

republican news

THE VOICE OF REPUBLICAN ULSTER

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HOUSING EXECUTIVE BOW TO PRESSURE

EIRE NUA PROJECTS A THREAT SAYS MILITARY ACADEMY

Indications over the past weeks point to the fact that the "Northern Ireland" Housing Executive are bowing to pressure exerted by the British army. A decision to cut back on spending on the rehabilitation work, designed to repair the thousands of bricked up dwellings throughout the country, follows on the heels of the black press attacks on Catholic firms.

The attacks began three months ago when 'News of the World', a citadel of right wing reaction, carried a story purporting to "expose" the IRA's fund raising activities. The story, a conglomeration of lies and distortions, reached the pages of the 'News of the World' via Trevor Hanna and the Lisburn Barracks press office. Hanna, former publicity director for the old Glengall Street Unionist Party, is notorious in newspaper circles for his ultra-biased reportage of events in the Irish war theatre. Hanna's 'expose' on the IRA turned out to be nothing more than a British army orientated story on the activities of 'Eire Nua', the co-operative enterprise founded by Republican internees in Long Kesh. In true Brit fashion Hanna sees everything Republican as being seditious and worthy of attack with his poison pen.

A few weeks after the 'News of the World' distributed the 'Sunday Times' published their own story, which was a rehash of the Trevor Hanna article. Christopher Ryder, whose name appeared on the Sunday Times story, claimed that every worker on the Andersonstown Co-Operative was giving £15 per week from his wages to the IRA. Jill Knight, the Tory whose political outlook is basically fascist, then added her own "account" of what was happening in the Catholic labour field. Knight claimed that one firm, again Andersonstown Co-Operative, had a work force of 190 men of whom only 20 turned up on the job. She also dragged out the £15 "donation" story which was having its third airing.

The Andersonstown Co-Operative committee, who had remained quiet following stories in the English gutter-press decided to hold a press conference after the Jill Knight slander. Gerry Maguire one of the founders of the co-op

ideal, revealed that less than 90 men were employed by the building firm. He offered to hand over the firms books, which one week previously had been studied by the British army/RUC, to any accredited accountant named Mrs. Knight. Mr. Maguire also invited the Tory MP to visit Belfast and meet the workers whom she had slandered. Needless to say, the invitation was refused.

One worker on the Moyard sector of the rehabilitation programme, told Republican News that he takes home pay, after tax and other deductions, came to £38. "Some of the other single lads have even less," he said. "If I gave £15 to anyone I would be bringing the wife home less than I'd get on the dole."

One thing is certain, the British army publicity machine, which specialises in black propaganda is behind the latest anti-Republican/anti-worker assault. The

NORTH ARMAGH WARNING

We have been asked by the North Armagh Batt., Irish Republican Army, to print the following statement!—

Active Service Units of the North Armagh Battalion, Irish Republican Army have carried out the following actions — the bombing of the garage in Queen Street, Lurgan Golf Club, Leghary Inn, as a warning to the British Government that current British Army harassment of the people of North Armagh will not be tolerated. Should the above warnings be ignored and British Army tactics remain unchanged then, British Army personnel and their armed supporters, will suffer the consequences.

RUC 'OPEN MIND'

Mr. Malachy Foots, Sinn Fein Ulster Executive, has hit out at an RUC statement that they were "keeping an open mind" on Thursday's killings at Millfield, last week.

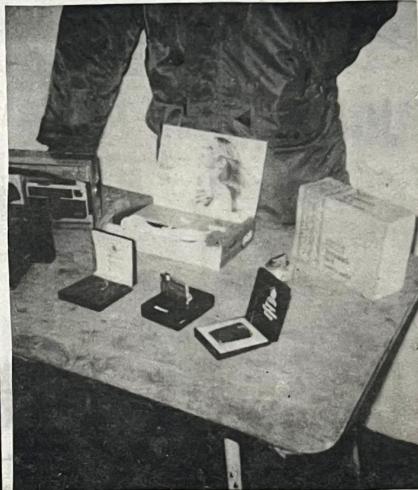
"These latest atrocities at the hands of the loyalist gunmen coupled with the RUC statement that they were keeping an open mind on the killings. The upholders of law and order are intent on continuing their policy of 'blind-eye' to loyalist violence," said Mr. Foots, in a statement.

Crime ring smashed in

Andersonstown

Republican sources in Belfast are jubilant over the smashing of an organised crime ring in the Andersonstown/Turf Lodge area. A spokesman from the Belfast Brigade's First Battalion described the arrest of eleven men, members of at least two groups, as

Among the property successfully recovered and handed back to the owners was: £84 in cash, cameras, electric razors, gas lighters and rings. Quite a lot of other goods had already been disposed of by the gang before the IRA units moved in.



An IRA Volunteer exhibits some of the stolen property.

"Our biggest breakthrough yet in the fight against petty crime."

The swoop on suspects came after weeks of hard work by IRA intelligence units in the First Battalion. A large number of youths were brought in for questioning and eleven of them admitted responsibility for armed hold-ups and burglaries in Andersonstown and turf Lodge.

A catalogue of crime was revealed in a statement from the IRA's First Battalion following the arrests. Among the incidents listed were robberies, in which firearms were used, at two petrol stations, a hairdressing salon and an insurance brokers. Break-ins at five chemists, a Welfare Office and a private home were also mentioned.

The IRA statement asks for information from the public, especially in the Lower Falls area where some of the stolen merchandise was peddled. If anyone has been offered tape recorders, hairdryers, antique coins or large supplies of cigarette coupons by anyone for bargain prices they should contact the Republican Movement. The names and addresses of some of the receivers were given by the gang members picked up this week. It is thought that they will be punished in due course.

One strange incident occurred during the return of the merchandise to the owners, a chemist expressed surprise when handed back two items, he didn't even know what they had been stolen. We suggest that shopkeepers keep a closer check on their stock.

CRAIG SEEKS SUPPORT OF UDA PRISONERS

If Harry West does not know it yet, he very soon will know it. The "West Out" campaign will begin before Christmas. Last Wednesday, William Craig and Glen Barr (Ulster Loyalists Central Co-ordinating Committee) got V.I.P. treatment when they made a hurried visit to Crumlin road Prison and met a Delegation of U.D.A. prisoners.

The U.D.A. Commander Craig was told by Glen Barr, that Andy Tyrie had strongly advised them to support William Craig's proposals, they wanted a statement to that effect.

To sweeten any disagreement Craig assured the UDA of his support and promised financial aid to their prisoners welfare committee.

No doubt to be shall be hearing of a declaration of support from the UDA in Crumlin Road Jail for the Vanguard leader.

INQUEST FARCE

PERJURY AT CORONER'S COURT

Republican Bulletin

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JUDGE, JURY AND EXECUTIONER

SINCE THE CALLOUS MURDER of Albert Kavanagh by the R.U.C. as he surrendered, the Republican Movement have known that the British Army now acts as Judge, Jury and Executioner.

British soldiers are licensed by the British Government to kill without fear of retribution in the Six Counties, as far as their pay-masters are concerned.

These claims by the Republican Movement have been treated merely as propaganda by some sections of the commercial news media. They have been cast aside by the "Peace At Any Price Brigade," who are Irish people to "stand shoulder to shoulder" with khaki clad murderers.



These photographs give the lie to British propaganda. They show Mr. Sean Rowntree in the hands of British soldiers. He was not wounded when these were taken . . . But one hour later he lay in hospital, seriously wounded with gun shot wounds inflicted by British gunmen in the pay of the British Government. His friend "Mundo" O'Rawe lay shot dead, we are asked to believe, because "he resisted arrest."



Irishmen! Here are some of the khaki clad murderers you have been asked to "stand shoulder to shoulder" with, by misguided people in the "Peace At Any Price Brigades" — WHAT IS YOUR ANSWER?

Where do you stand now Father Aquinas . . . ? of the side of England or with the Irish people? Where is Bishop Philbin? Why are the well worn paths to Hastings Street only tread in the interests of Englishmen? Why do you allow your flock to be butchered by the English without a word of censure from their "shepherd"?

THE MURDER GANGS OF ENGLAND

British Army murder gangs have murdered many more innocents than those who unfortunately died during the I.R.A. bombing campaign. The latest figures are 127.

Here are some of the details of innocent people callously butchered:—

1. Children such as 13-year old Kevin Heatley; 13-year old Margaret Gargin.
2. Women such as Maura Meehan and Dorothy Maguire.
3. The aged such as the 73-year old pensioner in Ardoyne.

Catholic and Protestant have been murdered by British S.A.S. gangs. Now we have the latest atrocities . . . the

murder of unarmed men who surrendered after being hunted like animals in their own country.

On Thursday, October 2nd, the Belfast coroner Mr. James Elliot decreed that "only a formal verdict" could be given at the inquest of Eddie "Mundo" O'Rawe. Like all previous inquests involving British soldiers care was taken to ensure that minimum publicity was given to the proceedings.

A British soldier, referred to as 'A', told Elliot that he had heard Mundo call to a companion: "You run, I'll cover for you." He then perjured himself by claiming that O'Rawe was about to fire at him when he was dead.

