

REPUBLICAN NEWS

"THE VOICE OF
REPUBLICAN ULSTER"

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper

Vol. 4 Number 2

SATURDAY, 12th JANUARY, 1974

PRICE: FIVE PENCE



POLITICAL LEADERSHIP

THE BEGINNING OF A NEW YEAR IS A GOOD TIME TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE IRISH STRUGGLE AGAINST BRITISH IMPERIALISM. THIS IS PARTICULARLY NECESSARY IN JANUARY 1974, THE FIRST MONTH OF THE YEAR OF FREEDOM. THE FACT THAT FAULKNER, THE HEAD OF THE NEW EXECUTIVE HAS BEEN FORCED TO RESIGN AS LEADER OF THE UNIONIST PARTY HAS SHATTERED THE CREDIBILITY OF THE SUNNINGDALE AGREEMENT AND DEMONSTRATED TO EVEN THE MOST CREDULOUS THAT THE 'NEW GOVERNMENT' ARE MERELY PUPPETS OF ENGLAND. THE DEFEAT OF FAULKNER, THE SHATTERING OF THE UNIONIST PARTY, AND THE LATEST INITIATIVE FROM BOAL TO CONSIDER THE TOTAL BREAKING OF THE LINK WITH ENGLAND ARE THE MOST RECENT BATTLE WON BY THE PROVISIONALS' ARMED CAMPAIGN AGAINST BRITISH IMPERIALISM IN ALLIANCE WITH THE SUSTAINED RESISTANCE CAMPAIGN OF THE PEOPLE.

There have been other victories: the Downing Street agreement, the fall of Stormont, the recognition of an 'Irish dimension' to the Northern Ireland problem, the achievement of political status for Republican prisoners. The Republican movement through the determination, courage and leadership of Oglaiha na hEireann and the support of the people won each of these battles, but the credit was stolen by cute politicians who put themselves forward as the only people with the expertise to speak behalf of the Irish people. They deliberately spread the word that the Provisionals were brave and successful militarily but that they had no politics and were inept at negotiation. These clever educated, modern S.D.L.P. politicians gave away the opportunity of a successful war at Sunningdale. They had Heath in a desperate corner but they

failed to secure the ending of internment, the release of the political hostages or even the freedom of a few internees from their own constituencies. One released out of the 130 Derry internees was not much of an achievement by the would be statesman Hume.

Reformists like the Official Republicans, the Communist party and the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association have been quick to rush in and claim credit for sufferings of people who have had the courage to engage in an armed struggle they have so frequently and shamefully condemned. The People's Democracy has frequently claimed credit from the people who support the armed struggle while never publicly acknowledging the Provisionals' leadership which is due to the correctness of its political judgement in seeing that

only through armed struggle could Ireland be freed from political and economic domination by British Imperialism. Like the politicians in one way or another these groups see the actual organisation, waging and manning a war against imperialism as not being political. It is those who say that the Provisionals have no politics or are apolitical who do not understand the first principles of politics.

The armed struggle changes men, situations and ideas. The very fact that it continues at an even more sophisticated level is the greatest of all the victories of the volunteers and people. Because in 1973 England threw everything she had into defeating the Provisionals, her armed forces, her Secret Service, her ablest academics, her international power, her control of the media and

she failed. She conned the S.D.L.P. and Dublin government collaborators into staking their political futures on her success and acting as her agents in Ireland and yet she could not achieve even temporary quiet. This is the victory out of which no vampire politicians or reformist organisations should be allowed to make political capital. The credit is due to the volunteers of Oglaiha na hEireann and the people who supported them.

There is now a new situation. England's latest plan for Ireland has been wrecked. The former colonial agents of British imperialist power, the Unionists, are splintered, betrayed and confused. The elements in Irish society who collaborate with British imperialism have been exposed more clearly than ever before in Irish history. It is no longer 1969 when the demands were merely for Civil Rights in a context of continuing British Rule, or 1971 when the demand was for the downfall of Stormont, the ending of internment and the withdrawal of British troops to barracks, or 1972 when the demands were for a British declaration of intent to withdraw from Ireland, a complete amnesty for political prisoners, and free elections to settle the constitutional problem.

In 1974 the demand is the historic object of the Republican Movement. An Independent Sovereign 32 County Irish Republic. This and this alone will bring peace. It is for this object that Repub-

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THE WINCHESTER PRISONERS

In Brixton Prison, Dolores and Marion Price are still on hunger strike and are being forcibly fed daily. In Wandsworth, Gerald Kelly is also continuing his hunger strike and is being forcibly fed. In Wakefield Prison, Hugh Feeney is existing on one cup of liquid daily. Relatives are concerned about Feeney, who suffers from a heart condition.

Lawyers acting for the prisoners on hunger strike may apply to the European Court at Strasbourg under emergency procedures for an injunction prohibiting force feeding. For the past three weeks efforts to secure an injunction in the London High Court have been

plagued by legal intricacies.

Under the Crown Proceedings Act it is not possible to obtain an injunction against an employee of the Crown in the ordinary way. A lawyer must seek a Declaration of Right, which is a different kind of procedure. It is also necessary to get the permission of the Home Office to take these proceedings. So far that permission has not been obtained. Four of the nine Belfast Prisoners sentenced at Winchester in the London car bombs trial have been refusing food and are being forcibly fed by means of a tube.

Demonstrations in support of their demands and protests against the forcible feeding are continuing. In

Dublin members of Sinn Fein marched from Parnell Square to the British Embassy, carrying wreaths and black coffins. Outside the Embassy an effigy of Mr. Robert Carr, the British Home Secretary, was burned. Mr. Carr as Home Secretary turned down the petition of the "Winchester Prisoners" for transfer to Ireland to serve their sentences and is also responsible for their forcible feeding.

In Belfast thousands have come forward to sign a petition to have the demands of the prisoners met. The petition, organised by local Sinn Fein Cumainn will be forwarded to Amnesty International, the European Rights Commission, the

British Home Office and the government of the 26 Counties.

A letter protesting at the attitude of the 26 County Government to the plight of the "Winchester Prisoners" and also the government's attitude to all Irish political prisoners was handed in at the Irish Embassy in London at the end of a protest march by 250 people. The marchers carried placards with the names of 37 Republican prisoners on them and as each name was called out outside the embassy, the demonstrators chanted "sold out by Free State traitors." The letter attacked the Government over its attitude to the prisoners and called on it to intervene on their behalf.

HERE AND THERE

CITY CENTRE BOMBED ONCE AGAIN 20th DECEMBER, 1973

In what can only be described as this stage as acute embarrassment to the British Army and their security net a hijacked delivery van was driven under orders into Castle Place, the high security zone of Belfast. The van contained a 500lb. bomb. After due warning was given by the I.R.A. guerillas, and civilians evacuated, the bomb exploded despite two unsuccessful attempts by the British Army to blow up the van by controlled explosions. Extensive damage was caused to all buildings in the area.

CHRISTMAS SWOOP ON I.R.A. PERSONNEL, 23rd DECEMBER, 1973

It was reported in Dublin that the Special Branch with assistance from the southern army were intending to use Christmas as a period to swoop on I.R.A. personnel in border areas. The action was given the go ahead at the highest Cabinet level following pressure from the British Government and Mr. Faulkner of the New Stormont Assembly.

