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ENGLAND! YOU SHALL PAY DEARLY

Four of the Winchester Eight who received life sentences are being slowly tortured to death by force-feeding in English jails. Gerard Kelly (Wormwood Scrubs), Hugh Feeny (Gartree), and Dolores and Marion Price (Brixton), are enduring the most savage torment imaginable, at the hands of sadistic English warders and doctors, and sadly in the case of Hugh Feeny, the doctor is a native of Dublin, our Dr. Lane.

BY OUR STAFF REPORTER:

SORCA NI MHURCHU

The medical profession in England thus stands condemned in the eyes of the free world at their whole-hearted co-operation in this torture, which breaches all known medical ethics and contravenes the European Convention of Human Rights.

Oglaigh na hEireann in a statement released after the Winchester Eight received life sentences promised retribution. We have no cause to doubt their word.

So, for the slow torture, degradation, insult and inhumanity, you have shown to these youthful Irish idealists, who fell into your hands — ENGLAND! YOU SHALL PAY DEARLY!

Hugh Feeny, aged 22 years languishes alone in Gartree Prison. He is now 66 DAYS on hunger strike for Political Status, and for most of this time he has been tortured by force-feeding. He is naked, since he refuses to don the garb of a criminal. Even the blanket that he had been wearing has been taken away. I talked to Mrs. Feeny about her son. She buried her face in her hands for a while, before she told me: "I have not seen my son since he was committed. In one of his letters he told me that he is also on a thirst strike since 11th December, and that he is being force-fed, a saline drink which cakes on his mouth making his lips and gums crack and bleed. In his last letter he said 'Oh God! my mouth!' I would like the Irish people to know that the doctor in charge of the torture is a native of Dublin, a Dr. Lane. I sometimes think it's just as well that I can't see Hugh enduring this torment. They have even shaved his head to further degrade him. However, I am determined to stand by him in whatever course he may choose to take. I will not ask him to give up."

Mary Feeny, is a school teacher. When she talks about her brother a dangerous light burns in her eyes: "The whole family is totally behind Hugh in his struggle," she says. "When my brother was arrested and taken to Ealing Police Station, he was stripped, beaten and kicked for two hours. Two Special Branch men were flown in specially from Belfast to do the job. They told him they could do an expert job which would leave no marks. My brother recognised them and has named them.

"Hugh is dedicated to serving his Country. A national teacher with a great love for children, Irish Literature and the Irish Language, he seeks only to live in justice and freedom with his fellow-men."

Dolores Price was in the final year of her studies at St. Mary's Training College, when she was arrested in London in March. She had hoped to obtain a Diploma in Education at Queen's University the following June. Her sister Marion, who was arrested with her, was also a student at St. Mary's.

These two, filled with high ideals and motivated as they were by a love of justice and love of their fellow-man, adorned their Irish womanhood still more, by their courage and bearing in the face of a savage onslaught by their English captors.

At their Slievegallion Drive home, Mrs. Price talked to me about her daughters: "Dolores and Marion were model daughters," she said. "They neither smoked nor drank, but were studious types, seemingly forever reading their books. They were always thinking up ways to please me. Often they would ring me up and say: 'Mother, stay in this afternoon, there's a surprise coming. Later on a large bunch of flowers would arrive.'"

Mrs. Price went on to tell me what

happened when her daughters were arrested: "Dolores and Marion were taken to Ealing police station. There they were both stripped naked, and were handed two FILTHY USED blankets to wear. They refused to wear the dirty blankets. Dolores was taken to a separate cell. Six police women came in and systematically began punching her all over her body except the face — after all, no bruises must show in court!

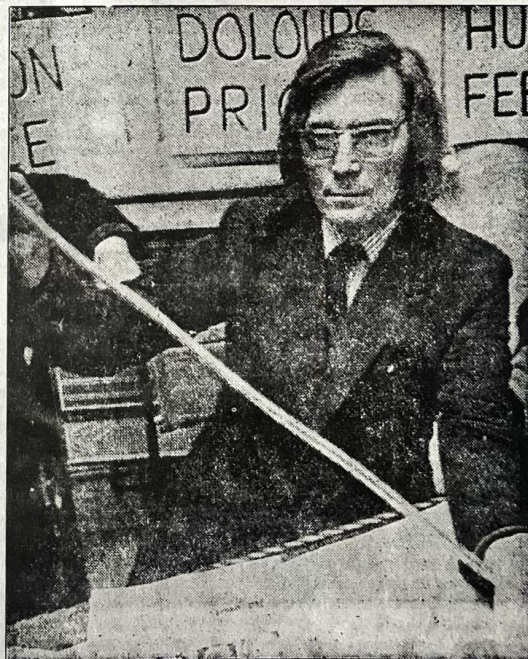
"Dolores refused to give them any information. Then, two police women held her whilst her fingerprints were forcibly taken. When my daughter told them they were breaking their own

laws, they laughed. Later in Court, Magdalene Salmond, one of the police women admitted using force to take fingerprints illegally.

"After being finger printed, the worst degradation took place. Two men came into the cell and gloated over Dolores and Marion whilst taking Polaroid

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Mr. Sean Murray shows a tube of the type alleged to be used in the forced feeding of Dolores and Marian Price, Hugh Feeny and Gerard Kelly. Mr. Murray is Chairman of the joint action committee formed to have the young Irish people returned to Ireland.



England! You shall pay dearly

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photographs. My daughters were obliged to sit naked in a corner of the cell and submit to this gross indecency.

"In their innocence they covered their breasts with their hands.

"Having endured all these insults, Marion and Dolores are now suffering the extremities of force-feeding.

"I visited them last weekend and found them more determined than ever to continue with their protest. I will support them in their stand, after all I raised them to do their duty to their country. I am heartbroken looking at them suffering, yet I am proud of them. I will not ask them to give up. I know they will win in the end."

OUR BOUNDEN DUTY

There is a bounden duty on ALL Irish Mothers to instil in their children a love of justice and freedom, so that the insult offered to Irish womanhood through the Price sisters, does not go unanswered.

TAKE ACTION NOW, TO STOP THE TORTURE AND SECURE THE SAFE RETURN TO IRELAND OF THESE YOUNG IRISH IDEALISTS.

