

# AN PHOBLACHT Republican News

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING  
POLITICAL WEEKLY



**INSIDE: A REVIEW OF THE YEAR 1986**

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AS 1986 recedes into the history books we take stock of our successes and failures, battles won and lost, defeats and victories, and, most importantly, lessons learnt from another year of experience. We look forward to 1987 with confidence.

It will be a year of work and sacrifice for republicans, but we're used to that.

Republicans carry with them the resources of experience which only time can give and which are an essential part of the process of developing the unfolding struggle.

For growing numbers of our people, 1987 will tragically mean facing the grimness of

the dole queue and the emigrant boat: for thousands at home, it offers little sign of easing the poverty and deprivation created by decades of political, economic and cultural bankruptcy in this exploited and partitioned island.

In the 26 Counties, we are hearing the death-rattle in the throat of another anti-Irish, anti-working-class government. Even as it sinks, the Coalition is struggling to take more money from the pockets and food from the mouths of the poor. The lifetime of that government now seems certain to last only a matter of weeks with a general election likely in February.

Will the administration that follows be any different?

Padraig Pearse gave the answer in 1915 when he wrote of the establishment politicians of the time:

*"Those who have led Ireland have done evil and they are bankrupt. They are bankrupt in policy, bankrupt in credit, bankrupt now even in words. They have nothing to propose to Ireland, no way of wisdom, no counsel of courage. When they speak they speak only untruth and blasphemy. Their utterances are no longer the utterances of men. They are the mumblings and gibber-*

*ings of lost souls."*

He might have been writing of the 1987 counterparts of John Redmond in Fianna Fail, Fine Gael, the SDLP, Labour and the Workers' Party.

In 1987, the example of courage will come from those who resist. It will come from the men and women Volunteers of the IRA who daily challenge the armed might of British imperialism in the occupied Six Counties. It will come from the political activists of Sinn Fein who, for the first time, will be working to bring the

loud and clear voice of uncompromising republicanism into the corridors of power in Leinster House. It will come from every front where the oppressed challenge the oppressor — on picket line and factory floor, on the land and in the daily struggle to make ends meet.

**It will be a year full of challenges — let us take them up.**

# Take up the challenge



## STOP PRESS Extradition

Fifty members of Donegal Sinn Fein picketed the courthouse at Ballyshannon, County Donegal, on Wednesday night, January 7th, where Letterkenny man Patrick McIntyre had been brought before a specially-convened sitting of the court on extradition warrants from the RUC.

McIntyre had failed to return to Long Kesh prison after being granted a 48-hour parole just before Christmas. In 1983, he was one of the H-Block prisoners who escaped in the mass break-out, but was arrested almost immediately after his escape.

There were clashes with

the Gardai as Sinn Fein members protested at this latest example of 26-County collaboration. McIntyre was remanded in custody to appear in court in Donegal town next Wednesday, January 14th.

For full story, see next week's issue.

# OPINION

## Serious questions

THE 'TRIAL BY MEDIA' of Lisnaskea schoolteacher Kathleen Gleeson, besides indicating how far the Northern establishment is prepared to go to isolate republican activists from their communities, raises serious questions about political vetting in the public sector and about the conduct of the legal profession in encouraging plea-bargaining by defendants in Diplock courts.

Because of her prominence in Sinn Fein, Kathleen Gleeson was targeted by the RUC. They attempted straightforward intimidation at first and when this failed they opted for character assassination. A boy was arrested and forced to sign incredible statements which condemned him to prison and which implicated Kathleen Gleeson as a teacher who used her position to recruit children into Fianna Eireann.

Anywhere else the statements would have been laughed out of court, defence counsel would have torn them to shreds and called for the 'recruiting teacher' to be present in the dock. Yet this did not happen.

The young boy was bait in a bigger game being played by the RUC and by unionist bigot Ken Maginnis to discredit Gleeson and other teachers involved in republican activities. To their credit, the INTO teachers' union recognised the implications of the Gleeson case and has pledged its support for her appeal against moves to ban her from teaching.

But what of the RUC and Ken Maginnis? Will their role in this affair be exposed? And what of the legal advisers? Can they be said to have offered the best defence to young Paul Smyth and to have protected his freedom and Kathleen Gleeson's safety? They knew she was being set up, not only for dismissal from her teaching position but also for loyalist murder bids.

Kathleen Gleeson has called for a public inquiry into the entire episode. Such a call will be supported by all those who are potential victims of political vetting and who are concerned at the continued injustices of the British legal system.



● The Inn on the Park Hotel on December 21st 1986, the morning after the night before

## Crossmaglen base mortared

TWICE WITHIN an hour, IRA Volunteers in South Armagh attacked the heavily-fortified crown forces base at Crossmaglen on Friday, January 2nd.

Eight mortar tubes, each containing 45lbs of explosives, had been fitted to a launch-pad attached to the rear of a tractor. Shortly after 9am, the mortars were driven to a prearranged firing position in a yard off the town square and a short distance from the base.

In a statement, the IRA said:

*"One of our engineers fitted two separate firing mechanisms which allowed for five mortars to be launched shortly before 10am. We deliberately allowed a 45-*

*minute gap between the first and second salvos in the belief that crown forces would be engaged in a follow-up investigation and more open to attack."*

The village was sealed off immediately following the attack and the RUC claimed that only one bomb had hit its target. However, it emerged several days later that at least three of the bombs landed inside the base, causing some damage.

In a statement claiming responsibility for the mortar attack, the IRA's South Armagh Brigade said:

*"In a well-planned and carefully co-ordinated operation we have shown once again that we can strike at will against the enemy."*

### TYRONE BOMB BLITZ

In a co-ordinated series of bomb attacks, IRA Volunteers in five active service units attacked four commercial premises in the East Tyrone area on Saturday night, December 20th, causing over one million pounds worth of damage.

One hotel was almost totally destroyed, while a second hotel and restaurant were extensively damaged. Minor damage resulted from the fourth attack on a public house.

The Glenavon House Hotel in Cookstown was the first to be bombed. Just after 8pm, IRA Volunteers drove a car-bomb through the plate-glass windows of the hotel's ballroom. Other Volunteers then placed three bombs in various parts of the building



before withdrawing. The bombs exploded 30 minutes later, starting a fierce fire which gutted the premises.

Less than an hour later, IRA Volunteers burst into the Kildress Inn, also in Cookstown, and placed several bombs in the building. Warnings were given and a short time later two of the devices exploded causing extensive damage.

Shortly before 9pm, IRA Volunteers belonging to the East Tyrone Brigade swung into action in Dungannon. A car-bomb was placed at the back of The Inn on the Park Hotel and warnings were given. The bomb exploded at 9.15pm, demolishing the wall and causing severe structural damage. The final target for the IRA was the Gaugers Inn at Ballyronan, on the shores of Lough Neagh. A 100lb car-bomb had been placed outside the premises around 8pm. However, the device failed to go off and was eventually defused in a controlled explosion carried out by British army engineers.

### DERRY ATTACK

On Friday, January 2nd, IRA Volunteers in Derry, using automatic rifles, fired six shots at British soldiers who were erecting an anti-mortar screen on part of Derry's wall. No hits were claimed.

## SINN FEIN COUNCILLORS ARRESTED

THE RUC used sledge-hammers to batter down the door of Derry Sinn Fein Councillor Mitchel McLaughlin's home on Tuesday morning, January 6th.

He was given no time to open the door before it was smashed in and he was seized by six RUC men. Although McLaughlin did not resist (except to complain about the RUC's unnecessary action in breaking down the door), the RUC later charged him with assault. They also claimed that only 'minimum force' was used.

However, local people saw McLaughlin being dragged from the house and thrown into a Land Rover. They also saw the door being smashed in.

On the way to Strand Road Barracks, McLaughlin was punched and his arms were twisted up

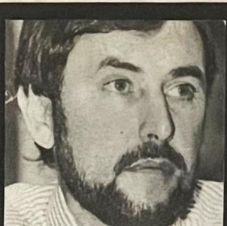
behind his back. He was examined by an RUC doctor and injuries to his neck and back were noted. That afternoon, he was charged with assaulting an RUC sergeant and was released on £100 bail. McLaughlin intends to charge the RUC with assault and malicious damage. He said after his release:

*"The RUC came to my house looking for any excuse to arrest me."*

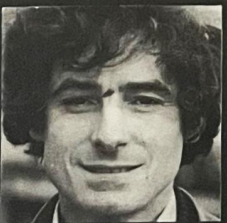
Nine other houses in the Bogside were raided earlier on Tuesday morning.

### NEW LODGE

And in North Belfast on the same day, Sinn Fein Councillor Bobby Lavery was arrested by a



● MITCHEL McLAUGHLIN



● BOBBY LAVERY

British army major on the New Lodge Road. Lavery, who was making arrangements for work to be carried out at old people's houses at the time, was held in North Queen Street Barracks for three hours.

# 'Join RUC' calls embarrass SDLP

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

SINCE last summer, and particularly throughout last month, the SDLP has been put under increasing pressure to support the RUC and encourage Catholics to join it.

But hints by the British government, irritated words from the Alliance Party, even recent calls by the Presbyterian Moderator for the "minority community" to join "a well-disciplined body of men and women whose morals and prestige are high" — he really means the RUC — could all be ignored by the SDLP as routine and predictable.

Peter Barry's more recent outbursts of last December and again last week have, however, proved a deep embarrassment to the SDLP, not least because they depend so much on Barry and his government for help.

They came after a year in which the Hillsborough Agreement dimly failed to bring any promised reforms, after Westminster renewed once again the North's infamous Emergency Provisions Act, and bluntly and repeatedly refused to bring in even the most insignificant of changes to the Diplock court system: a three-judge court. Yet FitzGerald's government pushed a new Extradition Bill through Leinster House, in spite of warnings by many human rights activ-

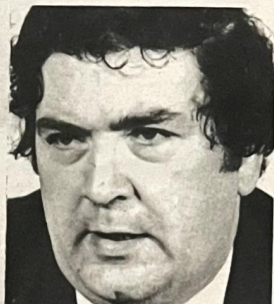
ists and even some in the SDLP that the Bill should be withheld until at least some of the victims of anti-Irish trials in Britain, such as the Birmingham Six, were acquitted and freed.

## FAIR RUC

The RUC in recent months has behaved in a "fair way" Barry repeated last Sunday. Catholics should join the force to bring a balance into it which reflects the whole community, he said. Barry's words were not just the result of pressure by the British government on Dublin to bring the SDLP into line, although there is no doubt that from London the message reached FitzGerald loud and clear: get the SDLP to endorse the RUC and to accept unconditional talks with unionists. But it is Dublin's wish too.

The Agreement could hardly be called a historic achievement in the Six-County context while unionists continue to oppose it so vociferously and the SDLP does not even acknowledge any improvement in the RUC. And so the heat is on to get the SDLP's "whole-hearted" support for the RUC.

To the SDLP's relief, the Northern Catholic Hierarchy came to the rescue. On December 21st, Cardinal O'Faich expressed his disappointment at



● John Hume (and below) Peter Barry and Cardinal O'Faich



the slow progress of the Agreement. The time had not yet come when Catholics could join the RUC, he said, and

he added that he was worried that the extradition legislation in the South had been passed too quickly. As for Cahal Daly, he did his pro-establishment best by calling for expressions of support for the RUC in order to signal to them that they still have a long way to go... From Daly this ranks as out and out criticism of the RUC.

## CONTROVERSY

And so the whole thing has now developed into a controversy, with unionists denouncing O'Faich and the Catholic Church as "Sinn Fein at prayer", the Alliance Party criticising the SDLP for not asking its supporters to join the RUC, and Barry reiterating his call at every opportunity. And for the SDLP the time has come to start paying for all the help it got from London and Dublin through the last few years.

Meanwhile, unionist opposition to the Agreement is rolling on, bumpy though the road may be.

The unionist-dominated councils have started voting the allocation of funds towards a campaign of publicity against the Agreement: £90,000 from Belfast City Council, £5,500 from Banbridge, ¼p in the £ of rates money from Cookstown, the same from Dungannon. Unionists are rushing these measures through before the case of contempt against Belfast City Council resumes in the High Court. The case might lead to fines and disqualifications for unionist councillors.

And on January 1st, unionists launched a petition to the British queen for a referendum on the Agreement. Door-to-door signing will be organised on January 17th, unionists announced, and a failure to bring about a referendum would mean that unionists are justified to engage in a campaign of total withdrawal of consent.

In spite of all this activity, unionists are no nearer to bringing the Agreement to a halt, but their renewed campaign spells further intimidation and suffering for nationalists.

# Kirkpatrick victims freed

BY JANE PLUNKETT

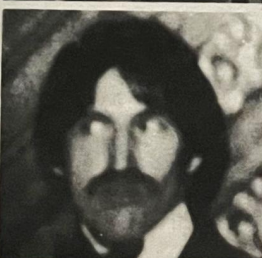
TWENTY-FOUR Belfast men imprisoned on the word of RUC paid-perjurer Harry Kirkpatrick have finally been freed after the Appeal Court admitted that their accuser was a perjurer and a "dangerously flawed witness" who had "planned to deceive the court".

Many of the 24 men who were tearfully reunited with their families in Crumlin Road Courthouse on December 23rd had spent nearly four years in jail solely on Kirkpatrick's unsupported word. One man, Thomas Power, had been incarcerated for almost five years, the victim of a succession of perjurers ("converted terrorists" in RUC jargon).

The Kirkpatrick case brings to ten the number of paid-perjurer cases which have collapsed in court, and in a greater number of cases individuals admitted that statements they had signed against others were false and withdrew them.

Of the 24 men freed shortly before Christmas, nine had been serving life sentences and the others were serving sentences from 5 to 15 years solely on Kirkpatrick's allegations. However, the appeal judges refused to free two men who signed statements. A third man had his conviction quashed but was returned to jail to complete a sentence on unrelated charges.

Although the SDLP has tried to claim that the Hillsborough Agreement was responsible for the release of Kirkpatrick's victims, in fact the defendants were sentenced in December 1985 after the deal was signed.



● RUC paid-perjurer Harry Kirkpatrick

There are no paid-perjurer cases currently pending, but contrary to media reports, the collapse of the Kirkpatrick show-trial should not be seen as the end

of the paid-perjurer system.

Firstly, at least one man remains incarcerated solely on uncorroborated evidence from a "supergrass". He is former Sinn Fein National Organiser Jim Gibney, who in October 1983 was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment on the word of Kevin McGrady. Gibney's judicial appeal was recently turned down, though in a minority finding, one of the three judges acknowledged there was no evidence against Gibney.

Secondly, the British view the paid-perjurer tactic as a relative success since it has enabled them to hold large numbers of nationalists in jail on internment-by-remand or awaiting appeal. Between November 1981 and November 1983 for example, at least 25 paid-perjurers emerged and were used to arrest nearly 600

people. Many were held for periods of several years, in some instances for longer than the longest internees.

