

MCGARVIE (2)

AN PHOBLACHT Republican News

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING
POLITICAL WEEKLY



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16th ANNIVERSARY OF INTERNMENT



Sunday 9th August
Assemble 2.30 Dunville Park
March to Rally at Busy Bee

Internment 1971 Extradition 1987

Extradition U-turn after British offer



Charlie gives in

• The headline of Wednesday's News Letter says it all

SIXTEEN YEARS AGO this week, hundreds of nationalist homes around the Six Counties were raided by British forces who dragged and kicked over 300 men and boys to internment camps where they were held without charge or trial.

When the forces of British imperialism were using all their savage force to smash nationalist resistance and uphold the sectarian Orange state, in Dublin, a man named Charles J. Haughey was lingering in the political wilderness. At that time, Charles J. Haughey had the name of being a hawk in Fianna Fail, a republican who would go further and who would stand up to the British as the then Dublin premier, Jack Lynch, would not.

Safe in his comfortable Dublin home far from the suffering of the people in the Six Counties which reached new heights in 1971, Haughey accumulated his profits and his 'republican' reputation until the day came when he took over as leader of Fianna Fail. Since that day all his republican verbalising has been exposed for what it is and he has proved as willing an ally of British rule in Ireland as any of his predecessors.

And now he is preparing to go further than any of them to please Thatcher. The Dublin government this week confirmed that the 1986 Extradition Act is to come into force next December as planned. Fianna Fail is apparently now prepared to drop its demand for prima facie evidence and for reforms in the Six Counties before letting the Act come into force.

POGROMS AND CIVIL RIGHTS

If the Extradition Act does come into full force it will be retroactive. It would allow, for example, people who resisted the brutal regime in the Six Counties in the year of internment, 1971, to be handed over to the RUC and tried and



imprisoned for their part in defending their community.

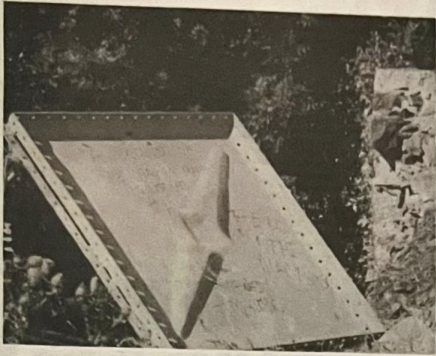
The Extradition Act legitimises the forces which took part in loyalist pogroms against nationalist areas, beat the Civil Rights movement into the ground, interned hundreds without trial, carried out the Bloody Sunday massacre, and ever since has maintained its grip by brute force with a judicial system which is just another arm of the British war effort.

RESIST EXTRADITION

In 1971, it was internment which was used to try to smash nationalist resistance and to stifle the demand for Irish unity. In 1987, extradition is part of the same process of attempting to silence the demand for freedom — only now the British have more staunch allies than ever in the Dublin government.

All nationally-minded people throughout Ireland must resist extradition as strongly as internment without trial was resisted in 1971.

OPINION



FELL BY THE WAYSIDE

BRITISH ARMY ENGINEERS blocked two roads on the Fermanagh/Monaghan border on Tuesday, July 28th. At Derryvollen Bridge and on the Magheraveely to Clones road, huge concrete-filled metal blocks were erected in an exercise involving gardai in collaboration with the RUC and the British army. Local people were cut off from shops, hospitals and friends. Farmers with land on both sides of the border had to travel miles out of their way to get to their own fields. They were particularly angered when 26-County government ministers feigned "surprise" and "disappointment" at the action.

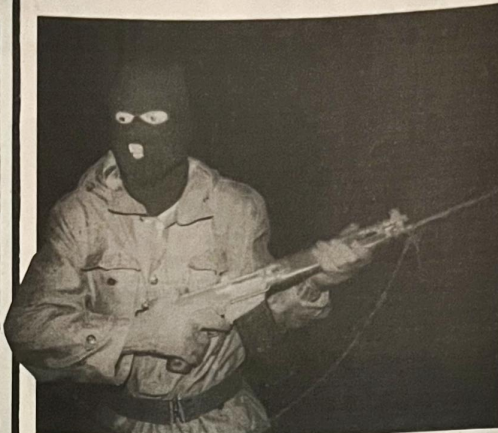
Four days later, on August 1st, 20 local farmers got together, dug under the roadblock and, with the help of a Hymac lifter, pushed the blocks into a roadside ditch. It was a very simple operation and it received virtually no media coverage.

Roads have been blocked before in this area, as they have all around the border. And bridges have been blown up by the British army in a vain effort to reinforce their border.

The main effect of such actions is to make life more difficult in the already-depressed border areas but they also represent a strengthening of partition. But the farmers of Derryvollen quietly pushed the British concrete and steel off their road. And lying in the ditch, the huge block bore the words: "Fell by the wayside. A product of the Anglo-Irish Argument."

In 20 minutes on Saturday afternoon, the farmers of Derryvollen achieved more than all the Dublin government's 'representations' to the British since the Hillsborough Treaty was signed more than 20 months ago.

WAR NEWS WAR NEWS WAR



'Normalisation' rocked

IN BELFAST the IRA once more effectively blew the lid off British government attempts to promote the occupied Six Counties as 'normal' when thousands of pounds worth of damage was caused in two car-bomb explosions in South and North Belfast last Friday, July 31st.

An IRA Volunteer gave a 40-minute telephone warning to a newspaper and the Samaritans about the 100lb bomb which had been left in a car outside the Barclay Restaurant at Shaw's Bridge in South Belfast. Despite the adequate warning, the crown

forces failed to act with sufficient urgency in evacuating staff and customers, six of whom were reported to be slightly injured. Two members of the RUC were also injured when the bomb, placed in a brown Datsun car, exploded at 4.10pm. The restaurant section at the front of the complex was extensively damaged and structural damage was caused throughout the remaining function rooms.

Minutes later, in the north of the city, a second bomb, containing 200lbs of explosives detonated outside the Landsdowne Court Hotel on the Antrim Road. As with the first target, a 40-minute telephone warning (not 20 minutes as reported by the media) was given by the IRA and the hotel was cleared of staff and customers. The devastating blast ripped through the hotel and rocked the immediate area.

OPERATION ABANDONED

Also on Friday, July 31st, a 30lb bomb was recovered by the crown forces when Derry Brigade abandoned an operation which had begun the previous night.

The IRA, in a statement, said that the bomb, left near the Foyle Bridge, had been intended for the crown forces and was abandoned "when the intended target failed to appear". The IRA emphasised that the unprimed bomb posed no risk to the civilian population.

STRABANE SHOTS

Another small bomb planted by the IRA in the Bowling Green area of Strabane was discovered by the crown forces on Thursday, July 30th. And on Sunday night, August 2nd, IRA Volunteers in the town fired a number of shots at an RUC mobile patrol in the Melmount Road area.

McKERNAN INQUEST WHITEWASH

BY MOIRA CONNOLLY

EVIDENCE from several eyewitnesses that IRA Volunteer Jim McKernan had his hands in the air when he was killed by a British soldier in West Belfast on September 14th 1986, was ignored by an inquest jury which accepted the unidentified Royal Marine's version of the killing. His statement was read to the court by an RUC man.

The jury reached its verdict on Monday afternoon, August 4th, after only 50 minutes of deliberation. Ignoring evidence that no weapon was found at the scene and the statement of a senior forensic scientist that traces of firearms residual found on McKernan could have come from a British soldier who searched the body, the jury agreed with 'Soldier A' that he had shouted two warnings and that McKernan was reaching into his jacket as if to pull out a gun.

During the four days of the inquest, which began on July 29th, the jury heard evidence from 17 witnesses, including a Lisburn school teacher and a garage attendant who both saw the Marine shoot McKernan in the back as he had his hands raised. A mother and daughter, who were at

the garage across the road heard the shot but heard no warning shouted. 'Soldier A' claimed: "I shouted at the top of my voice, 'Marines! Stop or I'll shoot!'"

His statement said he shouted the warning twice.

Significantly 'Soldier A' never appeared in court, depriving the McKernan's barrister of cross-examining him.

'I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT'

The driver of a black taxi told the coroner that he watched as the British soldier took aim as McKernan ran down the road:

"I couldn't believe what the soldier was doing because he could have caught him. I could have caught him."

In his summation to the jury, Coroner James Elliot showed his



● VOLUNTEER JIM McKERNAN

colours by commenting on how 'brave' the Marines were, noting that they risked their very lives by going into the area. He accused the McKernan's barrister of prolonging the inquest and refused her request for a final address to the jury. He also refused to let a witness give further testimony after the witness was called a liar by a British soldier.

A MOCK-UP

McKernan's family, commenting on the inquest, said:

"It was a waste of time and a real mock-up. We just wanted that wee bit of justice."

They praised the civilian witnesses who refused to change their stories despite intense pressure from the British Ministry of Defence lawyer.



● The scene of the killing of Vol Jim McKernan, September 14th 1986

BY EAMON TRACEY

OVER ONE THIRD of the North's population and over half of its unemployed lives within the Belfast region. In 1985, the Greater Belfast household survey revealed that 39% of the housing stock had serious repair problems, a figure reinforced last month with the publication by the Housing Executive of a "public sector survey". According to the July report, there is a concentration of older properties in Belfast with, "over 50% of properties constructed before 1945 and located in Belfast where they comprise approximately one quarter of total stock".

With such serious problems, the Department of Environment's Belfast Urban Area Plan — 2001 Preliminary Proposals, published in May, is supposedly the bureaucrats' answer to tackling these issues. With the closure last Friday, July 31st, of the initial ten-week period for comments, those who submitted alternative proposals (including Sinn Fein) must now wait until the publication later this year of a draft plan and technical papers to see what, if any, notice has been taken of their points by the DOE planners. They will then have just six weeks to lodge objections.

Apart from specific complaints — for example, the decision to build on parts of the green belt — the community and voluntary groups who last week participated in a week of action to highlight the DOE's proposals have three main criticisms of the present procedure.

Firstly, the time available for consultation is too short. On Friday, senior DOE planners unofficially agreed to extend the present period by an inadequate two weeks.

Secondly, community and voluntary groups have demanded adequate resources to prepare well-researched and co-

BUAP protests continue



gently-argued papers against the DOE proposals. The groups have pointed to the vast sums of money made available to the DOE in the preparation of the BUAP: one of the six reports which form the

basis of the BUAP, the retail study, alone cost £125,000 and they argue a right to similar financial support.

Finally, there is grave concern about the format of the public inquiry to be

held by the Planning Appeals Commission and which will take place six months after the publication of the draft plan.

SINN FEIN PROPOSALS

Sinn Fein's West Belfast MP, Gerry Adams, last week echoed the criticisms of community and voluntary groups expressing dissatisfaction with "the present consultation procedure and the total lack of resources available to local groups" and describing it as "little more than window dressing".

Adams went on to outline some of the proposals submitted by Sinn Fein to the DOE:

"We are proposing that a major initiative, planned in conjunction with local groups, be undertaken to deal with the endemic unemployment which afflicts this area.

"We are proposing that West Belfast be recognised as a bilingual area and that provision be made for the further development of Irish-language education in the area.

"We are arguing that the present proposals for house building are inadequate. There must be provision for a major extension of Poleglass and any sectarian resistance to the development of Lagmore must not be allowed to slow up new building.

"We have also put forward proposals on recreational facilities, the revitalisation of the Falls, shopping facilities, transportation, the travellers, education, culture and the environment.

"I would hope that the DOE responds positively to our proposals. It is, however, patently obvious, given the extent of local interest in the plan and the clear desire of local communities to contribute in a positive manner, that the DOE must provide the same level of finance, resources and expertise to community groups as they do their own planners. Only in this way can the Belfast Urban Area Plan hope to have the support of and meet the needs of the people whose interests it is supposed to serve."

UNITY FLATS DEMOLITION PLAN

BY MOIRA CONNOLLY

THE Housing Executive's announcement on Thursday, July 30th, of plans to demolish Unity Flats and part of Ballymurphy's Springhill Estate is a major victory for the national people of Belfast.

Despite the SDLP and 26-County government immediately trying to claim that the Hillsborough Agreement was instrumental in the demolition decision, it was obvious that the Housing Executive had reached the decision due to pressure from tenants. Housing Executive Chairperson Norman Ferguson remarked that the SDLP claim was a "total fabrication" and Sinn Fein constituency representative Fra McCann noted:

"The statements from the local branch of the SDLP claiming that the Hillsborough Deal and Dublin government were responsible for winning the package for the people of Unity and Springhill are ridiculous."

