say what he was charged with as she had no way of knowing I was his wife. The family doctor refused to visit him on Sunday even though John asked for him. I told him on the phone that I had been speaking to the Casualty Officer who treated him in the Royal but he said he would only visit him on the Monday and only after he had been asked to do so by John's solicitor. I told him that I wanted someone to visit him straight away and I told him what the doctor had said in the Royal but he said there was nothing he could do about it.

I went to the Chichester St. Court on Monday morning with my friend and mother and my sister. When my husband was brought into court I saw that his right and left eyelids were black and his right eye was swollen, and his right cheek, and behind his right ear. There was hard black blood all around his right ear and on his cheek. There were finger mark bruises on his throat. He seemed to be in a dazed state.

His solicitor asked the judge to let him step out into the light and began to ask the detective could he see the bruises on John's face. The detective said he could only see a red mark on his face. I was furious and shouted out that they were there plainly to be seen and asked "Are you blind or something?" I was grabbed and pushed out of the court and as the door was closed behind me I kicked it with anger and put my boot through the door.

Later on the solicitor Oliver Kelly arranged a few minutes' visit for me with John. He told me he was roughed up by the soldiers in Springfield Road and that when he was taken to Castlereagh he was left lying in his cell for a long time at first. He was then taken to an interrogation room where there were two men. One questioned him about bullets. John said "The Brits planted them in my house." He said: "Come on admit they are yours." John said "No." He asked him another question. John said: "I'm saying nothing." One man grabbed him by the throat and nearly choked him. John tried to defend himself. The other man jumped on him and the two started punching and kicking him. John hit back. Two more men came in and all four of them kept on kicking and beating him on the ground. That was all he had time to tell me except that he made no statement or confession of any kind to the police.

He was charged with possession of 40 rounds of Armalite ammunition.

SINN FEIN ADVICE CENTRE BALLYMURPHY
RANSACKED BY BRITS AFTER IRA AMBUSH.



PATTERN OF RANSACKING AFTER ATTACKS CONTINUE

On Tuesday, the 6th September, an active service unit injured 4 soldiers in an attack at the top of the Whiterock/Springfield Rd. Junction.

In a follow up operation, British troops ransacked the Sinn Fein advice centre. The keys of the centre were offered, but the Brits preferred to burst down the door.

Valuable equipment was badly tampered with and the centre was left in total disorder. They threatened to take a camera, but thanks to women present at the time, they

declined. No damage or search receipt was left.

After the attack, Brits fired indiscriminately putting the lives of many women and children at risk.

Local shops were forced to close under Brit pressure.

One woman narrowly missed death, when a Brit bullet passed through her coat.

SICK YOUTH ARRESTED IN BED

In the early hours of last Tuesday morning at approximately 4 a.m.,

British soldiers and the hated R.U.C. raided homes in the New Barnsley area of West Belfast. At one house they entered in New Barnsley Park they found the Youth they were looking for lying ill in bed. Nineteen-year-old Peter Masterson was suffering from a punctured lung, broken jaw and chest injuries he had received in a car accident. He had just been released from the Royal Victoria Hospital three days previously and was still under Medical Care.

The soldiers present were reluctant to lift the youth from the bed, but the RUC had no such compunctions. They took him by the head and feet and carried him to a C.I.D. Car, where he was driven to Castlereagh Interrogation Centre.

P.R.O.
O'Riwey/Bryson Sinn
Finn Cumann.

BRIT CASUALTIES CONTINUE TO RISE

In a week where the main thrust of British propaganda has been "The IRA is defeated" the casualties inflicted on the Brits are increasing and along side this is the fire bomb strategy which is doing untold economic damage to the British Economy in the six counties.

After the shooting of a British soldier in the New Lodge area last Wednesday night the Belfast Brigade launched another attack in the same area some eight hours later when their volunteers fired on an RUC patrol. One RUC man was injured in this attack. This attack on the RUC in Belfast was followed by the East Tyrone Brigade attacking

the RUC barracks in Coalisland on Friday morning. Derry Brigade launched a series of fire bomb attacks on the business centre of Derry City on Saturday night, causing serious damage to a number of businesses spread over a wide area. It was this attack which was a prelude to the Belfast Brigade fire bombing six shops inside the British Army's "Security zone" on Monday night, an operation which was to be followed the next day by attacks on the British Army in Derry City and Belfast. In the Belfast Attack the Volunteers of the Belfast Brigade wounded four British soldiers in the Ballymurphy/Springfield Road area of Belfast.