## WHOLLY DISCREDITED

Currently, the British government and the crown forces are discussing how best to refine the paid-perjurer system, which a spokesperson for the London-based National Council for Civil Liberties recently described as "wholly discredited". At present we seem to be in a transitional phase, such as followed the abandonment of internment and which heralded the 1976 intensification of torture in Castle-reagh.

In the months to come, therefore, nationalists can expect to see the unveiling of some new tactic or tactics of British repression.

BY TOM O'DWYER

**THE 11 REMAINING** Dunnes anti-apartheid strikers returned to work on Monday, January 5th, only to be effectively dismissed on the spot. John Mitchell, leader of the strikers' union, the Irish Distributive & Allied Trade Union, found the behaviour of Dunnes' management "disgraceful" and "sad". Shop-steward Karen Gearon was "disappointed but not surprised".

When the strikers arrived at Dublin's Henry Street shop in the company of union officials they were told they would "not be allowed to resume work" unless they signed a letter committing them to the "handling of all goods that are available for sale". Striker Mary Manning responded: "There's no way we could sign that; it would be held under our nose all the time."

The strikers offered to sign their original contract of service or to discuss the wording of any commitment asked for by management, but Dunnes refused these initiatives. The strikers pointed out that no other workers at the shop had been asked to sign the undertaking.

At its 1984 conference, IDATU called for a boycott of South African produce. On July 19th 1984, Mary Manning was suspended for refusing to handle South African grapefruit. She was supported by 12 other workers. IDATU declared an official strike and received ICTU support. In October 1985, the strikers were joined by Brendan Barron, who had been suspended from the Crumlin branch for also refusing to handle South African produce. Since January, this year the 26-County government has refused any further licences for such imports, a direct result of the young strikers' courageous stand.

The strikers are now taking their case to the Rights Commissioner as a case of unfair dismissal. Dunnes' intransigence over signing the letter has convinced John Mitchell that Dunnes "most certainly did not want the strikers to return".

Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams MP and Sinn Fein Dublin City Councillor

# Dunne again!



Christy Burke condemned the sackings: "The intransigence of Dunnes Stores' management and their willingness to seek a peaceful settlement stands in stark contrast to the selflessness of the 11 young anti-apartheid strikers whose courageous stand has been an example to opponents of racism and oppression not only in Ireland but throughout the world."

A recent analysis of the statistics on discrimination against Catholics in the Six Counties has shown how the partition system stands in relation to the British regions.

The unemployment rate for Catholic men (based on 1981 figures) was 30.2%, while the overall Six-County average

19.1%: identical to that of the Glasgow area. The highest regional rate in Britain was Merseyside (19.5%). While Wales had an almost 15% rate, Six-County "non-Catholics" remained at 12.4%. At the same time, the "Great Britain" average was 11.3%.

This analysis, based on figures issued by Queen's University Belfast, showed that while non-Catholics suffered from unemployment at a rate near the British average, Catholics suffered incomparably higher levels.

Two hundred and forty jobs in the former Clondalkin Paper Mills hang in the balance this week. Since it was reopened

in August as Leinster Paper Mills, the plant has exceeded expectations of financial viability. Peter Keating, an official of the Federated Workers' Union of Ireland, said:

"If this last paper mill in Ireland goes down, every piece of paper a child uses is going to be imported."

Keating also points out that the plant has "exceeded its break-even point". He thinks the plant is definitely profitable "If there's no skimming off the top" by paying back money on bank loans which should go to investment. Keating says that any closure plans will be hard fought:

"I can see that there's a determination that the mill's not going to close."

After a day of speculation over the plant's future, it was announced on Wednesday evening, January 7th, that Clondalkin Paper Mills' bankers had appointed receivers to take over the affairs of the company.

A report by the white-collar union ASTMS shows that 80% of operators of visual display units (VDUs) in this country suffer eye-strain. The operators, mostly women, are forced to work longer than the internationally recognised maximum of two hours before a minimum of a half-hour break and workplaces are usually poorly lit.

The 26-County Department of Labour has recently issued voluntary guidelines for the use of VDUs which came in for some criticism from the ICTU. Both the ICTU and ASTMS are worried about radiation from VDUs and ASTMS demands that pregnant women should have the right to transfer from VDU work.

Alex Spain, the £80,000 per year boss of the B & I Line, has threatened redundancies in a letter to his 1,490 staff. The overpaid executive is using a pay strike by 12 craftsmen as his excuse. These members of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, Electrical Trades Union and National Engineering & Electrical Trades Union have been out since December 15th against a pay freeze imposed by the Dublin Minister for Communications.

# Sectarian murder attempt

BY JANE PLUNKETT

**A 21-YEAR-OLD** Ardoyne man spent the first hours of 1987 in hospital in intensive care, the victim of a loyalist gunman.

The attack took place on Monday, December 29th. Jim Corrigan and his wife Patricia were entertaining a couple from London in their North Belfast flat when, at around 11.30pm, the two men went out to get a carry-out meal from a local Chinese restaurant.

As they returned along the Crumlin Road (the scene of innumerable sectarian attacks against Catholics over the years), a man ran up to them from the direction of the loyalist Woodvale area and fired at least one shot, wounding Corrigan in the back. The bullet lodged in his chest, just missing his heart. Both

his lungs collapsed and he was rushed to hospital, where doctors have still been unable to remove the bullet.

The attempted murder of Jim Corrigan was condemned by local Sinn Fein councillor Gerard Mc Guigan, who said:

"I appeal to all nationalist people to exercise vigilance as loyalist murder-gangs appear intent on murdering Catholics".

## PETROL-BOMBED

In the early hours of Monday, a Catholic couple and their three young children escaped injury when a petrol-bomb was thrown



● Jim Corrigan was shot by a loyalist gunman as he left the Jade City restaurant (shown here) on Belfast's Crumlin Road

through the living-room window of their home in Kimberley Street in the Ormeau Road area of South Belfast. The distraught householder, Michael Toal, said the family had suffered a "living hell" and he described the attack as

"the attempted murder of five people".

This was the second petrol-bomb attack on a Catholic family in just over 24 hours. On Saturday night, a woman, her husband and

16-year-old daughter were taken to hospital suffering from burns after their home in the mainly loyalist Beattie Park Central, Dunmurry, was petrol-bombed. It was the second attack on this specific home in four months.

# Fermanagh smear campaign

BY JACK MADDEN

A POLITICAL WITCH-HUNT conducted by the RUC in County Fermanagh and conducted by unionist MP Ken Maginnis has resulted in an attempt by the North's education authority to ban Lisnaskea woman Kathleen Gleeson from her teaching profession and in the continued imprisonment of 18-year-old Paul Smyth on a series of trumped-up charges.

As a prominent Sinn Fein activist in County Fermanagh at a time of major reorganisation and expansion, Kathleen Gleeson has been targeted by the RUC, suffering regular harassment, arrest and detention in Armagh's Gough Barracks. One RUC detective regularly threatened that he would make sure Gleeson lost her job as a teacher and would be killed.

When it became clear that they could not intimidate the young teacher, the RUC changed tactics and launched a series of raids and arrests against children from the Lisnaskea area. Attempts were made in Gough Barracks to secure statements from the children which would implicate both themselves and Kathleen Gleeson in offences.

Most of the children resisted the pressure, but Paul Smyth, then 16 years old, was forced to sign an incredible statement cataloguing his alleged involvement with the IRA, from his recruitment at 13 into Fianna Eireann by a schoolteacher to his part in the killing of a UDR soldier. At one point the statement described how Smyth ferried rifles for use in an IRA ambush on the carrier of his bicycle through Lisnaskea, an area with heavy concentrations of crown forces personnel.

Paul Smyth's parents were not allowed to see their son until this statement had been signed. In their distressed state they



● At the Donagh press conference on December 29th were the parents of Paul Smyth, Fonsie and Margie Smyth, and Kathleen Gleeson

were then persuaded by the RUC to sign a no-complaints form. These signatures subsequently appeared on the statement which their son had signed.

## TRIAL

After a lengthy remand in Crumlin Road Jail, Paul Smyth's trial began last October. He was pressed by legal counsel to avail of the plea-bargaining system (to plead guilty in exchange for a relatively short sentence) even though he had intended fighting what were plainly ludicrous charges against him.

Since no defence was offered (in fact counsel for the defence suggested during the trial that the 'recruiting teacher' should be before the court), Smyth was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment and the RUC campaign to undermine Kathleen Gleeson got into full swing.

Using Ken Maginnis as its mouthpiece the RUC relied on carefully-leaked hints to the gutter press in Ireland and Britain. The

press responded with screaming front-page headlines and articles denouncing Gleeson as the 'recruiting teacher'.

A series of death threats by phone and word of mouth, as well as a letter-bomb, were directed at Kathleen Gleeson and on Christmas Eve the North's Department of Education responded to pressure from Maginnis by dispatching a letter to Kathleen Gleeson which announced that she was banned from teaching in the North and in Britain.

Outlining the "cumulative" offences as the reason for the banning order (two charges of technical assault on the RUC and one of personation) no mention was made of the more serious allegations, but the implication was clear - a political witch-hunt had succeeded.

Neither the RUC nor the newspapers had even bothered to check the facts of the case and, with all the enthusiasm of a sectarian bigot, Ken Maginnis had gone beyond attacking Kathleen Gleeson to an all-out

assault on the Catholic schools in the Six Counties.

At a press conference in Donagh, County Fermanagh, on December 29th, however, Kathleen Gleeson was joined by Paul Smyth's parents in refuting the various allegations which had been made by Maginnis and the media. She revealed that during the period in 1981 when she was alleged to have recruited Paul Smyth she had, in fact, been a student at the New University of Ulster in Coleraine and that she had not actually qualified until 1983!

Smyth's parents confirmed that Paul had never been taught by Kathleen Gleeson and outlined details of the pressure exerted on their son during his detention in Gough Barracks in January 1985. These allegations were supported by P.J. Crudden, another of the youths arrested during the same period.

Addressing journalists at the press conference, Kathleen Gleeson condemned what she described as a "campaign of vilification" conducted by Ken Maginnis "with the full co-operation of the RUC". Pointing out that she would fight the banning order through her union, the Irish National Teachers' Organisation (INTO), Gleeson added that her political vetting by the Department of Education "raised questions of what criteria would be taken into consideration for deciding the suitability of teachers".

The next day, the INTO leader in the Six Counties, Al Mackie, pledged union support for the Gleeson appeal and denounced the "slur" which Ken Maginnis had cast on teachers in Catholic schools.

Commenting on the issue, Sinn Fein representative Paul Corrigan called for the reinstatement of Kathleen Gleeson by the Department of Education and for the release of Paul Smyth from prison.

## MAN KILLED IN PUB BLAST

WITHIN HOURS of an early morning no-warning bomb attack in which a County Derry nationalist was tragically killed, the IRA firmly denied any involvement in the incident and said that either loyalists or the British "dirty tricks department" could be responsible for the attack.

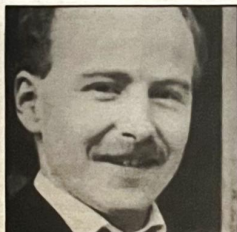
The bomb exploded in the Central Bar in Maghera's Upper Main Street shortly after 1am on Tuesday, December 30th. Liam McShane (24), a part-time fireman, was killed and his friend, pub-owner Christopher Glass, also 24, was injured.

According to the victim's sisters, he had only gone to the bar,

where he occasionally worked, shortly after midnight to keep his company. At about 12.40 am, Christopher Glass opened the door of the pub to serve several men who claimed they wanted a carry-out.

### MASKED MEN

Four masked men, one carrying a handgun, burst into the



● Liam McShane (above), who was killed in the bombing of the Central Bar in Maghera (right)

building and began rifling the cash register. Finding nothing, they forced Christopher Glass into the office at the rear of the premises to open the safe. After again finding no money, the raiders knocked Glass unconscious.

What happened next remains unclear, but a few minutes after



1am, a bomb exploded, starting a fire which badly damaged the bar. Liam McShane's body was recovered several hours later while Christopher Glass, who had ob-

viously been left to die when the bomb detonated, managed to escape from the devastated building with burns to his face and arms.

## Maguiresbridge assault

BY EAMONN TRACEY

A UDR SOLDIER shouting sectarian abuse battered a young nationalist about the head with the butt of a rifle in the County Fermanagh town of Maguiresbridge on Sunday night, December 28th.

Emmet Prunty (23) was walking with four friends at 10pm when they noticed an eight-

strong UDR foot patrol pass by a short distance away. As the young men crossed open ground, three of the soldiers (Humphreys, Brian Alexander and Noel Downey), suddenly reappeared from behind a rubbish skip, stopped the five and demanded that they lie down on the wet ground.

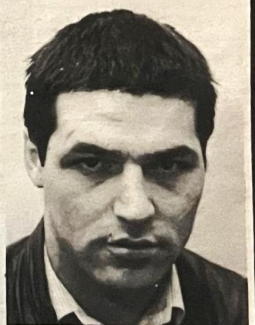
Prunty naturally refused and was immediately knocked to the ground by Downey using the butt of his SLR rifle. The young

nationalist was struck on the side of the face and the back of the head. The three UDR soldiers, who all live locally, were shouting sectarian slogans and abuse.

The RUC arrived on the scene a few seconds later and took Prunty, who was bleeding badly from a head wound, to the barracks. A local doctor examined him and referred him to the Erne Hospital where he had to receive three stitches.