McCann congratulated the people on the gains made as a result of their long struggle to win improved housing.

The plans include demolition and replacement of 61 three-storey houses in Springhill and

refurbishment of the estate's remaining 134 dwellings. The work is likely to take up to seven years to complete.

All 303 flats and maisonettes in the Unity Flats complex will be demolished (the 25 houses at Unity are not part of the replacement programme) and the Executive hopes to replace 200 dwellings on the present site.

UNACCEPTABLE

While the residents welcomed the announcement that Unity would be demolished, they unanimously condemned as totally unacceptable the 15 years the Executive plans to take to complete the work. The Executive has announced it will not begin work at Unity for three years and the demolition and rebuilding will take a further 12 years. The local tenants' association is meeting the Executive in an effort to get the timetable revised.

Cost of the work at both estates is expected to be £11 million, with £7 million being spent at Unity.

Both Springhill and Unity were built during the 1960s and the two estates have suffered serious physical and social problems. Many of these can be directly attributed to the design concept of flat roofs and a high proportion of communal facilities such as refuse chutes and drying areas.

The flat-roof design is prone to water seepage, leading to severe damp and condensation. Seventy-five per cent of Unity Flats suffer from damp, 47% have water penetration, and 33% are plagued with mould growth. The Housing Executive's neglect has left serious problems with plumbing, electrical fittings and ill-fitting doors and windows.

ILL-HEALTH

Significantly, a high proportion of residents suffer ill-health which is related to the housing conditions. Bronchitis, arthritis and persistent head and chest colds are common among tenants.

Springhill and Unity are also plagued with high levels of unem-



ployment and social deprivation.

The people living in both estates have campaigned for several years to have major repairs carried out but, as a result of continued inactivity from the Housing Executive, demolition was judged by the tenants to be the best solution to the problems.

Sinn Fein's West Belfast MP.

Gerry Adams, commented that the decision was "another milestone for the people in our efforts to improve housing conditions in the area as a whole". He urged the Executive to have close consultation with the people in the redevelopment schemes in order to solve and prevent housing problems.

LAND SEIZURE

OPPOSED

BY
MAEVE
ARMSTRONG

BRITISH SOLDIERS encircled and trained their weapons on a group of 80 South Armagh nationalists protesting against the seizure of land and erection of spy-posts and surveillance equipment along the border on Sunday, August 2nd.

It was the second such protest staged by local people. On July 5th, a pole surmounted by spy-cameras was sawn through and the cameras smashed.

On Sunday morning, placard-carrying protesters walked to a hill-top British army observation post overlooking the South Armagh County Louth border. Using a loudhailer, Sinn Fein Councillor Jim McAllister announced that their protest was "to the soldiers occupying Irish land at Glasdrummond who at gunpoint have stolen lands and erected fortifications on private property".

ber of British soldiers and RUC personnel ran out and halted the group in the field. A helicopter which they had obviously summoned arrived with British army reinforcements. They jumped out, surrounded the group, and threateningly trained their rifles on them, an implicit warning not to move any closer to the post. There were several tense minutes of angry verbal exchanges when an RUC man declared the protest to be "illegal" and threatened that those participating could be prosecuted. The people answered that the seizure of their land was totally "illegal", not their right to protest.

There was then some jostling when the RUC, who had taken



● Sinn Fein's Jim McAllister (left) leading a demonstration against crown forces land seizures in South Armagh. Numerous photographs of the demonstration, confiscated film and a video-tape on which a local man had filmed the protest. Amidst loud applause McAllister shouted, "We want to see you gone from our land!" before the defiant crowd marched off.

REINFORCEMENTS

Having observed the demonstrators from the spy-post, a num-

LOYALIST ASSASSINATION BID



● PADDY McMANUS

A LOYALIST TRAP to assassinate a Catholic taxi driver failed last weekend when a Protestant driver was instead randomly dispatched to collect a fare in a loyalist estate in North Belfast.

Late on Friday night, July 31st, a telephone caller to Fon A Cab taxis in Great Victoria Street ordered a taxi to the loyalist Ballysillan area. The taxi firm, which has a roughly equal ratio of Protestant and Catholic drivers, services all parts of the city.

On this occasion the depot controller sent one of the Protestant drivers to collect the fare. Arriving at the address, he was confronted by several loyalist gunmen carrying rifles or shotguns.

A hood was placed over his head and he was ordered into the boot of the car. He refused and eventually his abductors forced him to lie face down in the back of the car.

Realising that the gunmen believed he was a Catholic, he desperately attempted to convince them he wasn't and, fortunately for him, eventually succeeded. He was bluntly told: "You could have saved us a lot of trouble if you were a Taig."

Paddy McManus, Sinn Fein spokesperson in North Belfast,

has warned Catholic taxi drivers to be extremely careful:

"Last year, a Catholic taxi driver, Martin Duffy, was assassinated answering a similar call and, only six weeks ago, Eddie Campbell was murdered by the UVF after collecting a fare outside his depot in King Street. Contrary to spurious claims often made after such murders alleging republican connections on the part of the victims, attacks of this nature demonstrate all too clearly the indiscriminate nature of loyalist attacks."

And at the weekend, four masked loyalists attacked a house in West Belfast's Ardrou-

lin Avenue, situated beside the 'peace line'.

A crossbow bolt was fired at an upstairs bedroom window where 50-year-old Jim Ryan lay sleeping; another downstairs window was smashed by a stone.

The attack took place in the early hours of Sunday, August 2nd, when the four loyalists broke a padlock on a gate and entered the nationalist estate.

Frightened residents in Ardroulin are now calling on the Housing Executive and DOE to build a concrete wall behind their homes to protect their families from similar attacks and the ritual weekend stone-throwing incidents.

Sinn Fein select candidates

FOLLOWING the recent resignation from Belfast City Council by Alliance Councillors Will and Pip Glendenning, Sinn Fein held a selection convention last Sunday to choose its candidates for the two vacant seats in the Upper Falls and Lower Falls areas.

In both cases the unanimous choice of the well-attended convention were the two unsuccessful Sinn Fein candidates in the 1985 local government elections, Martin O Mullileoir and Fra McCann.

UPPER FALLS

O Mullileoir, who in 1985 received 1,031 votes, outpolling Pip Glendenning's 931, failed to win the seat because of SDLP and Workers' Party transfers to the Alliance candidate. The total Sinn Fein

vote in the electoral district was 5,616 as against a combined vote of 7,105 for all the other candidates.

O Mullileoir clearly has a good chance of taking the seat.

LOWER FALLS

In the Lower Falls electoral district, Fra McCann received 1,467 votes, 354 ahead of the Alliance candidate. Once again transfers from the SDLP and Workers' Party candidates ensured an Alliance victory. The total Sinn Fein vote in the area was 6,753 against a total of 5,060 for all other candidates.

While Fra McCann is obviously in with a chance to win the seat, Sinn Fein Councillor Sear McKnight, the party leader on Belfast City Council, has warned supporters not to be complacent.



● Fra McCann, Sean McKnight and Martin O Mullileoir at the Sinn Fein selection convention in Belfast last Sunday

Street-traders the fight goes on

THE RIGHT to demonstrate peacefully was asserted in a Dublin court last week when people charged in connection with a protest by street-traders two years ago refused to give undertakings that they would sign bonds to keep the peace.

The court appearances arose out of a demonstration in July 1985 when Dublin street-traders blocked traffic in O'Connell Street. They were protesting against laws which prevent them from earning a living by restricting their right to trade in the streets.

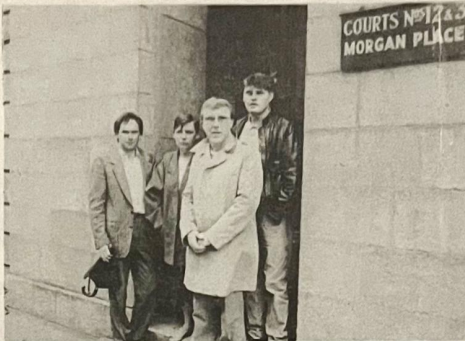
When the crowd of mainly women demonstrators staged a sit-down protest near the GPO they were savagely attacked by the gardai and one of them had to be hospitalised after being batoned. Seven people, including Sinn Fein Councillor Christy Burke, were arrested and charged.

In the Dublin District Court on Thursday, July 30th, five of

the seven pleaded guilty to breaches of the peace. They reasserted their right to demonstrate and highlight the harassment of street traders by gardai at the behest of the Dublin City Centre Businesses' Association. This has involved almost weekly fines of traders, seizure of goods, jailings and continuous abuse from gardai.

BONDS

Sinn Fein's Christy Burke, Independent TD Tony Gregory, Joe Costello and street-traders Brian MacCormack and Christine Walker all pleaded guilty on Thursday. Walker and MacCormack were given the Probation



● Tony Gregory, Christine Walker, Christy Burke and Brian MacCormack outside Dublin District Court

Act but the others were required to sign bonds to keep the peace. Costello was required to sign immediately and when he refused he was imprisoned in Mountjoy. He was released on Tuesday of this week by order of the High Court.

Sinn Fein's Christy Burke, who was previously jailed for another street-traders' protest in March 1985, said that he would be prepared to go to jail again if necessary. He said that if signing

the bond meant not being able to make a public protest on any issue concerning his constituents then he could not sign:

"It's street-traders this week, it could be health cuts next week."

He called for the issuing of licences to long-established street traders to allow them to make their living. Burke has another week before he can be imprisoned for not signing the bond:

"The street traders' fight goes on, jail or no jail."

Extradition opposed

MONAGHAN Urban District Council has called for the postponement and review of the 1986 Extradition Act and has become the first local authority to call for the non-implementation of the Act next December.

A resolution calling for the repeal of the Extradition Act was proposed at the last meeting of the UDC by Eain Smyth and Padraigh Ni Mhurchu. A similar motion was lost last year. This time, though, the Fianna Fail chairperson put down an amendment to the motion and called for the postponement. The amended motion was carried by the UDC.

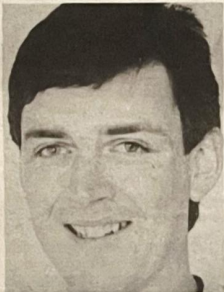
CLONES

The depth of ignorance on the issue of extradition not only among large sections of the public but among elected representatives was shown in Clones, County Monaghan last week when the urban council deferred a vote on the issue.

Sinn Fein Councillors Fintan McPhillips and Peter McAleer tabled a motion calling on the Fianna Fail government to honour its pre-election commitment not to implement the Extradition Act. However, the motion was deferred to allow the other members of the council to make themselves familiar with the Act and its implications.

The Sinn Fein councillors pointed out that the legislation could lead to the extradition of hundreds of Irish citizens, including many Clones townspeople. They can be sought for offences dating back to the 1950s or even the 1920s.

Fintan McPhillips noted that Charles Haughey had described the Six-County



● FINTAN MCPHILLIPS

state as a failed political entity and had voiced concern about the convictions of Irish people in Britain in the mid-1970s and yet he is now preparing to hand people over to that regime.

Because of the ignorance of the other councillors, the anti-extradition resolution had to be deferred until the August meeting of the UDC.

REPATRIATION SUPPORTED

The Clones body did pass a resolution circulated from Tralee UDC calling on the British government to repatriate all Irish political prisoners.



● PETER MCALEER

Peter McAleer mentioned the case of Sean Kinsella of Clones who is a republican serving a life sentence in English prisons. McAleer pointed out that much hardship would be spared Sean Kinsella's mother, who lives in Clones, if her son was transferred to Long Kesh where she could visit him regularly. In contrast to the inconvenience caused to Irish prisoners' relatives with regular transfers and long and costly journeys to the prisons, members of British forces convicted in the Six Counties are immediately repatriated to British prisons.

Health cuts survey

NINE OUT OF TEN FAMILIES questioned in a Tallaght Sinn Fein survey on health cuts said that the £10 out-patients' charge will discourage people from seeking medical treatment.

The survey, carried out on 1,000 homes in various areas of the sprawling County Dublin suburb, also revealed that:

- 45% had relations already affected by the cuts.
- 59% felt that Fianna Fail's pre-election stance on cuts misled people.
- 82% said that the cuts and parties' attitudes to them would affect the way they voted in the next election.
- 94% said that they would support a community/trade union campaign against the cuts.

