

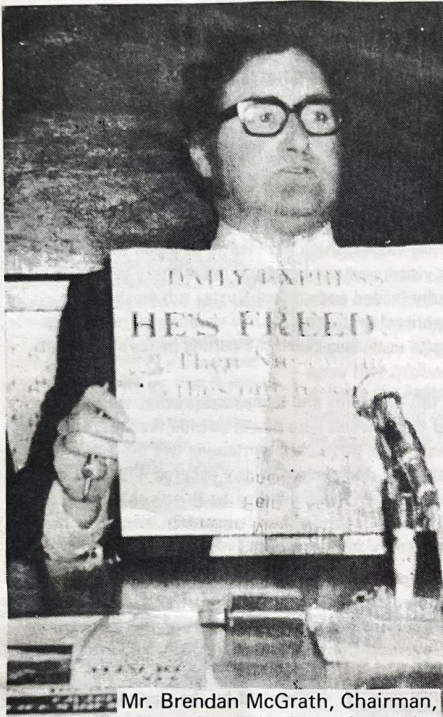


REPUBLICAN NEWS

"VOICE OF REPUBLICAN ULSTER"

WEEK COMMENCING SATURDAY 12th MAY, 1973.

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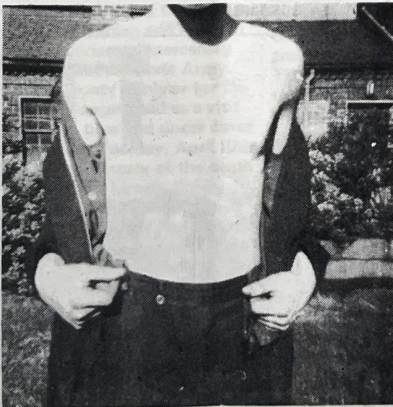


Mr. Brendan McGrath, Chairman, Ulster Sinn Fein Executive at the Press conference exposing British hypocrisy — re: Internment.

an apology

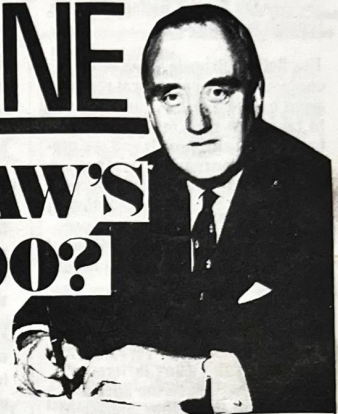
Ballot tickets brought back to Belfast by some internees' wives were confiscated by British soldiers, because of the wording. The people concerned wish this to be known to the members of the Roger Casement Cumann, Kilburn, London, and express regrets.

This young boy (16), was dragged up an entry in East Belfast by Loyalists last Saturday night and the initials U.V.F. cut in his chest with a blade. Picture taken in the garden of the CCDC premises last Sunday.



ARDOYNE

WHITELAW'S WATERLOO?



STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE SEAN McCaughey AND JAMES SAUNDERS SINN FEIN CUMANN

THE LATEST ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION in Ardoyne following so closely on the mass-murder attempt on six people, two of whom were injured in Etna Drive just over a week ago, shows that what is needed in Ardoyne, is not an election campaign but a campaign to secure the complete withdrawal of the totally one-sided blood-crazed British Army from the area.

The people of Ardoyne of all shades of opinion, have voiced this demand on the streets. All organisations are prepared to work together for the defence of their families and homes. We pledge ourselves to work for the people without seeking personal power. We call upon the nationally-minded people of the occupied six counties to boycott Whitelaw and his phoney elections which are nothing more than a cover-up for the benefits of the British.

Since February of this year, a campaign of pipe bombs, window-breaking and fire rockets by loyalists to force the people of Stratford Gardens, Jamaica Street and Etna Drive to evacuate their homes has continued incessantly. Since the advent of the 3rd paras into Ardoyne, the campaign has reached alarming proportions.

The people of Ardoyne are now faced with the "shoot Catholics at will" policy of the paras combined with "guaranteed" safe access and exit to assassination squads. The latest murder attempt involving Mr. and Mrs. William Kane on their way to Mass was clearly covered by the "guarantee."

Mr. Kane told Mrs. Sarah Murphy, Press Officer, of the local Sinn Fein Cumann on Tuesday night that he was living in Ardoyne about six months, having been forced to leave his home in Lenadoun when British soldiers occupied it. Mr. Kane said: "After a lot of trouble and expense, I got my present home in Ardoyne. On my way to Mass last Sunday with my wife, I noticed three men going down Stratford Gardens towards Etna Drive. Although it was raining at the time, none of them was wearing an overcoat. One had a parcel the size of a shoe box under his arm. As I did not recognise any of the men, I was suspicious."

Mr. Kane continued: "I watched them go down to Etna Drive, look around and come back. They followed us across Berwick Road and as I glanced back, I saw one of them level a gun at us. I threw my wife to the ground and fell on top of her to protect her. Shots were fired at us — they missed. The gunman kept coming on and fired again. I rolled over on the pavement and pretended to go for a gun in my hip pocket. At this, the gunmen fled into Glenbryn past a British Army post. I heard on more shot. The residents of the area on hearing my wife scream, came out, some in their night attire and brought my wife who was in a state of shock into a house. I went at once to Flax Street Army Post to get a doctor and report the attempted murder.

Mr. Kane told Mrs. Murphy, that he was treated with the utmost contempt by the British soldiers at Flax Street post. Here are his own words: "I requested a doctor to attend my wife and I was told that no doctor would come into the area. When I asked for the name of the doctor they said they had phoned, I was told I would have to go to Tennent Street RUC Station to find out. I replied that this was totally unnecessary as they, the soldiers, had phoned the doctor and not the RUC."

For Whitelaw to say the people of Ardoyne are getting protection from the British Army is now exposed as a cruel falsehood. Whilst young men and girls are being arrested, beaten in entries and thrown into sarcens, day and night by British troops, it has been discovered that only one man was guarding the post at the Alliance Road peace line. The RUC are aware of this fact and it is well known in the Ardoyne area that a great deal of "friction" exists between the RUC and the British Army. The RUC have criticised the handling of the whole incident, especially the fact that not one of the assassinations was apprehended and that only one soldier was guarding the peace-line.

