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BRITISH SOLDIERS LOOT, ROB AND PILLAGE

The leader of a gang of British soldiers who pillaged shops, houses and cars and raped a WRAC girl was sent to prison for 11 years on 4th October.

Anthony Leonard Martin (20) of the First Battalion, Queen's Regiment, stationed at Bulford Camp, Wiltshire, admitted a series of offences, including the rape, after returning from the Six Counties, where he had spent his time with the approval of the British Government harassing the nationally minded population. It seems his government had no objection to his behaviour against the Irish "natives" but that they would not tolerate such conduct in England.

A lance corporal from the same unit, Arthur Molyneux (25), who admitted rape and other offences including theft and burglary, was sentenced to a total of 10 years at Winchester Crown Court.

A third British soldier, David Cadman (18), who admitted aiding and abetting rape and offences of theft and robbery, was sentenced to 4½ years imprisonment.

Three other British soldiers from the Queen's regiment admitted taking part in a series of burglaries and theft.

Graham Booker (19), who admitted offences concerning cars, was sent to Borstal. Anthony Flanagan (18), who admitted burglary and other offences, was fined a total of £150 and Anthony Bell (20), was fined a total of £300.

Mr. Justice Willis told the British soldiers who had served as members of the occupation forces in British occupied Ireland: "It is an appalling story."

"For three months you pillaged shops, houses and cars, taking anything of value, and you sold it in and outside your camp, acquiring property worth some £6,000 in all."

This week

THE BATTLE OF
BALLYSLACK — Page 2
LETTER FROM
AMSTERDAM by Michael
Tobin Page 3
COMMENT CORNER —
and cartoon on . . Page 4
WHICH LANGUAGE?
COLUMNIST HITS OUT
AT THE LISBURN LIE
MACHINE

WHAT IS WRONG IN THE NEW LODGE?

British soldiers fired several shots last Sunday afternoon in the New Lodge Road area while an open air public meeting organised by the Political Hostages Release Committee was being held at Burlington Street/New Lodge Road junction. The attendance at the meeting consisted mainly of women and children, many of whom started screaming in terror and running about in all directions.

The meeting had started quietly enough with a small crowd listening to the speakers most of whom are associated with the Peoples Democracy. One speaker said that 118 men and 7 women from the area are in prisons or concentration camps.

It appeared to our reporter that many people in the area had responded to the S.D.L.P.'s call not to engage in street demonstrations to secure the release of the political hostages. It seems that those not present at the meeting, if they care about the political hostages at all, have more faith in Fitt than they have in the Political Hostages Release Committee.

Many relatives of men and women from the area in prison were conspicuous by their absence from the meeting. These people can hold their hand out each week when the P.D.F. representatives call regularly to pay them a weekly allowance. How they can expect people to campaign for their relative's release while they sit at home without lifting a finger requires some explanation. Mrs. Kelly, one of the speakers, had strong words to say at the meeting on this subject.

There were scenes of hysteria at the meeting when the heavy gunfire started. Some people thought the shooting was directed from Duncairn Gardens, others shouted that British soldiers were shooting down from the top of the flats. Our reporter believes that the women and children at the meeting were in serious danger while the shooting lasted. A B.A. foot patrol was 10 yards from the platform just before the shooting started. They moved a short distance up the New Lodge Road, but walked back past the platform just after the shooting stopped.

The B.A. said that they returned fire after shots was directed at them from a derelict house. They also said that they did not return fire when shots were fired at them an hour later. The meeting was well over by then and the people had dispersed.

The B.A. knew well that the meeting was taking place. It was advertised in the Irish News and handbills were given out in the district, some were on display in shop windows. British troops were standing about near Burlington Street for at least an hour before the meeting started.

Why then did the British troops fire several rounds when they knew that several women and children were in the near vicinity and not fire later after they had dispersed?

We know that Volunteers of Oglagh na hEireann, take great care to avoid injury or death to non combatants. We find it hard to believe that members of the local unit would have acted differently while the meeting held by the Political Hostages Release Committee was taking place last Sunday afternoon.

THIS IS YOUR IN ARDOYNE AND THE BONE

Ciaran McCullough of Ballynure Street was seven days old — it was his christening day. His mother was torn between joy and sadness, for his father had been lifted a few months previously and was being held in Long Kesh Concentration Camp. Thinking that there's nothing like a chat and a cup of tea, when you're down, and-in accordance with a well established tradition in the "Bone," the proud mother called with a friend, Mrs. Saunders, to show off the new baby and gain a little comfort from a good neighbour.

Mrs. Saunders and her daughters who were home at the time, received the baby and his mother with expressions of welcome. Tea and cakes were handed round, and the baby was the centre of attention, much to his mother's delight. Mrs. Saunders, being a grandmother, was given the hon-

our of nursing him on her knee whilst the colour of his eyes, his hair, his tiny hands, and the quality of the lace on his christening robe were all debated freely. Mrs. McCullough began to feel much better.

Suddenly the peaceful scene is shattered, when the house is surrounded by about 15 to 20 foreign troops, who force an entrance at both back and front doors. They are armed to the teeth with rifles, short arms, batons, riot guns and "sledge hammers." The women are curly ordered into the kitchen where they are searched one by one. Baby Ciaran is no exempt. Seven days old he undergoes his first "security search." The good neighbour grandmother who is nursing him is arrested on "suspicion of being a terrorist." She hands the baby to his mother. Mrs. McCullough looks at him and thinks of his father in Long

Kesh. The grandmother is taken to Townhall Street Barracks where she is held for 51 hours before being released. During her interrogation, she is told she would see her family again." The house is searched for 2 hours. Nothing is found. The occupying troops leave, satisfied they have done a good job.

Mr. Pat Fennell of Ardoyne, was severely injured in a mass murder attempt by the occupying forces some time ago. In the incident the Parachute Regiment lay in ambush in a deserted house and opened up on a group of men who were standing talking at a corner. One man was killed outright. Pat Fennell's injuries, which included part of his head being blown away, and a bullet through his knee, have left him partially blind, and unable to move except very slowly with the

(Continued on Page 8)

In these charming days of triumphant Imperialism, when the National Press is devoting itself to gloating over the slaughter of the hated Huns, and when the silence of the Political Truce is broken only by the occasional sob of a dying distiller, it is not surprising that some people are comparatively despondent. This despondency is particularly noticeable in the remote country districts and it has descended with peculiar force upon the placid and picturesque town of Ballyslack.

The pessimism of Ballyslack is inspired partly by the depressing effects of the war, but more so by the contrast between the dullness of the town today and the sprightliness which pervaded it a short year ago.

Things were happening in Ballyslack last year. They were happening at a pace that astonished its patriarchal inhabitants. Men, who like their fathers and grandfathers, had grown old in their belief in Political Protests and Constitutional Panaceas suddenly heard their sons declaring that lethal weapons were the key to freedom, that the bullet was more effective than the ballot, and that the man who remained unarmed was inviting oppression.

Dignified elders observed with amazement that a population who had hitherto confined themselves to wailing over their misfortunes had suddenly decided to smite their oppressors, and were openly proclaiming their intention to shoot rather than be shot.

Enraptured convicts were rudely shocked, and the wrench cost many a pang, but the thing was contagious, and Ballyslack swung into line. It did it thoroughly, too. The spirit of militarism pervaded the town. Ballyslack was filled with a warlike enthusiasm that the Hohenzollerns might have envied. Its market square resounded nightly to the tramp of marching men, its inhabitants kept step on their way to Mass, and the Postmaster bought two military band records for his gramophone.