Forensic experts at the inquest told the coroner that they could find no evidence to suggest that Mr. O'Rawe or his companion had been handling guns, no guns were found at the scene of the murder.



Edward "Mundo" O'Rawe.

The Republican Movement, for the second time, refute the story which was concocted by the British army for the benefit of the inquest. We reproduce photographs taken of "Mundo" O'Rawe's companion, being searched by British soldiers minutes before he fell to the ground bleeding from gunshot wounds. The photographs are positive that O'Rawe and his friend were shot down in cold blood, and not "while climbing over a wall."

Like Maura Meehan, Dorothy Maguire, Kevin Heatley and many more; Eddie O'Rawe was murdered, a victim of British policy in Ireland.



The Bulletin, reproduced on the left, carries photographs which prove that Mr. O'Rawe was murdered.

ARDOYNE MURDER

On the same day as the Mundo O'Rawe inquest was being held Judge Ian Higgins was dismissing a claim by the parents of Michael McLarnon, murdered by a British soldier in Ardoyne. What made the case all the more reprehensible was the fact that the murderer, Clifford Burridge, a former lieutenant in the Green Howards, had admitted that he shot Michael because of an incident the night before when he was hit with a bottle. In a letter to the Sunday World several months ago Burridge begged forgiveness from the McLarnon family. Higgins added to the families grief by saying that he believed the British army lie that Mr. McLarnon was "holding a gun" when shot.

THE DOC LEAVES

Dr. Garrett Fitzgerald, Irish Foreign Minister, was scheduled to address a gathering in the Bowman Hall at the Baltimore Hotel, to give a public audience the latest assessment of political affairs in Ireland and especially in relation to the vacuum now existing in the north since the collapse of the Convention which floundered on the principle of power-sharing.

There was a large demonstration outside the hotel before his event was due to begin and placards were displayed which exhibited contempt for Dr. Fitzgerald and the posture of his government because of their abandonment of the oppressed nationalists in northern Ireland.

The function later in the Bowman Hall was hardly successful from Dr. Fitzgerald's standpoint. Right from the moment he was introduced to the audience, there was an almost continuous uproar as many people from all parts of the hall shouted slogans and epithets with such intensity that Dr. Fitzgerald simply could not be heard. When he remarked on this denial of free speech to a visitor like himself, someone shouted that Dr. Fitzgerald's

government denied free speech effectively by throwing innocent people into jail without a proper shout of derision.

The meeting as a press conference was a failure by any reckoning. When Dr. Fitzgerald decided to leave, he had to be whisked out a side door while attendants closed the main exits long enough for him to get away without any ugly incidents. But in this he was not completely successful for many of the demonstrators had anticipated such a ruse and were already waiting for him as he left the hotel.

This was the second public appearance of Dr. Fitzgerald since he came to New York unannounced a week previous to this. On the first occasion he was invited by New York officials to participate in a bicentennial ceremony honouring the memory of Gen. Richard Montgomery.

Dublin-born hero of the American Revolution. When the assembled people realised who was on the speakers platform, unscheduled, a tumult began which ended with Dr. Fitzgerald's hurried departure. Police of the 50th precinct exercised admirable control of this disturbance.

In Memoriam

IN PROUD and loving memory of the Officer's and Volunteer's of D. Coy. 2nd Batt. Belfast Brigade, Oglaih na h-Eireann, who sacrificed their lives in the struggle for Irish freedom.

Staff Capt. Paddy Maguire.
1st Lieut. Charlie Hughes.
1st Lieut. John Kelly.
2nd Lieut. Daniel McAreevy.
2nd Lieut. Edward O'Rawe.
2nd Lieut. Joseph McKinney.
2nd Lieut. Martin Skilleen.
Vol. Jimmy Quigley.
Vol. John Donaghy.
Fian. Michael Marley.

Always remembered by the staff and volunteers of D. Coy. 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade.

IN PROUD and loving memory of the Officer's and Volunteer's of D. Coy. 2nd Batt. Belfast Brigade, Oglaih na h-Eireann.

Always remembered by the Seamus Burns—Charles Hughes Sinn Fein Cumann and the people of the Lower Falls.

In Memoriam

IN PROUD and loving memory of Vol. Lt. JAMES McDaid, Birmingham Battalion, Oglaih na h-Eireann, killed in active service in the enemy homeland. 14th November, 1974.

Ar Dheis De Go Raibh A Anam. Always remembered by his comrades of the Birmingham City Active Service Units Irish Republican Army.

IN PROUD and loving memory of the Officer's and Volunteer's of D. Coy. 2nd Batt. Belfast, who sacrificed their lives in the struggle for Irish freedom.

Staff Captain: Paddy Maguire, 1st Lieut. Charlie Hughes, 1st Lieut. John Kelly. 2nd Lieut. Daniel McAreevy. 2nd Lieut. Edward O'Rawe. 2nd Lieut. Joseph McKinney. 2nd Lieut. Martin Skilleen. Vol. Jimmy Quigley. Vol. John Donaghy. Fian. Michael Marley.

Always remembered by the Staff and Volunteers of 2nd Batt. Belfast Brigade.

Meeting with a Brit hitch-hiker

Hilton Park Service Station lies on the M6, not far from the city of Birmingham. Recently I picked up a hitch-hiker from there. In conversation I extracted from him the information that he was a soldier in the Ordnance Corps, serving in Detmold, Germany.

He told me he had served a tour of duty in Armagh, near the artificial border created at the Partition of Ireland. According to him there are many British private soldiers not at all happy about the part they have to play in the Six Counties of Ireland's northern-most Province of Ulster. But the N.C.O.s, sgt.s, and corps, drive them into obedience with threats of dire consequences from the Manual of Military Law.

These latter are the real career soldier they are aware that a good report—especially a medal — for fighting the I.R.A., can do them nothing but good.

An N.C.O. in the British Army has an authority which it is difficult to explain to one who has never served in that army. They can give any recalcitrant soldier who refuses to obey their orders with enthusiasm, a really rough time of it. But on the whole it would appear that not all the squadrons are like the thug who fired a rubber-bullet into the face of an unarmed, helpless woman, Mrs. Emily Groves, causing pain, scarring, and blindness. This, anyway, is what the hitch-hiking soldier would have me believe. When I pointed out to him that the folk in Catholic areas in the Six Counties had not noticed any reluctance to manifest brutality on the part of those soldiers who had raided their homes at 2.00 a.m. in the morning; he replied they were men specially chosen by the senior N.C.O.s for their readiness to obey orders in a spirit of enthusiastic obedience. All you Republicans who have received severe beatings at the hands (and feet) of the army, will be pleased to know that not all the soldiers enjoy kicking your teeth in. But I don't see the knowledge of this fact making such treatment any less painful.

The soldier told me that he was stationed in Germany, near Detmold. It seems that there is a sizeable body of opinion there which supports the rights of the Irish to independence, and self-determination. Recently a group of them held a demo outside one of the big British army camps near Detmold. They distributed leaflets in English to the troops protesting about the presence of the British Army of Occupation in Ireland. The army authorities got to hear of it right away, and at a special parade the soldiers were forbidden to accept one of these poisonous bits of propaganda. So UNSURE are the British/English leadership of the justice of their case, that they have to co-erce their soldiers to make them obedient. All the time the German sympathisers held the demo, men from the Special Investigation Branch of the Military Police, plus uniformed 'Redcaps', kept up a vigil. Any soldier who accepted a leaflet was placed under close-arrest. Doubtless British politicians are now negotiating with the Bonn government to try and have such demos declared illegal.

The ruling-class in Britain will allow many things, but you must not attempt to convince men in the Paras that an event like 'Bloody Sunday' is a crime every bit as bad, in principle, as the crimes perpetrated by the S.S. in Lidice, or Oradour-sur-Glane. This act is called 'incitement to disaffection.' Since the days of the Light Brigade, the British soldiers duty has been: 'Not to reason why; but to do or die.'

Newry Sinn Fein notes the resumption of dawn raids by British Army units in this area. Since last Thursday dozens of young men have been arrested from their homes in Kilcoo, Castlewellan, Hillsborough, Rostrevor and Newry. In fact British Army Harassment has exactly matched the strident calls by loyalists for increased repression of Republicans. On Thursday last the secretary of Kilcoo Sinn Fein Cumann was arrested from his home, the minute book of the local branch stolen, and interrogated about Sinn Fein for 24 hours.

On Monday 29.9.75 five young men were arrested from their homes in the Canal Street area of Newry taken to Newry RUC centre and so far they have not been released — neither have any of them relatives or legal representatives been allowed to see them. While all this may be quite familiar, the background against which it is happening is one where the British Government have no idea in the wide world about the future of the Six Counties. Likewise the Convention has on the face of it failed — loyalists murders have not prompted the British Army to engage in this type of wholesale harassment of areas that we in South Down and South Armagh are at this time witnessing.

