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Republican News

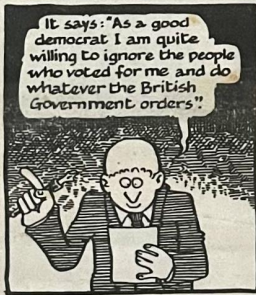
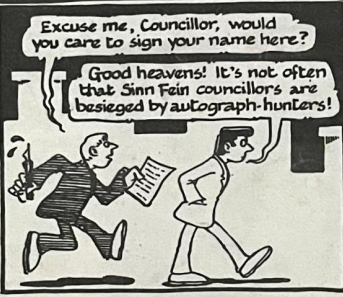
IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING
POLITICAL WEEKLY



**Sinn Fein blows
MI5 conspiracy**

**SEE
PAGE
TWO**

Sraith Nua Imi 9 Uimhir 40 15 Deireadh Fomhair Thursday 15th October 1987 (Britain 35p) Price 30p



— obviously due to the presence of a number of former republican prisoners on local councils. But the emphasis is on the declaration.

The enforcement of such legislation could be on either "civil or criminal" grounds. Criminal cases are dealt with in criminal courts, with the British crown as the prosecutor. This may bring on the British government accusations of disbarring duly-elected candidates and of disenfranchising part of the electorate.

Civil cases, on the other hand, can be brought by any member of the public, and it would be far less embarrassing — indeed far more valuable propaganda — for the British government to be able to boast that Sinn Fein elected representatives had been debarred by their 'colleagues' — even if these colleagues are loyalist councillors. 'Ulsterisation' takes a new turn: 'Let the Irish fight the Irish in the courts now, as well as on the streets of Belfast and on the hills of South Armagh.'

**THE
PEOPLE'S VOICE**

Well may the British government deny that what is at issue is a person's beliefs. People are elected to give a voice to those who voted for them. A significant fraction of the Six-County electorate supports, condones or at least does not object to the methods used by the IRA — even though they may on occasion be critical of certain operations. The reason for this support is simple, but it will have to be repeated again and again in months to come: Northern nationalist were undemocratically deprived of political power in 1922, and the IRA has always represented the only political muscle of those 600,000 nationalists. In times of pogroms and attacks by loyalists, the IRA is also their last line of defence.

The British government proposals therefore amount to a declaration of war on the 80,000 to 100,000 nationalists who, while they do not support everything the IRA does, recognise the right of the Irish people to take up arms to establish democracy and sovereignty in their own country. By proposing to bring people to court for voicing opinions as they were elected to do, the British government is, in effect, setting itself up as a thought police.

The proposals have two aims: in the long-term, to completely exclude Sinn Fein from elected office; in the short-term, to soften up loyalist politicians who started their council disruption tactics in 1985 over the presence of Sinn Fein councillors. The new law, the British hope, may bring loyalists back into

(Continued on page 2)

War on Sinn Fein Voters

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT has escalated its six-year-old war on the tens of thousands of nationalists who vote for republican candidates in the North.

Bobby Sands was elected MP for Fermanagh/South Tyrone in April 1981. A year later, the British amended the Representation of the People Act to disqualify people convicted of political offences from standing for election for a period of five years.

In October 1982, Sinn Fein had its first electoral successes. Two years later, new identification laws were introduced which made voting more difficult for the unemployed and the less-well-off.

In May 1985, Sinn Fein entered the council chambers of the Six Counties, causing much furor among unionists whose rule had hitherto never been seriously challenged. Today, the British government is proposing to change the law once again in the hope of preventing Sinn Fein from standing for election at all.

What the British are demanding is that republican candidates renounce all public expression of support for the IRA: the new law would require candidates in local elections, and possibly Stormont elections, to "declare and undertake that if elected they will neither support nor assist the activities of any organisation proscribed in Northern Ireland".

The British government's proposals are obviously directed at Sinn Fein and in particular at those forums from which Sinn Fein does not abstain: the local councils. Among the different options examined, the British have ruled out, for the time being, the idea of proscribing Sinn Fein as the banning of a political party would be difficult for them to defend.

They appear reluctant to bring in an oath of allegiance similar to that required of Westminster MPs as it would be "hard to enforce". In effect, they fear the possible devaluation of the oath in the eyes of 'constitutional' nationalists. The British government is in favour of an extension of the five-year disqualification period

(Continued from page 1)

the councils and help 'normalise' the situation.

Unionist reaction to the new proposals was, on the whole, favourable. A spokesperson for the Association of OUP Councillors "welcomed" some form of legislation. "At last!" exclaimed the Alliance Party. Paisley predictably muttered that the whole thing was a whitewash. The DUP preferred (and declared) a ban on Sinn Fein. (The declaration, incidentally, does not make it unlawful to support the UDA's attacks on nationalist homes and its random assassination campaign.)

SOP TO LOYALISTS

The SDLP's attitude was an example of unprincipled hypocrisy. It did not object to the proposals in principle, but because it would make a "bad law" which would be difficult to enforce. The SDLP would much prefer to have Sinn Fein in the council chambers "so that their hypocrisy could be seen by all", Eddie McGrady said. But the truth is that the SDLP believes that the Sinn Fein vote has been on the decline since January 1986 and it fears that the new legislation may instead strengthen support for republican candidates. The SDLP would probably have accepted such legislation five years ago. Today it thinks it is too little too late and may achieve the opposite effect.

A more principled objection came from British Labour spokesperson Kevin McNamara. Identifying the proposals as a "sop" to unionists, McNamara asked the British government: "Why don't they prosecute if they have evidence?" Indeed the arsenal of laws already in existence to prosecute people for expressing opinions already includes the Prevention of Terrorism Act and the Public Order Order.