CO. TYRONE UNITS IN ACTION, 23rd DECEMBER, 1973

Casualties were not admitted by the British Army after a patrol was ambushed near the Tyrone-Monaghan border by a Tyrone unit of the I.R.A. One vehicle was seen to be hurled into the air and off the road after it was struck by a landmine. The patrol was on routine duty about four miles from Clogher when the blast went off hurling the vehicle into the ditch. The attacking party then opened fire on the soldiers in the overturned armoured car. A British Army spokesman said that a soldier was injured in the crash but denied that soldiers had been wounded in the attack. Earlier the British Army post at Strabane came under attack from I.R.A. forces.

Cookstown Town Hall in Co. Tyrone may have to be pulled down because of extensive damage caused in a massive explosion there. The hall was bombed by three massive charges in creamery cans which had been placed in the boot of a car parked at the rear of the building.

STATEMENT FROM DERRY BRIGADE, I.R.A. 23rd DECEMBER, 1973

The statement referred to the recent Sunningdale talks and declared that the results of these were negative for the "people's desire to secure freedom for this country" and reminded Mr. Hume of a statement he made following 'Bloody Sunday' — "It's a United Ireland now or nothing."

The protest statement in the form of an open letter to Mr. Hume said there was growing feeling of concern over the Social Democrat & Labour Party's Hume's own party) apparent submission to the will of Brian Faulkner to have the R.U.C. reintroduced into 'republican areas' and added that Mr. Hume's own position was "rather baffling."

"To the man in the street you have totally abdicated your principles and our party's complete silence on the barbaric force feeding of young Irishmen and girls reinforces the conviction that your silence and connivance with

Faulkner and Heath is merely to ensure your own financial security in a sham undemocratic Stormont" the statement said.

It asked for a reply "in confirmation or denial of your apparent treachery."

ACTION IN DERRY, 23rd DECEMBER 1973

At Letterkenny Road, Derry City, an I.R.A. active service unit attacked British Army patrol. In the gun battle that ensued, one soldier was killed and another seriously wounded. The I.R.A. suffered no casualties in the attack.

KILLED IN PREMATURE EXPLOSION, 24th DECEMBER, 1973

Two I.R.A. volunteers, Edward Grant and Brendan Quinn, together with a civilian, Aubrey Harshaw were killed in a premature explosion at Clarke's Public House in Monaghan Street, Newry. The Command Staff of South Down and South Armagh I.R.A. accepting responsibility for the explosion, which resulted prematurely, said in a statement on behalf of the Staff, Volunteers and the whole Republican Movement, they wish to convey their heartfelt sympathy to the parents and relatives of the three men killed. They stated that the two volunteers who carried out the action had no intention of causing injury or harm to anyone.

"Our attention was to destroy this building which Special Branch men of the R.U.C. frequent and where courts meet them to pass on information" the statement said. It added that they hoped and prayed that those injured would soon recover and to the Quinn, Grant and Harshaw families they conveyed their deepest sympathy.

A spokesman for the Command Staff warned people against interfering with any object planted in premises when they were ordered to leave. He said that when an explosive was placed in the same bar a fortnight ago and the people asked to leave, the explosive was carried outside. "When a warning is given to leave premises" he said, "the direction should be carried out at once."

BREAK FOR FREEDOM FAILS, 24th DECEMBER, 1973

An escape bid by Belfast I.R.A. leader Gerry Adams, was foiled on Christmas Eve when the alarm was raised alerting guards at Long Kesh camp. Adams and three other Republican prisoners had cut their way through the wire of their compound with home-made wire cutters but were recaptured before they reached the perimeter fence.

SOLDIER SHOT IN FALLS ROAD AREA, 27th DECEMBER, 1973

A soldier was shot and wounded in both legs by sniper fire while on patrol in the Belfast Falls Road area. The shooting happened at the Varra Street/Leeson Street junction.

R.U.C. PATROL ATTACKED, 27th DECEMBER, 1973

I.R.A. snipers fired five times at an Royal Ulster Constabulary patrol vehicle in Strabane. Two bullets hit the vehicle. One burst a tyre, and the other ricocheted around the inside of the landrover. The police denied that they suffered any injuries in the attack.

1973 — 1974 THE WAR GOES ON

The city centre of Belfast was again the target of the New Year when a 200lb. bomb exploded in Upper North Street. The blast caused severe damage to surrounding buildings and soldiers in the area were injured by flying debris. Soldiers guarding the disposal expert, who tried unsuccessfully to defuse the bomb, dived for cover as they were fired on from nearby Stanhope Street. They reported no casualties. On New Year's Eve a sniper operating in the Beechmount area shot dead a Scots Guardsman, Alan Daugherty. He was part of a mobile patrol operating in the area when a single shot was fired through the observation slit in the rear door of the vehicle. Another soldier was slightly injured by the same bullet.

Two bomb blasts in Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh extensively damaged a car showrooms and garage and the Fermanagh bus depot. Several pedestrians were treated for shock, though a 15 minute warning had been given and the immediate areas of the bombs had been cleared by the police.

In Portadown a garage was wrecked by a bomb. Elsewhere in the North other bombs were defused by British Army experts.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary came under fire in Belfast and Strabane when gunfire was directed at routine patrols but no one was hit.

200 RE-OPEN "WALLED OFF" BORDER ROAD

More than two hundred people gathered at Loughmore, about eight miles from Monaghan town, on the Tyrone border, to re-open a cross border road closed by the British Army last month.

The President of Sinn Féin, Mr. Ruairi O'Bradaigh, was among those who crossed the border into the North to join the protest group as they dug open a new route around the two walls and trench which the British Army had built. British troops in riot gear stood by about 60 yards from the group and a section of the crowd hurled stones at the soldiers who fired rubber bullets.

On the Southern side of the border, southern police and troops operated checkpoints and refused a number of people permission to cross the border unless they were able to identify themselves. After they re-opened the road, Mr. O'Bradaigh, addressing the crowd, said they had shown the British how foolish they were behaving in trying to seal off the border. Walls of trenches, he said, would not maintain a division of the country or thwart the efforts of the people in their determination to achieve a United Ireland. A member of the Monaghan County Council, Mr. James McElwaine and a Clones Co. Monaghan Urban District Council member, Mr. Frank McCaughy were among the group engaged in the road works.

BRITISH ARMY PREPARE FOR AIR ATTACKS

Guards have been mounted on flying clubs and airfields. Troops guarding vital installations have been told to watch the skies because of danger of "bombing runs" being made from hijacked planes.

I.R.A. sourced in Belfast said that the security forces had "good reason" to fear air attacks on military bases — but there was no danger of jails being bombed. "We would not put the lives of innocent civilians at risk" a spokesman said. Meanwhile, at military headquarters, where machine gun nests have been installed on the roofs of some buildings, British Army spokesmen remained tight-lipped about the precautions being taken. No official statement was issued from the Army press office.

Troops, members of the Ulster Defence Regiment and the Royal Ulster Constabulary are keeping a close watch on the Newtownards Airport in Co. Down which is the headquarters of the Ulster Flying Club. The club has more than twenty light planes which could be used for short bombing runs. It is believed that if the machines were hijacked, the bombs would be dropped by hand as they were during the early stages of the First World War. The security forces are also worried that ships or boats would be used.