● Emmet Prunty (above and right) who was assaulted by the UDR



# IMEAGHTAÍ

**REPEAL SECTION 31 PICKET**  
5pm to 6pm Every Friday  
O'Connell Street Bridge  
**DUBLIN**

**AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS**  
**75th ANNIVERSARY RALLY**  
Speaker: Reg September  
(ANC national executive)  
8pm Thursday 8th January  
ATGWU Hall  
Mid Abbey Street  
**DUBLIN**  
Organised by the  
Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement

**WELCOME HOME SOCIAL FOR JOE WHELAN**  
(Ex-Portlaoise POW)  
8pm Saturday 10th January  
North Star Hotel  
Amiens Street  
(opposite Connolly Station)  
**DUBLIN**  
Bar extension to 12  
Taillie E3

**CAVAN SINN FEIN ELECTION WORKERS' MEETINGS**  
Cavan town area  
9pm Monday 12th January  
Imperial Hotel  
**CAVAN**  
Ballyjamesduff area  
9pm Tuesday 13th January  
Hackler's Rest  
**LAVEY**  
Baillieborough area  
9pm Thursday 15th January  
West Cavan area  
9pm Friday 16th January  
Welcome Inn  
**SWANLINBAR**

**YORKSHIRE SPEAKING TOUR AGAINST PLASTIC BULLETS**  
Speakers  
Jim McCabe  
(wife killed by plastic bullet)  
Archie Livingstone  
(14-year-old daughter killed by plastic bullet)  
7.30 pm Monday 12th January  
Town Hall  
**SHEFFIELD**

7.30pm Tuesday 13th January  
TGWU Hall  
Netherhall Road  
**DONCASTER**  
7.30pm Wednesday 14th January  
Town Hall  
**HUDDERSFIELD**  
8pm Thursday 15th January  
Trades Club  
Saville Mount  
**LEDS**

7.30pm Friday 16th January  
Priory Street Community Centre  
**YORK**

**WELCOME HOME DANCE FOR BILLY KELLY**  
(Ex-Portlaoise POW)  
Friday 16th January  
Benner's Hotel  
**TRALEE**  
County Kerry

**NORTH MUNSTER SINN FEIN COMHAIRLE LIMISTEAR**  
8pm Wednesday 21st January  
Gaelic League Hall  
**LIMERICK**  
All officers and comhairle limistear delegates to attend

**BENEFIT BALLAD NIGHT WELCOME HOME JOHNNY JOHNSON**  
Music by Gypsy Lacey  
8pm to 12 midnight  
Friday 30th January  
Camelot Hotel  
**DUBLIN**  
Taillie E2

**BLOODY SUNDAY COMMEMORATION**  
1pm Saturday 31st January  
Carlisle Street  
Rally at City Hall  
**SHEFFIELD**  
Called for by TOM, LCI, IBRG,  
Women & Ireland Network

# Anti-Sinn Fein Act slammed

BY MARTIN Mac DIARMADA

**THE SPECIAL Electoral Act containing measures designed to thwart Sinn Fein in the forthcoming 26-County general election has been condemned by Monaghan County Council.**

Fine Gael and Fianna Fail councillors were told that their best efforts to frustrate Sinn Fein would fail. Speaking at the council meeting on Monday, January 5th, Sinn Fein Councillor Caoimhghin O Caoilain said that the new measures would not curtail the growth of the party.

He called for full postal voting rights for all those unable to vote at their local booth on polling day:

*"Our tens of thousands of young emigrants should have a say in the future of this state as it has been the failures of the past that have forced them to leave our shores."*

O Caoilain also called for votes for republican POWs who are incarcerated "as a direct result of the failure of successive 26-County administrations to address seriously the question of partition."

In the vote on the motion against the new measures, the two Leinster House Fianna Fail deputies split on the issue. Opposition spokesperson on health, Rory O'Hanlon, voted in support of the Sinn Fein motion while Deputy Jimmy Leachard (who lost his seat to Kieran Doherty in 1981) voted with the Fine Gael bloc. Other members of Fianna Fail followed O'Hanlon's lead while others abstained.

**DUBLIN**  
Following the Dublin High Court declaration that water rates for 1983 and 1984 were illegal, the city council has adopted a Sinn Fein resolution calling on the City Manager to refund all money paid in the form of water charges in that period.

Proposing the motion, Christy Burke (Sinn Fein) questioned the legality of the City Manager holding the money from the illegal demands. He congratulated those who had stood firm and not paid in spite of threats and said the court ruling was a victory for the National Association of Tenants' Organisations and other community groups.

Also at the city council meeting on Monday, January 5th, the strip-searching of women prisoners in Maghaberry was condemned and a call made for its immediate cessation. The motion to the meeting was circulated from Loughrea Town Commission which has also adopted it.

**SHANNON**  
Shannon Town Commission, in County Clare, has unanimously condemned recent incursions into the 26 Counties by British forces and has called on the Dublin government to condemn the actions of Michael Murphy which led to the citizen's arrest of a British soldier in December.

In proposing the motion,

Sinn Fein Commissioner Michael McKee said that it should be passed in solidarity with local authorities in border areas. He posed the question of whether the 26-County authorities would be as quick to seek the extradition of a British soldier if he had killed or injured someone in the 26 Counties with the same enthusiasm as they have shown in handing republicans over to the British.

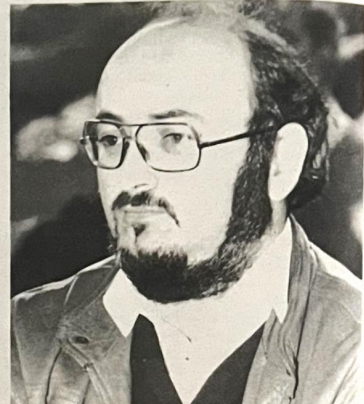
### SIDELIGHTS

The Shannon meeting, on Tuesday, January 6th, produced some interesting sidelights on the views of some parties. While the Sinn Fein commissioner said he "took his hat off" to the Murphy family, Labour Party Commissioner Tom O'Shaughnessy said incursions were necessary and called for more cross-border collaboration:

*"If there was greater co-operation between the British and the gardai these incursions would not be necessary."*

The Sinn Fein commissioner was also successful in getting the meeting to pass a resolution calling on Clare County Council to stop charging for the water supply in Shannon. Speaking against this, the Assistant City Manager, Bob Kelly, said that Shannon was the "worst" for paying rates in the county. When he said that the council was considering stopping refuse collections altogether in the town, the commissioners gave him a roasting and responded to the threat by passing the Sinn Fein motion unanimously.

At its December meeting, the Bray & District Trades Council unanimously agreed to call on the 26-County government to "demand a halt to cross-border incursions by Brit-



● (Above) Caoimhghin O Caoilain; (Below) Christy Burke & Michael McKee



ish crown forces and thereby to allow genuine community fears that such incursions are sanctioned by the authorities in this state".

The resolution, which came from Bray FWU, was forwarded to Peter Barry, the Leinster House Minister for Foreign Affairs.

## MONAGHAN PRISONERS' WEEK

**WIDESPREAD ACTIVITIES** marked the republican Prisoners' Week in County Monaghan at the end of December. There were street vigils in a number of centres including Monaghan and Clones, with leaflets distributed and posters displayed calling on people to remember the 650 republican POWs.

At the December meeting of Monaghan Urban District Council, Owen Smith and Padraigin Uí Mhurchadha proposed that seasonal greetings should be sent to the many men from the area in prisons in the 26 Counties, the Six Counties and to Sean Kinsella in England. The motion was noted without comment from the other members.

Monaghan Sinn Fein provided hampers to the families of local married POWs. The organisation has been operating a special travel allowance scheme for families visiting prisoners for the past 12 months.

With the arrest and detention of two further County Monaghan men prior to Christmas, there is now a total of 16 prisoners from the county currently held in Portlaoise, Long Kesh, Crumlin Road and Britain.

## No free speech

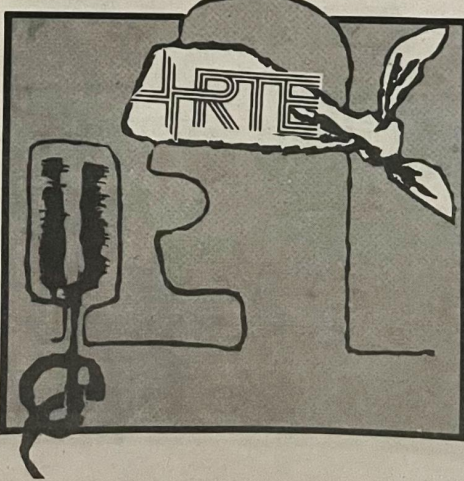
BY BRENDAN KERR

**REPEAL SECTION 31 supporters were punched and kicked by dinner-jacketed stewards when they unfurled a banner and distributed leaflets among an international audience attending the World Debating Championships final in Dublin's National Concert Hall on Saturday, January 3rd.**

As two Section 31 protesters took out a banner and draped it over the balcony directly facing the audience they shouted: "There's no debate or free speech on RTE!" They were then jumped from behind without even being

given a chance to leave peacefully. When the demonstrators resisted the attacks they were dragged out of the hall by up to six students each.

When gardai arrived on the scene, the 'Hurray Henrys' said



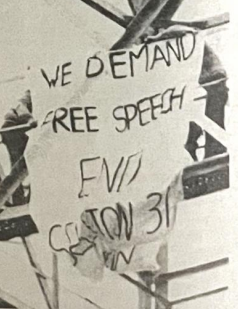
they wanted to charge the protestors with assault until the Repeal Section 31 Committee threatened to counter-charge them with assault.

### TRADITION OF DEBATE

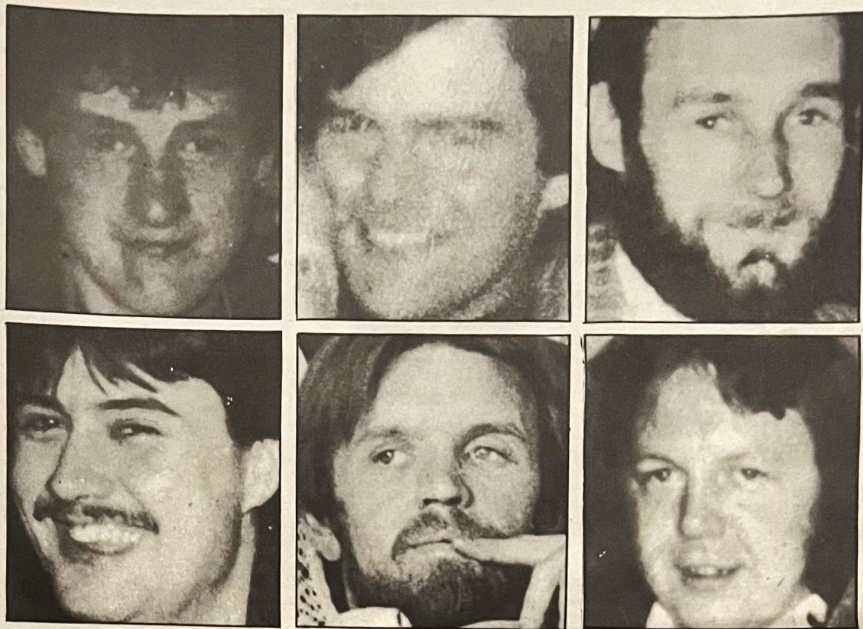
Among those who sent messages to the organisers of the event, the University College Dublin Literary & Historical Society, were Free State President Patrick Hillery, Garret FitzGerald and Margaret Thatcher. Thatcher said: "The tradition of debate is as strong in Ireland as anywhere in the world."

### FINED

In Sligo, just before Christmas, five members of Sinn Fein were fined £40 each for their part in the occupation of RTE's studio in the town earlier in the year. The occupation was in protest at Section 31 and the jailing of local Sinn Fein members for non-payment of TV licences.



# A REVIEW OF THE YEAR 1986



● The struggle to free our country from British rule has involved great sacrifices from the Irish people and in particular from the Volunteers of Orlaigh na hÉireann. In 1986 six IRA Volunteers lost their lives. They were (from top left) Tony Gough (February 22nd), Seamus McElwain (April 26th), Philip McFadden (May 31st), Brian 'Dipper' Dempsey (June 25th), Patrick 'Pudger' O'Hagan (August 9th) and Jim McKernan (September 14th). I measc laochra na nGael go raibh siad. "Wherever death may surprise us, it will be welcome, provided that this, our battle cry, reach some receptive ear, that another hand stretches out to take up weapons and that others come forward to intone our funeral dirge with the staccato of machine guns and new cries of battle and victory." — Che Guevara

1986 MARKED the 70th anniversary of the Easter Rising and it was a year in which the Irish people were reminded all too often by events that the ideals of the 1916 Proclamation remained unachieved.

Soaring levels of unemployment and emigration spelt the total failure of the corrupt political, social and economic system on both sides of the border.

The continued betrayal of Irish freedom by the Dublin government was symbolised by their

frenzied efforts to deliver up Eibhlín Glénholmes as a sacrifice to the British just a week before the Easter anniversary, which was marked fittingly by only the Republican Movement, as the inheritors of the unfinished struggle.

The Hillsborough Agreement failed in its principle object of halting the republican struggle. Its only contribution to nationalists and Catholics in the Six Counties was death, destruction and intimidation at the hands of loyalists.

It failed to stabilise the shaking structure of the sectarian state and the IRA continued to speed the inevitable process of demolition as it relentlessly pursued the armed struggle against the crown forces.

This and the decision by Sinn Féin to end abstention from Leinster House — which cleared the decks for an intensified republican political challenge in the 26 Counties — left the Dublin and London governments in no doubt that their misrule would not go unchallenged in 1987.

## JANUARY

JUST ONE MINUTE into the New Year of 1986 and the IRA launched an attack that gave the message loud and clear that there can be no peace in Ireland without freedom and justice.

After a bomb attack in Armagh city on January 1st, resulting in the deaths of two RUC men, the IRA said that, like the oppressed people of South Africa "we are in a position not of our making. We must fight for our rights".

Following the signing of the Hillsborough Agreement, the 15 unionist Westminster MPs in the Six Counties resigned their seats and precipitated by-elections, which were held on January 23rd.

Sinn Féin announced that it would put forward four candidates in Mid-Ulster (Danny Morrison), Fermanagh/South Tyrone (Owen Carron), Newry/Armagh (Jim McAllister), and South Down (Frank McDowell). The SDLP had refused to meet Sinn Féin to discuss an electoral pact.

That same week, former Fianna Fáil dissident Desmond O'Malley set up his Progressive Democrats party in Dublin. The advent of yet another right-wing party came as no consolation to the growing army of unemployed in the 26 Counties. It was revealed that in the previous month an unre-

cedented 11,818 people had joined the dole queues — more than the Dublin government had allowed for in the whole of 1985.

In Belfast, the sectarian murder by loyalists of Leo Scullion was one of the first bitter fruits of Hillsborough for nationalists and began a spate of loyalist killings which continued throughout the year.

On January 13th, an IRA mortar destroyed part of Carrickmore British army/RUC Barracks in County Tyrone.

H-Block escapees Brendan McFarlane and Gerry Kelly were arrested in Amsterdam on January 16th and began their long fight against extradition back into British hands.

The following days saw a wave of IRA attacks across the Six Counties as Volunteers went into action against the crown forces in Derry, Tyrone, Armagh and Belfast. On the 15th, a UDR soldier was killed in Sparnount, County Tyrone. On the 17th, Rosemount Barracks in Derry was the target for IRA gunfire. Then on January 21st there was a mortar assault on the UDR headquarters in Dungannon and a prolonged gun-battle at Minogue in South Armagh when an SAS squad hiding out in a derelict house was surprised by an IRA column. Two of the heavily-armed SAS soldiers were wounded in the exchange of fire.

Riding the crest of the massive media hype surrounding the Hillsborough Agreement the SDLP polled well in the Westminster by-elections of January 23rd. While Sinn Féin's base of support remained solid there was a drop in the vote in four constituencies as many nationalists opted for the most likely winner or stayed at home,

faced with an inevitable victory for a unionist candidate. The main message from the election, however, was that the unionist monolith remained unmoved with no sign of the 'moderate leadership' which John Hume had predicted would emerge after Hillsborough.