The town raised a Volunteer Company, which mustered 768 men

THE SITUATION IN BALLYSLACK

By The O' RAHILLY

at reviews, which numbered 250 at drills, and which had nearly a dozen who subscribed to the Company Rifle Fund. At its march - past in July, several hundred men had belts, and as many would have worn bandoliers had not the Secretary whose zeal exceeded his technical knowledge, in sending the order to Dublin written "Gondaliers" by mistake. This caused some delay and much disappointment.

However, the function was a huge success, and the Nobody who came down from Headquarters made a speech of such fiery eloquence that 340 new recruits enlisted on the spot. The dispensary doctor, the County Councillor, and the local J.P. became officers, minor government officials commanded sections, and Lady Aberdeen's Lace School resolved itself into an ambulance class.

The movement had become fashionable, and it soared to still more dizzy heights of distinction when Sir Caustic Potash, the local D.L., appointed himself Deputy Inspector General, and when Lady Potash presented colours to the Battalion.

The presentation banner was a dream of beauty, being a Union Jack, on the reverse of which was depicted Robert Emmett leaning gracefully upon a round tower, at the foot of which his favourite wolf hound nestled. After this event, the only able bodied men in Ballyslack who were not Volunteers were the six policemen.

Then came the split and the slump. In the division lobby Sir Caustic Potash, the officers, the Hibernians, the United Irish League

and the government officials voted for the Allies - the rest of the Volunteers voted for Ireland.

Each side formed a separate company and both companies died in three weeks. Now things are quiet in Ballyslack. As quiet as ever they were. There are no elections in sight, the contract for the new sidewalk has been awarded, the dogs are all licensed, and the Servian relief concert if over. The price of cattle is middling, there is no stir on eggs, Home Rule is on the Statute Book, and the last case of foot and mouth disease turned out to be only timber tongue. The sameness of the war news has caused it to pall on the inhabitants, and even the 30,000 prisoners that the "Independent" tookm at St. Julien excited only languid interest. In Ballyslack, as in the Empire of which it is a proud part, business is as usual.

IS THERE ANY HOPE FOR BALLYSLACK? THERE IS!

Lost somewhere in that host of animated bandoliers which flooded the Ballyslack Company last summer there were probably six real men. They held no commands, they made no speeches, they got no jobs. But they were never in doubt about their object, and they meant business. These six men can yet save Ballyslack. Their duty is to get together and to decide that they will remain Volunteers as long as God leaves them breath.

They should immediately get in touch and continue to maintain touch with Headquarters. They will learn how they can win themselves and what to do about their

training and organisation. They will avoid parades, and confine their attention to real work. They will practise musketry, scouting, extended order drill, signalling and entrenchments. They will waste no money on halls, rent, uniform or paid instructors.

Each of them will command in turn until each is as perfect in issuing orders as he is prompt in obeying them. They will personally persuade other men WHO ARE WORTH HAVING TO join them. They will secure as many cyclists as possible and will be ready by day or night to deliver any urgent despatch ten miles in any direction within an hour of its reaching them.

In fact, they will hold the fort in Ballyslack, and will maintain there a living nucleus, round which new Volunteers can gather.

They will be recognised by Headquarters as the local authorities for their district. By taking these measures they will secure that when the movement becomes fashionable again, it will be they and not Sir Caustic Potash, who will be at its head.

If anyone is in doubt as to the importance of having even half a dozen well armed men in every town in Ireland, let him contemplate the Royal Irish Constabulary, who, by this identical means, have held Ireland in complete subjection to their august will for over a century.

(This article was written about one year before the Easter Rising, 1916, by The O'Rahilly, himself a professional soldier who had fought with the Boers against the British in South Africa. He fought in the General Post Office, Dublin, in 1916, under the Command of General James Connolly, the practical socialist who realised that no genuine form of socialism could ever be implemented in Ireland, until the Irish People first won National Independence. The O'Rahilly, a soldier from his toes to his finger tips, died bravely in action near that same post office now controlled by men like Conor Cruise O'Brien. What a shame! What a shame! — Editor).

Statement from 'A' Wing Crumlin Rd

Once again the Republican Remand Prisoners in Crumlin Road Prison have been the victims of British army brutality. On Sunday 30th September the 40th Commando Regiment descended on 'A' Wing with their customary ferocity, on this occasion they were able assisted by Prison Warders.

As well as the physical brutality of the British army the remand prisoners had to listen to the taunts and jibes of the screws, obscene and sectarian in nature. The Warders seemed to take a delight in the treatment which the commandos were handing out to the prisoners, all of whom were totally defenceless. No one escaped the brutality, young men and elderly men alike were subjected to the most harrowing and degrading treatment imaginable. All personal property of the prisoners was destroyed and every man in the Wing was forced to strip naked. One of the most serious aspects of the whole affair was the fact that certain individuals were selected for special attention from the Marine Commandos. We have no way of knowing whether the Prison Governor sanctioned this or not, but there was obvious collusion between the soldiers and the Prison Wardens present.

Some of the men had their clothes ripped off their backs and were beaten up with a variety of weapons including iron bars and batons. Among the more seriously injured is Frankie Quigley who had his nose broken and was badly beaten about the legs. His cell mate Martin Devine is now on crutches with a suspected broken knee cap. Edward Cayle has a broken arm and Dan McDonald received three stitches in an ugly head wound. Georgie Burt was kicked unconscious while locked in his cell along with four commandos. Noel Sillery was badly beaten about the face, head, back and hands with

batons. Many other prisoners have less serious injuries, lacerations and bruises about the body.

Every cell in the wing was given the same attention, bedding was pulled off and thrown on the floor, food was trampled on, water emptied on the bedding, posters ripped from the walls, personal letters and photos were either stolen or torn up.

Handicraft work such as harps and crosses were broken and radios smashed. Religious pictures were scrawled with obscenities and rosary beads pulled apart, a particularly vile act occurred in Georgie Burt's cell where the letter PIG was scrawled on the wall using Burt's blood. All cigarettes were confiscated by the Marines and threats against the families of the prisoners were made.

We have come to expect this sort of treatment from the British army although the latest attack was the most vicious yet, the Britishers are world renowned for their treatment of the Irish civilian population, in or out of jail. We, the prisoners, here, have experienced this treatment on many occasions, all we can do is point out to the public the activities of the authorities here and hope that all interested organisations will protest.

Passive resistance on our part is met with boots and batons, so we would call on the people outside to remember our plight and protest in the customary way against the indignities which we are forced to suffer.

From Seamus Loughran,
Republican Prisoners,
'A' Wing, Crumlin Jail.

EVERY WEEK!
IT'S A FACT...
60,000 READERS

From Michael Tobin

OUR MAN IN AMSTERDAM

Belfast Hotel Bombed - Bomb Blasts Rock City Centre - Soldier Dies in Ambush
There are the kind of headlines which we have seen very often during the last three years. They announced news stories of military operations undertaken by the volunteer soldiers of the Irish Republican Army.

These operations have formed part of a large scale campaign aimed at defending the lives and property of the Nationalist people in Occupied Ireland, ending the British military presence there, destroying the Stormont puppet state, freeing Ireland from the strangling tentacles of British and other Imperialisms, and, finally, in creating a situation in which a vigorous New Ireland could be born.

These are clear, admirable aims. Every soldier of the Irish Republican Army has had them etched upon his mind and heart. Were it not so, our soldiers could never have fought so long, so valiantly, and so successfully against the British Army Murder and Terror Machine.

However, all the while our soldiers have fought, the Republican military campaign has met with criticism and, at times, open condemnation from leaders and organs of sections of the left wing in Ireland and Britain. Some of our supporters and even soldiers have taken notice of this in the past, and their will and determination to struggle on to victory has been weakened by it.