PROTEST OUTSIDE ASSEMBLY MEMBER'S HOUSE

About 3,000 people took part in a demonstration organised by Sinn Féin outside the residence of the Armagh S.D.L.P. Assembly member, Mr. Paddy O'Hanlon, at Forkhill, Co. Armagh.

The demonstrators paraded on the roadway outside Mr. O'Hanlon's home, carrying placards with slogans criticising the S.D.L.P.'s decision to call off the rents and rates strike in the North, as well as the party's acceptance of the Sunningdale proposals.

British troops surrounded Mr. O'Hanlon's residence during the demonstration and a helicopter hovered over the crowd, but the demonstration went off peacefully after about an hour on the roadway.

As these words flow from my pen I am racing in a high-speed train towards Utrecht — a big Dutch town and railway centre about half the size of Dublin. Outside it is cold and dark and heavy clouds cover the night sky, while here on the inside the brightly-lit and cosy carriage is more than half full of people — all grown-ups, some with lots of baggage, others with nothing more than a newspaper or a can of beer.

I glance outside again. There is little to be seen except the odd light which rushes past and vanishes as quickly as it came or, if it is in the far distance, hovers for a while like some earthbound star before disappearing as well. The whole countryside seems to be asleep, with its ditches, canals and windmills tucked under a blanket of thick mist for the night.

The background talk in the carriage breaks into my thoughts. The language is Dutch. I do not know it very well; but I can make out some of the words. The oil crisis looms large in conversations close by, with the emphasis on the ban on Sunday driving.

Then I look, really look, at the faces of the people who are talking — especially the older ones — and wonder what these same men and women were discussing some thirty years ago when their little country was occupied by the Germans. Did they talk about the same kind of things that the people in Occupied Ireland do to-day? Did they experience the same kind of uncertainties and anxieties as do those Irish men and women and children living under the British yoke? Did they suffer the agonies of mind and body which so many of my fellow Irish people do in my troubled native land to-day? Were any of them put behind high brick walls and cold iron bars and barbed wire mesh as are hundreds of those who dared to struggle against the British Crown and its murderous military arm in Ireland?

Whether or not any of my fellow travellers were involved in the underground struggle against the Nazi occupiers I don't know. But I do know that out there in the darkened countryside through which we are now passing live brave men and women who were members of the Dutch Resistance and that they fought the Germans with guns and bombs on country roads very much as do the fighters of the Irish Resistance — The Irish Republican Army — in the country areas of Tyrone and Armagh, South Down and Fermanagh, and other places to-day.

SALUTE FOR IRISH FIGHTERS

In my heart I salute these dauntless

fighters for Irish Freedom and sigh when I think of those who have made the supreme sacrifice in the service of the noblest of causes. Then my thoughts pass on to the future of a New Ireland and of what we must do to achieve it. The image of the Irish Resistance is still moulding my thinking. But the mould is not that of the military resistance to the barbarities of the British Army Murder and Terror Machine. I am thinking instead of the section headed "Economic Resistance" — in Eire

ion to the industrial cities of the oppressor, will allow the smaller of our industries to be closed down, and the larger to be bought up, automated and run in the imperial interest by a declining work force. Ireland would be reduced to a nation of renters, hoteliers and gillies."

DISNEYLAND OF EUROPE

In a recently published book Ireland is referred to as "the Disneyland of Europe," and its author makes light of

doubt that once the people of Ireland come to realise that it can and will be changed from dream into reality increasing numbers of them will become involved with the Economic Resistance Movement, which is a very necessary step on the road to the realisation of the aims of Eire Nua. And by so becoming involved in action directed against all that is alien to their material needs and spiritual welfare the Irish people will have begun to finally sever the ties that keep them in an enslaved and ignoble state.

MICHAEL TOBIN

OUR MAN IN AMSTERDAM

Nua, the Sinn Féin Social and Economic Programme for the making of a New Ireland.

This is the first and in many ways it is also one of the most important sections of Eire Nua. Because the formation of a strong and well-organised Economic Resistance Movement covering the whole of Ireland is a vital step in creating a sound and indestructible base for the Republican Movement amongst the masses of Irish people. In this way the Quislings in Leinster House and Stormont will not be able to isolate us from the people, however vile is their knavery and however dirty are their tricks.

The actual object of an Economic Resistance Movement is very plain in Eire Nua. It points out that "Just as working people organise themselves into trade unions to defend themselves against that economic force which tends to depress their wages, so the Irish nation must organise itself in such a way as to defend itself against those economic forces associated with the imperial system which tend towards its depopulation and impoverishment."

Eire Nua further points out that "Since the task of organising the nation to defend itself against the imperial economic assault is beyond the ability of either partition administration, even should it wish to do so, and since the 26 County administration has abandoned explicitly the half-hearted resistance that it once affected, this task must become the prime responsibility of the Republican Movement."

Having stated the basic objective underlying the idea of an Economic Resistance Movement, Eire Nua then immediately makes clear that "failure to undertake this task will allow the completion of the process initiated in the Famine times, the transfer of our rural populat-

the disgraceful fact that our people are given to playing the Uncle Tom role of stage Irish men and women for the benefit of foreign tourists. This is just a slight indication of the low level which Ireland and the Irish people have been reduced to by the grovellers who have been at the helm of the little Irish barque since the end of the unsuccessful War of Independence of two generations ago. For Ireland has indeed become the "Disneyland of Europe" run by a troupe of Mickey Mouses at Leinster House and a bunch of Donald Ducks at Stormont.

As Eire Nua says "The choice for every Irishman worthy of the name is clear." And that choice is between "the Leinster House concept of a depopulated countryside producing beef, with isolated islands of precarious prosperity in the coastal urban areas, containing a few large factories manned by a declining work force producing with increasing degree of automation specialised consumer goods for export, well-developed ports to handle a substantial import/export trade, a well organised system for syphoning off potential discontent by subsidised emigration, an educational system tailored to fit the emigrant for work abroad" or "the Republican concept of a united independent nation with its own independent financial system, planning the investment of an economic surplus in such a way as to give full employment with an expanding economy, trading in a diversified manner with a large number of different countries to mutual benefit, including Britain, with which relations will at last be regularised, and assuming for the first time its rightful place as the leader of the ex-colonial nations in the struggle against imperialism."

This is the Eire Nua vision of a revolutionary New Ireland; and there is little

The great advantage of an Economic Resistance Movement is that every Irish person can take part in it on his or her home ground. Furthermore, participation in such a resistance movement does not require the high idealism which is demanded of the volunteer soldiers of the Irish Republican Army. For while economic resistance to foreign imperialism has broad idealistic national objectives the actual points of such resistance would arise in all those ordinary everyday life situations where a struggle tends to develop spontaneously between the ordinary people and the economic effects and pressures of capitalism and foreign imperialism. Such points of struggle would include resistance against factory closures or redundancies, ground rent payment to foreign landlords, the closing down of schools and amenities in rural areas, increasing prices, rents, etc.