Even if the British Government had some idea what to do with the Six Counties, we in Sinn Fein totally reject the right of foreign power, to decide the future of any part of Ireland, but given the totally bankruptcy of British Policy and the horrible and bloody failure of all their Irish policy over interrogation and torture is totally unacceptable and must be resisted.

THIS SUNDAY AFTERNOON AT 1.30 p.m.

Third Annual Commemoration Parade

IN HONOUR OF THE VOLUNTEERS "D" COMPANY 2nd BATT. IRISH REPUBLICAN ARMY, WHO PAID THE SUPREME SACRIFICE FIGHTING FOR IRISH FREEDOM.

1st Lieut. Charlie Hughes 8/3/71

Vol. Jimmy Quigley 29/9/72
2nd Lieut. Daniel McAreevey 6/10/72

Staff Capt. Paddy Maguire 10/10/72
2nd Lieut. Joseph McKinney 10/10/72
Vol. John Donaghy 10/10/72
2nd Lieut. Edward (Mundo) O'Rave 13/4/73
Fian Michael Marley 24/11/73
2nd Lieut. Martin Skillen 3/8/74
1st Lieut. John Kelly 21/1/75

Parade assembles corner of Raglan Street/Osman Street, at 1.30 sharp. Bands and wreath bearers requested to come at 1.15 p.m.

Parade organised by Seamus Burns/Charlie Hughes Sinn Fein Cumann

republican news

THE VOICE OF REPUBLICAN ULSTER

OUR VIEW

Sickest joke of the week, to the political prisoners in British jails, was the Rees' announcement that the UVF were once more a proscribed organisation. To get some idea of what this means to the fascist killers one only has to look at the case of the mythical "Ulster Freedom Fighters" (UDA) and their companions-in-blood the Red Hand Commando (UVC). Both these groups were banned by Willie Whitelaw during one of his moments of temperament, the Tory chief's decision made not one iota of difference to the then status quo regarding the killer gangs.

Just a few weeks back a young Loyalist, appearing in court in a robbery charge, listened as an RUC detective branded him "a member of the Red hand Commando." Needless to say no charge of illegal membership was preferred against him. This is hardly surprising as no member of the UVF, the UDA, or indeed the Red Hand group have ever been sentenced in court on a membership charge.

On the other hand, every Republican who comes before the Orange judiciary on a political "offence" is automatically charged with "membership of the IRA." The mandatory sentence for "membership" is 3 to 5 years in jail. At the present time it is thought that over 500 men are serving time in British jails because of their connection with Oglala na h-Eireann.

So, in the coming months, it is safe to predict that no-one will be charged with membership of the Ulster Volunteer Force, even if they do what Ken Gibson did — hammer on the door of Ladas Drive and demand to be arrested. It is not part of the British war game to imprison Loyalists when it can possibly be avoided.

PLANNED ATTACK

Catholic workmen who are engaged in rehabilitation work in the Springfield Park district were attacked by a gang of Loyalists on Tuesday. The attack was carried out as a team of workmen from a co-operative contractor moved into the bricked up house of begin the task of preparing it for another homeless family. Five black taxis carrying group of men pulled up in Springfield just across the "Peace Line" from the Park. Within minutes a hail of bottles and bricks were directed at the workmen. One of the workmen related his story to Republican News.

"We knew something was going to happen as considerable activity, quite open, had been going on all morning. Our lads are used to the threats which are shouted by Loyalists almost every day, the reasons for such threats are apparent. The UVF/UDA element in Springfield are really worried that Catholic families are being re-allocated the houses in Springfield Park. They would obviously prefer the houses to remain brick-ed up to provide a 'no-man's' land between Springfield and Moyard.

The workmen stressed that they would not be deterred by the threats and physical attacks which are being launched from the Loyalist area.

"We will remain at our jobs until the much needed programme of rehabilitation is finished, if the Loyalist para-militaries launched a programme of house repairs in Springfield instead of expending their energies impeding this

DOPE ATTEMPT ON PORTLAOISE PRISONERS

The attempt which was made by Sinn Fein to get endorsement of our proposals by the prisoners in question could have been successfully completed yesterday, but for the intransigence of Mr. Cooney. This was explained in our statement of last week.

After representations and persuasion from various quarters which went on all night we were told this morning that Republican representatives would be allowed into Portlaoise Prison, plus a representative of the Irish Red Cross, the Rev. William Arlou and Dr. Hugh Krayenhoff of the Ferenka parent company and the Dutch Red Cross.

Ruairi O Bradaigh, Bob Smith, Joe Cahill and James O' Gara of Irish Northern Aid, New York went immediately to Portlaoise. As time was running out it was reluctantly agreed to withdraw Joe Cahill from the delegation and that Bob Smith alone would represent the Republican Movement.

At about 10.30 Bob Smith, the Rev. Arlou and Dr. Krayenhoff were admitted to the prison. Kevin Mallon related to them that the Prison Governor had attempted to dope him last night with a bogus message in writing from "friends outside."

The purpose of the delegation consisting of Bob Smith and the two intermediaries was to get both prisoners to endorse a statement dissociating themselves from the kidnapping and appealing for the life of Dr. Herrema. In fact the delegation was denied an opportunity to put the proposals to the prisoners.

In view of the outrageous attempt by them to dope the prisoners the evening before, Prison Governor O'Reilly and Chief Officer Harkins were requested to withdraw out of hearing but not out of sight. They refused. Any suggestion that the security of the prison would have been endangered by this procedure was considered ridiculous by both Mr. Arlou and Dr. Krayenhoff who would be present at the interview and hear every word spoken.

We repeat that at no time did the prisoners refuse to endorse our proposals; they were in fact denied the opportunity of hearing them. The government claim that they refused to sign the statement is therefore completely untrue.

The Republican Movement did not at any time seek to gain political capital from this affair. It has been concerned solely with a genuine effort, begun behind the scenes and at the suggestion of Ferenka, to save Dr. Herrema's life. As we have been blocked, thwarted and deliberately misrepresented at every turn by the government, while time continued to run out, we have reluctantly decided to withdraw.

STATEMENT FROM LONG KESH

It was with a certain cynicism that we internees here in Long Kesh read the statement from the Northern Ireland Office outlining the application of the new legislation which provides for the continuation of internment. We would seriously dispute with the Northern Ireland Office and Rees the necessity (not to mention the desirability) of interning currently held on interim custody orders.

In fact that Rees has elected to sign indefinite internment orders on thirty-two out of the 43 cases already considered by him and his advisors must surely alarm those who would pin their hopes on this Christmas "pledge." The reality of his actions as experienced by us here would tend to lead to a much different conclusion. At his current rate of Fresh Internments, we can expect at least 75% of the total 91 men on interim custody orders to be indefinitely interned between now and the end of October. Already Rees has served an internment order on a man who is currently serving a term of imprisonment (for escaping from internment) which does not expire until December 1979; he has served yet another on a young man who has known only 21 days of freedom since December 1971; yet another has been served on an internee who has served the equivalent of a six year prison sentence in internment since August 1971. In other words, Rees' motto is "intern, intern, intern." Meantime he hopes to portray

a misleading picture by issuing figures regarding the numbers here, by showing the decrease in I.C.O. men held. However, as the numbers of I.C.O.'s fall, there is a marked increase in the numbers of those whom he calls "detainees" (inmates). Since August 2nd, under this legislation which introduced, only seven detainees have been released, along with the eleven I.C.O. men this is supposed to represent "the steady rate of re leases" referred to so often?

From the above therefore, one can readily see that the cancer of imprisonment without trial will be with us for some long time to come — at least until 1980. On present indications, Add to these facts the actual realities of life in Long Kesh at present; petty restrictions on handicrafts, visiting arrangements, movement within the camp between cages for internees, and search procedures have increased rather than decreased. The massive network, of 25-foot high, 3-foot thick reinforced concrete walls is surely not being built to guard empty cages. Rees could literally be cementing internment for the next five years. We must not be hoodwinked by the glib talk of British politicians who duplicitously complain about the wanton slaughter of five Spanish patriots is sickening for us who have witnessed the cold-blooded murder by agents of successive British governments of Hugh Cooney and Jim Moyne, RIP, not to mention

Leo Norney RIP and countless other defenceless and innocent people in our land.

The moral protestations of the Brits ring very hollow in face of the plunder and devastation that it has a rent in the homes of our people. According to James Callaghan, internment is wrong and immoral in Spain — yet he is instrumental in its application here. The British catalogue of repressive legislation for use against the Irish is equal to anything at Franco's command. Has the British government forgotten its recent past when it ordered the forced feeding of young Irish men and women in its goals. Can they deny the general torture of Irish prisoners in England? Have they forgotten their murder of Michael Gaughan, RIP, and did they not murder him in cold blood just as they did with Hugh Conroy, when they closely cut him down as he tried to achieve his freedom from their hell here?

British oppression, murder and harassment, in Ireland must be opposed by all Irishmen. It must be highlighted by all those whose thirst for peace and justice leads them to public protest.

PRO. INTERNEES, LONG KESH.