CITY CENTRE BLITZED

Belfast Brigade Irish Republican Army claim responsibility for last night's (6.9.77) Fire-bomb attacks inside the City's Security Zone. Mason's boast yesterday of a decrease in the number of bombings is irrelevant when our incendiaries are

inflicting even greater costs on the British treasury. Not only can British soldiers not protect the city centre but they can't protect themselves inside the ghettos as our attacks last month which left four dead and seven seriously injured prove.



An Phoblacht

1ml.8, Ulster 33, 10p, Lirness 24, 1977.

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BELFAST JUBILEE BALAD

They were meant to be peace-keeping forces, But they bludgeoned young Leo Martin; His torso and thighs, his back and his crotch They battered and punched black and blue.

Some bomb burst outside William Wright's flat They imagined was set off by him. They trampled his hands and kicked in his head - he carries the scars to this day.

Mrs May's son was sitting quite quietly. Along came a bunch of Brit troops, Banged his head on a wall, Kicked and beat him until His face was indelibly scarred.

The McVeigh's have a hole in their ceiling. A nun's house was raided for bombs. People are tortured in army posts. Kids have guns stuck in their mouths.

Mary Graham, a seventy-year-old pensioner was prepared to answer her door, But they just broke it down And smashed half her home I wonder what good this has done.

Plastic bullet struck a small baby. Women are threatened with rape. A hundred and ten pounds got stolen By soldiers carrying out raids.

by PAT
ARROWSMITH

BRITS DETERMINED TO FRAME NEW LODGE WOMAN -Belfast

Below we reprint the statement of Sally Morgan a member of Sinn Fein. Sally works in the Sinn Fein Advice Centre on the New Lodge road and because of this has been subjected to constant harassment from the British Army. It is clear that the British Army fear the likes of Sally Morgan who daily give an example of the Republican philosophy at work among the people of the Belfast ghettos. Once again the British Army in the form of the Green jackets are attempting to frame Sally.

"I was sitting in the Sinn Fein Advice Centre about 4.45. Neighbours from Singleton Street came into the centre and said that the British Army had wrecked a house in the street and beaten the occupier (a young man who lived alone). Other members of the local cumann and myself obtained a camera and went to the house. We had just taken a few photographs of the young man's injuries when

the British Army arrived at the house. They used the excuse that they had come to arrest the young man, but would not state why they were arresting him. I intervened and said that an ambulance had been sent for and was on the way. One of the Brits told me to go and F... He then made to push me out of the way with his rifle. I put my hand up to save myself and he shouted, arrest her, she is taking photos of the Security Forces. He put his hand on me to push me out, I then pulled away from him and said I could walk myself. He then grabbed me and threw me into a jeep, I was pushed up into the corner of the jeep.

I was taken to Nr. Queen Street barracks and held by the B/Army for 45 mins. They then handed me over to the R.U.C. and charged me with assault and tried to charge me with taking photographs. I was released about 8.45 p.m."

On Thursday 18th Aug. a small explosion took place in a cell in C Wing of Crumlin Road Prison slightly injuring the 3 Republican POWs imprisoned there. At first the general impression given by the Prison Administration and the Northern Ireland Office was that the small explosion was the result of explosives which were being hidden in preparation for an escape, having gone off accidentally.

Since then however, as more information has come to light (it is interesting to note that a B.B.C. reporter covering the explosion mentioned the fact that the N.I.O. were being unusually closed mouthed, about the incident) it now appears that it was in fact a small bomb which exploded and that it had been planted by Loyalist prisoners some time during the day.

There are a number of possible explanations for this attack on Republican personnel. However, it is unlikely that it was a deliberate attempt to kill as it would not be in the interests of Loyalist prisoners to initiate a killing war in the prisons where they are outnumbered. More probably this small bomb was deliberately planted and exploded to highlight the ridiculous policy of Integration which the N.I.O. is pursuing in A and C Wings of Crumlin Road.