This has been unfortunate, not only because of the partial lowering of morale but also because of the total lack of need for it. There was no reason in the first place and there is no reason today for anyone in the Republican Movement to take any notice of criticism or condemnation from certain sections of the left wing in Ireland and England, however prominent the leaders and papers of such sections may appear at this moment in time. For these same critical sections are not worthy of our attention and respect.

The controlling cliques of these particular left wing elements are themselves as corrupt and as reactionary as the British and Irish Establishments. Indeed, they are at heart not left wing at all in the accepted sense of the term but are merely the left wing of their respective Establishments, which they serve, wittingly or unwittingly, in the role of flunkies.

No, it is not these Establishment lapdogs which the struggling Irish people should take note of. The Fenians did not take notice of such people. The heroic men and women of 1916 rightly ignored them and their warmongering efforts on behalf of England and British Imperialism at the time, and those who fought in the later unsuccessful War of Independence also rightly ignored them. Had they not done so there would have been no Fenians, no 1916 Rising, and no War of Independence.

The natural allies of the struggling Irish are not those so called 'left wingers' in Britain and Ireland referred to above but the struggling masses in Asia, Africa, and South America. It is to them only that we should open our ears and show respect. It is to them only that we should listen if we want comment on our own particular struggle. Because they are of the same political flesh and blood as ourselves.

Let us remember this as we continue to fight for our liberation. Let us never forget who our real friends are. So far as the critical sections of the British and Irish left wing are concerned let us - while we fight on to victory - try and make their ordinary members aware of the true nature of, and the real and very necessary reasons for, the Irish Republican Military Campaign, while treating with contempt the distorted views and even outright lies of their collaborationist and reactionary leaders.

Finally let us never forget that the Republican Movement embodies the conscience and the true national spirit of the Irish people. And that as such it must be prepared to struggle and fight tooth and nail for its right and just cause irrespective of the opposition - be it verbal attacks, political repression, or a military confrontation.

History is in many ways the story of how desperately struggling minority groups, passionately believing in the rightness and justness of their cause, remade their part of the world in the image of their own thinking.

Let us ensure that the annals of history record how the Irish Republican Movement was successful in forcing the British Imperialists to withdraw from our shores, and in winning the support of the vast majority of the Irish people for the building of a New Ireland in which men and women, irrespective of their religious or political conviction, could be truly free.

Letter Strasbourg and Diplock

A Chara,

I think the time is opportune to remind your readers that the Cases in Strasbourg have re opened and to indicate the serious state of affairs here in connection with the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedom. We must remember that the cases now in session are ALL under the Special Power Acts. It is interesting to note how many violations are still occurring under the latest set of British Laws for Irish People. A La Diplock!

Article Three states that no one shall be subjected to inhuman or degrading treatment. This is happening in all minority districts, in prisons and in Long Kesh daily. Article Six promises a fair and public trial within a reasonable time by an independent and impartial tribunal (Court). Is two years reasonable? Is secret evidence from touts reasonable? Can the Commission at Long Kesh be considered impartial, never mind fair? Article Nine promises protection of freedom of thought. Article Ten promises freedom of opinion. Where does that leave Sinn Fein and the Peoples' Democracy among others? Article Eleven promises freedom of Assembly. In the North three or more people constitute an illegal assembly. Where does that leave Whitelaw's New Stormont?

Regarding the impartiality, what can we take from the decisions made in British courts in the six counties? A man can kill his friend accidentally and get three years for manslaughter. No one mentioned the fact that he had a gun illegally or with intent. At the same time, young men and girls receive ten years and more for being caught, in somewhat dubious circumstances with firearms.

The law is an ass and is being driven by a mule skinner. We are all guaranteed under the Declaration of Human Rights the right to liberty and security of person. Will, or can someone tell me how it is that my family, with others just as unfortunate, are subjected to searching each and every time they leave their home?

Article Six, section Two, also states that everyone charged with an offence shall be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law. Where does that place the new Diplock Courts?

Finally, I have found a section of the same Declaration which would enable me to put under lock and key ALL who would try to ruin my country by devious ways! Article Five section e, states: "the lawful detention of persons for the prevention of the spreading of infectious diseases, of persons of unsound mind, alcoholics or drug addicts or vagrants."

Surely some members of some political parties come under one of those headings!

U.S. Congress Probes Torture in Ireland From New York

Fermanagh politician Frank McManus has flown to Washington at the request of the U.S. Congressional Committee on Foreign Affairs to assist them in their inquiry into the torture of prisoners held by the British in Ireland.

The committee, which is investigating breaches of the United Nations Human Rights Convention, has placed British activities at the top of its list.

Committee chairman, Congressman D.M. Frazier, told American newsmen last week: "Without prejudging the issue I can say that we have heard some pretty horrifying tales about how the British have treated Irish prisoners, and we are determined to get to the bottom of the matter."

Among those testifying before the committee are Senator George McGovern, former Presidential candidate, and Senator Edward Kennedy. Senator Kennedy has kept in close touch with the Irish situation and has frequently called on Congress to take a more determined stand on British torture and other human rights violations in this country.

Mr. McManus has taken with him an extensive dossier which includes sworn statements from doctors, nurses and priests as well as many personal statements from

torture victims.

He is also expected to give details of other abuses of human rights by the British forces in Ireland including the arresting of children, the denial of the right to live to the many innocent people shot by the Brits and the constant harassment of men, women and children.

Before leaving for the U.S. Mr. McManus said: "This is a great opportunity to place the full facts of the lack of human rights in the North before a world audience through the medium of a very influential enquiry."

The files of the Association for Legal Justice, the non political group of doctors, teachers and lawyers which publicises examples of kangaroo justice being meted out to opponents of the regime here, were made available to Mr. McManus before his departure. He received considerable assistance from Father Dennis Paul of Dungannon, Father Raymond Murray of Armagh and Father Brian Brady of Belfast who supplied him with a number of case histories to lay before the U.S. investigators.

A fortnight ago, the Free State authorities announced that the ten year old tax holiday enjoyed by the foreign mining companies operating in the south, is to come to an end — at last.

For over a decade now, these foreign companies have been allowed to prospect for the mineral resources of the south and export all the ore they could extract in the first twenty years of each mine's life without paying a single penny to the Irish people. Since the average life of a mine is only fifteen years, this meant that those companies would probably never have paid any tax on the huge profits they made from their mining operations.

The reason for such one sided bargains, said the Lemass Government, was to attract foreign companies to the south which would provide much needed employment. It is a fact, however, that in the majority of such enterprises, only the jobs involving manual labour were given to the Irish — the executive posts all went to 'imported' foreigners. But even if all the jobs involved had been given to Irishmen and women, the internationally unprecedented terms under which these companies were admitted would still have seemed unduly generous in the eyes of even the most ardent capitalist.

Why then did Sean Lemass — a shrewd man — allow and indeed encourage such unhindered exploitation of this country's mineral resources? Perhaps he was not aware that Ireland was as wealthy in geological terms as we now know she is? Or was he?

"Ireland is an agricultural country possessing no mineral wealth ..." So ran the story told in Irish schools until the early 'Sixties and if any pupil doubted it, well there it was in black and white in the geography books to prove it.

Our story, however, begins in the Four Provinces Ballroom (now the Television Club), Harcourt Street, Dublin in 1940. At the time, this ballroom was the scene of regular "all night" DANCES FOR SOLDIERS AND OTHERS DURING THE EMERGENCY.

As might be expected in a six storey building — the ballroom with six storeys of offices overhead — there was a full maintenance staff of porters, carpenters, cleaners, electricians etc. And it wasn't too long before questions were being asked about the mysterious German and his secretary who occupied the top two floors both of which were sealed off by an iron grill with entrance barred to the staff. Even the lift stopped short of the upper floors.