We promise Whitelaw that we will expose his "peace-keeping" tactics to people in Britain, many of whom are now campaigning for a just settlement in Ireland. As witness of this, the latest news of an organisation in England calling on the British troops to desert.

Finally, we commend the fortitude and endurance of the magnificent people of Ardoyne. Whitelaw may yet find to his cost that Ardoyne is his Waterloo. . . .

Political Prisoners' Strike in Curragh Glasshouse

I.R.A. CONDEMN SDLP

The following statement was issued on Monday by the Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na h-Bireann.

The Belfast Brigade views with contempt the hypocritical reasons given by the S.D.L.P. for proposing to take their seats in the newly formed Local Councils and we presume the resurrected Stormont. It is not important whether or not the 'S'D'L'P' decides to take their seats. What is important is to present the true facts and to refute any reason they may give in order to justify their action. The new Stormont will be armed with all the repressive laws of the old against which so many fought and died. Is there any difference. Diplock will replace the Special Powers Act. Detention in place of Internment. An unreformed and unrepentant R.U.C. The infamous Hollywood files will remain intact. Their claim that the Provisional I.R.A. were the first to speak to Whitelaw is a distortion of what really took place as John Hume and Paddy Devlin know only too well.

The British Cabinet agreed in fact to start releasing Political Hostages within ten to fourteen days of the cessation of I.R.A. hostilities. The Whitelaw meeting took place ten days after the declaration of the bi-lateral truce. The hesitancy of

The British Cabinet agreed in fact to start releasing Political Hostages within ten to fourteen days of the cessation of I.R.A. hostilities. The Whitelaw meeting took place ten days after the declaration of the bi-lateral truce. The hesitancy of the British Cabinet to stand by their agreements regarding the internees was instrumental in bringing the truce to its ill-fated ending. To accuse the I.R.A. of breaking any pledge is nonsense. The S.D.L.P. need no cover for their duplicity after 50 years of Stormont the Northern people destroyed it. The S.D.L.P. are attempting to rebuild it.

PADDY RYAN.

SPACE

Due to pressure of space this week we have had to hold over some of our articles and especially our letter page

All correspondence and letters should be addressed to the Editor, 182, Brompton Park, Ardoyne, Belfast.

The campaign for improved conditions in the Curragh Glasshouse has entered its 7th week. All 33 Republican Prisoners here have maintained the strike in refusing to take visits

The campaign for improved conditions in the Curragh Glasshouse has entered its seventh week. All 33 Republican Prisoners here have maintained the strike in refusing to take visits from relatives and friends and refusing to write letters out.

1. As reported already the demand for CLEAN BEDDING was met in the first three weeks of the strike. The outstanding demands centre mainly on hobby-work and visiting arrangements:
2. The question of leatherwork is being negotiated at present and there is a possibility that it will be allowed into the prison shortly. Nothing definite in this regard has emerged yet, however.
3. No improvement is indicated in the visiting arrangements which have led to so much friction and even physical conflict between prisoners and their visitors on one hand and the military guards on the other. (The practice also obtains of having a fully loaded and cocked Gustav sub-machinegun pointed at visitors by a P.A. "Redcap or military policeman"), standing in a sandbagged post from the moment they are admitted through the main gate until they reach the visiting boxes and also on their way back to the gate.

Women and small children are not excepted from this degrading and dangerous practice which persists even though visitors have already encountered two privates who patrol outside the walls with loaded F.N. rifles and are over-looked by four elevated gun posts each containing two more guards similarly armed. We are particularly conscious of the fact that accidents have occurred with such sub-machineguns involving the discharge of a full magazine when being handled by British soldiers who have had experience of actual battle conditions (!!) not to mention their being trained on civilian men, women and children by the inexperienced mercenary soldiers of the Free State Army.

4. The 26-County Minister for Defence Mr. Donegan paid us a visit after lock-up time and under cover of darkness on Tuesday, April 10th — the 50th anniversary of the death of General Liam Lynch, Chief-of-Staff, IRA at the hands of the same Free State Army and another Cosgrove. Mr. Donegan was accompanied by two officials and the Prison Governor, Comdt. Jeremiah Enright and attracted the attention of the prisoners here by the length of time he personally spent gazing in through the spy-hole in the cell door at each individual prisoner in turn. He was spotted by the alerted prisoners passing back along the landing and shaking hands (a great favour with the Sergeant on duty).

We hope he satisfied his morbid curiosity in peering in at the captives in his private "zoo" — the great majority of whom are of course from the British Occupied Six Counties. We note that he has not summoned any Press conferences since then to report on his Curragh "exploits" and the number of "licks up the transom" he administered in the Glasshouse.

Mr. Donegan, is however, remembered best here for his court appearance some years ago when he was convicted of discharging a loaded firearm in the vicinity of a wretched encampment of that even more under-privileged section of Society, the travelling people. The court was ordinary, not 'Special' of course, and the penalty was a nominal fine. This contrasts sharply with the sentences of five years penal servitude each given to two Northern Republicans today at the Special Court for possession of a battery and wire.

5. Other news includes the general issue of new 20 inch batons to all P.A.s who act as warders rather than as soldiers here.

In general we have no doubt that Mr. Donegan will be well equipped to give HIS version of conditions here when he answers questions in Leinster House after his flying midnight visit to the Glasshouse.

Signed Dan Hoban (Mayo), O.C., P. L. Martin (Belfast), Adjutant.

Roger Casement Sinn Fein Cumann, Dun Laoghaire

THE OLD SHEILING HOTEL
WEDNESDAY, 16th MAY, 1973

From Belfast THE FABULOUS

wolf tones

plus DUBLIN CITY RAMBLERS
and Guest Artistes

Come early : 8.45 p.m. : Adm. 40p



Political Prisoners strike in Curragh

Glasshouse

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where is the man

WHO DOES NOT LOVE THE LAND WHERE HE WAS BORN?

