



AN CAMCHÉACHTA THE STARRY PLOUGH

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HERE TO STAY!

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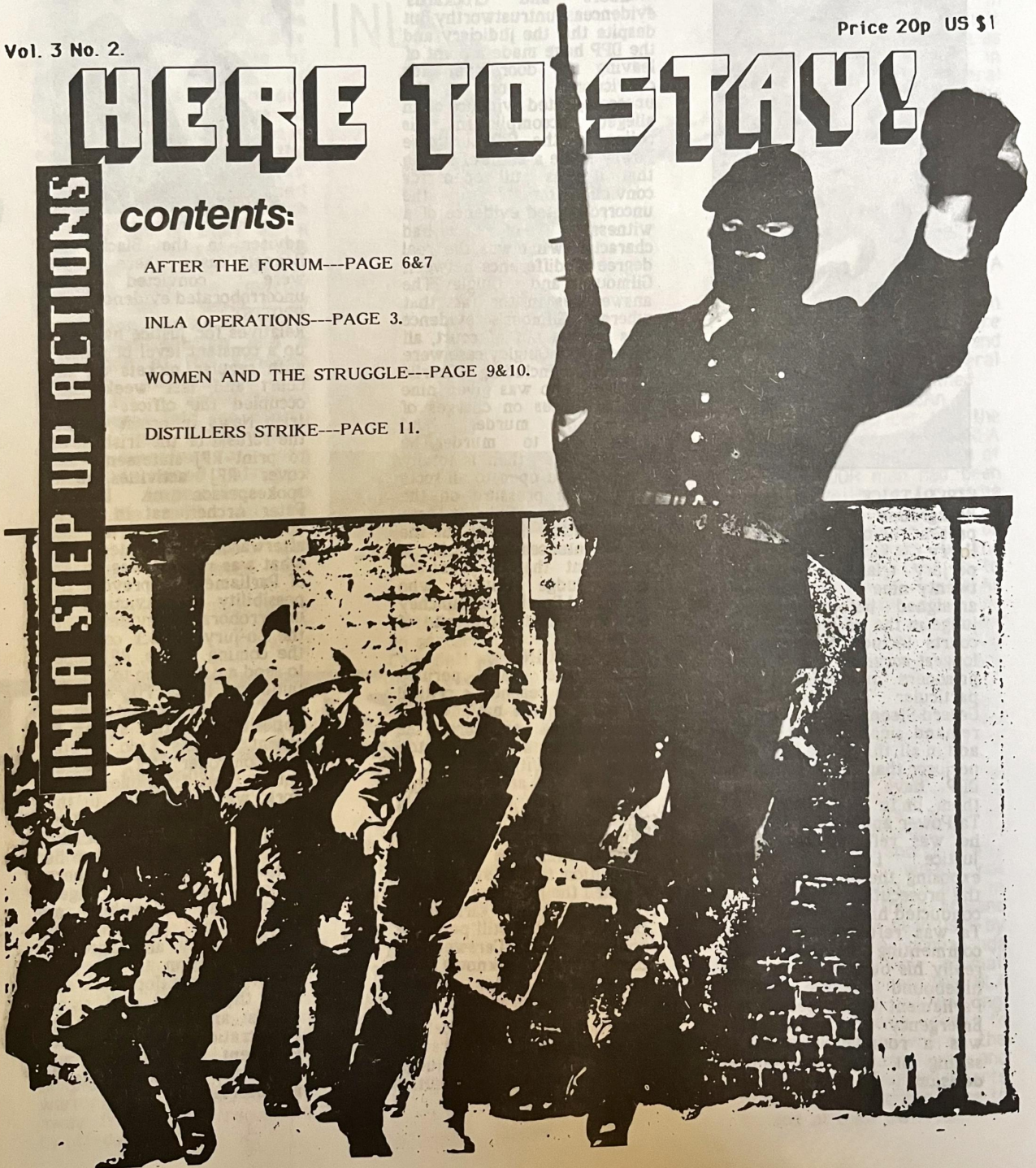
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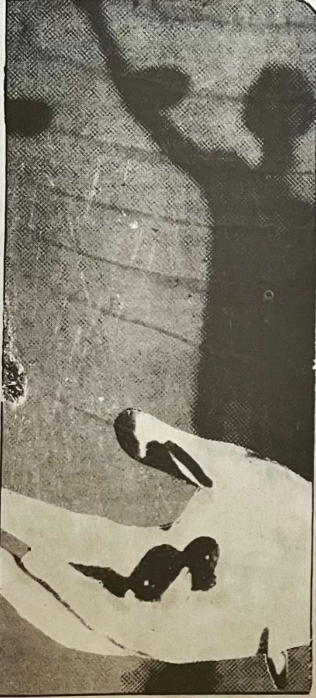
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INLA STEP UP ACTIONS



PAID PERJURY - MORE CRITICISM



KIRKPATRICK

Background evidence is at present being given in the Harry Kirkpatrick paid perjury trial in Belfast. The twenty-nine defendants arraigned before a single judge in the no-jury Diplock courts include some of the longest-serving remand prisoners in British jails. In particular Ta Power and Gerard Steenson have been on remand since February 1982 and in all, this is the fifth paid perjurer that the RUC and the DPP have tried to convict them on. In November 1984 Ta Power applied for bail and he was referred to Chief Justice Lowry. Despite exposing the total fallacy of the prosecution case when he conducted his own application, Ta was refused bail; Lowry commenting that it was not really his business as he was hidebound by the Act of Parliament which passed the Emergency Provisions Act. It was a roundabout way of saying it was a political decision.