POLITICAL HOSTAGES RELEASE COMMITTEE

OPEN LETTER FROM THE POLITICAL HOSTAGES RELEASE COMMITTEE TO ALL ANTI-IMPERIALIST GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS OPPOSED TO INTERNMENT

The purpose of this letter is not to rake over the past dissensions but to state what must be done in the coming period and to clarify our position.

The S.D.L.P. the Unionists and the Leinster House government have agreed to carry out the strategy of the British imperialists in Ireland. However, because of the chronic instability of the Assembly and its Executive, its existence can only be guaranteed by increased repression and harassment of the anti-unionist population. To combat this increasing repression it is necessary to build a mass movement to revitalise the struggle on the streets.

The S.D.L.P. quislings and their Faulknerite friends have given us a foretaste of the unity which they will display in their attempts to smash the anti-imperialist resistance. To the unity of the oppressors we must counterpose a united front of the oppressed. Together we must wage a determined struggle to free the political hostages and to end repression.

The P.H.R.C. was not established as, and it is not, a rival to any other organisation which is struggling against repression. Nor is it a "front" for any organisation or group of organisations. It is a United Front of groups determined to release the political hostages, to end internment and to combat repression. Only a united mass campaign can achieve this. We call on you to take your rightful place in the P.H.R.C. and to play your part in the building of the mass movement.

(We urge our readers to give the P.H.R.C. every possible support. — Editor).

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE G.A.A.

It is with deep regret that we find it necessary at this stage in our country's history, to re-examine and justify our continued membership and support of the G.A.A. To us, as indeed to Irish people at home and abroad, the G.A.A. has been a symbol of all that was great and noble in our country's efforts to establish, maintain and promote the spirit and cause of Irish culture. It re-awakened the national pride of our race and took its place along with the Gaelic League in forwarding those activities which have done so much to preserve our identity as a nation.

The founders of our great Association may not have envisaged the extent to which their cherished dreams have been realised in so far as growth in numbers and facilities are concerned and how our national games have captured the imagination and affection of our people. One thing is certain, they could not have foreseen how its primary and main purpose could be easily discarded by those who are now in office, and who little realise the cost to our country of their apathy and neglect.

The aims and objects of the G.A.A. you well know; how have they been implemented by the present administration? (Central Council). Has it been by the relatively tame protests, with tongue and cheek, hands in pockets and the National Anthem on their lips? Has it been by their obsession with amassing wealth and for what purpose? We have seen Casement Park, the memorial to one of Ireland's greatest sons turned into a symbol of British power and the centre from which the enemy could direct and mobilise its terror machine against the local people. How puny were the manifestations of public indignation at the harassment of players and spectators by British troops and helicopters over our playing fields in Tyrone and elsewhere. We need not go on with the ever increasing litany of acts of repression by the Brits in the North; they are common knowledge.

The question is, what are you going to do about it? Sit idly by? Wash your hands of all responsibility? Or do you simply not know? We hesitate to use the word "afraid." You say, "what can or may a sporting body do?" Surely you know and claim that the G.A.A. purports to be more than an organisation devoted merely to sport. Or do you know?

We could make a few suggestions, if you are interested. At all matches and functions held under the auspices of the G.A.A. and at all feiseanna, prizegiving, etc., provision should be made for a short silence in respect of those who have lost their lives in this latest British attack on our national territory and to those who are in danger of death in British prisons. Picket all British sponsored functions, particularly those in which Irish athletes participate. (Commonwealth Games). Also the homes of those Irishmen taking part or assisting them in any way.

You could also picket British Embassies and Consulates, soccer, rugby and cricket matches. The various hunts and hunt balls could receive your attention. Boycott all shops selling British made sports equipment and clothing. Distribute car stickers, posters, etc. propagating all features of Irish culture. Use your influence at club and country level to keep reminding the Central Council of the obligations they fully accepted.

This may appear to be a wholesome indictment of all members of the G.A.A. but that would be an injustice to so many who have courageously and steadfastly continued to act in the spirit and letter of its constitution and traditions. Since its inception they have emerged from its ranks to serve their country when it was most in need.

Their physical prowess and talents on the playing field were to reach their peak in the most important struggle of all... the struggle to attain "An Ireland not free merely but Gaelic as well."

Let their example be the spur which we sincerely hope is the only thing lacking in the channelling of all our efforts. viz. to make the dream of Pearse... the greatest Gael of modern Ireland, a living reality.

You subscribe to Pearse's vision... you have the organisation... will you unite in bringing it to fruition? You may be late... but not oot late, yet...

Dan Turley, Press Officer,
Republican Prisoners, Cage 22,
Long Kesh Concentration Camp.

A wreath laying ceremony in memory of Vol. Francis Liggett, will be held on Sunday, 20th January at Milltown Cemetery, Belfast, after 12 o'clock Mass in St. John's, Falls Road.

Vol. Liggett is remembered with pride by his family and comrades.

Remembered by his Father/Mother-in-Law and family, his sister and his brother-in-Law who is in Long Kesh. By Margaret and Martin. By his dear wife Maureen. And by the members of the Francis Liggett Sinn Fein Cumann.

Irishmen held on remand in England

Two Irishmen from the Luton area were remanded in custody when they appeared before Birmingham's stipendiary magistrate on 7th January, charged with plotting a jail break.

Patrick O'Brien (18) of Icknield Road, Luton and Kenneth Lennon (30) of Francis Street, Luton, were remanded in custody until last Wednesday, charged with conspiring with other persons unknown to effect the escape of a person or persons unknown from Birmingham Prison on 6th January.

Both asked for legal aid, Philip Sheridan, one of the three Republicans living in Bedfordshire, jailed for ten years last month, is held in the prison's top security wing.

SDLP WILL NOT SUCCEED

Dear Sir,

As everyone is aware that the Winchester 8 are very near death, the S.D.L.P. talk, while the people take to the streets in protest of the inhumane and barbaric force-feeding and the DEMAND of repatriation of all Political Hostages.

Can it be that the S.D.L.P. do not care, or need not care about people who are starving to death for their RIGHTS while they — the S.D.L.P. — live very comfortably on £6,000 per annum. In fact some of them live so comfortably, that they can afford to move to a new house in a "better area."