After their much-vaunted success with the election of Seamus Mallon to Westminster the SDLP's promises of the benefits which would flow from Hillsborough knew no bounds. But, as Sinn Féin's Jim McAllister told over 5,000 people at the Bloody Sunday commemoration in Derry the SDLP now had the problem of delivering their extravagant promises. The following months were to show how wild those promises were.

On January 31st, another Catholic fell victim to loyalist murderers when Martin Quinn was shot in his bed in the nationalist enclave of Bawnmore in North Belfast.

Also on the 31st, the RUC base in Coalisland, County Tyrone, was virtually demolished by a 400lb IRA van-bomb.

## FEBRUARY

THE CRUMBLING MORALE of the RUC was clearly exposed at the beginning of February when Alan Wright of the RUC Police Federation called for an abandonment of the 'Ulsterisation' policy along the border. The at-

tempts of the force's chief, Jack Hermon, to gag Wright erupted into a public row that was a major embarrassment to the British administration.

Wright's open admission that IRA attacks on RUC barracks and personnel over the previous months had severely dented the morale of the crown forces and his clash with Hermon won support from his comrades-in-arms in British police federations and in the Free State Association of Garda Sergeants & Inspectors.

On February 3rd, a UDR patrol was attacked by an IRA unit near Belcoo in County Fermanagh. One UDR soldier was killed in the attack. Also in Fermanagh, a RUC detective was shot dead in Maguire's bridge on February 11th. The unfortunate death of a civilian in this shooting prompted the IRA to repeat earlier warnings to people to keep well clear of crown forces.

On February 18th, a British army undercover squad shot dead a civilian at Toomebridge in South Derry. British claims that Francis Bradley had been among a group of men handling rifles were soon exposed as lies as the RUC/British cover-up failed to hide the truth.

The Fine Gael/Labour Coalition survived a bungled Cabinet reshuffle and paved the way for two more major acts of surrender to British and NATO interests. An amendment to the Treaty

of Rome (the Single European Act) and the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism were both signed in February, to be ratified later in the year by Leinster House.

On February 22nd, Volunteer Tony Gough of the IRA's Derry Brigade was killed by a British army patrol as he and his active service unit returned from a gun attack on Fort George. Tony Gough's funeral was an impressive tribute from the people of Derry to the young Volunteer, the first to give his life on active service in 1986.

In other IRA operations in February, the crown forces came under attack in Dunloy, County Antrim; Crossmaglen, County Armagh; and in Armagh city.

## MARCH

THE ONE-DAY loyalist strike against the Hillsborough Agreement on March 3rd saw an orgy of intimidation, threats and assaults against nationalists and others attempting to go about their normal business across the Six Counties.

SDLP and Dublin government rhetoric about the impartiality of the post-Hillsborough RUC was silent — for the moment — as the force turned a blind eye to (where it wasn't actually actively co-operating with) loyalist road-

(continued from previous page)

blocks, barricades and pickets which attacked nationalists workers and workplaces.

Three days later, Tom King told the unionists that the Hillsborough Agreement was no threat to them and described it as "a bulwark against a united Ireland".

Demonstrations throughout the country against the strip-searching of women republican prisoners marked International Women's Day. Later in the month, the women POWs were moved from Armagh to the new prison at Maghaberry in County Down where, despite millions of pounds spent on security technology, they continue to endure the torture of forced strip-searches.

On March 15th, the UDR regimental headquarters at Killeel in South Down was damaged in an IRA mortar-bomb attack. This was followed on the 18th by the death in a booby-trap explosion of a British soldier in the same area at Castlewellan.

Garret FitzGerald visited the United States for St Patrick's Day, with some shamrock in one hand and his begging bowl in the other, seeking support and money for the Hillsborough Agreement. In North Belfast, the Agreement's 'new era' for nationalists continued to unfold with John O'Neill becoming the third victim of loyalist murder-gangs in three months.

The lengths to which the 26 County authorities will go to appease their British masters was demonstrated in one day of high drama in Dublin on March 22nd when attempts to extradite Eibhlin Glenholmes failed and she was released, rearrested and released again. Illegally defying the court ruling which threw out the British extradition warrants, berserk gardai hounded Glenholmes through the streets. One demerit detective wildly fired shots in a crowded city centre street while his colleagues arrested their victim, only to be forced later to release her again by the court, an episode which caused many red faces in the Dublin and London governments.

Britain faced embarrassment again in the Netherlands when an internationally-publicised court judgement ruled that Brendan McFarlane and Gerry Kelly were involved in a political struggle and refused to extradite them.

## APRIL

SEVENTY YEARS to the month after the IRA fired its first shots at the British army of occupation in Ireland, IRA Volunteers in April demonstrated the determination and effectiveness of this generation of republican freedom fighters by a series of meticulously-planned operations in which one senior RUC man and one British soldier were killed, and several other members of the crown forces were seriously injured.

On April 8th, Volunteers of the IRA's West Tyrone Brigade executed a UDR soldier in Castle-derg in a booby-trap bomb attack, and on April 22nd, County Down Volunteers shot and killed an RUC inspector in Newcastle.

Volunteers of Derry Brigade carried out two gun attacks, critically injuring a British soldier in the nationalist Gobnascale area on Easter Sunday and seriously wounding a plainclothes RUC man travelling in a minicab on April 7th. This daring attack was mounted only yards from an RUC roadblock.

A garage and cafeteria near Dunganon were destroyed by the IRA because the proprietors had continued to serve members of the crown forces despite several warnings. And Volunteers of the IRA's South Armagh Brigade delivered yet another damaging blow to the British government's "normalisation" campaign when, on April 28th, they severed the North-South railway link at Kilnasagart Bridge.

However, in a tragedy which underlined the courage and self-

# A REVIEW OF THE YEAR 1986



● Eibhlin Glenholmes (centre) being escorted from Dublin's District Court after her re-release on March 22nd. After her original release she was rearrested on Dublin's Prince's Street following scuffles in which Christy 'Bang Bang' Power (inset), opened up on the unarmed crowd

sacrifice shown by every republican freedom fighter, IRA Volunteer Seamus McElwain was injured, captured, and then summarily executed by British undercover soldiers near Roslea, County Fermanagh, on April 26th. Thousands of people attended the murdered Volunteer's funeral, which took place from the McElwain family home at Knockatallon, County Monaghan.

Earlier in the month, on April 5th, thousands of republicans took part in the national commemoration organised by Sinn Féin to mark the 70th anniversary of the 1916 Rising. Throughout April, Northern nationalists continued to pay a heavy price - in loyalist attacks and crown force repression - for a London-Dublin deal which had still failed to bring them any benefits.

Loyalists attacked scores of Catholic homes. While the RUC put the toll at 79, this figure was certainly an underestimate since it excluded attacks which the RUC refused to categorise as sectarian.

Petrol-bombs and stones were used against Catholic homes in North and West Belfast, Ballymena, Derry, Dungannon, Dunmurry, Killeel, Lisburn, Newtownabbey, Portadown and Rathcoole. Many of the victims were lucky to escape with their lives. In Derry city on April 18th, seven shots were fired through the living-room window of a Catholic family, who were forced to leave their home of 20 years.

In other sectarian arson attacks, cars were burnt and Catholic chapels in Newtownabbey, Carrmonee and Belfast's Antrim Road were damaged, as were Catholic schools in North Belfast, Killeel and Ballymahinch.

Catholic business premises were attacked in Fandastown, Portadown, Lisburn, Killeel, Derriagh and Ballymena. GAA and AOH premises were gutted, and in Portadown on April 20th, a Catholic motorist was dragged from his car in the loyalist Brownstown area and viciously beaten.

The DUP held their annual conference on April 19th, but though they condemned recent loyalist attacks on RUC dwellings, neither the party leadership nor grassroots members condemned the dangerous and more numerous attacks on Catholic families.

There was the usual toll of assaults by the occupation forces on innocent nationalists. In the worst of these attacks in April, a Crossmaglen man was stabbed by a British soldier and a Tyrone man was knocked unconscious by a member of the sectarian UDR.

Plastic bullets claimed their 13th victim, and their first loyalist fatality, when 20-year-old Keith White died on April 14th from a head wound inflicted by an RUC plastic bullet during a

loyalist riot in Portadown on Easter Monday.

In Belfast, numerous community groups were forced to suspend their work when they ran out of money because of the unionist boycott of council business. Later in the month, the British brought in a commissioner to authorise vital payments.

In councils elsewhere in the country, Sinn Féin took the initiative in proposing a number of anti-apartheid motions, as a result of which Leitrim County Council declared the county an apartheid-free zone and Omagh Council (despite SDLP opposition) conferred honorary citizenship on Nelson Mandela. Omagh also set up a sub-committee to promote the Irish language.

In the 26 Counties, Fine Gael Premier Garret FitzGerald played a sick joke on the poor at the beginning of the month by slashing subsidies on bread, milk and butter.

On April 15th, US bombers attacked Libya, causing death and injury to scores of civilians, many of them children. However, the Irish establishment, always so quick to condemn the republican struggle, hypocritically avoided making any condemnation of the imperialist US government.

These double standards are also responsible for the continued censorship of the republican argument in the 26 Counties. However, this censorship is increasingly discredited and during the month several trades councils added their voices to the many demanding the repeal of Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act which bans Sinn Féin from the airwaves.

## MAY

MANY NORTHERN CATHOLICS spent another month living in fear, as loyalists once again resorted to the terror tactics which historically they have always used to keep nationalists in their place.

On May 7th, North Belfast woman Margaret Caulfield, a Protestant, was shot dead in her bed by loyalists simply because she was married to a Catholic. Her husband Gerry was seriously wounded.

On May 14th, OUP general secretary Frank Millar ominously warned that the summer would bring "sectarian warfare with many Catholics facing danger". Later the same month,



● Danny Morrison addressing a protest outside the US embassy on April 19th, after the US bombing of Libya

a 30-strong loyalist mob attacked the home of a former Derry City football club manager; Catholic building workers were intimidated from their jobs in Ballynahinch, the County Down town; and the village of Killeel, also in County Down, was invaded by rampaging loyalists who wrecked Catholic-owned premises.

On May 15th, thousands of loyalists demonstrated in Hillsborough to mark six months of the London-Dublin deal.

Meanwhile, the SDLP's Hume and Mallon did not deny a British claim that they were willing to take part in a new Six-County assembly.

British ministers Tom King and Douglas Hurd hastened to New York, and Premier Thatcher appeared on US TV networks, as Britain continued its diplomatic offensive to secure extradition - in the face of widespread international opposition.

In Amsterdam, where the British were pressuring for the return of H-Block escapees Brendan McFarlane and Gerry Kelly, an international petition against their extradition signed by leading legal and academic figures from several countries was handed in to the Dutch Justice Minister. One person who refused to sign was SDLP leader John Hume.

During May, the voices raised in protest at the Dublin government's involvement in the Hillsborough Agreement were joined by ITGWU President John Carroll (also the incoming president of the Irish Congress of Trade

Unions), who called for a British withdrawal from the North.

Six months after the Hillsborough Agreement, strip-searching of women republican prisoners was still being carried out in British prisons. Protests took place in several countries and as far afield as Philadelphia, USA. The degrading practice was condemned by the British trade union ACTT, by the NI Women's Rights Movement, the 26-County section of Amnesty International and by the British Labour Women's Conference.

In the 26 Counties, the Prison Officers' Association at its annual conference called for an end to strip-searching in Portlaoise, as did Castleblayney Urban District Council on May 27th.

The British showed that they did not intend to abandon the paid-perjurer system when they charged four more Derry men on the word of Angela Whoriskey, who was reportedly now grossly overweight and on drugs in Maghaberry Jail.

A 24-year-old South Armagh man reported that the RUC had attempted to terrify and torture him into signing a statement in Gough Interrogation Centre, using methods similar to those inflicted on the 'hooded men' internees in August 1971.

Little had changed in the corrupt Northern statelet.

And Hillsborough Agreement or no, the North's colonial non-jury courts were at their usual business of railroad-

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PHOTO: JOHN CARLOS



● Orangemen entering the Tunnel area of Portadown on July 6th faced little opposition from the RUC. July 1986 saw the climax of the most vicious 'marching season' in recent years

opening of a new Irish cultural centre in the middle of the month. In Belfast on May 8th, Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams MP led a delegation of Irish-language groups from his West Belfast constituency to a meeting with the Independent Broadcasting Authority's Northern chiefs to press them to start Irish-language broadcasts.

In the 26 Counties, the Free State authorities' military collaboration with British forces on the border was paralleled by their open use of troops against Southern workers. The Free State army was used as a strike-breaking force against both low-paid Dublin Corporation workers and, in another dispute in May, Department of Agriculture officers.

## JUNE

**IN THE 26 COUNTIES, the month was dominated by debate over the proposed constitutional amendment to allow divorce. Regrettably, the proposal was defeated by a large majority at the polls on June 26th, a result which showed the extent to which a narrow and partitionist 26-County ethos remains entrenched, supported by a large section of the establishment at the command of the Catholic hierarchy.**

In Dublin, Free State troops and baton-wielding gardai were deployed against a picket of striking Corporation workers on June 5th, but the strikers' determination eventually brought them victory.

Following recent claims by prison officers that the Curragh and Armagh jails had been prepared as internment centres, on June 15th the shameful meaning of cross-border collaboration was again illustrated when gardai handed two young Derry men across the border and into the clutches of the RUC.

Five republican prisoners were brutally beaten and strip-searched in Portlaoise on June 7th — an indication of just how insincere the Dublin government is when it claims to be concerned about the ill-treatment of prisoners in the North.

In London, two republican women continued to endure daily strip-searching during their trial. Over

70 people were arrested during protests outside the court, and anti-strip-search protests also took place outside Maghaberry Prison and in several Irish towns.

On an issue which vitally concerns everyone living on this island, Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams MP called for the immediate closure of the Sellfield/Windscale nuclear processing plant, stressing that opposition by Irish people to the plant 'should transcend party political and national differences'.

The Hillsborough Agreement notwithstanding, in the North there was no sign of the crown forces abandoning their repressive anti-nationalist tactics. In the most serious incidents, a Fermanagh man was shot in the back by a trigger-happy British soldier in Garrison, and in Crossmaglen another British soldier assaulted a four-year-old child.

The number of spy-posts in the Crossmaglen area was increased to 20 following a joint Garda/British army operation along the border.

Meanwhile FitzGerald's Northern sidekicks, the SDLP, were admitting through their Chief Whip, Eddie McGrady, that the party has received funds from a body set up by US President Ronald Reagan specifically to further US foreign policy objectives.