KNOCKS

The paid perjury system has taken further knocks in recent months with the rejection of

Gilmours' and Crockards' evidences untrustworthy. But despite this the judiciary and the DPP have made a point of leaving the door open for convictions on the uncorroborated evidence of an alleged accomplice. In his ruling in the Gilmour case Lowry made a point of saying that it was still open for convictions on the uncorroborated evidence of a witness of bad character. What was the real degree of difference between Gilmour and Quigley? The answer lies in the fact that whereas Gilmour's evidence was thrown out of court, all those in the Quigley case were convicted including Charlie Crumley who was given nine life sentences on charges of attempted murder and conspiracy to murder. The dividing line then is totally arbitrary and open to all sorts of political pressure on the judge. In the Quigley case Judge Hutton handed out the life sentences and it is significant that it was the same Judge Hutton who sentenced Dominic McGlinchey on the most flimsiest of evidence.

CRITICAL POINT

The whole paid perjury system has reached a critical stage. Due to the national and International exposure, the RUC have been forced to stop mass recruitment of perjurers and arrests in large numbers. The rejection of Gilmour's and Crockard's evidence would seem to indicate that the amount of opposition to the system has reached the judiciary. But the danger in the Kirkpatrick case is that it is still perfectly open for Judge Carswell to convict and who knows what behind-the-scenes political pressure will be exerted

before the end of the trial. One ominous sign is that Carswell, before he was made a judge, was the chief prosecution



Peter King — witnessing supergrass trials.

adviser in the Black and Bennett cases where people were convicted on uncorroborated evidence.

PROTEST

Relatives for Justice has kept up a constant level of protest with regular pickets on the Court and last week they occupied the offices of the Irish News in protest against the refusal of the Irish News to print RFJ statements and cover RFJ activities. Labour spokesperson on Ireland, Peter Archer, sat in as an observer at the trial and afterwards commented that what was needed was an Act of Parliament to prevent the possibility of convictions on uncorroborated evidence in the no-jury Diplock courts. In the coming weeks, RFJ hopes to send a delegation to Dublin to lobby TDs and get them to make a statement in opposition to the system. In recent weeks too, Peter King, Controller of Nassau County (pop. 1.5 million), New York, was on a visit to the North to observe both the Kirkpatrick and Crockard trials. At a press conference he criticised the Northern judiciary in the strongest terms as "becoming an adjunct of political and military policy" and expressed total opposition to the paid perjury system. Hopes are still high that black civil rights activist and contender for the Democratic nomination for President, Jesse Jackson, will attend the Kirkpatrick trial as an observer

STEADY RISE IN OPERATIONS

The past few months have seen a marked increase in INLA activity. Many of the so-called 'security-experts' and media speculators had written off the INLA as an effective force, but it is now clear that the INLA is organised and capable of mounting a range of operations which has meant that the fighting arm of republican socialism is here and here to stay. What the Brits and all the 'experts' fail to see is that the armed struggle against British Imperialism is built on a base of popular support and it is that base of popular support that no matter what the level of repression, can be the basis for a continuation and a deepening of the struggle against Imperialism in Ireland. An authoritative INLA source told the 'Starry Plough' that "We are gearing ourselves for a long and determined struggle against Imperialism in Ireland. We will not be pushed into over extending ourselves, but will continue to tighten the screw"

In a supplied statement to the 'Starry Plough', the INLA claimed the following operations:



17th December 1984. Outspoken sectarian bigot, Gregory Campbell was the target of an INLA booby-trap attack in Derry. The device was defused when it dropped from the car and in a statement from the Derry Brigade of the INLA, they specifically mentioned Campbell's sectarian rantings in support of the Brit/RUC shoot-to-kill policy and warned loyalist politicians that they could not indefinitely go on stirring up sectarianism and inciting a policy of murder and repression on the Nationalist people.

16th January 1985. An RUC mobile patrol came under attack as it was turning into Mountpottinger RUC station. An INLA unit opened fire with automatic weapons. Several shots hit the landrover but no hits were claimed.

18th January 1985. A top member of the infamous Northern judiciary was the target for an INLA attack. The unit had set up an ambush only yards from the High court in Chichester Street and the bomb was lobbed at the car while other members of the unit waited to open fire with automatic weapons. After the bomb failed to detonate the unit then withdrew safely.

22nd January 1985 In a well-planned operation in Downpatrick an INLA unit ambushed an RUC reservist as he was leaving his work in Downshire hospital. Several shots went through the windscreen of the car, but the reservist escaped injury. He was taken from the car in an hysterical state, waving his gun wildly. He was then escorted to hospital where presumably he will stay for some time.

