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SAS CAPTAIN EXECUTED

"Captain Robert Laurence Nairac was an SAS man and had been operating in the South Armagh areas for some time.

"We arrested him on Saturday night and executed him after interrogation in which he admitted he was in an SAS Unit.

"Our intelligence Department had a number of photos in their possession and the late Captain had been recognised from them."

So ran the announcement last Monday morning from the IRA's tough and highly efficient First Battalion in South Armagh. The elimination of Nairac is an obvious breakthrough in the war against the Special Air Services. Sources close to the IRA refuses to say how much detailed knowledge they now have of the SAS but they are obviously highly pleased with what Nairac has either given them or confirmed.

However, IRA sources have revealed that: Captain Nairac was a high-ranking SAS Officer. When arrested he had in his possession a Browning automatic with two magazines. He pretended he had been in Canada and brought the gun 'home' with him.

He wasn't bearded or trampish as suggested by English newspapers, but was ordinarily dressed and spoke with a very convincing 'Portadown accent'.

When arrested he gave as his identity that of a Republican Clubs member; this Stick identity was broken almost immediately by an IRA intelligence officer.

That the murder of IRA Officer Peter Cleary in April 1976 was a premeditated SAS decision to which, the IRA suggests, Nairac was

privy.

SAS morale must now be shattered as one of their most highranking officers has been arrested, interrogated, executed and has disappeared without trace. Doubtlessly the SAS are considering revenge but since they don't know to what extent their cover has been broken, revenge may well be taken instead by an ordinary British Army Regiment.

Captain Nairac was an officer in the Grenadier Guards, though that Regiment is not presently in Ireland. He was commissioned into the Guards in 1969 after being at Oxford and then Sandhurst, where he was trained by counter-insurgency expert Brig. Frank Kitson. Unemployment didn't force Nairac from his aristocratic home in Gloucestershire into the arms of the British Army and the SAS. Kitson's grandioso and imperialist ideas were there throughout. He was the prime motivator in his own death. He certainly didn't love Ireland, as his sister said, but loved the sick excitement and counter-insurgency escapism which the occupation of Ireland gave him.

Most ordinary Brits are reluctant to serve in Ireland, preferring instead the leisurely life of a posting in Singapore or on the Rhine.

But there is another breed:- the professional and highly-intelligent, upper-class, university and Sandhurst trained Brit whose English chauvinism and elitist attitude to "the Paddies" motivates them to 'Volunteer' to spy upon, and persecute and murder Irish People.

Captain Nairac, though efficient and cocksure, was no match for the IRA. The myth of the SAS supermen has been cracked, and the mentality behind these people revealed.



RPG IN ----- ACTION

PICTURED LEFT A REPUBLICAN SOLDIER PREPARES AN R.P.G. ROCKET FOR AN ATTACK ON ARMoured BRITISH ARMY UNITS IN THE OCCUPIED NORTH.

"REPUBLICAN NEWS"

RECENTLY CARRIED DETAILS OF ATTACKS WHICH WERE KNOWN TO HAVE CAUSED SERIOUS CONCERN TO BRITISH WAR CHIEFS

- He had learned to talk with a Catholic Ulster accent – instantly recognisable from a Protestant one – and with his long hair and scruffy appearance had kept his cover for nearly 12 months. (Daily Mail, Tuesday, May 17th 1977).

Captain
Robert Nairac

BRIT. ARMY WAR AD.
CONTRADICTS THE CLAIMS OF THE BRITISH WAR MACHINE THAT ME MEMBERS OF THE GRENADIER GUARDS ARE NOT RECRUITED FOR WORK WITH THE S.A.S.

The Guards Division



In addition, 'G' Squadron of 22 Special Air Services Regiment is comprised of volunteers largely from the Guards Division.

Details of

ABILITY TERMS OF SERVICE PAY

A NEW POLITICAL INITIATIVE :-

BUT FROM WHO ?

The end of the Loyalist 'strike' did not, as so many 'respectable' establishment politicians hoped, herald the end of Ian Paisley's political career. Paisley's analysis of the Strike's 'failure' seems perfectly logical, that is, the *tactics* of the strike were 'rejected' as opposed to its main *objectives*, which everyone, including the SDLP and the Stickies, either appeared to support directly or, at least, to sympathise with. These main objectives were, a return of Stormont (however, disguised) and the defeat of the IRA. Already in the wake of the Strike's 'failure' SDLP leader Gerry Fitt has called for talks aimed at setting up another powersharing political structure on the 1974 model which the last Loyalist 'strike' successfully demolished. This is a good illustration of Fitt's misreading of the political climate, mistaking the rejection of Loyalist tactics as an expression of a desire to change the 'system', giving the sectarian six county statelet a new respectable image, (powersharing). On the other hand perhaps it is just symptomatic of Fitt's political opportunism.

The 'tactics' which the Loyalists employed did not alone guarantee the 'failure' of the 'strike'. Its 'failure' was also accelerated by an efficient P.R.O. job by the Northern Ireland Office which succeeded in using the mass media (on which the last Loyalist 'strike' was so dependent for its 'success'), to inject confusion into an already confused situation, particularly in the early days of the 'strike'. In fact the U.A.C. did receive significant voluntary support during these early days, but this 'success' was undermined by effective misrepresentation by the N.I.O.

BELFAST

In the Nationalist ghetto areas of Belfast significant political gains were made by the Republican Movement during the two week period which the 'strike' lasted. With the active co-operation of the working-class people the Republican Movement set up Relief Committees in every area and co-ordinated an extremely efficient operation to ensure the continued supplies of essential food, milk and medical supplies, as well as catering for the elderly, the handicapped and young children. It seems a long time since the



SHANKILL ROAD PICKET

community identity and solidarity, so obvious over these two weeks, at last manifested itself in such a positive form.

There was the negative side however. The Catholic church in Belfast chose to ignore the people's Relief Committees and instead hoarded supplies of food and mobile cooking facilities, (supplied by the Social Service's Department), in an effort to make political capital once food supplies had dwindled. These stores of food were kept secret until the Republican Movement received documented

proof of where the supplies were being stored. An embarrassed Social Services official could only confirm that certain 'facilities' were available.

While the people were working 'on the ground' the Republican Movement took the opportunity to discuss their People's Assemblies. The response was immediately positive and already the infrastructure of several People's Councils have been established with the formation, in certain areas, of a policing service, community group co-ops and housing action groups,

backed up by a system of street committees and community welfare groups.

It is important that the Republican Movement sustains its present drive in the ghetto areas, fulfilling all its promises and consolidating its political gains. If the present initiative were lost there seems little doubt that the British war machine would feel confident enough to make a "clean sweep" on both sides allowing the middle-class politicians to consolidate themselves, possibly within a 'doctored' power-sharing structure or volunt-

ary coalition. The raids into Loyalist strongholds last weekend are an illustration of just such a policy. The setting of the correct political 'atmosphere' for similar action in the Nationalist ghettos has already been attempted by the Catholic hierarchy (in their statement last week asking the people not to support 'paramilitaries'), and by the SDLP whose leader has complimented the RUC on their new 'reformed' image hinting that Nationalist people may well adopt a more sympathetic attitude towards them.

The political initiative now lies with the Republican Movement, from this point on the only direction in which the people should be travelling is forward - forward to a 32 county socialist, federal Republic.



IAN PAISLEY INTIMIDATES A HOSPITAL WORKER DURING THE LOYALIST 'STRIKE'



by Vindicator

THE ORANGE SPLIT

WHY DID PAISLEY FAIL?

Many reasons have been put forward for the failure of the Loyalist strike. But a common thread runs behind all these reasons. To see this thread we have to look at what an indefinite general strike could have brought about and who would have benefited.