PS — Just doay, 30th September, yet another 41 out of the 48 Intern Custody Orders have been served with internment papers. Thus are calculated, projected percentages has worked even worse than we anticipated. Out of 91 I.C.O. men processed by Rees, 73 have been interned. Thus 80% of the I.C.O.'s have been indefinitely interned by Rees!!

FREE DERRY NEWS

Refused compassionate parole

Colm Carey of the Waterside, Derry, was refused compassionate parole for no apparent reason, despite the fact that he got parole and returned in time only seven months ago for his mother's funeral. He is doing 12 years in Magilligan and has served almost three, since December 1972.

He was raised with his grandmother, and his father needed him out for a few hours for the grandmother's funeral. The family is in extremely difficult circumstances, due to recent deaths and illness. Colm Carey was obviously

not a security risk, as he returned within the terms of the parole after his mother's funeral in March, when he got 8 hours compassionate parole.

His request for parole was refused pointblank — no reason was offered to the troubled family.

The Sean Dolan Cumann, Waterside, protest against this callous disregard for human grief and sees this as another attempt by the prison authorities to abolish the rights of political prisoners.

No warning bomb — work of U.V.F.

"Three-Mile-House," a Catholic owned pub in Drumahoe, about 3 miles from Derry in the countryside, was the target of a no warning bomb. The UVF has made no statement claiming it, but it is widely acknowledged to be their work — especially by UVF supporters

in the Waterside; Protestants were among the customers in the pub who were injured. In this pub, as in others in Derry, the crowd is mixed.

UVF sloganists have splattered paint all over Newbuildings, just opposite Derry on the Waterside of the Foyle.

EARLY RISERS

"At least I'm not in for stealing," you man said. "Well not this time anyway," I replied, as I left him sleeping his feet in the jawbox. Things aren't going too well between us this last wee while. Him and his early rises!! He must have a move on because it takes something big to get a dossier out of his pit in the Lazy 'K'. But perhaps it should explain

You see, there are two main groups in here, I must hasten to add that I'm not talking about left-wingers or right-wingers, about hawks or doves, about this issue or about that issue, the truth of the matter is simple and straightforward. There's us and there's the Early Risers. That mightn't seem much of an issue to anyone who hasn't been here but it is a rather complex problem. Firstly, of course, we must ask why anyone in a place like Long Kesh would want to get up at half past seven or eight o'clock in the morning?

Why indeed? Nobody knows! Nobody that is, except the Early Risers themselves. And when you ask one of them they grin and yawn and say, "Ach, sure it's a good morning." Or "I always used to get up early." Or even "I do a bit of training." Now I don't know what you think of that but it does seem a bit far fetched, doesn't it? And the way they do it! All carefully arranged and co-ordinated the night before. Jimmy wakes Jackie who shakes Alfie who rocks Cecil who kicks Alphonsus and away they go, creeping half-naked into the dawn. But by but, Gee by ege they muster. In the washrooms, by the tea-boilers and under the showers. When everyone else is dragged out of bed by ambitious or power-happy HU O/C's, the early risers are sitting, smiling their superior smiles and trying to look innocent. Just as if they hadn't been doing anything at all.

"Good morning ... Maidin Maith. ... Did you finally make it?" Grin, smile, smirk, scowl, frown, back-stab — "Morning John" (Thinks; You waster) "Dha Duit Seamus" ("Thinks 'Amadach bocht thu").

At one stage the Cage O/C feared a coup-de-éta was being spawned in the week small hours and so the I/D was put to work. Nothing transpired however, as the I/O (known ever since as 'Mattress-Back') kept watch from a horizontal position, and that, as all well-bred subversives know, is no way to do intelligence work. Anyway, not only do the Early Risers get up early, they also go to bed early. And us? Well we like to watch TV, or listen to records or sing and shout and generally tire ourselves out before getting into the cart. Which is only sensible, isn't it? Like it's no good going to bed unless you're sleepy — anyone could see the logic in that. Anyway that is, except the Early Risers! They think we do it deliberately, just to keep them awake. Regardless of all their complaints though, they still manage to get up early the next morning. Which goes to prove my point whatever it is they're up to must be very important indeed, this brings me back to where I started — back to your man!! Yest you've guessed it! He's joined the Early Risers.

Like I only found out about it the other week. It was one of those lovely mornings for lying on but the screw

had great difficulty in unlocking the door and he woke everyone in the process. They lock up us at night, you know. Us and the Early Risers. You would think it was deliberate. But anyway, having locked us up at night they have then to unlock us in the mornin' — at half past seven. When anyone with a bit of sense is well covered up and cosy. The morning I'm telling you about, the rattle of the keys woke me, and just as I was slipping back into a semi-coma I thought I saw your man creeping up the hut. "Ha Ha," I thought to myself, "Nature calls early." However, on being kicked out of bed myself, at a much more respectable hour, I saw that your man was still up and that he was behaving exactly like the others. "I've started learning Irish," he explained (Unsolicted) "And I study in the morning when it's quiet." He must think I'm a complete eejit. He definitely must have a move on but sure if he wants to keep it to himself, well, I have more important things to worry about.

Like for instance, Merlyn Rees's last statement. That is, the one before he said he would revert to 'detention.' It gets a bit confusing (Maybe that's the point of the exercise) but I'm nearly sure that I heard him say somewhere that he would let the lads out if everyone was

BY BROWNIE CAGE I

good. And now he says he might revert to the Detention process and revert is the word that has me all confused. I always thought that you would have to revert from something in the first place before you could revert back to it again. And as far as I know, he hasn't done that either. That's why I'm worried you see. I wouldn't like to think that anyone would believe one of the guff that the War (Welsh) Socialist friend comes off with. Like as I see it the war came as a result of the Brit presence in Ireland, and then Internment came as a reaction to the opposition to their presence. Like, the war didn't start as a result of Internment, did it? Do you get my gist? Even if Santa Release lets the boys out, while he and hil ilk are here to put them back again, I can't help thinking that you will get a war. Because as the war is a result of the Brit interference in Irish affairs then until that presence removes itself (or is removed) somebody is bound to object. In fact I don't think it would matter how friendly or affable the presence were to be. Look at poor Willie Whitelaw. Wasn't he a nice man? And you still had a war. And before that, Well sure Terence O'Neill was very sincere and everything and look what they did to him. Not to mention good Brian. You know who I mean, Brian Whitsatname! He was Gerry's friend, and you must be really nice to be a friend of Gerry's. Funny how you don't hear much about Brian now. And Gerry's got a few new friends, I wonder what will happen to them?

No, I don't think that non-detention (or is it non-Internment) in Long Kesh (Opps the Maze I mean) will settle anything. If Detention hasn't settled anything how could non-detention settle anything? And that's why I'm worried, well that's one reason anyway. Your man with his early rises probably doesn't think of these things. And then there's Tom Conaty. I don't know if you know him or not but he lives in one of those big houses up near Andytown. He's probably a very nice man too. He's got a good business built up and is a good friend of Dr. Philbin, but then the good Bishop is friendly with all his flock. Like take Ballymurry for instance. There's a wee house there with a room between the bishop and a local priest. And that the priest lives in a wee house amongst the people, but I'm sure that has nothing to do with the row. Only it makes you think, if you know what I mean. You would think that the priest, would be in a better position to know the feelings of the people, wouldn't you? So what makes me worry as well, for the Bishop and the layman seem to have a lot in common while there is nothing between the Bishop and the priest. I hope it has nothing to do with the bishop's anti-I.R.A. outbursts and Uncle Tom's anti-Republican actions. I mean I hope they haven't got the Establishment in common. But I can't go on writing things like this, God knows who I'd offend you never know who reads this paper. I was just wanting to let you know how worried about things I am and how very easy it is to get confused. And your man doesn't help things at all with his messing about.

Learning Irish, he says. He doesn't know "Céad e mar atá tu" from "Bord na Móna" But that I've anything against the Irish, I'm learning it myself. These last few years have convinced a lot of good people that there is more to freedom than a Brit withdrawal. Without our own language we will be rebuilding on sand. I don't know if you will agree with that. It will be difficult alright but sure the tearing down phase is difficult as well. People say you can't eat language but then maybe we're thinking with our stomachs too often. Well sure we can look at the side of things some other time. I'm going to bed early tonight, I was thinking what a waste it is to be spending these good mornin' ings in bed. Not that your man has anything to with me getting up early, not on your life! No, I've got a visit, you see and if I'm up early I'll be able to do a wee bit of training and have a good shower before the rest of the lads get up. Only I hope I can get to sleep early. Some of the boys here would act the eejit all night. And I must get one of the boys to wake me. Maybe I'll be able to do an extra wee bit of Irish as well. Or maybe your man will tell me what he's working on!

Well we'll see. I won't bother you with the gory details of now, I'll get this wee letter out of here. It's powerful trouble. You see it has to be smuggled out. I'll let you figure it out for yourself for your man would love to catch me loose-talking. And you know the score, you can't be too careful, so on.

Slan agus beannacht,

REPUBLICAN 7 DAYS

news

THE VOICE OF REPUBLICAN ULSTER

Tuesday September 30th:

In a move to isolate William Craig the UUUC decided at a meeting this morning to form an internal UUUC disciplinary committee. Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party while forcing Craig's expulsion from the 44-man UUUC, is (to Paisley's delight) also successfully rupturing the Vanguard Unionist Party.