By Owen Sharkey.

The present propaganda campaign against the Republican Movement is reminiscent of similar campaigns by the British in Kenya and Cyprus. British propaganda painted the Euroka as terrorists and criminals. The then Secretary for the Colonies issued a booklet, 'Terrorism in Cyprus' which, looking through it now, reads as if it was issued from Lisburn yesterday.

The following is an extract from it: 'It is, however, to the courage, tenacity and loyalty of the security forces that the people of Cyprus will owe their release from the nightmare of terrorism which was imported from Greece. Examples of the brutal and cowardly crimes that have been committed, ugly and beastial reality. A similar statement was issued from Lisburn on 1st August, 1972 after the invasion by the British Army of the 'no-go' areas!

Would those who indulge in selective condemnation of violence not agree that Irishmen resorting to arms to defend their homes and to achieve the independence of their country, are only doing what Englishmen would do if it be their misfortune that six of their counties be occupied by foreign occupation forces?

*Ye sons of Erin who despise
The Motherland that bore you
Who nothing Irish love nor
prize
Give ear, I will not spare you.
The strangers jeer, I do not fear
Nor can I pardon ever
Those who revile their native isle,
Oh! never! never! never!*

oners passing back along the landings and shaking hands (a great favour with the Sergeant on duty. 'We hope he satisfied his morbid curiosity in peering in at the captives in his private 'zoo' - the great majority of whom are of course from the British-occupied Six Counties. We note that he has not summoned any press-conferences since then to report on his Curragh exploits and the number of 'kicks up the transom' he administered in the Glasshouse.

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Signed: Dan Hoban (Mayo) O.C.

P.L. Martin (Belfast) Adjutant.

Order to Shoot Children

Gunner George Williams, (29) of the 3rd Royal Horse Artillery walked out of the Royal Herbert Military Hospital at Shooters Hill, England, last February. He defected after his unit had been in the Six Counties harassing the nationally-minded people of Derry.

He said he could not stick the British Army any longer. He alleged: 'I was ordered to shoot little children in Hawkin Street, Derry, one night last November.' From his Dublin lodgings, George Williams said: 'It was a political decision on my part. I was sick of the way the British Army carried on in Northern Ireland.'

His brother, Alf, told reporters: 'He now wants to work for the freedom of Ireland through the I.R.A.'

SYMPATHY

The staff of Republican News were sincerely sorry to learn of the following recent deaths: - Mrs. Mc Cottor, wife of well-known Belfast Republican, Mr. Pat Mc Cottor. Mr. Leo Martin, well-known in Belfast Republican and Gaelic circles, and Mrs. Mc Caughey, Mother of Frank Mc Caughey, of Clones, an active Sinn Fein member. We tender our heartfelt sympathy to their families.

sinn fein ulster council

Six members of the Ard-Chomhairle were present at the meeting in Andersonstown Social Club, Belfast, on Sunday, April, 15 when the Ulsyer Ulster Council was formed.

Although 18 delegates were present, unfortunately, Armagh City, Cavan, Donegal and West Tyrone were not represented. Mr. Sean Mc Kenna, Newry, explained that the Council would not be a policy-making body, but mainly concerned with publicity and organisation.

The election of the Officer Board was as follows

CHAIRMAN: Brendan Mc Grath. SECRETARY: Jane Workington

FINANCE OFFICER: Maureen Leonard. ASS'

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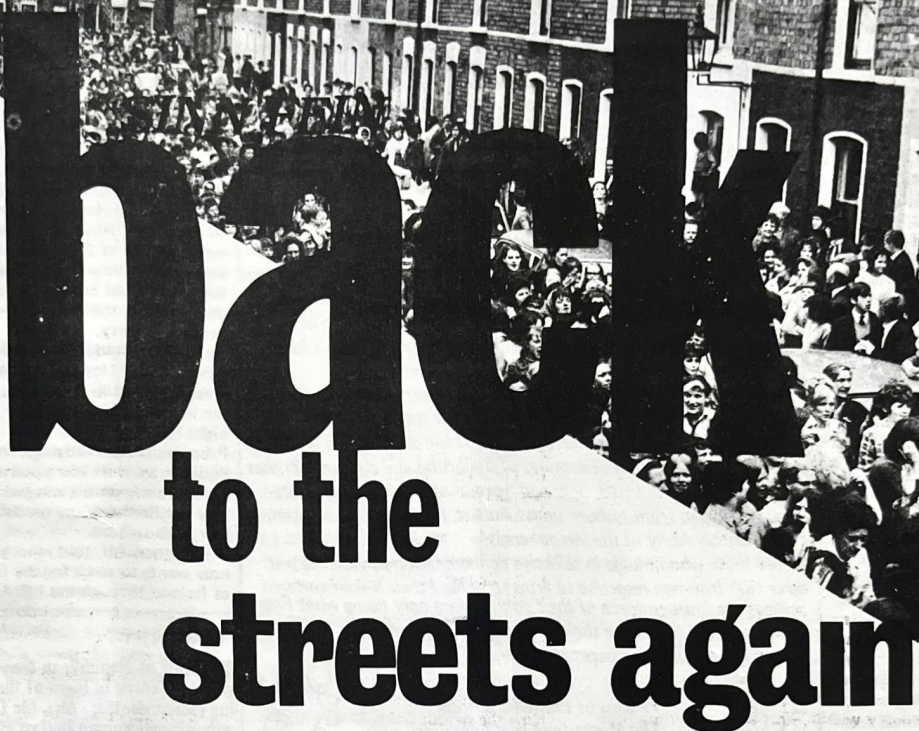
Chairman: Brendan Mc Grath. Secretary: Jane Workington.

Finance Officer: Maureen Leonard. Ass. Finance Officer:

Seamus O' Dalaigh. Press Officer: Malachy Foots.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Sunday, 3rd June. It is hoped that as many delegates as possible will attend this important meeting.