Struggles against these evils are always taking place in locality after locality; but they are usually spontaneous and are very limited in aim. What Eire Nua proposes is to make all such struggles part of a broad nation-wide movement. This would give them a clearly defined political character and would make a victorious outcome to each such struggle more possible and more certain. In time the gradual building of a unified and national Economic Resistance Movement around such local struggles would lead to the mobilisation of the whole Irish people in the struggle against the yoke of foreign imperialism; and in this way the infrastructure of a new social system would emerge and evolve within the framework of the existing colonial-in-social and economic structure in Ireland.

It is in the mobilisation of the Irish people that the real importance of an Economic Resistance lies. For such a

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INTERNEES COUNCIL

"We refrained during December from commenting on current political events and on Long Kesh, not wishing to have people dwelling on such unpleasant topics during the festive season.

However, we cannot ignore reality for ever. What are the unpleasant realities? How are we all going to be affected with the limited powers devolved from the English Government to their puppets at Stormont? Will G. Fitt and his S.D.L.P. continue on their trail of broken promises? Shall he blandly deny as usual the breaking of them? We will answer these questions by pointing to the facts on the following issues to which he pledged his party:-

INTERMENT

INTERMENT: The S.D.L.P. have attempted to transfer the blame for internment from Faulkner and Heath to those who have defended their people from the attempted genocide for 1969 and tried to justify internment by referring to continued unrest as though the Republican Movement had initiated and maintained a monopoly of violence.

Fitt stated categorically on T.V. that he would not end internment. He is now boasting of a success in securing the release of less than ten per cent of the men. These releases are to our minds a calculated move to break the morale of those still interned and by a further increase of harassment induce the relatives to pressurise the men to defect from the Republican Movement by accepting any terms offered by the English Establishment.

That harassment has increased will no doubt be denied by the authorities as have so many other allegations. We will give facts which can easily be verified. Visits despite Red Cross recommendations have again been reduced in number from 4 to 3 per two weeks although sufficient visiting accommodation is available and an over abundance of staff are engaged. Our visitors are kept waiting for periods of from two to four hours.

Irish personnell have been replaced by British who are given licence by the Camp Commandant to exercise and practise their peculiar talents and perversions during search procedures.

Complaints, even under the penal code for sentenced prisoners should be handled by the Governor. In our case this remedy is not available. The Commandant here has consistently refused to meet appointed representatives of the internees. He is completely unknown to most of the men. The only occasions on which they may see him is when he is directing the commando raids by the British Army and prison staff into the men's cages. It is becoming more apparent that specific men are being singled out for special attention by these sub-humans.

DRUNKEN MOB

The Commandant's latest foray into the camp internee's quarters was on Christmas morning. He did not bring Christ's message or Christmas tidings with him. The shepherds and angels with him were a drunken mob of half crazed prison staff hastily mustered from an all night carousal. Armed with a baton he person-

ally set about smashing the windows of the men's huts in Cage 6. In an insane or drunken frenzy he and his crew embarked on a course of pillage and destruction after which they turned their attention to the men. Here again it was obvious the victims were selected. J. O'Donnell, E. Henry and N. O'Hara sustained serious injuries to legs, heads and ears requiring hospital attention. This is the man into whose care Messrs Fitt and Faulkner are happy to entrust the lives in his charge.

RENT AND RATES

RENT AND RATES: Messrs Fitt and Hume when asked how they could act as law makers in the Stormont Assembly while at the same time continuing a campaign of civil disobedience including the rent and rates strike, refused to answer hedging in their usual fashion. Now quick to see where their own personal interests lay, they have jettisoned the Civil Rights Campaign and all it stands for. Are the members of their party now committed to supporting Mr. Faulkner in prosecuting and persecuting those very people who put the S.D.L.P. into power?

'WE WILL NOT SERVE UNDER THAT MAN FAULKNER.' (Fitt) What do we see? He is serving not only Faulkner but also Heath. He and his party have accepted all conditions imposed at Sunningdale by these two astute political shysters who were not slow to determine the figure he would expect to be paid for his betrayal.

POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS: John Hume, 28 December, 1973. U.T.V. He told us that the S.D.L.P. and Faulkner had set up new institutions in the Six Counties. What are they? Could one be the R.U.C.? Is it possible that the judiciary has been changed without our knowledge? Has the prison service been changed for the better or worse? Have the conditions for employment in state owned or subsidised concerns changed and does the minority now enjoy equal opportunity?

ACCEPTABILITY OF THE R.U.C.

How has the R.U.C. been changed to make them acceptable? Have the butchers of Burntollet been dismissed or jailed? What redress have their victims had? Have the specialists of Holywood, Girdwood and Ballykelly torture chambers been tried, suspended or merely transferred to Dublin Castle? Perhaps on promotion? Was all this part of the Sunningdale package deal? To what has our country and our people been committed? Will we ever know?

There are many other questions to be posed, but we hope through the courtesy of the press to raise all pertinent questions especially the Rhodesian style parole system shortly to be introduced. We ask our people to examine closely everything that the Pseudo Patriots propose for our consumption.

On behalf of the Internee's Camp Council,

DAN TURLEY, Press Officer.

(This press statement is authenticated by Belfast Republican Press Centre, 182 Brompton Park, Belfast 14.)

EX-MAYOR JOINS PICKET

A former Mayor of Camden, Alderman L. P. O'Connor, who is now Labour's Deputy Chief Whip on the Greater London Council, was amongst those picketing the Army Recruiting Office, in Parkhurst Road, of Holloway Road, London on Saturday, December 15th.

Freddy Silberman of the Transport and General Workers Union also joined the picket. Both he and Alderman O'Connor spoke at the first meeting of the North London Troops Out Movement, which is calling for the withdrawal of British Troops from Ireland.

Leaflets were distributed outside the recruiting office, calling for people to join the campaign to withdraw troops from Ireland.

The picket took place between 11.30 a.m. and 1.00 p.m.

We will not forget our own * * *

A Chara,

On behalf of the Dublin Executive of Sinn Fein (Kevin St.) I wish to protest at the treatment meted out to Dolores Price and her comrades during and since their arrest, trial and imprisonment for their part in the London bombings. I want the Irish people to know and to examine their own consciences on the forced fingerprinting of the defendants, on the fact that they were hooded and stripped during days of ceaseless interrogation whilst being threatened with hideous indignities by John Bull's other army.

I want the people of Ireland to comment and to protest at the ferocity of the sentences imposed by the British Raj which are similar to the shooting of the sepoys from the barrels of cannons because they too defied the Empire in defence of freedom.

I want to remind the Irish people of our duty to Dolores and her fellow volunteers. It is our duty to see that they are granted political status. That they are transferred to Ireland to join their comrades also in jail for political action. It is our duty to see that in the final solution of the so called Irish questions, Dolores Price and ALL Irish political detainees in Southern, Northern or British are released unconditionally and given the status and honour that a grateful nation accords to its heroes and heroes.

Should we ask Amnesty International to remind us in Ireland of our own prisoners of conscience and should we ourselves remember for 800 years we have had our prisoners of conscience in our struggle for equality and freedom.

Is mise,

MARY COSTELLOE,
Secretary, Dublin Executive, Sinn Fein,
(2a Lower Kevin St.)

