

REPUBLICAN NEWS

"THE VOICE OF
REPUBLICAN ULSTER"

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

Volume 3 Number 16

SATURDAY, 15th 1973

PRICE : FIVE PENCE



KILLEEN—WHAT BRITISH FORCES OF OCCUPATION DIDN'T SAY!

On Monday, 3rd December, at Killeen, an I.R.A. Active Service Unit blew up a British saracen armoured car and a jeep. The British army suffered severe casualties, and the saracen was burnt out. The Radio, T.V. and Press all reported this incident and said that the Brits had issued a statement saying that four of their men were injured — one seriously. Considering the extent of the damage to the vehicles, pictures of which were shown on T.V., one can see that the casualty rate must be as the I.R.A. claim, much higher.

There are a number of other important issues connected with this case, which have been suppressed by the enemy. Firstly, in these cases, the Brits usually send out helicopters to survey the scene. In this case, they didn't. As the public are aware, it has been reported, but not confirmed, that the I.R.A. in South Armagh have obtained a quantity of Russian ground-to-air guided missiles. So it would appear that when danger threatens, the Welsh Guards remove their leeks and replace them with white feathers.

Secondly, they sent out an armoured ambulance from Daisy Hill Hospital. Passing Daisy Hill Gardens, this vehicle lost a wheel, went out of control, and smashed into a garden wall. Thus more British casualties went unreported. In this same incident, the runaway wheel (a deserter perhaps), hit an oncoming car, injuring the driver and causing him severe shock. These incidents, were of course, not reported by the B.A. propaganda machine.

As a result of this mishap to the armoured ambulance, the ambulance attached to Daisy Hill Hospital was called to the scene of the explosion. This is an ordinary civilian ambulance, and it is interesting to note the change of attitude in the Brits, as just a week previous they had stopped this ambulance at a road block and told the driver to put out his lights, using the most foul language, for which the Brits are now notorious. Residents in Daisy Hill Gardens witnessed these incidents. Not only did they order the driver to put out his lights, but they insisted that the blue flashing light be extinguished also. They then delayed the ambulance by searching and all the while the Brits continued to use the most obscene language possible.

These incidents clearly show that the British War Machine is interested only in lying propaganda, and suppress the truth with the help of the T.V. and Press media when it does not benefit their own evil ends. This incident at Killeen, has exposed their cowardice for all to see, when even the elite of the Welsh Guards failed to succour their wounded comrades.

However, we the Risen People, hope their stores become taller and even more biased, as we recognise that lies and deceit are the "hallmarks of despair." The more desperate they become, the nearer comes the date of the British evacuation, when our Land will return to the rightful control of the Irish people.

SDLP Sheer Corruptness

The recent conference of the S.D.L.P. was, we were told, a highly successful one. What we were not told was that it was also a highly informative one. Several spokesmen were both critical and suspicious of the party's motives. Others expressed grave doubts as to the wisdom of even agreeing to participate in the Executive before the original demands on internment, reform of the R.U.C. had been met.

There was criticism too of the methods by which certain candidates had been chosen to contest the recent Assembly elections. However, it fell to the outgoing Chairman, Mr. Eddie McGrady, to make the most revealing statement of all.

In a direct contradiction of his Party's often repeated claims that only political participation would bring internment to an end, he said that internment would only end when the Provisionals called a halt to their campaign.

Such an admission of the S.D.L.P.'s failure to "deliver the goods," so to speak, comes as no surprise to those who have consistently maintained that the British are only interested in "playing at politics." Their so-called assurances via the S.D.L.P. were solely to get a semblance of political activity moving once more, in a desperate attempt to restore Britain's tattered image abroad. To be fair to Britain, she made no secret of her reasons for political action. The same cannot be said of the S.D.L.P. They, knowingly and deliberately broke every promise made, not only to the internees, but also to those who placed their trust in them and gave them their votes.

In 1971, when they were compelled by an outraged community, to withdraw from Stormont they hoped even then that it would only be for the duration of the summer recess. Unfortunately, for them, their newly found friend and collaborator, Brian Faulkner, really put them on the spot when he introduced internment.

The political fat was really in the fire. They had no choice but to follow, rather than lead, the people. It was the people who set the pace. They marched, they demonstrated, they protested, they fought and alas, many, too many of them died. While all this was happening, where were the gallant S.D.L.P. Safe in Donegal, issuing statements, and of course condemning the violence which the oppressed

people were compelled to use to defend themselves.

WHAT SORT OF PEOPLE ARE THE S.D.L.P.?

A glance at some of the S.D.L.P. leaders' utterances, will illustrate just what sort of people they are. Do you remember Paddy Devlin's famous tribute to Faulkner, "This was his finest hour," Paddy cried. He was wrong — Faulkner's finest hour was yet to come. 3 a.m. MONDAY, AUGUST 9th, 1971 — INTERNMENT!!!

Austin Currie, told a wildly cheering crowd of thousands in the Falls Park at an Anti-Internment Rally, "why should we talk, we are winning." To a further volume of cheers, he informed his listeners "that the British could lick his backside, before he would take part in any talks whilst INTERNMENT lasted."

BLOODY SUNDAY drew forth from John Hume the highly emotional comment, "It's a United Ireland or NOTHING." Later, the dear boy claimed he did not make the statement, but had merely repeated the sentiments expressed by the Bogsidors.

Ivan Cooper, at their conference which I referred to at the beginning of this article said that they would shortly take steps to bring about an end to the people's rent and rates strike. Mr. Cooper conveniently forgets that his party did not call the strike, therefore, they cannot call it off.

Earlier I mentioned that Eddie McGrady claimed that "only the end of armed resistance," would bring about the end of INTERNMENT.

John Hume obviously didn't hear Mr. McGrady, because he stated most emphatically at the closing stages of the conference that "only the S.D.L.P. could end INTERNMENT!"

TWO FACED

The two faces of the S.D.L.P. must therefore be obvious, even to the least interested observer, of their activities and statements over the past three years. One thing which is not so obvious is THE SOURCE OF THE PARTY'S SEEMINGLY UNLIMITED FUNDS!

Continued on page 10

NEW CUMANN

A new Sinn Féin Cumann named after Patrick Parle has been formed in the Parkhill area, South Down. Anyone wishing to join should contact the Republican News sellers in the area.

CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS

We will publish the paper next week as usual. There will be no paper published on Saturday 29th December.

We take this opportunity to thank our writers, distributors, sellers and readers for your wonderful co-operation during 1973.



*This island of ours has long been unfree,
Six Counties are under John Bull's
tyranny,
And most of our leaders are greatly
to blame,
They sold out their part in the
Patriot Game.*

During a discussion of the "troubles" and the part played by the people of repressed areas, one man remarked that the people of places like New Lodge and Ardoyne were second to none. Another said, "Stick a fiver under their noses and they're all made of the same stuff." While I took this as a slight on our brave fellow citizens, it is now true of some of them. In the past few weeks Gerry Fitt and Co. have sold us all out. For a few paltry pounds a year they have sold out the people of Ireland, at a time, when our people need unity of action and purpose.

Fitt himself has become the right-hand man of Faulkner (that murderous, selfish, power-hungry liar) and so associates with the arch-bigot of all time. Gerry seems to have forgotten the men that

SELL OUT

the shirtmaker has condemned to the hole at Lisburn.

John Hume, the fish selling, school teacher from Derry has bartered his birth-right for the position of commerce. He is now sitting on the upholstered rubbish heap at Stormont instead of being sprayed with dye while sitting on the rubbish heap at Laburnum Drive.

Austin Currie, the man who declared "No rent, no arrears, take every bloody penny you can get," now intends to take every bloody penny HE can get as Minister for Housing.

We could go on forever, but will finish with "Red Paddy from the Falls." Squire Devlin, the one time I.R.A. man, sells out with decency. After all he is going to buy a new house with his salary, so as he can liberate his Housing Executive house for a working class family. (Sunday Independent 25/11/73).

We would urge this "Catholic Party" to remember the gospel. "The house that is built on sand shall fall." Their house at Stormont is floundering on quick-sand because it lacks the rock solid foundation of the popular support of the Irish people. We are used to sell-outs, but will overcome and Ireland will soon take her place among the nations of the world.

PRISONERS BEING TORTURED IN BRITISH JAILS . . LONDON PAPERS

Five Irish political prisoners — including two young girls — are being tortured in British jails in an attempt to break their hunger strike.

Previous reports of this from Republican sources have been confirmed by several English newspapers, including the London Sunday paper "The Observer."

There are two forms of torture being used on Marion and Dolores Price, William Armstrong, Paul Holmes and Gerard Kelly.

They are locked for 24 hours a day in unheated, windowless cells, the men have to sleep naked on the stone floors.

But, worse than this, they are being forcibly fed by having tubes forced down their throats into their stomachs.

The wife of one prison warder at Brixton, the men's prison in London where the Price sisters are being held, told a "Republican News" reader: "My husband is so disgusted that he wants to leave the prison service. He has watched as two prison warders and two wardresses held these young Irish girls on the floor of their cells while a greased tube was forced down their throats. As soon as liquid is poured in and the tube taken out the girls vomit. He's told me that Belsen

concentration camp couldn't have been worse."

