

AN  
**PHOBLACHT**  
Republican News

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POLITICAL WEEKLY



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## H-BLOCK MEMORIAL MARCH

3pm Saturday 29th August

Assemble at White Strand

March to Market Square

**BUNCRANA**

County Donegal

Speakers: Danny Morrison

Brendan Hughes (H-Block hunger-striker)

Martin Galvin (Noraid)

# IRA

# Let Fenn go

THE IRA has made it clear it chose not to execute Mr Nicholas Fenn, the British Ambassador in Ireland, despite being in possession of a confidential Garda document detailing his movements.

On Thursday, August 13th, RTE's *Today Tonight* programme intended carrying a detailed report about the IRA having the Garda requisition order at least two days before the Ambassador's arrival at Sneem in County Kerry.

An IRA Volunteer had been authorised to show the document to an RTE journalist prior to Fenn going on holiday. It is clear from an IRA statement issued this week that the document was released because it was not intended to use the information. It is also clear that in releasing the confidential order the IRA is also making a political point, repudiating its purported threat to the stability of the 26 Counties. The statement said:

"The Irish Republican Army

refutes the statement issued by Garda Headquarters regarding the confidential Garda requisition order.

"Firstly, we had the document in our possession prior to the British Ambassador's arrival in County Kerry on August 9th.

"Secondly, the notification of his movements — including his eventual destination and assumed date of return — was of crucial value had we chosen to strike. We wish to make it clear that we decided not to use the information for a military operation.

"Furthermore, the Dublin government knows full well the reluctance of the Irish Republican Army to engage in any activity in the 26 Counties which allows it to present the IRA in the public

perception as a threat to the state.

"Signed: P. O'Neill

"Irish Republican Publicity Bureau."

Before the *Today Tonight* programme was broadcast it was threatened with the Official Secrets Act by Gerry Collins, the 26 County Justice Minister, and this resulted in the programme being substantially amended. Collins then ordered an inquiry and after a report was prepared for last Wednesday's Cabinet meeting in Dublin, Garda Headquarters issued an incredulous statement, indicative of their sensitivity, saying they didn't believe the IRA was ever in possession of the document.

The IRA has rejected this statement but has understandably refused to give any indication of the source of the confidential document.



BRITISH AMBASSADOR NICHOLAS FENN

FIFTY YEARS AGO, de Valera's Constitution was adopted by referendum in the 26 Counties. It replaced the 1922 Constitution of the Free State and has represented the ruling ideology in the 26 Counties ever since.

At the time, republicans campaigned against the adoption of the 1937 Constitution under the banner, "This is not the Republic". They correctly pointed out that the adoption of the Constitution did absolutely nothing to alter the fact of partition and the British occupation of the Six Counties. It did nothing to advance the ideals set out in the 1916 Proclamation or the Democratic Programme of the First Dail.

De Valera's Constitution enshrined the aspirations and the values not of the mass of the dispossessed Irish people but of those in the Catholic middle class of the 26 Counties who had hijacked the struggle for freedom. It had a narrow-minded, exclusively Catholic view of the world, categorised women as second-class citizens, and gave almost unbounded rights to private property (which both the 1916 Proclamation and the Democratic Programme placed second to the common good).

During the past week, the 1937 Constitution has been the subject of debate at the Patrick McGill Summer School in Glenties, County Donegal. Various 26-County politicians and academics have given their views on how it should be changed. Some have advocated scrapping it altogether.

The new vanguard of the political right, the Progressive Democrats, have called for a new Constitution. Self-proclaimed socialists like Ruairi Quinn of the Labour Party and Pat McCartan of the Workers' Party say they want a constitution

## OPINION

# De Valera's paper tiger

making socialism possible. Others have sought the deletion of one article and the insertion of another.

But what nearly all the contributors share is their partitionist, purely 26-County view of Ireland's future. It was the Progressive Democrats who were the most forthright in this. They advocate - along with a sizable section of Fine Gael - the deletion of Articles 2 and 3 of the Constitution. This is perhaps the most significant thing to emerge from all the waffle in Donegal.

Republicans have no illusions about Articles 2 and 3. They were included in the 26-County Constitution as aspirations which represented no real challenge to partition. De Valera and Fianna Fail held them up as their piece of lip-service to Irish republicanism just as they paid lip-service to the Irish language, proclaiming it the "first official language" in the Constitution and then presiding over its spiralling decline.

But Articles 2 and 3 are important and their abolition would have more far-reaching consequences than their original adoption. Article 2 states:

*"The national territory consists of the whole island of Ireland, its islands and the territorial seas."*

This is a simple statement of fact. It says that Ireland is a nation and the Irish people (the nation) live in 32 Counties of this island. There is a strong lobby now amongst the 26-County establishment to deny this fact and to rid themselves of those embarrassing articles in the constitution which both the New Ireland Forum and the Hillsborough Agreement contradicted.

The deletion of Articles 2 and 3 is sought by the British who could represent it worldwide as a denial of the Irish people's right to self-determination. This time it would be seen as the people of the 26 Counties denying that right as their government denied it through the Hillsborough Agreement. This would be the final victory of historical and political revisionism.

Republicans would fight such a move as we would oppose any denial of our people's right to freedom.

We seek to create a situation in this country when all the Irish people can come together and frame their constitution, the constitution of a sovereign 32-County republic. We seek a secular, democratic socialist state and a constitution that guarantees the rights and liberties of all the Irish people.

The essential pre-condition for that - a British withdrawal - cannot be achieved with constitutional paper tigers or pious aspirations. The power to achieve it comes ultimately from the barrel of a gun.



# IRA attacks

TWO UDR SOLDIERS and an RUC man narrowly escaped death and a mortar attack had to be abandoned in separate incidents this week.

The first of the week's attacks occurred in Belfast early on Thursday morning, August 13th. Shortly after 8am, an RUC man spotted a booby-trap bomb attached to his car in Ardenlee Gardens, off the Ravenhill Road in East Belfast.

Surrounding houses were evacuated and traffic in the area was badly disrupted for several hours as British army technical officers attempted to defuse the device. It took several controlled explosions before the bomb was successfully defused.

Also on Thursday, an IRA Volunteer fired several shots at a British army observation post on top of Broadway Tower in the west of the city.

an IRA booby-trap bomb exploded prematurely, destroying a car belonging to a member of the UDR. The explosion took place at around 3am after IRA Volunteers had placed the device beneath the soldier's car at Riverview, Augher, in County Tyrone. In a follow-up search the area was sealed off for four hours by the RUC and British army.

Twenty-four hours later, a second member of the UDR in County Tyrone discovered a booby-trap bomb attached to his car at Moorvill, near Coagh. It took several hours for a British army technical expert to defuse the device.

### MORTAR ATTACK ABANDONED

On Wednesday, August 19th, the IRA in West Tyrone issued a statement revealing



that its Volunteers had to abandon a mortar attack. The IRA said:

*"The West Tyrone Brigade, Irish Republican Army, was forced to abandon five mortar bombs on the Lifford to Strabane Road. They are in a car with a horse-box attached to it about 200 yards from the Camel's Hump Barracks."*

Also on Wednesday, the IRA's Belfast Brigade issued a short statement:

*"Several months ago, two West Belfast men, Jim Bright from Turf Lodge and Denis Docherty from Ballymurphy, were shot by the IRA for alleged criminal activities. Following a thorough investigation of the events, Belfast Brigade accepts that both men were mistakenly punished and offers its apologies to both."*

BY HILDA McTHOMAS

BRITISH GOVERNMENT officials met the two main unionist leaders, Ian Paisley and Jim Molyneux, in Stormont last Tuesday, the third meeting this summer. Such meetings, which have been described as "talks about talks", are an attempt by the British government to bring the unionists back in from the cold and get them to talk devolution with the SDLP.

But after a year and a half of rigid opposition to the Hillsborough Treaty, the unionist leadership finds it difficult to come off its position of, "No talks while the Agreement is in place." Paisley has openly reverted to that hard-line position and made it clear that the Treaty has to be suspended and Maryfield closed before meaningful negotiations can take place with the SDLP. It appears that he is once again attempting to occupy the 'high ground' of loyalism.

Both the DUP and the OUP are divided on the way forward, with the deputy leaders of both, the chastened Peter Robinson and Harold McCusker respectively, along with Frank Millar (OUP general secretary), being the authors of the suppressed Task Force report which more or less advocates power-sharing.

In the Ulster Club magazine its chairperson, Alan Wright, was last week accusing the unionist leadership of wasting its time speaking to Margaret Thatcher's government whose "evil and wicked intention" was to "hand Ulster over to the Rome-ruled administration in Dublin".

#### MEETINGS

Rumours have abounded in the past few weeks about members of the OUP secretly meeting members of the SDLP in Germany, in the North and in the 26 Counties. These rumours were hotly denied by James Molyneux and by Austin Currie, whom it was said was at one of the meetings.

Meanwhile, another press report alleg-

# Stabilising the unionist camp



● Molyneux and Paisley. Coming in from the cold?

ed that there was an attempt to oust OUP leader James Molyneux. These stories sprung up after the controversy of the Task Force Report, which was never released in full.

The rumours, while seemingly unconnected, and which undoubtedly reflect a high degree of unease among less extreme unionists, all aim to divide the unionist bloc and weaken their position in the talks with the British government. And therein lies perhaps the most immediate explanation of Paisley's headline talking: a desperate attempt to stabilise the unionist camp.

#### MODERATE MOLYNEUX?

However, while all this is taking place

it is worth remembering that there is no noticeable difference between the messages delivered by Paisley and by the more 'moderate' OUP leader. In an interview with the unionist *News Letter* on August 10th, Molyneux said that the way to progress is through a new 'Agreement' and he expressed his preference for a return to the old Stormont and threatened a loyalist backlash if unionists were "pushed too far, too fast".

Nearly two years after the signing of the Hillsborough Treaty, a pragmatic unionist leadership has yet to emerge although many realise that the Treaty represents the gradual erosion of their economic and political power which began in 1972.

## Magilligan attack

IN THE LATEST in a series of incidents highlighting the growing tension within Magilligan Jail, a non-political prisoner had his throat slashed by loyalists. The incident took place in the yard of A-Wing, H1-Block on Tuesday, August 11th, when the prisoner was brutally set upon by loyalists who apparently believed he was an informer.

However, it was the republican prisoners in the jail who were subjected to rigorous strip-searches, curtailed movements and petty harassment. Although the Northern Ireland Office has admitted that a person received facial injuries in an attack it has denied that the prisoner required medical attention or that strip-searches were carried out.

During the strip-searches, four prison officers entered the cell of David Jones, a non-political nationalist prisoner who suffers from a chronic nervous disorder. An unsuccessful attempt was made by them to intimidate him into becoming an informer for the prison regime.

## Blockade circumvented

LOCAL PEOPLE in the Monaghan/Fermanagh border region have once again dealt with the permanent road blocks installed on cross-border roads.

The Magheraveilly crossing was blocked by the British army on July 28th. Because the blockade is a good distance inside the Fermanagh border, any attempt to physically remove the obstruction with farm machinery (as happened at Derryvallen Bridge on August 1st) would have left the vehicles open to seizure by the British army so, last week, the people constructed a new road to circumvent the blockade and traffic is once again moving freely.

## GUILDFORD FOUR

# Caution on new moves

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT announced last week that it has ordered a police inquiry into the case of the Guildford Four. But the new review for four of the innocent victims of British police frame-ups in the mid-70s has been greeted with caution and has raised renewed demands for their immediate release.

British Home Secretary Douglas Hurd ordered the police inquiry into the case of Paddy Armstrong, Gerard Conlon, Paul Hill and Carol Richardson on the basis of 'new evidence' which gives alibi for two of the four. This evidence came to light last March on the ITV programme *First Tuesday*.

The Guildford Four were convicted in 1975 of bombings in Guildford and Woolwich the previous year. The only evidence against them were contradictory, signed statements forced out of them in an atmosphere of anti-Irish hysteria demanding scapegoats for the bombings.

#### NO GUARANTEES

While the new inquiry offers

a glimmer of hope to the frame-up victims it by no means guarantees their release. The announcement has also been used to increase pressure for the implementation of the Extradition Act. The *Irish Times* ran a front-page banner headline on Saturday, August 15th proclaiming "Guildford Four move clears way on extradition" while the *Irish Press* had a similar headline on one of its inside pages.

Ruairi Quinn of the Labour Party was quick to welcome the inquiry and to say that it "eased concerns" about the Extradition Act.

The Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin issued a statement describing as "speculation" reports that the Guildford Four

developments would open the way for ratifying the Extradition Act.

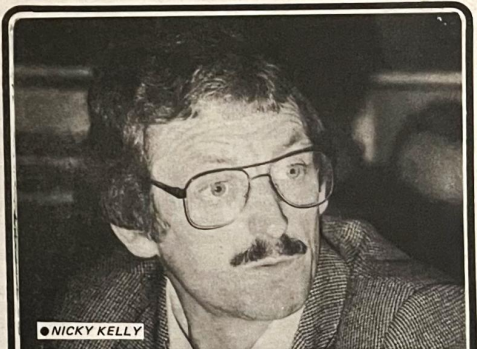
#### FIANNA FAIL TIGHT-LIPPED

Since taking office, Fianna Fail has remained tight-lipped on whether it will ratify the Act or whether it will link this with moves on the Guildford Four and Birmingham Six cases. This leaves the way open for it to go ahead regardless of any progress but also leaves it vulnerable to pressure on the issue of British 'justice' in Ireland and in particular for Irish people in Britain. Commenting on the latest developments, Sinn Fein spokesperson Danny Morrison said:

"The innocence of the Guildford Four - as proclaimed by Irish republicans since 1975 - is clear to all and they should be released immediately.

"Although the Home Office inquiry into the Guildford Four case may naturally raise people's hopes that justice will at last be done, there is a grave risk that Douglas Hurd may reject the 'new evidence' as an acquittal would undermine the British legal establishment.

"We should also not forget Judith Ward. If the SDLP and Dublin government have any influence with the British government through the Hillsborough Agreement then they should demonstrate it by calling for and gaining the immediate release of Judith Ward, another frame-up victim of the British police."



● NICKY KELLY

# Section 31 head raided

NICKY KELLY, who has been the victim of unremitting harassment by the gardai since his release from Portlaoise Prison in 1984, had his home raided by the Special Branch during the week.

Kelly, head of the Repeal Section 31 Committee, was in his flat in the North City in Dublin on Monday, August 17th, at 8.30pm when four members of the Special Branch arrived. The were led by Detective Sergeant Drew and produced a search warrant for the flat. The four gardai ransacked the rooms and rummaged through all Kelly's personal possessions and papers which they scattered around. They remained in the flat for two hours and refused to give any reason for their search.

Kelly told *APRN* that in the past week he has been stopped ten times by gardai who asked his name and address and his recent movements.

Since his release, Kelly has been stopped an average of two or three times a week:

"Their harassment has increased significantly since the Fianna Fail regime under Charles Haughey came to power. Clearly the Special Branch acts to the dictates of its political masters."

# Jobs axed by political vetting

BY EAMON TRACEY

RESIDENTS of the Twinbrook Estate on the fringe of West Belfast have reacted angrily to a decision by the North's Department of Economic Development to withdraw its Action Community Employment (ACE) funding from the Twinbrook Tenants & Community Association (TTCA) because of unsubstantiated "links with paramilitary organisations".

The TTCA, which was established in 1981, employs six people under the ACE scheme. According to the letter it received this week from the DED these jobs will "terminate" at the end of August. The letter explains that this decision was taken "in terms of the position outlined by the then Secretary of State, Douglas Hurd, in June 1985", who said that grant aid would not be given where "community groups or persons prominent in the direction of management of such groups have sufficiently close links with paramilitary organisations to give rise to the grave risk that to give help to those groups would have the effect of improving the standing or furthering the aims of a paramilitary organisation whether directly or indirectly".