A comparison with the 1974 strike is essential. In 1974 the aim of the UWC strike was twofold. It was to protect the two basic pillars of Loyalism: the Protestant Ascendancy and the Union.

In sharp contrast the sole aim of the recent strike was to protect the Ascendancy. And this aim was to be struggled for, even at the possible cost of breaking the Union. This potential break with Britain is what made the vital difference between the success of the UWC in 1974 and the failure of Paisley in 1977.

SUNNINGDALE.

Four years ago the Sunningdale Agreement threatened both the Protestant Ascendancy and the Union. The "power-sharing" Assembly challenged the Ascendancy through involving representatives of the Catholic middle class in government. Reforms threatened to erode the relative privileges given to the Protestant section of the working class.

The proposed Council of Ireland spelt out danger for the Union. Through dealing with 32-county matters the Council formed a potential stepping-stone to a United Ireland.

UWC STRIKE.

So three years ago the UWC strike was able to achieve unity between the main sections in the Loyalist camp. They all wanted to protect the Ascendancy and the Union. Bringing down the already shaky Assembly would do just that. There was no conflict over priorities.

The situation this time round was different.

PLACED IN DANGER.

There is still broad Loyalist agreement on getting "extra security forces to destroy IRA breeding grounds" and getting the return of Stormont. They all demand that the Brits smash the nationalist resistance and hand-over power to a Loyalist regime. So they do remain united on the need to maintain the Ascendancy.

But the means chosen by the Action Council to

defend one of the main Orange principles endangered the defence of the other main principle. The Union was threatened because Britain is reluctant to carry out Paisley's "security" policies and to restore Stormont.

The means chosen by the Action Council to defend one of the main Orange principles (defence of the Ascendancy) placed in danger, defence of the other main principle (defence of the Union).

CONSEQUENCES.

Certainly the Brits would like to come in and smash-up our areas even more than they do. Certainly they want to stamp their "law and order" upon us even harder. But there would be massive consequences if they attempt to openly implement Paisley's full policies. Civil war, North and South, would be triggered off. And Britain's cities would not escape the conflict, in more ways than one.

So given this reluctance, a long hard strike would have been necessary to make Westminster give in. But far from having the required effect of boosting British support for Loyalist plans, an indefinite general strike could have had the opposite effect.

UNION IN DANGER.

Bringing life to a halt in the six-counties would have given a tremendous boost to those growing numbers in Britain who say, "Britain should wash her hands of Ulster. We are not wanted by Catholics or Protestants. We must cut our losses and get out".

It could have provided the opportunity for those in the loyalist camp who support independence, to set-up their own "Ulster" caretaker government.

So the Union was placed on the danger list by the means chosen by the Action Council to defend the Ascendancy. This necessarily led to a widening of the existing splits within the Orange block. An indefinite general strike was a very dangerous weapon for those who benefit more from the union than the Ascendancy. It was not the intimidation which was objected to. It was the very strike itself.

This potential break with Britain is what made the vital difference between the success of the UWC in 1974 and the failure of Paisley in 1977.

POLITICAL SPLIT.

The threat to the Union stimulated a strong tendency for the line of division in the Loyalist camp to be along specific lines. It was not just a personal dog-fight between the various bigots who make up the loyalist leadership. It was a political split.

In general, those FOR the strike represented interests who put the Ascendancy before the Union.

Whereas those AGAINST the strike represented interests who put the Union before the Ascendancy.

This was obviously not absolutely true in every single case. But it was the general tendency in the situation.

The threat to the Union stimulated a strong tendency for the line of divide in the Loyalist camp to be along specific political lines. Those who put the Ascendancy before the Union versus those who put the Union before the Ascendancy.

ASCENDANCY FIRST.

On the one hand it is the loyalist working people who stand to lose most if the Ascendancy is destroyed. They fear the loss of their relative privileges of better housing, better jobs, and better employment prospects.

This meant that it was individuals and bodies from the grass-roots, such as Paisley, the UDA and the UWC, who strongly favoured the strike.

UNION FIRST.

On the other hand those with most to lose if the Union is broken are the fur-coat brigade of the loyalist upper and middle classes. It is the loyalist businessmen who benefit most from the imperialist link, through free access to British markets and state subsidies.

This meant that it was individuals and bodies who represent the Orange establishment who were to the forefront in opposing the strike. Namely Harry West, the official Unionist Party, and the Orange Order.



In addition, the fur-coat brigade did not like the chosen means of struggle for other reasons. Not only did a general strike threaten the maintenance of the Union but it also directly threatened their political control and economic prosperity. At the best of times a general strike is hardly the favourite weapon of the upper and middle classes.

For the present economy to survive it relies on businessmen having confidence that their investment will bring them profit. Profits are cut back by strikes, whatever their motives. So in an already shaky economy an indefinite stoppage could have dealt a devastating blow to the capitalist industry.

Not only this but a successful strike could have placed immense power in "working class" hands. The Loyalist fur-coat brigade shrink from any prospect of power being in the hands of the likes of Paisley and the UDA.

Not only did an indefinite general strike threaten the Union but it also directly threatened the political control and economic prosperity of the Loyalist fur-coat brigade.

ORANGE SPLITS.

In conclusion, these splits in the ranks of the Orangemen are not only to be welcomed but need to be further examined. The better the picture we have of Orange splits the better we can act to widen such splits.

Breaking the loyalist workers from their fur-coat brigade is a necessary step on the long road to the unity of all Irish working people. Such unity will form an essential part of building a Socialist Republic. A Socialist Republic which will put to shame the present meagre rations doled out to Loyalist and nationalist workers alike.

Split the Orange block!
Build the Socialist Republic

The better the picture we have of Orange splits, the better we can act to widen such splits. Breaking the loyalist workers from their fur-coat brigade is a necessary step on the road to working class unity and the Socialist Republic.

Points to remember

No.1

After the liberation struggle which was waged in Ireland in the years following the 1916 REBELLION, England destroyed the potential of that struggle through the partition of Ireland. She did this by giving her caste system a political and geographical super-structure. This was achieved by taking the area with the maximum number of loyalist and the minimum number of nationalists. Having found this area within the boundaries of the six north eastern counties the English proceeded to pass a law through the Westminster Parliament to create two sub-states in Ireland. Not one Irish of either political persuasion took part in the voting on this law.

RUC -

by LIAM

O' DONNELL

STILL AN UNACCEPTABLE FORCE

Throughout the recent UUAC stoppage the people of the occupied six counties were bombarded on the local T.V. with pictures of the RUC moving against loyalist involved in pickets and road blocks. The reason behind those pictures was an attempt by the British Government to whitewash the tarnished image of the RUC as an impartial police force, in the hope that through a stage managed propaganda campaign the

RUC will be accepted back into the Nationalist ghettos. The achievement of this aim would mean that the British Government's Ulsterisation policy would begin to work; this would lead to the

prospect of a re-structured Orange state. While the RUC were being sold on the TV screens as the 'good guys' reports were coming into Sinn Fein offices that the torture of political suspects in Castlereagh Barracks was continuing. In the period of the UUAC stoppage (11 days) approx 10 cases of torture were reported, alongside these cases RUC activity was stepped up in regard to early morning raids, and arrests followed by periods in Castlereagh and other barracks and general harassment of the Republican people. Throughout the stoppage the RUC were able to use the activity in the loyalist areas as a smokescreen to cover

their old habit of torturing political opponents of the Unionist and British establishments.

So while they reasoned with Andy Tyre on the Newtownards Road they physically assaulted human road blocks on the Shankill and Donegal Roads, both loyalist strong holds, making sure the TV cameras saw all. Meanwhile political suspects in Castlereagh were being punched about the head, stomach arms, and legs, cigarettes were used to burn their arms. Physical exercises to induce mental and physical exhaustion (otherwise known as sensory deprivation) were used in attempts to force confessions from innocent men.