The mystery deepened when it was noted that a regular traffic in heavy trucks was using the laneway running behind the ballroom to unload a large number of long and heavy crates, via a "block and tackle" suspended from a girder projecting from the top of the building and overhanging the lane. It was also observed that the trucks always came late at night.

Soon, rumours of secret weapons etc. were rife among the maintenance staff and their curiosity aroused, the staff decided to investigate. When an opportunity presented itself, one of the crates was prised open to reveal several long steel tubes resembling gun barrels. Further investigation showed, however that the tubes were hollow and contained, not shells or explosives but dirt and clay. Earth — soil! Of course this only gave rise to more questions but finally one bright spark remembered the very small brass plate affixed to a secluded part of the wall of the

Comment Corner

le
G. O' Danachair

Mineral Wealth For Whom?

ballroom foyer bearing the legend "Mianrai Teoranta." This the staff deciphered as "The Irish Minerals Board."

The long tubes contained sample cores, the results of drilling operations. The German was a geophysicist whose job was to analyse the cores.

While this discovery disappointed the would be uncoverers of a wartime secret, their curiosity was again aroused by the fact that a periodical visitor to the building, a young school boy, was always admitted through the iron grille which barred the way to the upper storeys and that when he left, he invariably carried with him a number of bulky envelopes.

Now that school boy, who always wore the blazer of a college not too distant from Harcourt Street and on leaving the building, housing "Mianrai Teoranta," he always walked to a house in Upper Rathmines.

It is interesting to note that the house in question was owned by the Minister for Industry and Commerce of the time, Sean Lemass, whose son, Noel, (the present TD) just happened to attend that same well known college.

Nothing was heard about Ireland's mineral resources until shortly before the surprise resignation of Sean Lemass as Taoiseach. Ex Taoiseach Lemass then became a Vice President of the Marathon Mining Corporation who had obtained — as part of their concession — sole rights to prospect for and extract oil or natural gas in all areas under the South's jurisdiction. Another Vice President was the ex Canadian Ambassador, Evan T.W. Gill. The President was Paddy Hughes. In all, Sean Lemass obtained over forty directorships — many of them in mining concerns.

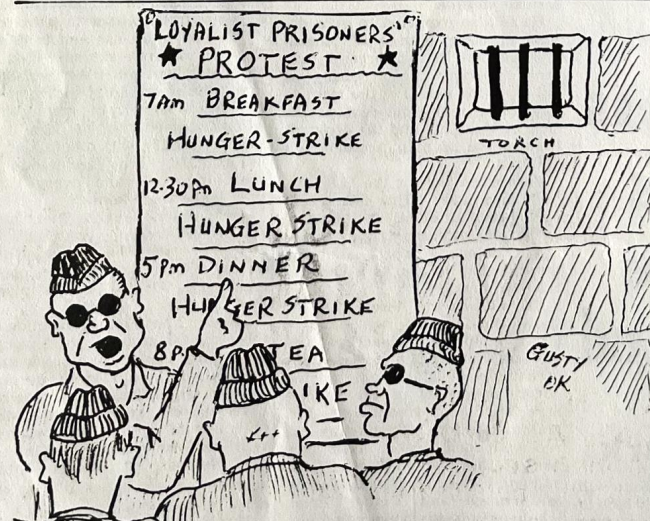
Can it be coincidence that nothing was heard of Ireland's MINERAL WEALTH UNTIL JUST BEFORE Lemass resigned? Was the mysterious German geophysicist employed by Lemass personally or by the Government? What became of his report and analyses — were they for Lemass' eyes alone? Is it not possible — if not probable — that Sean Lemass didn't have to wait until the 'Sixties to learn the real extent of our mineral resources — that he knew it about it as early as 1940 but kept it to himself until he was in a position to literally 'cash in' on his well kept secret?

It was George Colley, who served under Lemass in successive Fianna Fail cabinets, who spoke of "low standards in high places." Perhaps he had Sean Lemass in mind.

Lemass was undeniably a slick operator — after all, a man who died a millionaire with more directorships under his belt "than an Indian had scalps at the Little Big Horn" would need to be — but perhaps his slickest operation was the sewing up and selling out of the mineral wealth rightfully the property of the Irish people.

Now, a decade later, the southern authorities have taken a small step to right one of the greatest legal larcenies of our time. It is not enough — Ireland's MINERAL WEALTH BELONGS TO THE PEOPLE OF Ireland and to them only. Nationalisation of the mines is the only just solution but until it is implemented the robbery continues as shipload after shipload of irreplaceable ore leaves this country.

And while Ireland is now known to have mineral wealth — to date, she has derived little wealth from her mineral resources.



"RIGHT BOYS— LET'S SHOW 'EM WE'VE GOT GUTS!"

"LOYALIST" INTERNEES

I read a leaflet the other day which was distributed in workshops and factories in and around Belfast ... it stated; DO YOU KNOW that Britain is in breach of the European Charter of Human Rights because of her internment policy in Ulster? That internment without trial does not exist in any other country in the world except in Ulster? That paid informers hide behind a curtain in the Commissioners Courts whilst giving evidence?

So far so good and it wasn't Republican propaganda ... it had been issued by the U.D.A. and other extreme unionist "Loyalist" organisations calling for support to block roads in support of "their" internees.

What a pity they did not fight against internment in August 1971, when we warned them that internment for one section of the population was immoral and that someday they would also suffer ... it is also a great pity that they can't see the need of fighting with the Republican Movement to smash internment.

Their demonstration of protest finished like a tragic comedy, when they forced people like Roy Bradford and Nelson Elder to Stormont Castle and threatened Whitelaw that unless he hastened the release of 'Loyalist' internees there would be no meeting on Friday to form the Assembly Executive ... No releases ... but Roy Bradford still showed up with wee man Brian to help form the executive.

REPUBLICAN PRISONERS
IN BELFAST PRISON
CLARIFY THEIR POSITION.

THE wording on a poster circulated recently by our sister publication, "Republican News", was as follows: "The language spoken by the British troops is English. What language do you speak"? The poster was designed to pull people up with a jerk, to make them examine their consciences, to urge them to do something about the problem if they knew little or no Irish. For the Irish language is the essence of Irish nationality. Irish identity is preserved in the Irish language and that identity can be strong only when the Irish language is strong.

There are people doing valiant work in the ranks of the Republican Movement today and who never had any real chance to begin to learn Irish until faced with a term of imprisonment.

There are hundreds of thousands of decent Protestants who have been deprived of an opportunity of learning the Irish language and Irish history and, in reason and charity, they cannot be excluded from the Irish nation because they do not know Irish. For all, at this stage in our history, a very simple question, requiring a very simple answer, will suffice: To whom do you give allegiance, to the Irish people or British imperialism; to Ireland or Britain?

If the answer is "to the Irish people and Ireland," allegiance to that most Irish of Ireland's heritages, the Irish language, is understood. It is understood, also, that, in a free, united Ireland, that language will be cherished, honoured and completely restored, to become within a definite period of time the official language of the state and in such a way that no man or woman of goodwill will be hurt thereby.

Whatever our opinions of the Israelis in other matters we are forced to admire their language restoration; and the Israeli *ulpan* scheme can be used in any country for it is merely an extension of the crash-course idea.

The only hope of restoring the Irish language, however, lies in the success of the present revolution, the result of which will be to put power in the hands of the working man and woman, Wolfe Tone's "most respectable class".

This must be obvious from the history of the past 50 years, the half-hearted attempts, the hypocrisy, the sabotage, deceit, double-dealing, jobbery and gross inefficiency connected with Dublin state policies on Irish; but, particularly, in recent times, from the headlong, official stampede away from the Irish-Ireland by those in power.