The TTCA, which is the seventh organisation since November 1985 to have its funding axed, is regarded among voluntary and community groups in the North as one of the most efficient in existence. It has had ACE workers since 1982. Members of the association have played and do play an active role in umbrella groups such as the Association for Local Advice Centres, the Falls Community Council and the West Belfast Steering Committee on the Belfast Urban Area Plan.

## COMMUNITY NEEDS

In addition, the TTCA has vigorously championed the needs of the Twinbrook community, establishing an effective working relationship with statutory bodies like the Housing Executive, DHSS, DOE and the Probation Service, with whom it is running a project for young offenders.

Its advice centre has successfully dealt with thousands of problems and from its office at Jasmine Way the association has provided a wide range of services of an educational, legal and cultural nature. Earlier this year, when EEC food was being distributed, dozens of TTCA members daily delivered milk,

cheese, butter and meat to every dwelling in the estate.

Dave Simpson (project co-ordinator of the association) totally refuted the DED allegations.

"The real issue here is the ability of the DED to use this catch-all clause to stop grant aid without producing a single shred of evidence."

Lily Campbell (chairperson of the association) referring to Hurd's remarks and the refusal of the DED to present any evidence, said the department's behaviour "smacked of McCarthyism".

The association has launched a campaign to oppose the decision. According to Simpson:

"We intend to continue as a very active tenants' association in this area and will start a high-powered lobbying campaign to win back our funding."

## ACE

Action for Community Employment is one of several temporary employment schemes introduced by the British government to artificially keep down the levels of unemployment. In 1986, over 5,000 people were employed under ACE at a cost of £18 million, of which about 50% came from the European Social Fund. In 1987, the ACE budget was increased to £24.24 million.

Funding for ACE is usually given to groups who provide services for the elderly, disabled and children or people who can argue that their project is one of community benefit. Normally posts are for a one-year period.

Five months after Hurd's comments in June 1985, the first ACE scheme to be hit, a creche in Conway Mill in West Belfast, lost its funding. Earlier this year in February the Mac Airt Community Centre and naiscoil in Belfast's Short Strand lost their six ACE-sponsored jobs.

Condemning the Twinbrook decision and calling for support for the association, local Sinn Féin Councillor Damien Gibney hit out at the political vetting of community groups.

"It is clear from the fact that in almost all of the cases so far the DED had only just approved further grant aid, that the decision to axe comes from outside the department. Furthermore, the British Secretary of State has to give his approval.

"It is totally unacceptable that voluntary groups providing a much-needed community service should have funds withdrawn on the basis of anonymous allegations and have no right to appeal or even be told what the allegations are."

killed by a plastic bullet, addressed the crowd. Other speakers included a representative of Queen's University Students' Union, Fr Des Wilson and Brenda Downes, widow of John Downes who was killed by a plastic bullet in August 1984.

The picket was held to commemorate his death and is one of three similar pickets held by the UCAPB each year outside Springfield Road and Woodbourne Barracks to coincide with the anniversaries of Nora McCabe, Carol-Ann Kelly and Julia Livingstone. Sixteen symbolic crosses bearing the names of the number of people killed by the weapon were carried at the picket.

UCAPB committee member Emma Groves who was blinded by a rubber bullet, told AP/RN:

"The three pickets are symbolic to remind the public how these people were killed and that plastic bullets are part of British oppression in the Six Counties. We must keep it in people's minds that they are still being used."

# Youth

# hospitalised

BY EAMON TRACEY

A 19-YEAR-OLD BELFAST MAN came close to death last weekend following a vicious attack by three known members of the Workers' Party.

The incident happened shortly after 8pm on Sunday night when Joseph Henry, from Stewart Street was walking into town with several friends after buying a carry-out at an off-licence in Cromac Street.

Three members of the Workers' Party approached the group of youths. One of them appeared to have a gun in a back pocket and ordered Henry to turn round and "get up against those railings". His friends were told to go away. Without warning or explanation, the three began to kick and punch Henry.

After several minutes of continuous beating, Henry's

attackers picked up the four cider bottles he had been carrying and began hitting him about the head until the bottles smashed leaving him unconscious.

Later, in hospital, he was told that an artery had been severed in the side of his head and he had lost about three pints of blood. He needed 10 stitches inside the wound, another seven on the outside and was also treated for severe bruising, a badly swollen arm and chipped bones in his left leg.

Workers' Party spokesperson Seamus Lynch, when contacted on Monday by Henry's mother, attempted

to blame republicans but then agreed to investigate the incident. The family has still received no reply.

## WP/UDA FRAUD

Another aspect of Workers' Party activities has been highlighted by revelations that, following secret meetings between members of the military wing of the Workers' Party and the loyalist UDA, both groups stand to make millions from building frauds during the development of the £500 million Belfast Urban Area Plan.

Commenting on this collusion, which has become common knowledge for some time, Belfast Sinn Féin Press Officer Gerard Hodgson said:

"What is significant is that the media has for long last decided to expose these unscrupulous racketeers. One wonders now if at future press conferences Workers' Party representatives will be subjected to a barrage of incisive questioning about their illegal activities. Given the fact that loyalist paramilitary death squads are shooting innocent nationalists, how will the Workers' Party explain this collaboration to the beleaguered nationalist people?"

sectarian trouble in the past.

## MURDERED

Several people have received beatings by masked gangs of loyalists and in 1976 a local woman, Dorothy Trainor, was murdered and her husband seriously wounded in the park by the UVF as they returned home from a social club.

It is thought by people who were in the area at the time that the man has connections with the crown forces and it is known that the gun he used is legally held.

Craigavon Sinn Féin Councillor Brian McCann said:

"In the wake of Saturday's shooting and in view of the campaign of assassination being carried out by loyalists in the Belfast area, I urge nationalists to be on their guard at all times against further sectarian attacks."

A GROUP of nationalist youths had a narrow escape on Saturday, August 15th, when a man opened fire on them in a public park in Portadown, County Armagh.

At around 10.45pm, two men and a woman were seen walking toward a group of youths. Suddenly, one of the men pulled out a handgun and aimed it at the group. An eyewitness told AP/RN:

"He shouted that he was going to pull the trigger and the next thing he fired five shots at the young fellows.

They were very, very lucky none of them got hit. After that he ran off toward King Street."

The park is bordered on one side by the nationalist Obins Street area and by the loyalist King Street on the other. It is well-known in the area that the park is mainly used by nationalists and it has been the scene of

# Plastic bullet demo

IN POURING RAIN on Wednesday night, August 12th, 40 people attended a one-hour picket in West Belfast to highlight the continued use of this lethal weapon in the Six Counties. The RUC positioned eight Land Rovers close to the pickets and several RUC men strutted past the group, brandishing plastic bullet guns.

Jim McCabe of the United Campaign Against Plastic Bullets (UCAPB), whose wife was



Victims of RUC harassment in Derry (left to right) William McGaughey, Fergal McLaughlin, Christine McLaughlin, Paddy Deary and Peter McDonald



# ORANGE MARCH UNWELCOME

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

**NATIONALISTS in a Dungannon housing estate in County Tyrone are angry at accusations by the SDLP's Austin Currie that the sole purpose behind the organisation of a petition to reroute a forthcoming loyalist march is to embarrass 26-County Foreign Affairs Minister Brian Lenihan.**

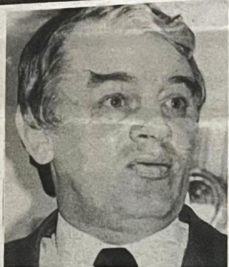
Ballygawley Road Tenants' Association spokesperson Matt Murphy refuted Currie's remarks last week that Sinn Fein was behind the move to put Lenihan on the spot. He told AP/RN that the association was non-political and it had undertaken the petition, demanding the Royal Black Preceptory march on August 29th be redirected away from the majority nationalist area because "it and other loyalist marches had caused nothing but trouble in the past".

He also contradicted claims by Official Unionist Ken Maginnes that no incidents had taken place by pointing to last year's Twelfth of July march

when nationalists watching the parade behind a huge RUC cordon were bated charged. A press photographer, Diarmuid Scullion, and local people Eugene Fallon, Camillus Ross and a mother-of-four were savagely beaten and kicked by the RUC while Orangemen, who shouted sectarian abuse, marched past the estate unhindered.

## NATIONALISTS DISRUPTED

Matt Murphy continued: "At every loyalist march the people of this area and the whole nationalist West Ward of Dungannon is disrupted to accommodate these marches. That incl-



● AUSTIN CURRIE

udes nationalists in Fairmount Park, Springdale and the Lisnahull Estate.

"From 8am the whole place is sealed off and no-one is free to move inside the estate without being stopped and searched, particularly the youth. We can't even get to the shops across the road. I'm 25 years here and there's not a loyalist march that didn't cause trouble, so we decided

to take up a petition and out of the 210 houses only two didn't sign. We wanted the intervention of any concerned group or body who could get these marches to be re-directed so we gave a copy to the RUC and sent one to Brian Lenihan. After all, we're being led to believe he could do something about it at the Inter-Governmental Conference. Austin Currie should have given us his full support instead of trying to undermine us."

It is widely known that the Killyman Orange Lodge has purchased over 50 acres of land at Dungannon Park, ideally located between the town and the loyalist Moygashel area which would accommodate the Orange parades and bypass nationalist areas. As Ballygawley Park tenant Marie Doudie put it: "The parade shouldn't come this way at all. Do we go into their areas? No."

## TENSION RISING

Tension is rising among nationalists in the estate as the Black Preceptory march draws closer. It is a feeling shared by elderly residents at Fairmount Park whose bungalows are right in the front line, facing the main road where the march will pass. Last year, during the Twelfth parade, stones were thrown at their houses and several nationalists were roughed up by the RUC.

Lizzie Bradley (66) lives here and takes care of 75-year-old Ellen Quinn, who has a history of mental illness and requires full-time attention. According to Lizzie, the prospect of the Black march makes her want to "lock up and get away for the day but then I'd be afraid my windows would be broken.

"Ellen got very excited last year. My heart isn't too good and Ellen's my responsibility. It's just hanging over us all living here. In all fairness, our people wouldn't do it to them. They should keep to themselves."

Local Sinn Fein Councillor Anita Cavan criticised Currie's remarks stating:

"Why should a petition initiated by the frightened residents of Ballygawley be viewed by him as an attempt to embarrass Brian Lenihan? If the London-Dublin Agreement had any teeth, as we are all supposed to believe, then surely it should have enough influence to redirect a clearly provocative Orange parade?"



## RUC coercion fails

BY MOIRA CONNOLLY

**A 19-YEAR-OLD West Belfast man, Patrick McVarnock, was assaulted and pressured to inform by the RUC after being dragged from a Chinese takeaway restaurant on Friday, August 14th.**

McVarnock was in the crowded restaurant at around midnight when the RUC entered the premises and singled him out. When he asked the RUC why he was being harassed he was hit in the face and struck on the head with a baton. He received a badly swollen eye and bruising to his head.

The RUC threatened to take McVarnock to the North Howard Street Barracks and give him a severe beating but when they learned his name he was told: "We're taking you to Grosvenor Road barracks as a whole lot of our mates want to you."

## THREATENED

On arrival at Grosvenor Road, McVarnock was sworn at and threatened that he would be charged with disorderly behaviour. An RUC man then told him that no charges would be brought if he agreed to "keep an eye on any activity within Divis Flats". He was told to telephone Grosvenor Road RUC and ask for "Adam McAdams" as soon as he learned anything. McVarnock refused to inform.

Despite further attempts to coerce him into informing by threatening to charge him with various offences, McVarnock continued with his refusal to inform. He was released without charge after being detained an hour.

# RUC ONSLAUGHT IN DERRY

**NATIONALIST FAMILIES in Derry's Bogside, Creggan, Shantallow and Gbnascale estates are counting the cost of a two-week concerted campaign of victimisation by the RUC during which over 50 homes were raided and 19 people arrested under seven-day detention orders. A sinister aspect of the intimidatory exercise was the arrest and interrogation of several wives and girlfriends in a deliberate attempt to maximise the amount of psychological pressure exerted on them by their crown forces interrogators.**

In the early hours of Friday, August 7th, Paddy Deery, Peter McDonald, William McGaughey and Fergal and Christine Melaugh were arrested by the RUC after raiding parties had ransacked their homes, leaving a trail of malicious damage. All five were immediately taken to Castlereagh Interrogation Centre in Belfast where they were subjected to prolonged periods of intensive interrogation, each lasting three to four hours, three times daily.

Each of the five were threatened,

assaulted and systematically abused to varying degrees by their RUC interrogators.

## PUNCHED

Paddy Deery, of the Glenowen Estate, Derry, who lost an eye in 1972 after a direct hit by a rubber bullet, was slapped and punched about the head and face and repeatedly pulled up and down from his chair by RUC men who grabbed him by his moustache, causing him considerable pain. Throughout his inter-

rogation, Deery was probed and prodded by the RUC on his "blind side" while simultaneously making threats on his life. Deery's requests to be examined by a doctor were refused until his third day of interrogation.

Peter McDonald, of Lesfair Park, was similarly slapped and violently punched across the back and pulled off his seat by his moustache. Each time that he made a complaint about his ill-treatment McDonald was set upon with increased ferocity and warned not to make another complaint.

William McGaughey, of Rathlin Drive, was kicked and punched in the groin and told that he and his family would be the target of crown force death squads.

## 'DEAD WITHIN A YEAR'

Fergal and Christine Melaugh, of

Rathmore Drive, Creggan, who have three young children under ten, are the fourth Derry couple to undergo simultaneous interrogation by the RUC in Castlereagh in the last fortnight.

In order to terrify and unnerve them, the Melaughs were separately told that the other had signed incriminating statements. When this ploy failed, their interrogators resorted to an onslaught of threats and brutality during which Christine Melaugh was pulled up by the chin and slapped across the face while her husband was told he would be "dead inside a year or doing life".

Condemning this latest RUC tactic, Derry Sinn Fein Councillor Hugh Brady said:

"There is ample evidence that the RUC has now embarked on a strategy of arresting the wives and girlfriends of people whom they wish to interr-



● HUGH BRADY

ogate. This is a deeply disturbing and cynical development and is solely designed to put extra psychological pressure on people who are in RUC custody. Coupled with the physical ill-treatment that has again become part of the interrogation process, this latest move is calculated to extract false statements under duress from prisoners who are naturally anxious about their partner's well-being."

# CPAD victorious

BY BRENDAN KERR

**LESS THAN 24 HOURS** after a round-the-clock vigil had been put on the home of a Dublin drug pusher this week because his family had broken an undertaking that he would not be made welcome by them in the area, the family moved out.

Victor Casserli Snr had been barred from Ballyfermot following two public meetings, each attended by more than 400 people who, at the second meeting, heard Patrick Casserli agree on behalf of his family to honour the CPAD barring order on his father and another brother, Peter (see AP/RN, July 23rd and 30th).

On Wednesday, August 12th, Victor Casserli Snr was spotted by local CPAD and Sinn Féin activist Noel Kavanagh going into his daughter's house on Muskerry Road, Ballyfermot. Kavanagh then phoned Jimmy Delaney, chairperson of Ballyfermot CPAD and the local Sinn Féin constituency representative to witness the incident.

When Patrick Casserli came out of the house he was told that his father had been seen. Patrick replied that he had to be there because a garda inspector wanted to serve a summons on him. Patrick then told the CPADers that his family was "being pushed too far" and he threatened to use a shotgun.