I am sure that the Winchester 8 — especially the PRICE sisters — will feel better in the comfort of this knowledge, just as the people on Rent and Rates strike know that if they do not SMASH the S.D.L.P., the S.D.L.P. will try — to smash the resistance of the people — but they will not succeed.

The S.D.L.P. have stabbed the people in the back, as the Winchester 8 know to their cost. The Winchester 8 cannot be freed with "talks" between the S.D.L.P. and HEATH via his ministers. They can only be freed by mass action by the people on the streets.

It is up to the people to come back onto the streets, to demonstrate and protest, and secure the release of the Winchester 8. No longer can we rely on our elected representatives, no longer can we rely on the S.D.L.P. The proletariat have been sold out, the Political Hostages have been sold out, we have been left to fend for ourselves, so that is what we must do.

Firstly, we must utterly and totally reject the S.D.L.P. Secondly, we must campaign on the streets for our RIGHTS and for the RIGHTS of those who have had their liberty taken forcibly from them.

The P.H.R.C. fully support the Winchester 8 in their hunger strike in their attempt to receive their rights, i.e. repatriation. We demand that the Political Hostages in ENGLAND, SCOTLAND and anywhere else be immediately repatriated, and we will continue our campaign until we achieve our aims.

Yours faithfully,

P.R.O., POLITICAL HOSTAGES
RELEASE COMMITTEE.

ANY GOOD BOOKS TO SPARE?

The Irish Political Hostages in Long Kesh Concentration Camp and in other jails always welcome good reading material.

If you have any good books to spare, would you please have them left at:

The Eire Nua Bookshop, 170a Falls Road, Belfast or An Phoblacht Office, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin, and arrangements will be made to have them distributed to Republican prisoners in the various camps and jails. THANK YOU.

WANTED

NATIONALISTS AND REPUBLICANS IN WALES AND SCOTLAND ARE PERTURBED AT THE RECENT AWARD OF A SOCIAL SERVICE RESEARCH COUNCIL GRANT TO EXETER UNIVERSITY POLITICS LECTURER DR. RICHARD CLUTTERBUCK.

(With acknowledgement to "Welsh Nation")

The £6,000 grant is intended to finance a 2½-year investigation into political violence in Wales, Scotland and England since 1967, writes Robert Griffiths.

Dr. Clutterbuck is an expert in counter-insurgency tactics and is well-known as the author of "Protest and the Urban Guerilla" and "Riot and Revolution in Singapore and Malaya." Now he has been "employed" by the British government to study industrial disputes, demonstrations and more overt forms of political violence such as the pre-Investiture bombing campaign in Wales.

The source of the disquiet felt by radical political organisations at the Research Council project is rooted in the private activities and public utterances of Dr. Clutterbuck and some of his colleagues.

His links with the Army in Ulster have prompted the publication of an ominous "Wanted" poster in the Provisional I.R.A. paper "An Phoblacht" and some of his comments during a recent TV documentary explain why in the December 11th "World in Action—Torture Special" ex-General Clutterbuck rejected complaints about the use of sensory deprivation techniques on Ulster internees because "the justification for interrogation in depth is that it prompts the truth" although physical torture should be condemned because it is "ineffective".

SECRECY

Unfortunately, a shroud of secrecy is thrown over Dr. Clutterbuck's extra-curricular lectures on counter-insurgency given to such organisations as the West Midlands

Engineering Employers' Association. On December 6th he delivered a seminar entitled "Does Britain Need a Third Force Like The French C.R.S.?" (para-military riot police) to the academic staff of Reading University. Students and the Press were refused admission to the meeting.

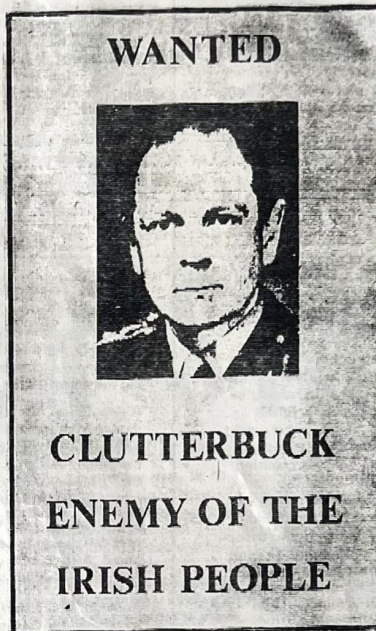
Equally disturbing are the activities of Dr. Clutterbuck's close friend, Major-General Frank Kitson, whose recent book advocates using the Army in a more "counter-revolutionary" (i.e. secret service) role.

When asked on television whether the British Army's operations in Ulster had been of any value, Kitson replied that they had permitted a sharpening of the military tools that would be needed to suppress any domestic revolts in Britain. In response to a request to be more specific about the location of possible trouble spots, he named two — Scotland and Wales.

BUILDERS

The generosity of the Research Council grant is rather surprising in view of the Government's proposed reduction in the rate of post-graduate intake and in the amount of public money to be made available for research. The £5,893 award also covers the cost of a research assistant — Miss Nicola Radcliffe, a post-graduate student at Exeter and the daughter of a high-ranking British Army officer in Germany.

Miss Radcliffe has already started some apparently innocent interviews with building workers who were engaged in last year's official building strike.



Already the left-wing press is accusing Clutterbuck of posing as an academic while digging up facts and figures about people who want to change society." Meanwhile Dr. Clutterbuck has told the Guardian: "It is certain that violence or attempted violence will increase in the future. This view is shared by the police." (December 11th).

When asked by "Welsh

Nation" to comment upon allegations that the real purpose of the research project is to collect and pass on the names of individuals and organisations who could conceivably consider using militant or violent tactics in the future, Dr. Clutterbuck refused. It is not clear whether the scope of the survey will include people who advise the British Army in the use of sensory deprivation techniques.

