

PRESS RELEASE

from

SINN FÉIN

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ARRESTS UNDER OASA

The arrest this morning of a number of prominent Republicans in various parts of the 26 Counties is a further indication of Mr. Jack Lynch's willingness to co-operate with the English aggressors in the Six Counties.

The Offences Against the State Act has now been invoked to help crush the resistance in the North. Those arrested are charged with ' incitement'.

Mr. Lynch himself should be the last one to talk of incitement. He it was who went on radio and television in 1969 to tell the minority in the North that he would not stand idly by while they were attacked. He would send troops to the Border and he would protect them. History has now recorded this. History has also recorded that on hearing his words the nationalist youth of Derry were encouraged to resist (with mere stones) their attackers.

But having encouraged ^{them} /thus Mr. Lynch did in fact let them down. He is now openly collaborating with the aggressors. If Republicans have over the past few years pledged themselves to defend the minority in the North , they have honoured that pledge. Some of them have made the supreme sacrifice in doing so. History will record them as being ^{the} /heroes of our time. Mr. Jack Lynch will be classified with the John Redmonds of Irish history. Every move he and his government make against the Republican Movement ensures that.

SINN FÉIN 2a SRÁID CHAOIMHÍN Íoch BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH 8

Teileafón 781552