## DENIED AND LIED

This sequence of events was denied

by Patrick Casserli at a third public meeting in the De La Salle School on Sunday, August 16th, but he condemned himself and his family out of his own mouth.

After repeatedly calling both Noel Kavanagh and Jimmy Delaney liars from the body of the hall, Patrick Casserli was invited to step up to the microphone to give his version of what happened. He accepted... and that was his big mistake.

After he and his sister's husband denied that Victor Snr had been in the house he was challenged by one angry mother as to why his father couldn't have gone to the garda barracks to receive the summons. He blurted out: "Because you can't serve a writ in a police station."

The audience erupted in laughter and, as he realised his gaffe, vainly tried to retrieve the situation by claiming: "But I'm not saying my father was in the house."

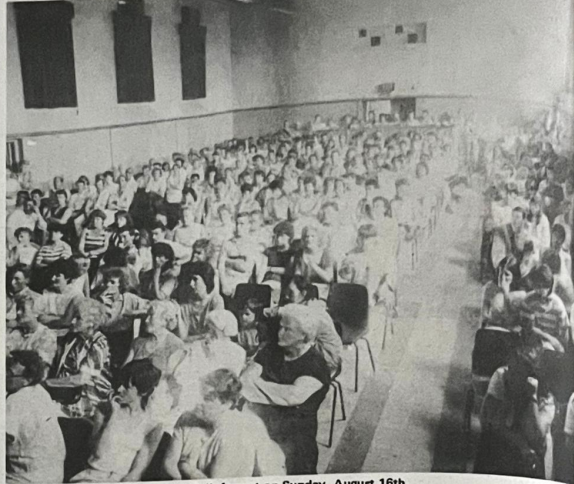
It was too late. The damage was done and all that remained was for the vigil (overwhelmingly endorsed by the huge crowds of Concerned Parents) to be mounted on the main Casserli home in Ramillies Road.

Twenty-four hours later, the Casserlis had gone.

## ASSOCIATE LEAVES

Fergal Colley, an addict/pusher who claimed that he had reformed, has also left Ballyfermot after being exposed for continuing to associate with Victor Casserli Snr.

Jimmy Delaney told AP/RN: "People were certainly afraid of the Casserlis and their hangers-on but they



● A packed CPAD meeting in Ballyfermot on Sunday, August 16th

showed tremendous courage and overcame their fear for the sake of their kids. They also recognised that we've been threatened before and, 3½ years later, we're still here and we're not alone — 32 Dublin areas stand united against the drugs menace."

## PUSHER MOVES IN — AND OUT AGAIN

At a CPAD meeting held in Blakestown Resource Centre on Thursday, August 13th, 300 people voted to remove a newly-housed drug pusher from the area.

The meeting, chaired by Frank Burke, was told by delegates from the CPAD in Finglas that Dinah Boyd and Christy Morrison had been pushing drugs in the Glenties area of Finglas and had been evicted by the local group in early July. Both Boyd and Morrison had admitted

to dealing in drugs at a public meeting in Finglas. Since then, Boyd had been reallocated a home at 24 Whitestown Drive in Blanchardstown.

The public meeting held at Blakestown Road elected a committee of seven and decided to remove Boyd within two hours. The CPAD activists then marched the short distance to Boyd's house and gave her two hours to move. At 10.30pm, Boyd left the house with the assembled CPAD group still present.

CPAD Central Committee Joint PRG Tony O'Flaherty questioned the policy of Dublin Corporation in allocating a home to a known and admitted drug pusher and said:

"There is no excuse for Dublin Corporation's action in rehousing Boyd as it had been notified of Boyd's eviction from Finglas by the Finglas CPAD activists."

# SCRIVOS ALT 31

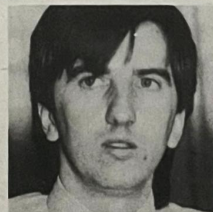
AG CAINT ag díospóireacht ar Alt 31 i nGaeltacht Thír Chonaill ag deireadh na seachtaine dúirt úrblabhráí cultúrtha Shinn Féin Máirtín Ó Muilleoir gur cóir d'iriseoirí RTE gan na fo-thoghcháin do Bhardas Bhéal Feirste a chuidach mura mbeadh cead acu labhairt le gach iarrthóir.

D'fhógair Ó Muilleoir, atá ina bhall den NUJ agus a bheas ina iarrthóir i gceantar Bharr na bhFál sna fo-thoghcháin, gur scríobh se chuig brainsí an NUJ i RTE agus i Raidió Gaeltacha ag iarraidh orthu dúshlán Alt 31 a thabhairt. Ar seisean: "Tá rialtas Bhaile Átha Cliath le 15 bliana freagrach as Alt 31 a thabhairt isteach ach is iad na h'iriseoirí a chuireann an aocht i

bhfeidhm ag a chaitheas seasamh a ghlacadh ina aghaidh."

Ag ghlacadh páirt sa díospóireacht chéanna, a d'agraigh Coiste Féile Ghaoth Dobhair, bhí Pádraig Ó Ceallaigh (Fianna Fáil neamhspleach) Séamus Rodgers (Páirtí na nOibrithe), Dinny McGinley TD (Fine Gael), Séamus McBrearty (Fianna Fáil) agus an tAthair Des Wilson.

Ina óráid d'fhiafraigh Wilson



● MÁIRTÍN Ó MUILLEOIR

d'iriseoirí RTE an raibh siad sasta "Alt 31 a scríos". Ar seisean:

"Dá mbeadh deichniúir iriseoir

in RTE a bheadh sasta seasamh suas agus a rá, 'Ní oibreoidh muid Alt 31' bheadh deireadh leis gan mhoill."

"Ar ndóigh tá crógacht a dhíth chuige sin agus tá baol ann go mbeidh na húdaráis anuas ar na h'iriseoirí sin ach má tá dóchas againn do thodhaí na hÉireann calthfimid dóchas a bheith againn go bhfuil taobh istigh de RTE daoine a sheasfas in aghaidh an oile seo."

"Ná creidtear gur ar mhaith leis an phobal atá Alt 31 i bhfeidhm níl ann ach nach mian leis an rialtas go gcluineadh sibh an fhírinne mar tháitear an fhírinne do dailchad faoin chéad do naislúntóirí an tuaiscirt."

Labhair Pádraig Ó Ceallaigh agus Séamus Rodgers amach go

tréan in aghaidh an ailt chomh maith ach bhí a mhalairt de scéal ag teachta Fhine Gael, Dinny McGinley agus ag Seamus McBrearty.

Dúirt McBrearty go raibh barúil aige go nathródh rialtas Fhianna Fail miondálalt Alt 31 le go mbeadh cead ag "ionadaithe tofa Shinn Féin dul ar teilifís nó ar raidió agus barúil a nochtdadh fá rudaí a bhaineann lena gceantar féin". Níor mhol sé go ndéanfaí ar shíú go hiomlán le Alt 31, ach dúirt gur cóir an aocht a leathnú le gobán a chur ar lan Paisley chomh maith.

Rinne úrblabhráí Fhine Gael, Dinny McGinley, cosamh láidir ar Alt 31 agus dúirt "nár bh chinsireacht pholaitiúil a bhí ann ach cinsireacht stáit".



● Children demanding an adequate health service at Temple Street Hospital

# MORE HOSPITALS CRIPPLED

ONE OF Ireland's most important hospitals and one of the busiest children's hospitals in Europe has been crippled by the Fianna Fail health cuts.

Staff at Temple Street Children's Hospital in Dublin heard the shock announcement on Friday, August 14th, that 63 of them were being laid off. The hospital which had 239 beds in

June 1985 will be left with 80 beds and will only be able to deal with emergency cases. Its role as an important research and training hospital is being ended.

The Temple Street lay-offs pro-

oked immediate protests by the staff and people in the Inner North City whose children use the services of the hospital. Over 200 people attended a protest outside the hospital on Friday afternoon, most of them local women and their families incensed at the cutbacks. There was a group of people from the nearby Harkwicke Street flats and the protest was supported by local Sinn Féin Councillor Christy Burke, who said in a message to the protesters:

"Sinn Féin fully supports the workers' picket on Temple Street Children's Hospital."

"Temple Street is one of the busiest children's hospitals in Europe and the staff are extremely over-retched as it is. With 60 staff already let go and a further reduction in beds from 120 to 80, the Department of Health is putting the lives of children seriously at risk."

"Sinn Féin calls on the Minister for Health to reverse his decision or accept full responsibility for the loss of life that will inevitably be the result of his action."

## AGREEMENT BREACHED

A number of those laid off were

full-time staff, including one consultant. This action was directly in breach of the agreement between the Dublin government and the Alliance of Health Service Unions which laid down that only part-time or temporary staff were to be let go. In addition to the lay-offs, every member of staff in Temple Street will have to take a month off without pay between September and December.

Staff on the picket on Friday told AP/RN that they could see the same fate for Temple Street as that announced for two other Dublin hospitals last week — Dr. Steven's and the Eye & Ear. Both are to close down permanently, two more to be left after the Fianna Fail demolition of the health services.

## SOUTHERN HEALTH BOARD CUTS

And the demolition continued apace this week with the revelation that four hospitals in the Southern Health Board region are to close.

District hospitals at Schull, Durnanway and Millstreet, County Cork, and Edanbur in County Kerry are to close altogether while other hospitals in the area face drastic cuts in services.

# UNEMPLOYMENT

BY TOM O'DWYER

DESPITE THE EFFORTS of the governments in both parts of Ireland to camouflage the fact, unemployment is continuing its relentless rise and alongside it is a growing emigration total.

Last month, a further 2,377 people became jobless statistics in the Six Counties while the Dublin government's figures went up by 1,600, leaving an official unemployment figure of 376,000 for the whole of Ireland. The real total is probably more than half a million.

Dublin government Manpower and Jobsearch schemes have cut the figures by 12,000 by using the carrot and stick. Nearly one third of the unemployed are being interviewed under Jobsearch. The stated objective of these interviews is to help people to get jobs and 100,000 have been put on Manpower schemes at wages of £60 per week. But interviewers have lulled social welfare recipients into making statements which disqualify them from getting their benefits. A common trick is to ask unemployed people if they've been looking for jobs the previous day. An answer such as, "No, there just aren't any," will mean the benefit is cut off.

Such methods of disguising unemployment haven't replaced emigration. One economist recently said that changing unemployment figures "have more to do with fluctuations in the emigration rate than with changes in the numbers at work". Officially 26-County emigration statistics (which probably underestimate the total) have grown 28 times over five years from 1,000 in 1981-2 to 28,000 in 1985-6. This means a total of 100,000 emigrants over the period and suggests, that the real unemployment for the 26 Counties is over 350,000 rather than the 248,000 to which the Dublin government pleads guilty.

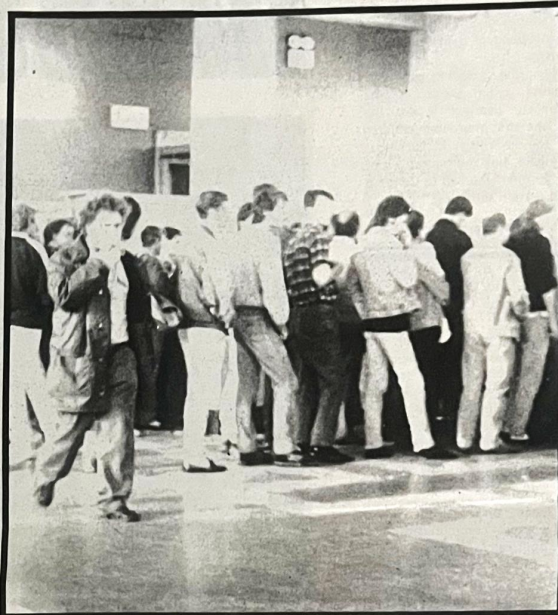
Six-County figures issued on August 13th don't give an account of emigration (just as they fail to account for discrimination). But if (as is very likely) a similar proportion of people have emigrated from the North, the official figure of 128,000 should read 178,000.

Towns and cities throughout Ireland have suffered their own redundancy crises recently, as the following list shows:

- Cork: 200 jobs are to go at the city's North Infirmary Hospital in a move which has the support of the Fianna Fail Lord Mayor.

- Wexford: A number of workers at the Wallace factory in the town have

## (C) RISES



been put on protective notice. The 30-strong workforce of the clothing factory has been warned of redundancies.

- Sligo: The town corporation is threatening to lay off 12 lower-paid staff.

- Swords: Floating Point Systems, the American-owned County Dublin computer firm, has closed. Until recently it employed 150 people.

- Longford: County Council employees fear for their jobs as the councillors debate cuts of £500,000 in the budget. The county manager has suggested lay-offs as a means of saving money.

- Bray: Muffin's Bakery in the County Wicklow town has closed with 20 redundancies. Unemployment in Bray is now growing at three times the rate for the 26 Counties.

- Drogheda: Irish Cement is seeking up to 50 redundancies at the Platin

works. Until three years ago, the plant employed 460 but now the figure is 250.

- Newry: Unemployment in the town and the surrounding area in County Down is now 30%. Half of the unemployed are under 25 years and 52% have been unemployed for over a year. As with the vast majority of unemployment disaster areas in the Six Counties, this is a nationalist area.

- Dublin: The ESB is planning between 400 and 500 redundancies at its Dublin headquarters. This will mean a cut of one third in the number of staff there. Nearly 100 workers at Tonge & Taggart, the East Wall foundry, have been laid off. Their union, the National Engineering & Electrical Trade Union fears that the plant may not reopen. The firm is owned by Smurfits, the Irish-based multinational which has refused

to invest in new plant and machinery, leaving Tonge & Taggart unable to compete.

### BUS MISINFORMATION

One hundred and twenty bus maintenance workers were laid off at depots in Cork, Limerick, Galway and Waterford on August 19th and 20th as the Bus Eireann strike continued to bite this week. The dispute caused by management attempts to force the introduction of one-person operation has closed garages in the four cities for 11 days, cutting CIE services in the South and West.

Bus Eireann, which runs CIE's provincial bus services, suspended drivers who refused to work new one-person shifts. The drivers demand terms for the change-over which are similar to those given some years ago to Dublin drivers. All Dublin one-person drivers got a 33% pay increase to cover the increased responsibility but CIE is refusing to extend this increase to all provincial drivers.

The unions have called on management to return to the Dublin Labour Court for discussions and have condemned Bus Eireann's "campaign of misinformation" designed to present bus drivers as extremely highly paid. Bus drivers' real earnings are little more than the average industrial wage.

### CRAZY LAY-OFFS

Dublin Corporation has its very own way of responding to protests. On Friday, August 14th, 100 of its skilled workers took half a days leave to protest against lay-offs but when they returned to work they were locked out. Although the lock-out decision was quickly overruled, it demonstrated the increasingly hard-line management tactics of the Corporation.

Friday's demonstration concerned the lay-offs of skilled staff who had just finished their apprenticeships. The Corp's new strategy (which runs counter to a union/management agreement) is to dismiss such workers and to take on no new staff in an attempt to cut £10.4 million from the budget. The workers have already accepted an overtime ban and the lay-offs mean that housing maintenance, which is already very poor, will further deteriorate. "This crazy policy means the Corp is hitting the lowest paid," said John Montgomery, secretary of the craft group of unions: "These young workers were virtually promised a job for life. Is it really cheaper to have them on the dole and give their jobs to private companies who make large profits?"

Much of the work done by the corporation has been privatised in the last year.

## ANCO WAGES AXED

THOUSANDS of young people on training schemes are the latest victims of the vicious Fianna Fail cuts which have now extended to slashing pay for up to 15,000 AnCO trainees.