Seven of the 13 Vanguard Convention members oppose Craig's voluntary coalition proposal. One of these stalwarts, Dr. Tom Carson, the reincarnated Lafayette, is on the disciplinary committee. To be chastised by such a dappeling of his own Vanguard Party would be mortification to Craig.

Despite Craig's call for voluntary coalition with the SDLP he still intends to support the UUUC proposals which advocate a return to pre-69 Stormont rule.

Seven internees were released from Long Kesh Concentration Camp. 191 men remain interned; and in addition to this number 30 other internees are serving sentences for attempting to escape from Long Kesh last November when Gerard Coney was murdered.

A photograph of Carole Richardson, the 18-year-old English girl, who is accused of murder in the Guildford pub bombs trial, was reproduced in court as evidence that she was no where near Guildford at the time of the explosions.

Francis Johnson and a Mr. Mitchell, who is a member of an English pop group, came forward in court to testify that Carole was at a concert with them at the South Bank Polytechnic and there a photo of Carole had been taken.

Last December, when Mr. Johnson had realised who it was had been charged with the bombings, he went to a Newcastle police station and told the CID that it was impossible for Carole to have been involved. However, the CID arrested him on suspicion of murder, locked him in a cell and tried to intimidate him.

He was released after it became obvious that the police couldn't credibly frame him.

Four members of the Love, Peace and Justice campaign distributed leaflets in Derry this afternoon in support of the British Withdrawal from Northern Ireland campaign. They claimed that when a TV crew covering the event had left, between 20 and 30 soldiers accepted the leaflets.

Since the proceedings of the Convention aren't followed by the nationalist community Paddy Devlin of the SDLP thought he would engage in a bit of unnoticed licking this afternoon. Speaking on security, and in answer to William Beattie (DUP) he said that it wasn't the south that was a haven for gunmen, but the north. "Seamus Twomey was

not arrested in the north, but there is a warrant out for him in the south. The British Government has failed to give full protection to both Catholics and Protestants."

Enoch Powell, fascist and racist, at a meeting in Banbridge tonight called for the immediate closing of the incident centres. The incident centres – originally set up to monitor the truce – are seen by Powell as real and potential bases for the organisation of street politics in competition with, and eventually superseding, the bureaucratic institutions of British parliamentary 'Democracy.'

Wednesday October 1st:

The SDLP proposals for future government were met with the classic Loyalists style of defiance when two dozen UUUC members walked out of the Stormont debating chamber as Seamus Mallon rose to speak. The other Loyalists leaders (Paisley and West) took the day off to go to a wedding and indicated how important they considered the SDLP proposals.

Gerry Fitt showed his true fawning colours. After his obvious insult to his party he said that he regretted their absence; scratching his head he continued, "I do hope they read the SDLP policy which I am about to underline."

At the Old Bailey today it emerged that eight witnesses from the Horse and Groom pub which was bombed in Guildford last year failed to pick Carole Richardson in an identification parade.

Also, Carole had been interrogated at Brixton Prison by a Woman Police Constable, who had earlier assaulted her and forced her to make a statement. Carole made an official complaint and said to the W.P.C. "You know I wasn't in Guildford. I was forced to make this statement." The W.P.C. told the court she didn't record the complaint. "The omission wasn't deliberate" she said incredulously!!

The Free State police captured 1½ tons of explosives close to the border in Co. Louth. Two men picked up in the vicinity were being held under the Offences Against the State Act.

Mr. Jock Stoddart, Labour MP for Camden, speaking tonight in Blackpool at a meeting of the Campaign for Democracy in Ulster said that the British Government should announce its intention to withdraw from the north and its acceptance of the ultimate reunification of Ireland.

In sharp contrast to this sound piece of advice came the little Britishers of the Irish Labour Party and the SDLP. Paddy Connolly from the Free State and Denis Haughey, chairman of the SDLP, strongly criticised the negotiations they suspect are being carried on between the Provisional IRA and the British Government.

Thursday October 2nd:

In a day of UVF attacks seven Protestants and four Catholics were killed and scores of others were injured.

In Co. Derry in the early hours of this morning Four UVF men were blown up as a bomb in their car exploded prematurely.

A Catholic newsagent in Ardoyne received its usual delivery of papers but the parcels looked suspicious and the shop was evacuated. A bomb hidden in the parcels exploded without warning and injured two RUC men. The delivery van used in the attack had been hijacked (and was later found abandoned) on the Shankill road.

On the Crumlin Road a bomb hidden behind a milk crate exploded without warning and injured a 3-year-old Catholic girl.

At Millfield in central Belfast at the bottling plant of Caseys and Son Ltd., two women and a man were murdered and a youth was seriously injured, the victims – Mrs. Frances Donnelly; her sister, Mrs. Marie McGrattan and Mr. Gerard Grogan – were all Catholics. As they were working assassins came up on them and shot them in the head.

In East Belfast Mr. Ronald Winters, manager of the UVF pub, the London Bar, was shot dead while visiting his father's house.

At luncheon the Bush Bar in Leeson Street, Belfast was attacked by the UVF who threw a bomb into the hall and tried to machine gun the patrons, the gun jammed after a few shots were fired and the gang escaped in a blue Cortina car. The bomb exploded injuring 9 people some seriously.

At 3 p.m. a photographic studio belonging to a Catholic was bombed without warning and the owner Mr. Thomas Murphy was killed.

The attacks continued throughout the afternoon with attacks on Catholics and their small premises throughout the 6-counties.

In Killyleagh, Co. Down, a bomb was tossed into a Catholic bar. A woman passerby was killed by the force of the explosion. Several other people were injured.

In another attack on a Catholic bar – McKenna's at Aldergrove – a Protestant passerby was killed when UVF bombers attacked the pub firing several indiscriminate shots at their victims.

In Armagh tonight warnings were given of bombs in the shopping zone. The area was cleared and three bombs exploded. In Sion Mills, Co. Tyrone, a bomb blast

in sharp contrast to this sound piece of advice came the little Britishers of the Irish Labour Party and the SDLP. Paddy Connolly from the Free State and Denis Haughey, chairman of the SDLP, strongly criticised the negotiations they suspect are being carried on between the Provisional IRA and the British Government.

Early this morning the body of a Protestant, 37-year-old Mr. William Stevenson from Carrickfergus, was found at the corner of Sussen Place in the Markets district of Belfast.

In raids in south Antrim and loyalist districts of Belfast then men were arrested in connection with UVF activities.

The UVF admitted responsibility for yesterday's bomb blitz. They condemned British government policy towards the IRA and called on loyalist members of the RUC, UDR and British Army not to co-operate with colleagues and superiors who were committed to the Government's present policy.

In Limerick early this morning Mr. Tiefe Herrema, managing director of Ferenka Limited, was abducted as he set out for work.

According to the Free State government a telephone caller to the Netherlands Embassy in Dublin demanded the release of three sentenced prisoners – Dr. Rose Dugdale, Kevin Mallon and James Hyland – else Mr. Herrema would be executed within 48 hours.

The Free State Government immediately said that there could be "no question" of meeting the demands. They were quick to exploit this convenient incident as a show of their firm resolve.

The Irish Republican Army denied any involvement and said, "It is not the policy of the Republican Movement to differentiate between British prisoners in seeking their release."

Shortly before noon today the Printer's shop of John McKeague, prominent loyalist and member of the extremist Red Hand Commandos, was bombed and two women were seriously injured. One of the injured was Mr. McKeague's sister.

A 50-year-old man was shot in the shoulder after an assassination attempt at his home in Dumbury on the outskirts of Belfast.

In Drungoo, Co. Derry, boppers struck at a Catholic-owned pub and injured five people.

At midnight tonight Merlin Rees proscribed the UVF as an illegal organisation.

Saturday October 4th:

In a statement today the UVF said that it had met a senior civil servant and offered to disband itself or put itself under the control of the authorities if the government met certain conditions; closing of incident centres, an end to trust talks, a demand that Provisional leaders be put back on the wanted list, the recall of any firearms legally held by the Provos, and the proscribing of Sinn Fein and the Irish Republican Socialist Party, as well as the full policing by RUC of all Republican areas.

The civil servant (they say) told them that their demands were "too high a price to pay."

The British Government denied the UVF version of events and said one of its claims (that it received a 5 hour warning on proscription) was partially false.

In the Free State 300 Gardai and troops took part in a search for the kidnapped industrialist, Mr. Tiefe Herrema. No news has been heard from his captors.

At Derragh, west of Belfast, a 42-year-old Protestant was shot in the stomach as he answered a knock at the door of his home tonight.

Sunday October 5th:

After the firm of Ferenka, to which the kidnapped Mr. Herrema was attached, contacted Sinn Fein and the Provos, William Airlow, a delegation was sent to Portlaoise Prison to meet Kevin Mallon and Jim Hyland – the two men cited in the ransom demand. However, the unwarranted interference of the prison governor (on instructions from 'Justice' Minister Cooney) in the interview between the prisoners and the delegation denied Kevin Mallon and Jim Hyland the opportunity of hearing the proposals for them to dissociate themselves from the affair.