TO THE LOCAL AGENTS OF BRITISH IMPERIALISM
THE R.U.C. BECAME AN ACCEPTABLE FORCE LONG AGO.

DERRY
COMMEMORATION

ORATION AT JOHN STARRS COMMEMORATION.

On Sunday 15th May 7.00 p.m. Republican Plot in Derry City Cemetery there was a commemoration on behalf of Vol. John Starr's who gave his life so dearly on the above date 5 years ago. About 150 people took part in the Commemoration and the Chairman was a member of the John Starr's Sinn Fein Cumann. The Oration was read by the Chairman of the Eamon Lafferty Cumann, who said John Starr's was a courageous and daring young man, who walked all the way home from Galway the day after Bloody Sunday. He was serving as a member of the 26 company in Galway at the time. At the end of the Oration he read out a poem about Vol. John Starr's and it was written by a member of the Eamon Lafferty Cumann, it was called "Tribute to a Volunteer" (Photo No.2) shows a member of the

John Starr's Sinn Fein cumann reciting a decade of the Rosary in Irish, and in the foreground 3 members of Sinn Fein hold Vol. John Starr's banner.

After the Rosary there was 1 minutes silence in honour of the dead Volunteer. Then the Chairman thanked the general public and the members of the Republican movement for turning out to commemorate such a good Irish man.

P.R.O.
Derry City C/C.

TRIBUTE

A Tribute to a Volunteer.
1. On a Fatal Day in January
The News from Derry broke
The British Army killed Thirteen;
Thirteen in just one stroke.
Some Derry lads in Galway town

Were incensed by this foul deed
Among them was our young John Starr's
Who rose to take the lead.
"This is no place for us lads.
While hearts in Derry Bleed."
2. They sat out on foot.
It was a long walk
The mood was angry,
There wasn't much talk
And on the dark roads of an early morn,
Another freedom fighter was born.
He was brave he was
loyal, sincere and true
Loved by his comrades as one of the few.
3. And on a May Day
his death he did meet,
John went into action near William St.
Not far from where the

Thirteen fell
Whose deaths had
deepened his seal,
Little he knew what was
lurking there
To bring him his last
ordeal.

For the British Army
where entrenched
- building on the
other side
All ready for an ambush,
their entry no-one spied.
Then came John Starr's
who knew no fear,
With gun in hand it's
true.

The shots rang clear that
killed him there
Wounding his comrade too.
4. But Thirteen souls were
praying
around that gallant boy
Bringing him the love
Which is a martyr's joy,
Knowing that they were
the stone,
From which this flower
grew
He gave his life for them,
and they knew.

P.R.O. Derry City.
C/C.

Following the collapse of the stoppage the British Government launched the second phase of its propaganda exercise with the help of Gerry Fitt, who issued a statement last weekend giving his support to the RUC. In his statement Fitt said "the Catholic population feel that the (RUC) did show some impartiality this time. The statement went on "without any question the RUC has gained some trust and support from Catholics by their performance over this past fortnight". The logic behind Fitt's statement is based on his own bigoted view of the political situation for he assumes that if the RUC can be seen to be as brutal towards "protest-

ants" as they are towards "Catholics" that the common-denominator of RUC brutality will be equated with RUC impartiality.

One lesson that Gerry Fitt has yet to learn is that the Republican people object to RUC torture no matter who is on the receiving end, and the fact that our loyalist enemies are occasionally suffering the same torture and going through the same rigged courts does not make RUC methods any more acceptable. The approval for such acts will never come from the oppressed peoples of the nationalist ghettos. Our struggle is to liberate all the people of our country not to ape the methods of our oppressors.



Store wrecked in blast
NICHOLLS AUCTION ROOMS IN BELFAST CITY CENTRE DESTROYED BY AN A.S.U. BELFAST BRIGADE.

R.U.C. TORTURE

CONTINUES

LETTER FROM CRUMLIN ROAD JAIL

A Chara,
It is obvious that the finding of Britain guilty of torture in Strasbourg has not altered the attitude of the interrogators of the RUC Special Branch. The activities used in '71-74 are still used, they never stopped. The level and degree of torture used vacillates, but never dies away completely.

Last week a young man, Sean Bateson, was arrested and taken to Castle-reagh where he was interrogated on no less than 12 occasions. Each interrogation lasted at least three hours. He was subjected to one of the now infamous torture techniques which led to Britain appearing in the dock at Strasbourg. While being interrogated he had to stand in a spread-eagled position against the wall for long periods of time,

during which his rib-cage and stomach were beaten by his interrogators. The most serious torture used against this prisoner was the burning of both his arms with a lighted cigarette. The area burned was well chosen; the upper muscle of each arm. In all this man was burned nine times, 6 burns on one arm and 3 on the other. As a result of this intimidation, the physical beating, culminating with the cigarette burnings, this man signed statements, admitting not one but four killings, three British soldiers and a civilian. The reason why he signed these statements is crystal clear to stop further torture.

He was so frightened by his experience that he failed to make a complaint to the doctor in Castle-reagh. He was threatened

that further torture would be used if he complained. In effect this means that the man will not be believed when he pleads extreme duress at his "trial".

The Doctor here in Crumlin Road Gaol was so appalled by the degree of burns on the man's arms that he displayed openly his reluctance to accept the man from the police.

Sean Bateson is now facing a possible life sentence for something he had no involvement in. Past experience has shown that judges rarely believe the Defendant when he pleads duress, even though the only evidence is based on signed statements.

Gerry Fitt's statement that "without any question the RUC have gained some trust and support from Catholics by their performance over this past fortnight" is totally ridiculous, and nauseating, when daily young people are being carried into Crumlin Road Gaol after being delivered from interrogation by the RUC torturers.

Liam O'Connell,
PRO Republican
Prisoners 'C' Wing,
Crumlin Road Gaol.

Youths tortured

Seamus Largey
Cavanmore Gdns,
Belfast.

Age 18 years.

Was arrested at 6.15 a.m. Wednesday 11/5/77 taken to Fort Monagh.

"I was put into a small room, and five plain clothes men came into the room they immediately started to shout at me, one grabbed me by the hair and started to swing me about the room and bounce me off the walls.

They asked me names of people I did not know, and said I was in the IRA they then threatened to shoot me, and gave me a time limit of six weeks, and unless I contacted them within this period and gave them information I would be taken to Castle-reagh and my body would be found dumped. I refused to agree to this suggestion. Four of them immediately started kicking and punching me, one kicked me between the legs and when I fell to the ground another one pulled me up by the hair put me up against the wall started punching me on the stomach, arms and side, also on the back. I demanded to see a doctor, they then took me out of this room and took photographs of me.

They also threatened to 'do' my parents. I refused an army medical examination they then released me at 11.15 am. I felt very ill, and went immediately to the R.V.H. and they x-rayed me and took details of the beating I received. They wanted to keep me in hospital overnight for observation but I refused as my parents were extremely worried. I then contacted my own doctor, the Association for Legal Justice and my Solicitor. So that I may take legal action against these people in Fort Monagh."



Both pictures show injuries sustained by Seamus Largey following his 'detention'.

GERARD KERR
KORAM RING, BELFAST.
AGE 18 YEARS.

"The army arrived at my house at 6.15 a.m. and kicked in the front door breaking the lock. When my father went to the door they took photographs of him they then arrested me and took me to Fort Monagh. In Fort Monagh they put me into a room with five plain clothes men, they showed me photographs of men and girls but I did not recognise any of them. They called me a liar and an 'Irish Bastard'



they put me up to the wall started to punch and kick me, one man held me by the hair and kept banging me against the wall, then one grabbed me by the throat and started to choke me. I passed out and fell on the floor when I woke up they had me on a chair and I could not move. They then said they were letting me go. Then they tried to make me sign a medical form but I refused as I had been injured and I wanted to see my own doctor, I contacted the Association for Legal Justice and made a complaint. I was released at 10.20am.