Tallaght Sinn Fein constituency spokesperson John Noonan said:

"This survey clearly shows the level of public anger over the devastation being wrought on the health service by the Fianna Fail government. This anger must be channelled into an effective protest movement by trade unions and community groups."

Navan wards closed

MEATH SINN FEIN has condemned the closure of wards in Our Lady's Hospital in Navan and has said that it will have a devastating effect on the health of people who cannot afford VHI membership:

"Doubts must be cast on the talk of the wards reopening in September as the policy of this government is to continue with more health and educational cutbacks.

"Certain people who work within Our Lady's Hospital are of the opinion that, with the opening of a new orthopaedic unit in the Cavan/Monaghan region, the orthopaedic unit in Navan will be closed down."



NUCLEAR WARSHIP IN DUBLIN

THE VISIT of a United States navy nuclear warship to Dublin has once again highlighted the mockery which has been made of 26-County neutrality by successive governments.

The USS McCloy was berthed at the quayside at Alexandra Basin in Dublin last week on a 'courtesy visit'. Official 26-County

policy is that ships carrying nuclear weapons or engaged in naval exercises are not welcome in Irish waters. But the US gov-

ernment refuses to reveal if its ships are carrying nuclear weapons or not so the Department of Foreign Affairs says that it must take it on trust that they are not.

PR EXERCISE

The nuclear-capable USS McCloy was open to the public during its visit which, as well as being for refuelling and rest and recreation, also provided NATO with a valuable PR exercise to promote its image in Ireland. There were few signs of welcome on the Dublin quayside for the ship whose visit was protested against by several anti-nuclear groups. The Irish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament condemned the Dublin government for allowing the visit and members of Portwatch, the CND monitoring group, placed a picket on the nuclear ship.

GARDAI STOP PROTEST

On Saturday, 14 women a prot-

estors were refused access to the quayside by gardai. The women then boarded a boat and carried on their protest from the Liffey.

Calling on the Garda Commissioner and the Fianna Fail Minister for Justice, Gerry Collins, to explain why gardai were used to prevent the peaceful anti-nuclear protest, Sinn Fein Dublin City Councillor Christy Burke said:

"The Dublin government's feeble claim that it believes the US warship would not carry nuclear weapons in Irish waters is incredible and surely denies it any right to try and prevent peaceful protests by people who aren't so trusting of Ronald 'Ponochio' Reagan."



PAROLE REFUSED

THE RAISED hopes of a bereaved Belfast family to have republican POW Mary McArdle released on compassionate parole to attend her mother's funeral (see page 14) were dashed by an inhumane Northern Ireland Office refusal based on British Minister John Stanley's personal instructions.

During a visit on Wednesday, July 29th, Mary McArdle, who is serving a life sentence, learned from her sisters that her mother, Madge, had died earlier that morning. She immediately applied for compassionate parole but

heard nothing from either the NIO or prison authorities in Maghaberry until 10.30pm on Thursday night. They refused to say why her parole was turned down, a not unusual attitude of the North's prison authorities

when it comes to republican prisoners.

STRENUOUS EFFORTS

In the interim, strenuous efforts to secure her parole were made by her family, the local parish priest and Sinn Fein MP Gerry Adams, who accused the NIO of adding to the McArdles' already heavy burden by "displaying a lack of urgency" in making the decision one way or the other. Not even a 'behind the scenes' appeal by Bishop Cahal Daly could sway the British.

At 9.30pm on Thursday, the NIO confirmed that parole was refused. At 10.30pm, Mary McArdle, who hadn't seen her mother since Easter owing to failing health, learned from prison warders that she was never again to see her, even in death. ■



● Sean McKnight and Mairtin O Mullleoir at the press conference to emphasise the real meaning of the August 9th activities

COMMEMORATING INTERNMENT

AS PREPARATIONS for the 16th anniversary of the introduction of internment in the North are completed, Sinn Fein held a press conference in Connolly House, Belfast, on August 5th to emphasise the real meaning of the August activities.

Belfast Sinn Fein Councillor Sean McKnight said:

"We are asking people to remember that the main purpose of the August commemoration this weekend is to highlight the internment on August 9th 1971 of over 300 nationalists who were dragged from their homes by British troops and the RUC in an attempt by the Stormont regime to suppress nationalism."

"Festivals, fleadh ceoil and various other local activities have been organised all over Belfast," said Upper Falls constituency representative Mairtin O Mullleoir, and he urged people to support the events.

He pointed out that some young people were goaded into rioting by the RUC and the British army and that other "anti-social elements" used internment weekend as an excuse to

damage private cars and homes.

FESTIVALS

There will be festivals in many areas including the New Lodge Road, Short Strand and Lema-doon, organised as a celebration of the people's resistance to internment and also to divert and defuse the type of disturbance that has happened in recent years.

It was pointed out that Sinn Fein did not organise bonfires and Sinn Fein activists' only role was to try to ensure that the siting of bonfires did not endanger or inconvenience local people. Welcoming everyone to the festivals and fleadhanna, Martin O Mullleoir said:

"Internment, and the resistance that ended it, should be commemorated by all nationalist people with pride and dignity."

DERRY COUNCILLORS VISIT DURHAM JAIL

AN OFFICIAL DELEGATION of Derry City Councillors visited Derry woman Martina Nic Andraesa in Durham Jail last Thursday where they heard a graphic first-hand account of the oppressive and archaic conditions in the 19th Century British jail.

The visit, by SDLP Councillors John Tierney and Theresa Coyle and Sinn Fein Councillor Mitchel McLaughlin (Dodie McGuinness was refused admission to the jail by the Home Office without explanation), followed a successful fact-finding trip by the same councillors to Brixton Jail in 1986.

Although the three Derry councillors were not able to see Ella Ni Dhubhair, Mitchel McLaughlin was able to visit her privately on Thursday afternoon and Martina Nic Andraesa again on Friday morning.

During Thursday morning's visit, which lasted for 1½ hours, Martina described in detail the strict prison regime in Durham where Ella and herself are confined with 36 other women prisoners within a separate H-Wing of the jail - a specially-constructed Category-A 'security' compound modelled on the system used in Maghaberry and the H-Blocks.

STRINGENT REGIME

The regime is so stringent that if one of the 38 prisoners requires hospital treatment the

visits with the two women, Mitchel McLaughlin was asked by them to thank on their behalf all Irish and overseas solidarity groups for their work in highlighting the horrors of strip-searching. They also asked for support for repatriation which many Irish prisoners in British jails are requesting because of their deep concern at the constant stress and expense endured by their families in order to visit them regularly.

Finally, Mitchel McLaughlin told AP/RN:

"The two women discussed with me Sinn Fein electoral performance and were anxious that there be constant dialogue between Sinn Fein activists on the ground and the prisoners inside the jails."



● MITCHEL McLAUGHLIN



DODIE McGUINNESS



Prisoners' relatives picket No. 10

AN HOUR-LONG picket outside 10 Downing Street on Saturday, August 1st, was organised by the Relatives of Irish Political Prisoners in English Jails Committee.

They handed a letter of protest in against restrictive visiting and prison conditions, particularly at Wakefield. The letter, addressed to Margaret Thatcher, also called for the repatriation of Irish political prisoners. The option for prisoners to serve their sentences in prisons near their own homes is specified by the British Home

Office and prison rules, but is denied to Irish republican POWs. More than 60 people supported the picket.

The previous day, Friday, July 31st, members of the committee met with Labour MP Jeremy Corbyn at Westminster and again raised these issues.



SUGAR WORKERS WON'T BE BEAT

BY TOM O'DWYER

MIDLANDS SUGAR WORKERS have voted by a seven to one margin for strike action just before the sugar harvest. The Sugar Company, a 26-County semi-state body, refused a pay deal which had been recommended by the Dublin Labour Court over two months ago.

In a recent ballot the 1,500 workers, members of the ITGWU, rejected the company's offer of a three-month pay pause followed by a 3% increase, demanding 5% over 15 months. Negotiations over the deal have dragged on since the beginning of the year as the Dublin government leaned on the company to enforce a pay pause. The management offer would mean a severe pay cut as the level of inflation is over 3%.

The £200 million sugar-beet harvest is due to begin at the end of September; At its height the three main sugar factories at Carlow; Thurles, County Tipperary; and Mallow, County Cork; will be working 24 hours a day and seven days a week up to Christmas.

PLACARDS AND PROFITS

Asset-stripping Glen Abbey boss John Teeling has staged a stock exchange coup at the expense of his workforce.

Teeling turned the knitwear firm into a property company by leasing off its factories while collecting rent on the sites. He neglected to tell his workforce if they still had jobs or not, so, on July 30th, a group of trade unionists from Glen Abbey Knitwear in Tallaght, County Dublin, appeared with their placards at the company's annual general meeting in a Dublin hotel, demanding to know the facts. They weren't successful.

Over 50 ITGWU members at Tallaght were "treated like lepers" says ITGWU secretary Denis Carr:



"We've had no answers from anybody about the company's future."

A number of the workers have had their holiday pay-cheques stopped by the bank, which has frozen the company's account. While their jobs hang in the balance, they have the dubious pleasure of watching Glen Abbey shares jump 350 pence each: a stock exchange 'high'.

UNDERDEVELOPING DERRY

British 'employment' policy in the North-West received a hammering last week after the closure of the American-owned National Supply Company in Derry which followed closely on that of Consolidated Micrographics in Limavady. Since National Supply first announced its closure in November, 90 jobs have gone. The Six-County Industrial Development Board (IDB) failed to rescue the company despite a six month-long survey into its viability.

Sinn Fein's Martin McGuinness said:

"The factory closure represents another disaster story for the IDB and the begging-bowl strategy of trying to entice multinational companies to come to Derry. In the short-term this may appear to have some success but inevitably it leaves the economy in the North-West weak as closedown follows closedown."

Connell McFeely, secretary of the Derry Trades Council, also attacked the IDB:

"Historically they have failed to combat the problems of multinationals pulling out at their whim having exploited — indeed plundered — the generous incentive packages on offer."

Derry Trades Council recently launched a new economic strategy for the area at a meeting of Derry City Council. The trades council's alternative proposals emphasise the need for development to be controlled and directed by local people.

"We believe that in the short-term this can best be achieved by the creation of a development board in Derry whose membership is deliberately biased towards representatives of trade unions, women's groups, the unemployed and local communities," said Robin Percival, treasurer of the trades council.

"Such a development board would have control over the money currently being misused by such agencies as the IDB whose efforts have been nothing short of calamitous in this area. The thrust of the new development board would be towards workers' co-operatives and job-creation projects which would promote long-term employment,

equal opportunities, fair employment and socially useful work."

The IDB bluntly refuses to fund workers' co-operatives. When workers at the Molins tobacco machinery plant in Derry's Maydown Industrial Estate faced redundancy two years ago, they were forced to launch a limited company, Maydown Precision Engineering (MPE), and become its shareholders. Now 150 workers at MPE still face problems with IDB funding.

NO WAGES IN NAVAN

Workers in Navan, County Meath, were left in the lurch just before their annual holidays when Navan Eurofashion announced its closure on Wednesday, July 29th. The 110 workers were told by the receiver, called in by Swedish owner Ollie Flink, that there was no money to cover either outstanding wages or their holiday pay, which was due the following Friday.

Over half the workers had been laid off prior to the announcement but they were due to receive three weeks' holiday pay, as were 40 people still working at Eurofashion.

The company is refusing to fulfill the terms of the 26-County Minimum Notice and Terms of Employment Act.

Navan Eurofashion received just under £½ from the 26-County Industrial Development Authority (IDA) since it was opened nine years ago.

Joe Reilly, the local Sinn Fein spokesperson, denounced the closure:

"Meath has already suffered heavily from redundancies. We have been promised 'national recovery' but instead we see these workers being swindled out of their money and thrown on the dole. Meanwhile, hundreds of thousands of pounds have been given away by the IDA for no real return."

CUTTING CIE

Bus and rail workers in the 26 Counties may decide on strike action following CIE's refusal to grant a Dublin Labour Court recommendation for a 4½% pay increase over 16 months with a one-off £30 payment and an added day's holiday.

In January, their unions rejected a CIE offer of a 3% increase over 18 months because it failed to keep pace with inflation. A call for strike action over the issue was made last week by Michael Keating, general secretary of the Automobile, General Engineering & Mechanical Operatives' Union.

The Fianna Fail government has cut £8 million from CIE's budget and is

refusing any extra assistance to help the 26-County semi-state body meet the pay demands while it allows private competition to flourish.