23rd January 1985 An INLA unit ambushed an RUC mobile patrol at Unity Flats in Belfast. The unit opened fire with automatic weapons and the landrover was hit several times. No hits were claimed.

24th February 1985. An intelligence officer in the UDR was shot dead by an INLA unit in the Waterside area of Derry. The UDR man had been under surveillance for some time in his undercover role of collecting information on republican activists in the area and passing this on to the 'shoot-to-kill' squads. As is practice with many of these UDR undercover operations the UDR claimed that he had formally left the regiment some years ago, but the presence of many high-ranking UDR men at his funeral served to indicate his true role.

25th February 1985 The INLA gave warning that while Britain pursued its policy of murder and repression in Ireland, British sports teams and individuals would not freely be allowed to play in Ireland. The Northern Ireland soccer team has been used by the NIO as a propaganda device to prove how 'normal' the situation is here. The INLA unit, following a warning, exploded a bomb near to Windsor Park, where the English team was playing and warned that English sports teams and individuals came to Ireland 'at their own risk'.

WAR NEWS

17th December 1984. British soldiers from the notorious Palace barracks Holywood had a lucky escape when an INLA bomb exploded near the "Deep" nightclub, just beside the barracks. Persistent intelligence had shown that the Brits took the same route back from the nightclub. On the night in question particularly bad weather sent the Brits scurrying back early and when the bomb exploded they had just passed. The Belfast Brigade again repeated its warning to civilians to stay away from places frequented by off-duty Brits.

HISTORY OF THE PARTY (PART 2)

1978-79

During mid-summer 1978 new party premises were opened in Belfast and Derry. The Derry office was opened by James Connolly's daughter Nora Connolly O'Brien. In later years both offices were wrecked by British Army/RUC raids and in May 1983 the Belfast office was seriously damaged in an arson attack.

BODENSTOWN

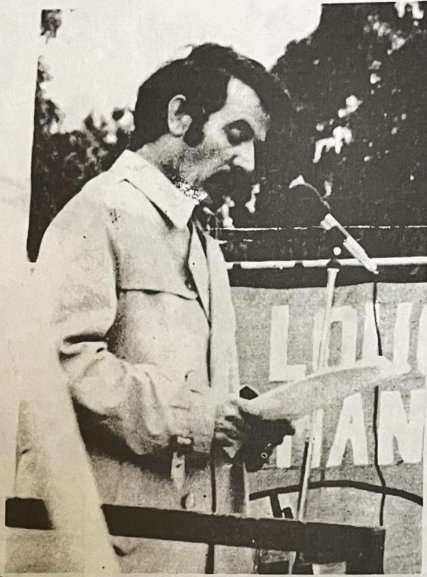
On June 25th almost one thousand IRSP members and supporters marched from Salinis to honour the memory of Wolfe Tone. Miriam Daly chaired the commemoration and the oration was given by Micky Montgomery from Derry. In a wide ranging oration in which he referred to Connolly and Lenin, Micky gave unqualified support to the armed struggle and attacked sections of the Irish and British left who seemed to support revolutionary struggles only if they were several thousand miles away.

RELEASED

In late autumn, Michael Plunkett, IRSP National Organiser was released from prison, having been found not guilty of involvement in the 'Great Train Robbery'. Due to the persistent campaign spearheaded by the IRSP, the State conspiracy to frame the Party, was beginning to crumble. It was finally to explode in the face of the State with the release of Nicky Kelly from jail in 1984.

VISITORS

In November IRSP delegates met US Congressman Mario Biaggi of the Ad Hoc Congressional Committee on Irish affairs. The Party pointed out that the chief aggressor was the British government and pointed out the fallacy of portraying the struggle as a Catholics vs Protestants situation, which the British government had been persistently doing in the US.



MICKY MONTGOMERY AT BODENSTOWN

Meanwhile, in the North the H-Block campaign was beginning to gain increased momentum. A demonstration had been called by the local Relatives Action Committee, but due to pressure and threats by local Loyalists, Roy Mason had imposed a ban on the march. In defiance of the ban, over 6,000 nationalists took to the streets. Among the speakers was Miriam Daly who spoke on behalf of the Party. Miriam became one of the chief organisers of the fight for political status and spoke at numerous meetings throughout the country. Miriam also represented the Party at the annual Casement Commemoration at Murlough Bay and at the 10th anniversaries of Dungannon and Derry's first civil rights march in 1968.

IRSP 3

In early 1979 Brian McNally was sentenced to nine years penal servitude and Osgur Breatnach to twelve as a result of the longest trial in Irish legal history. Despite an extensive campaign to highlight the State

frame-up in the Great Train Robbery case, the State could not stomach finding them not guilty as that would have been to admit that in fact the Heavy Gang did exist and did beat false confessions from Kelly, McNally and Breatnach. But instead of being the end of the matter the case was to re-emerge with the McNally and Breatnach appeals and the case of Nicky Kelly. The State was only succeeding in dragging themselves further and further into the mire.