Up until a few months ago before a temporary halt was called, the Magistrate's courts in Belfast and Crumlin Road courthouse were the location for some of the most flamboyant and serious protests ever undertaken by Political prisoners in Ireland. Although the whole question of Political POW Status was the central reason for these protests the very controversial problem of Segregation between members and

supporters of the various political groupings has also arisen. For that reason Loyalists who have played no part in the POW Status fight have also undertaken protest action.

Republican POWs have undoubtedly been the more active of the two groups throughout these protests engaging as they have on token hunger-strikes, refusal of visits, appearing in the remand courts clad solely in underpants while refusing to walk or stand etc. Loyalists in their own way have also protested about integration mainly by remaining locked up in their cells during "association" periods.

Both factions in Crumlin Road Prison believe integration at this time to be impracticable and unrealistic. Leaving aside the central issue of POW Status, common sense and

even a limited understanding of the history of our divided nation clearly show that integration at this time is a ludicrous and dangerous policy to follow.

Everyone, including the British, have recognised that the 6 counties is a divided society. As each day passes we see increasing evidence of the polarisation of the minority and majority sections of our society. Indeed since 1969 almost 80,000 people have moved home in order to live in areas which they regard as 'safe'. Within the 6 counties because of the political problems which ended up exclusively Protestant or Catholic, a situation which even the British have been forced to recognise and allow for, for example in the building of Poleglass.

No-one has ever seriously contemplated forcing integration on our divided society simply because everyone realises that that type of policy would only lead to greater intransigence and an escalation in the violence. Yet, in Crumlin Road Prison which houses what are regarded as the "hard core" elements of the Republican and Loyalist sections of our society the British are attempting to implement a policy which is forcing men of opposing views and political convictions to live together - a policy which has already on a number of occasions led to serious violence and injuries.

Here in Long Kesh all factions realised the immense difficulties and dangers inherent in such a policy as Integration. Each in their own way

and through their various political representatives on the outside have made representation that this policy cease. Unfortunately the British have so far refused to listen to the voice of reason.

In January of this year all the factions in Long Kesh got together and drew up a document which, regardless of the political idealism of each group, attempted to argue in a reasoned and logical fashion for the ending of the Integration policy. We believed then and still do that that document was reasonable and contained the only way forward. If political violence was not to spill over into the prisons!!! It is unreasonable to suggest that prisoners who hitherto have had little or no contact with each other in normal life and have opposed each other in extreme violence on our streets to suddenly live in peace and harmony with one another, simply because they find themselves in jail. Separate adolescence, separate places of entertainment, separate ghettos, separate schools and in many cases separate employment environs - and then out of the blue thrown together in jail.

If integration is to come about it must be sought by the prisoners themselves and it must be a gradual process....."

That document is 7 months old but the problem is still with us as the recent bomb in Crumlin Road proved only to well. Any honest appraisal of the policy of Integration in the prisons which examines the past and present situation pertaining to the 6 counties must lead to the conclusion that Segregation is the common sense policy. Only time will tell. However whether the British are prepared to use common sense before the next bomb or incident kills someone.

LONG KESH

NOTE BOOK

**weekly commentary
from
behind the wire**

THE GREEN CROSS WORKER



Or on the harps that play the
pain from loss
In struggles covered in glories.

His memories linger, singing his
people's yearnings
Whose belief in his verse never
ends:
And lets his voice grow in stature,
beyond all boundaries
To the rapturous applause of all
men.
With great pride in his skill be
engraves An air
That endures over the homes of the
hunted
In undaunted prayer suckled on
care,
For the free, the fertile, and the
valiant.

Madra Rua.
ANTHAINE O'CATHAIN.

Behold him solitary in his cell
Our most honourable volunteer
Measuring his crafts while he sings
to himself

His rebellious refrain without
fear;

Proudly and patiently he com-
pletes his artistry

Adding dignity to his battle hymn
Passing his spirits endless tenacity

Around this prison camp grim.

No heroic anthem ever played
Could praise such willing hands
Of guidance tuned to the emblem
shamed

With freedom in our land;

No joyful voices inspire such truths

So persistent in natural purity

That challenged cell and hang-
man's noose

Creating liberty's real tranquillity.

In warm humanity his rhythm flows
Touched by the living people,
Of the widow's child, his com-
rade's love

Cherished in his heartfelt feelings;
Designed in his sculptured Celtic
cross
There trace his source of stories.