✚
Sir,

Many people in the Newry area do not realise the danger they are putting themselves into by driving behind military vehicles, I ask those people who are driving just in front or behind these vehicles to stop their car and let them drive on — always leave a space between them and you if not you might regret it, if they are shot at or if a landmine goes off you may not live to regret it.

DERMOT RAFFERTY,
Newry.

POLITICAL FOOTBALLS

A Chara,

If the Republican prisoners in British prisons are to become just so many political foot-balls their future is indeed bleak. Unfortunately the formation of a second prisoners aid group in England will ensure that this is the case.

In your November 24th issue you carried a front page story telling of the formation of an "Irish Political Hostages Committee" in London. The story continues to attack an unnamed group who, it is alleged, are "making use of the Republican prisoners plight to make political capital for their own ends and to raise finance for themselves."

This can only be a libellous reference to the Prisoners Aid Committee, an organisation with an address at 318 Lillie Rd., Fulham, London P.A.C. has endeavoured to aid and support all Irish political prisoners in British prisons irrespective of their party allegiance. I imagine they will continue to do so.

The article continues to explain that the I.P.H.C. will attempt to enlist the support of Trade Unionists and Trade Councils. If the Irish in England can't agree to work together how can we expect support from our British Comrades? After all the welfare of the Republican Prisoners in England should be our first consideration.

Is mise,

"DIVIDED WE FALL"
Liverpool, Lancs.

eíre nua BOOKSHOP

at 170a Falls Road, Belfast 12. Phone 46841

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the liam mac page

NOTHING HAS CHANGED

"The night after the agreement on the Executive was announced, British soldiers were searching a house on the Falls Road. When the woman of the house protested against what she alleged was harassment, she was told by one of the search party that they were now acting under the orders of Gerry Fitt. The woman, as might be imagined was neither amused nor mollified by the black humour of the remark. In the immediate months ahead that sort of crack is going to become familiarly unfunny to a lot of people. It will indeed, become nauseatingly common place to the S.D.L.P. Assemblymen once the novelty of the agreement has worn off and they are forced to come out from in front of the T.V. cameras and meet their supporters face to face."

Michael McKeown, Hibernia Magazine 30/11/73.

After reading the above, one should remember what Gerry told his Party conference.

"The security forces had to instil confidence in people that they could apprehend men of violence, only then could we be able to sleep in peace in our beds at night." (Sunday Telegraph 2/12/73).

The criticism from the delegates at the S.D.L.P. conference on the attitude of the leaders of the Party to the question of internment put John Hume on the spot and in his speech tried not only to defend the party's stand but then attacked those delegates who did not seem to appreciate the party line. Such as Mrs. Margaret Duddy, Strabane who declared, "Since the Assembly started the party's policy seemed to have become more and more indistinct. First it had spoken of an end of internment, then it was the phasing out of internment, and now it seemed to be put to the end of everything they wanted to obtain. But the British Army was still interning men, women and children and they might soon intern even babes-in-arms. The concentration camps should disappear from the countryside immediately."

HYSTERICAL COMMUNISTS

It is odd indeed that with the hysteria accompanying the setting up of the Executive to allow White-law to get off the hook of Irish politics and go on to make a name for himself inside the Tory Government as the only man who can take on the trade unions in Britain and teach them a lesson in discipline. That so many odd organisations and characters from Brian McGuigan and Irish Independent (James Kelly) to the Belfast Telegraph to the odd balls in the British and Imperial Communist Organisation should take credit that they influenced events by having called for such a policy now in operation. Take the Imperialist Communists, in their newsheet 24/11/73, they fill the front page with a slogan "Death of Republicanism" and the reason for the death is to them because the S.D.L.P. with the full agreement of the Southern Government have now dealt the fatal blow to Catholic Nationalism and betrayed all that Republicanism stood for.

Thus they see the two nations theory they adopted from the Unionist Party away back in 1869, because the going was too tough (Eamon O'Kane left the P.D.) and ever since along with Stalin's theory of what is a nation they have sneered at everything Irish and proclaimed that the Unionist Party and the Orange Order had the right to do whatever they decided, to defend their own wee one party state with all its bigotry and armed

police force to discriminate against those who wanted to change events.

Even to-day they stand behind the belief that whatever Stalin did in his time was correct. So no wonder they take delight in the setting up of the Executive because they believe that with the collaborators from the S.D.L.P. and the Southern Government the Six County state is now back in business. How wrong can they be, but then their type of reading events and understanding of history is not their strong points.

By the way the rest of the newsheet of four pages are taken up with trying to answer my recent criticism, of their new change of policy of calling for class-collaboration with the Tories in making Phase 3 Wages and Income policy work it took them two more pages to explain why, and they finish up with the plea that there is no other way of getting control of the capitalist system than for getting positions of power and influence inside the system and then proving to the industrialist who are running capitalism that only the workers can run the economic system better and thus you are on the road to a Socialist society..... Mad-hatters After Chile?

So you see when they have such simplified thoughts on how to take over control of the Capitalist system, do you doubt my words when I suggest they have lost themselves in the theory business and are not even alive to what is happening in the world around them.

BLACKMAIL

"There is a strong feeling — most intense in Whitehall, but largely shared in Dublin Government circles — that Mr. Faulkner needs protection from the loyalist extremists and that he, like the other participants, will need substantial concessions to take home with him." (Irish Times 1/12/73).

So be prepared my friends to hear some very odd news coming from the first meeting of the tripartite talks, on the point that one and all must save Brian from his friends. Well it's one way of carrying out your blackmail, and Brian is astute enough to get away with it.

ENGLAND'S GREATNESS

"Could England's greatness lie in the calibre of her servants. The soldiers who are prepared to kill for her? The warders who run her concentration camps so graciously? The pen prostitutes who are prepared to lie for her? The real prostitutes who entertain her Cabinet Ministers? Yes I think this is the real secret of England's greatness. However, shameful the job England can produce some unsavoury type who is prepared to do it England's greatness is securely based upon the dregs of humanity." (Andersonstown News 22/11/73).

Unfortunately Ireland's history has proved we supply some, if not most, of the types mentioned above.

THE ABSENTEE OWNERS

"The Duke of Westminster, one of the richest men in Britain has bought a country house and 1,500 acre estate in Tyrone. He has paid nearly £160,000 for the property which has been owned by the Verschoye family, whose ancestors came to Ireland from Holland in the 17th century and made their fortune." (Belfast Telegraph 26/11/73)

"Mr. Justin Keating, the Minister for Industry and Commerce said at a pressconference that the Industrial Development Authority has approved 16 industrial projects from the U.K. with a total investment of more than £40 million in Ireland. In addition during the year negotiations had reached an advanced stage for a further 12 projects with an investment of a further £35 million. An increasing number of British industrialists now realise that they can grow faster and earn a higher return on their investments in Ireland than anywhere else in the E.E.C. (Irish Times 29/11/73).

FAIRY STORY

I suggested in the Republican News a few weeks ago that with the disappearance of Brian Walker from the Six County political scene, his coat-hanging pal Brian McGuigan may now also disappear. But no such luck I see in the letter columns of the Irish Times that he intends to still keep alive the N.U.M.