The Dublin state no longer even *pretends* that it wants to restore the Irish language and this reflects the will of the dominant group in society, the middle class, which identifies itself increasingly with what it imagines to be British, in everything but name.

This situation is not unique. A similar, middle class reaction may be found in Scotland, Wales, Cornwall, Brittany, in the French-Basque and Spanish-Basque regions, and all over the world where a powerful language preys on a weaker one.

The Irish middle class has become corrupt and the only hope for Ireland, at every level, is that class which has not yet become corrupt, the working class. Significantly enough, it was from this class, in Dublin's Ballymun, that the most hopeful event in the recent history of the Irish language took place: Ballymun insisted on having its own, all-Irish school, fought Church and State to get it, and won.

It is frustrating for realists in the Republican Movement today to see Conradh na Gaeilge, Cumann Luthchleas Gael and Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann wasting time and effort in trying to get the Dublin state to do its duty to Irish-Ireland. They cannot succeed and the only result will be to cause sincere people to despair, to turn idealists into cynics.

It is particularly saddening to witness the supine attitude of the G.A.A. to British occupation of its grounds, British disruption of its games, British molestation of its players. Has the G.A.A. forgotten the reasons for its founding?

Which language? Vicious and Slanderous Attacks

There are many Gaeligeoirí, traditional musicians and players of Gaelic, hurling, handball and camogie in the Republican Movement but the organisations remain on the fence. The time for neutrality has passed. The time for analysis is now. Who is the enemy? Who is the collaborator? Who is the ally?

There is a very simple test to show the complete failure of the Dublin state on the language question: Are the training colleges producing teachers with a reasonable knowledge of Irish? The answer is "no". Check, if in doubt. How, then, can they hope to teach Irish to the pupils? There is another test. The use of Irish as a teaching medium, beginning in kindergarten.

Is this on the advance or decline? All over the world second languages are being used, with full support of U.N.E.S.C.O., as teaching media, because this is the only way of imparting a thorough knowledge of a second language without the student spending some six months at least in a territory where it is dominant.

In Ireland, the use of Irish as a teaching medium is declining, a direct result of state policy. Then there were the scandalous circumstances surrounding the surrender on the Irish issue for E.E.C. membership. Those are facts. Will Conradh, Comhaltas and Cumann Luthchleas Gael face them? And act accordingly?

Many members of the Republican Movement are not without blame as regards Irish, either. There is the failure to know the case for the restoration of Irish; there is the failure to learn Irish; there is the failure to use Irish; and there is the failure in the most fundamental way of all, to use only the Irish form of one's name, where available, as the personal, permanent, act of faith, of hope, of charity.

As Irish weakens, assimilation to the essence of the English thing – the English language, its attitudes, fashions, morality, ideals – increases. As the Irish identity dims, the alien identity takes its place. There is even the contradiction that we could win this war and lose the peace because of something vital lacking in our philosophy – not the one that we profess but the one we follow every moment of our conscious lives.

Réitíonn toil sí.

Reprinted from An Phoblacht

Irishmen
and Irishwomen

LEARN YOUR NATIONAL LANGUAGE

WITH CLANN
CATHAL BRUGA
BEGINNER'S CLASS IN THE
ARD SCOIL, DIVIS STREET
BELFAST, EVERY WEDNESDAY
at 8 p.m.

Over the past four years, the Republican Movement in its struggle against British imperialism has been subjected to vicious and slanderous attacks on many fronts. British black propaganda we treat with the contempt it deserves, but attacks emanating from organisations masquerading as Nationalist must be answered, albeit reluctantly.

The so called "official" IRA spokesman in Crumlin Road Jail has issued a statement condemning the behaviour of Provisional Republican Prisoners. This statement is a typical example of NLF propaganda, lies, innuendos and distortion have replaced truth, vague unsubstantiated claims have ousted fact.

At the onset we wish to make it perfectly clear that the tension and emotion which arose within the prison was as a direct result of the Ballymurphy shooting which led to the death of two young Republicans. Moreover Republican leaders in A Wing did all in their power to reduce the possibility of confrontation – a fact which obviously the NLF spokesman had neither the decency nor the inclination to comment upon.

If we consider the NLF allegations in detail their dishonesty and hypocrisy is all too apparent. Their claim that a statement issued by the Belfast Republican leadership referring to the Ballymurphy incident has rejected by Provisional leadership within A Wing is totally without foundation. Firstly, no statement was issued by the Belfast Republican Press Centre. The statement in question was the brain child of an individual journalist who assumed that such a decision would be the result of a meeting between both organisations. Furthermore, the unnecessary and undecorative character assassination of a spokesman for the Republican Remand Prisoners in a perfect example of the hypocrisy and deceit of the NLF the truth of the matter is as follows:-

During the first incident, occasioned by a callous remark from an NLF supporter to another prisoner, our representative was meeting with the prison Governor and was totally unaware of the events then taking place. Prior to the removal of NLF prisoners from A Wing, the Governor again sent for our spokesman and it was during his absence that further incidents took place. Again, these incidents occurred because of the bullying, insensitive attitude adopted by certain NLF members who mocked and sneered at the circumstances surrounding the tragic death of a brave young Irishman

Continued on Page 7

Columnist Hits Out at 'The Lie Machine'

Sunday World columnist, Eamon McCann, has slammed what he calls "the Lisbon Lie Machine."

In a biting attack on the British Army's professional liars he reproduced in his column a letter from Mrs. N. Turner of Belfast whose brother in law was assassinated by the B.A. who, in a letter attempt to cover-up their murder, tried to destroy the dead man's character.

Mrs. Turner's letter and McCann's comment are as follows:

Letter to columnist, Eamon McCann, from Mrs. N. Turner, of Belfast. The letter begins:

Your article in "The Sunday World" (Aug. 19) on "The Innocents who become terrorists when they die" is very, very true, as we know what it is really like to live with that lie, when the person you loved is buried, branded as a gunman.

My brother in law, Hugh Connolly, aged 38, was shot

almost beside his own back entry door. He had gone out to see who was there. He found no one there. A short walk up to the entry, a few words with a neighbour who also came out and a man with his dog which Hugh patted on the back. As the old man with the dog left him, a few steps away he was shot by a soldier, three bullet wounds we know of and possibly more. He died six hours later branded as a gunman. He never had a gun in his life. He died for nothing and no reason. He was not a member of an organisation, just a very good humoured person who loved life and was looking forward to the adoption of a baby as his 28 year old wife and he were childless.

When he was shot he was out in a white aran sweater and blue trousers. He made a good target in the daytime, would you agree with me? and the soldier was not far away. It took place in the entry of Oranmore Street where he lived.

ITN Television said he was shot in a gun battle in Lawnbrook Ave., and his body dumped. We asked them to take the statement back but were told that was the statement from the se-

curity service. The Belfast Telegraph said he was shot in Ardoyne about three miles away. My sister, and my mother who loved him as her own son will never get over the lie. We still have to face the inquest and a sheet of paper which will be soldier 'A' statement, Hugh's murderer, for Mr. McCann that is what it was. Hugh Connolly died February 28th, the day of the loyalist strike. He could not get to work to a job he held with Belfast Corporation Electricity Department for 18 years.