'The Separatist Tradition'

The Department of Education of Sinn Fein has organised a Seminar on the theme "Sinn Fein: The Separatist Tradition" to be held in Dublin on the 17th and 18th September, 1977.

The purpose of the conference is to examine in depth the history and future development of the separatist and republican traditions of Sinn Fein. Invited delegates will include prominent Republican activists, Sinn Fein Councillors, senior Provincial and Comhairle Ceantair representatives.

Speaking during the Seminar will include members involved in the Education Department as well as leading members of the Ard - Comhairle including R. O'Bradagh, A. O'Ceallaigh, D.O'Hagan, R. Behan, and S.O'Bradagh.

All Comhairle Ceantair have been notified and are urged to ensure that their delegates attend the Seminar.

Below we publish a survey carried out by REPUBLICAN NEWS among Republican Political Prisoners-of-War in Crumlin Road Gaol and Long Kesh Camp. The Prisoners' representative in Long Kesh has stated that out of the last 76 men sentenced (over the 12 month period excluding those convicted for offences committed after March 1st 1976), and that have received P.O.W. status, 59 were convicted (77.6% on the strength of statements only).

Nearly in all cases these statements were extracted under duress and torture, with many examples of people being charged in hospitals (Leo Green, Ned McCann, Eddie Rooney etc) after being brought there for treatment after barbarous interrogations.

Many people who have been able to prove they have been tortured have had their appeals rejected by bigoted judges, despite doctor's testimony and medical evidence. In other cases where the evidence of torture has been overwhelming some victims have been fortunate enough to have the "confessions" ruled inadmissible. Among those people are Terry Magill (who was burned in the back), Francis Bannon and Colm Caughey.

In other cases People's resistance has been broken and they have signed "confessions" under little torture but under long periods (7-day detentions) of duress and questioning. Invariably these "confessions" send the victims down for periods of between 5-20 years. After one long battle in the courts young Brenda Murray who "signed" herself away for 15 years had the conviction quashed on appeal.

Below we print a sample of 33 cases taken from prisoners sentenced and prisoners on remand. The reader should note that the survey doesn't take into account the cases of the 180 men sentenced and serving their time in naked, solitary confinement in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh.

In their cases it is believed that the same pattern exists of 80% conviction rate on "confessions" only.



E. Mahon (Belfast) - held in Castlereagh for two and a half days - He was punched and beaten about the body and had 5 ribs injured. He was examined by a Doctor Page in Townhall St. and when his case came up they called

TORTURE AND 'CONVICTIONS'

this doctor as a witness. The judge took no notice.

T. McGuigan - (Glengormley) - He was held in Glengormley RUC Barracks for 5 days. During that time he was slapped and punched about the body. Some time previous to being lifted he had been shot in the leg and the cops paid particular attention to it. A complaint was made in court.

Sean Maguire - Twinbrook - He was held in Castlereagh for 4 days. During the interviews he had while there his hair was pulled and he was thrown bodily around the room.

B. Massey (Belfast) - He was held in Springfield Rd for 3 days arrested by the Brits and when given over to the branch he had already acquired a split head. He was slapped and thrown about on the first day. On second day McAdams interrogated him. Massey was placed against a wall with his hands behind his head-his shirt and jumper pulled up and his trousers and underpants pulled down. He was then punched about the face, body and privates. Other interrogators on other occasions slapped and punched him about. He was examined by his own doctor - Dr. Hendron his head

was split in 2 places and he had a 3 inch cut under his right eye and had bruising to his body.

P. Kelly (Rostrevor) - He was held in Bessbrook for 3 and a half days. He was beaten continuously about the stomach and he was flung bodily about the room and against the walls. At different stages the interviews would last 2 hours or a half an hour. They also refused to allow him to sleep.

D. O'Connor (Divis Flats) - He was held in Castlereagh for 3 days. On the first day he was interrogated he was slapped and punched about the face and body. On the 3rd day he was made to stand in the middle of the interview room, take his shoes and socks and shirt off and to stand on his tip toes with his arms in the air. He was punched in the stomach and the back of the head lasted about 3 and a half hours.

F. McGreevy. (Divis Flats) - He was held in Castlereagh - He was made to take his shoes and socks off

and to stand facing the wall with his arms out-stretched. He was hit about the head, body and privates. This went on throughout the interview until he gave in.