In a letter (I.T. 29/11/73) he tells his story how the N.U.M. abolished Stormont, joking? No, he is very serious. It seems that the N.U.M. decided that Stormont could be reformed and a pamphlet was issued on the subject. Then a deputation went to see the Prime Minister Wee man Brian he laughed at them and told them he was quite happy the way things were running for him, you see he had just been made P.M. and this was in 1971.

Anyway Brian tells the story that after wee man Brian had laughed at the other two Brians, they went on home disgusted and wrote another pamphlet, "The Way Forward" and called for the suspension of Stormont for three years. So now you 'know what really happened it will also keep wee man Brian from insulting any other N.U.M. delegation he meets in the future in case McGuigan gets angry and calls for the abolition of the Assembly.

But I really laughed at the reason why Brian has put history right. He says he doesn't want it to go into the history books that the Provisional Republican Army was responsible.

THE COST

"Since the I.R.A. declared Belfast's Airport a 'legitimate target' in May of this year, it is expensive in very real terms, the nine foot high tensile steel fence which now surrounds the Airport perimeter cost £100,000 to install, and this fence is only one visible aspect of the current security precautions.

Two years ago when he took over executive control of Aldergrove, the director, Mr. Douglas Melrose, said he was determined to run the airport as a profit-making commercial basis. Now he admits that profitability must take second place to safety. His security budget soars as he installs anti-sabotage devices and personnel swells the ranks of his airport police and signs contracts for security experts to make special installations and systems. Fortunately for his balance sheet, he receives massive Government grants." (Irish Times 26/11/73).

"Pardon me while I pinch myself again. Yet it must be true, Brian and Gerry really have made it up. Paddy's general of the practitioners. John's giving jobs to the Prods. and Austin's going to war against squatters and rent strikers." (Barry White, Belfast Telegraph 29/11/73).

EIST LIOM BOMAITE A CHAIDE GAEL

During the present struggle we have seen the emergence of many people with an entirely new outlook on their position and the position of their country in the world both from social and national aspects. Whereas it is good to see such interest taken by our people it seems that the military struggle has pushed another very important aspect of our nationalism into the background. I am referring to our language, of course. The Irish Language is struggling, there's no getting away from it. The former interest shown in such groups as Conradh na Gaeilge or Cumann Cluain Ard, is slowly fading away in the wake of the troubles which our people are enduring in the hope for a New Ireland, Free, free from British Injustice, free from the mock-culture being fed to the British people, and to our people.

As Sinn Féin, in its political and economic programme *Eire Nua*, point out, this "Anglo-American" culture which we are being fed with for breakfast, dinner and tea is of no cultural background and is of no beneficial use to the furtherance of mankind. We are losing our language and from there our minds. The English language is the English mind, the French language is the French mind and the Irish language is the Irish mind. Without a language we lose our ability to think for ourselves. Although I do not blame our people, I find it most saddening to hear the girls and boys of our country arguing the policy of the Republican Movement and then bursting out with the chant from Slade, T. Rex, etc. When I look at some of the programmes we are being brain-washed with on T.V., I say to myself "Thank God I am Irish," — who would want to have the mentality of the average Englishman or American if he is amused by such trash? It is not their fault, their rulers have made them so — my God we don't want that. We want to be free. Free in our own country free in our own minds. Patrick Pearse saw this was necessary and his famous words have been quoted many times. "Níl amháin saoirse ach saoirse; níl amháin Gaelach ach saoirse." — Translated this means "Not only free but Irish; not only Irish but free."

I would like to urge all readers to do their utmost to learn the language, for the greatest barrier the Irish people can put up against Britain is a different language. This can be done — indeed many of our compatriots are emerging from Long Kesh with fluency in language — it is up to this generation to shake off this plague, so as the generations following us will not be corrupted by the rubbish which is being churned out by these evil men. Exploitation of the lower classes was how the Daily Mirror (anti-Irish rag that it is, at times I feel it is an insult to our intelligence to see it sold in our shops), became Britain's most popular paper — God don't let it become Ireland's. I'll finish with the words of a poem, ironically it is an English poem, but is however very fitting to ourselves.

*"Have, get, before a cloy,
Before it cloud Christ Lord
and sour with sinning,
Innocent minds and Mayday of
both girl and boy."*

CROSSMAGLEN COMES TO BELFAST

An analysis of the situation regarding the war in Belfast, the heart of the struggle for liberation, brings to light some amazing developments. To fully understand what is happening in military circles we have to cast our minds back to August 1972 and "Operation Motorman." In the weeks following the ending of the truce the Provisional guerrillas had intensified their campaign to unparalleled heights. The British Army were under tremendous pressure from an army who struck with speed and accuracy and vanished into thin air.

Troop reinforcements were flown in from England and Germany in a desperate effort to contain the Provisionals, who were proving to be one of the finest guerrilla fighting machines in history. Heath, in the meantime, had called an emergency meeting with his military advisors; Brigadiers Kitson, Calvert and Clutterbuck the latter a prominent figure in the extreme right-wing Monday Club. Kitson pleaded with Heath to implement a plan which had been rejected some six months before, "Operation Hellfire." The Tory war-lords had previously given a thumbs down on the plan when told that it could well involve the biggest land battles involving British troops since the Korean War.

Heath was left with little choice but to give grudging approval for the re-named operation. On a dark August morning in 1972 thousands of British soldiers armed with the most sophisticated weapons available moved on the Catholic ghettos of Belfast and Derry.

Huge Saladin tanks had been flown in days before the Middle East, there was not even enough time for the sanc' coloured monsters to be re-painted in the traditional battle green.

What happened that morning is history, the Provisional leadership had ordered their Volunteers to go to ground to prevent what would have been a holocaust. The frustrated Britishers gave vent to their anger by waging a campaign of terror on the civilian population.

Meanwhile the Provisionals had been busy holding meetings throughout the country to adapt and develop as was necessary in the new situation. What has happened since then has proved that British strategy could never hope to match the freedom fighters militarily.

Lightning attacks were launched on British forces throughout 1973, action switched from the towns to the country. Crossmaglen became a household word throughout the world as Provisional Flying Columns under the leadership of the late Michael McVerry attacked and destroyed entire British patrols. The British were stunned, their fortresses in schools, churches and blocks of flats; their constant patrols; their nightly raids; their intensification of the internment weapon all were proving useless in the face of the Provisional onslaught.

In January bombs went off in Royal Avenue, 3 R.U.C. men were killed in one day, the biggest gun battle for months broke out when an Active Service Unit launched a ferocious attack on the Britishers in the Lower Falls. British army war-chiefs met to decide what action was left for them; it was decided that a "mini Bloody Sunday" in Belfast could have a traumatic effect on the Provisionals and their supporters. On February 3rd six men were shot down

in cold blood on the New Lodge Road. Army statements issued to the press claimed that all were "gunmen" despite the evidence of dozens of onlookers. The Provisionals replied quickly to the murderous assault when, three days later, one British soldier was killed and five others were injured in a rocket attack. Before February had ended five British soldiers had been killed in Belfast, four in the Falls area and one in Ardoyne; and area which the British Army propaganda machine had claimed was "cleared out."