It was agreed that Sinn Fein would have a complete boycott of the local Government Elections. *A ny member of Sinn Fein who canvass's for any candidate will be automatically expelled from the organisation.*



Back to the streets again

By Our Own Reporters

Over 1,000 attended a meeting in Beechmount Avenue, last Sunday, organised by Belfast Central Sinn Fein Comhairle Ceanntair. The meeting was held in protest against harassment by British troops, of people in nationally-minded districts in Belfast.

Mr. Joe Burns, Robert Emmett Cumann presided. He introduced the first speaker, Mr. Antoine O' Braonain, Organiser, Andersonstown C.C. Mr. O' Braonain said: 'It is obvious even to the most casual onlooker that the campaign of harassment by the British Army is now greater and more severe than at any time in the past. It is unfortunate that many individuals are not getting the publicity they should. Many people do not seem to realise the degree of harassment taking place. I will list briefly some of the things that are happening in our city. It all really started with the paratroopers in South Armagh and Newry when they shot unarmed men dead. Then it moved to Belfast. We had Ardoyne and before that the New Lodge Road, where six unarmed men were shot dead; in Ardoyne, the latest case being Brian Smith who was ambushed by the paratroopers who were in a house. He was shot dead and another man seriously injured. Last week the Sinn Fein offices were raided and over £100 worth of literature stolen. About a week ago, some young people were coming out of a house in Andersonstown when British soldiers shot them without warning.

'Now Whitelaw must realise that the people in anti-Unionist areas like Beechmount and Lower Falls are fed up to the teeth with what the British Army are doing. There have been so many complaints that he was forced to react to all the criticism. What did he say? Like many other British politicians, he said that all the complaints being made by the people are not justified and that they are only Republican propaganda.

'The Unionist Party said the same when we said that we had no houses, that we could not get jobs. They said that we were telling lies, that it was only propaganda. Of course, we know we were telling the truth. You know what is happening in your own district. You know that complaints made against British Army are not Republican propaganda. I once heard propaganda defined as, 'propaganda is persuasion based on lies'. You know what we in Sinn Fein have been saying about the actions of the British Army, is not lies'.

You read during the week about the case of young 18 year old John Moore, of Ardmonagh Gardens, who was lifted in this area. He was badly

beaten up by British soldiers with the result that he can hardly walk. His face is badly puffed up and he has severe bruise marks on his chest. He was flung into a boot of a car by soldiers putting him into a state of mind where he thought he was going to be murdered. Just before this meeting started a 78 year old Grandmother told me that her home in Andersonstown has been raided four times this week by the British Army. On the last occasion, she awoke in bed to find British soldiers standing over her in her own bedroom.

Why are the British Army doing all this? Why has Whitelaw sanctioned the harassment and brutalities being committed by the British Army? When the British White Paper was published, many people, even in anti-Unionist areas said, 'I hope the Provisionals give the White Paper a chance'. After thinking about the White Paper for a few days, the Republican Movement said, 'The White Paper offers us nothing.' Since then, the S.D.L.P., the Republican Labour Party, all the peace committees have said to the I.R.A., 'stop! you are wrong, the White Paper gives us something'.

Some of them have now changed their tune. You may have read in the papers a few days ago about the Chairwoman of a peace committee in the Springfield Road area who said, 'The British Army are brutalising our people'.

Now there you have the truth. When even a peace lover comes out and condemns the British Army. So, the position is that the White Paper has solved nothing. Now to try and answer my own question, why does Whitelaw allow these things to happen? The answer can be found by traveling a few hundred yards across the 'peace line'. Examine what is happening on the Unionist side.

Faulkner

'Faulkner accepted the British White Paper and he tried to make grassroots Unionists accept it but they, who are ordinary people just like you and I, have seen through it, just as we have. Whitelaw has pinned all his hopes on Faulkner bringing so-called peace and stability back to the six Counties... but Faulkner has failed to deliver this, so Whitelaw sees that the place where all the trouble is going to come from, the people who are going to make the new assembly unworkable will not be the people on this side but the people on the other side. He knows he will have to deal with them, so he is trying deliberately, just as Faulkner did, just as Chishester-Clarke, just as O'Neill, just as General Tuzo ..to beat us into the ground.

But again, read your papers: 3 British soldiers blown up yesterday; a policeman shot in the head; 200 to 300 shots fired in Turf Lodge last night and not a single word about this in the papers. The binlids are still being banged in Lenadon.

The only answer that we can give to Whitelaw and the British Army, when they beat up people, when they arrest them, when they torture them, is, we must get out again onto the streets... we must engage again in street politics. Whitelaw said last Friday night that people are turning against street politics. Street politics is what Whitelaw fears.

The S.D.L.P. engaging in local elections and prepared to sit in the puppet assembly are no bother to Whitelaw. They work to the rules set out by the British. Whitelaw fears people like yourselves, people prepared to come out to a meeting such as this on a wet Sunday afternoon. We must continue to oppose the British regime... we must engage in street politics.

Opposition to that regime can best be done on May 30, by not voting in the local government elections, As the only political organisation not contesting the election, Sinn Fein is the only principled political party. Why is Sinn Fein not contesting the election? For the same reason that you Mrs., or you Mrs., when you go home may find that your 16 year old son or daughter have been arrested and sent to Long Kesh or Armagh. Another reason is that Sinn Fein is still banned. We ask you not to vote in the local government elections. We ask you to apply for a postal vote and not to use it.

Protest

A member of the Mc Dermott Cumann, Gransha, said:- 'We are here to protest against the harassment by the British Army against people not only in minority areas in Belfast but throughout the Six Counties. We must stand firm and not accept pressure into fighting the local elections. We will never have fair play in this country until the British get out. We must be on our guard against the enemy within. That enemy is those prepared to accept the British White Paper and prepared to co-operate with Whitelaw by taking part in his local government election.

'Some people will say that this would cause a political vacuum. If standing for a United Ireland is a political vacuum, then so be it. You have only to look around you at the massive British presence to realise that we are not living in a democracy.

'There are many people now who are afraid to show their faces in the open because they feel they might be lifted and all that. Well, we will have to get over this. According to the British, Sinn Fein is still banned, but as far as we are concerned, we are a legal body.