P. O'Hare (Hilltown) - He was held in Bessbrook for 3 and a half days. He was slapped and punched about the face. He was pushed to the floor, swung around the room and punched and slapped about the body.

THE FOLLOWING ARE PRESENTLY ALL ON REMAND:

K. Quigley (Derry) - He was held in Derry between 6 October and 10 October '76 - He was allowed no sleep and made to stand for long periods of time. He was beat about the head and his arms and wrists were bent. He was also made to stand in awkward and painful positions for periods of 1-2 hours.

B. Maguire (Divis Flats) - He was held in Castlereagh between 20-24 June '77. He was stripped and made to stand against a wall were he was punched slapped and kicked. This treatment continued for the full period - he was unconscious. He also had Tufts of hair pulled out.

N. McCann. (Lurgan) - He

was held and beaten in both Lurgan and Portadown RUC Barracks between 21-25 March '77.

He was made to stand and sit in many awkward positions against a wall and he was slapped and punched for periods of 2-3 hours at a time.

D. Jack. (Kashmir) - He was held in Castlereagh between 20-24 June '77.

He was put up against a wall and beaten about the arms, stomach and had his wrists bent for periods of 2 hours or so.

B. Devlin (Belfast) - He was held in Castlereagh between 20-23 June '77. He was punched in the stomach and has his hair pulled. He was slapped and punched about the head for periods of half an hour each.

B. Taylor (Falls Rd Belfast) - He was held in Castlereagh between 24-27 April '77. He was slapped and punched on the face and the stomach and was made to do press ups. He was made to stand against the wall, sometimes in awkward positions for periods of up to 2 hours.

E. Broily (Dungiven) - He was held in Coleraine RUC Barracks between 7-9 Dec '76. He was made to stand and sit in various awkward positions against a wall for considerable periods of time. He was also kicked and punched on the body.

M. Hurson (Dungannon) - He was held in Omagh and Cookstown RUC Barracks between 11-13 Nov '76. He was kicked

T.V. Maguire (Enniskillen) - He was held in Castlereagh between 20-23 Jan '77. He was made to stand against a wall for long periods of time and at one stage he had a gun pointed at his head.

He was thumped about also for long periods of time.

C. Millar (Derry) - He was held in Derry Police Barracks between 13-16 Dec '76. His hair and ears were pulled and he was punched and kicked about the body for periods up to 2 hours at a time.

N. McFeely (Claudy) - He

was held in Castlereagh

between 28 Feb-2 March '77.

He was beat about the arms and legs and stood against the wall in awkward positions. He was hit on the back of the head with a gun and threatened with being shot. He was eventually beaten unconscious. He also had Tufts of hair pulled out.

N. McCann. (Lurgan) - He

was held and beaten in both Lurgan and Portadown RUC Barracks between 21-25 March '77.

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P. McCoy (Toomebridge) -

He was held in Castlereagh between 25-28 May '77. His wrists were bent back until there was a great deal of pain. He was punched and kicked about the stomach. His hair was pulled and he was almost choked by the pressure exerted around his neck. He was interrogated 2-3 hours at a time.

N. Quinn (Craigavon) -

On the first day of his

interrogation he was

thrown down stairs. 4

Branch men interrogated

him in a room which he

was thrown around by

the hair. His head was also

banged off the wall for

about 10 mins. He was

made to duck squat for

about 5 mins and he was

then pulled around the

room by his moustache.

The Branch told him

that they would set his

wife and family up for

the UVF. He was ill-

treated for the first hour

and after that it was only

the odd slap on the face.

N. Gaynor (Lurgan) -

Interrogated for 2 days.

On the first day he was

subjected to his hair being

on the stomach and around the privates and was made to stand spread-eagle against the wall. While in the spread-eagle position he was struck on the neck and the back of the head.

O'Farrel (Pound Walk, Divis Flats) - Interrogated at Springfield Rd Barracks for 4 days. Hooded and stood against the wall for periods of about 2 hours. This happened regularly throughout the 4 days. His whole body was submerged in a bath of water until he almost drowned. This happened several times. Revolver with a dummy, round placed at his head and trigger pulled 6 times. He was kicked and punched and jumped on. He was also deprived of sleep for most of the time. Own doctor was not allowed in to see him. His solicitor is taking legal action.