AND WELL HE MIGHT BE...

County Laois managing director Brendan Graham was "heartened" when a group of former workers at the Richard Malcolms textile plant in Portllington toured the surrounding area in late June to persuade other ex-employees to return to the factory now under his ownership. His joy was hardly surprising: the workers had agreed to a 10% pay cut and promised to give him a further present of five hours' overtime without pay each Saturday. Abusing the workers' fear of the dole, Graham refused to re-open the factory unless the workers agreed to his terms.

When Richard Malcolms closed four weeks ago, no notice whatsoever was given to the workers and even their pay-cheques bounced. Graham, the former marketing manager at the factory, approached Fianna Fail TD Ger Connolly for assistance with funding. Connolly pronounced himself "quite happy" with the outcome despite the serious exploitation involved.

WHOLESALE REDUNDANCIES

Closure of the Tullygoonican Creamery, throwing 176 Armagh people on the dole, was announced on August 3rd by the Manchester-based Co-operative Wholesale Society (CWS). The creamery opened in Armagh city 35 years ago and a cheese factory was added in 1966. At its height it employed 250 people.

Local Sinn Fein Councillor Tommy Carroll said that the closure would devastate the area:

"Unemployment in Armagh is already over 3,500 and the axing of the creamery plant, losing 176 jobs, will have serious effects on the local community."

In an unsuitable attempt to atone for the redundancies, a CWS spokesperson said that 50 workers from Armagh "would be considered for employment" at one of the company's plants in Britain.

NOT SO PRETTY

Up to 80 hosiery jobs are to go at the Pretty Polly plant in Killarney, County Kerry, over the coming year as the company installs new technology. The ITGWU is opposing the staff reductions which would leave a workforce of 340.

Ten years ago, the factory employed over 1,000 people. The union is urging the company to diversify its activities so as to retain the jobs.

THE 1972 TRUCE... THE 1972 TRUCE... THE 1972

Valuable lessons

British duplicity

BY KEVIN MCCOOL

THROUGHOUT the present phase of the freedom struggle one of the more common accusations constantly levelled at republicans by a sniping media and church is that we are warmongers, mindlessly inflicting war upon the Six-County state for the sake of war itself.

In contrast, the British colonial rulers have been able, virtually unhindered, to masquerade as peace-keepers and peace-seekers on an international stage. This cynical distortion of the facts ignores both present reality and recent past history. For not only are republicans always ready to discuss proposals with the British for a just and meaningful peace in this country based upon the restoration of our national rights, but on two specific occasions during the present campaign (in 1972 and 1975) the IRA has gone so far as to suspend the armed struggle in an attempt to find agreement with the British. As history shows, the IRA has twice thrown down the challenge of peace to the British only to have it flung back in its face.

In the first six months of 1972, the sustained ferocity of the IRA's armed struggle was seriously destabilising the entire British colonial structure in the Six Counties.

In March, the gerry-mandered Stormont 'parliament' came crashing down and the British government's internment policy proved totally incapable of stemming the rising tide of successful IRA attacks on British military, economic and administrative targets. During April and May 1972, IRA active service units inflicted 16 fatalities on the crown forces, with over 1,223 IRA operations carried out in May alone.

Since the beginning of this phase of the struggle, the four weeks of June were to be the most costly for the British in terms of military casualties, material losses, morale, propaganda and international prestige. Yet early in 1972, the commander of the British forces, General Harry

Tuzo, had confidently predicted that the IRA would be defeated by the end of March!

IRA PUTS BRITISH TO TEST

The IRA decided to put to the test the British authorities' often-repeated claim that their only interest in Ireland was in bringing about peace.

With its back firmly against the wall, the British military had by now revised its earlier grandiose forecasts — Brigadier Frank Kitson was now setting the date for the defeat of the IRA at 1980. The leadership of the Republican Movement called their bluff.

At a press conference in the republican 'citadel' of Free Derry on June 13th, Sean Mac Stiofain, Daithi O Conaill and Seamus Twomey offered direct colonial ruler William Whitelaw a temporary cessation of IRA offensive operations if he would agree to meet them to discuss terms for a peaceful settlement and an end to the British occupation.

It was a shrewd move which immediately put the British on the spot, an offer they could not refuse without suffering a grievous blow to their international credibility as self-proclaimed 'peace-seekers'. A young Martin McGuinness who attended the press conference recalls this aspect of the policies of the 1972 truce:

"In a war situation the Republican Movement was attempting to show the world that it was reasonable and prepared to talk. Furthermore, if the two sides were involved in a ceasefire the Brits were actually recognising the legitimacy of the IRA and the republican forces, and this in itself was a major international victory."

But it was also a tempting

offer to the British, allowing them an opportunity to try out their skills in diplomacy on the republican leadership.

BRITISH DOUBLE-TALK

Typically, the British responded with their usual devious line of official double-talk. Whilst publicly rejecting the IRA offer out of hand as "an ultimatum from terrorists", behind the scenes Whitelaw agreed to a secret preliminary meeting between members of his Northern Ireland Office staff and republican representatives to discuss the possibility of a bilateral truce. Four demands made by republicans were immediately conceded by Whitelaw to enable the meeting to take place:

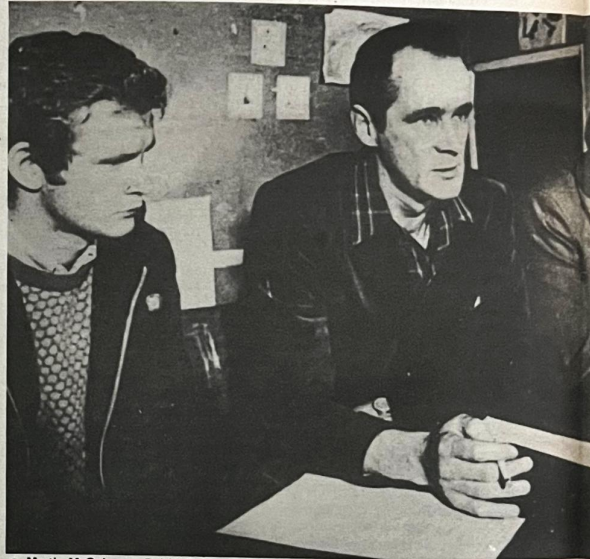
1. Republican prisoners in Six-County jails were given special category status (though the credit for this must go to senior Belfast republican Billy McKee who with 40 other republican prisoners, was on hunger-strike at the time in Crumlin Road Jail);

2. No restrictions were placed on the choice of republican representatives (Gerry Adams was immediately released from Long Kesh Internment Camp for the meeting);

3. Stormont Castle was ruled out as an acceptable venue;

4. The SDLP (which had attempted to get in on the talks) was excluded — it was to be a straight-forward meeting between the British and republican representatives, Daithi O Conaill and Gerry Adams.

Out of the secret meeting on June 20th came an agreement to a bilateral truce. Terms were agreed which amounted to no less than an official recognition by the British authorities that the IRA was a legitimate guerrilla army representing the interests of the risen nationalist people of the Six Counties. For the duration of the truce, IRA Volunteers were to enjoy freedom of movement on the streets and the right to bear



● Martin McGuinness, Daithi O Conaill, Sean Mac Stiofain and Seamus Twomey at the Free Derry press conference to discuss terms for an end to British occupation, on June 13th 1972

arms. The British army was to suspend all repressive actions against the nationalist people. There were to be no arrests, raids, searches of persons, homes or vehicles. And finally, after ten clear days of the truce, the republican leadership was to meet Whitelaw face to face to put its proposals for a lasting peaceful settlement of the war for national liberation. The truce was to come into effect six days later at midnight, Monday, June 26th. Until then, the armed struggle continued unabated with a score of daring operations underlining the absolute determination of the IRA to pursue the truce negotiations as ruthlessly as it pursued the war. In the six days before the truce, four British soldiers and an RUC man were shot dead by IRA units, the last of them, a British army sergeant, in the Short Strand area of Belfast at 23.55 hours

on Monday, just five minutes before the truce commenced.

FORTNIGHT OF TRUCE

As it turned out, the truce was to last for only a fortnight. These were 14 tense days during which armed IRA Volunteers openly patrolled nationalist areas on the alert for any infringements of the truce by the crown forces. Loyalist murder squads stepped up their random sectarian assassination campaign in Belfast with the cold-blooded assassination of 18 Catholics.

Meanwhile, a high-powered confidential meeting took place between the republican leadership and Whitelaw's staff in the English capital. At no time was the republican leadership under any illusion as to what the ceasefire and the talks would achieve in the long-term. Similarly, no false expectations were raised in the staunchly

nationalist ghettos. The British were having a change of heart. Hence there was no demoralising effects when the truce broke down.

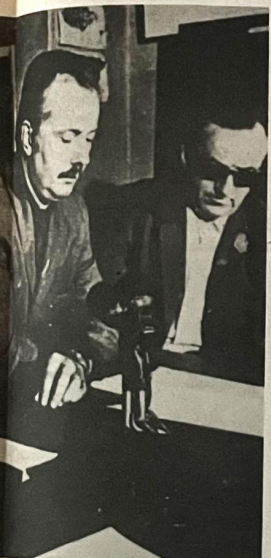
Rather, the June/July negotiations were a brave and carefully-conceived ploy by a mature and ally astute republican ship to the British rulers to come clean their true intentions in The London meeting. Whitelaw gave republican opportunity to put their ends for peace direct the British, in fortnight uncompromising terms, find out if the British bluffing about their commitment to peace (which of they were and still are).

Martin McGuinness, Mac Stiofain, Daithi O Conaill, Seamus Twomey, Gerry Ivor Bell and Dublin Myles Shevlin (acting as

TRUCE... THE 1972 TRUCE... THE 1972 TRUCE...

son in

city



...conference which called on the British govern-

...retary) made up the republican delegation to London. McGuinness vividly remembers the consensus of opinion in the republican camp as to how the talks with Whitelaw were to be handled:

"The only interest that we had in going to meet Whitelaw wasn't to talk about side issues, this element of the ceasefire or that element. Our aim was — and it would be a failure if we didn't get it — to secure a binding agreement from the British declaring their intention to leave Ireland at some date in the future. That was the only interest. The attitude of republicans to the ceasefire was that it was going to be short-term. At the meeting we were going to identify very quickly whether or not we were being played along. We had a single-minded approach to it. If the British weren't going to come up with a declaration

of intent to withdraw, then the truce was over."

So deep was the distrust harboured by the republican delegation against the British for their motives in inviting them to London that they refused to even consider the British invitation until they had received a written pledge of safe conduct which was deposited in a safe by Myles Shevlin.

Only hours before the delegation was due to set off, two drunken British soldiers strayed into the Bogside in Derry and were taken prisoner by Derry Brigade as a more tangible form of insurance against the negotiators' safe return.

THE MEETING

On the morning of Friday, July 7th, under a suffocating veil of secrecy, the London meeting got underway (the secrecy, of course, would only last as long as the ceasefire — much to the embarrassment of the British).

The republican team was driven to a field near Derry in a blacked-out British army van. A helicopter appeared and they were then flown to Aldergrove Airport. Ever vigilant against British treachery, several of the delegation carried concealed handguns as extra insurance.

Saluted by Royal Air Force officers at Aldergrove and then ferried to a base in Oxfordshire in an RAF jet, the republicans finally arrived with a heavily-armed Special Branch escort at their destination — the Cheyne Row home in Chelsea of Whitelaw's junior minister, Paul Channon. The echoes of the disastrous 1921 truce negotiations were almost too close for comfort. "The only thought in my mind going over there was 1921," Martin McGuinness recalls. "The British had been so clever in dividing the republican forces at that time, and they were going to try it again so we had to be on our guard against it."

Unperturbed by either 'VIP treatment' or the reputations of their opposite members, the republicans forcefully demanded a recognition of the right of the Irish people to determine their own destiny as a unit and to declare their intention to withdraw their forces. Though the meeting took place in a calm, relaxed atmosphere, the republicans didn't mince words and called for an immediate end to internment and an amnesty for all political prisoners.

The British team of Whitelaw, Channon and Frank Steele (NIO civil servant) predictably



● An IRA Volunteer on patrol during the truce

STATEMENT FROM THE IRISH REPUBLICAN ARMY

"Statement from the Irish Republican Publicity Bureau. "Announcement by Irish Republican leadership. "We have been asked to release the following statement:

"The Irish Republican Army will suspend offensive operations as and from midnight, Monday, June 26th, 1972, provided that a public reciprocal response is forthcoming from the armed forces of the British Crown. "The leadership of the Republican movement believes that a bilateral suspension of operations would lead to meaningful talks between the major parties to the conflict. The movement has formulated a peace plan designed to secure a just and lasting solution and holds itself in readiness to present it at the appropriate time.