Later the Rev. William Airlow confirmed that the Prison Governor, William O'Reilly, refused to allow a three man "mercy mission" to speak to the prisoners except in his presence. The Rev. Airlow said he was certain of the goodwill of the Provisional Sinn Fein representatives.

A 10-month-old baby boy was shot in the head and seriously injured this evening in the Truf Lodge district of Belfast.

Monday October 6th:

A number of UVF suspects were arrested in dawn swoops in the loyalist East Antrim area. They are being

questioned, among other things, about the murders of the UDA men Hugh McVeigh and David Douglas, who were kidnapped last April. Their bodies were found several weeks ago in a shallow grave at Islandmagee.

After an armed robbery at the Roeview Inn, three miles outside Limavady, two youths shouted a bomb warning as they escaped.

An RUC team investigating the incident were caught in an explosion at the pub and one RUC constable was killed. A 57-year-old Catholic woman, Mrs. Alice McGuinness, from east Belfast, died today from injuries she received in an explosion last Friday at the shop of Mr. John McKeague.

An assassination attempt on a Catholic worker in a street of the Antrim Road, Belfast, failed when gunmen struggled with a Protestant customer at the workshop and shot him in the leg.

Tonight at the Loyalist Mount Vernon Drive district gunners burst into a Protestant home and shot a 47-year-old father and his 17-year-old son, seriously injuring both.

The Irish Republican Army denied any involvement in the shooting on Sunday night of 10-month-old Gerard Savage. The Sticks blamed the shooting on "an ultra left Republican splinter group," a reference to the Irish Republican Socialist Party.

Rusair O Bradagh, President of Sinn Fein, tonight hit out at the comment of 'Justice' Minister Cooney who said the Provos were morally responsible for the kidnappers of Dr. Tiefe Herrema because they had recruited, trained and motivated them, although they were no longer members.

"Sinn Fein would say," began Mr. O Bradagh, "that a previous Dublin Government had recruited, trained and motivated Detective Sergeant Crinion to act against Republicans, yet he had exceeded his brief, sold State secrets to British agents and was never less let go out of the country with a nominal sentence. On the basis of Mr. Cooney's reasoning, is not the Dublin government morally responsible for Sergeant Crinion's treachery in a highly place position of trust?"

Though it has been seven years since Sinn Fein contested parliamentary elections, Cooney had said that their standing was "nil." Mr. O Bradagh replied: "Sinn Fein has 26 local councillors and has been represented on local bodies for many, many years. Mr. Cooney's memory is short. It is not so long ago (1968) since he came to my constituency at my own home soliciting the voices of these same Sinn Fein councillors to elevate him into the Senate. He had failed to get elected to Leinster House in three previous elections."

NOTHING GOING
RIGHT FOR
THE SDLP

There seems nothing going right this weather for the SDLP leadership, remember the visit of we Faulkner and Napier to tell Rees he had their support for tougher methods from the security forces, they mean of course that Rees should have the Brits and the RUC thugs have a go at the Provos, close down the Incident Centres and no more "talking." Their excuse was that the politician had lost status, and as far as the SDLP was concerned, confirmed by both Currie and Devlin, everybody who was anybody with complaints were in touch with the Incident Centres and nobody was using their political offices.

It is interesting to find therefore that after the bombs on Monday (22/9/75) when our Austin and Paddy were asked by journalists for their opinion on why the bombings took place, their "intelligent" response was that due to isolation the Provos had to do something.

MURDER BID

A car containing four gunmen, thought to be UVF assassins from the Finaghy area, was involved in yet another murder attempt on the Andersonstown Road. The intended victim, a former Long Kesh internee, escaped death when he instinctively drew for cover as the would-be killer aimed his gun.

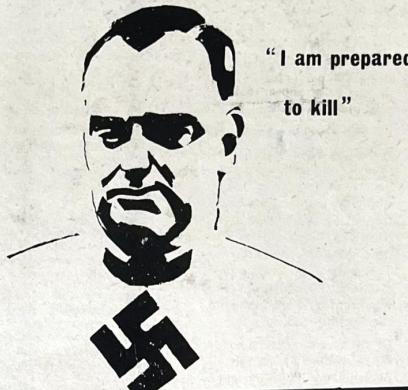
The incident happened at approximately 1.30 a.m. on Tuesday morning when the ex-internee was passing Eastwood's Scrap Yard near Kennedy Way roundabout. A car slowed down as it approached him and a passenger in the back seat called "Where are you for to-night?" The man, sensing danger, dived for cover as seven- or eight pistol shots rang out, the car then accelerated up the Andersonstown Road towards Finaghy.

This latest assassination comes in the wake of the UVF's bid to slaughter Catholics in the greater Belfast area. Republican sources in the First Battalion told Republican News that a vigilante unit on defensive stand-by had just passed the Kennedy Way roundabout minutes before the shooting. It is now thought that security will be tightened up considerably following the murder attempt.

FITT'S PAL

Former Home Affairs Minister, William Craig speaking at the West London Branch of the Monday Club on Thursday, 19th October 1972 said:

"My decision will not be in terms of ballots but bullets—we are prepared to come out and shoot and kill. I am prepared to come out and shoot and kill. Let us put the bluff aside. I AM PREPARED TO KILL and those behind me have my full support".



Truancy in our schools

One of the most disturbing features of the troubled life of Belfast is the amount of truancy that is going on within the school community. Schools have met with very little success in combatting this absenteeism and each month it is rising steadily. Up to now Sinn Fein in Belfast has done little to try and sort out this problem but within the next few weeks it is our intention to take this matter up with considerable seriousness.

However, it has come to our attention that very many of these young people who are 'missing' school have been using the name of the Republican Movement as an excuse for not being at school. We would like here and now to state that there is absolutely no reason why these children should not be at their school every day. Teachers and parents have been given excuses of every kind from children, mostly relating to forms of political activity. These excuses are absolute bunkum and have been conjured up by the children themselves as a means of escape going to school.

The problem of absenteeism to school is a serious one and one which will not be solved over night. Some children cannot appreciate completely the value of education, how it will see them through life, build them into responsible adults, capable of

facting the world as a sound footing. The conflict in Ireland will be settled at some time, and it will be a sad reflection on us, the people of Ireland, if the majority of our young people are illiterate and incapable of helping their country and their communities in a practicable way.

Another problem of school absenteeism is the question of vandalism, which in hand with truancy is a major problem in West Belfast. Children who are absent from school, and who have all the school hours to while away do not get up to good works, but rather use their snatched free time to vandalise property, steal etc. So we have on the one hand the problem of truancy and its resultant evil, vandalism and the community.

We feel that this whole matter can be settled with more understanding being derived

from all sides, and its Sinn Fein's intention to open discussion immediately.

We would like to reiterate what we stated at the outset of this statement. From the Republican Movement standpoint there is absolutely no reason why any child from the 5 years to 16 years should be absent from school. We would warn any teenager or parent who is presented with this excuse to ignore it and deal with child appropriately.

THE PEOPLE NEED NOT FEAR OUR POLICIES

Irish Republicanism was born out of intolerable conditions of squalor, poverty and deprivation. Conditions which were imposed by the employers, both gombeen Irish and in the main British, backed by the British government against the desire of the people of Ireland for market improvements in working conditions and the justified demand for a share in the wealth of our nation.

This statement is, or should be, elementary to Republicans. But now and again it is necessary to remind ourselves of this fact or to declare it to the

many people who have become sickened and disgusted by established politics and the unscrupulous chicanery of establishment politics and who are anxiously seeking for an alternative. To those people who say "for Ireland there is only one alternative, not in Power sharing, not in accepting the Free State way of life but in Republicanism."

There is nothing frightening in Republican policies, in fact the opposite is the case. As Republicans we are dedicated to smashing the existing system in both sections of our divided island

whereby the workers is still subjected to slavery, poor working conditions, the worst in Europe, and rank exploitation by native and foreign capitalism we are utterly opposed to the selling of our land, the previous conditions of our people and the stifling of our natural progress by the two administrations with which our nation is cursed. This then is the fearful spectre of Republicanism. Fearful to the Capitalist who is making a comfortable, nay luxurious, living from the toil of the Irish worker but when the policies outlined in Eire Nua the politic-

al handbook of the Republican Movement, totally acceptable to the Irish workers. Republicanism is not a movement of people who are imbued with fear but of people who are prepared to stand up and say "Ireland is ours and we are claiming it in the name of the Irish People. Republicanism is not sterile, it is fruitful in its wholly practical ideas in the running of our country. It is not repressive, it grants to everyone the rights of free assembly, association and political and religious freedom."

As realists we are not offering our people the "Horn of plenty" for

"FRIENDLY" JOCKS

When they first moved into this area the Royal Highland Fusiliers loudly proclaimed the fact that their only desire was to be friendly towards the people and to protect them from attacks by Loyalist Paramilitary groups. This declaration was not then believed by the people of our area and the subsequent activities of this regiment have only gone to strengthen the people's disbelief.