A. McNally (Carrickmore Co. Tyrone) - Interrogated in Omagh RUC Barracks for 3 days. Was stood against the wall and punched and kicked. His hair was pulled and he was threw about the room from one wall to another. He was deprived of sleep the whole time he was there. Not examined by doctor.

J. Martin (Richmount Gdns, Teghnaven) - He

was interrogated in Lurgan RUC Barracks for 3 days.

During this time his hair and his side locks were pulled. He was punched and kicked. He was threw

against the wall and deprived of sleep throughout the 3 days. He was not

examined by a doctor.

J. Martin (Richmount

Gdns, Teghnaven) - He

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Interrogated for 2 days.

On the first day he was

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Continued on Page 11

ROBERT STOREY, Riverdale Park South Belfast.
HUGH SMYTH, Norglen Parade Belfast.
(Both arrested on 12th August).

Mr. Crawford, a solicitor, went to Townhall Street to see Robert Storey. He was in very bad condition. He had a white tee-shirt on. The front was completely covered in blood. There was blood matted in his hair and his right eye was badly bruised and cut over the eyebrow. He showed Mr. Crawford his back which was covered in huge bruises. He had a medical appointment to have his nose re-set. Smyth had his shirt taken from him in Fort Monagh and was wearing a parka jacket which was not his own. There were bumps on his head and he was recognised right away.

several stitches on one gash. His lips were cut. There were three open wounds on his left hand and a set of finger-splints on one finger. His back was even more severely bruised than Storey's. His facial injuries were not as bad as Storey's, but bad.

Storey was adamant about his innocence and said they were coming up Shaws Road in Billy McKinley's car at about 5.30 p.m. on Friday 12th August 1977 when the Army stopped the car. Smyth and Storey were

Smith got a kick in the testicles as soon as he was recognised. They were trailed by the hair into the Army jeeps. On the way to Fort Monagh they were beaten severely with rifle butts, batons and boots. On arrival in the courtyard at Fort Monagh they stated that if seemed as though the entire battalion was there including cooks and WRENS. They were given a gauntlet for a long time. Then taken inside and beaten again. Both blacked out eventually. The Army doctor examined them. Storey states that he made an appointment for him to

have his nose re-set. He stated that the doctor said he was doing so to keep himself in the clear in the event of proceedings.

They were taken to Castlereagh at about 10.50 p.m. Friday. After about four hours they were examined by the police doctor who stated they should be taken to Musgrave Park Hospital. They were put in separate cells until about 2.15 p.m. on Saturday. No maltreatment there. At 2.15 p.m. taken to Musgrave Park by police. Both taken from Musgrave Park Hospital at 1.30 p.m. Saturday back to Castlereagh cells where they were

kept until 11 a.m. Monday morning. Then where both taken out to the desk Sergeant and signed release forms while the Sergeant in their presence phoned their families for lifts home. They had not been charged. They were waiting until what seemed about 1 p.m. Then Special Branch came out, showing something written to desk Sergeant and took them back to cells. Then to Townhall Street where they were charged.

These two men despite beatings did not sign any statements, and at this point in time they remain in Prison.

Continued from Page 10

TORTURE

pulled and his stomach and kidneys being punched. The branch also started squeezing the pressure points around Gaynor's head and neck. He was chopped around the back of the neck lightly at first and then as hard as they could. This type of treatment was continued on the second day.

A. Corbett-(Ardsyde). He was held for 4 days. On the first day he was interviewed three times, each lasting about 3 hours. While being interrogated he was kicked and punched repeatedly and slapped on the face. His hair and ears were continuously pulled. He was made to take off his shoes and stand with his arms out straight in front of him. A Branch man sat in front of him and hit him if his arms dropped. He was brought into a room where there was a lamp and a sink and the Branch threatened to electricate him and when he fainted to stick his head in water until he came round.

N. O'HARA-He was interrogated for 2 days, in Springfield Rd Barracks. During the first interrogation, he was made to stand in the middle of the room in a spread-eagle position. They slapped his face and punched his stomach. This went on for the whole of the first day. The next occasion was much worse. His head was banged off the wall and was thrown around the room. His arm was pushed up his back. He was refused to see his doctor or solicitor.