ATTACK

On 6th January at the Irish National Foresters Club in the Lower Falls district of Belfast

known members of the Worker's Party opened fire on a number of IRSP members and supporters, seriously wounding two, Tommy Boyle and Fra O'Connor. The attack was only

the latest in a series of attacks by the degenerate Workers' Party, in which Joe Heaney was shot eight times and the wife of the late Joe McCann was attacked and seriously injured. The 'Starry Plough' accused the SF/WP leadership of "being in alliance with imperialist forces"

H-BLOCK

Throughout the year many prominent people were expressing their concern at the situation in the H-Blocks. One such letter was signed by Michael Mullen, General Secretary of the ITGWU, Ulick O'Connor, Siobhan McKenna, Francis Stuart, Benedict Kiely and Liam de Paor and appeared in the Starry Plough. It stated "We the undersigned would like to express our anxiety at the continuing and deteriorating conditions in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh."

CONFERENCE

As part of an attempt to gain wider international support, Mick Plunkett on behalf of the Party attended an international conference in Frankfurt. Other Irish speakers included Richard Behal, Paul Graham and Sean Halpenny (all Sinn Fein), and a representative of Revolutionary Struggle. Before returning, Mick addressed other meetings in France, including the annual conference of the Ligue Communiste in Paris.

FAMILY PLANNING

The IRSP reacted strongly against Haughey's introduction of a family planning bill and unlike some other republican



AIREY NEAVE EXECUTED BY THE INLA

groups, were not afraid to take a strong stand on the issue. The Party argued that "It has all the ingredients of the Mother and Child scandal in it. It is a bill to satisfy the Catholic hierarchy and appease the middle classes".

SOLIDARITY

The International campaign to gain solidarity with the H-Block prisoners continued on April 21st with a conference in Liberty Hall. Delegates from numerous revolutionary parties in Europe attended and Irish delegates included those from the IRSP, Sinn Fein, RAC, ICRA, TUCAR and SCAR. The conference also discussed the more general issue of

repression in European countries. Mary Reid spoke on behalf of the IRSP.

AIREY NEAVE

In the April issue of the Starry Plough a brief obituary appeared. It read: "In March retired terrorist and supporter of capital punishment, Airey Neave, got a taste of his own medicine when an INLA unit pulled off the operation of the decade and blew him to bits inside the 'impregnable' Palace of Westminster. The nauseous Margaret Thatcher snivelled on television that he was an

"incalculable loss"--and so he was--to the British ruling class."

ARD FHEIS

At the Ard Fheis of that year resolutions covered such issues as anti-imperialist unity, National liberation and Socialism; the campaign for withdrawal from the EEC and support for the Relatives Action Committees (RAC's).

Gerry Roche was elected as national chairperson and at the oration at Bodenstown which he gave later that year he said "In the past 12 months the IRISH NATIONAL LIBERATION ARMY has carried out numerous attacks against British occupation forces. The INLA is engaged in a war of National Liberation, and intends to pursue that war until Britain leaves this island".

H-BLOCK COMMITTEE

In Autumn the crises in the H-Block had reached such a stage that the policy the Party had been advocating for some time, the Broad Front, was finally put into operation. It was an important decision and one which was to have a vital influence on the unity and mobilisation achieved during the hunger-strike campaigns. The National H-Block

Committee, which was formed in late October had several leading members of the Party on its National Executive. Politically the formation of the H-Block committee showed that the objective conditions for raising broad demands on the national question had improved.

CONTRADICTIONS

Late 1979 was to be a crucial period for the years ahead. The movement found itself in a somewhat contradictory position. On the one hand it had survived the murder of Seamus Costello and the INLA had mounted the spectacular execution of Airey Neave. The use of the mercury-tilt booby traps and the acquisition of a number of AK-47 assault rifles had increased the operational potential of the INLA, but there remained a number of serious organisational questions yet to be resolved. The possibility of a cohesive politico-military strategy emerging had not been fulfilled and by late 1979 repression had again taken a heavy toll on the operational capacity of the INLA. The IRSP was still heavily dependant on a small number of dedicated individuals and had not resolved some fundamental political issues which was necessary to create a revolutionary movement and forge a revolutionary strategy. During this period the party's consistent opposition to any federal solution was adopted in wider circles in the republican movement and this was to lead eventually to the dropping of Sinn Fein's policy of a federal solution and a 9-County Ulster.

To be continued

THE UDR AND THE LOYALIST DEATH SQUADS. A NEW IRSP PAMPHLET OUTLINING THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE UDR AND THE PROTESTANT ACTION FORCE (PAF). AVAILABLE FROM 34 UPPR GARDINER ST., DUBLIN AND 392 FALLS ROAD BELFAST.

AFTER THE FORUM

THE BRITS FITZGERALD AND THE WAY AHEAD

AFTER THATCHER DISPELLED ANY PRETENCE OF A CONCESSION TO IRISH NATIONALISM WITH HER 'OUT,OUT,OUT' TO FITZGERALD, THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE AMALGAM OF IRISH INTERESTS WHO DEPEND ON BRITAIN ARE NOW MANOEUVRING AS TO HOW THEY CAN BEST FIND SOME FORMULA WHICH WILL CONFUSE AND DIVERT THE ANTI-IMPERIALIST STRUGGLE.