There was no formal announcement of the cutbacks last week with Labour Minister Bertie Ahern hoping to sneak them through with as little publicity as possible during the holiday season. But the £10 reductions in weekly payments for AnCO trainees were confirmed by the 26-County training authority on Friday.

August 14th. People under 17 will have their allowances cut from £30.35 to £20 and those over 17 from £32 to £25.

The Union of Students in Ireland described the changes in the AnCO scheme as "another disgusting example of Fianna Fail's attitude to young people. They seem determined to drive us

out of the country."

The AnCO pay reductions are all the more callous and penny-pinching given the fact that most of the funding for the scheme comes from the EEC and from the Youth Employment Levy on all PAYE workers. EEC funding has not been reduced nor has the Youth Employment Levy, so that cut is just an easy way for the Dublin government to reduce its bill (the smallest of the three) for

the scheme.

The final report of the Youth Employment Agency was published last week. (The YEA is being abolished and will become part of yet another employment agency, FAS).

The report shows that there are now a staggering 23,000 young people unemployed for over a year in the 26 Counties. Five thousand left school this year without any qualifications.

The response of successive Dublin governments to youth unemployment have been job training schemes with no jobs at the end of them and primarily designed to keep down the unemployment figures.

Commenting on the AnCO

cutbacks, Pamela Ni Chathain, of Sinn Fein's Youth Department said:

The announcement by the government of cuts in training allowances points to the fact that young people in AnCO are vulnerable. Because many of the young people on these courses have no union to turn to they are unable to fight back. They are an easy target for an axe-wielding Fianna Fail government.

"Youth training schemes are used by the government for their own purposes: keep the numbers on the unemployment register down or to pay young people a pittance so that they are forced to take the other option - emigration.

The Contragate scandal has been haunting the United States since 'Ollie' North and 'Bud' McFarlane were caught sneaking into Iran with a cake, a bible, and fake Irish passports late last year. With the congressional hearings on Contragate over Z. Hammett examines Ronald Reagan's latest scandal and its consequences.

FOR SOME TIME, untrue rumours have been going around that Clint Eastwood is the son of Stan Laurel. If the number one tough guy on the US silver screen can be Stan's son, it should come as no surprise that their number one real-life tough guy is called Ollie.

The Contragate scandal in the US climaxed recently with Ollie North's testimony before a congressional committee. North's testimony revealed that the Contragate scandal of the 1980s is a far different animal than the Watergate scandal of the 1970s.

The middle-aged among us will remember that Watergate was the name given to a scandal which brought down 'Tricky Dickie' Nixon's presidency in 1975. It was named after the building which housed the national headquarters of the Democratic Party in the US. Nixon's aides burgled Watergate during the 1974 presidential campaign.

Contragate, on the other hand, began over slightly more important matters - the sale of advanced weapons to the Iranians and the transfer of proceeds from that sale to the reactionary Nicaraguan contras.

### ONE THING IN COMMON

Both scandals have one important thing in common. They are *not* scandals because of mass murder committed by US presidents, although mass murder was committed in both cases (and continues in the Contragate case). They are 'scandals' because the respective presidents snubbed their noses at the US Congress. They are scandals about points of law, rather than real injustices or damages. They are minor power struggles between the executive and legislative branches of US government.

In both scandals, there have been joint congressional hearings to determine whether wrongdoing was done, and who did the doing. One of the most potent episodes in the Watergate drama came during these joint congressional hearings, when Congressman Drinan from Massachusetts attempted to add to the list of charges on which Nixon was to be tried. Until Drinan spoke, Nixon was being investigated about various technical points of law regarding his part in covering up the break in at Watergate from congress and its investigations.

But Drinan, a Jesuit who was later driven from Congress by the papal edict against priests holding office, argued that Nixon should be held accountable for *real* crimes. These included approval of the bombing of Kampuchea and mining of Vietnamese harbours. Drinan was defeated in his efforts.

Likewise, the Contragate hearings were carefully steered towards technical points - the failure to inform the Congress about the sale of weapons to Iran, and the channelling of funds to the contras against congressional orders. Reagan's administration is not being held accountable for its *real* crimes, such as mining Nicaragua's harbours and funding the contra campaign of mass

murder of women, children, and men. Rather, the Congress and the press concentrate on *inefficiency* among Reagan's advisors, who supposedly failed to keep him informed of their murderous activities.

Thus, the 'smoking gun' that everyone talks about in the Contragate hearings is not the *real* one that murdered children in a remote village in Nicaragua or Angola, but the figurative one held by men who lied to Congress about certain activities.

### DIFFERENCES

A major difference between Watergate and Contragate is the attitude of the Congress and the press towards the lawbreakers. Nixon was an obnoxious and widely disliked person, who created both political and personal enemies throughout Congress and the press. His landslide victory in the presidential elections of 1974 was due to redbaiting of the Democratic candidate, George McGovern, rather than to Nixon's personality.

Reagan, on the other hand, is the great communicator. He was politically unpopular early in his presidency because of his disastrous economic policies. But he remained personally popular with large sections of the US public. His personal popularity was extended when he invaded a tiny island called Grenada and resuscitated Uncle Sam's position as a strong and determined world military power. Many people believe he absolved them of their weakness and guilt following the Vietnamese victory of the 1970s.

He has also been a very devious president, who has succeeded in spitting the US between haves and have-nots, whites and non-whites.

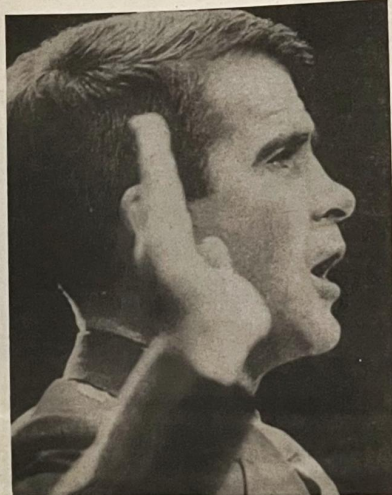
Because of Reagan's personal popularity with the white masses, the press and Congress have been terrified of him ever since he took office. They failed to question him about Grenada, the bombing of Libya, his failure to oppose apartheid, or his murderous activities in Nicaragua, El Salvador and Angola.

### NO WOODWARDS OR BERNSTEINS

The fear of Reagan has carried over into Contragate. There have been no Woodward or Bernsteins (the *Washington Post* reporters who independently uncovered many details of Watergate). Rather, the investigation of Contragate has been left to official investigators.

First, there was Edwin Meese, Reagan's own Attorney General and chum of many years. Meese was told to investigate the scandal when it first arose, and still looked like a tempest in a teapot. His job was to make sure that it stayed in the teapot.

# That's another mess you've made



● Colonel 'Ollie' North - flag, country, mom and apple pie

Meese carried out his investigation in a strange way. He phoned the central suspects - national security advisor Bud McFarlane, Admiral Poindexter, Ollie North, and CIA director William Casey - and said to them "I'm sending an investigator around tomorrow to find out what's going on."

While Meese and his lawyers slept, McFarlane and North and Casey shredded crucial documents and made up cover stories and supporting documents.

### SHREDDER

It was only by accident that Meese's investigators stumbled across the most important document in the scandal. This was a memo that Ollie North and his shredder missed, which told of the diversion of funds from Iranian arms sales to the contras. Up to this time, the scandal was a rather straightforward mess involving a trade with Iran of arms for hostages. Now, it was becoming an untidy mess.

Meese then informed Reagan that the memo had been found by his lawyers. Your best chum and Attorney General you can trust. But you can't trust his lawyers. Reagan and his cabinet decided to reveal the diversion of funds in a press statement to the nation last October. According to Meese's testimony, the decision to tell the public was made in the interests of truth.

A more likely story is that Reagan and his cronies feared the story would eventually be-

come public anyway, because too many lawyers saw the memo. It was less damaging for Reagan to reveal it immediately, than to be charged later with a cover-up, the ultimate sin against Congress. This was one of the lessons learned by Watergate, when Nixon was severely damaged by his attempts to cover up the facts.

The second investigation was the Tower Commission, led by former Texas senator John Tower. It is an indication of the docility of the press and Congress that Tower, who used to be considered one of the three most arch-conservative senators in the US, was consistently described in the media as a 'moderate' and 'respected' legislator, who could be depended on to carry out an independent investigation.

In reality, Tower was a hand-picked Reaganite, who could be trusted to ensure that no damaging facts came to light. Tower and his commission fulfilled their duties to the utmost. They mildly chided the Reagan administration for the 'inefficiency' of its advisors.

Finally, the congressional committee - a third investigative body - began hearing testimony in June. The early testimony came from some minor functionaries of the Reagan administration. There were only occasional highlights, such as one of Ollie North's mercenaries in Nicaragua who described the love of the contras for Ollie, and read out the embarrassing words to



● Ronald Reagan - can't quite remember

a song they had written about him - *The Ballad of Ollie North*.

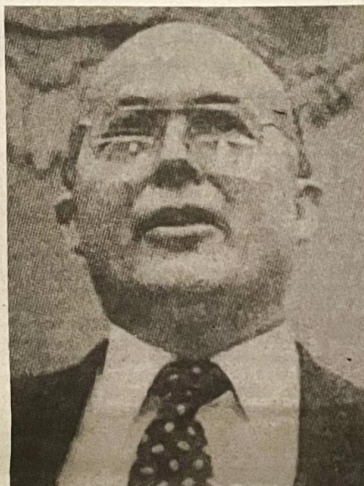
### CERTIFIABLE LUNATICS

Throughout all of the preliminaries, everyone was waiting for North's testimony. The centrality of North to the activities behind Contragate point to another important parallel between it and Watergate. Both operations were

# Other fine ve gotten into!



led by certifiable lunatics. Watergate was led by one G. Gordon Liddy, a man who consciously attempted to look like the father of modern fascism, Friedrich Nietzsche. The young Liddy made a practice of roasting his finger over an open flame to impress women. Later, he voluntarily set himself up as a fall guy for Richard Nixon by refusing to say a word to any



● Poindexter - remembers having sandwiches

investigating committee and spending time in jail as a result. His biography, *Will*, is named after the central characteristic of Nietzsche's ideal 'superman'.

Ollie North, mass murderer, refers to himself in conversation as "this marine". He planned the invasion of Grenada, the bombing of Libya, the mining of Nicaragua's harbours, and a series of contra massacres. He once planned to kidnap Iranian public officials in the West and hold them in cages in Europe. In 1974, while in command in the Pacific island of Okinawa, he was found running around the streets dressed only in a .45 automatic, babbling incoherently about killing himself. Unfortunately, he was removed to the psychiatric ward for a long rest before he did himself any damage.

But North learned from Liddy's mistakes of a dozen years earlier. Rather than keep quiet, in order to protect his commanding officer, he went to the congressional committee with the intention of openly defending his activities and giving an advertisement for the contra murder campaign. He appealed to the fears and prejudices of the US public regarding so-called commie aggression throughout the world.

At one particularly embarrassing moment, North offered to take on Abu Nidal, anytime... anywhere. "C'mon, Abu, make my day!"

North was able to garner massive public sympathy when he testified before the congressional hearing last month, because

he successfully portrayed himself as a champion of American freedom and democracy. Here was the man who fought at all odds against 'the enemy' in places like Libya and Nicaragua. Now, he was taking on their supporters in the Congress itself.

## APPLE PIE

North sat with his wife Betsy beside him, and his lawyer to his left. It was not lost on any American that the other great "Betsy" in US history was Betsy Ross, who personally stitched together the first US flag for George Washington. Millions of viewers could actually see Betsy in their mind's eye, sewing that same little flag onto Ollie's uniform sleeve before he went out to face the enemy. Alongside Betsy sat the four North children. The congressional committee savagely refused to allow Ollie to bring along his dog and one of Betsy's apple pies.

Whenever a congressman or congressional investigator questioned North, he was treated to one of three stock responses. First, in response to questions about his own activities, there was the tirade by North about freedom and justice and supporting the contras "without spending a penny of the taxpayer's money" (US citizens are extremely tax-conscious). Second, if a committee member pressed North at any length about exactly what Reagan knew, his lawyer Brendan Sullivan interjected to inform

the congressman that his time allotted for questioning was up. The next questioner, usually a sympathetic Republican, invariably failed to follow up on the line of questioning. Third, if any slightly embarrassing question was asked, the committee was treated to the mock outrage of Sullivan:

"Object... this is an outrage... you're badgering the witness... in all my years..."

The strategy worked like a charm. North was able to dodge any embarrassing or incriminating questions, thus protecting himself and Reagan, while giving the impression of total candour and dedication to flag, country, mom and apple pie. At the same time, the congressional investigators were made to look like unfair, threatening bullies who were harassing a true 'American hero'.

North has already been exposed as a liar in his testimony on several counts. At one point, he blamed members of Congress for leaks to *Newsweek* magazine about US military operations in the Middle East. In response, *Newsweek* magazine revealed that North himself was the source of the leaks.

Still, polls show that the US public is willing to ignore the evidence and believe Ollie North. 'Ollie' dolls and T-shirts have appeared. His testimony was published three days after he finished giving it, and immediately became a best-seller. Supposedly rational people began saying that Ollie North should be the next Republican candidate for president. This is ironic because those same people, in the 1974 edition that spawned Watergate, hounded the democratic vice-presidential candidate out of the race because he once went to a psychiatrist.

## 'COMMIE LIBERALS'

Ollie North's popularity, however, may be a passing thing. Many of the "thousands of telegrams" which flooded the White House in support of Ollie North were from cranks, who congratulated him for standing up to "those commie liberals" in Congress. The CIA and other governmental agencies have regularly fabricated such 'public outpourings' of support, as part of their disinformation activities. And the support for the contras, which 'swelled' in the opinion polls to 42 per cent after North gave his slide show to the congressional investigators and the US public, soon dropped back to 35 per cent.

Next to North, the other witnesses were dull and insignificant. Admiral John Poindexter, North's immediate boss, was billed as the man who could tell whether or not Reagan knew about the diversion of funds to the contras. On his first day of testimony, Poindexter was asked if he ever discussed with Ronald Reagan the diversions of funds. He answered, "No, I did not." The press happily wrote that the 64,000 dollar question had been answered, there was no smoking gun, and Reagan obviously didn't know.

It never occurred to them that maybe Poindexter was still lying, as he had done many times before. They barely found it significant that Poindexter, who is reputed to have a photographic memory, seemed to magically far-

get anything that had to do with Reagan.

In his testimony, Poindexter said "I don't know" or "I cannot recollect" 184 times. In a most important meeting with CIA director Casey, Poindexter could only remember that they "ate sandwiches."

The other major witness, Secretary of Defence Casper Weinberger and Secretary of State George Schultz, simply sat and told the committee how they knew nothing and were 'horrified' at what happened. They did not seem the least bit embarrassed about being the President's top advisors on military and foreign affairs, yet not knowing what was happening in military and foreign affairs. The congressional committee did its best not to embarrass them.

## SMOKING GUNS

In reality, neither the press nor Congress want to find a smoking gun. They are still afraid of Reagan's much-touted but overrated popularity. If they really wanted Reagan, they already have plenty of smoking guns. He signed an illegal retroactive presidential finding on November 24th 1986 authorising the shipment of US missiles to Iran, by way of Israel. The finding described the operation as a straight trade of arms for hostages.

Reagan lied several times to the US public, saying categorically that there were no arms-for-hostages deal. He lied about it to Congress and the Tower Commission. First he said he signed the finding, then he said he didn't. Now he says he doesn't remember. The Congress is all too happy to accept the last story, which is quite plausible since Reagan sometimes forgets his own dog's name. The Congress is also anxious to divert everyone's attention away from the Israel-Iran connection, and onto the diversion of funds to the contras, because most congressmen are deathly scared of the Zionist lobby in the US.