By March the British army were under veritable siege, a British soldier was shot dead in Derry, the first since "Motorman." This was a shock for the Tory Government who had been assured that Derry was under the control of the British. Before April began three more soldiers had died, two were killed in Derry and another in the New Lodge Road area. In the following weeks British army casualties rose, in Armagh three soldiers were killed in an explosion and four died in Belfast. Crossmaglen had fallen completely to the Provisionals, British patrols only entered in massive convoys; it was not unfamiliar to see a patrol consisting of six Saladin tanks 50 or more soldiers on foot, and two helicopters covering overhead. Many border police and military posts were abandoned and remain unoccupied to this day.

In Belfast the British were under tremendous pressure, their casualty rate was mounting to an intolerable level, many regiments were near to mutiny with men refusing to go out on foot patrol.

The summer months were a nightmare for the British Government with Provisional forces displaying amazing adaptability in breaching all attempts at security and intensifying their campaign against the British economy.

As the year drew to a close large areas of Belfast were under the control of the I.R.A.; patrols in the Lower Falls were carried out increasingly with armoured cars and Whippets. The British had acceded to the requests of the bulk of their army to replace Land Rovers with heavy armoured vehicles. The few remaining Land Rovers in use were fitted with steel plates to prevent sniper fire killing the occupants. Despite all the precaution taken by the demoralised military the Provisionals continued to inflict heavy casualties on the British. On the last day of 1973 a soldier was killed in Leeson Street.

As we enter 1974 the signs are that the British withdrawal now taking place will be speeded up. Large parts of Belfast will resemble Crossmaglen with British patrols moving only in force and in armoured vehicles. We could see the demise of the helicopter as a weapon, British intelligence has forecast the introduction of ground to air missiles into the war.

It is clear that British hope to withdraw from Ireland and leave a Gombeen administration behind to ensure that the wealth of the country continues to go into British banks.

The Provisionals have foreseen this happening and are confident that any new situation will, like "Operation Motorman," prove ineffective as a means of defeating their army.

1974 could, as the Provisional press forecast, be the YEAR OF LIBERTY!

Statement

English using Nazi Belsen Torture

The following statement has been issued by Belfast North-East Comhairle Ceann-tair Sinn Féin.

"We regard as barbarous and savage in the extremes, the force feeding of the Price sisters in Brixton Prison. The most sinister aspect of this "force-feeding," is that it is being carried out by members of the medical profession. This is the most alarming aspect of the whole sinister affair, because it appears that the English are using medical personnel to carry out the torture that is force-feeding.

"We have heard (through English media of course) of the sinister activities of "doctors" in the pay of the Nazis during the last war towards POW's in their custody. Now with the revelation that England is now using similar tactics towards the Price sisters, the only conclusion that can be drawn is, that England whilst pointing the finger at the Nazi doctors also herself must have constructed some evil medicinal tortures, the Price sisters today bearing ample witness to the sinister attitude of these so called, "doctors." We therefore feel that persons such as Dr. Blyth and other members of the medical staff involved with the "force-feeding," torture of the Price sisters should be struck off the medical register or at any rate should face charge of inhumanity.

"The medical profession throughout Ireland and England have been done a great dis-service through the callousness of the doctors in Brixton who are engaged in the torturing of these political hostages. We call on the medical profession to stand up now and demand a halt to the activities of these, "doctors," who have aligned themselves with the torture doctors of Belsen fame.

"Finally we call on everyone to support the Price sisters and their comrades in their demand to be returned to Ireland to continue their sentences in Ireland pending a general unconditional release for all the political hostages.

PROTEST

We join with the people of the Bingham Drive area in adding our voices in protest at the conduct of British soldiers during and prior to the funeral of Mrs. Fitzsimons.

Mourners were photographed entering and leaving the bereaved home and several men arrested and "screened."

The climax of the nauseating display of sheer indecency and bad manners came when troops entered the home and searched it.

The British personnel involved in this particular incident came under fire from an Active Service Unit after they left the immediate area of the home.

One of the soldiers involved in the search was hit in the head.

We can assure the men who ordered the operation in the Fitzsimmons home that we will endeavour to repay them for their actions.

Signed: SEAMUS LYNCH,
P.R.O. First Battalion,
Belfast Brigade.

MICHAEL TOBIN

Continued from Page 3

resistance movement would involve more than just a defensive battle against all that is harmful to the interests of the people in any given Irish locality, as is the case of most tenants and trade union struggles. It would also include a positive attack on Imperialism through the continued formation of people's co-operatives, such as farmers' co-operative production projects and trading organisations geared to mutual aid in the fields of production and marketing, which would work to the great advantage of the actual producers while eliminating the present middlemen whose profits in the final analysis end up being invested abroad instead of being ploughed back into the Irish economy. Other people's production projects would include fishermen's co-operatives, industrial producer co-operatives, consumer co-operatives and allied ventures such as co-operative credit unions.

ORDINARY PEOPLE MUST REFED THEIR INTERESTS

All in all Eire Nua sees the Co-operative and the Trade Union as the actual instruments of struggle through which the masses of ordinary people can defend their interests and at the same time deal out hard sledgehammer blows against Imperialism jackals and vampires which are now feasting on their economic flesh and blood.

The formation of a powerful Economic Resistance Movement covering the whole of Ireland and unifying all of her people in the process is not some airy-fairy notion which can be fobbed off by its detractors as being too idealistic and too visionary in nature. Because such a movement would be a grassroots one working directly in the interest of the small farmer struggling desperately to make a living in the face of the mounting economic pressures favouring the large ranchers and landowners, or in the interest of the boy or girl being faced with the choice of misery or emigration, or in the interest of the worker whose job depends on the whims of distantly-based managers, or in the interest of the housewife facing endless price rises, and so on.

The campaign to set in motion an Economic Resistance Movement has already begun. Of necessity it is something that cannot be built overnight, and while it is meeting here and there with local successes its roots amongst the masses of the people are not yet sufficiently deep for it to become a broad mass movement.

But that will comethrough the steady and untiring efforts of those hardworking Republican men and women who guided by the vision of Eire Nua work steadily on in the face of apathy, indifference, or, on the other hand, open opposition, in laying the foundations of a New Ireland which we can start building when we have forced the British invaders to leave our shores.

DID YOU KNOW?

That there are now 60,000 readers of Republican News weekly . . . Be sure and send your friends and relations abroad a copy regularly!

MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM

The Troops Out Movement, whose aim is to secure the withdrawal of the British garrison from Ireland, has welcomed the admission by Mr. Ian Gilmour, English Minister of State for Defence, that fewer people are joining the English armed forces because of the troubles in Ireland.

Mr. Gilmour told a joint services conference in London, for heads of girls' schools last Friday, that in the 12 months up to October last year only 27,000 had joined, against 43,000 the previous year.

He told the teachers that his Department had expected problems, but not those as bleak as the figures showed. He had recently authorised £400,000 to be spent on a recruiting advertising campaign.

T.O.M. which has three branches in London, one in Coventry and one in Manchester, and hopes to start others in Leicester, Nottingham, and Wolverhampton, picketed a lecture given by the English army to sixth formers in London on Friday.

The members of the picket included teachers, students and housewives. T.O.M. claims that the English Army deliberately misleads recruits by offering careers, guaranteed job satisfaction, and a chance to lead an exciting and adventurous life. It does not tell them that 'the life of a British soldier in Northern Ireland includes violence, where he is expected to kill, and is exposed to the constant risk of being killed.'