John Hume is fresh from the fiasco of "talks" with the IRA. He is not long either from Downing Street where, at the request of Thatcher and Hurd they discussed what the press reports called *Anglo-Irish relations, the Forum report and the aftermath of the Chequers Summit*. What benefit for the Irish people John Hume can see in talking to Thatcher is hard if not impossible to see. Unless, of course, Hume is preparing the way for a patched-up 'internal solution' where the SDLP would go back to Stormont for another 60 years of sectarian-

ism. Something is definitely going on and this includes the Unionist Parties as well. What benefit the IRA can see in talking to Hume is hard to see as well, save to aid Sinn Fein in their courting of the SDLP. On the other hand talk of a "pan-nationalist front" by Gerry Adams is potentially dangerous, there is all the difference in the world between an anti-imperialist activist front, like the H-block campaign and an electoral Sinn Fein-SDLP front which can only lead to opportunism.

In early January, Pdraig O'Malley author of the book 'Uncivil Wars' and an outspoken supporter of Garret Fitzgerald, organised a political conference in Warrenton, Virginia USA. The conference was sponsored by the 'Institute of Strategic Management', a CIA front organisation, which itself is linked with M16's 'Institute for the Study of Conflict' in London. As well as the US academics, representatives from

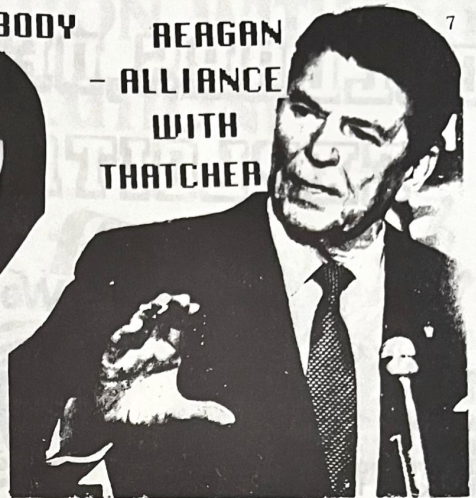
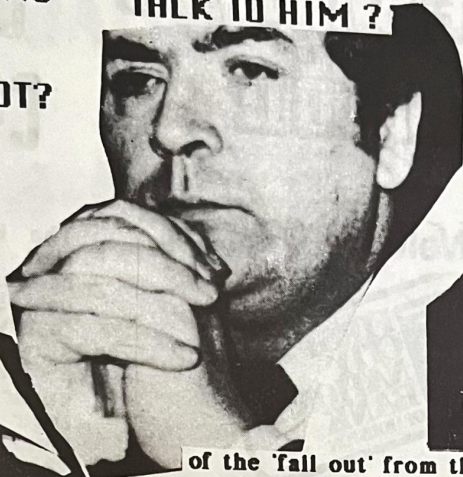
establishment political parties in Britain and Ireland took part. Fianna Fail was the only party not to send representatives, but even here several supporters of the O'Malley wing of Fianna Fail attended in an unofficial capacity. The meeting was significant in the sense that the question of Ireland was of a wider strategic interest to US and British capitalism. The anti-



**HAUGHEY - ASKING
AFTER HIS TEAPOT?**

**HUME - WILL NOBODY
TALK TO HIM?**

**REAGAN
- ALLIANCE
WITH
THATCHER**



imperialist struggle in Ireland must be placed in an International context. Reagan and Thatcher have formed an International reactionary axis pledged to suppress any Revolutionary movement. The Reagan victory in the US Presidential election has now given them a stronger hand domestically to take action against anti-imperialist movements.

High on this list must be the new Revolutionary Government of Nicaragua and other Revolutionaries in the area. The issue of the positioning of cruise missiles in Europe and upping the 'cold war' rhetoric with the USSR, demands allies in Europe and Thatcher is his strongest one. Ireland's strategic role for NATO remains an important element in any of imperialism's plans for Ireland. It is then interesting to note some

of the 'fall out' from this high level conference in the US. The DUP have interested themselves in talks with the SDLP. The SDLP have said 'Yes we will, no we won't' and then eventually agreed. Free State Defence Minister Paddy Cooney commented that neutrality was a policy rather than a principle and that a future military alliance with other EEC countries could not be ruled out. More recently SDLP vice-chairperson, Seamus Mallon said in the US that he would be prepared to trade Irish neutrality for unity.

In the aftermath of the outright rejection of the Forum report, is the Irish ruling class prepared to cobble together some form of internal solution? IF THEY THOUGHT THEY COULD GET AWAY WITH IT THEN THEY WOULD TRY IT.

Irish capitalism is not in good shape. Economically, the total dependence on international capitalism has meant constantly growing unemployment

and a massive debt to the international bankers, akin to countries in Latin America. It has driven the bourgeois political parties away from any semblance of political principles and towards opportunism of the most hollow kind. The national struggle still remains a vibrant and persistent issue and the longer it remains the greater it draws the legitimacy of the bourgeois parties into question. Behind and allied to the national struggle lies the dynamic of a wide-ranging anti-imperialist struggle in Ireland. It is this, coupled with their own glaring inability to do anything to solve the mounting political and economic crises, that the ruling class parties are afraid of. It is driving them into a frenzy to patch a formula together, a scheme that will buy them time.