Writer's Pro-I.R.A. Remarks Censored

An interview with Sean O'Riordan, foremost Irish writer, poet and Gaelic scholar has been censored by the R.T.E. (Radio and National Television Service) policy committee. The committee ruled that the programme had to be cut on the grounds that certain views expressed by Mr. O'Riordan contravene Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act. Mr. O'Riordan had expressed sympathy for the I.R.A. In this censored segment he said that the Provisionals had fought for the Nationalists in the Six Counties when they had been abandoned by everyone else. Fianna Fail, he said, was a lifeless party — whatever philosophy it had having ebbed away. The Taoiseach was seen by Mr. O'Riordan as "a museum piece," with a government structure like that of the 1920's too firmly based on law and order."

Producer Sean O'Morpha was ordered to cut out the references to the Provos. He appealed against the order made by the station's policy committee but the

appeal was rejected. So the 25 minute interview went on the air censored.

"It is sad that the policy committee saw fit to censor Sean O'Riordan because O'Riordan is the most important poet writing in Irish today and since the death of Maírtín Ó Cadhain he is the most important writer in the Irish language. Many people who read Irish literature would agree with this. Everyone may not agree with O'Riordan's views but he is a man who has taken a firm stand on the Irish language, on literature and on politics. Whether people agree or not they must concede that he is a clever man of independent mind.

Mr. O'Morpha pointed out that Section 31 had been brought in by Fianna Fail. We now had a Coalition Government and a new Broadcasting Act was supposed to be introduced but Section 31 was still here. It was there because it suited the Government to have it, he declared.

The Deserter

BY TERENCE McSWEENEY

*He evades the troubled field where great causes are fought,
He shuns the battles because of the wounds and the sacrifice,
He has no heart for high conflict and victory.
Let him under cover of darkness, but secure
His share of the spoils, and the world may go to wreck.
Yes, he is the meanest of things — a Deserter.
On the field of battle he would be shot.
If we let him desert the field of life,
Go his own way, and walk the world,
Let us at least not hail him as a man.*

SINN FEIN VIEWPOINTS

RENT AND RATES STRIKE

Mr. Malachy Foots, spokesman for the Sinn Fein Ulster Executive, has condemned the recent action of the S.D.L.P. in their call to end the rent and rates strike. He said: "For the S.D.L.P. to announce that the rent and rates strike is ended, is in reality nothing more than a "political smoke-screen," and a feeble attempt to become more acceptable to the various shades of Unionism, be they Alliance, D.U.P. or Pledged Unionists.

"We remind Mr. Fitz and Co., that when internment was introduced in 1971 by his new found friend Faulkner, the mass of the people, not the S.D.L.P., pledged to fight internment with the passive weapon of the rent and rates strike. To this the S.D.L.P. were very voiceful in pledging themselves. Now as a blatant gesture of appeasement towards the architect of internment, the S.D.L.P. want the strike ended.

"The S.D.L.P. by accepting positions within the "New Stormont," and by being sworn in to "uphold the laws of N. Ireland," have knowingly or unknowingly pledged consent to uphold the repressive legislation of internment as this would be categorised under the "laws of N. Ireland." Therefore, we say to the S.D.L.P. as a coalition with the Unionists within the "Executive," they have become a party to every piece of repression the minority have grown to accept as the end result of British puppet politicians. In this capacity the S.D.L.P. have forgone all their pledges to the people, and can no longer speak for them. We, in Sinn Fein, being free from the shackles of British manipulation, are concerned with the people, and with ending internment.

"We therefore pledge as we did in 1971, to call for the continuation of the rent and rates strike. The call in 1971 was "No rent, No arrears," this call is still valid in 1974. The quising utterances of the S.D.L.P. (Catholic Unionists) will not coerce us or any justice seeking persons from this end The Rent and Rates Strike is Still On."

MALACHY FOOTS, P.R.O.

UNIONIST COUNCIL MEETING

"We in the Sinn Fein Ulster Executive see as a grim reality the rejection of the Council of Ireland by the Unionist Council Meeting in Belfast on Friday.

The rejection of the Sunningdale agreement by these "Ultra Right Wingers," is severe jolt to the collaborating tactics adopted by the Cosgrave Government in the arresting of many men around the border. After the events of the Unionist Council decision we offer this timely advice to Mr. Cosgrave to ponder on before he ever tries to sell out the hopes and aspirations of the freedom seeking Irish people, in the future. "Once bitten, twice shy." In saying to Mr. Cosgrave to adopt this maxim after having his hand of "appeasement," bitten, he should tread warily with the fascist monster that is any shade of Unionism, and furthermore we call for him to release all the

political hostages held in the 26 Counties as a result of his Government's collaboration through Ted Heath's political manipulation.

"As regards the actions of the S.D.L.P. in helping to form the Executive, we see them as being once and for all adrift from the minority and deemed to failure like so many partitionist politicians down the years.

"In regards to our position in Sinn Fein, we see now that the statement made by the I.R.A. in 1973, that "1974 is the year of Liberty," through the events in the political arena now more than ever appears to be a fact. "Therefore we resolve to strive to make 1974 the "year of Liberty." We will not be determined from this patch by the collaborating tactics of the political stunt men North and South. Sunningdale has failed we now are firmly set on the road to Irish Freedom.

ULSTER EXECUTIVE

A meeting of the Sinn Fein Ulster Executive was held on Sunday January 6th in Coalisland. The following is a short account of the meeting including the names of the new officer board:-

A deputation from the Campaign for English withdrawal from Ireland "were invited to address the delegates and give a broad outline of the proposed campaign," which is to be officially launched at the "Bloody Sunday," anniversary commemorations in Derry and Birmingham.

Mrs. Maire Drumm, Vice-President of Sinn Fein presided during the election of the new officer board. Also present were 5 Ard Comhairle members from within the Nine County area.

Brendan McGrath of Belfast declined to stand as a nominee for Chairman, and thanked all those who supported him during his term as Chairman of the 1973 Executive. The officer board elected is as follows:-

Chairman: J. Haughian (North Armagh)
Secretary: A. Rodgers (South Armagh)
Finance Officer: B. Barrett (Derry City)
P.R.O. Malachy Foots (Belfast).

The delegates were unanimous in calling for the continuation of the Rent and Rate strike. They also agreed that publicity in the form of handbills and statements should be made available to the ordinary people to let them know the position as to the continuation of the "Strike."