Signed by the leadership of the Republican movement, "P. O'Neill, runai, I.R.P.B."

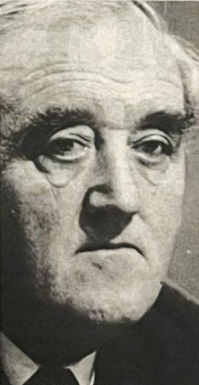
countered with protestations of loyalty to the unionists and prophesies of a 'bloodbath' if they left. It was aptly pointed out to them that this had never stopped them in the past when national liberation movements had forced them to loosen their grip on other colonial possessions. Betraying an appalling ignorance of reality, Whitelaw attempted to deny that British soldiers had ever shot innocent civilians. The recent massacre of Bloody Sunday (only five months earlier) was brought to his attention by an incensed McGuinness.

STALLING FOR TIME

It quickly became clear to the republicans that the British weren't offering anything at all and were merely stalling for time. At one stage Whitelaw attempted to woo them with an offer of a formula of words declaring the British intent to withdraw which would be a private position between the two sides and would be kept strictly confidential. This the republicans refused to countenance as Martin McGuinness explains:

"Our attitude was 'no secrecy' — it has to be up there for the people in Creggan Heights and the Falls to see."

Other than this, the British simply diverted the debate into the day-to-day specifics of the truce, which the republicans easily saw through as an underhand attempt to get them to expand the ceasefire indefinitely.



● Leader of the British negotiating team, direct-ruler William Whitelaw

ly. Consequently, the meeting ended almost inconclusively, after several hours, with the republicans giving Whitelaw one more week to come up with a declaration of intent which would be examined by them at a further meeting and the future of the truce decided. That meeting was never to take place.

"All of us realised," Martin McGuinness recalls, "that the British were simply playing for time. They were assessing us to an extent, but the cornerstone of their strategy was to convince us that they were being as reasonable as possible, and that we could achieve our demands in return for a protracted ceasefire which would

For not only are republicans always ready to discuss proposals with the British for a just and meaningful peace in this country based upon the restoration of our national rights, but on two specific occasions during the present campaign (in 1972 and 1975) the IRA has gone so far as to suspend the armed struggle in an attempt to find agreement with the British. As history shows, the IRA has twice thrown down the challenge of peace to the British only to have it flung back in its face.

As it turned out, the truce was to last for only a fortnight. These were 14 tense days during which armed IRA Volunteers openly patrolled nationalist areas on the alert for any infringements of the truce by the crown forces. Loyalist murder squads stepped up their random sectarian assassination campaign in Belfast with the cold-blooded assassinations of 18 Catholics.

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THE 1972 TRUCE... THE 1972 TRUCE... THE 1972 TRUCE

Continued from previous page
 have the effect, they hoped, of stopping in its tracks a people's army which was going from strength to strength. They were hoping to halt the campaign in the belief that whenever it began again after an extended period it would be impossible to motivate support for the Volunteers amongst the nationalist people."

Both Gerry Adams and Seamus Twomey were also convinced that the British were in no way sincere or genuine. "As a result of the meeting, the British realised that republicans weren't going to be conned into a lengthy cessation of the war," says Gerry Adams.

The republican delegation returned from the meeting satisfied with their own performance and confident that they had avoided falling into Britain's trap. With all their years of experience and a wealth of diplomatic duplicity, the British bureaucrats had collectively failed to delude the republicans or to dent their purpose. Martin McGuinness puts their success in this respect down to the fact that:

"People just raw off the streets can see very quickly through what is baloney and what is truth, especially if their attitude is, 'we want to see the truth and it has to be up there for everyone else to see, not just us.' What we fell short on diplomacy or political expertise, we made up for in our knowledge of what was happen-

ing on the ground and what the British were trying to do to our Movement."

TRUCE BROKEN

Their performance at the London talks can also be measured by the British response. Two days later, on Sunday, July 9th, the two-week-old truce was broken by the British army when it colluded with UDA gangs attempting to prevent Catholic families from moving into new homes allocated to them by the Housing Executive in the Lenadoon Estate in West Belfast. Gerry Adams had no doubts whatsoever that the timing was deliberate. "Having realised that they weren't going to be able to end the armed struggle by a series of small concessions or promises, the British authorities simply allowed the truce to be broken on the slimmest pretext."

The IRA resumed the armed struggle immediately and with renewed fervour.

Although various commentators and political analysts have accused the republican movement of losing a golden opportunity to end the war in 1972, Martin McGuinness bitterly refutes this charge.

"What they are really saying is that republicans should have ended the war and accepted what ever crumbs came from Britain's table. Fifteen years later, I am absolutely convinced we lost no opportunity in 1972. I don't believe there was

any opportunity there for us but to fall into Britain's trap. That was the only opportunity the 1972 truce presented to us."

Nevertheless, the 1972 truce contains many valuable lessons for the Republican Movement, lessons that could have only been learned through that experience. It proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that, despite its hypocritical propaganda, the British establishment has talked - and will eventually again have to talk to - the so-called "terrorists" if it is serious about a peaceful and long-lasting solution in Ireland.

As well as providing valuable experience for the republican delegates themselves, the talks with Whitelaw offered an unforgettable insight into the inner machinations of the British establishment "I learned in two hours what Irish politicians still haven't learned: that the British don't give easily," comments McGuinness. And the British promise at the meeting of a declaration of intent - albeit secret and in private - should be a sober warning to loyalists of the artificiality of the colonial power's eternal pledges of fidelity to her loyal subjects.

WE WILL TALK AND FIGHT

As the following extract from an interview given by the leadership of Ogligh na hEirann in April 1981 shows,

today's IRA has certainly taken on board the poignant lessons of the 1972 and (more prolonged) 1975 truce.

"There is no foreseeable prospect of another truce or any cessation along the lines that obtained in the last two bilateral truces.

"The IRA went through a process at the beginning of this current phase of the struggle of announcing at least one unilateral truce for a period of two or three days to show goodwill and then involving itself in negotiating bilateral truces. Now that we are over those truces and the situation has rectified itself, we believe that the experience has not been lost on us. The Army's present position on truces is that it will no longer be involved in any sort of truce: that a ceasefire from the IRA can only be secured by a British declaration of intent to withdraw.

"If and when the situation presents itself, for negotiating a settlement - at some stage - the IRA's attitude will be that it will talk and fight at the same time.

"Because the British were not serious, honest or in any way forthright about their intentions, and because they were just trying to divert the IRA into a demoralising and damaging ceasefire situation, we cannot foresee any circumstances in which the Army will get itself involved in that situation again."

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OPEN UP

A Chairde,

Although I don't know whether he meant it, I think Mairtin O Mullleoír's letter in AP/RN (July 16th), gives an opening once again to raise the importance of critical debate within the Movement. His comment on AP/RN's handling of a review of an article about the paper in a recent issue of the *Irish Times* was close to my own heart.

Having read the *Irish Times* article myself (before the review appeared) I thought most of its criticisms to have been very fair considering that it was obviously written by someone not from a republican background, I was thus disappointed at AP/RN's hatchet job of a review of that article.

I think it would serve our Movement better not to be overly sensitive (and thus dismissive) of criticism from 'outsiders' and instead try and learn from it. That doesn't mean we should accept all the criticisms and alter our ways accordingly, but it does mean that we should listen to criticism, study the quarter it's coming from, analyse it in an objective fashion and see whether we can learn anything from it.

I have always been of the opinion that republicans are too insular, that we isolate ourselves from 'outsiders' and we tend to dismiss criticism (even from our own members) without any attempt at debate. This is explained by the overwhelming forces pitched against us. We have withdrawn inwards for the protection and security of our Movement. The result is that we tend to distrust all those who appear not to be 100% 'sound'. Unfortunately, this label could be applied to some 98% of the 26-County electorate who voted against us.

This self-imposed isolation is what some of the more progressive elements in the Movement have been trying to break down for years, (and in this I include most of the AP/RN staff), but to be successful this means taking seriously criticisms of our Movement which are genuinely held. We need to 'open up' to 'outsiders'. We need to have the courage to listen to criticisms whether from our own members or from those who do not offer support.

The former is necessary to prevent our Movement stagnating; the latter is necessary to help us understand (and possibly remedy) why we cannot gain significant

votes in the South.

The problem of course with critical debate being allowed in the Movement is that, besides its advantages, it also has disadvantages. For example, the internal debates within the British Labour Party over the last ten years has given the impression of internal division which has frightened off potential voters. Similarly, the debate over entry to Leinster House gave try to Leinster House an opportunity to try and portray our Movement as one weakened by internal divisions.

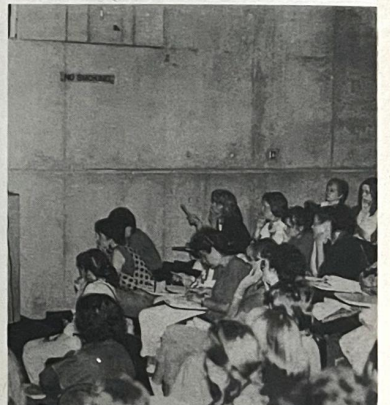
Personally, however, I think the advantages far outweigh the disadvantages. Taking account of the criticisms of 'outsiders' could move us closer to the people, especially in the South. Taking account of the criticisms of our membership will enable us all to benefit from the collective pool of ideas inside the Movement and aid the dialectic development of the Movement.

My message is therefore, in simple language, directed both at our leaders and our members: "Open up!" Peadar O'Neill, Belfast.

FEMINISM

A Chairde, Ella Rush's recent article in AP/RN, July 16th, provided an interesting commentary on the World Women's Congress in Dublin. But it was disappointing that the breadth of debate and experience reported in this article didn't help to point any direction for Irish feminists, within or without Sinn Féin.

Mairead Keane of the Sinn Féin Women's Department is quoted as saying: "Irish women have more in common with Third World women and many want to



Delegates at the recent international women's conference in Trinity College, Dublin

debate the implications for the future direction of the women's movement."

Yet the only experience held up as relevant to Irish women was that of a Ugandan woman, who as a guerrilla fighter speaks of finding a "new autonomy", but then goes on to say: "We succeeded in liberating our country but not ourselves. We are still dominated by men and poverty."

The involvement in the armed struggle is no guarantee of women's demands being met. If it were sufficient to win the anti-imperialist movement over to women's liberation then Sinn Féin would be leading the Defend the Clinics Campaign instead of explaining why it cannot possibly support it!

The issues raised by the congress are wide-ranging and complex. A recognition of this lies behind the People's

Democracy proposal to build a seminar later in the year on such questions as: republicanism and feminism, church and state, women in the workforce, lessons of Latin America. The positive response to this proposal showed us that perhaps the most important lesson to come out of the week-long congress (which was not mentioned in Ella Rush's article) is there has been a big shift in the Irish feminist movement: a shift towards the anti-imperialist understanding.

That was not the case five or six years ago.

There is an opportunity now to explain the relevance of imperialist domination to many Irish feminists whose eyes have been opened in the referendums on divorce and abortion. But the anti-imperialist movement must also change - it must become

Conveyor-belt justice

BY EAMON TRACEY

ALMOST 14 YEARS after the first Diplock no-jury trial in Belfast in October 1973, the effectiveness of the system in sentencing political opponents and innocent nationalists was clearly demonstrated in figures published this week by the Northern Ireland Office. According to the NIO's statistics, 95% of people tried in Diplock courts for "scheduled" or "terrorist type" offences were convicted (i.e. 567 convicted out of 596 tried).

The introduction of the single judge sitting with no jury followed the report of a commission of review in October 1972 into the Special Powers Act which was chaired by Lord Diplock. In keeping with established counter-insurgency practices, graphically detailed several years earlier by Brigadier Frank Kitson, the Diplock Report recommended changes which sought to place a veneer of respectability over British emergency legislation.

The recently-published statistics also revealed a marked increase in the number of houses and premises raided by the crown forces - 3,091 in 1986 - and the amount of money which had to be paid out for damage during such searches.

In 1986, £318,137 was paid out, which is more than double the 1984/85 figure.