DOLLARS, DEBT AND EXPLOITATION

BANK OF AMERICA **B** Wells Fargo Bank.



Various degrees of panic have set in amongst the international money markets in recent weeks as the US dollar has attempted to assert its supremacy

The high rate of the dollar against the European currencies and the refusal of the US Federal Reserve Bank to intervene to bring down its value sent Thatcher scurrying over to Reagan in order to talk a bit of 'sense' into him, but to no avail. The US was using the massive increase in international debt to finance its multi-billion dollar budget deficit. Put simply, the economic 'boom' in the US that Reagan has presided over is in fact being kept in motion by the crippling debt repayments from underdeveloped countries. In practice, for the workers and peasants of Latin America and Asia, it meant more wage cuts and food price hikes. Ireland too has had many more thousand dollars added to its international debt just by the rise of a few points in the value of the dollar. The rise of the dollar was so steep that a serious rise in oil prices was threatened which would have effected all of western capitalism.

As a result, towards the end of February, the Central Banks in West Germany, Italy, France, Belgium, Austria, Britain and Japan all sold dollars and reversed temporarily its rise. This opened up the prospect of a distinct divergence of interest between US and European capitalism. This reflects the inability of US capitalism to dominate with

ease and their reliance on the artificial wealth of an inflated dollar. Far from showing the 'new revolution' in the US as Reagan would put it, the high value of the dollar and the economic 'boom' reveals the basic crises of US capitalism and its dependence on the exploitation of underdeveloped countries. In this respect the US must react more and more aggressively to any attempt to disrupt its 'Empire' and so the determined efforts to smash the Nicaraguan revolution and the increase in CIA covert actions throughout the world.

The IMF is the international debt collecting agency of US capitalism and recent imposition of wage cuts and price rises in the Dominican Republic as a result of IMF dictates, provoked widespread riots. Ireland, with its increasing 'debts' to international capitalism will find itself more and more dictated to by the IMF. The policies of a Fine Gael/Labour coalition or Fianna Fail government are going to be increasingly determined by the faceless interests who run the IMF.

Only a decisive break with the international capitalist system can stop the steady slide into increasing unemployment, falling standards of living and massive differences in the distribution of wealth.

CONDOM CAPERS

The hypocrisy and cant that came from certain sections of the establishment over the family planning bill which allowed the free sale of contraceptives was unsurpassed. Fresh from their 'victory' in the amendment campaign, the 'moral majority' threw its weight behind trying to stop this basic democratic right. The Bishop of Dublin nailed his colours to the mast from an early stage and pronounced that the passage of the Bill would flood Ireland with promiscuity, venereal disease and extra-marital sex! This at a time when the Joanne Hayes case in Kerry was displaying the extreme repression of women that still exists in Ireland. The politicians ran for cover once some of the bishops had laid down their position. Fianna Fail treated the whole issue as just another way to embarrass the government and Charlie Haughey made the most idiotic statement for some time when he said there was "absolutely no pressure for this bill". Predictably enough Oliver Flanagan and Alice Glenn refused point blank to support the measure, but then lo and behold, we had some of the radical Labour (yes that radical socialist party) TD's refusing to support it. Why did a Bill which provided no more than what has existed in all other European countries for some time, create such political millstorms in Ireland? It can only stem from the particularly repressive situation women find themselves in and the overwhelmingly

NO WOMENS LIBERATION WITHOUT SOCIALIST REVOLUTION!

MAKE IT A
WOMAN'S WORLD
TOO!



SLAVE OF A SLAVE — WOMEN AND THE STRUGGLE.

Despite some advance in recent years, the issue of women's oppression has not achieved a significant effect on the consciousness of women in nationalist areas. In many instances it has had to take a back seat while this or that has been to the fore. More seriously, however, it has not taken on its own independent form, willing to tackle some basic and controversial issues of everyday life.

The family and the Catholic Church are two of the most important aspects where women's traditional roles and values have been brought into question. Traditionally women's role in the family has been one of mother and domestic slave. She was No. 2 to the man who was the 'bread winner' and the 'head of the house-hold'. The church has always been an important medium in encouraging women to think of themselves in this role. The 'Holy Family', 'Virgin Mary' and the whole weight of traditional Catholic morality were important cultural mechanisms which encouraged women to see themselves in this 'natural' role and also to see their own worth and value in these

terms. While women's reference point was the home and children, the man's was the world of work — the bigger world. Essentially, it was the man who knew the 'ways of the world' and so any community or political organisation tended to reflect this. The Republican and indeed, the Republican Socialist Movement, are no exceptions to this and a deep going male chauvanism goes deeply in both organisations. Of course women have taken an increasing role in all aspects of the struggle and demanded recognition for it. But it is only superficial. Women's issues are just not taken seriously until radical anti-imperialist women can organise an independent current of women in nationalist areas, prepared to tackle deep-rooted prejudices, they will never be taken seriously.