That letter from Mrs. N. Turner of 8 Oranmore St., in the Springfield Road in Belfast, arrived last week. Any comment on the particular tragedy she writes about would be, in the literal sense of the word, impertinent. It is one of many similar tragedies, of course, as Mrs. Turner knows, Hugh Connolly is by no means the only person murdered by the British in the North and his memory they desecrated by the Lisbon Lie Machine and he surely will not be the last. And he and all the other remembered innocents are desecrated too by the inestimable capacity of the Dublin Government to forgive

their killers, and by the ability of Southern Officialdom generally to forget that such things have happened. People like Hugh Connolly are well on the way to being "Unpersons." They will not figure in the official histories of the last five years. They are even now being written out of the record. Their deaths in no way impinge on the niceties of diplomatic exchange between Dublin and London. The Gardaí are not instructed to apprehend members of the organisation which killed them. Indeed, when you come to think of it, killing a person like Hugh Connolly is not even an "Act of Violence" in this country any more. In the official language of the Government and all major political parties the phrase "Men of Violence" refers specifically and solely to the Provisional IRA. Fitt and Hume ask their constituents to put pressure on the Provisionals to call off their campaign so that "Peaceful Methods" can be given a chance, yet where I come from the British Army has killed more innocent people in the last three years than Republicans have killed in the last hundred.



WHAT IS A SEAGULL?



THE DICTIONARY WILL GIVE you an explanation of the word "Seagull" as "a species of winged bird which lives of the sea, at the sea, and on the sea." But the dictionaries have not yet been able to give the meaning of the latest model, or species, of said bird to appear in Ireland.

This bird may or may not be peculiar to Ireland, but in recent years this is the only country where the bird has been definitely seen and recognised. This type is now nominally called the "The Long Kesh Greater Crested Sea Gull" because it is in Long Kesh that the bird has made its home in recent years. There are no signs of it disappearing. Famous birdmen like the bespectacled Fitt, a well-known bird brain, has indicated that the species is in danger of becoming extinct. What is a "Long Kesh Greater Crested Sea Gull?" I will try to explain.

To be fair I am no expert, indeed I could say without fear of contradiction that there are no experts in this field!

The sea gulls of Long Kesh come in many different colours, the black-crested types, the blond-bomber type and the bald eagle type (not to be associated with the other bald eagles of this world). Then of course the chameleon-type which has the art of being able to blend into the background no matter what sort of background there is available. These birds have only one thing in common, their sole aim in life is to extract as much wood, leather, glue, thonging, varnish, etc., etc., as possible from unsuspecting victims, and to actually leave the victim with a great feeling of having achieved something even if it is only a sense of well-being!

It is not an easy task they have set themselves but it is a treat to watch them at work as they weave their various tales of need, neglect and abject poverty, to the person they have selected to be the sacrificial offering to the great God, the God of Scavengers! Oh! Yes this species is almost human, indeed at times they are super-human! I have witnessed innocent victims giving their all just to satisfy the lust of the Sea Gull, I have always pre-supposed that the victim was of the impression that they were doing something for mankind by offering their goods and chattels to a Long Kesh Gull.

The talents of the Sea Gull are not solely confined to goods, their young (apprentice-types) birds start off by "sea-gulling" items of food, such as tea, bread, butter, eggs, ham, cakes and biscuits, but even at that age are very particular. One can see them analysing their victims with that Greater Crested Look before they descend to obtain their target. Some of them are more open faced models and just come along and put it bluntly to you: "Have you got a wee piece of wood, I'm making a WEE cross for a Ballot for a WEE priest in far off Banana Land?" This direct approach is hard to understand but it is very successful.

All the young sea-gulls are taught this method before they are allowed to progress to greater methods of sea-gulling, which as you

will see can be very complex at times if confusing. However it is not my intention to arrive at any conclusions with regard to the Long Kesh Gull, but rather to place before you the facts as I know them, and to let you, the reader, form your own opinions of same.

It stands to reason that any animal, driven by want and need, will turn to practically any method to obtain what that need desires. The Sea Gull of the Camp is no different. The usual approach is sympathetic, i.e., "I realise that you are very busy and that maghony is very scarce, but if you could LOAN me a little bit, say twelve by twelve by one and a half, it would get me out of a hole. You know that I always pay my debts. Anyway, some of it is for the PDF. You would be doing everyone a favour by helping me out" — that sort of spiel is hard to refuse, you will admit.

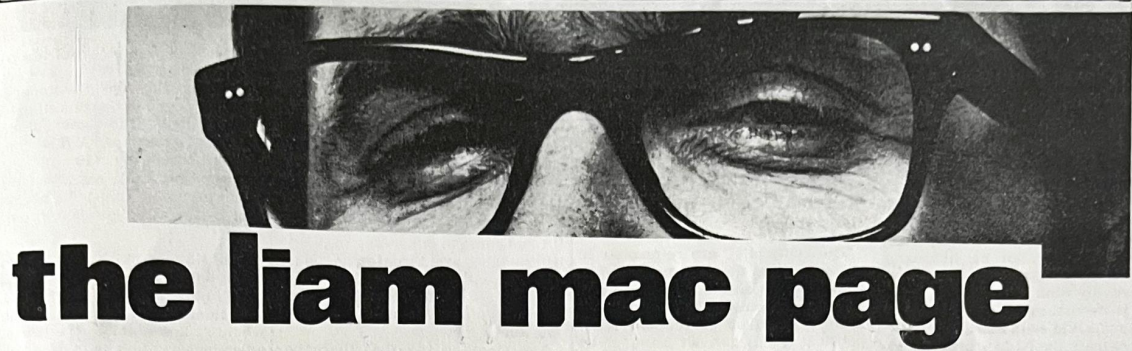
There is the more subtle approach. "You wouldn't know where a guy could get enough leather to make a wallet. An aunt of mine, (they are invariably very good to the PDF, etc.) (who has just come home from far off Nyagasaki. She is only home for three weeks, two of them are up, here I am with this order and damn all to do it with. We can't afford to ignore people like that." With this approach you are cutting the leather with the tears running down your cheeks! Birthdays, anniversaries, births, etc., all have an equally subtle approach with the same end in mind. To "relieve" you of something they want without causing you any pain!

A Sea Gull who would accidentally become hurt, by any manner of means, i.e., broken wing, strained eyesight (from working in the dark) (cut finger (from trying to work in secret) (or any wound visible, has a decided advantage over others of the species. Who could say no to a wounded bird, especially one who has because of his injury fallen so far behind with his work!

You will appreciate that space does not permit me to outline the full career of the Greater Crested but you will acknowledge the fact that they are a new species to me. I have only two years to study their rather quaint behaviour, behaviour which develops as we go along. I hope to have an opportunity to bring you up to date with their activities as we go along. I look forward to writing you again soon about them. Always assuming, of course, that in the meantime, I can manage to hold on to my typewriter, my paper, and my carbon paper (a very highly desirable item this — and one which Sea Gulls need a lot of).

So until then, I hope you will watch with me, as J.C. once said. We have been told that a campaign is afoot to have them released in their hundreds, a fact which could be disturbing in some quarters. You need have no fears. These birds are easily approached. They have been out of circulation for some time. You will find them strange but they are very easily tamed, by the Irish, that is. Only thing is they are liable to leave you a lot lighter when they meet you. Do be careful, please.

BY SEAMUS LOUGHRAN



the liam mac page

SAME AGAIN!

Recently, we watched the Liberal Party in conference at Southport and listened to their dreams for future power as the British government. The business people of Southport at least were pleased to get the extra cash at the end of their tourist season, but what a different story for them when during the "Glorious Twelfth" celebrations they were invaded by 20,000 Orangemen from Liverpool and district. According to the local newspaper "Visitor" the Orangemen went on a rampage and wrecked most of the public houses. The manager of the Little Ship Inn in Castle Street estimated the damage to his Inn at around £200. The manager of the "Tavern" said, "When we closed the bar at lunch time the musician was asked to play "God Save the Queen" several Orangemen. When some of the patrons refused to stand up, the Orangemen took a dislike to this and started a fight. The local Licensing Committee and the Police Superintendent are to have a meeting to discuss how they can stop the Orangemen from coming back next year."