SINN FEIN CALL FOR ENGLISH WITHDRAWAL

The following statements has been issued by:-
Belfast North-East Comhairle Ceanntair Sinn Fein

"We are alarmed and disturbed at the extreme escalation of harassment towards the residents of Unity Flats by members of the 1st Queens Regiment.

"We would like to make known that this regiment have been busying themselves over this past week issuing threats of death to many residents, men,

boys, women and girls alike. One becomes alarmed at these threats when it is remembered that this same British Regiment were responsible for the deaths of six young men in the New Lodge last year and also for the death of James Ward from Unity Flats, the latter's death for which a soldier now faces a charge of manslaughter. Bearing these facts in mind we call for an immediate halt to these sinister acts of intimidation from the first Queens, before they put into effect these "death threats."

"The 1st Queens also must stand condemned for their other litany of spiteful and sinister activities in the Flats complex which consist of many young boys being recently "beaten up," by mauling "gangs," of the 1st Queens; coupled with this the 1st Queens have now turned their lustful attentions to the women and girls of the area, resulting in the arrests of many of the female population because they refused, as is right and proper, to be "frisked," or "man-handled," by members of this petty-minded crowd of British Troops.

"Finally in calling for an end to this harassment, we see the actions of the 1st Queens as being at variance with all the daily utterances from the "Sunningdale politicians," who talk of "power sharing," and a "fair deal," for all. The actions of the soldiers to us are the words of General Tuze who stated, "lean hard on the Catholics." Despite this escalation of harassment, we now more than ever, stand resolute over our demand for a complete British withdrawal."

CENTRAL BELFAST COMHAIRLE CEANNTAIR

"In the midst of one of the worst economic crisis ever to hit Britain the Heath government in an attempt to shift the blame from themselves have seen fit to blame their incompetency on the miners who are on strike for better wages and living conditions than at present.

"The fault for the plight which Britain, and we by being tied to her apron strings in the field of economic development at any rate, lies solely at the door of the British government. Whether Heath likes it or not the facts are that the miners are echoing the protests against the unfair legislation which severely limits the amount by which a worker's wage may be increased while at the same time no serious effort is being made to curb rapidly spiralling prices. The strange part about the Heath government's attitude to the demands of the mine-workers is that while not prepared to come to an amicable settlement regarding the demands of this essential question of the miners wages on the ground that the country cannot afford to pay the extra money which the miners seek they can still afford to keep British troops in Ireland at enormous expense to the British taxpayer.

"British Tories cannot even claim that the presence of British troops in the Six occupied Counties is necessary because British dominion in Ireland will benefit the British people. The wealth of Ireland is being siphoned off the Irish people and into the pockets of the British and foreign investors.

"While the British general public are shivering their way through Winter and working short time in poor

SUPPORT THE CONTINUE RENT

DINT

COSGRAVE REGIME HAS LEARNED NOTHING

The following statement has been issued by

Robert Emmet/Francis Liggett Sinn Fein Cumann, Belfast.

"The activities of the Dublin government in making swoops on suspected Republicans initiated as it was on the eve of Brian Faulkner's fateful meeting in the Ulster Hall was obviously designed to show the unionists that the Cosgrave administration seriously intended to step up their campaign against the anti-establishment people of that other part of our divided island. It can only fill Republicans with revulsion and disgust to witness the whitening away of civil liberties by the Cosgrave administration in

its attempts to enforce a British imposed solution to the Irish question.

"The Cosgrave government, by their present repressive line, are portraying their obvious lack of sincerity with regards a just and lasting peace in our country. By aping the tactics of Britain in repressing the will of the people the Twenty Six Counties government are preparing a rod for their own backs. The Cosgrave government has learned nothing from events in the Six Occupied Counties over the last five years. Obviously they have not yet learned that where injustice and repression rule people will speak out and fight to obtain justice and the granting of civil liberties.

conditions, and while the miners are enduring the hardships of a prolonged strike the British government can still afford to pour troops into our country in order to uphold the pro British elements of government here. In addition to the expense of garrisoning her troops here Britain is footing the bill incurred by the large scale internment policy being pursued by her government against her political opponents here. The British people would do well to reflect on this strange state of affairs and demand the return of British troops from Ireland."

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ON HUNGER STRIKE

There are at this moment 4 young people on Hunger Strike in English prisons.

They are:-

Marion Price	19 years	H.M. Prison Brixton	Jebb Avenue, London S.W.2
Dolores Price	23 years	"	"
Hugh Feeney	21 years	Gartree Prison	Market Harborough
Gerard Kelly	19 years	Wormwood Scrubs	Du Cane Road, W.12

WHY? Because they want to be moved to prisons in the North of Ireland in order to serve their life sentences near their families in Belfast. **This demand is not unusual.** Robert Carr, Home Secretary, has said that EIGHTEEN prisoners have been moved from Ireland to England at their own request since 1969, and FOUR have been moved from England to Ireland. Three have been moved from England to Scotland to be near their families for visiting. Yet he has refused to move these young prisoners and instead has ordered that they be punished even more.

THEY ARE BEING FORCIBLY FED. How is this done? A wooden clamp forces open the jaw and a thick orange greased tube is pushed down the throat. A liquid mixture is then poured down and this is almost always followed by vomiting and nausea. The prisoners are held down by warders and the girls are forcibly fed by 4 doctors who take it in turn. They are held in an all male prison. Forcible feeding is an inhuman and degrading form of treatment which contravenes the European Convention of Human Rights.

THEY ARE REFUSED VISITS Hugh Feeney and Gerard Kelly (who has already nearly been suffocated by having the tube pushed down his windpipe) have had NO visits since they were convicted on 14th November. The Kelly family paid their fares and crossed from Belfast to be turned back at the prison gate. Gerard has seen his baby only once since its birth. In 2 months he has spoken only to the chaplain. Mrs. Price has been told she will only be allowed to visit her daughters after she has sent a photo to the police and after Governor Whittington of Brixton has decided whether she is a "suitable" person to visit them. Their last visit lasted only 40 minutes and was watched and listened to by 3 warders and 1 wardress. Hugh Feeney was refused the sacraments by the priest in Wakefield. In Gartree he is not only refused his tobacco ration, but is not allowed to wear any clothes at all, not even pyjamas. His widowed mother waited 3 hours in the Home Office after coming over from Belfast, only to be told she could not visit him.