High and increasing male unemployment in nationalist areas have failed to change traditional male attitudes, and if anything has reinforced them. They may not be able to provide the wages for the upkeep of the family, but the despair and resulting alienation has made men's attitudes more intent on keeping their dominant role within the family intact. Tensions over domestic issues has been met with violence by men. In nationalist areas women beating and abuse is a common and serious problem faced by women. The general liberalising of moral attitudes to sexual relations over this past 10 - 15 years has had a number of effects. It has always been part of male attitudes to regard women as both a sexual object and a 'mother figure'. Liberalisation of general sexual values have made women more 'available' for casual sex, but has not brought any increase in equality for women. The value propagated by the capitalist media increase the view of women as sexual



objects, to be 'had' and 'conquered'. Such a view increases the man's alienation from any meaningful human relationship and leaves the woman feeling 'used' and 'degraded'. On a wider level it is a reflection of the wider use of repressive values in the capitalist system to make the man/woman relationship one of domination and not of equality. Attitudes to the family and marriage have been under going significant changes. It is no longer a real stigma for a girl in a Catholic nationalist area to be an unmarried mother and the amount of marital break ups is increasing significantly. This is a result to some extent of the causes mentioned above. But the continual anti imperialist struggle over 15 years has caused traditional roles and values to be questioned and challenged more easily. The National Health System has enabled both contraception and abortion to be made available to women. while contraception is widely availed of and accepted, abortion is still a social stigma. The domination of male values which see abortion as a moral issue rather than a women's right to control her own body is as much a repression issue as a system which bans it altogether.

Men and women approach personal relationships from different views and with different values. Women basing their values on the home, see their partner as a long term contract who can provide security for her and the

children. The 'romantic' notion of love as propagated by girls and women's magazines are idealised life situations which can solve all their problems. 'Romance' also serves as an excuse to put up with the worse excess of male chauvanism. Concentrating as it does on domestic relationships, women's values tend to value affection and human relationships highly. In this they are much less corrupted than men by desire to objectify sexual relations and to de-personalise them. In human sexuality, men's values (i.e. the dominant values of capitalism) have reached a dead end and serve only to alienate men themselves, repress women and act as a block to human liberation.

In Ireland today we face many forms of capitalist oppression. The struggle against womens oppression in all its aspects, can only be taken up by the women themselves and in pursuing their struggle in all its aspects, can only be taken up by the women themselves and in pursuing their struggle can liberate men as well. The womens struggle is allied to and indeed part of the National and Class Struggles because without an end to



British Imperialism we cannot begin to talk of the political situation in which women's struggle can be won. It is part of the class struggle because it is working class women who suffer the oppression most acutely and it them we must try to organise. The organisation of women against their oppression is not just a 'moral' thing that is right in itself, but part of a much broader

revolutionary strategy that we as Republican Socialist must forge to bring into play all the oppressed sectors in a 32 county struggle against imperialism. As can be seen we are calling for an independent Women's Group which will take up not just issues such as Armagh Jail, but set out to raise issues which will take up many aspects of women's oppression.

Joanne Hayes **KERRY BABIES TRIBUNAL**

THE KERRY BABIES AFFAIR.

The inquiry into what has been called the Kerry Babies Affair has gripped the imagination of the media. It has also totally exposed the canting sickening religious hypocrisy of the Free State establishment. The cross examination of Joanne Hayes by Senior Crown Council on behalf of the Garda has been appalling. Earning £500.00 per day, these men of silk have subjected Joanne Hayes to what amounts to a public inquisition. Her love life, her pregnancies and her sad birth of a baby in a Kerry field have been dragged out in court to titilliate the bourgeoisie. All of course to hide the

fact of a Garda mess up. They intimidated Joanne forced false confessions from her and her family, charged her with murder and then reluctantly dropped the charges, when it was clear Joanne was not responsible for the baby stabbed to death at Cahirciveen.

Joanne Hayes is a scapegoat. The really guilty men are those who spear headed the anti-abortion amendment in 1983, and have lead the anti-contraceptive lobby for years. The catholic right wing opinion so created an atmosphere of shame and disgust with sex that the act of love and the birth of a baby has for some become an act of shame and something to be hidden. Condemn not

Joanne, but those who created the atmosphere which drove her to a lonely Kerry field to give agonising birth, and condemn those who drove Anne Lovett to a religious grotto in shame to die in child-birth.

Two centuries ago we Irish had a positive and healthy attitude to sex. But when the British bought the Catholic Hierarchy for the price of Maynooth, then gradually the atmosphere changed so that today we are induced to fear the things we should love most.

The Gardai, the Catholic Hierarchy and the Free State Government should be in the dock. Not Joanne Hayes, and there will come a day indeed when they will indeed face the justice of the people.

SOMETHING BREWING AT DISTILLERS

The strike in Irish Distillers, now in its fourth week, seems set to continue after a meeting of the workers strike committee met on Friday 4th in Liberty Hall and rejected a document compiled by the Federated Union of Employers and the Irish Congress of Trade Unions which fell far short of the workers original demands to safeguard jobs.



● Pickets outside IDL's Dublin plant.