## THE OUTCOME

What will be the outcome of these hearings and investigations? CIA-sponsored air-freight companies are still carrying masses of arms to reactionaries in Central America and Angola. CIA advisors are still advising the reactionaries. The CIA lunatics are still devising ways to make Castro's beard fall out, or Gorbachev's birthmark glow. And the Congress and large sections of the US public seems happy to look the other way.

A few minor functionaries may be convicted of 'technicalities'. But none of the principles are likely to face any charges, least of all Ollie North or Ronald Reagan.

Vice President George Bush will probably never be president. But, then, he probably never would have been, anyway.

Probably the most significant outcome of Contragate for the US public will be the thousands of young boys who grow up hating their parents for naming them Ollie, instead of Jason or Michael. And who, long after Oliver North is consigned to the ammunition dump of history, will be telling their dates and classmates to call them Spike or Chip.

# Slógadh ar ais arís

CIAN MAC AOIDH

**SLOGADH SINN FEIN**, the annual Irish-language convention, moves to Belfast this year and promises to be as stimulating as the last event in Navan which was at the centre of a political controversy when it was banned from the Meath Gaeltacht of Rath Cairn by the Dublin government.

For the second year running, an impressive list of speakers and events have been lined up by the Sinn Fein Cultural Department for this all-Irish convention. All Gaeilgeoirí are welcome to attend.

Among the well-known faces will be Lughaidh Mac Giolla Bhrighde (Vice-chairperson of Magherafelt Council), Eoin O Murchu (CPI), Aine Nic Mhurchadha and Pádraig O Maolchraoibhe.

The Slógadh will kick off on Friday, September 18th, in the Rodai Mac Corlai Clubrooms with a talk by Aine Nic Mhurchadha on the need to build support for republicanism in the 26 Counties.

Helping Aine debate the delicate subject of the lack of support for radical republicanism in the 26 Counties will be Bairbre de Brun (Belfast), Derry language activist Seamus Mac Grianna, and Belfast seanachai and Crumlin Road Prison escapee Eamonn O Cianáin. Parched participants will quench their thirst after the debate at an oíche cheoil which will also include a ballad competition for newly-composed songs about the Irish freedom struggle.

## 'IS THERE ANOTHER WAY?'

On Saturday, the Slógadh venue switches to the Felons' Club on the Falls Road where

Lughaidh Mac Giolla Bhrighde will perform the official opening. This will be followed by a debate, *Is There Another Way?* In which Eoin O Murchu and Pádraig O Maolchraoibhe will give opposing views on the need for the armed struggle. Also taking part will be Nenagh Councillor Seamus O Nuallain.

Fr Joe McVeigh of Irvine-stown will start the afternoon session with a talk on the theme *Can a Christian a Revolutionary Be?* The theme will provide the perfect introduction to the Belfast premier of *Bodawanny*, the latest film by Conamara man Bob Quinn. *Bodawanny* tells the tale of a love affair between a priest and a young girl in the West of Ireland and is based on the novel *Suil le Breith* by Fr Pádraig Strandun.

*Slógadh '87* will be rounded off with the presentation for *Gradam na Poblachta*, a special plaque designed by sculptress Clíodhna Cussen to a well-known Gaeilgeoir at the ceili mor on Saturday night.

The fee for *Slógadh '87* is £10 which includes two meals on the Saturday. Accommodation with local republicans will be arranged free of charge for delegates. Anyone interested can register by writing to Mairtín O Muilleoir at 147 Bothar Bhaile Andarsain, Beal Feirste.



● A minute's silence is observed at the graveside

## ADJUTANT GENERAL HONoured

**FRIENDS and comrades of former IRA Adjutant-General Eoin McNamee, gathered at his graveside at Broughderg Cemetery in County Tyrone, on Saturday, August 16th.**

After a short parade from the cemetery gates, led by the national flag and IRA veterans, Tommy O'Neill (Cappagh) chaired the proceedings. Wreaths were laid until his death in New York on August 9th last year.

### DEDICATED SOLDIER

Francie Molloy said: "Eoin was a brave republican, and dedicated soldier who was imprisoned on several occasions in the '40s. In the '50s he moved to the United States where he played a vital role in supporting the 1956-62 campaign. As a member of Clan na Gael he brought new life to that organ-



● Eoin McNamee at a training camp in the Sperrin Mountains in 1940

isation. In the split of 1969, Eoin was one of the first people to declare his allegiance to the Provisional Army Council and during the last 17 years of war his contribution to the military campaign was unequalled."



● Thousands commemorate the anniversary of internment on the streets of London

## Paul Magorrian remembered

BY MOIRA CONNOLLY

**IRA VOLUNTEER Paul Magorrian was remembered on Sunday, August 16th, at an annual commemoration in Castlewellan, County Down. Fifty people gathered under grey skies at Aughlissnafin Cemetery at 10.30 that morning to pay their respects to Magorrian, who was killed on active service on August 14th 1974.**

South Down Sinn Fein Councillor Frank McDowell chaired the proceedings. After he welcomed the crowd, wreaths were laid on behalf of the Magorrian family, various Sinn Fein cumáinín in South Down and Sinn Fein comhairlí ceantair.

### ORATION

The main oration was given by well-known republican and Sinn Fein member Fra McCann. In his speech, McCann commended Ma-

gorrian's bravery and determination in the fight for Irish freedom. He said that Magorrian had not given his life in vain and that victory will be achieved.

He urged the people to examine their commitment to republicanism and asked them to rededicate themselves to the struggle. McCann pointed out:

"It is only the will and determination of people like yourselves that will force the British to withdraw from the Six Counties."

## London internment commemoration

**TWO SCOTTISH REPUBLICAN BANDS, prevented from attending Six-County marches, led an internment commemoration march in London on Saturday, August 8th, called by the Irish Freedom Movement. Up to 2,000 people including a large number of socialist groups and many Irish emigrants, marched from Islington Town Hall in North London to Whittington Park for a rally.**

The Rising Phoenix Flute Band from Edinburgh and the Crossmaglen Patriots from Wishaw, near Glasgow, were unable to travel to Belfast because of regulations in force since the Hillsborough Agreement. Such bands face prosecution if they

refuse to sign an undertaking not to participate in "illegal demonstrations".

The march was sponsored by Westminster Labour MPs Ken Livingstone and Jeremy Corbyn. Other sponsors included Peter Heathfield, general secretary of

the National Union of Mineworkers, the author Peter Beresford Ellis and Labour Councillor Linda Bellos, a leading campaigner for the rights of black people.

### SPEAKERS

The marchers, who demanded the withdrawal of British troops and the release of Irish political prisoners, were addressed by Anne Hennessy of the Stop the Strip-Searches Campaign, Pat Cassidy of the Republican Bands Alliance and Grant French, a former British soldier.

John McDonnell, the former deputy leader of the Labour-controlled Greater London Council, said:

"We must remember the sacrifices, the families who've lost sons and daughters in the Irish freedom struggle. The demand for them is not justice but retribution."

# A HEAVY PRICE

*"WHAT WE HAVE TO FACE is not an occasional dose of poison which has accidentally got into some article of food but a persistent and continuous poisoning of the whole human environment."*

— Silent Spring, by Rachel Carson.

IN THE DECADES after the Second World War, industrial and agricultural production and processes became heavily dependent on complex synthetic chemicals. Synthetic textiles and plastics were also developed in this period, as was the use of radiation for nuclear power and weapons. Health care was at the mercy of large industrial complexes.

The other side of the expansion was the move principally in the Third World to the agricultural use of chemicals, fertilisers, herbicides and pesticides. This meant that short-term, high-yield crops were artificially stimulated as part of a strategy to transform the Third World into food-producing areas for the dominant industrial countries. The long-term use of land to feed the peoples of the Third World gradually became a thing of the past.

The growth of a strong movement in countries like the United States against the destruction of the environment has pushed many multinationals to locate factories in underdeveloped countries where there are few controls protecting either the environment or workers' health. Hazardous products such as pesticides and herbicides which were banned in the US were exported to Third World countries. Depo Provera is a contraceptive chemical taken by injection. It is unauthorised in the Western World but has been used in the Third World population control programme. The Benzidine dye industry was exported to India and South Korea after it was banned in America and Britain.

Congressman D.R. Obey (Wisconsin) summed up the strategy of the toxic industry owners when he said in 1978:

*"As we learn more about health hazards which certain manufacturing processes pose for workers and the general public, there is apparently a growing trend towards moving such manufacturing to countries where knowledge of health hazards is secondary to economic goals."*

## SKIN DISEASE

But there have also been major disasters in the advanced countries. An explosion occurred in Italy at the Trichloropheno plant in Seveso (owned by Hoffman La Roche), spreading poisonous dioxin over a wide area. The effects on all life forms were severe. Many children suffered a disfiguring skin disease called chloracne and the rate of spontaneous abortions was increased to twice the national average in the year following the explosion. It took six weeks for the company to warn people of the dangers of dioxin.

At Teckamatorp in Sweden, a Danish chemical company, B. T. Kemi, manufactured various products from 1965 to 1977. The company dumped toxic waste

into a local stream and illegally buried more than 600 drums of waste. This toxic waste contained residues of the poisons 245-T, Dinosab and Lindane. Subsequent contamination led to severe skin ailments, increases in cancer and damage to chromosomes. There was a 30% to 40% increase in miscarriages.

## TOWN CLOSED DOWN

In Holland, toxic waste was dumped in old agricultural canals on which a housing development was later built. This new town, Lekkerberk, had to be closed down after ten years at a cost of £50 million when the 800 inhabitants were found to be suffering from nausea, fainting and other illnesses caused by the pollution which rose up through the basements of their homes.

In 1981, 20 women collapsed after inhaling deadly cyanide fumes from a North London metalworks. One thousand people were evacuated from factories and homes nearby. In the San Ramon Valley, near San Francisco, 3,000 people were evacuated after a poisonous mixture of five acids spilt on a highway, sending a yellow cloud over a residential area. This was the fifth contamination incident in the area in six weeks.

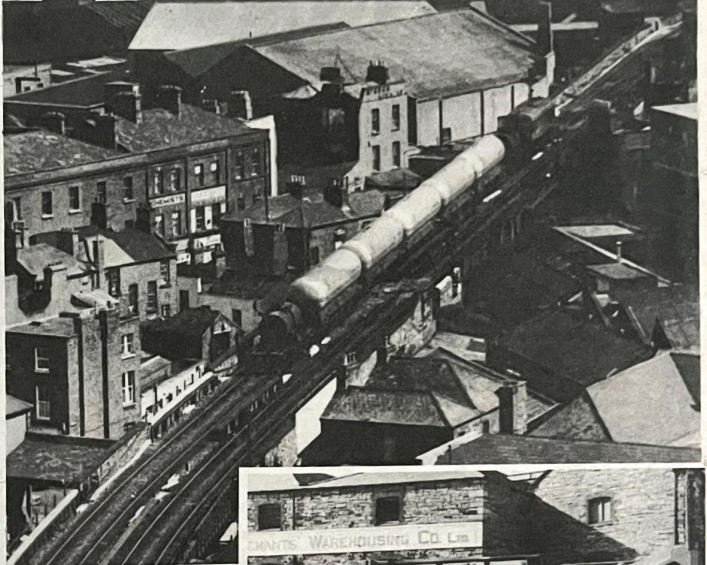
Events such as an accident or spillage involving poisonous substances grab the headlines but there is a more sinister form of environmental pollution. Long-term, low-level exposure to toxic substances (mainly in the Third World) doesn't always produce acute symptoms, but the substances enter the body's bone and fat deposits where they silently accumulate without any overt effects for years. They often culminate in disabling and chronic diseases, psychic disorders, congenital malformations and cancer.

It is estimated that exposure to toxic chemicals at work, in the air and water, in food, drugs and other products is that of 80% of all cancer deaths.

Asbestosis, the disease caught by breathing minute particles of asbestos (used mainly for heat insulation) kills slowly and very painfully, but there are no 26-County regulations governing the use of asbestos in homes, shops or offices.

## THE CYANIDE TRAIN

Controls on poisonous or cancer-giving products in the 26



Counties are either lax or non-existent. Private companies are allowed to dump poisonous waste virtually where they want. Dangerous chemicals which could kill thousands are transported through built-up areas. Agricultural products with horrific side-effects are in common use. As with many Third World countries, safety standards are sacrificed so that foreign companies may be attracted to set up factories.

A train carrying vinyl cyanide leaves Dublin port every week. It passes through the city's working-class areas and through many other highly-populated towns on its way to the Asahi factory in Ballina, County Mayo. Vinyl cyanide is poisonous, flammable and explosive. It is known to cause seven different forms of cancer. Another train carries ammonia for the semi-state fertiliser company, NET, passing nightly from Cork to Arklow through Dublin. CIE staff were told that, if an accident happened, they should keep upwind of a spillage from either train and (if they're still alive) to contact the gardai.

Companies forbidden to sell dangerous chemicals in the US or Germany have been exporting them to Ireland. Pesticides such as Aldrin are freely available in the 26 Counties although banned in the US. The Dublin Department of Agriculture actually used 600 gallons of the deadly 245-T pesticide in 1976. It was partly responsible for the large-scale defoliation of Vietnam when used in the 1960s and '70s by the Americans in their colonial war in South-East Asia. 245-T causes birth defects, cancer and liver damage.

Scientists have discovered that many other pesticides have dangerous side-effects, killing necessary insects and plants as well as pests. Some of these chemicals remain in the food we eat, entering our bodies and possibly caus-



ing further cancers. Pesticides were hailed as a painless way to increase a farmer's crop yield but they may be causing serious damage to Irish agriculture.

## ANTI-BIOTICS

The Dublin government allows farmers to buy anti-biotics over the counter in chemists without a prescription from a vet. The widespread use of these drugs on farm animals means that meat, milk and eggs often carry traces of antibiotics into our bodies as we eat. This way, a resistance is built up in the body against antibiotics and they become less and less able to cure disease. They also affect hormones and cause abnormal growth among children.

Irish agriculture, geared towards export, depends on a reputation for wholesome food, but the conditions imposed on farmers by EEC competition mean that, in order to keep prices low, they are economically forced to use new chemicals which will, in the long-term, have very serious effects on health.

In manufacturing industry, health standards are equally low. In Sweden, the use of asbestos is banned altogether and authorities in the US and many other countries are heavily restricting its use. Experts estimate that in the

US, 11 million workers were killed by asbestos, but Dublin government officials seem unaware or unconcerned about the dangers that breathing even one tiny fibre of asbestos can bring. They are preparing new controls on its use but it's likely to be years before they come into effect. Authorities such as the Industrial Development Authority try to minimise the dangers, fearing public concern over the asbestos-using Tegral plant in Athy, County Kildare.

## WASTE

Factories throughout the 26 Counties create poisonous waste which has to be dumped but local authorities have refused to take responsibility for these wastes, leaving it to private companies. Experts believe that up to 30 tonnes of such toxic waste are dumped in secret every day in the 26 Counties.

Industrial development brings jobs and opportunities for Irish people but, left in the hands of private investors, it will always give health a much lower importance than profit. By keeping safety standards low, successive Dublin governments have made Irish people pay a heavy price. Only in the distant future will we know for sure just how heavy that price actually is.



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**Torthaí crannchur**

Munster Final Draw  
Winners (£42.50 each): Brian Kelly, 2 Castleview, Fenit; Dailhi Power, Chutehall, Tralee; Rita O'Sullivan, 13 Upper William Street, Listowel; Noel Murtogh, 31 Roe Street, Tralee.