During the month, loyalist mobs continued to target nationalists and their homes in many areas of the North. Portadown saw numerous attacks during which loyalists set fire to a schoolroom and several nationalist-owned business premises, and destroyed a Catholic young men's club. In Newtownards, the parochial house was petrol-bombed on June 12th. Homes were stoned in Portadown, West Belfast and, following loyalist marches, in Dunloy and North Belfast.

On both occasions, the RUC (as usual) stood by. Events in Strabane also showed that the colonial and sectarian nature of the force remained unchanged. In Strabane on June 7th, the RUC provided protection for Orange marchers displaying their usual triumphalist regalia. A week later, the RUC was out in force again — this time to prevent the Tricolour from being carried through the centre of this overwhelmingly nationalist town.

No surprises either when the British finally dissolved the Stormont Assembly set up in 1982 by erstwhile director James Prior. Yet another British 'internal settlement' for the Six Counties had come to a dismal end.

Meanwhile, the IRA, intent on isolating the British occupation forces, reaffirmed its policy of taking action

against members of the RUC Authority and against those involved in rebuilding bombed bases of the crown forces. As a result, the chief officer of the Western Education & Library Board resigned from the RUC Authority on June 9th. Seven days later, the IRA executed an Armagh engineering contractor who had continued to work on numerous barracks, ignoring several warnings.

Another result of the IRA's warning against collaboration was that refuse collectors and skip drivers refused to collect rubbish from crown forces bases in the Strabane district, a decision which was followed by workers in several other areas during the weeks that followed.

On the 18th, Cloughmills RUC base was extensively damaged in a car-bomb attack staged by County Antrim Volunteers.

On June 13th, the IRA exploded a bomb outside the Limavady home of a warder at Magilligan Prison, having first ensured the safe evacuation of families. The IRA warned that they would take serious action against prison warders who continued to persecute republican prisoners at Magilligan.

In another lengthy statement, issued in the middle of the month, the IRA categorically denied media reports that it had planned a bombing campaign in 1985 against British holiday-makers. The IRA pointed out, 'It is not our purpose or in our interests to kill or injure innocent civilians,' and appealed to British people to press their government to withdraw from Ireland.

Tragically, the month saw the funerals of two IRA Volunteers, Philip McFadden (Derry), who was drowned in a fishing disaster, and Brian Dempsey (Belfast), who died in a car crash.

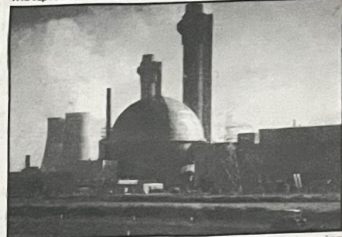
## JULY

**WHIPPED into hysteria by unionist politicians over the Hillsborough Agreement, throughout the month of July the Orange monster unleashed one of the most vicious waves of sectarian hatred which left three Catholics dead, one wounded and hundreds of families living in fear of attack.**

On July 10th, Brian Leonard, a Tyrone man working on a building site on the loyalist Shankill Road in Belfast was shot in the head by loyalist gunmen and died



● Intimidation of motorists during the loyalist day of action on March 3rd brought back bitter memories of the widespread intimidation of 1974 and 1977



● The ever-leaking Sellfield/Windscale nuclear processing plant



● Aine Ni Mhurchadha reading the 1916 Proclamation at Dublin's 70th Anniversary commemoration which was attended by thousands of republicans



● John-Joe McGill (centre) at the 1986 Sinn Fein Ard-Fheis



● Throughout the 26 Counties voting took place in the divorce referendum on June 26th



● On June 5th Gardai used batons to remove striking local authority workers from picket-lines as Free State troops removed rubbish from Moore Street in Dublin

# A REVIEW OF



● Dun Laoghaire Labour Exchange — dole queues lengthen

(continued from previous page)  
two days later. And two days after his death, on July 14th, North Belfast man Colm McCallan was standing at his front door in Ligoniel when a roaming loyalist gang dragged him away and shot him three times in the head.

The third Catholic assassination victim was another North Belfast man, Martin Duffy, who was lured to his death by a bogus call to his taxi firm. He was shot three times and died shortly afterwards. A fourth potential Catholic victim, also from Ligoniel, was shot on July 23rd but survived.

On July 6th, nationalists in Portadown's Obins Street and Garvaghy Road were held under siege as Orangemen, chaperoned by the British army and RUC, were allowed to parade unhindered through these majority nationalist areas because it was a 'traditional' parade.

Despite British assurances to the Dublin government that there would be no repetition of last year's triumphalism in Portadown, on July 12th the British again climbed down in the face of loyalist threats of violence and Orangemen marched through Garvaghy Road for the second time that week. It was indisputable proof of the British administration's continuing inability or unwillingness to confront loyalism in the North. In contrast, Dublin made loud noises but at the Inter-Governmental Conference on July 22nd, purportedly called by Dublin to protest about Portadown, the communique released afterwards did not even mention it.

At the beginning of July, four UDR soldiers were sentenced to life imprisonment for the sectarian murder of Armagh man Adrian Carroll in November 1983. But unlike nationalists who are meted out substantially heavier sentences, the Orange Judge made no minimum sentence stipulation. The victim's brother, Sinn Féin Councillor Tommy Carroll, said that the trial had raised more questions than it answered as there were clearly other UDR personnel who were not in court and who were also guilty.

On July 17th, 18 Belfast men imprisoned on the word of paid-perjurer Christopher Black had their convictions quashed by the Appeal Court — five of them had spent more than 4½ years in jail, the equivalent of a ten-year sentence. However, the appeals of two nationalists, Jim Gibney and John McConkey, serving lengthy sentences on the uncorroborated word of perjurer Kevin McGrady, were turned down on July 4th in contrast to

the Bennett appeal where all the loyalists held on similar uncorroborated evidence were freed.

At a time when two reports highlighted the massive levels of poverty in Ireland, the powerful employers' organisation, the Confederation of Irish Industry, launched an attack on the health services and public spending. It called for the axing of 6,000 jobs from the 26-County health services and wanted to penalise over one million people who are directly or indirectly on social welfare by taking their meagre payments. Overall, the total failure of the political, social and economic system in Ireland to sustain young people again forced them to emigrate in numbers higher than ever this century. More than 50,000 had emigrated in the 12 months up to July. The 'live' unemployment register in the North reached its highest since the state was imposed. Three-and-a-half thousand people joined the dole queues. In the 26 Counties, unemployment was running at 18% of the working population.

There were several cross-border incursions in County Monaghan, phone-tapping by the British in County Louth, and intense crown forces undercover activity along the border. In South Armagh, the 'Hillsborough Wall' was rising even higher, with permanent observation posts being erected by the British army in collusion with Free State forces.

A UDR soldier was killed on July 1st when a booby-trap bomb exploded as he got into his car in Drumanness, County Down. This attack was to set the tone for the month of July with the IRA launching a series of devastating attacks which left seven members of the crown forces dead and a number of others seriously injured.

Another RUC man stationed at Newtownbutler, County Fermanagh, was killed in an IRA attack on July 8th despite the presence of a nearby permanent British army checkpoint.

The following day, IRA Volunteers in South Armagh dealt a devastating blow to crown forces morale when they detonated a 1,000lb bomb beside a newly-erected observation post, killing two British soldiers and seriously wounding two others. The massive blast was heard in Dundalk. In a carbon copy attack a week later another British soldier was injured at an observation area on July 16th.

In the border town of Newry, the IRA's determination to strike whenever and wherever practical was witnessed on July 26th when IRA Volunteers successfully penetrated the heavy security cordon and shot dead three RUC men sitting in their car. This



● The 15th anniversary of internment march in Belfast in August

audacious operation brought to 18 the number of Newry-based RUC members killed in as many months.

Elsewhere, the IRA, after numerous warnings to civilians collaborating with the crown forces in the maintenance of their barracks, executed a County Tyrone quarry-owner who had supplied materials for reconstruction work on Carrickmore Barracks.

The IRA also launched ambushes in Aghnacloy on July 13th, seriously wounding an RUC man, and Belfast. In North Belfast's Oldpark area, IRA Volunteers defended nationalists in Manor Street by firing several shots at the RUC personnel who had been supporting loyalist attacks on nationalist families during the 'Twelfth' period.



people injured. In Toome, the RUC drove Land Rovers through a crowd assembling for an internment anniversary march. A nationalist man and his sons were beaten with rifle butts by the UDR, while in Downpatrick, a 56-year-old man ended up in intensive care when the RUC shot him with a plastic bullet as he walked along the street.

And in Derry, following a week-long saturation of the Bogside by British troops, the IRA detonated an anti-personnel mine and opened fire with automatic weapons. Hundreds of nationalist youths fought running battles with the crown forces.

On August 5th, the IRA issued a statement clarifying who would be regarded as legitimate targets regarding the administration, maintenance and building of British army, UDR and RUC barracks and all military installations. This IRA tactic is part of a well-proven tradition in guerrilla warfare, used during the Tan War and not, as Garret FitzGerald claimed, aimed at defeating the Hillsborough Agreement.

In the early hours of August 7th, hundreds of loyalists armed with cudgels and wearing balaclavas went on the rampage in the village of Clontibret, County Monaghan. The Clontibret escapee, in which DUP deputy leader Peter Robinson managed to get himself arrested, was to show loyalists that the DUP was not afraid of 'taking personal risks to defend unionism'. It also staked the DUP's claim to the leadership of the anti-Agreement campaign. The OUP condoned the invasion.

There were running battles in Dundalk on August 14th as Robinson appeared in court in relation to charges arising from the Clontibret affair. Provoked by loyalist arrogance in their

## AUGUST

THOUSANDS of nationalists defied the British government and its allies by marching in one of the largest rallies held in Belfast to commemorate the 15th anniversary of internment.

There were over 100 arrests in Belfast alone where the belligerent attitude of the Royal Marine Commandos sparked off riots on August 9th. Over 137 plastic bullets were fired and several

# THE YEAR 1986



which clearly showed that the agreement was really aimed at the defeat of the republican struggle.

The SDLP was also busy issuing statements on harassment, beatings and threats by the crown forces in a bid to regain, not just the ground lost to Sinn Fein since the Assembly elections of 1982, but also the status that constitutional nationalism had in the Six Counties prior to 1969 as unchallenged political, social and cultural leaders of a docile nationalist electorate — a thing of the past.

Meanwhile, the unionists issued various threats to the British that they were considering independence. It showed that the common ground of all shades of unionism — be they partisans of UDI, devolution or total integration with Britain — was their determination to protect the sectarian statelet at any cost.

So there was still no sign of SDLP leader John Hume's "moderate unionist leadership" appearing, and as Tom King revealed on Tuesday, August 9th, the agreement would be set aside if it threatened the unionist.

In the 26 Counties, the much-publicised and long-awaited foreign aid package in support of the Hillsborough Agreement was signed and sealed at a grandiose ceremony in Dublin. It was a far cry from the £500 million expected from the US alone; it in fact amounted to about £32 million a year — for the next three years. Three quarters was to be allocated to the North, the rest to the South, by a board of trustees of business and retired civil service interests.

In a ministerial directive to secondary schools throughout the 26 Counties Dublin Education Minister, Paddy Cooney urged teachers to single out the IRA for attack.

The acquittal of an RUC man on September 24th for the murder of Belfast plastic bullet victim John Downes exposed the corrupt legal system and again rubber-stamped the crown forces' licence to kill.

Belfast Irish-language activists were harassed and arrested by the RUC coming from a *slogadh* in County Meath, on September 21st. They were held in custody for 28 hours.

In Strabane and Derry, the RUC was exposed in attempting to recruit young nationalists as paid-perjurers while loyalist paid-perjurer James Williamson revealed that the RUC pressured him into incriminating innocent people.

John Bingham, the UVF's "military commander" for Belfast and responsible for all their operations in the city, including sectarian murders, was executed by IRA Volunteers on September 14th. The IRA's action was, they said, prompted by months of sectarian attacks by loyalist gangs in the North Belfast area in which six men and one woman were assassinated.

Following Bingham's execution, two Catholics were shot dead by loyalist gangs in Belfast and three others had narrow escapes. Father-of-four Raymond Mooney was murdered as he left a church committee meeting on September 16th. The following day, Joseph Webb, from Saintfield, was gunned down near Belfast city centre.

Two other Catholics in a shoe shop near the loyalist Shankill Road and another man from Newtownards were all shot at but escaped unharmed. As part of the IRA's campaign against those who serve and maintain crown force bases in the North, it shot and killed an electrician who, despite repeated warnings, had continued to work in a UDR base in Derry's Waterside area. On September 9th, the IRA executed a Lurgan Volunteer, David McVeigh, for passing information to the enemy.

IRA Volunteer Jim McKernan, unarmed and with both arms in the air, was shot in the back by a British soldier on September 14th while engaged in an operation against the crown forces in Belfast.

McKernan and a comrade were leaving the Andersonstown area after placing a booby-trap bomb intended for the enemy forces when he was shot.



● August 8th: Loyalist rioters stand on top of RUC Land Rovers during an Apprentice Boys' march in Keady, County Armagh

Derry Brigade Volunteers, armed with IRA-designed and manufactured grenade-launchers, attacked Derry RUC headquarters in Strand Road on Thursday, September 11th. The barracks sustained superficial damage. A land mine in South Armagh on September 10th narrowly missed members of the crown forces as did another land-mine near Newry on September 21st. In Derry the son of a UDR man was accidentally killed when he stepped on a bomb intended for his father on September 11th.



● August 14th: Implements confiscated from loyalist demonstrators as they crossed the border on their way to Dundalk for Peter Robinson's court appearance

more Barracks, County Tyrone, was mortared for the third time in 1986. Mortars also rained down on the British army in South Armagh at their new spy-post at Drumuckavall. Three UDR soldiers were ambushed, narrowly escaping injury at Garagh in Tyrone.

The IRA continued its highly effective tactic of isolating the crown forces. British Telecom management was warned to cease servicing military bases and in Magherafelt the manager of a building supply firm was shot dead after ignoring IRA warnings to end his business with the RUC and British army.

On October 16th, there was another brutal sectarian killing carried out by loyalists. At Ballynahinch, County Down, a 76-year-old Catholic woman, Kathleen Mulligan, and her son Terry were slain by a UDA gang using the cover-name of the Ulster Freedom Fighters. The mother and son were shot dead in their farmhouse against a background of sectarian attacks against Catholics in the area.

In Dublin, thousands of the victims of economic plunder by the Coalition were faced with the sickening prospect of huge golden handshakes being given to former senior executives of the defunct Dublin Gas Company. Equally nauseating was the Fine Gael Ard-Fheis with promises of more cut-backs to come. The Coalition survived the month, scraping through a Leinster House no-confidence motion by only two votes.

The Dutch Supreme Court ordered the extradition of IRA Volunteers Brendan McFarlane and Gerry Kelly on October 22nd.