The strike began on Monday 18th February after 11 months of negotiations with the management which were aimed at 'rationalising' the transport section and bringing in outside hauliers to deliver the companies' product (they have the monopoly of the Irish spirits market). Management proposals were firmly rejected by the workers.

The strike then was forced on the workers by a company in which the president of the Federated Union of Employers, Thomas Toner is a Director. It was a clear attempt by the employers to break the strength of the union organisation in the transport section and thus weaken the structure of the labour organisation in the IDG as a whole.

Irish Distillers only came into being in 1966 with the merger of John Power & Sons, John Jameson & Sons and Cork Distillers. In 1978 Irish Distillers completed its monopoly of the Irish spirits market with the takeover of Old Bushmills Distillery in Co Antrim. From 1966, with the initial merger, Irish Distillers slowly built up its hold on the Irish market (and its subsequent profit-making capabilities). With ever-increasing profits it was able to strengthen its position with a modern high technology distill-

ery in Middleton, Co Cork, while closing down two distilleries in Dublin with subsequent loss of jobs, under the euphemism of 'rationalisation'. They went on to cause redundancies by making the Dublin coopers (cask makers and menders) redundant en masse.

When the management announced in March 1984 that they were eliminating the whole of the transport section because of "uncompetitive costs", "uneconomic operation" under-utilisation" and other finance related reasons **which serve to mask the real desire to make the workers pay for increased profits**, the workers resisted this dictatorial decision.

Following extensive negotiations between management and the workers negotiating committee, which dragged on for nearly 12 months, the workers finally decided on strike action.

Like many Irish companies, Irish Distillers is enmeshed in foreign multi-nationals, with a 20% stake in of IDG share capital owned by the Canadian Seagrams drinks multinational. On March 1984, the Investment Bank of Ireland announced on behalf of Irish Distillers, a takeover of the BWG (formerly Brooks Watson)

group of companies. BWG is two-thirds a cash and carry operation which over the last few years has expanded by gobbling up such companies as Munster United Merchants, Western Wholesale Cartons, Lee and MNC. Irish distillers are now even a bigger fish coming along and gobbling them up and increasing the concentration of Irish capitalism; ever more firmly enmeshed in foreign multi-national capital.

The March issue of the business magazine "Aspect" advised Distillers that it had "still more slimming down to do" and that the strong dollar meant a weak export position to the US. The strike of the workers at Irish Distillers must then also be put in the context of the developments in the Distillers Group. The acquisition of cash and carry outlets due to the takeover of BWG may well have given them ideas about breaking the power of the unions in the transport section. **What is at stake for the workers in Irish Distillers is not only the vital issue of protecting jobs, but also to protect the strength of the union organisation and of all the unions in the Irish Distillers Group.**

STRIP-SEARCHING PROTEST



conservative attitude of the Catholic Church. The Church for centuries has been used by the ruling class as a means of social control and this was as true in pre 1922 Ireland as it was after that. The disruption of an ideology which kept working class people passive and dependant has serious consequences for the capitalist system. That is why the womens' struggle has such potentially revolutionary dynamic in Ireland. It challenges the assumption and methods of control which keep people from taking control of their struggles.

STATEMENT FROM ARMAGH

Our Dear Friends and Comrades,

Firstly we would like to thank all of you here today for coming from all over the world for this march of International Women's Day. Through the years you have given your support to us women prisoners, not only in Armagh but in every jail in Ireland and England who are being subjected to inhumane and degrading conditions.

Strip searching, the barbaric act introduced by the British Government in November 1982, is an attempt to demoralise and humiliate women. To strip them of their character. To harass women in general, but especially Republican prisoners.

We feel united with you today. In solidarity with all women who are oppressed, with our sisters and brothers in the armed struggle for the reunification of Ireland and its people.

A thought for today, to all women here, especially our women comrades in the Irish National Liberation Army and the Irish Republican Socialist Party.

The foulest death is preferable to the fairest slavery.

Thank you for your continued support, and great work you are doing for us in the strip search campaign. Your strength is our strength.

Sisters and comrades, we salute you.

P.R.O. Republican Socialist prisoners in Armagh Jail.

**STOP PAID PERJURY
PUBLIC MEETING IUDWC
HALL CAVENDISH ROW,
DUBLIN WED. 13th MARCH
Speakers Des Wilson;
RFJ; Joe Costello
Video starts at 7.30pm**

- STARRY PLOUGH AND SAOIRSE ON SALE HERE!
- HOPE STREET BOOK CENTRE
321 Hope Street, Glasgow
- CLYDE BOOKS
292 High Street, Glasgow.
- GLASGOW BOOKSHOP COLLECTIVE
488 Great Western Road, Glasgow.



JOIN THE IRSP.

Name

Address

Send to: 392, Falls Road, Belfast - or -
34, Upper Gardiner Street, Dublin.

The Prisoners need your support.
In areas covered by Green Cross Collections we urge our readers to contribute generously.



In other areas you can contribute to the Republican Socialist Prisoners Fund.

You can send donations to Republican Socialist Prisoners Fund, 34 Upper Gardiner Street, Dublin.