It was not long after their arrival into this area that they began to show their true colours. The first clash with this Scots Regiment of the British army took place on a Sunday evening when the members of our Cumann were selling An Saorise on this occasion 'the Jocks' tried to obtain a copy of the paper. They were of course, refused and after taking our names and addresses left shouting "Up the U.V.F." A few minutes afterwards they returned and on being challenged on the shouting of inflammatory slogans heartily denied having done so but when we pointed out the culprits these denials died on their lips.

The treatment of 14-year-old Carol Toner by this regiment on the morning of August 9th has been the subject of many articles by us since then. Two denials of beating up Carol Toner have been issued by spokesmen for this regiment and two different versions as to how Carol received her injuries have been released by them. As you all know Carol Toner is little more than a vegetable as a result of her beating by these thugs.

Friday morning at 12.50 saw yet another effort at friendliness on the part of the Jocks. In the wake of the bombing and murder campaign launched by the UVF on Thursday Republican Vigilantes who were patrolling the area received information from some women that there appeared to be unusual activity in the vicinity of the Community centre at present being built, on investigation it was discovered that "our local friendly" regiment had daubed the walls of the Rodney area including

the centre with slogans of an obscene nature, in fact the only printable one was "the Prods Rule Rodney." A car and a van belonging to people of the area were similarly treated in this excuse. Prior to the delivery of the walls the Royal Highland Fusiliers have been making a pastime of shouting obscenities from the backs of their jeeps at the women from the area, the mildest being to call them "Fenian Bastards." Since the wall daubing the lives of some members of our community have been threatened by the "Jocks."

To our mind these activities by the Royal Highlands Fusiliers betrays the pro-Loyalist, Anti-Irish bigoted mentality of this Scots regiment who appear to have a feeling of identification with the Loyalists and to regard themselves as "Ulster Scots." It is only too obvious that this crowd of thugs are trying to provoke a confrontation between themselves and the people of an area which since the Truce has been peaceful — Friendly Jocks indeed !



the asking. In order to obtain it we must work hard, but then at least we will be working and working towards a definitive object. How many of our readers are working at the moment?

Basically Irish Republicanism can be summed up as government by the people, with the people and for the people. This basically was the teachings of Larkin and Connolly and before them Mitchell and Lalor. There is nothing new

in this article just as there is nothing new in Republicanism. There is nothing original or profound just as there is nothing original or profound in the right of self determination and freedom of choice in a freedom loving nation.

REVENGE TACTICS

A Chara,

Recently it was highlighted through the media, the omnipotent power which lies with the RUC in the granting of compassionate parole to prisoners in Long Kesh. It was shown that not alone do they advise the Prison Authorities in these matters but in fact have the power of veto, which they do not hesitate to use. The term 'compassionate' parole is an entire misnomer as compassion has little or nothing to do with the granting of parole to prisoners. This has been proven time and time again, with

numerous instances of men being denied parole to visit dying parents; no other proof is needed that the granting of parole is selective and partial and can in no way be called compassionate. This partiality is not entirely sectarian, as all factions within the Camp are effected, but is based upon a petty revenge tactic employed by the RUC against all those who have fallen foul of them at one time or another. As I have stated, this power is omnipotent and comes from the highest echelons within the RUC, who not alone act independently of

political and prison authorities in this matter but seemingly in defiance of them.

To try and resolve this matter once and for all a meeting was arranged within the Camp to be attended by the representatives of all the factions and a spokesman for the Northern Ireland Office withdrew from this meeting because not even he could surmount this obstacle. This is yet another admission, if one was needed, that the RUC are the sole agents for the granting and refusal of parole for prisoners. It would also appear that,

due to recent comment to the effect that the Chief Constable of the RUC is being held down because of his refusal to toe the political line, he in turn has sought to assert his Authority in the field of Political Prisoners. So, having once again come smack against the brick wall on the long-standing issue of compassionate parole we are now engaged in re-assessing the entire situation and in examining what course of actions in all are open to us. Initially we are contemplating a total boycott of all compassionate parole. Bearing in

mind that we only seek parole in the first instance in the event of serious illness or bereavement in the family circle, this decision is not one we would take lightly. However, we can no longer sit back and allow the RUC to continually trifle with this basic human right and to play prisoner against prisoner, in their efforts to settle long-standing grudges against the men in Long Kesh.

Is mise,

DEREK MAC THOMAIS
PRO Sentenced Republican
Prisoners, Long Kesh.

Views expressed here, by letter writers, by regular columnists and in other signed contributions, are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the publishers.

Comment

'SIR' PETER

A Chara,

A letter went out to you last week concerning the organisation of the Irish National Caucus here but the events of this week merit immediate information to you.

On Monday, September, 29th, 1975, Sir Peter Ramsbotham, British Ambassador to the United States, spoke on 'British Economy' at a luncheon sponsored by the Greater Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Council. The luncheon was held at the Sheraton-Ritz Hotel and was open to the public with a question and answer period following the speech.

Knowing this, Dr. Charles McCafferty, Chairman of the Irish Northern Aid, Terence O'Toole, a St. Paul Minister, (Solicitor) and myself, Mr. John Curtin, Sec/Treas., of the Irish Northern Aid, attended the luncheon. Outside other members of INA picketed the Hotel. Prior to the Luncheon, we received from a friend in the news media, a copy of the text of Sir. Ramsbotham's address. I have enclosed the pertinent paragraphs re the INA and support thereof by Americans. It is the same old propaganda with no substantiations. Also enclosed is Dr. McCafferty's question and charges, and the news item about the affair.

The following day, members of the Steering Committee for the Irish National Caucus met and the legal minds among the committee, (of which we are blessed with quite a few very good attorneys) decided that under the newly enacted "Freedom of Information" law in this Country under which an individual or organisation can demand to see the complete file from any government agency — in this case, the State Department, the FBI, — anyway, Dr. McCafferty has demanded the Attorney General of the US to produce any and all information and source of information on the Irish Northern Aid and all evidence they claim exists. The letter was sent registered with return receipt which will be dated and the Justice Department has ten days from the date of letter received to comply with the request. In other words, the FBI will have to "put up or shut up" and that will blow Sir. Ramsbotham's propaganda tour to 'Stop the Funds.'

I understand that several units in the East Coast has also acted likewise.

Mrs. JOHN CURTIN.

P.S. — Our news media friend asked the Ambassador at a News conference held prior to the Luncheon, if and when Britain intended to end internment? The Ambassador replied, "Never!"

RESPONSE

We have been asked to release the following statement:

Mr. Merlin Rees, interviewed in the current issue of Newsweek Magazine, warns that his "security forces" will respond according to Provisional IRA violence." Commenting on the eighth month old truce between the British Army and the Provisional IRA, Mr. Rees states that "detention of IRA suspects would have to be resumed if IRA violence returned to pre-ceasefire intensity."

Mr. Rees recognises that a truce existed for eight months and that the IRA honoured this truce in a disciplined and orderly manner until the recent bombings. However, Mr. Rees in his interview, conveniently omits to state that the reason for the bombings was because neither he nor his "security forces" hon-

oured the truce agreement.

For some time prior to the recent happenings it was drawn to the attention of Mr. Rees that

the British Army and RUC were again leaning heavily on the Nationalist population but he took no action to stop this behaviour by the "security forces." It was the violence, torture, harassment, arrests and intimidation by the police and troops which was responsible for recent events.

If Mr. Rees and the British Government are sincere in their quest for peace in Ireland, the remedy is in their hands. Threats, such as he has uttered, will not deter us in our pursuit of a just and lasting peace for all the people of this Island.

Issued by:
P. O'NEILL, Runai, IRPB.

Basque Murders

A Chara,

On behalf of the Dublin Committee of the Irish Civil Rights Association we are writing to express its abhorrence at the use of capital punishment by the present Spanish Government, at its use against political prisoners and at its arbitrary enforcement by a despotic reactionary administration.

We protest against the completely frivolous approach to the matter by Ireland's allegedly Liberal Foreign Minister, who has ensured that this country is alone among European powers, in keeping its Ambassador in Spain thus giving its tacit support to the act of the present Government of that state.

Yours,
D.R. O'CONNOR LYSAGHT,
National P.R.O.

BUS TIME TABLE



Long Kesh

Daily at 9 am, 9.30 am,
1.00 pm and 1.30 p.m.

Armagh

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY
SATURDAY 1.30 p.m.

Magilligan

TUESDAY & FRIDAY
MORNING — 11.00 a.m.

Portlaoise

SATURDAYS 8.30 a.m.

24-hour booking necessary for
Magilligan and Armagh

Buses leave 170 Falls Road

MURDER IN IRELAND

I wish to bring to the attention of the public the rantings of the British Labour Party over the executions of Spanish revolutionaries who are fighting basically for the same cause, i.e., freedom that is being fought in Ireland at the present time. For example, the two Basque freedom fighters who fought for the freedom of their Basque homeland from the Fascist rule of Spain are similar to those that are fighting for the freedom of Ireland from the Fascist rule of England. It is in their hypocrisy that the British Government will allow a number from Spain because of the executions and in the same instance condone the executions of Irish people by the British Army for their Republican ideals. Some not even in the ranks of the freedom fighters, but innocent civilians, as in the case of Patrick McElhone who was taken from his home in full view of his Mother and Father and coldly executed. He, I might add never got a trial.