Jim Devlin
42 Commendagh Drive,
18 Years.

Arrested 12/5/77 at 8 am I was arrested and taken to Fort Monagh and put into a room with five men they immediately started to punch and shout at me they put a black tin over my head and started to hit it with a stick, and kept swinging me around the room with this tin still on my head I could not see or

TROOPS OUT



COMMITTEE REPORT

A rejuvenated and restructured committee of the Troops Out Movement met in London over the weekend. (May 7th-8th) to discuss forward planning and to formulate a more vigorous approach to the need for a speedy withdrawal of British Troops from Ireland.

The presence of foreign troops on Irish soil was identified as a feature of the class struggle and it was resolved that an all out effort would be made to involve both the workers of Ireland and Britain in a united front to help create the conditions for a peaceful and just solution to Ireland's problem.

A useful contribution has been made by the Troops Out Committee in highlighting the evil and uselessness of the British Occupation Forces in Ireland. Other contributions have been involvement

in the counter-demonstration at the Trafalgar Square "Peace-Rally", and the recent Bloody Sunday march.

Observers from the Republican Movement present at the meeting were satisfied with the obvious potential. An open conference is to be called in the near future and we would encourage any group, interested in peace with justice, and the building of a new Ireland free from foreign control, to get involved now with the Troops Out.

J. Reilly
Luton Sinn Fein.

Burning bridges behind them

Twas early in the morning,
In the merry month of May
A band of Ulster Loyalists
Forced the traffic to delay.

They assembled on their tractors
Near the famous bridge of Toome
Now it's history how they scattered
When the Provos chased them home.

Three rapid shots they fired
The attack had just begun
But when it came to fighting
All the Paisleyites did run.

"Black Bob" the Orange leader
Was expected to show fight
But he led the race away from Toome,
Though handicapped by fright!

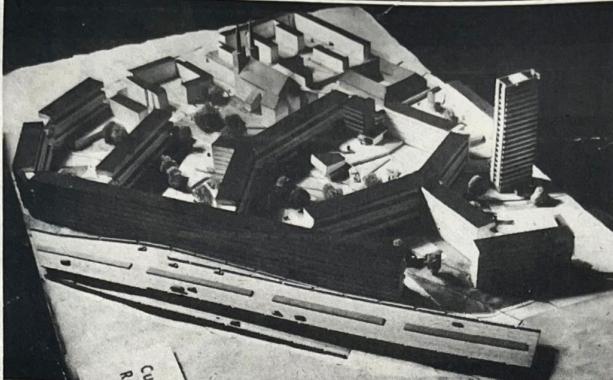
Ten tractors were left burning
Three cars and a motor bike
Not to mention slurry spreaders
Ian Paisley what a sight!!!

But pride of place was a J.C.B.
Fifty fathoms deep,
And side by side on its last ride
Was wee Bob's Army-jeep.

So let this be a warning
Toome is out of bounds
Unless you have machinery left
We could use more Davy Brown's!

Now hurry back to Paisley
It will take thousands to repair,
And if you want your J.C.B.
You may send for RED ADMIR!!!

hear, someone then punched me on the stomach and I fell onto the ground and became very sick on the floor, one of the men then grabbed me by the hair and kept rubbing my face in the vomit they then dragged me across this and told me to eat it, as they were doing this one of them kept kicking me on the legs another one kicked me between the legs and I fainted after that they started to threaten me if I said I was touched they would 'get me' I was released at 12 o'clock I contacted my doctor, also ALJ and a solicitor.



Model of the original redevelopment scheme for the Lower Falls

"Divis Flats complex is a great white elephant", this was how the lower falls residents association described the area that was once known as the Pound Loney.

To explain properly the desperate situation in which the people of this area now find themselves we must look as far back as the early sixties at this time a real living community existed in the area bounded by Albert St, Durham St and Divis St. There were 1300 homes and approx 40 shops and businesses of every kind. The population of the Loney were a proud people who had evolved over a period of 140 years. But even they realized that some kind of redevelopment was needed. The real question was what kind of redevelopment.

NO THOUGHTS GIVEN TO NEEDS OF PEOPLE

The people of the area had no say in the matter and when the tower was only a shell and one small block of maisonettes was almost completed some people from the district, who we can now safely claim had commendable foresight, protested. These people could see that no thought had been given to the needs

of the people. They realized that high rise development was going to be a dismal failure, and what people required were traditional type terraced homes and all the amenities that go with an area of working-class people i.e. a variety of shops, well spaced throughout the area so that no supermarket would have a monopoly.

960 FLATS AND 18 SHOPS PROMISED

The pleas of these people fell on deaf ears. Locally they were put down as communists and at this stage some of the local clergy actively encouraged the people to move into these flats with words such as "The Death of the old streets will actually be the beginning of a new life" and "The interior of the new flats will be fresh and healthy in every way", "And an important part of the plan is that the whole area surrounding the flats will be pleasant to look at decorated with trees and shrubs and even public gardens with flowers".

This was 1968 and the air was full of promises of 960 flats, 18 shops

and 5 pubs, each block of flats to have a roof garden all to be completed by '71. But so much for the promises. Here in 77 what have the people got? 1200 flats, 9 shops, all in one area and one pub. The planners it seems have turned the missing shops and pubs into 240 flats. No mean feat!

PROMISES BROKEN

Since 1968 the Divis Complex has turned into a massive slum. In no way are the people to blame for this. The responsibility lies fairly and squarely with the housing executive. Promises were not fulfilled and the area has been severely neglected. Heaps of rotting garbage lie everywhere because of inadequate cleaning and the fact that the rubbish disposal units are obsolete and overloaded. The Housing Executive admitted this in 72 but still have done nothing to remedy the problem.

40% UNEMPLOYMENT

600 flats have no heating in the bedrooms halls or stairs. This causes dampness and condensation which in turn causes fungus to grow on walls and ceilings, mildew on clothes and furniture, and mothers have no choice



Children chopping sticks in Alexander St. 1966

DIVIS FLA

The Great White



FLASHB

but to put their children into beds with damp bedclothes. They have no drying area for laundry or anything else. The housing executive's attitude to this problem is that the residents of damp flats should keep electric fires burning 24 hours a day. They do not take into consideration the fact that unemployment in this area is approx 40% and that people simply cannot afford such luxuries. In 1973 the residents association asked the Housing

ATS

The Elephant



BACK

ALEXANDER ST' WEST 1966

Executive to link these 600 unheated flats up with the district heating, capital, cost £300,000. They refused! In 1975 again they pleaded for heating, capital cost now £680,000. We dread to think what inflation has done to capital cost now in 1977.

There are very few facilities for the children in this complex. The pathetic excuse for a playground in the complex has never been maintained.

RENTS

Rents and rates in the complex are excessive with people paying up to £11 per week for a four bedroom flat.

FEELING OF ISOLATION

Vandalism is a problem in the Divis but no more so than in this type of cell block development in England or Scotland.



In fact it took the residents association almost a year to find out who was responsible for its upkeep. Workmen came a few weeks ago and painted the amusements but sadly no one thought to replace the broken swings.

NO LIGHTS OR LIFTS

Very few lights or lifts are in working order, again through lack of preventive maintenance and also with the help of the British Army who smash the lights and who also cut the cables on two main entrance lifts six years ago. At least once in recent years the H.E. have been informed that lift doors open when the lift is not there. This happened recently resulting in a young girl falling down a lift shaft and seriously injuring her pelvis.

BATHROOMS ?