'We don't recognise any laws made by the British or by the Free State regime. Some people will retort that this is a negative policy. These are the very ones who are playing the game according to the rules laid down by the British. If you want Whitelaw to succeed, if you want the British White Paper to succeed... then as a first step, take part in his elections.

But, if as freedom-loving Irish people, you want to take your stand on the side of Irish Freedom, you will try to wreck the White Paper and block Whitelaw by boycotting his election.'

Mr. Brendan Mc Grath, Chairman Sinn Fein Ulster Executive said:- 'I want to speak about a subject ever in my thought, namely internment. As an ex-internee, I am very concerned about the men in Long Kesh, and there are over 460 there. Internment can never be acceptable to us in any situation no matter what the British may care to describe it.

'The Camp Administration tried to stop the men in Cage 4 from getting food parcels and cigarettes. But because of the outcry made by the people, Commandant Truesdale had to rescind his savage order. It was you, the ordinary people by your protests who achieved this. Make no mistake about it, had Truesdale succeeded in Cage 4, he would have tried the same against the men held like animals in the other cages.

'Why are these men held in Long Kesh anyway? They have every right in the world to try and escape. In fact, if they did not try to escape, they would be deserting the cause they have already fought for.

'Ladies and gentlemen, it is not pleasant for you standing in the rain listening to me. But you are here because you care, because you know that it is not pleasant for men to be penned in cages in Long Kesh Concentration Camp, or for young girls to be cooped up in dreary cells in Armagh Prison.'

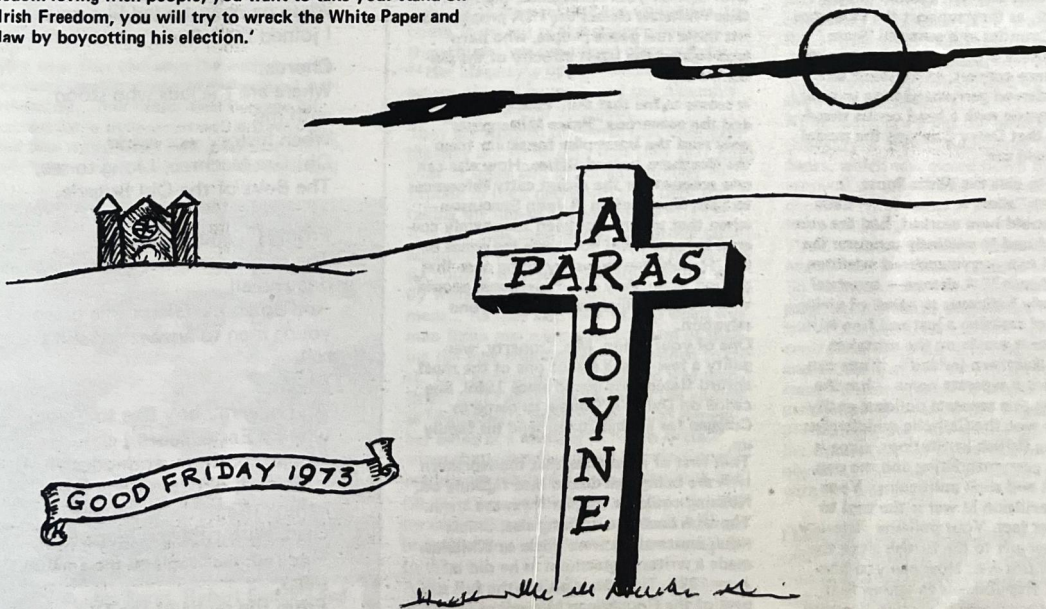
Mrs. O' Hanlon, Chairman, Tom Williams/ Bernard Fox/Cumann, said:- 'We have had a lot of harassment in Newington from the British Army over the past few weeks. This has happened especially with young boys about 15 and 16 years of age. A British soldier put his weapon to one young boy's head, took off the safety catch, and put his finger on the trigger. The soldier told the lad if he moved his head, he would put a bullet through it. They then took him up an entry and gave him an awful beating.

'This happened about 7 p.m. The same thing happened to a 16 year old boy that night at 10 p.m. I am worried about incidents as I am a mother with two sons, one age 16, and the other, age 18. I would not like to think that these scum would shoot any of my sons, or indeed any other Mother's sons.

'Now the serious point is that the British soldiers who are operating in Newington have threatened to kill some of the local boys. Mark you the word, Kill. The soldiers did not say they would intern them but kill them. It is common knowledge in Newington, that British soldiers told lads there, 'we have six weeks to go before we leave Newington, so you can say goodbye to your friends because you are not going to see some of them again. They did not mean goodbye to Long Kesh, but goodbye into Milltown.

'Now as you know, we live in a mixed area in Newington. Another young boy was chased by a loyalist crowd after leaving his girl friend home. He ran into a British Army foot patrol in Baltic Avenue, and thought he was comparatively safe. But once he reached the patrol, a jeep arrived, he was put into the jeep and some of the loyalists were allowed into the jeep on top of him to beat him. When he raised his hand in self-defence, one of the soldiers said, 'if you raise your hand, you will be up on an assault charge.'

These are only a few examples of what is happening in Newington.



OPEN LETTER TO DERRY 'PEACE' WOMEN

Dear Ladies — Your recent activities seem based on the premise that Whitelaw's aims have altered. No longer is he intent on maintaining British business interest in this island. He is now trying to secure a settlement in the interests of the long repressed people. That would take some believing!

You cannot have been afflicted with mental immobility since Direct Rule. You have witnessed top level cover-ups for the Black and Tan activities of the British Army. You have witnessed British documents, declaring that this zone will remain under British documents,

sovereignty. (And if you say that that is mere lies on the part of the Administration you are unwittingly denigrating your own cause, since how can we believe in a man who lies so profusely and so easily?) British Government policies are based on the idea that British power can survive here. On the basis of that, can you explain to me how the British White Paper reveals a British INTENT to get out of our affairs?