WHAT IS THE RESULT OF THIS TREATMENT?

All four are very seriously ill. The Price sisters have lost 2½ stone. Gerard Kelly lost one stone in 8 days. Hugh Feeney has lost 2 stone and has had a heart attack and his handwriting is so weak as to be almost unreadable. All four vomit continuously following the feeding. Dolores vomits as soon as the clamp is put near her mouth. All have bruised and swollen jaws and throats. If this treatment continues their health will not only be seriously impaired but their lives will be in danger yet no civilian doctor has been allowed to visit them. The British authorities seem prepared to see them die rather than meet their simple request to be transferred. They were not sentenced to death, yet they are being gradually and painfully executed for wanting to spend the next TWENTY years of their sentences near their families. Other countries which call themselves Christian celebrate Xmas by releasing prisoners, England does so by increasing the brutality towards young people young prisoners who want to be near their mothers, sisters and brothers.

STOP the inhuman and degrading treatment by British prisons.

ASK those outraged by torture in Spain, Greece and Turkey to stop torture and brutality on their own soil. Let us ensure that this New Year of 1974 will not be the last year on earth for Dolores and Marion Price, Hugh Feeney and Gerard Kelly.

What can YOU do?

DEMAND THAT THEY BE MOVED TO IRELAND

1. Complain to Robert Carr, Home Office, Whitehall S.W.1 and Edward Heath, 10 Downing Street, S.W.1.
2. Ask your local M.P. to intervene with the Home Office.
3. Ask your friends, church, workmates and any organisation which you are a member of to support this humane demand.
4. Ask the Irish Ambassador to intervene: 17 Grosvenor Place, S.W.1.
5. Send messages and telegrams of support to the prisoners to tell them that they will not die unnoticed and that we are with them in their struggle.

NameAddress

I demand that Dolores and Marion Price, Hugh Feeney and Gerard Kelly be moved to a prison near their families in Ireland, and that the prison authorities stop the vile practice of forcible feeding.

Joint Action Committee c/o 88 Roslyn Road, London N.15.

THE INTERNEES! & RATES STRIKE!

THE RENT & RATES STRIKE

"Sinn Fein calls on the people of the North to disregard the S.D.L.P. call to abandon the Civil Disobedience Campaign. This campaign is totally non-violent and its need is greater than ever now with over 1,500 people in prison. The S.D.L.P. were once the champions of non violence but now being part of the New Stormont, they wish to see an end to all protests and a meek acceptance of internment, torture and harassment.

"We also call on the people to reject with contempt statements from certain members of the S.D.L.P. that Brian Faulkner committed himself in principle to a united Ireland at Sunningdale. This view is being peddled by John Hume and Paddy Devlin in an effort to justify their collaboration with the arch oppressor. The S.D.L.P. record is one of lies and deceit and treachery and no credence can be placed in any of their statements, public or private."

I WILL NOT REPAY RENT — BERNADETTE

Mrs. Bernadette McAliskey (Bernadette Devlin) said she was not surprised at the decision of the S.D.L.P. to call for an end to the rent and rates strike.

She said she would not be repaying her rent and she did not believe anyone else would. "Then we will see how strong the S.D.L.P. really is" she said.

Everyone knew, she said, that Brian Faulkner had publicly stated that the S.D.L.P. would not be allowed to sit with him on the power-sharing executive until they had denounced the rent strike.

She was not greatly surprised either that, despite the fact that, when in opposition, the S.D.L.P. demanded an amnesty for rent strikers, now, when they were in a position to grant it, they refused to do so.

CIVIL RIGHTS ASSOCIATION REPLY

The Civil Rights Association in its statement said that the S.D.L.P., in calling for an end to the strike, "has completely compromised their anti-internment stand and abandoned the last vestiges of the pledges made on the introduction of internment in August 1971.

"N.I.C.R.A. is confident that the call by the S.D.L.P. will have little or no effect on the people participating in the rent and rates strike, and we believe that their statement is a prelude to more drastic debt-collecting machinery which will have the backing of the S.D.L.P."

ANDERSONSTOWN CIVIL RESISTANCE "NO" TO THE S.D.L.P. CALL

"We view with disgust the way in which certain politicians have used the internment issue as a stepping stone in their squalid climb to power. These men protested against the cruelty of the system when they stood outside the system. Now that they are part of the system they cease their protest."

NO MORAL RIGHT TO WAGE WAR

CARDINAL CONWAY

In another of his many attacks on Irish Freedom Fighters, Cardinal Conway surpassed himself in his latest condemnation of the fight for peace, freedom and justice.

The Cardinal in his statement said: "To deliberately take away a human life is a mortal sin that is so serious that it is in a category by itself" he said.

"It involves an altogether special insult to Almighty God because it usurps the right of life and death, which belongs to God alone. No can it be said that such deeds are lawful as acts of war. No group of individuals has any moral right to wage war, contrary to the manifest will of the people as their elected representatives.

"One thing is certain. Those who commit these crimes will suffer for them, both in this life and in the life to come. They may have erected a mental shutter which shields them from normal human feelings of horror and revulsion at such crimes, but as time goes by that shutter will come down and they will suffer agonies of remorse and guilt."

To shoot a bullet through a man's head deliberately was an act of violence against God and human nature itself. Those who did these things would find out sooner or later that they had done irreparable harm to their own peace of mind and perhaps even their own sanity.

"God is not mocked. Those who profess to be Christians and at the same time usurp God's right over human life will one day learn that this is no idle warning" the Cardinal said.

In order to counteract this propaganda we quote a Statement from the Leadership of the Republican Movement which was issued on September 13th, 1971 and which still stands as their answer to charges made by certain Bishops of the Roman Catholic Church.

"Contrary to what Cardinal Conway and the Roman Catholic Bishops say, the actions of the Irish Republican Movement are a war of defence. Merely a new phase in resistance to foreign aggression that has gone on for 800 years; the British Army on the other hand, is engaged in a war of aggression against Irish people.

"This is not the first time the Roman Catholic Bishops have approved of war of aggression and condemned war of defence. A war of defence is quite justified on the principle of self-defence. The fact that the British Army is already in occupation does not change the validity of this principle.