J. Skitt-(Belfast). He was held in Springfield Road Barracks for 2 and a half days. The beatings began on the evening of the first day. He was made to stand spread-eagle against a wall and was repeatedly

punched in the stomach. He was then stripped naked, was punched and was made to stand in awkward positions for long times. If he fell to the floor he was lifted up by the hair. When he was brought to a cell for a break they kept him naked and ensured by banging the door that he couldn't sleep. On the second day he was taken out to a corridor and made to run along it. There were about 8 CID men in it and they would either push him from one to the other or kick him. When he was sweating they would bring him into the showers and throw buckets of cold water around him. This went on for 2 and a half days. Some days before he was lifted this man had been shot in the face by the Sticks and during his interrogation he asked for the tablets and so on which he was supposed to be taking-he was refused.

B. McKee-(Armagh) This man during his interrogation was mainly questioned and eventually signed statements under threats to his family. However he was at one stage punched about the body and neck, he was also denied sleep.

B. Pearson-(Clougher Co. Tyrone) He was held for a period of 3 days during which time he was slapped about the face, put against a wall and punched in the stomach. He did not request a doctor nor was any complaint made about treatment.

H. Bogue-(Co. Tyrone). He was held for 3 days during which time he was slapped about the face and made to stand in awkward positions. They threatened his wife and he was punched. He was seen by his own doctor.

We have received information that some of

those featured in the above article have since been sentenced.

THE WEST'S AWAKE

NEWS FROM WEST BELFAST

DESTINATION UVF?

The continuing, and developing, phase of repression which began with the visit of the English Queen recently has taken another turn in the West Belfast area. Innocent civilians are being press ganged into having their photographs taken by roving gangs of Royal Marine Commandos. The ritual begins when two Land Rovers arrive at the home of the victim, sixteen strong foot patrols are positioned in the immediate area to counter attacks on the team of illegal photographers.

A member of the 'press gang' knocks on the door while two photographers position themselves nearby. As the householder comes to the door the cameramen begin snapping, usually getting a dozen pictures before the victim realises what is happening. Men and women are being stopped frequently as they walk along the streets of Andersonstown. When the individuals object to having their photograph taken, pointing out that the practice is illegal, they are told that a 'trip to Fort Monagh will make it legal! Faced with the prospect of being taken forcibly to the notorious torture centre and brutalised most people grudgingly agreed to having the illegal snapshots taken.

The disturbing factor about the new strategy of the Brits is that many of the photographs, and accompanying files, will find their way into the hands of Loyalist murder gangs like the UVF. One RUC officer stationed in Andersonstown Barracks is a brother of a prominent UVF leader.

Despite the mass presence of Brit troops during the illegal photograph sessions the Active Service Units operating in the First Battalion area have managed to launch attacks on the Marines with monotonous regularity. During their present four month stint in the occupied zone the Marine Commandos have suffered their heaviest casualty rate since 1971.



Danny La Rue.....come back, all is forgiven!

KNICKER KNOCKERS ACTIVE AGAIN

Four Brits were caught red handed by a young woman this week as they removed underwear from the clothes line in her garden in lower Andersonstown. Several neighbours, alerted by the woman's shouts, chased the Brits until they reached their Land Rovers, parked nearby. The following night an officer from the Gordon Highlanders knocked on the woman's door and attempted to apologise for the men's behaviour. He was challenged by the woman who recognised him as one of the 'Knicker Knockers' from the previous night.

The red faced Brit handed over the stolen underwear and retreated. What the Brits had planned to use the underwear for defies the imagination.

TURF LODGE TERROR MACHINE

The British army have been defeated by the people of Turf Lodge who have forced the Brit terror machine to the desperate point where it can only operate after midnight. No patrols have entered the estate during daylight hours since the illegal curfew last month. New terror tactics include lying, camouflaged, with darkened faces, in the fields surrounding the estate and accosting people arriving home from late night socials, visits etc. During the past two weeks numerous young men have been beaten up by this gang, led by an officer who sports a Swastika and the slogan, "Support the National Front" on his flak jacket.

NOTED REPUBLICAN'S DEATH

THE recent death of Mr. Thomas Meegan, Inniskeen Co. Monaghan, at a Dublin Hospital, removed from the north-eastern region one of the staunchest of republicans and a lifelong advocate of the struggle for independence.