All bathrooms in the complex are built in the centre of each flat with no access to daylight, and as the residents stated in the "open door" programme, the kitchens are tiny regardless of a family's needs even though a family may have a six bedroom flat their kitchen and living room are the same as that of a two bedroom flat and all have dining space for two people.

The position was summed up perfectly by Mr. Laverty head master of the local Secondary School when he said "When something belongs to everyone it belongs to no-one". The fact of the matter is that few in the Divis feel they belong there. Subsequently there is a lack of community spirit and a feeling of isolation. There are cases on record of old and infirm people moving into Divis in 68 and in 72 never having been over their own front door. This happened because over this period there were at most times no lifts whatsoever operating. The residents Association also have on file pitiful cases where old people have died in their homes and lay for up to a month before being discovered. This could never have happened in the old pound loney.

The R.A. receive complaints from people of all skills and trades of how when the prospective employer finds that the potential employee comes from Divis it is usually a case of don't call us we'll call you. The stigma involved living in the complex is enormous. Very few people are sympathetic a swap out of the flats is impossible and the H.E. have transferred precious few families to proper homes even when a family is in dire need of a house for medical reasons or reasons of overcrowding.

The Pound Loney 1968

There isn't any way a family from the Divis could afford to buy a home. Because of the special circumstances in West Belfast houses are at a premium. Because of the influx of catholics intimidated out of S. Antrim and North Belfast overpopulation is a big ongoing problem in West Belfast.

LAND FOR CARS
NONE FOR PEOPLE

The problems in Divis are endless. People are trapped politicians just aren't interested. In the last few weeks the issue of the urban motorway has raised its ugly head again. It seems clear to all that regardless of the outcome of the farcical and probably illegal "Public Inquiry" the M1/M2 Linkup is to go ahead. This motorway not only is to come within yards of the complex but will also use up valuable land which is the last hope for people from this monument to insanity to be rehoused and freed from this awful place. It was hoped that this land would be used for houses for people from Divis.

THE ONLY SOLUTION

At the end of the 'Open door' BBC2 programme flats in the U.S.A. were shown being blown up. This may seem a radical solution but I am sure that all people who know Divis will agree that it is the only solution.

THE CHANGING FACE OF CAPITAL

An economic historical sketch of Ireland, in two parts, from the latter years of the 19th. Century until the signing of the Anglo-Irish Free Trade Agreement in 1965. It deals mainly with the period often referred to as "The Lennass Miracle", which the author argues was no cure for the present, or future generations of Irish working people.

In the latter part of the 19th., and the early years of the 20th. Century, behind the slogan, "HOME RULE IS ROME RULE", the mercantile and manufacturing class of the north were enabled to provide an effective smoke-screen whereby large sections of the Protestant workers supported their designs, which were dominated mainly by economic rather than religious factors.

Behind the facade of flags, banners, solemn pledges, and lambeg drums, the owners of land and sweat-shops who had previously shown their hatred of any form of workers' unity, saw in their campaign against Home Rule an effective way of keeping the link with British capital, and at the same time providing themselves with the means to undermine the trade union movement in Belfast and elsewhere. They had feared the emergence of working-class unity which did have some outstanding successes during the early period of this century, particularly under the leadership of 'Big Jim'



Larkin and James Connolly; both of whom en-



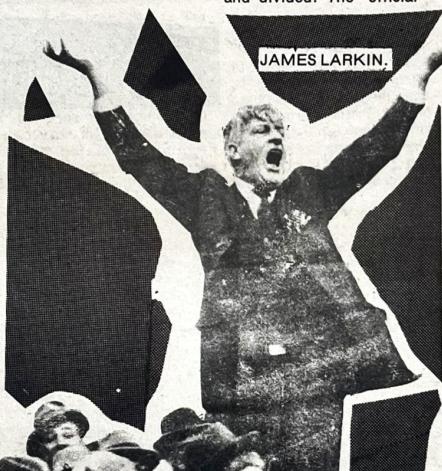
by Scopoli

Derry

blood of the common people being shed in countless pogroms. In the south, their counter-parts disguised themselves as nationalists or in some cases 'Republicans' and had taken a firm stand against the workers of Dublin during the 1913 Lock-Out. Even 'patriots' like John Redmond and Arthur Griffith, had sided with the forces of capital, and the latter distinguishing himself by making a call on the British Government to use 'the troops' to

common people, upon whose support they depended to act as cannon-fodder in the event of any armed conflict. Basically, the more industrialised north required free trade with the British mainland, whereas the more agrarian south, with an emerging capitalist class desired protective tariffs against the highly developed British economy, at the peak of its growth.

The interests of British capital during this period, was somewhat confused and divided. The 'official'



JAMES LARKIN.

drive the strikers back to work!

In answer to such opposition, the Irish Citizen Army was formed to protect the pickets and the homes of the workers which were under regular attack from gangs of hired thugs and the R.I.C.

It is obvious from even a basic reading of history following the defeat of Gladstone's first Home

line was that they wished to see Home Rule, which was mainly due to Liberal party policies. When the Ulster Unionists got armed, the cracks began to appear, with the generals at the Curragh Camp refusing to march on the north as dictated by Westminster. This reveals that the ruling-class was sharply divided, with the Conservatives privately informing those involved in the mutiny that no disciplinary action would be forthcoming from that quarter, when they took over power from the Liberals. The British Tories threw their weight behind the Unionist 'rebels', led by Sir Edward Carson and Sir James Craig.



deavoured in vain to overcome sectarianism, the most powerful weapon in the bosses' arsenal.

In almost every decade, the ruthlessness of the employing-class to use this weapon, resulted in the

Rule measures in 1886, that the uneven development of capitalism, both north and south, resulted in a clash of interests in both bourgeois camps, which manifested itself in the manipulation of the



Captain T. O'Neill, Prime Minister of Northern Ireland, and Mr. J. Lynch, Taoiseach, meeting at Stormont House, December 1967.

olved parliament at Stormont.

After 1945, both governments were becoming increasingly concerned with industrial growth. the desires of capital were once again foremost in the minds of its representatives, and while waving the flag and beating the drum to distract the common people, north-south economic co-operation began to grow. This took on a public face with the cross border meetings between Lennass and O'Neill in 1965, which the Rev. Ian Paisley initially resisted in the grounds of Stormont, by throwing snowballs.

Paisley, as with many Ulster 'loyalists', was then, as now, unable to understand that the economics of partition was quickly changing, so much so in fact that the border had become a nonsense in an economic sense due to the Free Trade Agreement between Britain and Ireland. The stage was being set for entry into the E.E.C., as both Irish and British capital prepared for the marriage with European capital.

It was this which brought a former defender of the G.P.O. in 1916 to shake hands with the Ulster Unionist O'Neill, and had



The Irish Citizen Army on parade

the six north eastern counties. The latter government had a large Unionist majority, and maintained its power through the continued use of sectarianism and malpractices. (See Republican News, Volume 7, Numbers 14, 15, & 16, "Derry-Before the Troubles").

Partition it seemed was here to stay, and later the Government of Ireland Act 1949 reinforced Northern Ireland's status within the United Kingdom which in effect meant that the arrangement could not be changed except with the consent of the dev-

spurred the latter in search of convents and chapels to squeeze the hands of nuns and priests red, in the full view of the camera. This was not 'a Papist Plot' as Paisley roared at his meetings, nor was it the result of a rare hysteria from an Orangeman like O'Neill, but simply the changing needs of capitalism which was in the process of giving itself a more acceptable face.

NEXT WEEK:

'THE BRUSSELS CONSPIRACY'.



EDWARD CARSON.

ROLL OF DISHONOUR

A

NEVER ENDING SAGA



the Brigadier

"How anyone of your affiliations and associations ever came to be permitted to join the UDR is a mystery to me and certainly the vetting procedure which permits people like you to join this regiment requires considerable overhaul." So spoke Justice O'Donnell last week when he sentenced our comrade Richard Long (29) of Comber and the UDR to life for conspiring to murder a taig-sorry, a member of the disloyal minority—last June. Unfortunately comrade Long cocked it up a bit and got an innocent Protestant shot, but, then in the UDR you can't win them all.