**Mála Poist**  
AP/RN, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.



**EXTRADITION**

A Chairde,  
Since the commencement of the counter revolution in 1921/22 successive Irish governments have continuously been engaged in a campaign of lying propaganda, backed up by violent force, to discredit and ultimately destroy the spirit of nationalism in the hearts of the Irish people. This process entailed an abiding policy of economic, judicial and political subservience to Britain which resulted in one craven sell-out after another, from the Boundary Commission betrayal to the Criminal Justice (Jurisdiction) Act and the Hillsborough Accord.

As the years passed and the mass of the people, dragged by the propaganda of the great fraud that was being most skillfully foisted upon them, offered no resistance to the betrayal of their interests. The deceivers and betrayers grew bolder to the extent that today we are faced with the prospect of the ultimate in disgraceful injustice and betrayal in the form of a new Act which will facilitate the extradition of Irish patriots into the power of the tyrannical, lawless colonial regime in the six occupied counties, where, as far as Irish nationalists are concerned, no rule of law or justice exists.

To pass this evil legislation would amount to exculpating the British for all their 800 years of crime and at the same time spurning the hundreds of thousands of heroic Irish patriots who throughout those years suffered and died in the struggle for justice and sovereignty for our nation.

To selfish ingrates totally devoid of principle, like the

contemptible self-seeking gangs in Leinster House, betrayal of the nation, torture, brutality (Oriel House) and murder are perfectly acceptable means of establishing and holding on to power. To them patriotism and heroic sacrifice in the service of the nation are of no help in the procurement of their loathsome ambitions therefore they despise them.

The most imperative duty of a government is to protect its subjects, so if Mr Haughey passes this Extradition Act it will mean that he will have reneged on the duty of his office to the Irish people and betrayed the last vestige of the limited freedom which was bought at such a price over 800 years.

In such a situation Mr. Haughey could no longer claim allegiance from the people he would have so scandalously and so unjustly betrayed nor would the people be under any obligation to give his government any allegiance. Like the people of the Philippines and other before them they would be forced to establish their rights on the streets.

Padraig A. Saunders,  
Woodlands Road,  
Dun Laoghaire,  
Dublin 18.

**PROPAGANDA BY SATELLITE**

A Chairde,  
The decision by the RTE subsidiary, Cablelink, to distribute the US Information Agency (USIA) Satellite TV channel, World Net, to its subscribers must be open to serious question. Doubtless the apologists for the Cablelink decision will accuse its opponents of censorship and opposition to 'freedom of information'. As republicans are usually on the receiving end of biased coverage and censorship we are in a good position to forestall such arguments.

The US government, is engaged in a worldwide process of destabilisation of governments and liberation movements which fail to meet its approval. These policies are met with disgust by large numbers of people around the world, including increasing numbers of US citizens. World Net is part of the attempt to

counter this correct impression through sophisticated propaganda mechanisms.

After the US bombing of Tripoli for instance, World Net was used to broadcast a 'press conference' with US Secretary of State Schultz, where correspondents in various countries could ask him one question without being allowed any follow-up. Schultz could prattle on without interruption. The British Channel 4, which used part of this 'press conference' as a news item, pointed out its rigged structure.

While an international satellite broadcasting system is ideally suited to this type of misinformation process the difficulty lies in its distribution to the mass of TV viewers. World Net would like to get around the normal checks and balances of ordinary reporting procedures so that its true propaganda nature can be masked. That is where Cablelink comes in. They have solved the problem at a stroke.

I realise that at the moment Cablelink is encountering considerable consumer resistance to extra payments for the international satellite pulp (which is designed in the long-run to marginalise and destroy public service broadcasting) re-transmits at present for no extra charge. The prospect of a US government service provided gratis must be a juicy one.

We in Sinn Fein are graphically aware of the limitations of RTE's coverage of the Six Counties because of Section 31 censorship. However, its international coverage on Central America and South Africa is generally satisfactory. It is this latter objective reporting which World Net is designed to counter. Also, since Britain is the US's main worldwide political ally, World Net could tend to push the anti-Republican and pro-Hillsborough Accord line of the British government. Britain's contra policy in Ireland is not that different from Reagan's in Nicaragua.

That RTE should allow this decision to go through unchallenged is a grave blow to the public service commitment to objectivity it might still claim to hold on to.

Tony O'Flaherty,  
Chairperson Carroll/Ashe  
Sinn Fein Cumann,  
Cabra,  
Dublin.

**IRELAND'S REVOLUTIONARIES**

A Chairde,  
With reference to the recent debate in the Irish Times letters page over 'Ireland's Contras' - the matters seems fairly straight forward to me, but has been overlooked by all those putting forward the ridiculous assertion that 'Ireland's Contras' are to be found within the ranks of the Republican Movement.

Ireland has indeed been

cursed with more than it's fair share of contras but to find them one must look to various official and unofficial Orange militias in the Six Counties and the various establishment political parties of the 26 Counties - all of whom play their own disgraceful part in protecting the continuance of the undemocratic and oppressive role in British imperialism in Ireland.

The IRA cannot be counter-revolutionaries for the simple reason that there has been no revolution for them to counter except for the revolutionary way of national liberation that they themselves are currently fighting! In all of this religion is neither here nor there - except, of course, in that it has been used as a weapon to divide the people and so frustrate the struggle for national liberation.

History has shown us, not alone in Ireland but all over the world, that imperialism will only respond to armed force. Proof of this lies in the fact that any of the petty reforms introduced in the Six Counties by the colonial regime there have only ever been introduced in an effort to counter the military and political successes of the Republican Movement.

Of course war is unpleasant. It is not the easiest or most popular form of political action, but in this case it is the only alternative left open to those who pursue it. Their methods are no different to those used by the Sandinistas, the ANC, the PLO, or any of the other revolutionary groups acceptable to our armchair revolutionaries.

The most important factor determining whether or not any particular group is revolutionary or otherwise is not the question of what means they employ, which is dependent entirely upon the local conditions, but what are their immediate and ultimate aims. Since the aim of the Republican Movement is the expulsion of imperialism from Ireland, the reunification of the national territory (illegally partitioned against the wishes of a majority of the Irish people), and the establishment of a socialist republic.

Anyone who would continue to call them counter-revolutionaries is not only fooling themselves but is also participating in the propaganda war waged against the Republican Movement by the imperialists and their native lackeys in the Irish establishment.

In doing so they are participating in a piece of counter-revolution themselves. The vain hopes of utopian 'socialists' of uniting the people on 'bread and butter issues' are vain because these issues are not separate from the national question and the question of imperialist domination but are symptoms of the continued existence of these problems.

Only when we solve these problems can we hope to permanently resolve the everyday problems that afflict our people.

Dailhi de Bru  
Castlemorton Road,  
Coolock,  
Baile Atha Cliath.

**PORTLAOISE CENSORSHIP**

A Chairde,  
I would like to draw your readers attention to the worsening abuse of censorship of mail in Portlaoise Prison.

My husband who is serving a seven year sentence in Portlaoise has been writing to various individuals informing them of the many problems which exist in the jail at the moment.

The prisoners have been trying through dialogue and peaceful means to resolve these issues, i.e. the continual imprisonment of lifers some of whom are into their fourteenth year without a release date, while the Minister for Justice Gerry Collins stated only some time ago that life was eight years and eight months, the use of strip searching (while £300,000 worth of security equipment lies idle in the jail), and the denial of compassionate parole for those men serving forty years and censorship (which prompted me to write this letter).

Six out of seven letters to people such as Bishop Magee, Frank Reilly E.T.U., Prof. Mary McAleese, Liam Aylward, Fianna Fail, Martin Cowley, Journalist, Senator David Norris and John Mitchell of I.D.A.T.U. were all stopped in one week alone.

It is quite obvious by this censorship that there are problems in the jail which the authorities are trying to cover up.

The prisoners on many occasions have tried to resolve these issues through peaceful means rather than confrontation but will not be listened to. Anything that may happen in Portlaoise Prison in the future, through the intransigence of the Governor Ned Harkins (who it would seem is proving himself even worse than his predecessor) can only be blamed fairly and squarely on him and his staff.

Pauline Dunne,  
11 Farnham Drive,  
Finglas,  
Dublin.

ALL LETTERS should be clearly written or typed, double-spaced (one line of space between each line of writing), and on one side of the paper only.  
Please try and keep your letters as short as possible.  
Names and addresses must be included, even when not for publication.

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# REVIEWS



John Joyce (Galway) and Denis Walsh (Cork) who contributed to a poor drawn game in Croke Park last Sunday

## Not a great game

BY RAY CARBERRY

IT HAS OFTEN been assumed that the domination of Gaelic football by Kerry or Dublin was bad for the game as a whole.

The stated view is that the game would benefit if the less-successful counties could contest the final stages of the All-Ireland Championship with out the presence of, the Dubs or the Kingdom. Okay, good point, especially if this concept is expressed by people whose county teams are annually overshadowed by those two great teams of recent years (since the early '70s in fact). Well, this year it has happened.

Dublin, the National League winners of 1986/87 and the 1986 All-Ireland winners, Kerry, are not around for this year's finals. Dublin fell for the second year in succession to Meath in the Leins-



### SPORTS

ter championship and Cork defeated Kerry in Munster.

So does the game benefit in general?

Last Sunday, at Croke Park, Cork and Galway met in the first of this year's semi-final clashes. The poor attendance of 20,000 indicated that some, at least, were not expecting a great game.

While we didn't expect

either team to display evidence that they could fill the boots of the great Kerry team of the past 13 years, we were hoping for a good performance from both counties. But on the whole we were disappointed.

### POOR GAME

Overall, it was a poor game with too many free kicks resulting in constant stoppages and far too often players from both teams were caught in possession or passes went astray.

Cork, when they were ahead — and that was for most of the game — failed to 'turn the screw' when the match was in their grasp. But Galway deserve credit for holding on and they refused to submit when the Corkmen seemed likely to triumph. At the end, Galway

almost snatched victory when, with only two minutes remaining, they went ahead from full-back Sean Fallon's point and surely felt they would form a unique double by providing football and hurling finalists in the same year. But Cork scored with the last kick of the game, a long-range free from Larry Tompkins to level the score to 1-11 each.

It was Tompkins who scored the equaliser in the dying seconds against Kerry in the drawn Munster final. There were some good individual displays, including Kerins in goal and McCarthy for Cork and Daly and McManus (who got some vital scores) for Galway.

Apart from both teams having a second chance to reach the final, let's hope they also use that opportunity when the meet on Sunday, August 30th, to show they are capable of open, flowing football. In patches last Sunday, each team showed they have that ability. Cork's team 'manager', Billy Morgan, and Galway's Willie Joyce have a responsibility in

this regard. They can direct their players to leave out the petty fouls which have unfortunately become a feature of Gaelic football. Potential All-Ireland champions should concentrate on the finer aspects of the game. Well done, Cork minors, who defeated Galway 0-17 to 0-7 in the All-Ireland Minor semi-final.

### SHUNTED OFF

While the football took precedence last Sunday, the second hurling semi-final between Kilkenny and Antrim was shunted off centre stage and played in Dundalk.

No offence to St Bridgid's in Dundalk, who facilitated the fixture, but the GAA administrations' handling of this important game for Antrim and Kilkenny left a lot to be desired.

For years, top officials within the GAA have spoken and written of the need to encourage and help promote hurling in traditionally weaker counties. Antrim — against all the odds — have replaced words with action and produced a good county team with plenty of ability.

Last year, Cork needed to pull out all the stops to beat them and went on to become champions. On Sunday, they led Kilkenny for much of the match and likely would have been popular winners had they achieved victory. But once-a-year opposition against the county's top teams, while no doubt welcome, is not a solution.

The suggestion that Antrim be included in the National League Division 1 should be acceded to. This could ensure the regular top grade competitive fixtures necessary for the long-term promotion of hurling in Antrim.

As for the venue, surely hurling semi-finals should be played at a venue and on a date when other important fixtures will not relegate them to second-class events. Or have we reached a situation where the promotion of our national games take a poor second place to U2 type concerts.

For the record, Kilkenny defeated Antrim 2-18 to 2-11, and in the minor hurling semi-final Offaly beat Antrim 4-17 to 1-4.

## A fanciful work of fiction

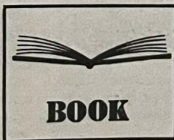
BY KEVIN MCCOOL

"DESPITE THE PROPAGANDA, the single-storey H-Blocks represented advanced penal design both in terms of security and facilities. Facilities for conforming prisoners were better than elsewhere in Ireland or the UK," writes Liam Clarke in a book which bears more resemblance to a fanciful work of inventive fiction than to an accurate portrayal of real events.

The misnamed *Broadening the Battlefield* is in fact a sick parody of the 1980/81 hunger-strike wherein flesh and blood, men and women are replaced by boldly calculating caricatures and media myths, and wishful thinking is substituted for historical truth. Liam Clarke is a member of the Workers' Party.

### ROMANTIC FATALISM

In Clarke's account, the 1981 hunger-strike, during which Bobby Sands and nine of his comrades sacrificed their lives, was a desperate last throw of the dice inspired by "myths of blood sacrifice" and "romantic fatalism". The hunger-striker is "IRA convict" spoon-fed on "a mythology of glorious defeat" who saw "a chance to be on the side of historic destiny".



### BOOK

On hunger-strike they are unable to think for themselves, "their reasoning and contact with reality impaired by vitamin and mineral deficiencies".

The IRA leadership on the outside is portrayed as fascist, "exploiting the hunger-strike for its propaganda value". Because, Clarke tells us, "it is in the nature of a military organisation to accept casualties in the furtherance of its objectives".

### THICK AND TALL

As the plot thickens, the story gets taller.

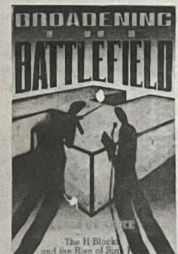
The Screws beat the blanketmen because of "the stress of working daily with some of the most dangerous men in Northern Ireland". The Armagh women join in the blanket protest when they find out there is to be "chicken and apple pie for dinner". The ex-crate-covered cells of the H-Blocks are a "monastic setting" with the brutality and humiliations offering the republican prisoners "an element of challenge and variety in the grim monotony of months or years on the blanket".

And, of course, no story would be complete without its saintly hero — in this case, Fr Denis Faul.

Clarke sees Faul as "a man of acute social conscience" who candidly admits in the book his shameful role in breaking the morale of the hunger-striker's families:

"I worked on the Foss and the Sheehans, some of them directly, some of them through the media. When I would hear a fellow was bad I would go on the media and say, 'I think his parents want him to come off.'"

In the twisted logic of Clarke's book this callous playing upon the agony of the hunger-striker's families



is deserving of the highest praise.

The most nauseating aspect of this book, however, is its clinical and detached narrative which lends it an emotionless, even heartless, quality. Clarke talks about "wardens" of "hygiene" and "steam cleaning" in the H-Blocks (which he claims saved the blanketmen from disease) but never of the forced scrubbing and shavings and the violent tactic of hosing-down.

In effect, his technique throughout the book is to dehumanise blanketmen, the women prisoners, the hunger-striker and trivialise their protest in order to prevent the reader feeling sympathy for them.

Clarke goes too far and this is his undoing. By systematically sidestepping the torture, the torment, the trauma and the deep human tragedy that lies at the heart of the 1981 hunger-strike, Clarke leaves little to interest or attract the reader other than his own clouded perceptions of events.

On every count the book fails to convince. Clarke's Workers' Party bias distorts the truth and its lack of compassion will cause the reader to shudder.