Essentially, Diplock's proposals were intended to facilitate the scrapping of the politically embarrassing use of internment and the easy sentencing through the courts of political dissidents. Further recommendations on interrogation procedures were to open the way for torture in Castlereagh and elsewhere and the acceptability of forced confessions, verbal or written, by Diplock judges.

Sinn Féin spokesperson Danny Morrison pointed out that had the IRA occupied or taken over homes "at the rate of 60 a week, there would be an outcry". Describing the Diplock courts as "part of a conveyor-belt" designed to deliver republicans to the prison camps, Morrison said:

"If the SDLP and the Dublin government are calling for three-judge Diplock courts on the basis that convictions have been unsafe, I am challenging them to demand the release of those convicted to date in one-judge Diplock courts."



Noraid in the North

BY MOIRA CONNOLLY

THE 1987 Irish Northern Aid (Noraid) tour arrived in Belfast on Saturday, August 1st. The 56-strong delegation spent the first day of a 12-day fact-finding tour travelling from Dublin and were warmly welcomed to Belfast with a night of folk music at the Andersonstown Social Club.

During the tour the group will travel to various areas of the Six Counties including Fermanagh, South Armagh, Omagh and Derry. Once again their guide will be well-known Lower Falls Sinn Féin activist Fra McCann. The delegation has been told that if they have any problems Fra will be "only too willing to provide a broad shoulder to lean on".

This year the delegation is led by Paul Murray, Noraid's National Director of Political Lobbying. He pointed out that the American press often censored its coverage of events in the Six Counties and added: "The idea of the tour is to let ordinary American people see what it is like to live under British rule. We want them to see at first-hand the facts."

receptive to the issues that women face.

In this light it was unfortunate that the article in *APRIL* did not mention the other contributions to the workshop on *Feminism in Ireland* addressed by Sinn Féin speakers - namely Ailbhe Smyth, UCD Women's Studies Forum, and People's Democracy.

People's Democracy believes that the involvement of women in working-class struggles - armed or not - opens up the potential of pushing forward the demands of women's liberation. But for this potential to be realised there must be a strong autonomous movement of women forcing their demands through the male-dominated leaderships of the working class and anti-imperialist movements.

To achieve this autonomy and strength, feminists in Ireland require political debate that romanticises neither armed guerrilla women nor the European feminist experience.

In the five years or so since its inception, has the Sinn Féin Women's Department produced a women's programme which takes up these questions? Has it taken up this debate?

We believe that a long hard look at their own problems would lead the Sinn Féin women activists mentioned in Ella's article to recognise that they too would benefit from such an open democratic discussion.

Sue Pentel, People's Democracy, Dublin.

THE OLYMPIC SPIRIT?

A Chairde, The news that 16 members of the Belfast Olympic Athletic Club have left

Comhairle Luthchleas Uladh to join the British athletics board (the NIAAA) has shocked many West Belfast nationalists. Hardly had the result of the magnificent victory for Gerry Adams been declared when these people announced that they were throwing up their membership of an Irish association and joining with the British body.

What motivates people to take such action is beyond my comprehension. How can anyone stoop so low? Outside influences have been 'secretly working' on Belfast Olympic for a long time in an effort to make them change their allegiance. These people are well known to everyone and Olympic were warned about their intentions. Wolves in sheep's clothing have stalked with one thing in mind: to get them to join the British board and so establish a base in West Belfast.

Divide and conquer has always been the Brits' main objective and they firmly believe that, having bought a few lads in Derry last year and having established a base there, that they can do likewise in West Belfast - time will tell if this is going to happen.

They have now formed a new club, simply called 'Olympic' in order to confuse people with the existing club of Belfast Olympic.

People of West Belfast, reject this new outfit and strike a blow for nationalism. Let these people know that they are not welcome as 'Irish Brits' in our country and that, in order to further the Irish ideals, they must return forthwith to Comhairle Luthchleas Uladh. Ireland has seen enough treachery in its history without another chapter being written in West Belfast. M.B.



EXTRADITION

A Chairde, Whilst the news about the Birmingham Six and the Guildford Four (possibly) finally seeing justice done is to be welcomed - albeit 13 years too late - it would seem opportune to remind people that the judicial system and hysterical anti-Irish media which jalled them is still very much in place.

Is this the regime into whose hands Charles J. Haughey and 'Fianna Fail - The Republican Party' is happy to place the liberty of Irish citizens faced with extradition on political grounds from December of this year on the say-so of the RUC and British police? Bill Rogers, 5 Howard Street, Ringsend, Dublin.

FREE MOSES MAYEKISO

A Chairde, On August 4th, Moses Mayekiso, the general secretary of South Africa's second largest union, the 134,000 National Union of Metalworkers (NUMSA), went on trial charged with treason and sedition. If found guilty, he

will be under threat of execution.

A member of the central executive committee of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), Moses was elected chairperson of the grassroots Alexandra Action Committee (AAC) founded by trade union members which took over the running of Alexandra after the residents rose up and expelled police and government administrators.

The present charges arise from his leadership of the AAC. When arrested on four previous occasions for his trade union activities, charges were dropped due to trade union action in SA and internationally.

An international campaign to seek the release of Moses Mayekiso and his co-defendants is under way, supported by the International Metalworkers' Federation and unions in Britain and Europe.

The Cork Council of Trade Unions, together with the Cork branch of the Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement, have initiated the campaign in Ireland.

The campaign is supported by many trade unionists, including Donal Nevin, General Secretary of the ICTU, and the general officers of the following trade unions: ITGWU (John Carroll), FWUI (William Attlee), LGPSU (Philip Flynn), IDATU (John Mitchell), NIPSA (Jim McCusker), INTO (Gerry Quigley), ASTI (Kieran Mulvey), TUI (Jim Dorney), PTWU (David Begg) and the divisional organiser of NUPE, Inez McCormack.

We are asking trade unions, trade councils and other organisations, to pass resolutions for the release of Moses Mayekiso, his co-defendants and all political prisoners in South Africa, to raise financial support for the defence campaign, and to

affiliate to the campaign from whom information leaflets, badges and petition forms are available.

Send messages of protest to: Minister for Law and Order, Private Bag X463, Pretoria 0001, RSA, with copies to Cork Council of Trade Unions, Anti-Apartheid Committee, Connolly Hall, Cork.

Anti-Apartheid Committee, Cork Council of Trade Unions, Connolly Hall, Cork.



COMÓRTAS BAILÉIDÍ

A Chairde, Tá duaisairgead do £175 ar taiscint sa dara comórtas bailéidí d'amhrán na chumhanta ar an tseachtall ar son saoire in Éirinn atá a cagrú ag Roinn an Chultúir, Sinn Féin. Éisfear na hiontrálacha ar chead oíche Slogadh Shinn Féin i mBéal Feirste ar an 18ú lá Meán Fomhair.

Ghlaic ceoltóirí ó gach chearn den tír páirt sa chomórtas bailéidí amháin nuair a tionnadh an Slogadh san Uaimh, agus foilsíodh na duais-airrachtaí i Saoire. £1 an fáille iontrála.

Seoltar na iontrálacha (mar-aon le cásad) chuig: Pádraig Ó Maolchraoibhe, Teach Uí Chonghaile, 147 Bóthar Andersons, Béal Feirste 11.



Nuacht

TÁ nuachtán Gaeilge seachtainiúil Sinn Féin, *Nuacht*, ag teacht amach gan sos ó mhí Eanáir 1986. 10p a luach.

Níl ach dhá nuachtán seachtainiúla sa Gaeilge, *Nuacht* agus *Anois*. Le beith cinnte go bhfaigh-eann tú do chóip de *Nuacht* tóg sinitús linn anois. £12 an luach atá ar shintús bhliana, £6 ar shintús leathbhliana.

Ar fháil 6: An tEagarthóir, *Nuacht*, 147 Bóthar Bháire Andersons, Béal Feirste 11. Fón 301749.

FOUR YEARS AS A POLITICAL JOE DOHERTY



no refuge left

IN JUNE, Irish republican Joe Doherty began his fifth year in a United States prison. The Belfast IRA Volunteer has successfully fought in the federal courts against British attempts to have him extradited for the killing of an SAS man in 1980. Yet Joe Doherty is still held hostage by the US government and faces the prospect of indefinite imprisonment in the United States, the Six Counties or the 26 Counties. *Mairtin Mac Diarmada* looks at the case.

"When the judge says, 'You're being extradited,' I'll say, 'Adios amigos,' and go." — Joe Doherty

IT WAS WHILE Joe Doherty was on remand in Belfast's Crumlin Road Jail that he took part in the jail-break in which eight IRA prisoners shot their way to freedom on June 10th 1981.

Within months, six of the eight escapees were arrested in the 26 Counties, tried under the Criminal Law Jurisdiction Act for their part in the Crumlin Road break-out and imprisoned in Portlaoise. A year after the escape, only Joe Doherty and another escapee Gerry Sloan remained in freedom.

Doherty travelled to the United States in February 1982. He was working in a bar in Manhattan, New York, in June 1983 when FBI agents dressed as

construction workers came in and arrested him for entering the US illegally. Since that hot summer day in 1983, Doherty has been an inmate of the federal prison system and for four years has fought attempts to extradite him.

From his cell in the Metropolitan Correctional Centre in New York he has fought a long and complex legal battle and has drawn a great deal of attention to his case and to the Irish struggle. If he loses his case he faces extradition back to the

Six Counties and the serving of a life sentence imposed on him for the killing of SAS Captain Herbert Westmacott in an ambush in 1980. Doherty was sentenced in his absence just two days after the Crumlin Road escape.

EXTRADITION REFUSED

On December 13th 1984, federal Judge John E. Sprizzo ruled in Joe Doherty's favour and turned down the British extradition request. He had heard testimony from, among others, Bernadette McAiskey, Sean MacBride and *Irish Press* editor Tim Pat Coogan and, to the embarrassment of the Dublin government, Doherty's lawyers also used one of the reports of the New Ireland Forum, *The Cost of Violence*, to show that the conflict in the Six Counties was clearly political and that his extradition was sought on political and not legal grounds.

The ruling was a major setback for the British. Judge Sprizzo said that Doherty's actions as an IRA Volunteer presented "the assertion of the political exception in its most classic form". He said that the IRA "has both an organisation, discipline and command structure that distinguishes it from more amorphous groups such as the Black Liberation Army and the Red

Brigades". History was replete, he concluded, "with examples of political and insurrectionary movements that have succeeded in effecting political changes that were believed improbable if not impossible".

However, this clear judgement upholding the principle of the non-extradition of political offenders was only the beginning of the fight for Doherty. The US government appealed the ruling but it was upheld by another federal judge and later by the US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

DEPORTATION ORDER

After Sprizzo's ruling, bail had been granted to Joe Doherty at 200,000 dollars by an immigration judge but this was then denied by the Board of Immigration Appeals. In September 1986, Doherty's counsel filed a request for voluntary deportation to the 26 Counties with Joe admitting his illegal entry into the United States. Immigration law Judge Howard Cohen signed the deportation order but the US government intervened again, determined to carry on until Doherty was in British hands.

The Immigration & Naturalisation Service invoked a never-before-used section of a 1952 statute giving the Attorney General the power to review the

deportation request. It was ruled that Doherty's deportation to the 26 Counties rather than to a British jurisdiction would be "contrary to the national interests of the United States".

The US government's strategy was clear. Two months earlier the Senate approved the Supplementary Extradition Treaty with Britain, specifically designed to allow the extradition of Irish republicans. The law came into force in December, effectively abolishing the political exception and the only such treaty the US has with any foreign government.

On March 13th of this year, the Justice Department denied the government's appeal against the deportation order. Three days later, the US government came up with another order to reopen the case based on alleged "new evidence". On St Patrick's Day, the Immigration Appeals Board stayed its deportation order leaving the way for the US government to reopen the extradition case and keeping Joe Doherty in jail.

CONCERN

The repeated intervention of the US government to prevent the rulings of federal courts from being implemented has caused widespread concern over Doherty's case not only in Irish circles in the US but among many people concerned with civil rights.

In an article in the *National Law Journal* last September, Arthur C. Helton of the Lawyers' Committee for International Human Rights said that the government's actions were "tantamount to a substitute for extradition without a treaty". On the powers of the US Attorney General to intervene after the government had lost in the courts, one of Doherty's lawyers commented:

"The losing party, after full due process of the law, can reverse his own default. The statute permits it. We think that presents serious constitutional problems."

Joe Doherty himself says:

"This whole treaty is another weapon where the government wants to take away rights from people. If they win with their treaty they will use it in some other law. They will quote my name. I am going to make good law for them and bad law for civil rights."