□ Eaton's magnificent seven — Section 3 of the 6 UDR Operational Platoon

What amazes and astounds me is O'Donnell's statement. Already we have had the newspapers claiming that entry to the regiment is now going to be "much tougher". Well, as the Brigadier

each for throwing stones at the RUC in Rathcoole during "the stoppage". Mawhinney said they just did it "for the aggro". Sound like good regiment material if the Army release them.

from Fort George in Derry? Lucky old L/Cpl David James of the 1st Light Air Defence Regt got a suspended three months for the same offence.

Meanwhile, congratulations to my colleague

Colonel Colin Eaton C/O of 6th Batt. UDR who has formed a new crack squad whom he calls his 'magnificent seven'. These lads are really splendid chaps and anyone found making snide remarks about "toy SAS men" will get a right shock. When the nice friendly reporter from the Newsletter went down to interview them he found them reading girly magazines but there was a good reason for this. Several of them were illiterate before they joined the regiment and this is part of the high power education programme.

And finally, may I offer my condolences to the boys of Ampleforth school. I understand they are devastated by the death of former head of school and SAS man Capt. Robert Nairac. But, remember, he didn't die in vain, as Cardinal Basil Hume so aptly put it, "Biggles Nairac, as we all knew him, was a very fine and very courageous would be assassin." A real asset to the school, and, remember lads, if you can't get into the SAS there's plenty of room for dirty tricks in the UDR.

Evenin' all.

P.O.W. STATUS

UPDATED

Two people representing the Irish Republican Movement, Mr. Sean Keenan and Mr. Myles Shevlin, solicitor, have returned from Geneva where they were attending the International conference on the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law. This conference is being held under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the object of which is to update the Geneva convention. New protocols dealing with non-international conflicts and the recognition of extra POW categories to cover members of resistance movements and guerrilla fighters are of particular interest to the Irish Republican Movement and relevance to the Irish situation. In view of the fact that Britain has repeatedly stated that she is at war in Ireland and also that the Dublin government has declared an 'emergency' based on "the armed conflict in the North/East" means that under the additional protocols all the men and women suffering brutality in Irish and British jails are entitled to POW status and conditions. Both the Dublin and London governments are

deeply disturbed by, and resisting, these developments.

The Irish delegation distributed literature about the Irish political prisoner issues, both in Ireland and Britain. They delivered a letter from the Foreign Affairs Department of Sinn Fein to each delegation they met to embassies and missions they visited. Much sympathy and concern was expressed by the other international delegations about the recent Portlaoise Hunger Strike and the disturbing reports from H-block Long Kesh and the prisons in Britain.

The Foreign Affairs Department of Sinn Fein is determined to continue its work of alerting international political and humanitarian bodies to the true nature of the Irish/British conflict as being a war of National Liberation. We intend to seek their assistance in alleviating the brutal conditions imposed on the prisoners and further to secure their support. Politically to bring this war to a just and final conclusion.

Richard Behal,
Sinn Fein Foreign
Affairs Department.

COUNCIL BANS CONFERENCE ON P.T.A.

A trade union conference on the Prevention of Terrorism Act had to be abandoned as a result of a ban by Hammersmith Council. The conference was to have been held on Sunday 15th May at the Town Hall, Hammersmith. But on the Friday permission to use the premises was withdrawn. No reason was given.

There is something peculiar about this withdrawal of permission to hold the meeting. The booking and the money had already been accepted.

Due to the cancellation having been left so late the organisers found it impossible to get another venue for the meeting at such short notice. Thus for the moment the Hammersmith Council becomes an effective censor.

The conference was backed by about twenty trade union branches.

Representatives of the national council of civil liberties were to have attended also.

There is growing concern at the use of this act by the police. Of the many hun-

dreds detained under its provisions only a small minority has been charged with any offence related to terrorism. There is also a growing suspicion that the police are using the act to gather information on matters other than terrorism.

The injustices of the act were recently spotlighted by the detention of Labhras O Murchu the chief executive of Corhaltais Ceoltóirí Éireann. Padraig Ua Corbaidh.

Letter to Diplomatic Law Delegates

The Irish Republican Movement congratulates the Delegates on the progress towards affording status and humane treatment for those engaged in the struggle for liberation. They hope that the Delegates will, as a first priority, seek to ensure the implementation by the Powers concerned of the terms of the Protocol.

In Ireland North and South, and in Great Britain, there are over 1,500 Irish prisoners, members of the Irish Republican Movement, jailed as

participants in the armed conflict directed at smashing British Imperial Control in Ireland. The Governments concerned seek to brand these prisoners as criminal, and treat them in an inhuman, cruel and degrading manner.

On behalf of the Republican Movement and on behalf of the relatives of the prisoners, we, the undersigned, request the intervention of the Delegates. We respectfully suggest.

1. That you have an

obligation to inform yourselves of the position.

2. That you insist that the Irish and British Delegations respect the spirit of the Protocol by affording decent treatment to the Irish Prisoners in Irish and British prisons.

3. That you supervise the implementation of the terms of the Protocol in so far as they apply to these prisoners.

Signed Sean Keenan.

DIARY OF EVENTS

TUESDAY 10th MAY

A Donaghadee hotel is burnt. The owner had kept it open during the stoppage. Firemen rescue 3 people from blaze. In an unoccupied house in Monkstown a body is found after a fire has started. It is later revealed the victim was a UDA man, and it is thought he was preparing petrol-bombs in the house. On the Crumlin Road, a bomb explodes in a petrol station, killing one, injuring 12 (7 serious). Later, RUC coming to the scene are stoned by a hostile crowd gathered nearby. The dead man, Mr. Geddis, was a corporal in the UDR and the son of one of the UUAC members.

WEDNESDAY 11th MAY.

After yesterday's murder of the bus-driver, people walk to work or stay at home. The bus-drivers meet Roy Mason, and announce they will not resume work until after the funeral of their colleague, on Friday. A British soldier is shot & wounded on Loughgall Road, Co. Armagh. A bomb damages a hut on Sirrocco factory grounds. Later claimed by the UFF. Bomb hoax in filling station, Ballysillan. Farmers block the Derry to Limavady road. Paisley addresses the crowd, talking of the battle for survival. Larne harbour still closed. Dockers vote to continue stoppage. Later in the day, Paisley addresses a crowd there, accusing CIA and IRA of plotting "against Ulster". At cement factory in Magheramorne, workers demonstrate support for strike and picket factory gates.

WEDNESDAY 11th MAY

Loyalist Car-bomb in Bangor. Area was cleared after phoned warning. Car bomb in Abbey Street Bus Depot (Belfast). Late at night, the Belfast to Bangor railway line is damaged by a bomb. An incendiary devise damages stationery store in Queen Street, Belfast.