TOMMY HERRON

"The prospect of the full story on his assassination never becoming known is remote, but several things can be established about Tommy Herron, in his life and in death, which might provide a clue to the identity of his killers. Despite claims by some of his UDA associates that he was universally liked, Herron had a number of enemies both within and without the Association. He was arrogant, and bullying and regarded himself as a VIP who had the ear of the mass media. He caused a few jealous flutters among colleagues by traveling with two bodyguards in an expensive BMW saloon to collect his dole money at the Belfast Labour Exchange. His reputation as a womaniser did no more to improve his image than reports that he was having a house built on the Ballysillan Road on his £1,000 a year income from Social Security. There must have been a few victims of UDA justice who harboured a smouldering resentment against, the man they regarded as the author of their misfortune. His wife's 18 year old brother was assassinated

three months ago in a killing which UDA leaders publicly claimed was an abortive attempt on Herron's life but privately acknowledged as a "Tartan gang vendetta killing because of Michael's activity with the local UDA punishment squad." (Hibernia Magazine 21/9/73).

There may be many theories of how Herron met his death, but there is one sure thing, that his death was used to the utmost by the LAW and UDA organisations to rebuild their strength inside the factories which had disappeared this past few months.

Once again we watched the intimidation squads roving around among the workers in the shipyard and other engineering works playing on the emotion and fear "That Herron had died for Ulster."

With the added incentive and threats that all cars still in the car parks after lunch break would be noted, and either numbers taken or tyres slashed they got a good reaction and most workers decided it was no time for heroics and left work.

Most Catholic workers were not interfered with, but any Protestant worker, especially in the Aircraft Factory who had stayed at work was visited the following day by LAWmen such as Petrie or Harry Patterson, two of the gang leaders, and warned that they had left themselves open to be burned out of their homes by their staying at work.

In the shipyard we had the usual bomb scare hoax, which happens on every occasion when a walk out by LAW is not very successful among the sub contract workers, which of course means that all work stops for the afternoon.

And what about the trade unions? Most of the shop stewards decided to keep quiet and live to fight another day. But the leading shop stewards decided to be absent on this occasion in case workers wanted their advice on what they should do. These people are more interested in holding down the job as workers leaders than being real leaders. Life is more comfortable that way. But surely the workers expected better from two characters who lately had stood for the Assembly elections - Billy Gunning and Jack Sharkey two NILP men who

showed their "loyalty" by being the first to walk out of the Aircraft Factory.

TRADITION

"The present generation of British secret agents will stand in the dirtiest traditions of the Cold War of the 1950s. They will not boggle over a corpse or two so long as the effect is produced and the left hand does not know and need not ask what the right hand doeth. If a tenth of the stories going around are true, we stand in Ulster close to a Watergate affair in comparison with which the American scandal will fade into nothingness. (Sunday News 23/9/73).

DIMENSIONS!

"By Tuesday night Ted Heath had opened his big mouth three times and scuttled himself in the scuppers of his own skulduggery. His threat of total integration of the Six Counties within the United Kingdom jif his Assembly experiment failed, boomeranged on his own head from north south east and west.

Heath came to Dublin for the express purpose of securing the Irish Government's co-operation in trying to make the Six County Assembly work, by hook or by crook. And he didn't mind all the talk about his visit enlarging the famous "Irish dimension." Heath's real notions about the various "dimensions" involved, emerged when he declared three times, that total integration of the Six Counties within his own Government's embrace was on the cards if the Assembly should fail.

Thus the "dimension" uppermost in Heath's mind is the British one, which claims possession of this portion of "mere territory" irrespective of the wishes of the inhabitants and the "dimensions" least in his thoughts is the notion that the mere Irish might like to claim it for themselves." (Claud Gordon, Sunday Press 23/9/73).

Do you send a copy of the Republican News abroad?

For full particulars of subscription rates, write to the Circulation Manager, 182 Brompton Pk., Belfast.

IN MEMORY OF LEUT. PATRICK MULVENNA, OGLAIGH NA HEIREANN (R.I.P.)

(Air: Wild Raparee)

*As a young man goes home, gently knocks on the door.
His eyes beam with excitement, at the guard on the door
Welcome home son, you've come home at last
Tell me your name, tell me your past.*

*My name's Patrick Mulvenna, from Erin's Isle I come
In the Belfast Brigade, I was proud to be one
For an Irishman's dream, is his Country free
I fought British invaders, till they murdered me.*

*My sister Collette in Armagh jail lives
Interned without trial, love of Country's her crime
My father, God bless him, is in Crumlin Road jail
With my friends and relations, it makes a heart pain.*

*I fought for my Country, I died for the cause
We hate injustice, we want Christian Laws
I died for my Country, I'd do it again,
For until Ireland's free, peace never will reign.*

*That is my country, where once was my home
Ireland would be happy, if England left her alone
True words said St. Peter, Heaven's your home to last
Ireland will be free, for you helped in the task.*

By Jimmie Connolly, Yorkshire, England.

REPUBLICAN PRISONERS IN BELFAST PRISON CLARIFY THEIR POSITION

Continued from Page 5

from Ballymurphy. It should be of interest to note that the slain youth's father personally attempted to escort NLF members from the wing, and yet, despite this man's christian charity and decency, certain individual NLF supporters saw fit to direct offensive and derogatory remarks to this man, and worse still, some "officials" actually attempted to assault him. With regards to other allegations concerning the lack of amenities available to the NLF members, the facts are as follows:-

By general agreement the Republican Prisoners voluntarily relinquished certain of their own recreation facilities to ensure that NLF supporters were guaranteed a fair leisure period. And with reference to the visiting arrangements to state that "official" prisoners are in any way intimidated or subjected to violence is ludicrous - even the Prison authorities can vouch for that. Within the new visiting complex, now in operation for more than a week, there have been no incidents whatsoever, even though NLF members have been at all times present. It is with deep regret that we have been forced to answer all these allegations. We, more than anyone else, do not wish for confrontation or conflict, either inside or outside this prison. We would ask that in future all organisations not actively involved in the present Freedom Struggle should desist from scurrilous and slanderous attacks on the Republican Movement and we would suggest that they devote their energies to revealing the corruption and oppression rampant in this province of ours.

Seamus Keenan, P.R.O., Republican Prisoners, 'A' Wing, Crumlin Road Jail

THE PSEUDO REPUBLICAN

Spokesmen for the National Liberation Movement, (sometimes known as the "Officials" or the "Stickies"), frequently criticise the Republican Movement, both for the military strategy of Oglai na hEireann, and the alleged lack of political objectives by Sinn Fein.

It is necessary to examine these criticisms and even more necessary to penetrate the NLM's propaganda front and evaluate their own record in the political and military fields.

The NLM make regular attacks on Sinn Fein, claiming that the organisation is lacking in political know how. (See "Irish Press" - Cathal Goulding, October 6th 1973). He alleges that the Republican Movement has no political objectives. His criticisms ignored, probably deliberately, the numerous Sinn Fein policy statements, such as "Eire Nua".

No fair, reasonable person could deny that "Eire Nua" defines clear political objectives. These include, British withdrawal from the Six Counties, the end of neo colonialism in the whole of Ireland, the unification of our country, the increasing socialisation of industry through worker participation and control, suggested alternative structure of government for Ireland. The NLM may not agree with these objectives, but they cannot in fairness deny that they are political objectives.

If we examine the NLM's own political position, what do we find? Not a coherent policy or set of principles, but a mere ragbag of senseless jargon. Their policy statements are often contradictory; their sanctimonious talk about safeguarding tender Unionist sentiment appear to be concocted by Conor Cruise O'Brien.