*Broadening the Battlefield*, by Liam Clarke, published by Gill and MacMillan, price, £8.95.

## Imeachtaí

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SOLIDARITY**  
Saturday 22nd August  
Assemble 9.45am  
Craigendmuir Street, Black Hill  
March to Raystown  
**GLASGOW**  
Scotland  
Organised by the Republican Bands Alliance & Clyde-side TOM

**BALLAD SESSION**  
Music by Rake 'n' Ramblers  
8pm Saturday 22nd August  
Pike Inn  
Mulgrave Street  
**LIMERICK**  
Talla E2  
Organised by Flanna Eireann

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**LIMERICK**  
Talla E2  
Organised by Flanna Eireann

**PRISON PICKET**  
1.30pm Sunday 23rd August  
Strangeways Prison  
Southall Street  
**MANCHESTER 3**  
Organised by the Irish Republican POW Campaign

**ROINN AN CULTUR FOLK NIGHT**  
Music by The Irish Brigade  
8.30pm Tuesday 25th August  
Felsons' Club  
Andersonstown  
**BELFAST**  
Organised by Sinn Fein

**ANTI-APARTHEID PICKET**  
In support of South African Miners  
12 noon-2pm Wednesday 26th August  
Department of Foreign Affairs  
Stephen's Green  
**DUBLIN**  
Organised by the Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement

**COLE/COLLEY COMMEMORATION**  
11.30am Sunday 30th August  
Assemble at Beaumont Inn  
March to memorial at Yellow Road, Whitehall  
**DUBLIN**  
Organised by Sinn Fein



## THE PLIGHT OF IRISH REPUBLICAN PRISONERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

The Sinn Fein POW Department has produced a new pamphlet dealing with the plight of republican POWs and their families.

The 14-page pamphlet, which opens out into a three-colour A1-sized poster, contains sections on conditions in all of the Irish prisons, the prisoners in England, repatriation, strip-searching and control units & solitary.

● The plight of Irish republican prisoners and their families is available at £1.20 from An Cumann Cabhrach, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1 (Tel: 726932) and Green Cross '73, 51/55 Falls Road, Belfast (Tel: 249975).

## UNDERMINING APARTHEID

THE SOUTH AFRICAN MINERS' STRIKE, 11 days old as AP/RN goes to press, has already shaken the foundations of the apartheid state, marking a new escalation of the liberation struggle. The National Union of Mineworkers' (NUM) action involves 350,000 coal and gold miners and is the largest strike in South African history. Attempts to repress the miners have entirely failed to force them back to work and in a compromise gesture Botha announced on August 13th that the release of Govan Mbeki (one of the three most senior ANC prisoners) was likely.

The miners are demanding a 30% wage increase and improved safety conditions while the employers are offering between 15% and 23%. But the issues go very much deeper than these figures suggest. Six hundred and eighty one gold miners lost their lives in accidents last year. Over one million have been seriously injured in mining accidents since 1900. Conditions within the mine-shafts (South Africa houses the world's deepest of these) are appalling. Temperatures of up to 30 centigrade are common. In the three-foot-high waterlogged passages where the miners work.

Black people suffer extraordinary injustice in the minefields where they earn one fifth of the wages received by white miners. The system of migrant labour means that black men are forced to leave their families and live in male-only hostels run along military lines. Their contracts last only for a year after which they must reapply for work; a practice which makes victimisation of 'troublesome' workers easy.

In this strike the NUM is (for tactical reasons) restricting its demands to the issues of wages and conditions while avoiding the question of migrant labour. The NUM now has a membership of 350,000. While this shows a massive increase from the 6,000 which the union had at its foundation in 1982, it also means that only half of the state's coal and gold mines are organised by the NUM. If the strike is successful, the union is almost certain to recruit the vast majority of South African miners. It will then be in a position to confront the migrant labour system, a fundamental part of apartheid.

### SURVIVING ON EXPORTS

The survival of the racist state hinges on the exports of coal and gold in large quantities. Gold alone accounts for over half of the country's foreign currency earnings. The rand (South African currency unit) has collapsed and unemployment which affects a quarter of the black population is now hitting large numbers of whites. Added pressure on both the government and employers to end the dispute rapidly stems from the fact that only one month's reserves of gold were built up in advance of the strike.

The mine-owners underestimated the preparedness of their workers in the run-up to the strike. In 1985, a smaller call received the backing of only 12,000 workers (although 70,000 voted for strike action). On that occasion, company quarters in the migrant workers' hostels were used to intimidate the miners back to work. Last week, the companies were faced with a number of empty hostels as many of the miners returned to their homes in the townships following advice from the NUM.

This tactic has reduced but not eliminated harassment of the strikers. Two hundred and forty of them have been injured and 200 arrested (according to the state's own figures) but the real total may be much higher. A regional union meeting in Klerksdorp, 100 miles south-west of Johannesburg on August 12th, was disrupted by armed police who took away 400 miners, most of whom were local strike leaders, charging them with conspiracy to murder. Two days later, 76 were injured by police and mine security personnel at the Western Deep

Level Mine — the world's deepest. Last weekend there were further attacks. On August 16th, a worker was killed by 'vigilantes' organised by the owners at the Sasol plant in Secunda. Sasol extracts oil from coal and the chemical workers there were preparing for solidarity action when they were attacked by the vigilantes.

By the end of the strike's first week the employers were seeking negotiations with the union and independent economists estimated that three of the mining companies had lost potential profits amounting to two thirds of the workers' demands. The union also has problems: South African law forbids the setting up of strike funds and strike pay is therefore ruled out.

### SUPPORT SURPASSES EXPECTATIONS

Support for the strike has surpassed even the expectations of the NUM but reflects the growth of radical trade unionism throughout South Africa despite a 'state of emergency' which has brought martial law into the country's black townships since it was introduced in June 1986. This wave of industrial organisation resulted in the recent formation of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU). The COSATU president is Elijah Barayi, a long-standing member of the ANC and its general secretary is Cyril Ramaphosa, leader of the NUM. The organisation now represents 750,000 workers.

The new unions' leaders are much younger than their counterparts in other countries. Nuku Madumo, of the municipal workers' union, is 24 whilst NUM spokesperson Marcel Golding is 27. The unions are also very democratic. Decisions are taken by large general meetings whenever possible and, if a hall of significant size can't be found, a series of mass meetings will be held until all the membership has had the chance to speak and vote.

COSATU House, the congress headquarters, has been raided on numerous occasions by the police, recently bombed and many union leaders face the constant threat of death from the regime's undercover agents. Moses Mayekiso, general secretary of the Metal & Allied Workers' Union and an executive member of COSATU, has been arrested and charged with high treason. He faces the death penalty.

Intimidation hasn't stopped union leaders from identifying with the revolutionary struggle of the ANC.

"The struggle we are involved in on the mines," says Cyril Ramaphosa, "is a training ground for our people, for the ultimate goal which is liberation."

### BOYCOTT COAL

The Irish Congress of Trade Unions has called on "Irish workers, North and South, not to handle South African coal" and appealed to trade unions to give financial help to the NUM in a statement on August 17th. In 1985, coal amounted to a quarter of all 26-County imports from South Africa. There are no figures for South African coal imports into the Six Counties but as Britain is one of apartheid's best customers it's very likely that large amounts of coal are used.

The ICTU is also demanding that the ban on South African food imports to the 26 Counties should be extended to all of the apartheid regime's products.

# NUM thanks AP/RN

A WELSH mining community showed its appreciation for An Phoblacht/Republican News' coverage of the 1984-85 National Union of Mineworkers' strike in Britain when Violet John of Garth, Maesteg, South Wales, presented a "Certificate of Appreciation" to John Hedges of AP/RN's editorial staff.

The certificate — copies of which were also presented to the ICTU, Dublin Trades Council, Sinn Fein and other bodies which helped or supported the miners — reads:

"South Wales Area NUM, Llynfi Valley Joint Lodges, in conjunction with the Maesteg and Afan Miners' Support Group, wish to tender their sincere appreciation to An Phoblacht/Republican News for the help, assistance and allegiance given to the mineworkers of Llynfi and Afan Valleys during the historic miners' strike March 1984-March 1985."



As well as being signed by various members of the Maesteg/Afan Miners' Support Group, the certificate bears the name of Idris Williams (chairperson of the NUM Joint Lodges and Llynfi Sundries NUM) and Ian Isaac (secretary of the NUM Joint Lodges and a member of the South Wales NUM Executive).

The certificate will be block mounted and displayed in AP/RN's new offices when the paper moves.



● VIOLET JOHN



● While the British army regimental bands play abroad their colleagues baton, arrest and kill Irish men and women in the Six Counties

# BRIT BANDS BANNED

CITING a "wave of protests", bad publicity and potential boycotts, the Westbury Music Fair on Long Island, New York, has cancelled a performance by British army regiments scheduled for December 13th. The cancellations followed a storm of protests from Irish-American organisations and joined by Long Island political leaders.

Regimental bands from the British army's Grenadier Guards and Gordon Highlanders had been scheduled to play in the Westbury Music Fair since last December. This venue has replaced the Nassau Coliseum, the site which had previously hosted British army concerts.

Irish-American organisations, including the American-Irish Congress, Irish Northern Aid, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and others had protested vigorously, citing the British army's record of violence and terror in Ireland. Political leaders including Nassau Comptroller, Peter King, County

Irish Northern Aid noted that while British army members may travel in the guise of entertainers, other members of that same army are parading on Irish streets, carrying guns and bringing violence, sectarianism and terror. It would be unthinkable for members of the British army to be welcomed in America, while British rule is enforced at gunpoint on Irish streets, Noraid said.

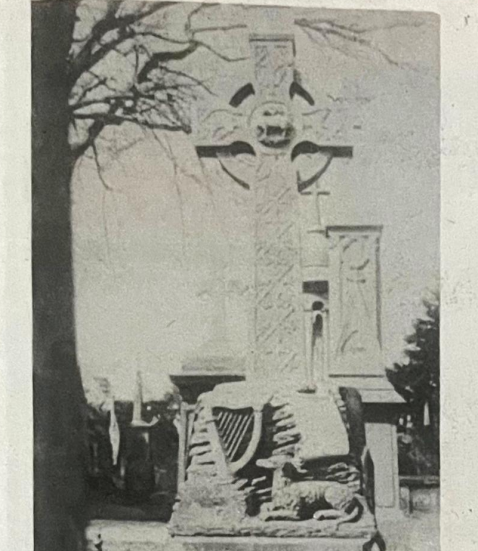
### MORE PROTESTS

Elsewhere, protests are being organised in other venues where the British are scheduled to play. All locations which previously hosted performances are being urged to hold protests. Irish Northern Aid has announced that it will protest against the anticipated performance at Madison Square Gardens.

### CANCELLATION WELCOMED

In a letter dated July 22nd, the head of Westbury Fair notified the manager of his desire to cancel the performance. The announcement was welcomed by Irish-American groups. Kathleen Holmes, of the American-Irish Congress, who had compiled a history of involvement by the regiment in deaths and violence, praised the officials for "acting responsibly".

# REMEMBERING THE PAST



● The Celtic Cross above the grave of John 'Leo' Keegan Casey, at Glasnevin Cemetery

## John Keegan Casey

BY PETER O'ROURKE

JOHN KEEGAN CASEY, poet, novelist and revolutionary, was born at Mount Dalton, near Mullingar, County Westmeath, in 1846.

The son of a schoolmaster, he was educated locally and later at Ballymahon, County Longford, where the family moved in 1855.

In 1860, at the age of 14, he joined the staff of his father's school at Gorteen, near Ballymahon, as a monitor. Later, as a fully-fledged teacher, he taught in the nearby school of Clerane and Kenagh.

Teaching had little appeal for Casey whose earliest ambition was to write national songs, ballads and poems.

While still in his teens he began to write poetry and songs and became a regular contributor to *The Nation* and the Fenian newspaper, *The Irish People*, where, under the pseudonym 'Leo', his most famous ballad, *The Rising of the Moon*, was published in 1864.

### FULL-TIME ACTIVIST

Deeply influenced by the writings and teachings of the Young Irishmen, Thomas Davis and James Fintan Lalor, Casey gave up teaching in 1866 and moved to Dublin to work full-time for the Irish Republican Brotherhood.

His Fenian activities soon attracted the attention of the Dublin Castle authorities. In March 1867, shortly after the collapse of the Fenian Rising, he was arrested and lodged in Roscommon Jail from where he was transferred to Mountjoy Prison in Dublin.

He was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude but was released from Mountjoy within the year due to ill health.

Shortly afterwards, he married Mary Briscoe, settled in Dublin and resumed his writing career. As well as contributing poems and many songs to a number of newspapers and periodicals, he also had two collections of poems published under the title of *A Wreath of Shamrock and The Rising of the Moon*.

### POOR HEALTH

Casey remained a convinced and committed Fenian. Despite his weak state of health, he attempted to continue his work for Irish freedom and campaigned tirelessly for the release of his comrades in Mountjoy Jail.

All this eventually took its toll and his health deteriorated. He caught cholera and died in Dublin in March 1870, aged 24.

Casey died before his poetic talent had reached full maturity, but he will be remembered if only because he was the composer of *The Rising of the Moon*, a ballad which tells more effectively than history books can ever do the sad, stirring story of 1798.

John Keegan Casey was born on August 22nd 1846, 141 years ago this week.

**THE REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT** remembers with pride INLA Vol Mickey Devine, who died after 60 days on hunger-strike for political status on August 20th 1981. Mickey Devine identified the cause of his people's suffering - British misrule in Ireland - and chose active republicanism as a means to eradicate it. "Life springs from death, and from the graves of patriot men and women spring living nations."

**CASEMENT**, Roger (71st Anniversary). In loving memory of an Irish patriot and freedom fighter who was executed by the forces of British Imperialism on August 3rd 1916 because he believed in the right of the Irish to self-determination. "Self-government is our right, a thing born in us at birth; a thing to move to be doled out to us or withheld from us by another people than the right to life itself. If it be treason to fight against such an unnatural fate as this, then I am proud to be a rebel, and I shall cling to my 'rebellion' with the last drop of my blood." - Roger Casement. Remembered always by Jimmy Irvine, Adelaide, South Australia.

**DEVINE, Michael (6th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of Michael Devine, who died on hunger-strike on August 20th 1981. Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for him and his nine comrades who gave their lives for Ireland. Mickey, there is a cold and empty space in our hearts that you filled with warmth and happiness. Now your memories fill that space, the memories so warm and true. Sadly missed by his wife Margaret, son Michael and daughter Louise.

**DEVINE, Michael (6th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Michael Devine, who died on August 20th 1981 after 60 days on hunger-strike in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh. The years roll on but memories linger on of the ones we will never forget. They gave their lives for Erln's cause because they would not bend the knee. In a dark and dreary prison, ten brave soldiers there did die. 'Twas for the cause they proudly cherished, it was for you and I. He and his nine brave comrades will always be remembered by his father-in-law Norman Walmsley.

**DEVINE, Michael (6th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Michael Devine, who died on August 20th 1981 after 60 days on hunger-strike in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh. While Ireland holds these graves, Ireland unfree shall never be at peace." He and his nine brave comrades will always be remembered by his sister-in-law Kathleen and family.

**DEVINE, Michael (6th Anniversary)**. In loving memory of Michael Devine, who died on hunger-strike for five set demands. He also remember his nine comrades. Sacred heart of Jesus, have mercy on his soul. Always remembered by his brother-in-law Dessie Walmsley and family.

**DEVINE, Michael (6th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Mickey Devine, who died for political status on August 20th 1981. Always remembered by the Boyle/Bennett/O'Leary, rannam, and McCreeh/McCabe Sinn Féin Cumann, South Antrim.