"The Bishops speak of forcing 1,000,000 Protestants into a United Ireland. Action is directed not at the Protestant population but at the British Army and the British Administration, both Military and Civil, which is based on aggression and the so called right of conquest.

We have heard no condemnation from the Bishops over the past 50 years of 500,000 Nationalist people, mostly members of the Catholic Church, forced to live, not only against the will of 80 per cent of the people of Ireland under British and Stormont regimes. This would be too much to expect since the role of the Roman Catholic Bishops since 1795 has been with a few honourable exceptions, to uphold British rule and condemn and even excommunicate

Irish Republicans. Even now, the Bishops take as the unit of decision on the national question the artificially created Six County instead of the 32 Counties of Ireland.

"Because of this and because of the dual standard of morality implied in recent selective clerical condemnations of violence, the credibility of the Roman Catholic Bishops in this issue is at a low ebb and their statement while it may please the English Government and the Orange bigots of Stormont will not worry the gallant Freedom Fighters of the North. They know that, in the words of Father Sean McManus of Fermanagh, "The Six Counties was illegally imposed by force and it is illegally sustained by force, against the will of the Irish people. Therefore its institutions, its laws and its legal and political expressions are invalid."

"The basic question is who owns Ireland. We say the Irish people own it and that the very presence of British troops is immoral and that this generation of Irishmen and women not only have a right to use arms to expel them, but a duty to do so.

"Will the Cardinal and Bishops provide, or have they in their power, to provide adequate physical defence for the minority population against marauding British troops, partisan police forces and extreme Unionist mobs, which have taken such a toll in life, limb and property through their attacks over the past three years?

"The fighting defenders of the North will continue to draw their spiritual consolation from those fearless and honourable ministers of religion of all denominations who have never failed to render spiritual assistance to those who struggle against outrageous odds for justice and the dignity of man.

Faulkner's Defeat!

THE PERSONAL DEFEAT for Unionist Party Leader . . . Brian Faulkner means that constituency and Orange delegates to the Ulster Unionist Council rejected the Sunningdale Agreement on a Council of Ireland. Even though he is to continue to lead the new Stormont Executive the defeat is a bitter pill for Free State puppet politicians and opportunist Northern politicians alike.

The whole exercise of "trying to make the puppet Assembly work" has to date merely shown that British puppets are the same to Irishmen of every class and creed whether the name is Faulkner, Fitt or Cosgrave. It has shown that the system they are trying to establish will be no more acceptable to the Unionist people than the old Stormont to Republicans.

What next? The British have obtained complete lordship over the Cosgrave regime in the south. They have succeeded in motivating the Dublin Government towards increased harassment of Republicans.

British agents can now operate freely in the South and are honoured guests in the Cosgrave camp. The Free Staters of today in the government, judiciary and police are as willing servants of the British Crown as were their predecessors of 1922. Devoid of any further ideas the Quislings have nothing more to offer the Irish people but a constant tirade designed to perpetrate themselves in the paltry politics of a divided Ireland. And so it is now, more than ever, up to Republicans who have offered a vision of a New Ireland embodying a recognition of the positive aspects of the diverse elements which make up our nation.

The myth of British Justice

By Brian Gaffney

Armoured cars, tanks and guns came to take away our sons in August 1971. Ireland's sons remain behind the wire this January 1974. British justice in Northern Ireland has been "administered" by the Queen's loyal servants, servants on both sides of the divide. Times have changed, but not English justice in Northern Ireland. Let's review the record.

In April 1969, the R.U.C. broke into the home of San Devenny in the Bogside and beat him repeatedly. He died soon thereafter. Sam Devenny's killers are still at large. The British government knows who they are. So does the R.U.C., Sir Arthur Young, head of the R.U.C., condemned R.U.C. officers and men for what he called a conspiracy of silence. No one was ever prosecuted. British "justice" prevailed.

In August 1969, John Gallagher was shot to death by B Specials in Armagh. The B Special unit was identified. John Gallagher's killers are still at large. British justice prevailed once again.

In the Belfast pogrom of August 1969, R.U.C. members sprayed the Catholic apartments on Divis Street with machine gun fire, killing Patrick Rooney, an 8 year old boy in his bedroom. The killers are known to the government. No one was ever prosecuted. British "justice" prevailed.

In August 1971, internment came, and with it the systematic torture of Internees. In order to allay world public opinion, the Compton Commission was set up. It reported "we do not regard the exercises as cruel. . . . We prefer to take the view that exercises were devised to counteract cold and stiffness of which the arrested persons complained." The torture was not torture, only "ill treatment," Compton said. No one was ever prosecuted. British "justice" prevailed once again.

On Bloody Sunday, January 30th, 1972, the British army slaughtered 13 Irishmen and wounded 17 others in Derry. Foreign journalists who witnessed the holocaust described it as premeditated murder. Lord Widgery (or General Widgery) came to Derry to investigate his own British army. British soldiers were allowed to testify under code numbers. None were ever identified. None were ever court martialed. None were ever prosecuted in the criminal courts for murder. British "justice" prevailed once again.

We could go on but the instances of British "justice" through violence are too many to recite here. The English Magna Carta states:-

"To no one will we sell, to no one deny or delay right or justice." But then the Magna Carta does not apply to Irishmen.

St. Augustine wrote long ago "Justice being taken away, then, what are kingdoms but great robberies?" Irishmen thirst for justice but the great robbery in Northern Ireland continues.

It is idle to talk of peace until there is first justice. Injustice is a standard tool of English misgovernment in Northern Ireland. Injustice is the main gear of every aspect of rule from London. The judicial system is designed solely to legalise injustice and lend it the respectability of the "law." My own view is that, of all injustice, that is the greatest which goes under the name of "law." An unjust law is no law at all. St. Augustine said it centuries ago and thousands of Irishmen are saying it today. The history of Northern Ireland in the last 5 years tell us that injustice is a catalyst of internment, death and destruction. The "risen people" have risen. Revolution is with us. And the revolution is in the minds and hearts of the people. It is a revolution no one can stop.