Also, in the case of Dr. Hugh Coney who was executed while trying to escape from that hell-hole (as it is known throughout the free world) Long Kesh. There are many many more and they are easily forgotten when Britain joins the World in the condemnation of the Spanish executions. I and many others wish to know how England can do so, when they are the main perpetrators of executions here in Ireland.

I leave the freedom loving people to decide.

Is mise,
PROINSIAS MAC GEARAIN,
Cage 'G', Magilligan Camp.

KGB Tactics

Sir,

In recent months the policy of petty harassment, where the treatment of Republicans is concerned, has been very prominent in the Concentration Camps. And each limb of the corrupt British prison machine has made the point of "tightening the thumbscrews," as it were, on Republican Prisoners. Refusal to grant adequate compassionate parole in the case of death and serious illness of relatives; degrading search measures used on our visitors. And petty restrictions placed on handicrafts, are but a few instances of the blatant harassment we are accustomed to.

However, the latest example, experienced here in Magilligan, has a more sinister nature — that of political censorship. Registered Republican and community newspapers, well known for their unbiased and truthful reporting, have either been withheld by the censors or maliciously cut to ribbons before we get them. Only this week did we receive a handful of paper cuttings which were in fact, supposed to be a batch of newspapers. Books relating to the true political situation i.e. those not supporting the British Army and those connected to the IRA, of prisoners in this country, have been refused admittance to us. It is obviously part of a calculated effort on the part of our jailers to deprive us of free-thinking literature in the belief that we will turn to the British

inspired media in order to the situation outside.

On top of this we have the photocopying of persons letters coming in or out of the camp — presumably for the use of British Intelligence and their counter-parts in the Loyalist Central Intelligence Agency. Although they appear to have overlooked the tell-tale traces left on our letters by their photostat apparatus.

All this adds up to a new level of repression, which can only be compared with that experienced in the notorious Labour camps at would-be Communist countries. The British media is quite expert at ramming examples of Russian K.G.B. repression down our throats and at the same time always avoiding the fact that the British are also guilty of State Repression and Murder.

Being Republicans, we are wise to the rantings of the British Press in this country, and factual literature relating to the struggle for National Liberation is obviously more desirable to us than the sanctimonious utterances of the British media. However the censor's office in this camp have, by attempting to supervise our morals for us, succeeded only in providing us and the general public with a classical example of British hypocrisy.

Yours,
SEOSAMH O DONNAILE,
PRO Republican Prisoners,

BRIGADE AND COOPER

After reading the reply from the Belfast Brigade (Republican News 4/10/75) to the "open letter" of Bob Cooper of the Alliance Party, I thought I would also like to know what the boy was doing ten years ago, when according to him, everything in his little six county state was so healthy to live in.

According to my files on Cooper, we would have found him a member of Standing Committee of the Unionist Council, previously being chairman of the Belfast area of the Young Unionists and before that, the distinguished position of chairman of Queen's University Unionist Party, a position he was followed in by none other than that other progressive John Taylor.

But whereas our Bob had to sit and stare at his navel in the backwoods of unionism, John on the other hand was given the key to greater success inside the ranks of the Establishment. So Bob only being offered the chairmanship of so many little groups, with no prospect of being a successful unionist cabinet minister, had to face the outlook of having to earn his keep to be able to live the life he had got so used to.

His first job was as personnel officer with a local branch of a multinational engineering company he still had to sit and wait for his big opportunity — for someone to recognise his genius. It was seven years before he was able to wangle the job as secretary of the local Engineering Employers Federation and for the first time in his life he came in contact with ordinary workers representatives who had to fight the same organisation as represented by Cooper for better wages and conditions.

During this period Cooper was still very active in the life of the Unionist Party and he talks with pride that in the first issue of Paisley's Protestant Telegraph (May 28th 1966) he was attacked for suggesting "the revolutionary idea that Catholics should be able to join the U Unionist Party."

I have to admit that I can find little activity from Cooper these early years, it seems that he only came alive when he met in 1969, certain characters like Brian Walker and Oliver Napier, who also had ideas similar to Cooper in that "O'Neill must be safe" thus we have had the recent history of the New Ulster Movement then the Alliance Party both based on Cooper's belief that this beloved six county state can be saved by good Catholics becoming good Unionists. Thus he has hopes of his "revolutionary" idea coming true, and to hell with the ordinary workingclass Catholic who has to live in the real world of discrimination in the six county police state. But with the setting up of the Executive on January 1st 1974, Cooper got the chance at last of showing how much of a genius he really was. He became Minister of Manpower in the Faulkner and Fitt administration.

Speaking in the Assembly at Stormont on 9/5/75 he stated, "The pattern in Northern Ireland is one of booming employment — the pattern in one of many jobs in the pipeline." Yet reading the same statistics issued from his department we in the Republican Movement in articles in the Republican News pointed out that the pattern really showed how rotten the economy of the six counties really was.



JUVENILE DRINKING

We do not regard ourselves as preachers, except in so far as we preach the gospel of Republicanism, nor do we claim to direct peoples morals but a serious problem and one which constantly pops up is the problem of young people drinking.

We do not refer to those over eighteen and in their early twenties; they are considered to be old enough to decide whether or not to take drink or not. No, it is the younger people both boys and girls, some as young as fifteen or sixteen who five rise to great concern in the matter of drinking.

This article is by no means intended to be a homily or words of fatherly advice, the message is harsh, nevertheless it is true. Young people who begin now to take drink will in the future be a burden on our state. One which the future Republic of Ireland can do without. These young people think that by getting drunk, mainly to accompany and cheap wine (not gut) that they are making themselves bigger, better and more entertaining.

How tragically wrong they are. If they could only see themselves as they are in their drunken state, if they only knew the feelings they arouse in others, feelings of disgust, revulsion, anger and yes in some people pity.

There is of course, the health aspect. In how a short a time will these youngsters become human wreckage fit only for a junk heap. What crimes will they commit in order to obtain the money to buy drink? And when drink no longer provides the kick they want, what then? — Drugs. God help them then.

Many reasons are given for people the under eighteen age group for taking drink. Some say it's the times we live in. None the less, the times we live in are the prime reason why these youngsters should not take drink. Others say they have nothing to occupy them with again not an acceptable reason. There are many pastimes open to these youngsters particularly in the maintenance of our Irish Culture.

Others say they are imitating their elders whose Republicanism is portrayed in a haze of alcohol. Such people are not Republicans, they are drunken cowards who are the greatest Republicans who ever lived when they are drunk, but when sober are frightened to lift one finger in aid of Republicanism. Of these people we have enough, in fact too many.

Parental control or the lack of it is one reason for drunken youths. Unscrupulous publicans are the main reason. So obsessed are these people in their search for profit that they do not care about the young lives they ruin. They are obnoxious, they are lower than a snakes belly. They must be rooted out from our midst. Happily these publicans are, like the children who buy from them, in the in the minority but there is a saying about one rotten apple in a barrel of apples. This matter is of grave concern to us all. Publicans who serve young people should be reported to the advice centres, this practice must be stamped out.

MURDER ATTEMPT

Despite the best efforts of the media to smother all publicity surrounding it, last week saw yet another assassination attempt in Derry's Waterside area, in the Catholic Gobnaid scale estate. The intended victim was saved by the ineptitude and bad aim of his assailant — but got a vicious graze from the bullet at the side of his head.

Last Friday night, a Sinn Fein member had just let out two passengers from his car and was about to get out himself, when he noticed a car drive up with 2 male passengers in leather jackets. The front passenger window was wound down. Another car followed them immediately behind.

The young man sat far back in his seat, so he would be less noticeable, and eventually when no one else got out from his car the mysterious pair of cars drove away, rolling up the open window. This follows many threats from the UVF to this young man.

WALLS DAUBED IN CLONARD AREA

Residents of this area have been bombarded in recent days with a series of wall daubings, carried out by the British Army. The gable wall of the Chip Shop at the bottom of the Kashmir Road has been plastered with anti-Catholic slogans. This family who own the premises have only recently had this entire gable repainted, costing some £300, and these British heroes have made an absolute mess of this work. The gable wall in Leoville Street was painted with the Brit Slogan "Paras 13, IRA 0," which refers to the murder of 13 Catholic men in Derry on Bloody Sunday by the Parachute Regiment. The Credit Union at the top of Clonard Gardens had similar lettering painted across it, and it too had only just recently been painted. The home of a woman in Dunmore Street was also daubed with the word "informer."

This is not the first time the Brits have resorted to the painting of walls and houses in Republican areas, and it is not the first time for Clonard. It certainly seems that when the British pigs cannot get their own way against the Nationalist people they vent their rage on the walls of our districts. At a time too when the murder of Catholic

UVF. No POPE HERE