This eye-witness account confirms the report in Sunday's "Observer." According to that "the operation usually causes acute vomiting. It has killed at least one man. On 25 September 1917 Tom Ashe, a Republican who had been on strike in Dublin's Mountjoy Jail, died after forcible feeding by the British."

The article quoted Professor John Yudkin, Emeritus Professor of Nutrition at London University as saying: "It is possible that if somebody is not careful the tube could be put into the windpipe instead of the gullet. This would cause suffocation pretty promptly."

Some of the prisoners have been drugged by the British authorities. Paul Holmes, who is being held in Parkhurst Prison on the Isle of Wight, where William Armstrong is also held, is known to have been given drug torture, as well as being tortured by the forcible feeding method which the British used to murder Tom Ashe.

Roy Walsh in Wandsworth, London, Hugh Feeney in Wakefield, Yorkshire, and Gerard Kelly in Wormwood Scrubs, London, are also believed to have had similar barbarities inflicted on them.

"British Agents Killed Herron," says Paisley

U.D.A. leader Tommy Herron was assassinated by British agents, according to Ian Paisley. His statement came last weekend in a political sermon preached at Martyrs' Memorial, his Ravenhill Road church.

And he went on to claim that he had reason to believe that an attempt to kill him might be made by Britain's Irish death squad.

Paisley's allegations support earlier statements from another Unionist politician, John Taylor, who claimed on Canadian T.V. a short time ago that he had evidence that Black-and-Tan type assassination gangs of B.A. men had been operating from civilian cars in Catholic areas of Belfast and that it was one of these squads which had killed Herron.

At the time of Herron's death there was considerable speculation that he had threatened to spill the beans about the B.A. supplying the U.V.F. with explosives and organising terror raids on Catholic districts in an attempt to get the peace-at-any-price policy of the S.D.L.P. accepted.

This speculation increased considerably after Herron's death when Albert Baker, a B.A. man who came from the Newtownards Road in Belfast, and who had infiltrated the U.D.A., was flown to freedom in England hours after he had been sentenced to life in prison.

Baker had confessed to murdering four Catholics and robbing a number of shops and banks. Shortly before he was sentenced, Baker was visited in Crumlin Road jail by a senior member of Whitelaw's political staff.

When Paisley, through his friends in the R.U.C. Special Branch, heard of the visit he informed the press saying: "This is another Littlejohn case."

However, Baker was kept quiet with a promise of his freedom and a golden handshake. And Whitelaw's office issued the ridiculous statement that one of their top men had gone to see Baker because he had threatened to commit suicide!

STORMONT PUPPET ASSEMBLY

The formation of the "Assembly," is a complete sell-out of the minority population by the S.D.L.P., hellbound on the course of collusion once steered by John Redmond and his party.

The Republican Movement, aware of the shortcomings of partitionist politics firmly resolve to strengthen ourselves in the political field and oust the "Assembly," in the same way as the Stormont of old was ousted. To all those who have gained capital and phoney "executive," positions within the, "New Stormont," we say withdraw from it now; stand behind the ordinary people and help build a proper Parliament . . . A Parliament without meddling from England, the E.E.C. or any other foreign land-grabbers . . . A Parliament built by and for the people of ALL IRELAND. The Stormont Assembly is a "red-herring," to prolong British rule in Ireland. It will fail, the S.D.L.P. by playing a part in forming it will also fail

Máelachy Fooks, P.R.O.,
Sinn Féin (Kevin St.) Ulster Executive.

DEVLIN TO MOVE HOUSE

Paddy Devlin, the new Stormont regime's man on social services, is to move house shortly. According to sources close to the family his new residence will be a luxury bungalow at Glengoland, near Suffolk, on the outskirts of Belfast.

One reason given for the move is that Devlin feels that his present Housing Executive house at Greenan, in the Andersonstown estate, is not in keeping with his dignified position as a top pay collaborator.

But it is also believed that the absence of accommodation for his chauffeur-driven Rover and his two R.U.C. Special Branch bodyguards have influenced his decision to move.

Some local people have suggested that he is getting out because of the attitude of his neighbours in Andersonstown to his sell-out of the internees and the fact that he has been responsible for bringing the dreaded R.U.C. political police back into the district.

A widow who lives near Greenan, commenting on reports that Devlin was to move said: "I have known Patsy Devlin and his wife Teresa for years. I voted for him six times when he ran against Harry Diamond, and I gave him a number one the last time. But now I would have a job keeping my hands off him if I met him in the street."

Another neighbour said "the soldiers battered down my door at two o'clock one morning and smashed the house to bits. They took my only son away and beat him and tortured him and threw him in Long Kesh. Was that all so that Paddy Devlin could get a well-paid job and a fancy new house he couldn't have afforded when he worked in Andrew's Mill?"

It is generally assumed that he will not be receiving any good luck messages from the Andersonstown men who are still inmates of the stinking cages at Long Kesh.

NEWS BLACKOUT

The Patrick Campbell Sinn Féin Cumann have tried through the local press to highlight the detention of a young girl from this area, but without success.

We have noticed the gradual decrease of Sinn Féin statements published in the IRISH NEWS. May I point out that this is not the fault of our press officers. It is common knowledge that since the British-puppet Stormont Executive was announced, there has been a clamp down on Republican publicity.

The Editor of THE IRISH NEWS deems it fit to publish that 16 internees have been released since August. Why then, does he not tell us how many, including Ann Marie McWilliams, who have been interned since August? Is he afraid to admit that internment is still with us but on a much larger scale?

Has THE IRISH NEWS become the official mouthpiece of the Catholic Unionist Party (S.D.L.P.)?



DAMAGES CAUSED TO CLOGHER POST OFFICE AFTER AN ACTIVE SERVICE UNIT RAID

Luton S.F. Deny Coalisland Allegations

Dear Editor—It has come to our attention, that allegations have been made in the Coalisland area of Tyrone against this Sinn Fein Cumann, in respect to the maintenance of dependents of the three Sinn Fein members from Luton now awaiting trial in Leicester prison on conspiracy charges. We have had a full investigation into this matter and have found no complaints from the families concerned. In actual fact they are more than happy with the present arrangement.

Allegations of this nature do nothing to further the interests of the dependents concerned or Sinn Fein.

If the people who made these allegations were as free with their money as they are with their mouths, there would be little cause for these dependents to suffer financially.

Yours sincerely,

MICHAEL HOLDEN
Press Officer
Patrick McAduffy
Sinn Fein Cumann

Luton,
Bedfordshire.

THE DISPOSSESSED PALESTINIANS

Like Ireland, the Arab countries have had a long history of exploitation by greedy tyrannical imperialists. The European Empires, set up quiescent puppet governments, the Sheiks and Arab Kings who rule their countries with feudal oppression and barbarity, whilst serving the interests of their foreign exploiter, in exchange for the protection of their fabulous personal wealth. Not content with this amount of control, the imperialists encouraged the Zionists, rich European and American Jews who wanted land belonging to the Palestinians and used the Nazi persecution of Jews in Europe as the lever to obtain from the American imperialists in the United Nations, the guarantee of a "state of Israel." Such a state would be as racist as Nazi Germany, for the Zionists treat Arabs remaining in Israel with the same contempt and hatred as the Nazis showed them.

JEWISH STATE FOR A JEWISH PEOPLE

They proceeded to set up a "Jewish state for a Jewish people," with religious legislation which is oppressive, even of liberal Jews. Immigrant Jews from poor Arab countries, are also treated as a proletariat; those who talk about the "Kibbutzim" as models of socialism forget that they are only isolated parts of Israel, and on the whole, Israel is a fully-fledged colony of Western capitalism, with caste and class distinctions, imperialist connections and ambitions, and a useful bridgehead in the Middle East for the modern imperialist countries — the U.S.A., Holland, Japan — who are most interested in the mineral wealth of the Middle East — OIL!

HALF A MILLION PALESTINIANS EXPULSED FROM THEIR OWN COUNTRY

The Jewish occupation of Palestine was resisted by the local people, but they were put down savagely. Whole villages were razed to the ground and hundreds of hostages were taken in reprisals. Res-

istance fighters were tortured and butchered. The areas partitioned off by the "United Nations," for the Palestinians, were over run, and conquered. Between 1948 and 1949, HALF A MILLION PALESTINIANS were expelled from their own country and told to "go and beg for relief from neighbouring states." These, and the Palestinians who remained in Israel, and who are still at this time, being detained and tortured in Israeli police-stations, and military barracks, are the worst-hit victims of Zionism.

ISRAEL COLONISES LARGE NEW TERRITORIES

Having already once pre-emptively over run and conquered territories, which had not even been given to it by its arrogant imperialist backers, Israel carried out, in 1967, a new pre-emptive strike on its Arab neighbours. These were the now progressive regimes of Egypt and Syria, which had overthrown their reactionary feudal rulers. Israel's expansionism was just like that of Nazi Germany, or of any imperialist power; Israel colonised the large new territories it conquered, and fortified them heavily. She still refuses to give them up, and her answer to the armed attempt of Egypt and Syria to regain their lost territories, was to further invade these countries.