**DEVINE, Michael (6th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Michael Devine, who died on August 20th 1981 at that hell-hole of Long Kesh after 60 days on hunger-strike. They tried to break your spirit, Michael, but their methods were in vain, gallant soldier true to your cause, you did remain. You would not wear a criminal uniform, you would never bend the knee, you gave your life for justice that Ireland might be free, He and his nine gallant comrades will always be remembered by Christine.

**DEVINE, Michael (6th Anniversary)**. In loving memory of Michael Devine, and his nine brave comrades who died on hunger-strike. "They may kill the revolutionary, but never the revolution." Always remembered by his friends in Derry, Belfast, Strabane, County Derry, Lurgan and Crossmaglen.

**DEVINE, Michael (6th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Michael Devine, who died

on hunger-strike. Always remembered by his friends in Magilligan and Long Kesh H-Blocks.

**DEVINE, Michael (6th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Michael Devine, who died on August 20th 1981 after 60 days on hunger-strike in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh. We will always remember you with pride. It was for Erln's cause you lived, you fought, you suffered and died. He and his nine brave comrades will always be remembered by the Duddy family, Derry.

**DEVINE, Michael (6th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Michael Devine, who died on August 20th 1981 after 60 days on hunger-strike in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh. We think of you as each day, both in loving memories of you linger on. He and his nine brave comrades will always be remembered by Orlan.

**DEVINE, Michael (6th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Michael Devine, who died on August 20th 1981 after 60 days on hunger-strike. "For those who understand, no answer is necessary. For those who do not understand, no answer is possible." He and his nine brave comrades will always be remembered by Pól, a former H-Block comrade.

**DEVINE, Michael (6th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Michael Devine, who died on August 20th 1981 after 60 days on hunger-strike. Let no-one say your sacrifice was in vain for the unborn youth of Erln will always cherish your name. He and his nine brave comrades will always be remembered by Aidan.

**DEVINE, Michael (6th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Michael Devine, who died on August 20th 1981 after 60 days on hunger-strike in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh. Not just for me but every day, we shall proudly cherish your name. Always remembered by his former classmates, St. Columba's College, Derry.

**DEVINE, Michael (6th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Michael Devine, who died on August 20th 1981 after 60 days on hunger-strike in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh. The years may pass but your memory we shall forever treasure. Always remembered by the patrons of Mealy's Bar, Derry.

**DEVINE, Michael (6th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Michael Devine, who died on August 20th 1981 after 60 days on hunger-strike in the Hell-Blocks of Long Kesh. It was for our own dear Erln that in a dreary prison cell you did die, for the cause you proudly believed in. Always remembered by his nine brave comrades who will always be remembered by Michaela.

**DEVINE, Michael (6th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of INLA Vol Mickey Devine, who died on August 20th 1981 after 60 days on hunger-strike. Always remembered by Mr and Mrs O'Donnell and family circle at home and abroad.

**DEVINE, Michael; DOHERTY, Kieran; LYNCH, Kevin; McELWEE, Thomas (6th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of Vols Kieran Doherty and Thomas McElwee and John A. Vols Michael Devine and Kevin Lynch, who died on hunger-strike in August 1981. Salute the heroes.

Always remembered by Irland-Soldarilet, Stockholm, Sweden.

**DOWNES, Sean (3rd Anniversary)**. In loving memory of the revolutionary of Sean Downes, who was murdered by RUC gunmen on August 12th 1984. Mary Queen of the Gael, pray for him. Always remembered by Paddy and Brian, Dublin.

**HUGHES, Patrick; MADDEN, Noel; DOHERTY, Oliver (15th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of Vols Patrick Hughes, Noel Madden and Oliver Doherty, South Down Battalion, Ogligh na hEireann, who were killed in an accidental explosion while on active service on August 22nd 1972. "Whoever death may surprise us, it will be welcome, provided that this, our battle cry, reach some receptive ear that another hand stretch out to take up weapons and that other men come forward to restore our funeral dirge with the staccato of machine guns and new cries of battle and victory."

**Che Guevara**. Always remembered by the comrades in the South Down Battalion.

**LAFFERTY, Eamonn (16th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of Eamonn Lafferty, member of Brigades, Ogligh na hEireann, who was shot dead by British soldiers while on active service on August 18th 1971. Fuair sé bás ag tróid ar son na saoirse. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Derry Brigade.

**MAUALEY, Gerald (18th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of our son Flan Gerald McAuley, who died on August 15th 1969. RIP. Padre Plo, pray for him. Remembering you is easy, we do it every day. Missing you is a heartache that never subsides, as if I were to go away, they walk beside us every day. Always loved and remembered by his mother and nephews Joseph and Jim.

**MAUALEY, Gerald (18th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of our son Flan Gerald McAuley, who died on August 15th 1969. RIP. St Gerard pray for him. My heart aches, I whisper low, God bless you Gerald, I miss you so. Lovingly and proudly remembered by his sister Frances and niece Gemma.

**MAUALEY, Gerald (18th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of Flan Gerald McAuley, who was murdered on August 15th 1969. RIP. St Gerard pray for him. My heart aches, I whisper low, God bless you Gerald, I miss you so. Lovingly and proudly remembered by his sister Frances and niece Gemma.

**MAUALEY, Gerald (18th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of Flan Gerald McAuley, who was murdered on August 15th 1969. RIP. O Lady of Lourdes, pray for him. Your memory is cherished and kept forever. Always remembered by his loving brother Michael.

**MAUALEY, Gerald (18th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of Flan Gerald McAuley, who was murdered on August 15th 1969. Fuair sé bás ar son muintir na hEireann. Deeply regretted by Sinn Féin Bun na bhFai.

**O'HAGAN, James (16th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of O'Hagan, Derry Brigade, Ogligh na hEireann, who was shot by British forces while on active service on August 19th 1971. "They may kill the revolutionary, but never the revolution." Always remembered by his friends and comrades.

**SIMPSON, Seamus (16th Anniversary)**. In proud and loving memory of Vol Seamus Simpson, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade. Ogligh na hEireann, who died on active service on August 11th 1971. Thus he is remembered by his son also. Always regretted by Sinn Féin Bun na bhFai.

**MARY, MAGUIRE**. Deepest condolences are extended to the family of Therese Maguire, who died recently in London from East Cavan Sinn Féin Comhairle Ceantair.

**TYNDAL**. Sincere sympathy is extended to Brian Tyndal and family on the death of his Aunt Nancy, from his friends and comrades in the Casement/Nolan Sinn Féin Cumann, Stillorgan, County Dublin.

## COMHBHRON

**DUKE**. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Charlie Duke, Stradone, County Cavan, who died on Sunday, August 2nd. Always remembered by his comrades and friends in East Cavan Sinn Féin Comhairle Ceantair.

**DUKE**. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of

Charlie Duke, who died on Sunday, August 2nd. Always remembered by the Patsy O'Hara Sinn Féin Cumann, Stradone, County Cavan, and the Doherty Sinn Féin Cumann, Cavan town, the Thomas Ashe Sinn Féin Cumann, Padraig O'Connell County Cavan and the Kieran Doherty Sinn Féin Cumann, Balleborough, County Cavan.

**KEOGH**. The Quinn family extend heartfelt sympathy to Delrae Whelan and family on the death of her sister

Mary. Maguire. Deepest condolences are extended to the family of Therese Maguire, who died recently in London from East Cavan Sinn Féin Comhairle Ceantair.

**TYNDAL**. Sincere sympathy is extended to Brian Tyndal and family on the death of his Aunt Nancy, from his friends and comrades in the Casement/Nolan Sinn Féin Cumann, Stillorgan, County Dublin.

## BEANNACHTAI

**MCCOTTER, Pat (Brixton)**. Love and best wishes on your birthday Pat. From Rós, Aine, Maura, Flonuala, Eibread, Liam, Fintan, Sean and Una.

**MAC COITIR, Pádraig (Brixton)**. Braitha shona duit a Pádraig. Ó chianmullig Mac Coitir agus na daoine.

**MAC COITIR, Pádraig**. Maithe thú a chomrádóir ó do deartháir mór (beag) Liam.

**MAC COITIR, Pádraig (Brixton)**. Lá mór duit (Eyebrows). Caide Ísolaill ílir sin, ion seans go follí? Ó do chara Flair.

**Ó DOIBHLIN, Peadar (Crumlin Road)**. Happy birthday! Peadar. From Larry and Moira, Maghera.

## Buíochas

**McARDLE**. The father, mother and family of the late Margaret McArdle wish to thank most sincerely all those who sympathized with them in their recent sad bereavement, those who called personally to the house, those who attended the removal,

funeral Mass and interment and those who sent Mass cards, floral tributes and messages of sympathy, including those from the woman in Magheraberry Prison and the men in Loughinisland and Magilligan Prisons. We trust this will be accepted by us as a token of our sincere appreciation for the timely sacrifice of the Mass which will be offered for your intentions. Eddie and Kathleen McArdle, Andersonstown, Belfast.

## Notices deadline

ALL NOTICES for AP/RN must be in either our Dublin or

Belfast offices by 5pm on Monday for inclusion in the issue of the Thursday in the same week. Remember, 5pm Monday.

**AN CUMANN CABHRACH**

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

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

An Cumann Cabhrach, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1



# THE FLYING COLUMN

## WHO DARES WINS - and those who don't dare don't wear ties.

Sales of the SAS regimental tie have slumped because its would-be wearers are panic-stricken in case an IRA Volunteer recognises the tie, leaps out and shows them that the IRA dares and it will win.

Frantic lobbying is now going on within the ranks of Britain's most-publicised regiment for a more discreet way to show off how fearless they are without letting the IRA know that they're fearless, if you know what I mean.

EAMON McCANN'S column in the current edition of *Hot Press* tells of a journalist from the English music paper, *New Musical Express*, who came to Derry to interview "a fella supposed to be big in the IRA".

He is led to the interview by a youth with a suspicious-looking bulge under his jacket. The interview over, he is led back to the city centre by the same fella. Just as they part, the youth pulls out from his jacket a VHS cassette and says:

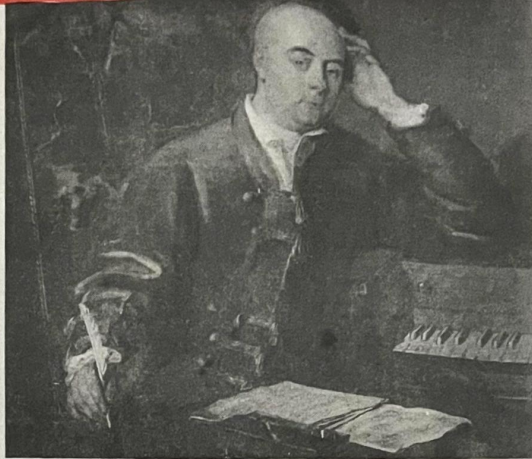
"Any chance you could work in a mention of my mates' band? They've made this video. They're a bit like *The Cure*, need the publicity. Do your best."

THIS YEAR'S Conservative Party conference will see the appearance of the leader of the French National Front, Jean Marie Le Pen.

The well-known fascist who wants everyone in France who isn't white to be 'repatriated' has been invited to address a meeting and a dinner by Policy Search, a right-wing think tank led by prominent Tory ideologue Sir Alfred Sherman.

SAS WAR CRIMINAL and drug-smuggler Simon Hayward was in the news again last week as he began a five-year sentence in Sweden.

In a not-such-a-surprise move, the British government made representations



● Young Joe Cahill seen here composing *Amhrán na bhFiann* at Ballykinlar Internment Camp, 1920. (With apologies to Handel and Peadar Kearney.)

to the Swedes demanding that they be more "relaxed" in their treatment of Wayward Hayward, insisting that he be allowed free association with his fellow prisoners.

Yes folks, all this and much more to come from the people who brought you such epics as, "A crime is a crime is a crime."

the North to attend an appeal hearing next month.

SICK RUC. Get-well-soon cards can be sent to Musgrave Park Hospital, Belfast, for RUC man McLean from Pomeroy. McLean severed an artery in his leg when he fell through the roof of a building in the town while trying to remove a Tricolour. Apparently, he was extremely tired and emotional.

AN AMUSING little snippet from Jed's *Off the Record* column in the *Derry Journal*:

Ouch! A party of RUC men who arrived to clear a barricade at Rosville Street in the Bogside area at 5am on Monday began to play football with a milk crate.

When the crate was kicked into the air, one uniformed Maradona jumped up to head it. He is now recovering from a split forehead and concussion in Altnagelvin Hospital.

## DÚIRT SIAD

Guildford Four move clears way on extradition.

- Irish Times headline.

New bombing cases inquiry opens door to extradition.

- Irish Press headline.

Dublin relents on extradition.

- Observer headline.

I see the Home Secretary's move as a stepping stone, not a victory.

- Guildford Four defence solicitor Alistair Logan.

Mr Hurd moves a little.

- London Times editorial headline.

IRA aims to kill more soldiers.

- Sunday Times front-page headline for shock revelation by the inimitable Chris Ryder.

I would openly admit that we are a sectarian force because we are the soldiers of the Queen.

- A UDR soldier interviewed in the *Guardian* newspaper. He also said that there was "nobody left" between his farm and the border (ten miles away). The *Guardian* concludes that by this "he means no Protestant farmer".

Asked about the IRA's motive in letting it be known that it had the document [British Ambassador Nicholas Fenn] said that he was, of course, not a spokesman for the IRA.

- Irish Times.

Ní cinsireacht polaitiúil é ach cinsireacht stáit

Dinny McGinley (Fine Gael) ag cosaint Ailt 31.

Portlaoise is a hell-hole... If you're caught even talking to a political prisoner you're sent back to Mountjoy.

- A former non-political prisoner interviewed on RTE Radio 1's series, *The Sad, the Mad and the Bad*, on institutions.

In an effort to appeal to the proletariat and the bog monster contingent, they have acquired a jolly class of a course commentator who cracks the odd joke and patiently explains what in fact the riders are doing to the disenfranchised muck savages who embarrass the judges in front of their appalling foreign friends by cheering whenever a Brit demolishes a fence.

- The *Hot Press*'s Declan Lynch on the Dublin Horse Show.

Britain is the dirty old man of Europe.

- Greenpeace spokesperson Andrew Booth on chemical pollution of the seas.



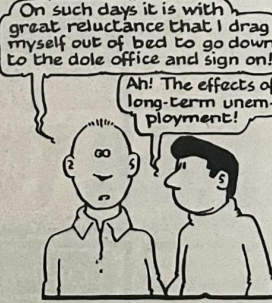
© GORMAC

There are days when I feel nothing but total apathy....

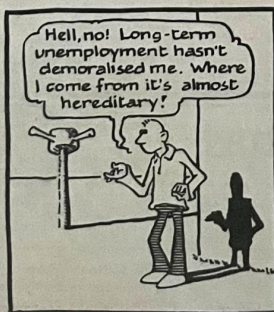


On such days it is with great reluctance that I drag myself out of bed to go down to the dole office and sign on!

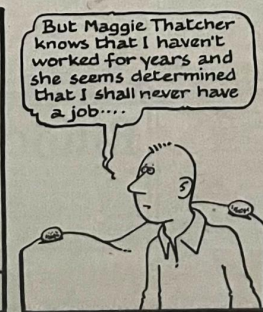
Ah! The effects of long-term unemployment!



Hell, no! Long-term unemployment hasn't demoralised me. Where I come from it's almost hereditary!



But Maggie Thatcher knows that I haven't worked for years and she seems determined that I shall never have a job....



So why does she want a postcard from me every fortnight letting her know that I'm unemployed???