THURSDAY 12th MAY

Murder bid on a petrol-tanker driver in Belfast, on the Donegall Road. Shots are fired through the windscreen, but the man escapes death. (injured by glass). The railway service between Bangor and Belfast is interrupted due to bomb last night. The Portadown house of an RUC man is damaged by hostile crowd. Two cars belonging to RUC men are also damaged. Larne harbour: tension grows as some boats dock in and sail from it. Only "drive-on-drive-off" service is kept going as dockers are on "strike". They meet in Larne Orange Hall, and Paisley addresses

the meeting. He accuses mason & the NIO to have bribed some workers into helping in harbour meanwhile, attempts are made to open Warrenpoint harbour (Co. Down) to traffic. Farmers block roads in Co. Armagh. Later in the day, Paisley in Omagh announces change of tactics in UUAC action (would the UDA be withdrawing its support?) Ballylumford power station is kept running, with allegedly 65% of the workforce. Production is maintained by voluntary work by other shift workers. Eddie Rooney, the Ballymurphy man whom RUC torturers attempted to "suicide" from the 3rd floor of Springfield Road RUC Station, Belfast, has been refused bail. A Fermanagh shop-owner and Justice of the Peace is shot dead in Roslea. A bomb explodes in a tailor's shop in Berry Street, Belfast, close to British Army H.Q. It is the second this month. A warning had been phoned. No casualties. In Westminster, Don Concannon announces an increase of SAS in 6 Cos. Also says that more than 100 prisoners of both sexes are now refusing to do prison work and wear prison clothes. In the prisons of the North. At night, shots are fired at Rathcoole home of a shop steward (Belfast). An incendiary devise is defused in Stewarts supermarket, Crumlin Rd, Belfast. In Crossmaglen, shots are fired at a Brit foot patrol. Fire is returned.

FRIDAY 13th MAY

After yesterday's murder bid, petrol deliveries come to a standstill, while petrol tanker drivers meet Concannon. There is a rumour that the UUAC stoppage is to end. Funeral of the busdriver H. Bradshaw in Newtownabbey. In Upper North Street, Belfast, a shoe shop is damaged by a bomb. Other shops nearby are also damaged. An RUC Land Rover is stoned on the Springfield Road, Belfast. Later, shots are fired at Oldpark RUC station. In the New Lodge area of Belfast, shots are fired at Brit foot patrol. The UUAC stoppage comes officially to an end, late at night. Apart from the 3 deaths 48 civilians & 38 RUC injured, there were 1,761 reported cases of intimidations, and 105 people convicted on various charges.

SATURDAY 14th MAY

In the early hours of the morning, in the New Lodge area of Belfast, Brits injure several people, mostly women, who opp-

osed them when they tried to remove barrels which stop Loyalist gangs from coming into the area (from Tiger Bay). Buses are back on the road. Petrol tankers as well. But Paisley warns of "Lightning strikes" if the Brits don't keep their extra troops and don't attack Republican areas. All the politicians call for the same. Two Belfast men, Hugh Torney and Ronnie Bunting, have lodged complaints against RUC interrogation team in Castlereagh Torture Centre. These people, among other things, carved the letters 'UVF' on Bunting's arm. After a week's conference in Warsaw (Poland) where the delegates were addressed by Mrs Norney (Leo's Mother), the World Peace Council has decided to hold hearings on violations

SUNDAY 15th MAY

In front of Andersonstown RUC station (Belfast) an RUC jeep is stoned. Later, shots are fired at the station. At night, it is revealed that a British Army Officer in South Armagh has been abducted from a pub on Saturday night. A big hunt is on for him on both sides of the Border. He is called R.L. Nairac, and is a grenadier guard captain.

MONDAY 16th MAY

Once again, Airey Neave asks for an all-out offensive against the IRA. IRA Volunteers blow up auction room in Belfast city centre. British Army bomb disposal expert injured by the blast. It is claimed by the IRA that they abducted the British officer in South Armagh on Saturday night, that

he revealed under interrogation that he was a member of the SAS, and was then executed. You will be glad to know that the Peace People have acquired new HQ. The final cost of the new premises will be around £40,000. Besides, two more honorary doctorates have been awarded by Yale University to Dr. B. Williams and Mairead Corrigan. 48 year-old Thomas Mawhinney died in Long Kesh. He was a high-ranking officer in the UVF. Unionist Molyneaux slaps Fitt about his new hope of a job in a power-sharing government. Shortly afterwards, another cold rebuke from Rev. Robert Bradford. In an Ardoyne fruit shop (Belfast), a bomb injures 3. It is revealed that talks have been going on between Nobel Peace Prize Sean McBride and Unionist barrister Desmond Boal, in a peace initiative on behalf of Republicans and Loyalist paramilitaries.

TUESDAY 17th MAY

SAS man: the search goes on. Nothing. Mason promises that half of the extra troops brought to North for Loyalist stoppage, are to stay. IRA blows up store in York Street. Boal-McBride peace talks: the loyalists trip over themselves to deny anything of the kind, in a flurry which Sinn Fein qualifies as "hysterical". Meanwhile, politicians sound worried (up Fitt). In Portadown, 25 USC men are charged. Cases are adjourned. UDR member is shot at in Maghera, Co. Derry.

Pictured above, the 'carved' letters UVF on Ronnie Bunting's arm.

Right: A young man from the New Lodge area of Belfast after he received 27 stitches following an attack on him by the Green Jackets.

SATURDAY 14th MAY
of Human Rights in Ireland's occupied North. SDLP warns people, that should they not vote, and should the Provos be calling for a boycott of Local Government elections, then the people would be thought to back the Provos (what??).

A lot of activity among 'respectable' politicians, NIO etc... to try and capitalise on the ending of the strike. While Gerry Fitt stresses that the RUC's good conduct during the strike earned them the support of the nationalist population, Sinn Fein states that harassment of Republican areas has increased (checks, raids, torture, etc...).



Green Jackets

back in New Lodge

The Green Jackets are back on the New Lodge, as many people know to their cost, after their usual method of introduction when they went on the rampage because they weren't allowed to beat up the women and children of Spamount and Upper Meadow Streets.

It happened on Friday night the "Unlucky 13th". The vigilantes as usual put out the barrels used as chicanes for protection from incursions by Loyalist factions, normal procedure since the start of the "Emergency". When the Green Jackets accompanied by that "Gentleman of the first order" Major Wolsley, arrived and ordered that the chicanes be moved they were told in no uncertain terms that the barrels would remain and immediately the order was given to forcibly remove them. But as usual they hadn't reckoned on the brave women of the New Lodge who sat on the barrels and refused to move.

The Brits once again showed how "Courageous" (SIC) they could be when it came to assaulting women.

But when numbers of young men attempted to go to the aid of the women the mealy mouthed

Major sent for reinforcements to handle the situation.

The Green Jackets 'Handled the situation' alright in their usual manner, by laying about them with batons, rifles, any weapon they could get their hands on, aided by their cronies encamped on the roof of the flats, who decided that a few live rounds would not come amiss. A mobile patrol in Upper Meadow St. Also fired four live rounds at the advancing crowd.

At the end of it all a number of young men were seriously injured. One received severe facial injuries requiring 27 stitches and another received facial and leg injuries requiring 18 stitches. Another man Gerard Johnston of Spamount St. was dragged from his own home and badly beaten. He was arrested and released. He was re-arrested at 6.00a.m. On Monday, charged with assault and riotous behaviour and appeared in court. He was brought directly to hospital where he was admitted and is now vomiting blood. The other young men were also charged.

Oh Yes the Green Jackers are back!!



Joey Fitzsimmons.

Martin Engelen.

Jackie McIlhones.



Eddie McDonnell.

Staff Capt. Joey Fitzsimmons,
1st Lt. Martin Engelen.

Lt. Jackie McIlhones
Lt. Eddie McDonnell,

B. Coy 3rd Batt. Belfast Brigade.

Killed in Action

28th May 1972.

Far greater the grave or the prison, illuminated by one patriot name, Than the trophies of those who have risen, on liberties ruins to fame.

Always remembered by their comrades 3rd & 4th Batts. Oglair Na h-Eireann. Go ndeana Dia Trocaire Ar a n-Ainmeancha Usail.

Toomebridge

cumann repudiates Paisley lies

"The McCann/Grant Sinn Fein Cumann, Toomebridge, repudiate the lies told by Ian Paisley in an interview during the week. It was not Republicans who fired shots in Toomebridge last Tuesday. It was the Loyalist Farmers on the tractor barricades who did the shooting as the RUC can verify. These farmers would be as well urging Paisley to shut his big mouth lest someone publish their identities, giving the farmers and Paisley red faces."