OIL — A TRUMP CARD

Meanwhile, the rulers of even the most reactionary Arab regimes, such as Iran and Saudi Arabia, were beginning to realise that they were being fleeced by their imperial masters even more than was necessary. They began to band together to strike a better bargain from the imperialists. They realised that their OIL reserves were finite; that they sold them cheap, and paid dear to have the same OIL returned to them, processed and manufactured in ways that brought wealth ONLY TO THE FOREIGN EXPLOITERS. They are in fact, acting now with a common sense and deter-

mination, in their economic national interest, which Wolfe Tone advocated, but which the present-day Irish people have not yet arrived at. Foolishly, we let the enormous mineral wealth of Ireland, not to mention its agricultural output, be plundered by British and North American money-grabbers!

PALESTINIANS — VICTIMS OF TWO SUPER-POWERS

The oil-Sheikdoms and Kingdoms are interested in curbing Zionism and arriving at a "Middle East Settlement," which will recognise the right of the state of Israel to exist. The first victims of the two super-powers the rich Arab countries and Israel, will be the dispossessed and downtrodden Palestinians, who have shown fantastic courage, and determination to resist oppression. Sadly, one large Palestinian organisation has capitulated and will sit at the "settlement table" to pick up the crumbs from the floor. The other Palestinian organisation have sworn to fight on.

The second victims of the "settlement" will be the other oppressed and impoverished Arabs, such as those of the Arab Gulf, victims of world imperialism and their own feudal regimes, and who are at present struggling against these, even as we in Ireland are struggling to liberate ourselves from our imperialist and our local masters, OLD and NEW!

(This article from a member of An Cumann Gerald McAuley Sinn Fein, shows that members of Sinn Fein are not narrow-minded selfish parochialists, but are acutely aware of, and sympathise with, the Palestine people — our brothers in oppression. Editor).

HALF A MILLION
PALESTINIANS
EXPULSED FROM
THEIR OWN COUNTRY



IN THE HANDS OF BIG BROTHER *****

The big gates of Canterbury Prison clanged shut behind me. For a moment I forgot the handcuffs and the other prisoner I was shackled to. A short while before I had left so cool — myself. Now with the merciless swiftness of a sudden blow I was hit by a staccato of bullet-like impressions — cell windows, tight-tipped wardens, buildings, walls, locked doors, and, above all, bars, bars, bars.

My mind was reeling. Ideas, images, impressions swirled like crazed demons before the blurred vision of my mental eye, faster, faster Nothing held. Two years in jail Two years of this for possessing leaflets..... It must be some terrible dream, a nightmare It can't be true it can't be true ...

But it was true. It was no dream. This was cold and hard reality I was experiencing. For a few hours earlier at Maidstone Crown Court in Kent, England, I had been found guilty of possessing leaflets which called on British soldiers stationed in Ireland to desert their units there. And now I was in the iron grip of the black-hearted minions who so slavishly and servilely serve Big Brother in Britain.

Before that cool April day in 1972 I in common with so many other people of conscience in Britain — was primarily concerned with the welfare of my fellow workers, the plight of old-age pensioners and the homeless and of everyone else who knows at first hand what real hardship, suffering and misery is. But on the day I was jailed I entered an altogether new dimension of oppression in Britain, which had not been previously known to me. And I could hardly believe my ears and eyes — so great was the outright oppression, the brutality, the cunning, the doubletalk, the secret ways, the guile, the treachery, the lies, the hypocrisy, and the corruption of the prison system's administrators, on the one hand and, on the other hand, the suffering, the anguish, the hardships and frustrations endured by men, most of whom were jailed (or were jailed when they first stated their prison careers) for committing petty crimes which many members of the general public often commit but do not get found out — not to speak of those in high places who are up to their necks in corruption and racketeering and are forever getting away with it.

I spent most of my sentence at Chelmsford Prison. This is one of the less oppressive of Britain's jails. The warders do not get away with actual murder as they do in Wandsworth and certain other penal institutions. No, the resident doctor at Chelmsford Prison does not have to trouble himself with making out death-by-suicide certificates to cover up cold blooded murder or in having to account for multiple injuries on those prisoners lucky to be left alive by saying that 'restraining' force needed to be used or that the black-and-blue and bloody victim had fallen down a flight of stairs while being dragged to the punishment block by their warder/boot-butchers.

No, Chelmsford Jail does not have a slippery stairway as does Wandsworth. For the repression at Chelmsford is not of the physical kind (though brutality against prisoners is not entirely unknown there). No, repression at Chelmsford is much more subtle — that of the mind. At Chelmsford men are not broken physically: they are destroyed mentally.

To the ordinary visitor coming to see a prisoner, the jail in Chelmsford seems almost a pleasant place. This is the impression deliberately aimed at by the prison authorities. The newly-built front gate, and the green-carpetted visiting room with the air of a cafeteria could lead the casual visitor into believing that this particular jail is a model up-to-date 'correctional' institution embodying the latest ideas on penal reform.

But nothing could be further from the truth. Chelmsford is not just a whitened sepulchre metaphorically speaking. For inside it is truly a tomb in the full literal sense of the word where men are sent to rot.

And rot they do in a place built to house prisoners as long ago as 1828 — in a place which still holds the old treadmill in its basement dungeons — in a place which is so dirty and insanitary that man sometimes have to queue up for their platefuls of hunger-killing carbohydrates in pools of urine and water (caused by the overflow of wholly inadequate early nineteenth century sewage and waste water disposal systems) — in a place where men are herded together in grossly overcrowded and degrading conditions which demoralise and dehumanise so many of those unfortunate enough to

From Michael Tobin

OUR MAN IN AMSTERDAM

be incarcerated there — where prisoners are forced to work for a few pence a week, producing a variety of goods from pot scourers to laundry bags for sale to the general public, including trade-unionists, who seem generally unaware that most of the price they pay goes into the huge pocket of the prison system or the even bigger pockets of British capitalists, and, finally, in a place where the prison administration, though well weighed down by a ball and chain mentality, is very quick and adept at covering up both this and the fact that its members draw fat salaries from public funds not for doing the job they are supposed to be doing, i.e. rehabilitating prisoners and looking after their well being (since they are prevented from doing anything for themselves) but for doing exactly the opposite in a shameful and irresponsible way.

In this necessarily short press release I have no space for details. But I can prove every allegation I have made in the foregoing, and in the future I shall present this proof. However, it is not my intention just to make a few revelations and leave things at that. Far from it. At the moment the great and terrible machine of repression which is the British Prison System continues with unrelenting vigour to grind its great army of victims into physical or mental pulp. It is the task of all those with a conscience to struggle against this evil monster and to eventually destroy such a maling thing in our midst.

With this aim in mind I am asking all

those prisoners and ex-prisoners who have been or continue to be the victims of cruel, brutal and degrading treatment in British prisons to contact me personally by letter at the following address:

(Michael Tobin), P.O. Box 10638, Amsterdam, Holland.

When I was in jail Amnesty International adopted me as a prisoner of conscience. Now that I am free again the same conscience that caused me to be locked up in the first place demands that I work for the welfare of my suffering fellows behind bars. I look forward to hearing from you.

'Protest at never-ceasing questioning'

Protests have been made by the Sean MacCartney Sinn Féin Cumann about the never ceasing questioning, screening and harassment of the general public by the Riverdale general public by the British Army in the Riverdale, Ladybrook district of Belfast.

A statement by the Cumann says the temper of the people is reaching breaking point as a result of this gross interference with civil liberties. They state that since the Emergency Provisions Act came into force the military were in an even more vindictive mood and that their activities include the stealing of anti-internment flags. People who took part in anti-internment demonstrations were being told that they were photographed and that they might be charged with riotous behaviour. The Cumann say that the British Government is reeling in the face of the massive turn-outs for the release of the political hostages and is vainly trying to terrorise the people into submission.

SINN FEIN LEADER REMANDED UNTIL JANUARY

Mrs. MARY McGUIGAN, Jamaica Street, Belfast, well-known Northern Republican and member of the Sinn Féin Ard Comhairle, who has been in prison since last August on continual remands, was again remanded to next January, at a preliminary inquiry at the British Magistrates' Court in Belfast last week. She is held at Armagh Prison.

Mrs. McGuigan has a young son interned in Long Kesh Concentration Camp. She is charged with having documents although it is understood that none were found on her person.

BRITISH SOLDIER USES RAZOR TO ATTACK THREE CIVILIANS

Trooper CHRISTOPHER MILLAR (18) of British Army H.Q. Lisburn, was sent for trial on bail to Antrim County Court next January when he appeared at a preliminary inquiry in Lisburn recently on charges of maliciously wounding three Lisburn men, two of whom are brothers. The men are Don Robert Spence (20), shop manager, of Knockmore Park; Brian Spence (22), of Howard Place, and Samuel Gorman (20) labourer, of Hill Street. It is alleged that Millar used an open razor in an attack on the men outside the Chinese Restaurant in Market Square, Lisburn on June 16th Last.

CAMPAIGN FOR BRITISH WITHDRAWAL . . .

PLANS are being made to launch the above campaign as soon as possible. We hope to publish details later.