## OCTOBER

**THE BELEAGUERED occupants of Crossmaglen Barracks came under fire yet again on October 2nd in an IRA mortar and gun attack on the joint RUC/British army base.**

Later that week, a UDR soldier was killed by an IRA unit at English in County Tyrone. In Belfast, an RUC man died in a mortar-bomb attack on the crown forces barracks at New Barnsley on the 11th.

The beginning of the month also saw the Ninth London-Dublin Inter-Governmental Conference in Dublin. Even supporters of the Hillsborough Agreement in the establishment media had to admit that the meeting produced nothing but cosmetics and that there was still no sign of the long-promised reforms.

This did not stop Peter Barry showing the depth of his ignorance and his subservience when he claimed after the conference that nationalist support for the RUC was at an "all-time high".

On October 14th, the IRA announced that it had recently held a General Army Convention for the first time in 16 years. The Convention removed the ban on Volunteers discussing or advocating the taking of parliamentary seats and on supporting successful republican candidates who take their seats in Leinster House.

The IRA Constitution was updated in non-sectarian terminology and a new Army Executive and Army Council elected.

In operations during the rest of October, Volunteers demonstrated that their Convention's re-dedication to the armed struggle was in force on the ground as the IRA went into action in Derry, Aghnacloy, Portadown, Carrickmore and South Armagh.

There was a grenade and gun attack in Derry city on the 19th, injuring one RUC man. Three days later, Carrick-

## NOVEMBER

**FOLLOWING over a year of extensive debate among republicans, the 1986 Sinn Fein Ard-Fheis took the historic decision to end the policy of abstentionism from Leinster House.**

The abstentionist debate on November 2nd was the most crucial for Sinn Fein for years and over 600 delegates and 1,300 visitors packed the Mansion House to hear it.

After a day of tension and emotion,

(continued on next page)

town, local people drove them from their streets but in return were attacked by the Garda.

Sectarian attacks continued in August, with Housing Executive chiefs admitting that intimidation was at its worst since the early '70s. Three hundred families were forced from their homes, mainly in Lisburn, County Antrim. Elsewhere, Catholic-owned property and businesses were petrol-bombed on a nightly basis. The loyalist paramilitary Ulster Freedom Fighters (an alias for the UDA) issued a statement on August 7th threatening to "extend" its murder campaign on Catholics following the IRA's warning, two days earlier, to crown forces collaborators. There were several assassination attempts on innocent Catholics directly after the loyalist threat in Belfast and Armagh. The Ulster Freedom Fighters claimed responsibility for the murder of a West Belfast taxi driver who was shot dead in his home on August 26th. Paddy McAllister, from St James's, was the eighth sectarian murder victim since the signing of the Hillsborough Agreement.

In a series of daring operations in August, the IRA's ability to strike at crown forces personnel was evident in the many attacks on barracks, observation posts and mobile patrols.

The month had only begun when, on August 4th, IRA Volunteers killed a UDR sergeant in Belfast. And less than 12 hours after a morale-boosting tour of British army bases in County Armagh by director-uter Tom King, on August 11th, the IRA attacked two barracks, one in Pomeroy, County Tyrone, and the other in Armagh. The 230lb bomb attack on the Birches RUC Barracks in Armagh devastated it. Later in the month, Volunteers in South Armagh destroyed a British army observation post in Glasdrummond, near Crossmaglen, which had

already been the target of two previous IRA attacks. Fourteen mortars were fired at the post which suffered at least two direct hits and several small bunkers were destroyed.

In Strabane on August 6th, a 200lb bomb left at a permanent British army border checkpoint on the Hump Bridge caused extensive damage to the base.

On Friday, August 15th, Paddy Murray, an IRA Volunteer, was executed for supplying information to the crown forces. In Derry, a rocket attack was mounted in the Diamond area, hitting an RUC Land Rover. There were two other gun attacks in Derry in August (on the 9th and 12th).

An RUC man was shot and wounded by the IRA in the loyalist town of Ballymena, County Antrim, on August 22nd. There were also gun and bomb attacks in Belfast, County Tyrone and along the Derry/Donegal border, where a British soldier was shot and seriously wounded at the Culmore Road checkpoint.

## SEPTEMBER

**BY SEPTEMBER, with the loyalist marching season over the SDLP was clearly becoming worried at the Hillsborough Agreement's failure to deliver.**

Using the pulpit as a political platform, Bishop Edward Daly asked "those who commit acts of violence" and "those who support them" to "excommunicate themselves from the church". This was part of a concerted attack by the Catholic church, the SDLP and the Dublin Government in August

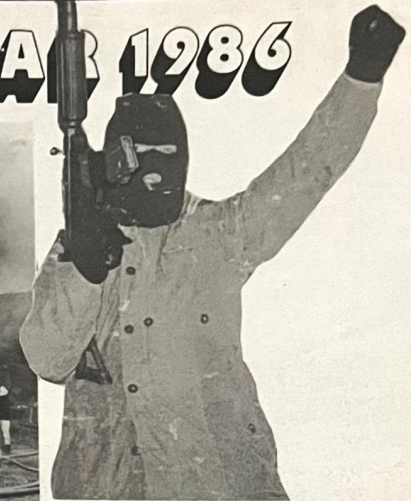
# A REVIEW OF THE YEAR 1986



● January 1st: One minute into 1986 and two RUC men die when a bomb explodes in a litter-bin in Armagh city



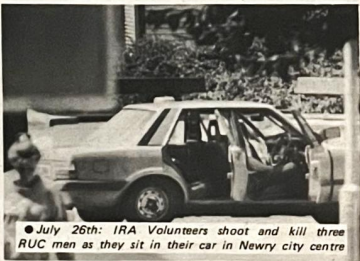
● December 16th: Lisburn Road RUC station is devastated in an IRA bomb attack



● Volunteer Jim McKernan (photographed in 1986) who was murdered by the British army on September 14th



● (Left) July 9th: Two British soldiers die when a massive 1,000lb bomb detonates beside their newly-erected observation post on the South Armagh border; (Right) May 22nd: The British army commanding officer in Crossmaglen and two RUC men are killed when caught in an IRA landmine explosion at Milltown Bridge near Crossmaglen



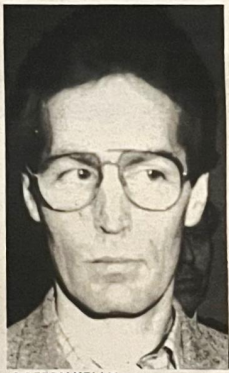
● July 26th: IRA Volunteers shoot and kill three RUC men as they sit in their car in Newry city centre



● British army border spy-post



● BRENDAN McFARLANE



● GERRY KELLY

ago and the anti-Hillsborough Ulster Clubs came 'Ulster Resistance'.

The new, armed militia was formed at a fascist-style rally attended by Ian Paisley and other DUP leaders with Official Unionist figureheads noticeable by their absence but still maintaining unionist unity and saluting Paisley's new army.

The Coalition government continued its savage attacks on the poor and the unemployed in the 26 Counties. The EEC directive on equality in the social welfare system was implemented more as another cut-back than an equality measure and thousands of welfare dependants suffered. The earlier decision to allow punitive rent rises to be imposed on local authority tenants was another blow to low-income families and resulted in a 26-County-wide rent strike.

A massive loyalist rally at the City Hall in Belfast marked the first anniversary of the signing of the Hillsborough Agreement on November 15th. The broad front of unionism remained solid as reflected on the platform and in the crowd. "Irish unity has never been so remote," was the answer to loyalists from the Northern Ireland Office.

On November 26th, the Coalition government survived with the casting vote of the Leinster House Ceann Comhairle to push through its callous

reduction of the Christmas 'bonus' for social welfare recipients.

IRA operations in the rest of November included mortar attacks on Forkhill and Middletown Barracks in South Armagh and gun attacks at Clady, Derry city and Armagh city.

After a mortar attack on Newry RUC Barracks caused civilian injuries the IRA stated its regret and began an inquiry into the operation.

ing mood in Leinster House when the Single European Act was ratified with Fianna Fail support. The measure, which surrenders increased powers to the NATO-dominated EEC was one of the Coalition's pet pieces of legislation, together with the new Extradition Act allowing wholesale extradition of republicans to the British. This was also passed but held over until later in 1987.

On December 6th, in Lisburn, County Antrim, loyalist sectarian killers claimed their 13th victim of the year when they beat a Catholic, Paul Bradley, to death in a local bar. Over 170 Catholic families were intimidated from their homes in Lisburn in 1986 with others living in constant fear of their lives.

One of the many incursions across the border by crown forces in the year occurred when the County Louth farm of the Murphys at Ballinay was invaded for the second time by a large force of British soldiers. In the previous month an RUC and British army raiding party had kidnapped Frank Murphy while Free State forces looked on. On the second occasion gardai were forced to arrest one of the soldiers but released him just as quickly.

Following the Ard-Fheis decision to end abstentionism, Sinn Fein decided to register as a political party in the 26 Counties. On December 11th, the Dublin government brought in measures specifically designed to block Sinn Fein's registration and the party's electoral challenge.

The year drew to a close with one less British barracks standing in the Six Counties. A 600lb bomb reduced the RUC's Lisburn Road Barracks to rubble on December 16th.

The IRA kept up the pressure on crown forces during December with a mortar attack on a British out-post at Glassdrummond, South Armagh; two parcel-bombs sent to two members of the RUC Authority; and further warnings to collaborating contractors. The effectiveness of this isolation strategy was demonstrated when a Lisburn firm withdrew its supply of living accommodation to British troops in Belfast, just 48 hours after receiving the IRA warning. On December 12th, a former UDR member detonated a bomb intended for an RUC man and was killed.

## DECEMBER FOR MOST OF 1986, Brendan McFarlane and Gerry Kelly were fighting a court battle against British efforts to have them extradited from the Netherlands.

Their case won international attention for the Irish struggle and when the Dutch finally succumbed to British pressure and handed over the two republicans on December 2nd they were, in the words of their lawyer, "going back in a fighting mood". Surrender and subservience to the EEC and NATO was the prevail-

(continued from previous page)

the Ard Chomhairle resolution to end abstentionism was passed by the required two-thirds majority. Unlike the scores of delegates who voted against and then abided by the democratic decision of the Ard-Fheis, a small number walked out of the Mansion House and in a move pre-arranged long before the Ard-Fheis itself, met in a Dublin hotel to form a splinter group calling itself 'Republican Sinn Fein'.

The Republican Movement remained united and, welcoming the Sinn Fein decision, the IRA said:

"We are confident that Sinn Fein will emerge as a significant political force in the Free State and will build a sound republican base. We are also confident that our successful prosecu-

tion of the armed struggle will bring heavy pressure to bear on the British government and will be the force which makes them quit Ireland."

The POWs and Irish republicans in the USA and Australia also welcomed the new departure and pledged their continued support.

A shaken Garret FitzGerald reacted by asking all political parties in the 26 Counties to unite against Sinn Fein.

Four explosive devices, two of which exploded, were planted in Dublin city centre by the Ulster Freedom Fighters in an incident which narrowly missed causing death or injury and which the UFF warned was the beginning of a campaign. Several days later, in Belfast's Ulster Hall on the 10th, yet another loyalist front grouping was formed. After the Third Force of a couple of years

# Sean South commemoration

THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY of the death of Sean South in Brookeborough on New Year's Day 1957 was marked in his home city of Limerick by a well-attended commemoration on Sunday, January 4th.

Over 300 people marched the two miles to the Republican plot in Limerick Cemetery, led by a colour party and followed by the local Fianna Éireann.

The ceremony at the graveside was chaired by Pádraig Malone of Limerick Sinn Féin. Wreaths were laid on behalf of the Republican Movement and Fianna Éireann. The main speaker at the commemoration was Martin McGuinness, who said that it was a tragedy that so little is known of Sean South.

He said that statements by Peter Barry that the Hillsborough Agreement would help nationalists to 'hold their heads up' were utter nonsense:

*"People like Sean South, the IRA and past resistance armies are the only ones who helped us hold our heads up."*

*"Sean South was a peace-seeker, just as the IRA are the only true peace-seekers in Ireland today."*

McGuinness said that he didn't believe that the mistakes of the '50s campaign would be repeated - times have changed:

*"On the military front, the British army is now the most sophisticated anti-guerrilla force and it still can't defeat the IRA."*

*"The only positive thing to emerge from the Hillsborough Agreement is that unionists have now become more unpopular in Britain."*

Referring to Section 31 of the 26-County Broadcasting Act, he said:

*"At least BBC journalists in South Africa have the integrity to say in their reports that they are operating under censorship laws. RTE journalists should take a leaf out of their book."*

The commemoration ended with the Tom Smith Republican Band, from Dublin, playing Amhran na bhFiann.

● Martin McGuinness addresses the Sean South commemoration in Limerick Cemetery

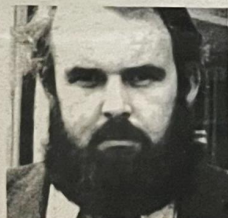


## South Derry commemoration

ON SUNDAY, December 21st, in a biting winter wind, several hundred republicans from Counties Derry, Tyrone and Leitrim assembled at Ballymagaigan hall, County Derry, to march to the graveside of IRA Volunteers Jim Sheridan, Martin Lee and Johnny Bateson a mile and a half away in Newbridge graveyard. It was the 15th anniversary of the Volunteers' death in a premature explosion on December 18th, 1971.

The parade was led by the Michael McLaughlin flute band, Slaughtmanus, on their first outing and they were accompanied by bands from Magherafelt and Cloney.

John Hurl, from Newbridge, chaired the proceedings and Dunganon Sinn Féin Councillor Francie Molloy gave the oration.



● FRANCIE MOLLOY

the anti-strip-search committee addressed the gathering regarding the plight of the prisoners on the final day of Prisoners Week:

*"Now is an especially hard time for the prisoners and their families - we must not allow ourselves to forget them."*

A minute's silence was observed and the commemoration ended with the playing of the national anthem.

### PROCLAMATION

Quoting the opening paragraph of the 1916 Proclamation, he said: *"These three Volunteers had answered the call to the flag and, after seeing the passive resistance of the Civil Rights movement beaten into the ground, they realised like so many others that Britain, having refused to listen to the force of argument, could only be defeated by the argument of force."*

Oistin Mac Giolla Bhrighde of

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Aim . . . . .  
Seoladh . . . . .

## REMEMBERING THE PAST Sean South and Feargal O'Hanlon

BY PETER O'ROURKE

WITHIN THREE WEEKS of the beginning of the border campaign in December 1956, the IRA lost two Volunteers - Sean South and Feargal O'Hanlon.

Sean South was born on February 8th 1928. A clerk in his native Limerick city, he joined the IRA during the reorganisation of the Republican Movement in the late 1940s.