Mr. Richard Boam, a student at the London School of Economics and a member of T.O.M.'s North London branch, said it wanted British troops out of Ireland now and self-determination for the Irish people.

Miss Pat Arrowsmith, an Englishwoman who spoke at a Civil Resistance meeting outside Casement Park, Belfast, is very active in the English withdrawal campaign. She was due to appear in the Warminster Magistrates Court last Tuesday to answer a charge under the Public Order Act. She issued the following statement on Monday:

"This is to state that I have no intention of appearing in Warminster Magistrates Court on Tuesday January 8 to answer a charge under the Public Order Act, or to be charged with incitement to disaffection. On the contrary, I intend to jump bail and go away.

"I did not co-operate over being arrested and charged with 'behaviour likely to cause a breach of the peace' for distributing leaflets to soldiers at Warminster on Saturday September 22, and I do not intend to co-operate now.

"The leaflet ('Some Information for British Soldiers') in relation to which I have been charged has already been given to soldiers in various places by a number of people. The authorities know who some of my fellow-leafleters are because they have questioned them, yet they have not charged them with anything. I consider I have been singled out and am being victimised.

"The week before distributing the leaflet on the soldiers' married quarters at Warminster, I appeared in Colchester Court charged under the Public Order Act for having given out the leaflet at the Colchester military tattoo. I WAS

AQUITTED. Furthermore, before the trial, the Director of Public Prosecutions informed my lawyer that no charge under the Incitement to Disaffection Act was going to be brought. My colleagues and I therefore had absolutely no reason to expect to be arrested and charged with practically the same offence all over again for doing the same thing a week later in Warminster. I consider it grossly inequitable that we were arrested and that I was so charged.

"Now I have been officially informed by the Director of Public Prosecutions that on January 8 in Warminster the authorities intend to charge me with offences under the Incitement to Disaffection Act. I consider this Act a serious curtailment of individual freedom and the right to free expression of opinion. According to Wade and Phillips (4th edition), a leading textbook on constitutional law, 'the Act goes a long way to arming the Executive with power to restrict the distribution of political propaganda and of pacifist literature.' I do not accept that people in a free society (which Britain purports to be) should be barred from giving leaflets to soldiers and, in general, expressing their personal opinions to members of the armed forces. I therefore refuse to co-operate with the implementation of such an undemocratic, iniquitous Act.

"I do not consider I have committed any offence whatsoever, whether defined as 'insulting words,' 'behaviour likely to cause a breach of the peace' or 'incitement to disaffection.' On the contrary, the British Government are the criminals. It is they, not I, a pacifist, who are breaching the peace by maintaining an army of occupation in Northern Ireland. It is they who are insulting the people of Ireland by not allowing them self-determination and the right to decide their own future for themselves. It is they, not my colleagues and I, who should be brought to Court."

The Council controlling the campaign for English Withdrawal from Ireland, (the Belfast based group) have decided to officially launch their campaign on 27th January.

A three member deputation from the Council addressed the Sinn Féin Ulster Executive in Coalisland, last Sunday. They explained the proposed campaign and asked for co-operation from the Sinn Féin organisation.

Another deputation from the Council had two private meetings with members of Derry S.F. Comhairle Ceantair during the past fortnight. It is expected that C.E.W.I., will be represented by a speaker at the "Bloody Sunday" commemoration in Derry on January 27.

Mr. Seamus McOscair, will represent C.E.W.I., as a speaker at a mass rally in Birmingham on January 27. Mr. Sean Mac Eochaidh, Director of C.E.W.I., has been invited to speak at a rally in London, to be held on the same date under the auspices of London Sinn Féin C.C.

C.E.W.I. have received a promise of support from Newry Anti-Internment Committee who have organised successful meetings and marches in the Newry area. A deputation from the C.E.W.I. Council will travel to Newry on 15th January to discuss the proposed mass rally in Newry on St. Patrick's Day.

A private meeting was held in Lurgan on Wednesday night to discuss the holding of a public rally at an early date in Lurgan, under the auspices of C.E.W.I. It is likely that ad hoc committees will be formed in several areas to help organise the numerous public demonstrations planned as part of the English Withdrawal Campaign.

Discussions have taken place in Dundalk about the possibility of holding a rally in the local town hall which can hold 2,000.

A private meeting will be held in Dundalk at a date to be fixed. Those interested, who wish to be invited to the meeting, are asked to contact the Director, C.E.W.I., 170a Falls Road, Belfast, as soon as possible.

It has been suggested that C.E.W.I. should hold an open-air rally in Dublin, on Easter Monday. Those interested in this idea should make contact also.

Funds will be required to buy a public address system, to pay for rent of halls, telephone calls, printing, travelling, and many other necessary expenses. Donations or loans will be gratefully received by the Secretary/Treasurer, C.E.W.I., 170a Falls Road, Belfast.

THE GATHERING MOMENTUM MUST BE MAINTAINED.



Dolores

*Students, schoolboys and girls
They called us, trendy leftists.*

You were there

Part of the crowd.

*Yet, strangely apart,
Strangely mature.*

Father wounded,

Mother abused

You had to be.

Not for you,

The P.D. trick

Or red-wing whim.

You preferred,

A life more grim.

We marched and shouted

You fought and routed.

Dolores Price,

God BLESS YOU.

Where are they now?



Falls Barricade 1969

REMEMBER DERRY THIRTEEN

THE MIDLAND'S "BLOODY SUNDAY" COMMEMORATION consisting of a MARCH and PUBLIC MEETING, will be held on Sunday, 27th JANUARY.

Those taking part are asked to assemble at Small Heath Park, Coventry Road, Birmingham at 2.30 p.m. The marchers led by the Seamus Steele Band, Belfast, will proceed to the Digbeth Civic Hall.

Speakers will include leading members of the Republican Movement from Belfast and Dublin, the Campaign for English Withdrawal From Ireland, Irish Civil Rights Association, Anti-Internment League, I.M.G. and I.S.

Further information can be obtained from Derry Commemoration Committee, 123 Princess Road, Birmingham, or from your local REPUBLICAN NEWS seller.

Political Leadership

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

licans are fighting, have fought and have died. It is because they know that this is the objective of the armed struggle that Irish people at home and overseas support the Provisionals' struggle and accept their leadership.

The final victory of the Irish people will be won in 1974. The Irish people must be given the chance to show clearly by peaceful demonstrations that they recognise that English rule is and has always been the cause of Irish conflict, poverty and unhappiness and that only

through a complete removal of the English garrison and presence can peace, prosperity and justice prevail in Ireland as every Irishman desires. With this in mind all Irishmen are asked to support the Bloody Sunday demonstrations which mark the most dramatic excess of the present British round of oppression and to support the Campaign for the British Withdrawal from Ireland, or more briefly for Irish Liberation in a massive expression of the will of the Irish people for a sovereign Irish Republic.

SINN FEIN DERRY CITY

2nd Anniversary March BLOODY SUNDAY Sunday, 27th January

Assemble Bishop's Field, 2.30 ; March off 3.00 p.m.

Bands in Attendance : Prominent Republican Speakers.

Buses from Belfast: Call at Eire Nua Bookshop or tel: 46841 for details.