We advise our readers, when buying Christmas cards, to support those of Irish manufacture, especially those published by the various groups associated with the Republican Movement and Community bodies. Among those who have produced attractive cards this year are: Sinn Féin, Lr. Kevin St., Dublin; Cumann Cabhrach, 44 Parnell Sq., Dublin, Ardoyne Relief Committee and Green Cross '73. Our readers in Belfast should be able to buy cards at the Green Cross Office, Divis Street, Belfast.

INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AN
AGENT FOR BRITISH BLACK
PROPAGANDA

LETTER FROM LONG KESH
CONCENTRATION CAMP

A Chara,

Through the courtesy of your columns, I would like to inform both you and your readers, that the statement issued on the 31st October, 1973, by the delegates from the International Red Cross, who visited the camp during the latter part of this year, is to say the least completely misleading and blatantly untrue. This outrageous statement was compiled for no other reason, than to portray to the world that the men in Long Kesh are nothing more than a bunch of ill-mannered layabouts. Need I question the fact that our people on the outside will see this as a most despicable attack on the men caged up here in this "hell on earth." It is time everyone is made aware that the "Red Cross" could not possibly be an impartial organisation in dealing with matters in which the British Government is guilty, such as the inhuman conditions that exist at Long Kesh Concentration Camp, since Britain is one of the main FINANCIAL contributors to this organisation. It is also worth noting that this vile attack on the internees by the Red Cross, comes at a time when the British black propaganda campaign is reaching an all time high.

The visit of the Red Cross took place in July, so their report that they could find no evidence of flooding, is not strange, as July was one of the driest months of the year. What is strange, however, is that the Red Cross should pick the mid-summer to look for evidence of flooding. Their report that the internees had adopted a couldn't care less attitude towards cleanliness, and that washing powder and washing liquid is readily available is totally false. At that time the cage representatives had to put up a fight to obtain 2 packets of washing powder per week. This was deemed enough by the authorities for the needs of 80 men! We would like to ask these Red Cross men, who are used to wining and dining in the comfort of their own homes how a hut 60 ft. long by 18 ft. wide and housing 38 men could be spotless.

We have come to the conclusion, therefore, that this verbal attack took place not because of the condition of the huts, but because of the refusal of the camp representatives to accompany the Red Cross on their tour of the camp.

Finally we wish to state that the visits of "The International Red Cross" to Long Kesh Concentration Camp resulted in no meaningful improvements, whatsoever, in the overall condition.

Is mise le meas,
Jim Gibney,
P.R.O., Cage 3.

EASTER SUNDAY IN LONG KESH

BY PROINNSIAS MAC AIRT

The sad sweet notes of a tin-whistle drifted through the hushed stillness and the haunting strains of an old Gaelic lament, mingled with the gentle murmur of the morning breeze. The brilliant rays of the sun rushed through the strands of cruel barbed wire and its bright light fell like a protective mantle over the young captives who stood quietly to attention, surrounded by the steel wire of their prison cage. It was Easter Sunday in Long Kesh, and the men of compound 10 had assembled on parade to pay homage to their country's dead.

How proudly erect they stood there, in that bleak grey prison yard — all the feelings, all the pride of their race were mirrored on their faces as they listened to the reading of the Proclamation of 1916. As I stood there, watching, my own feelings drawing me so close to my friends — the oneness of our Cause, and I shared their pride. The silence, broken only by the music of the tin whistle (for the speaker had spoken the last words of the Proclamation) — Lament for the Croppies — how fitting the melody in such a setting, the Roll of Honour and name after name came softly — gently, and almost reverently from the lips of the speaker — his voice in tune with the music. 'Twas sadness now, reflected on the faces of the listeners and as they watched the speaker their eyes were brighter than usual — their bodies more rigid and, I understood, for I shared their sorrow.

The ceremony ended — we had paid homage to our country's dead — we had honoured our fallen comrades and we had experienced an that Easter morning in Long Kesh just how strong were the ties that bound us together. We knelt together later that day and we prayed together for the success of the Revolution, we were happy in our new found

discovery; we who had shared in our country's sorrow and in her pride; we who shared the hardships and the joys together knew now, the hands of brotherhood. We were closer than the children of the same parents, we were no longer just companions — we were Brothers!

*My Brother
Is not he who was born
From the womb of my mother*

*My Brother
Is he who grows with me
In revolt.*

*He is the one who was born
In the shadows
The sun was not his
His land was not his
His strength was not his
His wife
Was not his.*

*My brother is the one who does
not bend
Does not accept.*

*He is the one who in the free paths
Drink with me today the water
of the same River.
Sleeps under the same sky,
Sings with me
The same songs of war.*

*My Brother is the one who forgets
himself,
The liberation of his people
Is his reason for living.*

*My brother
Is that one
At my side
Who fights!*

STATEMENT FROM MICHAEL WATTERS CUMANN-SINN FEIN — SOUTH ARMAGH

It has come to our notice that British Army Personnel, some in civilian clothes and some in combat dress, have been setting up road blocks in the Dromintee and Jonesboro area claiming to be the Provisional I.R.A.

We want to take this opportunity to warn the people of the area to be wary of such road blocks. The British Army are deliberately trying to discredit the Provisionals by being abusive to the people they stop. This along with the fake Irish accents make it easy to distinguish these from true Provisional road checks in the areas.

It has been brought to our notice recently that some old people or people living alone in the Dromintee area have had their premises interfered with and have been terrorised to a certain extent. We warn that if those responsible are caught out they will be severely punished.

P.R.O., Michael Watters Cumann.

A LONG KESH SALUTE

The morning is cold, the overnight frost lingers on the undulating hills that are the tin roofs of nissen huts. An uncalm silence shrouds the camp that is Long Kesh. A silence that is broken by the simultaneous opening of wooden doors. The cages begin to come alive, men, dressed in their Sunday best, are spilling from the huts, their breath misty in the cold morning air, they run to take their place in the wire locked yard that is their parade ground. The ranks are formed with practiced smoothness.

PARADE AIRE!

Screws and Brits turn to watch, they have witnessed this scene many times before, but they cannot help but stare, the sincerity, solemnity and the proudness of the spectacle draws their gaze. The Rebels, the Provisionals, have gathered to pay homage to a fallen comrade.

The even ranks of volunteers come smartly to attention, the sadness of the day reflected in their solemn manner. The erstwhile oppressive barbed wire, camouflaged in its seasonal coat of frost is somehow strangely beautiful in the background. The walls of wire, the incessantly haunting wire, veiled in the fur of winter, are not so strong now, so after, lending an air of solitude, depriving the invader of access to a private thing, a commemoration to a friend, a comrade, a volunteer.

GO LEIR CLE — GO MAR MARCHAIL

The proud columns of men march off. They are not on display. They have no watchers save their foreign guards. The even sound of heels on tarmac reflects their strong step, reflects their pride and admiration of the man they honour. The knowledge of his life so readily given, uppermost in their minds. Their solemn march takes them close by the grey stark huts that are their habitat. The hardships of their harsh imprisonment are so trivial now, overshadowed by a far greater sacrifice, a sacrifice which far surpasses all others.

PARADE STADI

The units halt; this wire bound square must serve their purpose. A volunteer is summoned, he breaks ranks and marches proudly to the head of the motionless unit. A decade of the rosary is to be recited; the chosen volunteer leads off the prayers, the others answer, their responses of Gaelic sweeping across the parade ground, the beauty of the words resting in the air. The men pray, some in their own way, that their comrade may receive his just reward, that he may rest in peace and that his sacrifice will not have been in vain. The prayers have ended, the bowed heads are raised, the volunteer rejoins the ranks and another takes his place, a close friend of the slain soldier. He will say a few humble words, a salutation to his comrade.

His oration begins, a voice that is trembling with sorrow and emotion attacks the alien surroundings with a sincerity that is overpowering. The man who died was one of Ireland's bravest defenders.

"A Chomradh,

Tamuid anseo inniu le omais agus onoir a thabhairt do ghlach calma, mar is gnath, a thug a bheo ar son Phoblacht na h Eireann.

The volunteer begins to tell of his comrades faithfulness to a just cause, his gallant part of the struggle in defence of

Continued next week.

Please

REMEMBER THE MEN,
WOMEN AND CHILDREN,
INTERED AND INJUSTLY
IMPRISONED IN THE
CONCENTRATION CAMPS
THROUGHOUT IRELAND AND
ENGLAND . . . SEND THEM A
CHRISTMAS MESSAGE . . .

A Prison Bed

BY DOLORES PRICE — BRIXTON MEN'S PRISON

(We will be publishing more of Dolores' poems over the next few weeks).

*Feet crossed
Ready for the nail
Or like a child unborn.*

*Covered in too much weight
Too much afraid without
I exist in the red womb glow
A foetus without a cord —
Imprisoned without joy. 'Am'*

*I wish not to be born
I wish for the comfort of
my unborn birth
I wish for the life to come
The joy of being not yet
Life conceived but not yet live
Not yet the pain of "am"
I wish for life's expectancies
Now that life is real.*

Prison Friends

(BRIXTON)

*The voices die away
The long voice shouts a final salutation
Within, the reply struggles to be heard
It is enough
The bond is made
And friends will sleep tonight
Happy to know each other.*

*And as the stillness becomes
So does my mind awake
The thoughts that day's long passing
has forbidden
Creep back
To think I must be
To be I must think
Therefore I know I am.*

*There was a man here once
And now he's back
They come and go and play at their
Own tragedies –
Nothing to me
To them it's life.
"Goodnight" he says
And we say back "Goodnight."
Now it is something to me
It is our life.*

By Dolores Price

REPUBLICAN MANDATE

The Louth Comairle Ceanntair of Sinn Féin went to the homes of T.D. Joseph Farrell, T.D. Pádraig Faulkner and the Minister of Defence P.S. Donegan last Saturday. The purpose of the visits was to highlight that from the Dundalk area nine men are in jail in Portlaoise.