As yet, no new extradition warrants have been issued against Doherty by the British but he remains in a New York jail.

SUPPORT FOR DOHERTY

On June 18th, the New York State Assembly unanimously passed a resolution urging the US Attorney General to immediately carry out the deportation of Joe Doherty to the 26 Counties. Referring to this resolution, the Archbishop of New York, Cardinal John O'Connor, has recently voiced his support for Doherty:

"Those like myself, untrained in the legal field, are uneasy when a US court makes a decision yet a prisoner continues to be held on allegations which were

HOSTAGE IN A U.S. JAIL



● Joe Doherty (far right) in photo smuggled from Long Kesh in 1975

rejected by that decision." That O'Connor felt it necessary to speak out indicated the strong and widespread support Doherty's case has won in the United States. He has also been

supported by the Irish Bishops' Commission for Prisoners Overseas, members of which visited him at Easter and called on the Dublin government to investigate why he is still in custody contrary

to all court rulings that he be deported to the 26 Counties.

GREATEST IRONY

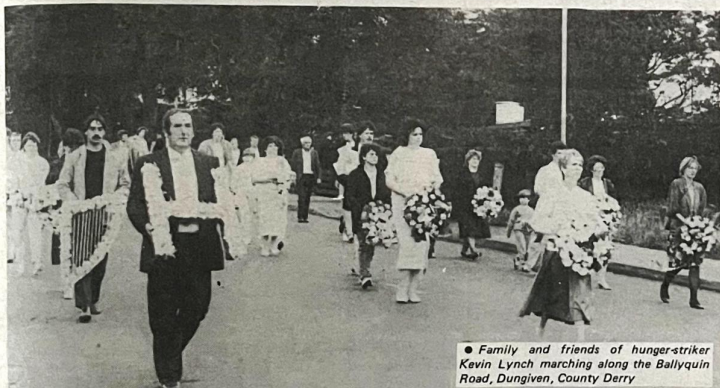
The greatest irony of all, of course, is that while Joe Doherty

sought deportation to the 26 Counties, hoping to avoid being handed over to be 'tried' and imprisoned by the enemy which he fought as a soldier in the IRA, the Dublin government was putting through an Extradition Bill sealing that fate for any Irish republican sought by the British.

Even if Joe does avoid extradition to the Six Counties he can still be imprisoned by the Dublin authorities - as were six of his fellow escapees - or, if the Extradition Act is allowed to come into force, he can be handed over to the British. Thus the four-year-long conspiracy by the British and US governments would be crowned with success by the Fianna Fail government.

Meanwhile, Joe Doherty waits. He is 32 years old and has spent 13 years of his life in prison for his republican beliefs. Interviewed in June he said:

"I will be starting my fifth year... I am reflecting on the last four years and on the rest of my life. And it's getting pretty tough because I'm not getting any younger. I'm 32 now. By the time Ed Meese or some future Attorney General finishes with me, I'll be 40 years of age. It's only years now. If Ed Meese doesn't get me maybe Charlie Haughey will get me."



● Family and friends of hunger-striker Kevin Lynch marching along the Ballyquin Road, Dungiven, County Derry

Courageous patriot

BY KEVIN MCCOOL

RELATIVES, close friends, neighbours and admirers of the H-Block hunger-striker Kevin Lynch assembled in Dungiven, County Derry, last Sunday to commemorate the sixth anniversary of Kevin's tragic death after 71 days on hunger-strike.

The solemn and moving ceremony (which was also attended by the families of Francis Hughes, Raymond McCreesh, and Thomas McElwee) was a strong testimony to the lasting impact of the 1981 hunger-strike on the close-knit community of Dungiven, where Kevin Lynch is also remembered fondly as a popular local personality in sporting circles.

An overcast sky provided a sombre backdrop as hundreds of townspeople and visitors hastily

exchanged greetings before falling in behind the bands in position on Station Road. Five republican bands were in attendance: the Kevin Lynch Memorial Band from Dungiven; the Antoine Mac Giolla Bhrighte Band from Keenaught, South Derry; the Martin Hurson Band from Gortin; the Ballinascreen Independent Flute Band; and the Oliver Plunkett Band from Magherafelt.

As usual, pride of place at the head of the procession was given

to the Kevin Lynch Memorial Band, which led off at a slow pace to the beat of a single drum. Directly behind them in the procession, a score of wreaths were proudly borne by relatives and friends of Kevin Lynch, while still further back, local Sinn Fein cumainn and anti-strip-search banners were carried high.

RESPECTFUL TRIBUTE

As the procession wound its way slowly down Ballyquin Road and through Dungiven's main street, large crowds of onlookers stood motionless, watching respectfully as the triple lines of silent marchers passed. For a moment, the entire town stood to attention in memory of Kevin Lynch. The only begrudgers were the crown forces in Dungiven RUC Barracks repeatedly clicking their cameras.

Outside the Lynch family home on Chapel Road, the procession paused briefly before continuing for the final 100 yards at funeral pace to the grounds of

St Patrick's Chapel, where the dead hunger-striker lies buried.

At the grave of Kevin Lynch, Aidan Hegarty, an ex-chairperson of the local GAA, told the assembled crowd:

"We are here today to salute the courage, the patriotism, the idealism, and, above all, the self-sacrifice of Kevin Lynch. And we're also here to silence the many cynics who said that within a few years the memory of Kevin Lynch would fade into obscurity."

He asked everyone to also remember Kevin's brother-in-law, Brendan McTaggart, who died tragically two months ago.

INSPIRATION AND RESPONSIBILITY

Wreaths were then laid on the grave on behalf of the Lynch family circle, the Kevin Lynch Band, Dungiven Sinn Fein and County Derry PDF, several local branches of the GAA, hurling and other sporting clubs, and many others.

The main oration was then given by Derry Sinn Fein Councillor Mitchel McLaughlin, who chose for his theme the current revisionism and rewriting of Irish history by establishment media commentators, politicians and academics.

In a scathing attack on "those people who would put a different explanation on the truth", McLaughlin told his audience:

"Kevin has left us a sacrifice which should be an inspiration to us all for the rest of our lives but he also left us with a responsibility to stand up for the truth and to unmask those who seek to keep the Irish people ignorant about the violence of partition, and the reasons why our ten brave hunger-strikers had to lay down their lives."

Imeachtaí

SOCIAL WELFARE REFORM PICKET

Friday 7th August
Government Buildings
Upper Merrion Street
Assemble 10pm at National Gallery
DUBLIN
Organised by the
Campaign for Welfare Reform

GREATER NEW LODGE COMMEMORATION GARDEN BENEFIT

Music by Siáine
Friday 7th August
New Lodge Celtic
BELFAST
Admission by ticket only

PRISONS EXHIBITION
(photographs, writings, etc)
1pm to 5pm Saturday 8th August
Highfield Social Club
Ardoyne
BELFAST
Organised by Sinn Fein

SOCIAL

Music by The Shellighes
9pm Saturday 8th August
Royal Arms Hotel
BUNDORAN
County Donegal
Taillie £2
Organised by Sinn Fein

VOL THOMAS McELWEE COMMEMORATION

2.30pm Sunday 9th August
Assemble Ballymacombs Road
BELLACHY
County Derry

GOSS & GAUGHAN COMMEMORATION

2.30pm Sunday 9th August
Assemble: Old Adelphi Cinema
DUNDALK
County Louth

SINN FEIN & ECONOMICS EDUCATION MEETING

9pm Monday 10th August
Workmen's Hall
Fair Street
DROGHEDA
County Louth
Everyone welcome

GRAND CABERET NIGHT

Featuring Eileen & Wheels
plus guest artists
Thursday 13th August
Highfield Club
Ardoyne
BELFAST
Taillie £1

VOLUNTEER PAUL MAGORRIAN COMMEMORATION

10.30am Sunday 16th August
Aughlins Cemetery
CASTLEWELLAN
County Down

SPONSORED RUN

SPONSORSHIP MONEY pledged to Inchicore's Marie Mooney and Patricia Quinn who completed the *Evening Press* 10km run in Dublin on June 14th in aid of An Cumann Cabhrach is still outstanding. If you haven't fulfilled your pledge, please do so now. All monies can be sent via 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.

TORTHAÍ CRANNCHUR

Finlagh Sinn Fein Draw
E50: Nancy Doyle, Barry Ave, Finlagh; E20: Henry Fleming, Barry Ave, Finlagh; E10: Jackie Smithers, Cabra; E5: Ann Fleming, Finlagh; Shane MacCarthy, c/o 44 Parnell Square; John Hedges, c/o 44 Parnell Square and Carmel Gallagher, Cabra.
Ballymunn Sinn Fein
July Draw
E25: Eileen Murphy, Balcurris Road; E15: James Luddy, Shangan Green; E10: Vincent McMahon, Country Road; E5: A. Smith, Plunkett Tower and Pat & Peggy, Shangan Road.

Death of Madge McArdle

THE NATIONALIST PEOPLE of the Turf Lodge, West Belfast, lost one of the staunchest and most hardworking members of their community on Wednesday, July 29th, when Madge McArdle died following a long illness.

Madge, a mother of seven, originally came from Ballymacarr-et in East Belfast but was burnt out of her home in Frank Street by loyalists in the '69 pogroms. Like so many hundreds of other nationalist families, she settled in West Belfast and, following the introduction of internment in August '71, became so concerned about the well-being of the growing numbers of young people being arrested that she decided to join Green Cross.

No matter what the weather or her own personal inconvenience, Madge McArdle walked the streets protesting for prisoners' rights.

At the start of the H-Block blanket protest she sat at vigils clad in a blanket to highlight the conditions the prisoners had to endure. During the hunger-strikes her door was open to anyone who needed help, advice and comfort throughout that emot-



● MADGE McARDLE

ionally harrowing time. Most notably, her humour kept everyone going and inspired them to make just that little bit more effort, to give a little more time and attention to what they were doing.

Some members of her own family became involved in the war but, in spite of falling health, Madge continued to visit them and other prisoners in the jails.

Our prisoners and the nationalist community have lost a dear and valued friend in Madge McArdle, a sentiment witnessed by the large gathering who followed her Tricolour-draped coffin from the Holy Trinity Chapel to the City Cemetery on Friday morning, July 31st.

STRIP-SEARCHES COMMITTEE

In 1984, Madge was elected onto the Stop the Strip-Searches in Armagh Committee which was formed in Belfast following a public meeting in Conway Street Mill. When she spoke about strip-searching she spoke from the heart, as her own daughter, Mary, suffered strip-searches in Armagh Jail. When her health eventually prevented her from actively attending marches and meetings, Madge was always with the people in spirit.



THE LONG GREEN LINE... This painting, presented by Michael Shanley of the New York-based Committee to Protest Political Prisoner Status in Ireland, to John Doyle of the Sinn Fein Head Office staff, commemorates the sixth anniversary of the committee's picket outside the British Consulate at 845, Third Avenue, New York.

The picket, nicknamed "The Long Green Line", has been kept going since April 24th 1981 without missing a single day. The painting is a gift from the artist, John Patrick O'Brien.



REMEMBER MONCADA... The Ireland-Cuba Friendship Society commemorated the 1953 attack on the Moncada Barracks with an evening of revolutionary films. The Moncada attack, like Easter 1916, began a period of mass revolutionary struggle which ended with the coming to power of Fidel Castro in 1959.

The ICFS is organising a reasonably-priced (£550) month-long trip to Cuba for volunteer workers. Those interested should contact Cathy Power, c/o Irish National Painters' & Decorators' Trade Union, 76 Aungier Street, Dublin 2 (phone 751720 or 302019).

REMEMBERING THE PAST

Richie Goss

BY PETER O'ROURKE

RICHIE GOSS, a committed socialist republican and IRA Volunteer, the second youngest in a family of four, was born in Dundalk, County Louth, in 1915.

He was educated locally and on leaving school he began work at Rasson's shoe factory in Dundalk. In 1933, at the age of 18, he joined the North Louth Battalion of the IRA.

In March of the following year, Goss was sentenced to three months' imprisonment by the Military Tribunal for refusing to account for his movements.

In early 1938, Goss, an explosives expert, was called to Dublin by the new Chief of Staff, Sean Russell, to prepare for a bombing campaign in English cities. Shortly afterwards, he travelled to England to organise units for the IRA campaign which began in January 1939.