You cannot, if we are even to take the White Paper at its face value, Irish freedom is to come about when Faulkner, Paisley and Craig succumb to reason and democracy. There is no grounds for believing that that is happening. Indeed, some "minority" representatives are deserting to partitionism — led by the SDLP Parliamentary Party. You cannot even accuse "moderates" of reason. Alliance and N.I. Labour support gerrymander, as they support the existence of the Six Counties as a separate 'State.' Leaders of those organisations (such as the recent Alliance convert, ex-Unionist M.P. Mills) have denied gerrymandering in your city, and anyone with a head on his shoulders knows that Derry City was the model the CRA could use.

You ask us to give the White Paper "a chance" — to "allow it to work" — Even Stormont would have worked, had the minority not refused to passively condone the existence of two gerrymandered satellites. "Give it a chance?" A chance — to what? It is definitely ludicrous to speak of giving it a chance of creating a just and free Irish society, since it works on the mistaken theme that Northern Ireland — if one can even accord it a separate name — has the right to exist as a separate political entity. Its aim is to woo the Catholic middle-class into working British institutions, since it perpetuates gerrymandering and the control of elitest and slick politicians. Your moralistic revulsion at war is the tool to cover up that fact. Your political illiteracy is the greatest gift to the British since the beginning of this war. How can you honestly expect Republicans to ignore that literacy, and acquiesce in foreign imposed "settlements?"

The idea that British violence will stop when IRA violence stops needs to be explained. It merely means that the hostage will be spared from cruel torture in its captivity when the blackmailer's victims pay the price of servile discretion. Who can pay that price when the Blackmailer has been so nearly forced into his last hiding place, and be worthy of the label of "Irishman?"

To put the onus on the Provisional I.R.A. is also indicative of a sick mentality. It is an acceptance that those in Long Kesh and other foreign inspired hell holes, are members of the IRA and deserve to be there!

It is about time you read the Press, and discovered the daily miscarriages of justice by Orange judges, when unacceptable evidence is enough to send an innocent youth to Crumlin Road. It is about time you found out about the ordinary people arrested wrongly as "leading IRA officers" and despatched to Long Kesh. It is about time that you felt ordinary, human compassion for those young men arrested in the aftermath of Faulkner's Internment operation, trying to defend their homes from the rape of the British Army with a pistol or rifle.

You cannot expect us to believe that you care more than the Provos. You can organise a petition, calling on the Provos to surrender — playing on the spirit of a people "softened up" by the Paras and others. Yet you cannot do anything, not even lift a pen, on the subject of amnesty, which must be one of the chief platforms of the people. Remember that, next time you appear in front of the cameras, after a fruitless meeting with Whitelaw, and declare he is a "fair man." Try and sleep with that on your conscience, the next time Whitelaw classes the IRA propagandists those real peace people, who have high-lighted the latest atrocity of the British Army.

It seems to me that the "Peace Peoples" and the numerous "Peace Movements" only read the latest plea for sanity from the Northern Ireland Office. How else can one account for the recent catty references to Sean MacStiofain as John Stevenson when that ground has been adequately covered before? I will not waste the space of the 'Republican News' by going over that ground again. Any anti-Provisional people who are unfamiliar with it are beyond salvation.

One of your group, Mrs. Doherty, was guilty a few weeks ago of one of the most absurd statements issued since 1969. She called on Daithi O'Connell to come to Creggan for a while, or to send his family up.

That first of all implies that the Northern IRA are being bull-dozed into fighting on. Nothing could be further from the truth. The IRA could do nothing else, unless other concessions were made or Whitelaw made a written agreement as he did in June 1972. That decision has the full support of the Republican Movement in the North.

It is also untrue to suggest that IRA leaders stay in a "safe haven" while some young fool goes and dies for them. Was Jack McCabe (killed by a bomb in Dublin in 1971) safe? What about Sean MacStiofain, Leo Martin, John Kelly and Ruairi O'Bradaigh?

It was more than slightly ironic that Daithi O'Connell appeared in Belfast on Easter Sunday. What grizzly fate awaited him at Hollywood Barracks had he been caught? How many other times has he been in the North, when there was no TV cameras around or people to leak the news to the Press? What must his wife feel when he goes out, knowing that the next she might hear of him might be in a manner similar to that of Mrs. Joe McCann or Mrs. Jack McCabe? Mr. O'Connell has also spent time in the Curragh, and has been seriously wounded. Must IRA leaders throw themselves into the guns of the British Army to prove that they are as brave as Paddy McArdorey and a hundred others?

"Peace" Women! It is not the Irish Republican Army who must stop. It is you, before your names are engraved on history books with the contempt that goes with that of John Redmond.

BOYS OF THE OLD BRIGADE

Oh! father why are you so sad,
on this our Easter Day,
When Irish men are proud and glad,
of the land where they were born
Oh Son I see in memory's view
A far off distant day,
When being just a lad like you
I joined the I.R.A.

Chorus:
Where are the lads who stood
with me
When history was made,
Oh! Gra Machree, I long to see,
The Boys of the Old Brigade.

From Hill and farms,
The call to arms were heard by
one and all,
And down the Glen came brave
young men to answer Ireland's
call.

Chorus:
And now my boy I've told you
why on Easter Morn I sigh,
When I recall my comrades all
from dark old days gone bye.
I think of men who fought in
Glen, With rifle and grenade,
May heaven keep the men who
sleep,
From the ranks of the Old
Brigade.

Trade Unions

BY LIAM MAC

As expected the May Day protest against Heaths's wage freeze and rising prices policy was a flop, and you can blame it on the type of trade union leadership we are getting from the Northern Committee of the I.C.T.U.

It is amazing to think that while most of the engineering firms in Derry had to close because the workers decided to stay out for the day to protest, they were almost on their own, as only a few other firms in the six counties were affected. Alright so the workers in Shorts also came out for a two hour protest, but did you know that it wasn't a question of the shop stewards winning the vote, but that the Loyalist Association Workers stupidly tried to break up the lunch-time meeting called by the shop stewards.