Just outside Castlebellingham, Police and Special Branch Detectives stopped and searched the cars we were travelling in. We fail to see why we should be searched as we were only carrying out a peaceful protest and continue to do so.

The following petition was handed to each T.D. by the youngest and oldest members of Sinn Féin in Lough, Mr. Larry Grogan and Miss Cathy Browne:-

"We the members of the Republican movement in Co. Louth demand immediate freedom for all Republicans in Irish jails.

"We also demand the total ending of all Political extradition charges vis-a-vis the Six Counties. These extradition charges are a direct contradiction of the present constitution of Ireland which purports to recognise only a 32 county Republic.

"We demand this in the name of Emmett, Tone, Pearse and Connolly. We demand it in the name of all who died for Ireland. We demand it in the name of the men of '78, the men of '16, the men of '56, and the men of to-day. We demand it in the name of Belfast and Derry. We demand it in the name of our own Six Counties, and the men and women of the Republican Movement.

"Pearse's mandate in 1916 is our mandate in 1973.

"As he was inspired by Emmett and Tone, we too are inspired by Pearse and Connolly.

"This is our mandate, the mandate of Ireland's right to freedom. By this age old mandate which demands Irish freedom, we issue our demands.

"All who stand in our way, stand in the way of our children's progress North, South, East and West.

"O'Connell in his day shirked the issue, Redmond did likewise and Lynch stood idly by. While Cosgrave fiddles with Heath, Ireland burns."

RELEASE THE PATRIOTS.

FORCE FEEDING OF IRISH POLITICAL PRISONERS IN ENGLISH PRISONS

DIARY OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER 15, 1973

1. Seven of the nine Belfast people sentenced to life imprisonment at the end of the 'London Bombs' trial in Winchester demanded to be returned to Ireland to serve their sentences. They announced that they were going on hunger strike in support of that demand.

2. William Van Straubenzee, Minister of State announced in Parliament that 18 persons sentenced in Ireland had been at their own request allowed to serve their sentences outside of Ireland. Included in the 18, it must be presumed, is Albert Baker, a member of the U.D.A., who confessed to the murders of four Catholics.

NOVEMBER 15 - 24, 1973

Prisoners dispersed and moved to different prisons all over England – Bristol, Parkhurst, Liverpool, Wakefield, Hull, Wormwood Scrubs and Brixton and Wandsworth. Some of them were moved twice during that period. The Price sisters were lodged in the male prison at Brixton. About this time two of the seven abandoned their hunger strike. There is no firm evidence that they were forcibly fed.

NOVEMBER 26, 1973

The British Home Office admitted that two of the remaining five prisoners on hunger strike were being 'artificially' (Forcibly) fed. These were Roy Walsh and Hugh Feeney. A few days later Roy Walsh got so ill through this torture that he had to give up his hunger strike.

DECEMBER 3, 1973

News that Gerard Kelly and Dolores Price were being forcibly fed.

DECEMBER 5, 1973

News that Marion Price was being forcibly fed.

DECEMBER 6, 1973

The British Home Secretary announced that these Belfast prisoners would not be returned to Ireland.

DECEMBER 9, 1973

Gerard Kelly, Hugh Feeney, Marion Price and Dolores Price being forcibly fed in English Prisons.

WHAT IS FORCIBLE FEEDING?

1. Dolores Price describes it:

"Well, at last, it has happened and today on my 19th day of hunger strike I was force fed – unpleasant in the extreme Believe me I don't know how our boys have been managing for so long on it. I was scared stiff when I saw the

TUBE and the WOODEN CLAMP for my mouth. The worst bit was when I couldn't get my breath as the tube was going down. I really panicked when I thought I was suffocating. It only takes a few minutes but it seems like an eternity. Then to crown matters I was sick afterwards and brought everything up again. I feel a wee bit better again but I dread it all tomorrow.

It's only to be expected that after 19 days my stomach would reject any food, especially when it's all rushed into it at once down a tube. I don't want to upset you but I know you prefer to know exactly what is happening and how we are as the press print such rubbish about us, so it is best we give you all the facts."

2. We have consulted a number of doctors about forcible-feeding. This is what they have said:-

"Forcible feeding is a highly dangerous operation and would not be used in any responsible medical centre. The particular dangers involved are: The risk of causing perforation of the oesophagus (gullet) when inserting the tube. It could cause an inhalation pneumonia.

Death has followed forcible-feeding in some cases e.g. Thomas Ashe. It is also certain that in the present state of medical knowledge that the British authorities are using a paralysing drug (one of the curare derivatives) to force feed the prisoners at present on hunger strike. These drugs paralyse all voluntary muscles and render resistance by the prisoner impossible. Such use of drugs is on the same ethical and moral plane as the use of drugs and other techniques in torture and interrogation.

The whole force-feeding process can only be done by doctors. We are of the opinion that the doctors who participate in this practice are deserving of all the structures passed on 'Doctors Who Torture' in the current issue of the journal WORLD MEDICINE. Force-feeding is torture."

WHAT IS BEING DONE ABOUT THIS TORTURE OF IRISH MEN AND WOMEN?

1. Lawyers in London have been instructed to seek an injunction to have it stopped. They have also been instructed to sue those responsible for assault.
2. A few M.P.'s at Westminster are trying to have it stopped by representations political level.
3. Relatives have done a 24 hour fast at the Home Office in London.
4. The National Council for Civil Liberties have issued a statement indicating it is a violation of Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights.
5. The Association for Legal Justice has sent telegrams to Liam Cosgrave and M Fitt to use their influence to have it stopped and have the prisoners returned to Ireland.
6. Public protests (some have been banned) have been mounted in Belfast.
7. Members of the Association for Legal Justice are moving an emergency resolution on the subject at the conference on TORTURE in Paris on Monday December 10th.

WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT?

1. Write or better still, phone those you think have influence and demand an end to this torture, inhuman and degrading treatment.
2. Ask your professional and social groups to pass resolutions demanding that it be stopped and telegram these to the British Home Secretary.
3. Demand that the Dublin Government start a new case against Britain at the European Commission on Human Rights.



Fitt, leader of the Social Democratic Labour Party, has come a long way since his early days in the Dock Ward. It does no harm now and again, to review the methods employed by certain politicians as they strive to attain their objects. Fame and fortune! Not so long ago, Fitt, was known as a layabout. There were plenty of them among the ranks of the unemployed and employable in the area known as Dock. An area which has been annihilated, with the destruction of the old way of life, the old mode of streets and neighbours, replaced by monstrous efforts, calmly called High Rise Flats, suitable only for certain people, certainly not for the people whose homes they replaced.

The people of Artillery, Bruslee, Carnall, Carmoney and Pinkerton Streets, were the first to move. They found themselves moving to Turf Lodge, Ballymurphy, Andersonstown and Rathcoole, before they could move back to their promised New Homes in their old neighbourhood. Alas Fitt stood by and permitted the erection of homes totally unsuitable for the needs of his constituents. From his early days in Dock, Irish Labour, guided by men of the calibre of Murtagh Morgan, through his Republican Labour Days assisted by Jim O'Kane, Paddy Kennedy and Tommy Fitzpatrick, Fitt stepped over them and through them until he achieved what he set out to achieve, the leadership of the "recognised" opposition at Stormont.

As a City Hall Councillor there are few who could find fault with Fitt, he was able, an expert in Tribunals and Broo' cases and he put his knowledge, while his determination was still alive, to good use. Alas it was too good to be true. His eventually seeking for power led him along the road that was to finish, or is it start, with the S.D.L.P. This conglomeration of Independents, and other

COLLABORATOR FITT

BY LONG KESH POLITICAL
HOSTAGE SEAMUS LOUGHRAN

SILENT. Mrs. Bernadette McAliskey said that Mr. G. Fitt has been unanimously silent about the savage life sentences passed on Marian and Dolores Price.

She added: "When Mr. Fitt accuses me of being destructive, what he means is that I refuse to help the British Parliament find a British solution to the Irish problem. I do not consider it any part of my job to be of any assistance to the British Government."

Party Representatives banded together and received the recognition they sought. Fitt had meanwhile gone to Westminster, the first in a long time to breach the Unionist grip in the House of Commons. He did pretty well there, the drive was still apparent in him; he was still determined to see to the cause of his people. He was responsible for an awful lot of people now not just the remnants of Dock but also West Belfast. The onus was on him to fight for all he desired, for all he knew was wrong with the system, and again here he tried, fair play to him. The opening of the Civil Rights "Season" brought him back to Derry and the infamous Baton on the Head incident in front of T.V. cameras really made the highlights throughout the world. He lobbied and spoke, he fretted and fumed, he managed to do some good. Then his party, without his consent, refused to partake any further in the proceedings in Stormont and walked out. This was over the refusal of the British to hold an independent enquiry into the murder of two Derry youths. Probably his hand was forced by John Hume, of whom we will write a little more soon. Fitt was in a quandry, he was caught between his desire to stay in the forefront of publicity. This was hard to do when you were no longer in the big picture. He issued statements and pledged all sorts of action if his S.D.L.P. were not listened to. But again he was stifled, but at the same time given a way out of his dilemma.