Goss operated in England until his arrest in Liverpool the following May for refusing to account for £20 in his possession. After serving a seven-day sentence in Walton Jail, he continued

to operate with the London unit of the IRA.

ROUND-UP

He returned to Ireland during the summer and was arrested in the round-up of republicans in September by the Fianna Fail government. Following a successful habeas corpus application by Sean MacBride, all 53 internees in Mountjoy Jail, including Goss, were released on December 1st.

He reported back to the IRA and was on the run until his eventual capture in July 1941 at the home of the Casey family in Longford following a shoot-out with Free State troops and gardai during which a Free State army lieutenant was seriously wounded.

Charged with attempted murder, Goss was brought before the Military Tribunal, found guilty and sentenced to death.



On the eve of his execution, Goss was taken in a garda car from Mountjoy to Portlaoise Jail presided by a lorry carrying his own coffin. Following his execution he was buried in the prison yard. Two years later, in September 1948, his body was released and reinterred in Dowdallshill Cemetery, Dundalk.

Aged 26, Richie Goss was executed by a firing squad on the orders of the Fianna Fail government in Portlaoise Prison on August 9th 1941, 46 years ago this week.

Sinn Féin National Finance Committee

NATIONAL DRAW

Star prize

CAR

(or Ir£5,000)

THE Sinn Féin National Draw begins on Saturday, August 29th, and takes place on each subsequent Saturday, concluding at the Ard-Fheis.

Cards are available now from 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.

Watch this space for further details.

Special £500 Draw

For all those who have paid the full £10 before August 29th, 1987

IF YOU'RE NOT
IN YOU
CAN'T
WIN

Share in
almost
£20,000
in prizes

CAMPBELL, Tony (2nd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Tony Campbell, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, who died on August 28, 1985. They were the revolutionary but never the revolution. Remembered always by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

BINGHAM, Alphonus; KANE, Eugene (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of comrades Alphonus Cunningham, Belfast Brigade, and Vol Pauline Kane, Oglagh na hEireann, who were killed on July 28, 1982. Always remembered by South Down Command, Belfast Brigade.

DOHERTY, Kieran (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Kieran Doherty, Joe McCann and Bobby Sands and their comrades who died in the H-Blocks, Long Kesh in 1981. Mass offered. Remembered always with pride and affection by Patricia, Paul and Marie Wilson, Belfast.

DOHERTY, Kieran (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Kieran Doherty, who died after 73 days on hunger-strike on August 28, 1981. RIP. We love you, we miss you, we will never forget. Remembered today and every day by his loving mother, brother Brendan and sister, Roisin and Malrao.

DOHERTY, Kieran (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear brother Kieran Doherty who died after 73 days on hunger-strike on August 28, 1981. RIP. Your memory is our greatest treasure to cherish and keep forever. Remembered always by his loving brother Terence, Geraldine and family.

DOHERTY, Kieran (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Kieran Doherty, who died on August 28 after 73 days on hunger-strike in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh, always remembered by his friends and family circle at home and abroad.

DOHERTY, Kieran (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our friend and comrade Vol Kieran Doherty, Belfast Brigade, who died on August 28, 1981. RIP. Your memory is our greatest treasure to cherish and keep forever. Remembered always by his loving brother Terence, Geraldine and family.

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ERLISH, Charles (2nd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Charles ERLISH, Derry Brigade, who was a service fighter for Ireland's freedom, always remembered by Des Bogdale, Belfast.

HEALEY, Desmond (16th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our brother Desmond Healey, who was murdered by crown forces (Parachute Regiment) on the Queen of the Gales, August 9th 1971. They say there is a reason, they say that time can heal, but neither way we feel, for passing comes and with it, a special face. A special family we can never replace.

LYNCH, Kevin (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Kevin Lynch who died on August 1st 1981. RIP. I have tears in my eyes, I have strength and peace of mind of those who never compromise. - P. H. Pearce. Always remembered by the Billy Reid Flute Band, Scotland.

McADOREY, Patrick (16th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Patrick McAdorey, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh service on An Gaeil, who died on active laochra na nGaeil on August 9th 1971. I miss you, you will never be forgotten, and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

McCARREN, Jim (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our friend and comrade Vol Jim McCarrén, who died from gunshot wounds on August 7, 1980. Mass offered. Always remembered by the former members of the Joe MacLair's Belfast.

McCARREN, Jim (7th Anniversary). In loving memory of my friend Jim McCarrén, who died from gunshot wounds on August 9th 1980, Mary, Queen of the Gaeil, pray for him. Always remembered by Pól, Marv and Studdén.

McCRUDDEN, Robert (15th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear son Vol Bobby McCrudden, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh service on August 3rd 1981. RIP. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

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MURCHU, Nóra (1ú Cúimhachlín). In ndl chluimne mo mháthair a fuair bás ar 27ú Iúil 1986. A mhíle na n-órán cráite ina dhiaidh. Nírfion, Tom, Bríghín, Magha agus Donnall.

McCRUDDEN, Bobby (15th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear son Vol Bobby McCrudden, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh service on August 3rd 1981. RIP. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

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ALL NOTICES FOR APR/NR must be in either our Dublin or Belfast offices by 5pm on Friday for inclusion in the issue of the paper for the same week. Remember. Epm Monday.



THE FLYING COLUMN

EX-GAA PRESIDENT Pat Fanning nearly took a fit a couple of weekends ago when Cardinal Tomas O Fiaich unveiled a plaque at Ardmore, County Waterford, in honour of a local GAA activist.

When O Fiaich saw the Ardmore GAA pitch he remarked that it reminded him of the Rangers GAA Club in his native Crossmaglen and, obviously alluding to the British army's forcible occupation of the Rangers' grounds, he said:

"You'll all know of the problems we've been having but hopefully it won't be long before it's resolved."

Fanning frantically dispatched one of his GAA officials to plead with the assembled hacks not to report what he saw as O Fiaich's embarrassing reference to the British presence in the Six Counties.

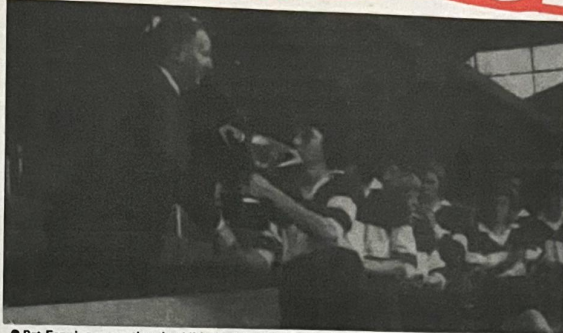
In 1981, Fanning issued a statement disassociating himself from the H-Block hunger-strikers and their struggle when a photograph of himself presenting the 1972 All-Ireland Under-16s Hurling Cup to Kevin Lynch, captain of the County Derry team, was used in a leaflet publicising Kevin's candidature as a H-Block hunger-striker for Waterford in the 26-County general election.

Kevin was to lay down his life on August 1st 1981 after 71 days on hunger-strike in Long Kesh in the cause of Irish freedom, one of the founding principles of the GAA which Mr Pat Fanning seems to have lost sight of.

THE ENGLISH COLONIAL Secretary of State for Wales, Peter Walker, has rejected an invitation to the Eisteddfod, the Welsh cultural festival held this week, in what is being seen as another snub to the people of Wales.

Walker doesn't speak Welsh, wasn't born in Wales and doesn't even represent a Welsh constituency — very much like his Six-County counterpart, Tom King.

Mr King is not expected to attend this year's Sinn Fein Slogadh.



● Pat Fanning presenting the All-Ireland Under-16s Hurling Cup to Kevin Lynch

EVIDENTLY the ongoing successes of IRA markspersons are giving the British occupation forces a bad case of the jitters.

As a nervous patrol of Royal Green Jackets was disembarking from a helicopter on Camlough Mountain, South Armagh, last Friday afternoon, July 31st, one of the gang, Corporal Richard Jedruch, ran up a slope in the ground and was struck on the head by the helicopter's rotor blades. As he slumped to the ground, his cronies scurried for cover, thinking that he had been shot. Urgent radio calls for reinforcements resulted in the Camlough Mountain area being saturated by British soldiers who sealed off roadways at the foot of the mountain while a spotter plane circled the scene for more than an hour and sniffer dogs scoured the area.

Various news media, including the *Belfast Telegraph*, reported:

"Terrorists had opened fire on the soldiers... (and) the force of the shots hurled one soldier against the rotor blades, worsening his injury."

However, when Jedruch was eventually air-lifted to Daisy Hill Hospital, Newry, the actual cause of his injuries was revealed. He died later that afternoon.

ACCORDING to an article by Stuart

Reid in the *Ballymena Times* on July 29th, Tunisia is the new holiday 'in place' for Ballymena folk.

The article had a prophetic headline which read:

"Heading for the hot-spots"!

RTE STAFF who have proved so adept in the past in reading between the lines of Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act have come up with yet another invisible stipulation of the Act.

An Israeli researcher who asked for footage of IRA Volunteers' funerals for use in a play to be staged in Haifa, Occupied Palestine, was refused the tapes on the ground that:

"Ah, well, what with Section 31 and all, supposing some of the Irish forces with UNIFIL went to the play..."

A FORMER SCOTS GUARDSMAN, John McDonald (31), was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment this week at Edinburgh Court when he admitted possessing £5,000 worth of cocaine and £120 worth of cannabis and cannabis resin. McDonald has two previous convictions for drugs possession. He was fined £3,000 on the first occasion and jailed for 12 months on the second.

His defence claimed that when McDonald was 'serving' with the Scots Guards in the Six Counties he was involved in an explosion in Derry in 1976 — he took to smoking cannabis to calm his nerves.

CHRISTINE FERRARE, former wife of cocaine-smuggling con-man John De Lorean, said last week in court that she saw her husband hiding in her mother's closet wearing surgical gloves.

Surrounded by reams of paper, De Lorean was practising other people's signatures and forging documents. Ms Ferrare told reporters after the hearing of the US bankruptcy court:

"Nothing John does surprises me."

GUESS who was banned from driving for three months and fined £50 at Armagh Magistrates' Court last week for "driving having consumed an excess amount of alcohol" (179 milligrams — to be exact)?

Answer: John Taylor.

(That's John Taylor the UDR soldier from Glennane, not the one who survived a Sticky gun attack.)

ALSO last week, another member of Ulster's Dirty Ratpack, David Boyles of Aughnacloy, received similar treatment from Clogher Court when he admitted fraudulently altering a motor insurance certificate and driving without insurance.

FIANNA FAIL Longford/Westmeath TD Henry Abbott has discovered why bovine TB still exists — over 25 years after the eradication scheme was introduced. He claims that the badger is spreading the disease.

Although the animal is listed as a protected species, Henry issued a sinister statement last week warning the wildlife authorities "not to hinder the adequate control of badger numbers in County Westmeath".

Garda Special Branch man John McCoy is now believed to be in hiding.

368 - PETER WRIGHT

This time my would-be employer came straight to the point. "We represent a group of people who are worried about the future of the country," he intoned.

He had something of the look of Angleton on a bad night about him. He said they were interested in working to prevent the return of a Labor government to power.

"It could spell the end of all the freedoms we know and cherish," he said.

The others nodded.

"And how do you suppose I can help?" I asked.

"Information," he replied. "We want information, and I am assured you have it."

"What precisely are you after?" I inquired.

"Anything on Wilson would be helpful. There are many people who would pay handsomely for material of that sort."

"But I am a serving member of the Security Service..." I began.

He waved his hand imperiously.

"Retire early. We can arrange something..."

I played along for the rest of the evening, but gave nothing away.

The following day I [redacted] and [redacted] what had happened.

I suggested that I [redacted] the group's activities as an agent, but [redacted] discretion was a better policy.

"Leave it alone, Peter," he said. "It's a dirty game, and you're well out of it."

Wilson knew little about the material which had been gathered on Wilson and the Labor Party during the 1960s, so I encouraged him to study it. Elections were in the offing, and it could become relevant again, I told him.

"It's like FLUENCY," he said when he had read the files. "there's lots of smoke, but not a lot of fire."

Nevertheless, he agreed that it was prudent to reexamine the material. Angleton, in particular, was beginning to badger us constantly about Wilson, and I told Hanley it would be politic to be seen to be doing something.

As events moved to their political climax in early 1974, with the election of the minority Labor Government, MIS was sitting on information which, if leaked, would undoubtedly have caused a political scandal of incalculable consequences. The news that the Prime Minister himself was being investigated would at the least have led to his resignation. The point was not lost on some MIS officers.

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