Feargal O'Hanlon was born in Monaghan town on January 31st 1936. A noted athlete, he played for Monaghan senior football team. He worked at the local county council offices as a draughtsman. He joined the IRA in 1954 and took part in the preparation for the coming border campaign. After Christmas 1956 he was sent on active service to County Fermanagh to take part in the fight for freedom.

In the early evening of New Year's Day 1957, both men were among a column of 14 IRA Volunteers who attacked the RUC barracks in the small town of Brookeborough in County Fermanagh. At 7pm they drove into the town in a truck but were spotted by the RUC, who opened fire on them. The Volunteers succeeded in placing two mines against the barracks wall but both failed to explode.

A fierce gun-battle ensued. South, in the back of the truck, fired short bursts from a Bren gun while the RUC garrison returned fire with a Lewis machine-gun from the upper storey of the building.

### WOUNDED

O'Hanlon was wounded as he made for the truck. South kept firing the Bren gun until a hail of bullets cut him down. When all the men were on board, the truck drove with a stuttering engine out of the town. Six of the column's 14 men were wounded.

Somehow the driver got the swaying truck five miles outside of Brookeborough towards the mountains. The men stumbled out at Altawark crossroads. South and O'Hanlon, both very badly wounded, were left in an out-building and the people up the road were asked to call a priest and a doctor.

The occupants of an RUC car, which had followed the truck, opened fire from 50 yards on the lorry and building, killing South and O'Hanlon.

The remaining members of the raiding party, half of whom were

wounded, crossed the border into County Monaghan after a five-hour walk through the mountains. They stumbled into a patrol of Free State soldiers and were arrested. All 12 were later sentenced to six months' imprisonment for refusing to account for their movements.

### HUGE CROWDS

Huge crowds gathered to pay their last respects when the remains of South and O'Hanlon were taken back across the border. Thousands of people turned out as South's cortege passed through on its way from Monaghan to Limerick via Dublin. At midnight on January 4th, 20,000 people, includ-

ing the Limerick city mayor, were waiting for the hearse. The next day, a great silent procession of 50,000 followed the funeral to the Republican Plot in the city cemetery.

O'Hanlon's body travelled a shorter distance from Enniskillen to Monaghan, but the tribute of the people was no less impressive. He was buried on January 4th at Latturcan Cemetery and the thousands overflowed from the packed cathedral to the streets and jammed the half-mile distance to the grave.

The funerals of Sean South and Feargal O'Hanlon, killed in action on New Year's Day by the British forces of occupation, took place on January 4th and 5th 1957, 30 years ago this week.



● FEARGAL O'HANLON



● SEAN SOUTH



● Sean South's funeral cortege passing along O'Connell Street, Dublin

# Magilligan

**ANDERSON, Martina;** **ODWYER, Ella** (Durham). New Year greetings to dear Ella and Martina. From Old Elvet, Durham. Also love and best wishes to you both. From Treasa and friends in London. UTP

**ANDERSON, Gerry** (Magilligan). Love and best wishes for the New Year. Don't get too drunk. From Sonya. xxx

**BROLY, Liam** (Portlaoise). Hope you enjoyed your special Christmas. Happy New Year to you from sunny San Diego, Calif. xxx

**BURKE, John** (H-Block). Happy New Year and lots of love. From Chloe. xxx

**CHILLINGWORTH, John** and **Billy** (H-Block). New Year greetings. John and Billy. Always thinking of you both. From Paul and Marie White, Dublin. xxx

**CLARKE, Gerard** (Long Kesh). New Year greetings to all our POWs. To my son Gerard, John McCulligan and Ned Maguire (Long Kesh), the men in Portlaoise, Magilligan and English jails, especially Paddy Holmes, and the women in Maghaberry. God bless you all. From the Clarke family, Ardoyne. xxx

**CORRIGAN, Peter** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year. We'll have an out-pit waiting for you in the New Year. From Paul, Róisín, Michéile and Sean. xxx

**CORRIGAN, Robert** (Magilligan). Hoping that was your last Christmas inside Bobby. Thinking of you all the time. Meet you soon. From the Creagh family, Baillyfermot, Dublin. Tloicladh arís. xxx

**CORRIGAN, Seamus** (H-Blocks). Best wishes for the New Year. From Mother and Kevin. xxx

**CORRIGAN, Seamus** (H-Blocks). Wishing you happiness and joy for the New Year. From Celine and Ciara. Tloicladh arís. xxx

**CULLETON, Desy** (Long Kesh). Happy New Year. Desy. Thinking about you always. Looking forward to January 9th. From your friend Fiona. xxx

**CUNNINGHAM, Gerry;** **DOWD, Brendan;** **MULRYAN, Patrick** (England). Best wishes for the New Year to my friends Gerry, Brendan and Patrick. From John, Glasgow. xxx

**CUNNINGHAM, Brian** (Magilligan). New Year greetings to Brian, from James, Marian and family; Gertrude, John and family; Mary Dynes and family; Kate, Michael and family; Ann, Joe and family; Patricia, Frankie and family and also from Damien and Patrick. xxx

**CUNNINGHAM, Brian** (Magilligan); **MCINN, Bernard;** **MOHAN, Patsy** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year lads. Greetings also to all Irish republican POWs in Free State, British and US jails. All the best, from the John Francis Green Sinn Féin Cumann, Castleblayney, County Monaghan. xxx

**CUNNINGHAM, Brian** (Magilligan); **MCINN, Bernard** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year to Brian and Bernard from Jackie, Bernie and kids. xxx

**DOHERTY, Joe** (Magilligan). The Billy Reid Republican Flute Band sends solidarity greetings to Joe Doc. Although you are far away, you are in our thoughts every day. Beidh bua againn le éigin. Sealdadh abú. xxx

**DUNNE, Jimmy** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year. Our thoughts are with you. It's downhill now, so start packing. Love from Alison and Gerry. Doc. Also from Martin and Linda (Galway) and Peter and Violet (Birmingham). xxx

**ECCLES, Tommy;** **MCPhillips, Pat;** **McSHANE, Brian** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year lads. From Paul and family. xxx

**FOSTER, Gerard** (Magilligan). Happy New Year, Gerard. See you soon. Love from Alison and Gerry. xxx

**GAVIN, Jimmy** (Portlaoise). Seasons greetings dear brother. Love and kisses. From Treasa and friends in London. xxx

**GREW, Dessie** (Portlaoise); **O'CONNELL, Joe** (Gartree). New Year greetings to you both. All the best, from Tom. xxx

**GROGAN, Sean** (H-Blocks). Happy New Year. Love from Alison and Gerry. xxx

**HARDY, Leonard** (Portlaoise); **NORMAN, Basil** (H-Blocks). New Year greetings from all your family at home. Thinking of you always. From Mam, Dad, Maire, Gail, Linda, Philip,

Stephen, Dan, nephew Gary, niece Callin, Gail and Graline, and Grandmother. xxx

**HARDY, Len** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year Len. From Frankie. xxx

**HARKIN, Eddie** (H-Block). Happy New Year Eddie. From Billy, Linda and family, Dublin. xxx

**HAUGHEY, Stephen** (Portlaoise). New Year greetings from Mum, Dad and the rest of the family. xxx

**HAUGHEY, Stephen** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year to you from your loving wife Marian and the children Kevin, Stephen and Julie. xxx

**HENRY, Tony** and **Marty** (Portlaoise and H-Block). New Year greetings from Collette and Mickey. xxx

**HOGAN, Michael** (Portlaoise). Thinking of you and all your comrades at this time. Love from Gran and all your uncle, aunts and cousins. xxx

**HOGAN, Michael** (Portlaoise). New Year greetings to you and all your comrades. From Pat and Mary McPake, Bellaghy. xxx

**HOGAN, Mickey** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year Mickey. From Pat Kehoe. xxx

**HOLMES, Paul** (Frankland). New Year greetings, Paul, to you and your comrades. From Frank. xxx

**MCCLARRON, Michael** and **Tommy** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year. Thinking of you and all your comrades. From Frank. xxx

**THE SEAN SOUTH SINN FEIN CUMANN, LISNASKEA**, sends New Year greetings to all Fermanagh prisoners, Jackman and Paul Smyth (Long Kesh). xxx

**HUNTER, Robbie** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year Robbie. From Frankie. Greetings also to Filly, Stewarty, Nicky and Peter Lynch. All the best, from Frankie. xxx

**HUNTER, Robbie** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year Robbie. From Sinéad, Eleanor, Nora and Frances. xxx

**HUNTER, Robbie** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year Robbie. All the best, from the two Shays. xxx

**JACKSON, Rap** (Crumlin Road). Happy New Year. Love from Alison and Gerry. xxx

**KENNY, Tony** ('Spaz'). All the best for the New Year. From your sister. xxx

**LENNON, Sean** (H-Blocks). Happy New Year. Think about your comrades! From Alison and Gerry. xxx

**LEONARD, Claran** (H-Blocks). New Year greetings to Claran. From Barry, Noeleen and family. xxx

**LYNCH, Kevin** and **Sean** (H-Blocks). Happy New Year lads. All the best from Noel, Kate and family. xxx

**MAIRE, Pat** (Leicester). Best wishes for the New Year. From the Midge Drummm Sinn Féin Cumann, Clondalkin, Dublin. xxx

**MAIRE, Pat** (Leicester). New Year greetings to Pat. Mages. From Paddy Byrne and family, Shannon. xxx

**MARKEY, Peter** (H-Block). Happy New Year. I'm always thinking of you. Keep your spirits up. Lots of love, Patricia. xxx

**MARKEY, Peter** (H-Block). Happy New Year Daddy. I love you. Lots of love from Peter. xxx

**MENGER, Rev. Eddie** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year Eddie. From Sam, Karen and Calvin Hughes and all at 75 Plunkett Road, Finglas. xxx

**MEEHAN, Bill** (Long Kesh). New Year greetings to Bill (from New Inn, Caher). Best wishes from Lily, Marcus and family. xxx

**MEEHAN, Gerry** (Portlaoise). New Year greetings to you Gerry and to all your comrades. From the McCrystal family, Derry. xxx

**MEEHAN, Martin** (Long Kesh). Happy New Year Martin. From Benny, Lily and family. xxx

**MOHAN, Patsy** (Portlaoise). New Year greetings Patsy. You will soon be free. From Jackie, Bernie and kids. xxx

**MOORE, Gerard** (H-Block). Happy New Year. Love from your loving wife Alison. xxx

**MOORE, Gerard** (H-Block). Happy New Year. Love from Mum and Dad-in-law. xxx

**MOORE, Gerard** (H-Block). Thinking of you always. We'll have a pint for you. Love from your brother-in-laws Brendan, John and Stephen, and Slohan and Marie. xxx

**MOORE, Gerard** (H-Block). Happy New Year, Uncle Gerry. All our love. From Brendan Os, Conor, Oriath and Lisa. xxx

**MOORE, Gerard** (H-Block). Happy New Year. Thinking of you. Lots of

love. From uncle Alex, Alice and family. xxx

**MOORE, Gerard** (H-Block). Best wishes for the New Year. Love from Lillian and Dennis, Lisa and Denise; also from Patsy, Teresa and kids. xxx

**MULRYAN, Patrick;** **WALSH, Roy**. Best wishes for the New Year. Lots of love. From Kathleen. xxx

**MURTAGH, George** (H-Block). Happy New Year and lots of love. From Nora. xxx

**MURTAGH, George** (H-Block). Happy New Year. Love from Nora and Tony. xxx

**MCCANN, Jennifer** (Maghaberry). Solidarity greetings to you and all your comrades. From Geraldine. xxx

**MCCLAFFERTY, Gerry;** **MCINTYRE, Tony** (H-Block). Happy New Year. See you both soon, hopefully. Lots of love. From Kathleen. xxx

**MCCOMB, John** (Long Lartin). Greetings to you for the New Year, son. May 1987 bring you luck and happiness. From Mum, Eugene, Isabel and Aislin. xxx

**MCCOMB, John** (Long Lartin). Vary best wishes for 1987. John. Adh mor. xxx

From Hugh, Bréise and kids; and from Damien, Theresa and family; the Billy Reid Republican Flute Band, Glasgow, send solidarity greetings to John McComb. Your fight is our fight. John. UTP

**MC CONVILLE, Maura** (Maghaberry). Happy New Year, Maura. Thinking about you. Keep your head high. We will keep a few drinks for you. From your friend Fiona. xxx

**THE CANNON/MAGUIRE SINN FEIN CUMANN, DONAGH**, extends New Year greetings to Gerry Maguire (Crumlin Road), Gerard Mulligan, Kevin Lynch, Claran Leonard, Marcus Murray, James Tierney, Eamonn McCloy, Jim Ferguson, Paul Smith, Niall Jackman and Sean Lynch (H-Blocks) and also to Brendan McCaffrey (Portlaoise). xxx

Happy New Year mo chara and all the best for the coming times. The road is bright with everything you wish for Christmas will be white. From Julia. xxx

**O'CONNELL, Joe** (Gartree). Happy New Year. I'll be thinking of you. Love from Kathleen. xxx

**ODWYER, Ella** (Durham). All the best for the New Year. Thinking of you always. From Barry, Slohan and Mac, Drogheda, County Louth. xxx

**O'HANLON, Slohan**. Happy New Year, Slohan. Hope to see you soon. From Susan, Oaky and Seana. xxx

**O'NEILL, Dolores** (Maghaberry). Happy New Year and best wishes from Mairead and family. xxx

**THE MICHAEL LARKIN SINN FEIN CUMANN, BIRR, COUNTY OFFALY**, sends New Year greetings to all republicans in jails in England, Ireland and the US. Keep on comrades, victory will be ours. xxx

**QUIGLEY, Frankie** (Portlaoise). New Year greetings, Lucas. May the New Year bring you everything you wish for yourself, especially good luck, good health, God's blessing and your freedom soon. Thank you for the beautiful paintings of our dear son Eddie. God bless you always. From Mr and Mrs O'Raive and family circle. xxx

**QUINN, Patrick** (Crumlin Road). Happy New Year Paddy. From Kelly, Lurgan. xxx

**QUINN, Patrick** (Crumlin Road). All the best for the New Year. I'll be thinking of you. From your mates Paul and Mickey. xxx

**QUINN, Pauline** (Maghaberry). Happy New Year, Pauline. Love and best wishes. From Mam and Dad. xxx

**QUINN, Pauline** (Maghaberry). New Year greetings. From Gerard, Moira, John and Damien. xxx

**QUINN, Pauline** (Maghaberry). Best wishes for the New Year. From Collette, Pat, Gary, Alicia, Paul, Colleen and Shama. xxx

**QUINN, Pauline** (Maghaberry). New Year greetings, Pauline. Love and



An Cumann Cabhrach, the Republican Prisoners' Dependents' Fund, is a voluntary organisation which helps alleviate the hardship of all republican prisoners and their dependants.

The organisation is totally dependent on your donations.