Faulkner decided to introduce Internment, the people revolted as they had never done before and Fitt was on the pig's back. The whole case was there for the picking and pick he did, he joined forces with all and any who would have him. He survived a lot of back talk and back tracking, for example he claimed that he was the instigator of the Rents and Rates Strike, despite the fact that

everyone knew it was the Civil Resistance Movement who were the leaders and the pushers of this campaign. He opposed the I.R.A. when he shouldn't, he backed them when he shouldn't, and then he reversed the whole thing. He took part in the wasted talks at Darlington, saying that after all the I.R.A. had first talked to the British and that he was not going back on the S.D.L.P.'s promise never to talk until Internment was ended. He used the now functioning Long Kesh Concentration Camp as a weapon to further his own party's aims. He proved later that he couldn't really give a damn about the Internees, in fact he stated on T.V. that he wouldn't let them out!

This then is collaborator Fitt, saviour of the people, who had the audacity to go to the polls in 1973 with internment again the full focal point, a point for which the Nationalist people fell with the result that the S.D.L.P. reached the Stormont puppet Assembly reasonably strong. They did say though, that they would refuse to have anything to do with it until internment was ended. Fitt amended that to state "until" they started to ease out internment, and then "when" the first phasing out from Long Kesh began. All very confusing, especially when you consider that the S.D.L.P. have FULLY engaged in talks with Whitelaw, privately, and lately with the meetings held with a view to setting up the Executive, with all the members of the S.D.L.P. trying to obtain Positions on that Executive. The final results of this hypocritical attitude are yet to come.

Meanwhile, back here at the L.K. Ranch, we await patiently for the phasing out of internment, which would seem to be rising again, and also rising at an alarming rate, now with mere children feeling the brunt of Whitelaw's forces. Where exactly does Fitt stand? Is he for or against Internment? Does he intend to sit in the New Assembly, with or without Long Kesh? How can we accept anything he says after he has pussy footed around so long getting nowhere fast, at the expense of the Republican community in the North? Personally, and I knew Fitt pretty well, I have lost all taste for him. I have been so disgusted by his antics that I could not possibly even like the man anymore. I never agreed with his politics but always believed in giving all the opportunity to fight the Establishment in their own way. Members of the S.D.L.P. came to see Long Kesh, shortly after Tom Conaty had been here and issued his statement, proving all we maintained as true. What did the S.D.L.P. say? Where was Fitt that day? Or for that matter any day since Long Kesh opened in September 1971? He has, as ever been conspicuous by his absence. Perhaps that is all for the best. A hypocrite can never be trusted, Jesus said so, and he didn't recognise the court either!



IS THERE A SINN FEIN CUMANN IN YOUR AREA ?

THERE SHOULD BE A SINN FEIN CUMANN IN EVERY TOWN AND VILLAGE IN IRELAND! IS THERE A CUMANN IN YOUR LOCALITY? IF NOT, WHY NOT?

Let there be no mistake about it. The political arm of the Republican Movement is Sinn Fein and no other group can claim this title! Sinn Fein can be more effective. You can help to achieve this by joining if you are not already a member, by forming a cumann if one does not exist in your area, and by being an active member if you have already joined.

Write now to the General Secretary, Sinn Fein, Lr. Kevin Street, Dublin, or to the Secretary, Ulster Executive, Sinn Fein, 77a Andersonstown Road, Belfast BT11 9AH for more details.

Freedom March To D.C.

By Bob Lowery

(air: Jack Lynch's Army)

I got up at six this morning, To take a Freedom Walk
For the Irish in America, Must do more than just talk.

They say we're off to Washington, To set the record straight
Of American complicity, In a nation torn with hate.

CHORUS

Let us march, let us rally, Let us show the world we know

That Tricky Dick has sold us out, He too is Ireland's foe.

He's been a Tory all his life, Big Business' little toy

He's joined the ranks of Fianna Fail, He too is England's boy.

II

We left from Ft. McHenry, a shrine of Freedom past

T'was the home of Spiro Agnew, What a study in contrast.

A hardy band of forty souls, McManus to the fore

Set out to nail the "traitor" stamp, Upon the White House door.

III

As we marched, the miles rolled on, The hours they passed by

Our thoughts were of our comrades true, Who'd join us by and by.

Chicago, Philadelphia, New York and Jersey too

Would swell our ranks to hundreds more, Before the march was through.

IV

Two days and fifty miles of walk, Our bodies ached with pain

At last our destination reached, The Spirit of Sinn Fein!

We gazed upon the White House lawn, So regal and so green

T'was there they played with Easter eggs, That day in year '16.

V

A solemn crowd then gathered round, To promise those in need

That the Irish in America, Would match their words with deed.

A vow was made upon that day, To fight for liberty

Against the might of Elizabeth, Or Nixon's tyranny.

VI

So hear me Irish people, When you tell of your exiles

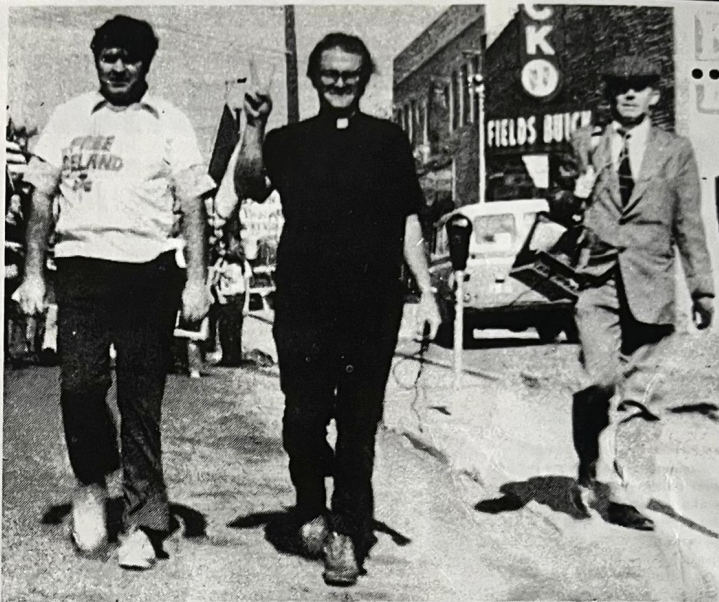
There's many talk of Freedom Now, There's few who'd walk a mile.

The question asked, "What Do We Want?", Was answered that day grand

T'was heard by Nixon and the Queen, "GET OUT OF IRELAND!"

Please

... remember the men, women and school children interned and unjustly imprisoned in the Concentration Camps throughout Ireland and England... send them a message this Christmas



John McBride, Father Sean McManus and Tom O'Donnell represent Derry, Fermanagh and Clare as they approach the White House.

FREEDOM MARCH

The symbolic walk which took place from Ft. McHenry, Baltimore to the White House on October 13th and 14th—a distance of 45 miles was one that stirred the heart and soul of many people along the way.

The walk was a protest against British occupation of Northern Ireland and U.S. complicity with England.

According to Michele Grumet, who said she was Polish, French and Spanish and who travelled from California to take part in the march the complicity with England includes: the training of British troops in North Carolina, authorization for the release of British Troops from NATO positions for the purpose of fighting Irish men and women; and the harassment and intimidation of Irish-Americans by Nixon's Justice Department. At the present time there are two Irishmen in jail held as political hostages. One is in jail in California and the second is in the Bucks County jail in Reading, Pa.

People joined the walk at various points along the route. There were Irish songs, flags, bagpipes, and even a reel or two.

The walk began at 7 a.m. on Saturday morning under the leadership of Father Sean McManus. "It was fitting", Father McManus said, to begin at Ft. McHenry since it is known as the shrine of the over-throw of British rule in the U.S.

The happy group walked along Route 1 and it was not long until they were joined by a bus load of people from New Jersey. The group from New Jersey left at 3 a.m. and on joining the group they participated for the rest of the journey.

Besides those who were actually participating in the walk there were also "Angels" on the side lines and according to Gabe O'Doherty, "these deserve a lot of credit."

The "Angels" which included Kathy Fogarty, Annette Cribbin and John McBride rode in cars and vans ministering to the needs of the marchers as they grew weary. It could be estimated that they did as much marching as the others when one observed the pace they kept as they went from one to another. Gabe Doherty was in his words, "damned proud of his wife, Winnie", and who wouldn't be after she

walked at least 35 miles with a sprained ankle!

On arriving at Laurel, Md., they were given real southern hospitality at St. Mary's Church. The police were on hand, obviously looking for some trouble but Father McManus assured them they could go home as the group were a very peaceful one.