"Tommy", as he was best known to his multitude of friends in South Monaghan and South Armagh, was one of the few surviving members of the 1916-22 ERA and he took part in several engagements and on one occasion was badly injured. He never wavered from the republican viewpoint and was interned for a period in the 40's. After his release he never ceased to give aid to those who were continuing the struggle and his advice, experience, and training ability was invariably sought.

The funeral cortage was one of the largest seen in the area for years and the Tricolour-draped coffin was flanked by a guard of honour of former comrades and ex-internees. There was also a guard

of honour from the Republican Movement and members of Oglaih Na h-Eireann.

Very Rev. V. McDonald P.P. Inniskeen, officiated at the interment after Requiem Mass. A decade of the Rosary was recited by Mr. Thomas Green, Dundalk, and an oration was delivered with great eloquence by Padraig O'Dubhagh, Dundalk.

In the oration, Mr. O'Dubhagh spoke of the late Mr. Meegan's sterling qualities and the role he played right up to the end in the fight to drive the British Occupation Forces out of Ireland.

A volley was fired over the grave and the Last Post and Reveille was sounded.

The Republican Movement was represented at the funeral by members from Derry, Belfast, Mid-Ulster, South Armagh, Louth, Dublin, Kildare, and Monaghan.

May the cause he nobly cherished-Ireland-be carried to a successful ending.

PADRAIG.

THANK YOU

The Committee of An Cumann Cabhrach (Prisoners' Dependents Fund), wish to sincerely thank all who contributed so very generously to the Church gate collection on Sunday 27.8.77 (total collection increased by 60%) and to especially express our appreciation to all of the voluntary collectors who

gave so unstintingly of their time.

This continuing response emphasises that the Derry people do NOT forget about the plight of the Prisoners and their families, despite the harassment of P.D.F. collectors, etc. which appears to be current British Army policy in the Derry area.

THE S.D.L.P.

Since its foundation in August 1970 the Social Democratic and Labour Party has been entirely consistent on one point; an unwavering determination to get a slice of power and patronage for themselves in any form of administration, whether it be repugnant to their electorate or not.

They have gone through all the motions of Darlington, Sunningdale, the Executive and the Convention, motivated by nothing more than a selfish desire for affluence and privilege.

Their pro-British statements and utterances over the past seven years can be attributed

to their efforts to justify what they wanted to have and their tendency to see as right, the ideas that served their purpose.

Only by such an assessment is it possible to explain the hypocrisy of the SDLP. Their inconsistency and the failure of their so-called "policies".

Their sell-out of the internees, their own participation in the internment procedures during their brief whiff of power with Brian Faulkner in the Executive, their use of the RUC, their attempt to break the rent-and-rents strike as well as the slavish parroting of British hate-propaganda and their collaboration with the British Government [for the past four years] in trying to establish a sham Parliament at Stormont has attracted attention from an honest analysis and attempts at a real solution.

As pressure increased on the SDLP to renounce all claim to an "Irish Dimension" in return for the "fruits" of the ex-

IN MEMORIAM

KANE

(7th Anniv.).

In Proud Memory of Vol. Michael Kane, 'C' Coy 3rd Batt. Belfast Brigade, I.R.A. Who died on Active Service September 4th 1970. Always remembered by the 3rd Battalion Belfast Brigade, I.R.A.

P.R.O.
COMHAIRLE CEANTAIR,
Derry City.'

imperial power the process of collaboration and sell-out began.

To facilitate the RUC into crushing Republican resistance and in the process giving themselves unchallenged control for a final sell-out Gerry Fitt started using British terminology. Interviewed on BBC (21.6.77) he spoke of RUC "successes" and he described Irish Freedom Fighters as "criminal elements". He dismissed many of the allegations of RUC torture as mere Republican propaganda.

But for all their quisling activity the SDLP leadership have received the kick-in-the-tear from their British masters as did Brian Faulkner in 1972. Once again Irishmen learn that it is unwise to base their policies on the integrity and honour of Westminster politicians.

In the final analysis it has been the combination of self-interest opportunism that brought the SDLP together in the first place that now threatens the very stability of their organisation.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Birthday Greeting to
TONY MADIGAN
I.P.P. PARKHURST,
I.O.W.
Love Mam, Cathy, Susan,
May, Bridget.

REPUBLICAN NEWS

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