If we scrape in the ragbag and examine the political record of some of the NLM's adherents, it is safe to assume that their political policy is based on Marxist Communist dialectic.

In our view, Marx was not a completely, consistent thinker but primarily a historical and social analyst, sometimes brilliant, but sometimes confused and invalid. Marxist Communism is the brand peddled by all the European communist parties which (except the Italian), are controlled from Russia.

As the NLM follow an orthodox Marxist Communist line, certain conclusions inevitably follow:-

As Marxist Communists, the "Officials" are not primarily interested in a Free Sovereign Ireland. Their brand of Communism defines nationalism as "bourgeois" and they claim incorrectly in our view, that socialism cannot exist in one country only.

When the "Officials" appear to favour an independent Ireland, it is only as a tactical ploy - part of the continuous European or world erosion of capitalism. The consistent Marxists among them would like to see the Irish Nation submerged under some European unit. It is our belief that they are right outside the true Irish Republican Separatist tradition.

As Marxists, they are prepared to "wait" for revolution. They do not believe that revolutions can be made to happen.

(This article is based on discussions among members of the Gerard McAuley Sinn Fein Cumann, Belfast).

The "Officials" are reformists in the sense that they are prepared to collaborate with the illegal neo colonial regime in the Six Counties.

More could be said about NLM political policy but we have given enough examples to prove their confused thinking and opposition to Irish Republican tenets they so falsely claim to uphold.

The NLM allege that the military campaign of Oglai na hEireann is sectarian. While this may sound plausible, the "Officials" know well that this charge is untrue. The Six County British puppet statelet is built on sectarianism, political and economic patronage has been placed by the British in the hands of people who do not happen to be Catholics.

Any assault, political, military or economic, on the status quo can therefore be made to appear sectarian. But of course it is not really sectarian, capitalists, collaborators, etc., are selected not because they are Protestants, but because of their political and economic role.

It is only because the British puppet Six County statelet is so rotten and sectarian that most of the privileged business owners are Protestants. The only alternative to action, is of course, inaction: Just let the rotten system stand in case you upset anyone. This is the futile course proposed and followed by the NLM.

What about the NLM's military record? It is mostly marked by inefficiency. It is marked by acts such as the killing of Unionist Senator Jack Barnhill, and the attempted assassination of John Taylor. If these actions had been carried out by Oglai na hEireann, it is likely that the Officials would have branded them as "sectarian". Yet the Officials have the hypocritical audacity to criticise the Republican Movement.

To sum up. It can be said that the National Liberation Movements political and military policies are distinguished by confusion, felon setting and disloyalty to the cause of Irish Republicanism which sometimes they profess to uphold. Their frantic efforts to libel and discredit the Republican Movement is, no doubt, meant to cover their confusion and deviation from Irish Republicanism.

Complaints Welcomed!!!

"We would like the person slandering the name of the Republican Movement by writing slogans on private property in the Dromintee estate, to cease his activities or suffer the consequences," said the Michael Watter's Sinn Fein Cumann in a recent statement.

The Cumann claim that they have put an end to other forms of vandalism in the area without having to make a public example of anyone. They hope that the slogan writer wouldn't like to be the first.

The Cumann is glad that local people are bringing complaints to them to be rectified and they hope that this trend will continue.

British noise machine used during early hours in Springhill

"It has come to our notice that British soldiers are threatening young children with internment," said the Patrick Campbell Sinn Fein Cumann in a statement issued during the week.

The Cumann say that there has been a serious escalation in arrests of boys who have been told that if they are seen on the streets by day or night, that they would soon be joining the 'school boy brigade' in Long Kesh Concentration Camp.

The Cumann claim that numerous houses have been raided in the Ballymurphy area by British troops enquiring about boys in the 14 to 16 age group.

"We demand," say the Cumann: "that the harassment of our school children by Occupation Forces, should cease immediately. The residents of our area are no longer prepared to sit idly by and watch their children being beaten and thrown into the Long Kesh hellhole."

The Cumann "deplores the use of the British army's new terror siren, which was used in the Springhill area during the early hours of Thursday morning, October 11th.

"Families were aroused out of their beds by a high pitched noise which left many children in a highly hysterical state. It has been pumped into us by the pro British news media that the new B.A. noise machine was for riot control only.

THIS IS YOUR LIFE

aid of crutches. To cover themselves, the Paras succeeded in having charges of being in possession of a gun brought against Pat Fennell and the other men, in spite of the fact that no gun was found and forensic tests proved.

A nun who attended the injured man, testified at the time that they were not in possession of a gun.

However, Pat Fennell was charged, and is at present on bail. It is not hard to recognise Pat Fennell. He is conspicuous by his slow movements, and his crutches. Nevertheless, he is constantly harassed by the British troops who seem to delight in taunting him to the extent of drawing their short arms, in a threatening manner, running after him, and enquiring his name when he ventures out on to the street.

In the latest act of brutality he was arrested as he was hobbling along, and thrown bodily into a saracen with his mother and sister who had gone to his aid. At Flax Stret he was interrogated by Special Branch men who were obviously expecting him.

Pat Fennell was on an errand of mercy, when he was shot. He

was on his way to pick up a van to collect groceries for a sale of work for Old Age Pensioners. Now he is crippled, and is obliged to suffer daily at the hands of his British tormentors. Whilst the British troops remain in our country we may expect more Pat Fennell's. Innocent people shot by prowling gunmen in uniform.

...Paul Kane is 19. He is caged up like a wild animal behind barbed wire in Long Kesh. His mother says he is a quiet boy, whom you wouldn't know was in the house, when he was at home in Jamaica Street. There are some real wild animals in Long Kesh. Alsatians, trained killers. Trained to attack and kill at the word of command from their sadist handlers, who are also trained killers.

Paul was on his way to the lavatory from the canteen, when one of these sadists released the killer dog and encouraged it to set upon the unfortunate defenceless lad. Naturally he defended himself as best he could by kicking out. This apparently enraged the handler who called on the Sergeant to witness the awful deed. A lad actually had the audacity to defend himself against his dog. What happened next does not bear contemplating. The lad was put in the search position legs spread and fingers touching the wire. The Sergeant then ordered the maddened animal which was straining at the leash to be set on the boy. The alsatian sank his fangs into the lad who was standing in the most vulnerable position. This mollified the Sergeant to some extent who then retired from the scene. The handler however required something more to satisfy his blood lust. Taking the lad to a lonely place in the camp, he set the wolf-dog upon him again, whilst the 19 year old youth was once more obliged to stand in the exposed search position. What terror he must have felt as the fangs sank into his flesh a second time.

The incident was fully publicised by Father Denis Faul, Dungannon, in the "Irish News" and the next day the authorities in Long Kesh issued a counter statement. Fr. Faul is to be congratulated for exposing this atrocity, especially as his superiors in Armagh and Somerton Road are desirous of sweeping all mention of torture, brutality etc., by the British Army under the carpet. Paul Kane comes from Ardoyne, and one would have expected Fr. Aquinas, of Ardoyne, who is most eloquent on other occasions, to speak out on this glaring evil. Not so, Fr. Aquinas is to be found at the Ulster Hall in company with other middle-classes, praying for the success of the Assembly. The Assembly, as we all know, guarantees the continuance of internment, torture, and the horrors to be associated with continuing British rule in the Six Counties. We have a message for Paul Kane and all the Internees. Those of us who work for justice, are strong in the rightness of our cause. We pledge ourselves to work unceasingly, without seeking to be puffed up with political advantage, gained at the expense of our imprisoned brothers.