On the scene to see the group off was Most Reverend Bishop Drury, Bishop of Corpus Christi, Texas and Mr. Frank McManus, MP for Fermanagh/South Tyrone. The MP was surprised to see that a group had travelled all the way from Chicago and were fit and ready to march all the way. Among the names mentioned were, Maureen O'lunney, Martin O'Brien Pat Gyne, Pat Roach and two of his daughters. There were many more and their sincerity was obvious to the passer by.

On Sunday morning the tired but happy group started out again at 7 p.m. on the last trek of the journey. To the front once again was Father McManus but Pat Roach was not to be out done. He was right up beside the young Padre and with all his experience at step dancing he was actually dancing all the way to the White House.

During a rest stop in the afternoon in the parking lot of Ryan's Bar in Eldridge Md. there was time for a few songs and a few cracks at the English. After the "rest" they continued their march behind the Irish Flag and chanted "IRA, IRA All The Way". They furlled banners that read "England Get Out Of Ireland" "Free and Unite Ireland" "Ireland Unfree Shall Never be at Peace". There was one banner that put many people thinking. It said, "The Only Concentration Camp In Europe Run By The British-1973-Long Kesh"

What worries the ultras of Belfast

BY CHRIS MYANT

Every week in the Unionist extremist rag, *Loyalist News*, there are little panels of death threats against individuals named only by nickname, but the message ends more often than not — "it's a balaclava or a knee cap."

The battered body, blasted through the head, the lonely youth tied to a lamp post, his legs shattered for good — that is the only style the Unionist extremist knows.

What an irony that the once mighty chief of the Ulster Defence Association, Tommy Herron, should be at the receiving end.

An irony that is rammed home when his body is found on a lonely roadside ditch just as British Premier Heath was ordering the recalcitrant Unionist leaders into line.

Heath's straightforward blackmail attempt misfired and he found himself having to apologise abjectly to Mr. Wilson, imploring the Labour Party leader not to break the bipartisan approach of the two parties at Westminster.

Threatening total integration for Northern Ireland into Britain was, of course, something of a hollow gesture, since it is never really on the cards.

The particular circumstances of Northern Ireland, the facts of the division of the Irish people maintained by British finances and British bullets, make it an impossibility.

EXPLOITATION

Westminster's whole divide-and-rule strategy in the Six Counties would collapse in a day if the North was brought lock, stock and barrel into Britain.

Its careful exploitation of the sectarian divisions in the working people of Northern Ireland would be weakened. The struggle by the anti-Unionist people of the North would complicate political arrangements more than a bit.

When the Provisional I.R.A. commanders declare that on total integration they would take their bombing campaign into every village and street in Britain certainly does not help the democratic movement but dramatically expressed the crass stupidity of Mr. Heath's remarks.

No, as Mr. Heath said, he made his threat just to try and press the parties in the Northern Ireland assembly into hurrying into an agreement on an executive for the assembly.

One thing should be remembered when Mr. Heath makes the question of an executive for the assembly such a central issue — that one thing is the con-

crete uselessness for the people of Northern Ireland of the assembly.

Even when it is fully working it will be able to do little for the people. It will not have the power to stand up to Westminster's demands.

Above all, it will never be able to fight for the just demands of the people of the Six Counties against the attacks from British monopolies in the context of the Common Market solution being worked out for Ireland and Britain.

The Stormont regime of the Orange Unionist clique that dominated Northern Ireland and collapsed under the weight of the crisis brought on by the anti-Unionist struggle, failed to live up to the expectations of Westminster.

SUBSERVIENCE

It failed to keep Northern Ireland a quiet little backwater for British monopoly exploitation. Instead, it led to a running sore that threatened to engulf and attack the whole basis of British imperial control in Ireland.

Swept aside by Westminster in direct rule in March 1972, the British government has made it abundantly clear that no real democracy is going to take its place if Heath can help it.

All the constitutional Act passed by Westminster gives the assembly is the power to be subservient.

One fact is very clear to the leaders of the ultra right and the quibbling Unionist factions. With the assembly off the ground, with the pressures of the Common Market, the continuing struggle is going to mean more and more unity at the base between Catholic and Protestant working people.

The shattered Unionist monolith is not going to be rebuilt and the question in all minds in Belfast is what is going to replace it. The assembly is not going to survive for long, that is clear.

But what else will? That must be worrying the ultras above all. Craig's independent Ulster has dropped into the background. The marching battalions of the U.D.A. have crumpled back in confusion and mutual back-stabbing. The sense of purpose that appeared just after direct rule has disappeared.

Tommy Herron's murder is indicative of the crisis on the right. Once mighty as boss of the U.D.A., he stood as candidate for the assembly elections, Supporters plastered every lamp post in Unionist Belfast with his name, but to no avail.

Small wonder when their own solutions have proved to be so unattractive to the Unionist-minded masses of the working class that some should have scurried after Mr. Heath's empty threat of total integration.

Faced with the eventual probability that Unionist and anti-Unionist worker will stand together, with the growing fact of the "Irish dimension," they have grabbed at integration as the saving straw, only to see Mr. Heath snatch it away again. They must be sorry people indeed.

Yet they must never be under-estimated. The Unionists in the assembly remain the Unionists of Stormont's vicious fascist statelet.

Take the man who is now the "impartial" presiding officer, Nat Minford.

Speaking at the Orange Twelfth parade in Larne back in 1958, when Internment was in use, he declared: "These Fenian buggers, and I speak of them mildly, are costing us £8 a week to keep."

"For £8 I think we could put them down eight feet. I think we could find them plots where the birds would not see them."

That from the man Westminster tells us will lead the people of the North into a non-sectarian future!

LOCKED UP

October if the fifth anniversary of the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association marches that launched the present struggle.

A fortnight ago NICRA repeated its first march, from Coalisland to Dungannon. Writing in the Communist Party of Ireland weekly, *Unity*, assistant general secretary James Stewart commented:

"While the CRA anti-internment rally was taking place, a Loyalist anti-internment demonstration was held in Belfast."

"The men and women interned, Loyalist and Republican, and the demonstrations held in Belfast and Dungannon by the CRA and Loyalists are working class."

"There are no rich property owners or bosses either behind the wire or agitating for their release. Because of the sectarian division, which the rich created among our working people, Heath continues to keep men and women from both sections of the working class locked up without charge or trial."

"Join the Shankill and the Falls together and he doesn't." Join the Irish and British together and he will be smashed.

Reprinted from "Morning Star" September 1973.

LIBERATION VERY NEAR

"We pledge our solidarity with Oglagh na hEireann in their fight for freedom" say the Officers and Members of the Edward O'Rawe/Michael Kane Sinn Féin Cumann in a recent statement. The Cumann serves the New Barnsley area.

"The British Government have tried for years to force freedom-loving Irishmen and women to submit but have failed. Men, women and children are in jails and concentration camps in Ireland and England as a result of British terror and jackboot tactics."

"But these cowardly tactics will not break a risen people. We say to our men, women and children in the British hell-holes: 'We want you out and by God we will get you out!'"

"Our aim is freedom. We know that the time for the liberation of our country

BRITISH TROOPS OUT!

Report of a meeting held by the TROOPS OUT MOVEMENT on 19th November in the N.U.R. Hall Euston Road. The platform consisted of members of N.U.R. the executive of T.G.W.U. N.U.P.E., U.C.A.T. Bob Purdie, I.M.G., Mike Newton, an ex-British army soldier and Paddy O'Connor ex mayor of Camden and member of the Greater London council.

Most of the speakers spoke about the complete lack of understanding of the struggle at present going on in Ireland. It was felt most strongly by all the speakers that British troops should be withdrawn at all costs. How they could constructively do this was greatly discussed. It was felt that barracks should be picketed, soldiers at all time tackled in the

streets, trains going to Ireland should be leafleted. It was reported that several recruiting stations in the London area would be leafleted, a move made to make sure that premises belonging to the G.L.C. wouldn't be used for recruiting and also stop the services recruiting at the schools.

All the speakers condemned the terrible savage sentences passed on the Belfast 8 at Winchester, and said although it was the Irish to-day, English people who might go against the state could be in the same position tomorrow. An ex British army soldier spoke of when he was in the Army. He said that the troubles didn't really start until they brought in Internment. He said that when his unit was sent to remove a barricade

that the U.D.A. had set up, they were told by an officer to go easy as they are "on our side." It was felt that this is only the start, and that a good campaign will be started for the withdrawal of troops. Two trade councils, one in Wales and another in the North of England have stopped all recruiting by the services. It was felt that from these small beginnings that the movement will grow. A march is taking place on the 1st December from Shepherds Bush Green at 1.30 marching to Hammer-smith Town Hall where a short rally will take place. It will pass Wormwood Scrubs where it will stop to give a cheer to two members of the Belfast 8 who are on hunger strike in that prison, along with other members of the Republican movement serving sentences.

POLITICAL HOSTAGES
RELEASE COMMITTEEVITAL POLITICAL
CONFERENCE ON THE
ENDING OF
INTERMENT AND
REPRESSION

WILL BE HELD IN THE
ARD SCOIL, DIVIS STREET,
BELFAST.

TOMORROW
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16,
at 2.00 p.m.

All organisations, groups and
individuals are invited.