If you wish to help the POWs' dependants send all donations to:

An Cumann Cabhrach, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.

**BEANNAICHTA NA HATHBHALLA** do cimi polaitiúil timpeall an domhain, go hairde Colm, George, Junior, Sean, Patsy, Bernard, Brendan, Tommy, Seamus agus na lads go dtí. I Phortlaoise, Sean O'Loinsigh, Gerry, Kevin, Kieran, Eamon, Marcus agus James san Kesh, agus na mna i Maghaberry. Padraig Mac Treoir.

**NEW YEAR GREETINGS** to my sons Liam (Gartree) and Paul Baker (H-Block). Think of you and all your comrades especially at this time of the year. With love from your mother, Theresa and sisters.

**NEW YEAR GREETING** to Liam (Gartree) and Paul Baker (H-Block). Happy New Year, Aunty Agnes, Aunty Theresa and family. Uncle Joe and family and Aunt Bridget and family. xxx

**NEW YEAR GREETINGS** to all republican prisoners in Ireland, England and the USA, especially to the women in Maghaberry and England. From your friend and comrade Bino. Tloicladh arís. xxx

**NEW YEAR GREETINGS** to all Irish POWs in Long Kesh, Crumlin Road,

## THE JIM MCGINN SINN FEIN CUMANN, STRABANE, sends New Year greetings to you both.

**MCUGUIN, Ellen** (Maghaberry). Solidarity greetings to you on your last day of imprisonment. Happy New Year. From Geraldine. xxx

**MCUGUIN, Sean** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year Sean. From Jackie, the kids, Castleblayney, County Monaghan. xxx

**MCINTYRE, Anthony** (H-Block). Happy New Year to you and all your friends in the H-Block. From your Swedish friend Berit and all the kids. xxx

**MCNEERAN, Charlie** (H-Blocks). Happy New Year. Your haircut is lovely. Love from Alison and Gerry. xxx

**MC SHANE, Brian** (Portlaoise). New Year greetings Brian. Lots of love from Mother, Father, sisters, brothers, sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces and nephews. God bless you. Happy New Year. Love and best wishes from Ellen, Maghaberry. xxx

**NOLAN, AMON;** **HAYES, Bill** (Portlaoise). Have you received the calendars? From your fraternal friend. xxx

**NORRONE, Stephen** (Gartree). Ha-

best wishes. From Martina, Hughie and Claran. xxx

**ROGERS, Peter** (Portlaoise). New Year greetings. Peter. All our love. From Deirdre and Eamon. xxx

**ROGERS, Peter** (Portlaoise). New Year greetings. Peter. From Paddy, Pat, Mary, Kevin, Ann, Geraldine, Brian, Róisín, Mickie and all the kids. xxx

**ROGERS, Peter** (Portlaoise). New Year greetings. Peter. From Aunt Jean and family, and Mrs McNally and family. xxx

**SHERRY, Peter** (Parkhurst). Wishing you a happy New Year. Love and best wishes. From Celine and Clara. xxx

**SLOAN, Anthony** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year to my son-in-law, Tony. From Rosaleen and Tommy, and the Cunningham family circle. xxx

**SLOAN, Anthony** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year. '87 is a good year. From Rosie. xxx

**SLOAN, Anthony** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year. Tony. We are all thinking of you. Love from Marian, Sorcha and Anthony. xxx

**SORAGHAN, Seamus** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year from all at 22 Tuilly. xxx

**SORAGHAN, Seamus** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year Seamus. From Paddy, George and family. Also from Uncle Michael. xxx

**SORAGHAN, Seamus** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year Seamus. Love from Frank, Betty and Damien. Also from Michael, Peter, Karen, Gary and Johnny. xxx

**SORAGHAN, Seamus** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year to my son-in-law, Michael in London. Also from Peter and Tracey in Australia. xxx

**STANLEY, Sean** (Portlaoise). We'll play 'Lady in Red' just for you Sean. Happy New Year. Love from sunny San Diego, Calif. xxx

**TOAL, Fergal** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year, Fergal. From Mum, Dad, Noreen, Mairead, Fionnuala, Terence and Bernice. xxx

**TOWNSON, Liam**. Wishing you a happy New Year, I hope Santa brought you what you wanted — the keys! Tloicladh arís la. Love from your friends Gavin and Bridget. UTP

**TUITE, Gerry** (Portlaoise). Best wishes Gerry for the New Year. From Patricia, West London. xxx

**TUMELTY, Brian** (Portlaoise). Happy New Year, Brian. Next year the drinks are on you. Love from Rosie. xxx

**TUMELTY, Brian** (Portlaoise). Good luck for the New Year. From the Cunningham family. xxx

**WRIGHT, Marie** (Maghaberry). Happy New Year, Marie. Love from Alison and Gerry Moore. xxx

# OBITUARIES

## Sean Bogue

**THE DEATH in tragic circumstances of Sean Bogue on Tuesday, December 23rd, has not only robbed his wife and family of a husband and father but has left the Republican Movement in County Cavan all the poorer for his passing.**

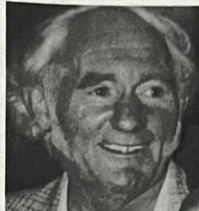
A life-long supporter of the republican cause, Sean, a native of County Fermanagh, emigrated to the United States in the late '40s, where he remained until the mid '70s before returning to Cavan to set up business in the Dew Drop Inn.

During the 1980/81 H-Block hunger-strike campaign he played a prominent role in the election of Kieran Doherty as TD for the Cavan/Monaghan constituency. He maintained his enthusiasm for Sinn Fein's electoral success right up until his death.

Sean Bogue's Tricolour-draped coffin was borne from the church in Butlersbridge to the small cemetery just outside the town overlooking the border that had been a central issue for him during his life.

### INVOLVEMENT

At the graveside Sinn Fein's Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin gave the oration. Outlining Sean's involvement in Sinn



Fein and the Republican Movement, he said that one of his enduring qualities was his love for his wife and family, his country and his people. He said that Sean Bogue would be remembered by the republican people of Cavan and Monaghan as one who gave his all to their struggle.

He would have celebrated his 60th birthday on St Stephen's Day and is survived by his wife Moya, daughters Patricia and Maureen and sons Kevin, Sean and Brendan.

The sympathy of the Republican Movement is extended to his family and friends.



## Miriam James Laid to rest

**MIRIAM JAMES, who died in London on December 14th and was cremated there, was laid to rest in Glasnevin Cemetery, Dublin, on Wednesday, January 7th.**

The casket bearing Miriam's ashes was buried in a republican grave alongside the 1916 Republican Plot and the graves of Frank Ryan and Jim Larkin, in accordance with her wishes.

During the simple ceremony, the casket was carried to the grave by her companion Colin Roberson, and wreaths were laid by members of Miriam's family and by her comrades in the British Labour Party's Labour Committee on Ireland and Sinn Fein.

Among the attendance, which numbered nearly 40, were relatives and friends from London and Dublin. It is a measure of the high esteem that Miriam was held in that such a large contingent travell-

### POLITICAL IDEALS

Joe Cahill chaired the ceremony, thanking the people present and the National Graves Association. Rita O'Hare gave a short oration and Des McLarnon of the LCI also said a few words.

Miriam's generosity, energy and ability for hard work were praised and both speakers referred to her clear political ideals of liberalism and socialism.

# CHUGUINE

**DONNELLY, Frankie; MONTGOMERY, Laurence (8th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of Volis Donnelly and Laurence Montgomery, who were active service, Fuar síd bás ar son na scoir. Always remembered by their friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

**DONNELLY, Frankie (8th Anniversary).** In loving memory of my beloved husband Frankie Donnelly who died in action on January 5th 1979 with his comrade Laurence Montgomery, Masses offered. "Whatever we were to each other, that we are still, will be our own familiar names speak to me in the easy way you always used. Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes we enjoyed together. Why should I be out of your mind because I am out of your sight? I am but waiting for you, somewhere very near, just around the corner. All is well, nothing is past. Nothing is lost. One bright moment and all will be as it was before, only better, infinitely happier and forever we will be one together with Christ." Forever remembered by his wife Rosemary and little daughter Frances.

**DONNELLY, Frankie (8th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of our beloved nephew Frankie Donnelly who died in action on January 5th 1979. St. Francis, pray for him "In silent thoughts I live again the years that used to be. All the times we used to have and how good you were to me. Although I cannot see you, you are with me night and day, for between us, not even death can take away." Always remembered by his loving aunts Betty and Margaret, Uncle Paddy, sister Betty and family.

**DONNELLY, Frankie (8th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of my brother Frankie Ógáilagh na hÉirann, who was killed on active service on January 5th 1979. He died so that others might be free. Always remembered by Jackie.

**GREEN, John Francis (12th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of Vol John Francis Green, 2nd Battalion, North Armagh Brigade, Ógáilagh na hÉirann, who was killed by British forces at Mullyagh on January 10th 1975. I measc laochra na gceol go raib sí. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the North Armagh Brigade.

**GREEN, John Francis (12th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of Vol John Francis Green, 2nd Battalion, North Armagh Brigade, Ógáilagh na hÉirann, who was murdered by British agents on January 10th 1975. Always remembered by the

Paddy Meliverna Sinn Fain Cumann, Armagh.

**MONTGOMERY, Laurence; DONNELLY, Frankie (8th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of my brother Vol Laurence Montgomery and comrade Vol Frankie Donnelly, who were active service on January 5th 1979. Always remembered by Robin (Crumlin Road).

**MONTGOMERY, Laurence; DONNELLY, Frankie (8th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of Volis Laurence Montgomery and Frankie Donnelly, Ógáilagh na hÉirann, who were killed on active service on January 5th 1979. Always remembered by the Montgomery family circle.

**MONTGOMERY, Laurence (8th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of a loving husband and father, Laurence Montgomery, who died on January 5th 1979. RIP. "Time slips by but still you stay, as near and dear as yesterday. All our tomorrows will be like today, loving you, missing you, just like today." Always remembered by his loving wife Maureen and children Laura and Claran.

**O'NEILL, Danny (15th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of Danny O'Neill, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Ógáilagh na hÉirann, who was shot by the British army on January 5th 1979 and died three days later. "They may kill the revolutionary, but never the revolution. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade."

**O'NEILL, Danny (15th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of our dear nephew Vol Danny O'Neill who gave his young life for Irish freedom on January 7th 1972. RIP. "Always remember the felons of our land." So dearly loved, so sadly missed by his aunt Bridie, uncle Tommy and Robert.

**O'NEILL, Danny (15th Anniversary).** Proud memories of our dear cousin Vol Danny O'Neill, who died on January 7th 1972. He died as he lived. Will never be forgotten by Diarmuid, Grainne, Donagh, Leo and Tara.

**O'NEILL, Danny (15th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of our dear brother Vol Danny O'Neill, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Ógáilagh na hÉirann, who died on January 7th 1972. Always remembered by Sean Murray (Long Kesh) and Pat McVeigh (Portlaoise).

**LOAN, Michael (15th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of Vol Michael Sloan, Fianna Éireann, who died as a result of an accidental shooting while on active service on January 11th 1972. I measc laochra na gceol go raib sí. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in Fianna Éireann.

## COMHBHRÓN

**BARNES, The Seamus McCusker Sinn Féin Cumann, New Lodge Road,** regrets the death of their friend and fellow republican Joe Barnes and extend to his family circle their sincere sympathy.

**BARNES, The committee and members of the Irish Republican Felons Association, New Lodge Road,** extend every sympathy to the Barnes family on the death of Joe.

**TURLEY, Deepest sympathy** is extended to Brian Turley and his family on the recent death of his brother Tommy. From the John Green Cumann, Castletroy.

**TURLEY, Deepest sympathy** is extended to Brian and his family on the recent death of his brother. From Peter Smith.

**TURLEY, Deepest sympathy** is extended to Brian and his family. Always remembered by James and Maria Cunningham and the children.

## ADMHAIL

**THE GREEN CROSS COMMITTEE, LURGAN,** gratefully acknowledges the generous donation this Christmas and throughout the preceding years by a Lurgan exile now living in England.

## Torthai crannchur

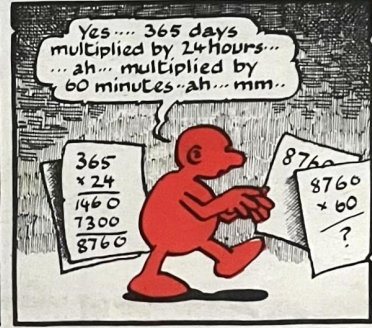
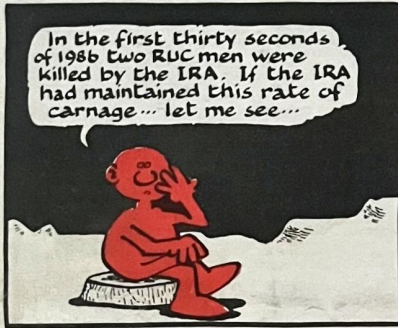
Ringsend/Pearse Street Sinn Féin, Dublin  
E200: 106; E100: 227; E50: 112; tapes: 143; books: 109.

# Irish

Athbhliain (ah-blein) - New Year  
Beannachtá na hAthbliain (bannuchte nuh hah-bleuinuh) - New Year greetings  
Bliain (blein) - Year  
Tús na bliana (toos nuh bleinuh) - Beginning of the year  
Dá-dán (dye room) - Good resolution  
Éir as (íre-ee as) - Give up  
Táim ag éir as an 61 mbliana (twim egg íre-ee oss un ole i mblenuh) - I am giving up drink this year  
I mbliana (i mblenuh) - This year  
Anuraidh (anury) - Last year  
An bhliain seo thart (un vleehin shoh hort) - The past year  
An bhliain seo chugainn (un vleehin shoh chooinn) - The coming year  
Mí (me) - Month  
I mí na míosa (i lawr nuh meesuh) - In the middle of the month  
An fearach (un taruch) - Spring  
An samhradh (un sowrth) - Summer  
An fóchair (un four) - Autumn  
An gheimhreadh (un geovrth) - Winter  
Fuacht an gheimhridh (foucht un

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gheivhrí) - The cold of winter  
Míonna an t-earraigh (meenuun un arriagh) - The months of spring  
Teacht an tsamhraidh (tyoacht un towrigh) - The coming of summer  
Torthai an fhóichair (turthae un owir) - The fruits of autumn  
Inniu (innuy) - Today  
Inniu (innuy) - Yesterday  
Amárach (amurach) - Tomorrow  
Arú inné (aroo innay) - The day before yesterday  
Arú amárach (aroo umoruch) - The day after tomorrow  
Seachtain ón lá inniu (shoachtain ówn la innuy) - A week from today  
Seachtain is an lá inniu (shoachtain is un la innuy) - A week today i.e. one week ago

# NEW YEAR REVOLUTION



**BELFAST SAYS NO**