BRIT RAMPAGE IN BALLYMURPHY

We would like to protest very strongly, about the behaviour of the British Army in the Ballymurphy area of Belfast. In the past week over thirty houses have been raided, men, women and children, have been abused verbally and physically. People have had their windows broken, fencing torn down, and doors kicked in. After house-raids by the Brits people have found that photographs, Long Kesh souvenirs, and other personal items have gone missing. So due to these

events we call on all the people of Ballymurphy to come out on to the streets, whenever they see a Brit footpatrol enter the area. Remember, it is in your interest that you come out, we are here to help you but you must help yourselves. Rattle your bin lids, blow your whistles, and we will be successful.

AN CUMANN
LIAM MCPARLAND
SINN FEIN ADVICE
CENTRE
BALLYMURPHY.

— RAC MARCH — AND RALLY —

The Central Committee of the Relatives Action Committee have organised a march and rally on May 22nd. The march is from the Busy Bee Andersonstown to the centre of Belfast, it will start at 3 p.m.

The Relatives Action Committee are determined in the future to press ahead with the campaign to defend the special status of the Republican and Socialist P.O.W.'s. We reject the campaign of the British Government to portray the Prisoners as criminals, we maintain that

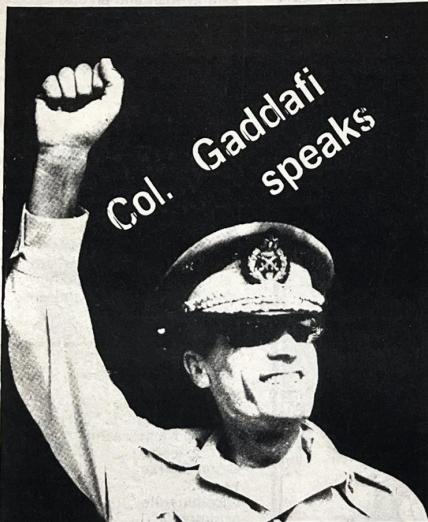
a War of National Liberation is being waged in Ireland, and demand the special status for our prisoners because of this.

We condemn the policy of the Prison authorities to humiliate the relatives visiting prisoners. We welcome the decision of the Red Cross International convention in giving P.O.W. status to people involved in Liberation struggles.

We protest at the continuing policy of attempting to demoralise the prisoners in H-Block Long Kesh by refusing to allow

them to shave. This can only be seen as a attempt to dehumanise the prisoners. We are calling for maximum support for the rally on Sunday May 22nd, to show that the people care about the men in H Block Long Kesh and the women in C Wing Armagh Prison on who are in the vanguard of the fight to defend Political Status.

P.R.O.
CENTRAL COMMITTEE
RELATIVES ACTION
COMMITTEE.



A few words from Colonel Gaddafi, "We see ourselves as one of the supporters of world revolution. If we assist the Irish people it is simply because here we see a small people still under the yoke of Great Britain, and fighting to free themselves from it. And it must be remembered that the revolutionaries of the IRA are striking, and striking hard, at a power which has humiliated the Arabs for centuries".

"But to return to the question of aid to Ireland, this enables us to kill three birds with one stone. We still support the liberation movements, we are showing the whole world that the Arab world is passing from the defensive to the attack, we pay Great Britain back in some way, even though minimally, for the harm she had done and continues to do in our countries".

NOTES ON SAS

One of the strands that evolved into the SAS was the 5th Battalion Scots Guards, a secret unit that fought against Russia in Finland during 1940.

Guardsmen were prominent in the formation of subsequent SAS units. This link became more formalised in 1964 when the Guards Independent Parachute Company was attached under the command of the SAS in Borneo; and from this experience a 4th SAS squadron was formed in 1966 exclusively from Guardsmen and members of the Household Division.

This Squadron, known as 'G' Squadron is distinguished from the other SAS personnel by the wearing of the SAS cap badge, the winged dagger on a dark

blue and red background and by having the rank of Lance Sergeant, a rank not found in the other SAS squadrons.

The reduction in size of the British airborne forces in late 1975 led to the disbandment of the Guards' Independent Parachute company and some 20 of its personnel were transferred to 'G' Squadron S.A.S.

'G' Squadron is now commanded by Major N.H. ROSE, Coldstream Guards. His second-in-command is believed to be Captain J. Windham of the Irish Guards. His Squadron Sergeant Major is M. Farrar, Coldstream Guards other senior officers of 'G' Squadron are Captain Holmes and J. Trevaskis and the Hon. R. Bethell of the Scots Guards.

2ND. BATT.

STATEMENT

2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade IRA punished a man by knee capping, on the Whiterock road last Thursday, 12 of May. This man with others, who are known to us, and who will be dealt with at a later stage, were involved in criminal activities against the people of the Republican areas.

Let this be a warning to all who are involved or who participate in criminal activities. The people

must be protected, the people will be protected.

We would also like to take this opportunity, in congratulating the women of Ballymurphy who day after day come on to the streets, rattling their bin lids and blowing their whistles when the Brits come into the area. We would ask them to keep up the good work as it is greatly appreciated.

2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade IRA.

THANKS.

We, the Ballymurphy Green Cross Committee, would like to thank very sincerely, the Claddagh folk group from Castlewellan, who last week, during the loyalist strike, made their way to Ballymurphy, in order to play at a function (without payment) in aid of charity.

Thanks Boys.

I.R.A. CLAIMS NEWRY ATTACK

2nd Batt South Down Oglalaigh na h-Eireann

The command claims responsibility for the attack on a British Army patrol in Newry last week. An ASU under the command carried out the attack, in which at least one British soldier was seriously injured. We again appeal to the public at large to keep clear of all patrols and military vehicles. Operations are being hindered by the public, they must be on their guard, especially when British military personnel are in the area. We have now completed a dossier on those people who serve members of the occupation forces on their

premises as our past warnings have not been heeded, appropriate action will follow.

WARRENPOINT HARBOUR.

The command calls on the harbour authorities to seek withdrawal of the British occupation forces from the Warrenpoint harbour complex. The British army have been using the area for some time, especially the Royal marine commandos, for their intelligence work. As a direct result of this behaviour we deem the complex as a legitimate target.

NOW ON SALE FROM REPUBLICAN PRESS CENTRE, 170a FALLS ROAD BELFAST.

SHEET OF STICKERS TEN PER SHEET 10 pence PER SHEET.

THE STICKERS READ "VICTORY TO THE IRISH FREEDOM FIGHTERS" ALSO ON SALE "JAMES CONNOLLY" BADGES AT 15 PENCE EACH POST EXTRA/SPECIAL RATES FOR BULK ORDERS.

In Memoriam



Volunteer FRANCIS RICE.

A large crowd attended a commemoration for Vol. Francis Rice which was held in Bryansford cemetery last Sunday. Prayers were said in Irish and an oration was given in honour of the dead Volunteer whose anniversary occurs this week.

Rice.

In proud and loving memory of Vol. Francis Anthony Rice, South Down, Oglalaigh na hEIREANN; Castlewellan, who died on May 18, 1975, Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on his soul. Always remembered by his Comrades in the South Down Command, Irish Republican Army.

O'DOMHNAILL.

I Noll Culmhne
Thomas Ball de G.H.Q.
Oglalaigh Na hEireann.
A Thug a bleo
ar son saolse
17.4.73.
I goimhneadh
gcuimhe
as acairle
an acairle
Caileach Macthomais
& An Clann.

Do you enjoy Ceili Dancing Come to the Terry Mc Dermott Ceili every Monday Night and support the National Graves Association, Top class ceili music and a good night guaranteed.

Adm. 40p.