When the shop floor workers saw the tactics adopted by the wreckers of L.A.W. who tried to turn the meeting against the stewards on the question of gut bigotry, they there and then decided to follow the advice of the shop stewards and walked out.

At the afternoon meeting in King Georges Hall called by the Confed Unions very few turned up in fact it turned into a shop stewards meeting and they showed in their remarks who was to blame for the debacle. Is it not near time the trade unions got rid of the career union official, like Mr. Blease who has led the union movement along the road to ruin.. where they now have to face L.A.W. at every factory, remember the meeting in Shorts, when the Works Committee stopped the meeting because they could no longer be heard over the yelling of the bar-rackers, it was the workers themselves who decided they would walk out in spite of

If the Barrs and the Bleases would only give a lead instead of backing up the establishment when it comes to the crunch.. on the plea they have to stay neutral.. like Barr on the question of the mortars being made in the shipyard.. yes that is the kind of neutrality they mean.

I only wish Barr had seen the activity in various engineering works in and around Belfast the day after Paddy Devlin made his demand for searching, he would have realised how right Paddy was in his accusation. Take the position in the shipyard regarding

the steelworkers, a few weeks ago in the Republican News we criticised the unions for not backing them in their strike on the bonus question... very soon we had L.A.W. standing in support, and as interviews on television have shown since all the other trades in the shipyard have backed the steelworkers, even knowing that their stand might mean being paid off, as a result of the steel workers standing firm. Stupid Barr! stupid Blease! getting into this position and allowing L.A.W. to get such an edge on them.

Remember that on the 26th May, the Pay Board will have to deliver its verdict on the question before it of the wage claim of 2,000 engineers and electricians agreed by the yard that the workers get an increase over the next eighteen months of 8 pounds per week, to bring them level with wage rates in England and Scotland.

If the Board turns down this request in that it is above the normal (1 pound plus 4%) what will our union leaders do.. will they take the same road as the steelworkers, with the threat of closure of the yard? or will we see no action on the excuse that any action would only hurt the economy.. we will see how revolutionary Andy Barr is as leader of the Confed who signed the wage settlement.. or will we have L.A.W. leading the struggle?

This could be the crunch, I only hope the present leaders have the guts to face up to it.

Billy Hull is looking for the chance to take over the trade union movement in the six counties, officially I mean.

So once again the S.D.L.P. leaders have told the mass of the people who are still fighting internment and for civil rights, to count them out of the struggle because they think they see a good chance to be Her Majesty's opposition in the new set-up of local councils and the Assembly which will reopen Stormont. They are worried of course that their gamble may not come off.. thus they take quite a lot of space and use of a dictionary to explain in their manifesto why they are taking the line of 'Power to the S.D.L.P.' It is odd that they almost repeat the same arguments today for taking part in the new six county structures and thus letting Willy Whitelaw of the hook regarding internment... As they did back in 1971 when wee man Brian made his offer to them of sharing the new committees he intended to create. You remember they cheered wee man Brian and Paddy Devlin called the gesture as 'Faulkner's finest hour! I also remember being at a meeting in North Belfast when that good 'socialist' Austin Currie made a speech in defence, to the rank and file members of the S.D.L.P. why they offer of Faulkner was the first breakthrough in democracy and thus they were delighted to take it.

Andy Boyd was there and it turned into a debate between the two. Andy taking the stand that Faulkner was only trying to fool them into taking the jobs because it was the only way to save Stormont from

closing up shop. The S.D.L.P. should, said Boyd instead of co-operating with Faulkner should start a campaign for the destruction of Stormont.

Well we know what happened, it was the pressure of the people who dragged the Six S.D.L.P. M.P's out of Stormont because of the Derry shootings. Of course these same characters have been trying to get back to help to work the system of government of the six counties ever since Will they succeed this time? It will depend once more on the people who are determined that the fight for justice must go on. The fight for the end of internment must go on.

The people have suffered too much and too long to allow a crowd of gommeen men to dictate to them.

Armagh Alliance Association have called on the British Government to re-negotiate the extradition treaty with the Irish Government in order to make it more suitable to present day needs.

(Irish News 7.5.73.).

An assurance must be given by the Eire Government that no longer will protection to Republicans be given on the excuse that murdering British soldiers is a political offence

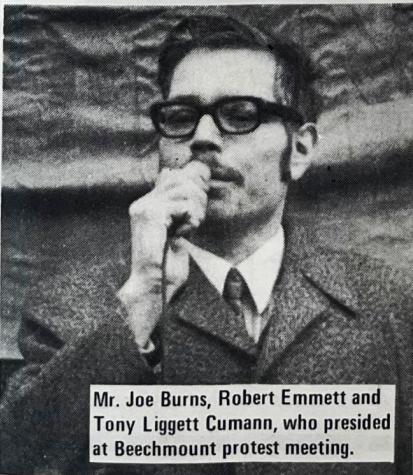
Jim Kilfedder Unionist M.P. Telegraph 7.5.73.).

I am almost sure you have never heard of Willie Musarurwa, as the British press never mentions him, yet he is also a journalist, and Ian Smyth has held him in a concentration camp since 1964, without trial. Peter Niesewand on his return from Rhodesia after being released, told interviewing journalists about Musarurwa but they showed no interest.

Willie Musarurwa was the news editor of Salisbury's second newspaper the Daily News, which was closed down by the government of Smyth and Willie sent to the concentration camp in a remote part of the country.

The difference between Niesewand and Musarurwa is that the latter is an African. So why should the British press start a campaign similar to the one started in sympathy with Niesewand. He has now been in a concentration camp for nine years. The wives and Mothers of our own concentration camp victims; victims of British Imperialism can sympathise with Mrs Musarurwa, problems of not only trying work to rear her family but has to travel a round journey of 600 miles for her quarterly meeting with her husband.

I have nothing but contempt for the so-called free press of Britain, when will the Irish people start a campaign of boycott and hurt the press lords where it will do some good, maybe we will then get a real free press instead of a source of propaganda for the Brits and their gangsters in uniform.