BRITAIN WINCES
AT WINCHESTER

BY BRIAN GAFNEY

British justice has convicted the Winchester 8. However, Britain was the real loser since the trial and conviction only served to accentuate British repression and political conditions prevailing in Northern Ireland. The London bombing of last March made headlines the world over. The British image came out the real loser. Millions who never heard of "Ulster" learned for the first time of the British presence in what has now become known the world over as "occupied Ireland." The bombings obviously had no military objectives. They were meant to be a warning to the British government and the English people. British public opinion showed a good deal of apathy prior to the bombings. It was another story after that fateful day in March. Millions of Britons asked themselves what evils their government had perpetrated in Northern Ireland to induce 10 Irish youths to sacrifice their lives and freedom in such a venture. There was a silent admiration for the dedication of the bombers, despite what some saw as amateurish methods. Many wondered if the grievances of the Irish prisoners were not possibly justified, in part at least. Perhaps the British Government had leaned on the Irish long enough some said. Above all, the British public was jolted into the realisation that the "Irish problem" was still a very live problem. The war, and it is a war, had been brought to the very doorstep of the government. It was not a very pretty sight.

The trial of the Winchester 8 is something many English politicians would like to

forget. Like nothing else, the trial exposed British justice to world public opinion. Eight of the defendants received unprecedented life terms. British Tories had their vengeance, but nothing more, and some wondered if they would choke on it. The tactics of the trial judge and the prosecutor, Britain's Attorney General Rawlinson, reeked with vengeance. The defendants were treated as political enemies, to be put out of commission for a long time to come.

It was a political trial. The Winchester Chamber of Trade said it was a political trial. The English attorneys representing several of the defendants said it was a political trial. And most of world public opinion now looks upon it as nothing more than a political trial. Once again, Tory blunders have poisoned the well of Anglo-Irish relations for generations to come. Moderate Irishmen were shown what to expect under the British system of justice. Once again, the Crown became the chief recruiting officer for the I.R.A.

The trial judge allowed the defendants to be questioned about their political opinions. Proof of criminal activity was non-existent. The prosecutor showed no interest in proving the elements of the crimes charged. His main objective was to show the jury that the defendants were I.R.A. agents. The defendants were not put on trial. Their political opinions were put on trial.

The Winchester 8 were motivated by patriotism and nothing else. Even the trial judge conceded this. The police were forewarned of the bombings so that the department could clear the target areas. Those injured were victims of police incompetence. The police admitted receiving prior notice of the bombings but failed to clear some of the target areas. Criminal negligence charges were never placed against the police, however.

The bombings had economic repercussions, something that the bombers never intended. An Irish American group, the American Congress for Irish Freedom, wrote about 2,500 American firms and provided educational brochures showing the effects of the bombing and outlining reasons why American firms should not invest U.S. dollars any place in the United Kingdom as long as the Anglo-Irish war was being fought on English streets. Chambers of Commerce throughout Europe, Asia and South America, as well as Canada, received similar literature. The head of the British Chamber of Trade condemned the Irish-American group for its actions. This approach, coupled with extensive news media coverage of the bombings have resulted in a sharp drop-off of foreign investment, in the United Kingdom. Whether the London bombers intended this result or not, it is a fact of life in Britain today.

Meanwhile, the trial helped to focus

world attention on the British presence in Northern Ireland. The British image was bound to suffer from the publicity attending the trial, a trial which proved to be an exercise in retribution. The Tories may live to regret the trial and its political aftermath more than the bombings themselves.

As for the Winchester 8, their patriotism and dedication is beyond question. They risked their lives and liberty for Ireland in the full knowledge of the possible consequences. There can be no peace in Northern Ireland without the release of all Irish political prisoners, and this necessarily includes the Winchester 8. The bombings and the trial leave another wound on the British body politic. The wound will run and ulcerate under the stress of British political repression and British army atrocities, and the response of Irishmen to them.

The Winchester 8 have lit a candle in the darkness and made Irish youth more conscious of their Irishness and the need for exercising the alien cancer which has contaminated and polluted the main stream of Irish life. In 1868, Gladstone wrote "My mission is to pacify Ireland." One hundred and five years have passed and Ireland is still not pacified. No one knows this better than Edward Heath. The Winchester 8 have shown that the war between England and Ireland can be fought on the streets of either nation. As for pacifying Ireland, Edward Heath will meet with no more success than did Gladstone.

HE WAS
HERE

The British Brigade of Guards was given a public warning last Friday to behave.

It came from an Old Bailey judge who jailed a young Guardsman for a "terrible" sex attack.

Judge Mervyn Griffith-Jones, himself a former officer in the Coldstream Guards, jailed 20 year old Michael Wren for four years.

The judge told him: "You have brought disgrace on your Regiment. You are letting down the Establishment."

And he added: "The sooner it is known in the Brigade that Guardsmen on public duty must behave themselves the better."

Wren attacked a 34 year old chambermaid after he had been on a drinking spree. He grabbed her by the throat and banged her head against the wall.

Wren, who is stationed at Chelsea barracks, admitted attempted rape. He left his victim in a pool of blood. His defence counsel said that Wren had served in the Six Counties.

Important
Meeting

A meeting will be held on Sunday, January 6th, 1974 to reform the Sinn Féin Ulster Executive. The venue has not been decided but all Comhairle Ceanntair will be given prior notice.

All Comhairle Ceanntair are asked to elect ONE delegate as soon as possible to attend this meeting and future meetings of the Ulster Executive. A full attendance of delegates is essential and expected.

With a readership of over 60,000, the Republican News is printed and published every week by the Belfast Republican Press Centre, 182 Brompton Park, Belfast.

SDLP SHEER
CORRUPTNESS

Continued from
Page One

WHO IS THE S.D.L.P.'S FAIRY
GODMOTHER?

It would be interesting to have a look at their treasurer's report. How many subscribing members are on their rolls? What organisations contribute to their political war chest? Obviously the funds are there, and in plentiful supply. How else could they afford to spend long periods in establishments like "Ostain na Rosann" just outside Dungloe, or "Ostain Gweedore" both in Donegal and neither of which can be termed as catering for persons with low incomes.

Who picked up the bill for the Europa conference? This bill alone would tax EVEN THE UNIONIST PARTY, which is by no means in the pauper class! When one considers that 350 and more persons were virtually residents from Friday until Sunday, the mind boggles at the cost! Even if one were to accept the comparatively low figure, by "Europa's" standards of £5 per head, per day, it is obvious that some BENEFACTOR is lurking in the wings.

BUYING PEOPLE OFF IS NORMAL
TORY PRACTICE! vide "THE POULSON
AFFAIR"

The source of the wealth accumulated by the S.D.L.P., could well be the same quarter from whence they hope to receive their political rewards. As to the price to be paid by the S.D.L.P. in return — well, the S.D.L.P. have paid the first instalment at Sunningdale, with the formation of The Council of Ireland, which entails the setting up of a LOYAL Executive, and declarations of total acceptance of Her Majesty's Armed Forces (Derry Murderers) Her Majesty's R.U.C. (which includes the Special Branch Torturers), Her Majesty's U.D.R. (ex-B men), and Her Majesty's Law Courts of "Justice" ("for shouting Up the I.R.A. 2 years, for being in possession of 2 machine guns, 3 rifles, 2,000 rounds of ammunition, and other sundry equipment at his residence Shankill Road, Belfast, suspended sentence. However, he had it for his own protection, as a member of the Loyal Protestant U.D.A., not for an unlawful purpose!) This will only be the first payment — by the S.D.L.P. Heath has

them on the hook, and Faulkner knows it!

THE S.D.L.P. GOT 47% OF THE ANTI-
UNIONIST VOTE — WHO DO THE
OTHER 53% SUPPORT?

The S.D.L.P. claim that they are the only authentic voice of Anti-Unionists, a claim which is eagerly supported by such a variety of people as Cardinal Conway and Brian Faulkner, Edward Heath and Liam Cosgrave, even though they received only 47% of the Anti-Unionist vote. Indeed, many of their candidates failed to achieve the required quota and were elected solely on the basis of the next highest unsuccessful candidate system.

If the S.D.L.P. speaks only for 47% of the people, who then speaks for the remaining 53%? Can a solution be imposed and declared to be morally and legally correct by Church, State and Quislings, just because that solution is in accord with the political aspirations of a GREEDY few, and IGNORES THE HUNGER FOR JUSTICE OF THE MANY?

THE PROVISIONAL I.R.A. MAKES A
PLEDGE TO THE OPPRESSED PEOPLE

Whatever the results of the S.D.L.P.'s treachery, and irrespective of what has emerged from Sunningdale, one thing is CERTAIN. THERE WILL BE NO END TO RESISTANCE TO OPPRESSION. No acceptance of any solution which does not contain a firm guarantee on the demands of Oglagh na hEireann — DEMANDS WHICH ARE FULLY SUPPORTED BY THE PEOPLE as follows:

1. An end to internment.
2. An amnesty for all political prisoners in Britain and Ireland, North and South.
3. A declaration of intent by Britain that she will withdraw from Ireland, and leave the Irish people free to settle their own affairs.

The S.D.L.P. may have forgotten the people, but let them beware — THE RISEN PEOPLE WILL NOT FORGET THE S.D.L.P.!