CONDITIONS IN ARMAGH JAIL

Dear Sir,

A statement was sent out from Armagh Gaol a few months ago concerning the cramped conditions of its thirty five inmates. There are now sixty women Republican prisoners and twelve non-political, yet the conditions are virtually the same. Due to this situation a section of 'B' Wing was opened containing nine cells, two toilets and two wash-hand basins. Altogether this makes thirty three cells, four toilets, six wash-hand basins and two baths to accommodate almost sixty women. The washing facilities are totally inadequate with the rail of the catwalk serving as a substitute for a clothes line, there is only a two foot space between it and the cell doors. The heating system seldom works which leaves a small gas fire to heat the wing. The roof over the wing also contributes to the cold as it is made of glass which is broken in numerous places therefore leaving the wing open to rain etc. There is a small exercise yard with a hut which serves for recreation, education and rest purposes. The partition segregating the political prisoners from the wing below is made of thin hardboard. On two occasions the hard board gave way nearly causing two girls to fall to the concrete floor beneath. The holes have been patched up again but do we have to wait until there is a serious accident or even a death before it is recovered with a more secure bases. The conditions here in comparison with our comrades in Long Kesh are trivial so make it your resolution this year to support Armagh and Long Kesh in their fight for more humane corditions.

FREEDOM '74,
P.R.O. 'A' Company, Armagh Gaol.

Letter from Cage 7

May we express the unfair circumstances under which we have been deprived of a visit with our sister Margaret?

We have been interned now for approximately one year; Margaret was sentenced to ten years after spending eight months on remand in Armagh Jail.

Despite repeated requests to have a visit with her, the Governors in both Armagh and Long Kesh, with the approval of the Stormont Home Affairs Ministry,

have callously turned us down every time. Surely with all these talks, involving minority representatives, such a continuance of repressive acts against members of the minority is outdated. We have stated what we know of our own case, but there are several others, both here and in Armagh Jail in the same situation.

Let us see some concrete evidence of this new departure that the S.D.L.P. are so fond of telling us is to come about. Let the authorities grant us these visits immediately.

We ask for support and solidarity in our demand to see our sister.

SEAN & JOSEPH McCLENAGHAN,
Hut 71, Cage Seven,
Long Kesh Concentration Camp.

WORTHY OF SUPPORT

A Chara,

At a very representative meeting held on Monday night, comprising many different organisations, which included G.A.A., Clergy, Professional and Business people in the Armagh/Louth and Monaghan area, it was decided to launch a fund to be known as the "Michael McVerry Memorial Fund" to commemorate the name of Captain Michael McVerry, Brigade O/C South Armagh, killed in action against Crown Forces at Keady Barracks in British occupied Ireland on November 15th 1973.

Subscriptions towards this fund should be sent to Bank of Ireland, Crossmaglen. All subscriptions will be acknowledged and I make an earnest appeal to the many readers of your great paper to subscribe generously to this noble fund for a most noble and gallant man.

le gac Ceannact,
Press Officer,
Michael McVerry Memorial Fund.

Long Kesh

NEW SINN FEIN CUMANN IN LONG KESH

Jim Bryson Sinn Fein Cumann, formed by Internees in Cage Ten, Long Kesh Concentration Camp, has just been announced in a smuggled message from "the men behind the wire."



90 Cromac Street,
Belfast.

Dear Sir,

I have been reading "Republican News" recently with growing disquiet. I had felt that there was a lack of serious political thinking being done in the circles of Republican News and this week's edition (Vol. 4 No. 2) confirmed my fears.

The criticism of the People's Democracy on the first page is both untrue and unworthy of your paper. You state —

"The People's Democracy never publicly acknowledge the Provisionals leadership" Surely even "Republican News" knows that P.D. is a separate organisation with different political views from the Provisionals and accordingly would have no wish to follow Provisional leadership.

However P.D. has publicly acknowledged the correctness of the Provos in raising in a concrete way the National Question i.e., the reunification of Ireland, and secondly in the validity of armed struggle is the pursuit of that goal. Even a cursory reading of back copies of Unfree Citizen should reveal that. But if that is not enough proof, I myself speaking on behalf of the Peoples Democracy acknowledged this point on at least three separate occasions, once in Newry in late August 1972 and a number of times in Belfast during the Farrell/Canavan hunger strike in July and August. On at least one of these occasions the vice-president of Sinn Fein, Mrs. Maura Drumm spoke on the same platform.

EIRE NUA AND REPUBLICAN NEWS

GERRY RUDDY'S VIEWS

But if the Provos were correct in these things they were not and are not correct in other things. They made a mistake in using the S.D.L.P. as mediators prior to the 1972 Truce. This only gave credence to the S.D.L.P. who later were able to reap the benefits by posing as the political (as opposed to the military) voice of the Catholics.

The programme of the Provisionals — Eire Nua P.D. has already criticised in depth in the Unfree Citizen and still has to be replied to. For myself may I say that its makes a mockery of the Provos claim to be anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist. Until Eire Nua is either drastically changed or dropped people like myself will continue to regard the Provos as politically under-developed.

This belief is re-inforced by the lack of coverage given to both the Political

Hostages Release Committee's conference and Christmas Day March in Belfast by Republican News, despite the fact that the editor was at both. The P.H.R.C. is a united front of political organisations fighting for the release of all political hostages and opposed to all repressive legislation. It is also an attempt to recreate mass support for the anti-imperialist struggle and I'm sure the Provo army agree that without mass support armed struggle can not succeed.

And success is essential. Over the last five years certain successes have been achieved, the smashing of Stormont to name but one! But the ultimate success is a 32 county Socialist Republic still eludes us. Ireland has seen too many glorious failures. The present struggle contains within it, the seeds of victory

but the enemy, imperialism is still strong and can recover lost ground. That is why I am highly critical of Republican News. If we choose the wrong tactics and strategy now we could be undoing the good work done by Oglaiha na hEireann.

Therefore discussion, debate, argument must be conducted among the revolutionary left as to where and how we are going. If Republican News is prepared to stand by its claim that P.D. does not understand the first principles of politics and to stand by that claim in full free and open public debate, especially on the issues I have raised here, then I for one will be only too happy to reply to them.

Yours fraternally,
GERRY RUDDY.