Mr. Joe Burns, Robert Emmett and Tony Liggett Cumann, who presided at Beechmount protest meeting.

At the outset let me say that very many Catholic clergy and religious both overtly and covertly have been supporting and are supporting the present resistance campaign to British oppression, brutality and murder in Ireland. We are glad to put on record that has always been the case in the age-old struggle against oppression in this country. The people of Ireland are well aware of this fact, especially platform speakers who receive such a tremendous response if they mention the names of Canon Maguire or Canon Coyle. These names represent the best known Fermanagh priests of the past who stood by and led the people in their fight against oppression. When these priests were recently praised by Aidan Corrigan at a meeting the crowds brought the hall down with enthusiasm, cheering and clapping.

The Black Sheep: There are many priests in this country today who are either quietly or indeed publicly carrying on the good work of Canons Maguire and Coyle; in every county in Ireland. There are many clergymen and other religious who are actively supporting our cause and working tirelessly for the oppressed people of the North. We have many visits and letters from clergymen telling of their anger and disgust at the sordid, vicious campaign which is being waged by Erne Sense (also a clergyman) Fr. Aquinas and Bishop Daly against the internees, the political prisoners, the men on the run and the Freedom Fighters. As has always tragically happened in Irish politics we have in all spheres of life both the grain and the chaff, the patriots and the deserters.

Patriot Priests: In 1916 and the following years, as the pages of history reveal, we had the Canon Maguires and the Canon Coyles, the Fr. O' Dalys and the Fr. Sheerans who are all mentioned in an R.I.C. Inspector's Report, dated 1916, and referred to as subversive, dangerous Roman Catholic priests who had come under the influence of 'dangerous' men like Tom Clarke and Patrick Mc Cartan, two 1916 leaders. The R.I.C. Inspector's report continues:

'I was directed by the Inspector general, on the file quoted, to see the bishop of the Diocese, Dr. Mc Kenna of Monaghan and bring the matter under his notice, which I did. As a result of my interview Fr. Shrenan was transferred to another county and Revs. Coyle and O'Daly, Clogher, were cautioned by the bishop who assured me that he would do anything in his power to prevent action such as I complained of by any of his priests. The result of this and of the general action of the head constables, sergeants and selected men of the district was that it was only in February of this year that a branch of the Irish Volunteers could be formed at Fintona'. Collaboration with British After outlining the 'pernicious influence' of leaders like Patrick Mc Cartan the report goes on to say 'The influence of the police, however, exercised through Mons O' Doherty P.P., Rev J' Harkin, C.C. and other influential persons, prevented any of the people of Omagh from openly joining the movement. Mons O'Doherty, at the suggestion of Sergt. Cronin and Constable Hynes prevented the meetings of Dr. Mc Cartan and his followers in a parochial Hall in Omagh. At Fintona the local Nationalists, followers of Mr. Redmond, prevented the Rev. M. Coyle and his followers from using the parochial hall there for meetings. Fr. Coyle, however, broke open the hall, put new locks on it, and retained possession of it.

many clergy support resistance to British aggression

Reading this report we can see history repeating itself very clearly and very accurately today. In those days the British Government tried to defeat us by throwing their support behind men like John Redmond; nobody needs to ask who the British Government is backing today. Who is given unlimited time on BBC and RTE? Or should I say Royal Television? You know who are regarded the nice boys around Westminster and Leinster House. This priceless police report continues.

All the efforts of the PPs and others at Omagh, Greencastle, Sixmilecross and other places were directed to thwart the Sinn Feiners!! Misguided Men: It is sad, to record again this time that there are men, especially like Fr. Aquinas, Dr. Daly and Erne Sense who took the side of the enemy. Those poor misguided priests mentioned in the 1916 police report who co-operated with the police of the day against the Sinn Fein movement and 1916 Rising have their followers in Erne Sense, Fr. Aquinas and Dr. Daly who are siding with the British Propaganda Machine today. These men no doubt will receive their rewards, like their predecessors fifty years ago, by being praised in British Army and RUC reports. This has already happened. It is sad that these men are now choosing to be remembered as the Redmonds of their day, as the men who gave consolation to the British Army and British Government, as the men who helped to split the people once again in this last attempt to free our country. Had everyone united in the 1916-24 period then the current struggle would never have been necessary. Had the men mentioned in the police report already referred to, backed Tom Clark, Patrick Mc Cartan, Canons Coyle and Maguire, Fr. Shrenan, Fr. O'Daly, Fr. Small etc., instead of collaborating with the British against them, then we would not have had to endure 50 years of Unionist misrule and misery, 50 years of sufferings and injustice; we would not have now over 700 dead and thousands injured. I hope that these priests and other few collaborators realise what they are doing by their collusion and collaboration with the British now; they are laying the foundation for further trouble, further bloodshed, further misery and further anarchy.

Big Rich Man's Party: The priest in the Ederny area, Fr. Dawson who is opposing the sales of Republican Newspapers, because he disagrees with our strictures on Erne

Sense is in fact supporting the vicious assaults by Erne Sense on our men in jail and their organisations. We therefore invite Fr. Dawson to use these columns which will be put at his disposal to explain to many of his parishioners why he has embarked on this line of action against us? Does he support the oppression of the poor whom we defend? Does he support Erne Sense's sordid attacks on Republicans? Does he support Erne Sense's implicit assaults on defenceless political prisoners? Or does Fr. Dawson go for the Big Rich Man's Party e.g. the SDLP who are financed by millionaires like Hughes of Tynagh Mines etc etc.? Does he object to Republicans because they can not take their wives and children to the Royal Dublin Hotel for weeks on end like the SDLP, or are not invited to dinner there by millionaires like Hughes?

It Is it a matter of respectability with Fr. Dawson? Or does Fr. Dawson on the other hand support men like Fr. Fell? We await a reply from Fr. Dawson. We can not believe that he could sincerely attack us since our fight is for the poor and oppressed which is also what Christianity is all about.



Mrs. O'Hanlon, Chairman, of the Tom Williams and Bernard Fox Cumann, speaking on the British Army harrasment in Newington.