The new proposals, furthermore, would constitute a breach of Clause 21 of the Northern Ireland Constitution Act of 1973 which makes it unlawful "for an authority or body to require people to take an oath, make an undertaking or a declaration" as a "condition of their being appointed". The clause had been introduced to allow hitherto debarred nationalists from taking office. Fourteen years later, the British definition of democracy has seemingly been amended to the contrary.

Sinn Fein entered the electoral arena in 1982 to give a voice to republican people in the Six Counties. In Gerry Adams' words:

"If such a declaration — abjuring the use of force for political ends — was a stipulation of membership of parliament, the House of Commons would be empty and there would have been no Falklands war."

The battle is now on to defend the civil rights of Northern nationalists, and in particular their right to express support for those who take up arms to defend or free our country. It will also be a battle against hypocrisy. As Gerry Adams said:

"We will not allow the British government to disenfranchise the large section of the nationalist community which votes for Sinn Fein."

Sinn Fein blows MI5 conspiracy

THE BRITISH CABINET has authorised a campaign of selective assassination in Ireland, said Sinn Fein spokesperson Martin McGuinness at a press conference held in Derry on Monday, October 12th.

Sinn Fein described how local man Stephen Lambert (30), an ex-prisoner, alerted them to a British Intelligence recruiting operation in the city just over a month earlier when he received an envelope containing £50 through the post. Sinn Fein then played an hour-long tape-recorded conversation with Lambert and a British agent during a rendezvous in an isolated forest in Limavady on Wednesday, October 7th. Lambert, at great personal risk, agreed with Sinn Fein to record the conversation and masquerade as an informer because, he said:

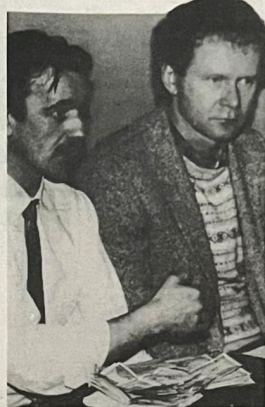
"There have been many incidents where people have been put out of Derry and other areas for informing. The Republican Movement has always got the blame for these incidents. I thought this was an opportunity to show where the blame really lies."

In the recording the British agent casually talks about eliminating, discrediting and smearing prominent Derry republicans, including Martin McGuinness and Sinn Fein Councillors Gerry Doherty and Hugh Brady. It is incontrovertible evidence that, hand in glove with the upfront Hillsborough strategy of stabilising the Six Counties — through cosmetic tinkering with the judiciary and repressive state apparatus — the British Intelligence services' covert attempts to infiltrate and sabotage the Republican Movement relentlessly continue.

Three days after Lambert received the £50 by post he received a second envelope containing part of an ordnance survey map showing the Derry to Bunrana road. On Monday, October 5th, he was getting into his car outside work when a man rushed up to him and thrust an envelope into his hand. The man made off in a waiting car. This second envelope contained £200 and a typewritten note telling Lambert: "Someone high in the Republican Movement is out to discredit you. Our organisation can help." It gave details of a meeting at the arrivals lounge in Aldergrove Airport at 6pm the following day. It mentioned there would be more money "to sort out your financial problems".

Lambert drove to the airport on Tuesday, October 6th, and was approached by a fair-haired man of around 40 wearing glasses. He had a distinctive English accent and identified himself as "Steve". For an hour Lambert and the British agent talked in Lambert's car. He said he represented "a body far higher than the RUC or Special Branch" but he could not, at that time, specify what this was.

He said he had been watching Lambert for some time and believed him to be "disillusioned". He knew specific details of Lambert's building society and credit card account. The agent then told Lambert that the British had



● Stephen Lambert and Martin McGuinness exposing the MI5 conspiracy

already conceded that a united Ireland was inevitable. Their concern now was to make sure that when they did withdraw, they left a united Ireland that they could "accommodate". They wanted to "remove" or smear the Sinn Fein leadership, the "hard men", so that a weakened and discredited Sinn Fein would have no political power or influence. The field would then be left to the parties and people that the British could direct and control.

Before returning home that day Lambert, was given a telephone number, 43241, a codename, "Connie", and a further £100. He was instructed to meet his handler in the Waterside area of Derry the following day.

TAPE RECORDER

Before the rendezvous, Lambert had been rigged with a miniature tape recorder by Sinn Fein. As prearranged, he met "Steve" and was taken to an isolated forest in the Limavady area. (Significantly, in an IRA statement released after the execution of informer Derry Hegarty in February 1986, the Derry Brigade revealed that he had admitted meeting his MI5 contacts in various forests around Limavady.)

Lambert disguised the clicking sound of the tape recorder by rattling keys in his hand so the British agent did not suspect he was being bugged.

The conversation provides an insight into the recruiting techniques of MI5; their smooth, professional deceit. The agent frequently jokes with Lambert and assures him he is not an expendable 'tout' saying:

"You're in safe hands now. We work for the government. We're not restricted by the army or the Branch. We go to the highest. We're a very professional outfit. We run all sorts of different things all over the world, usually fighting terrorism. We run professional agents. It's nothing like the old bag of gold to Judas. You'll work with us, not for us. You're part of us now."

He emphasised that Lambert would not be used in the role of an RUC perjuror such as Raymond Gilmour and distanced his organisation from the RUC in this respect.

Cutting through the window dressing, the agent got to the crux of his organisation's intentions. He said:

"I'm not interested in collecting evidence so I can put someone in a court. I get information which is useful — so we can put people away. Not like with evidence, but to get them off the scene, whether it's discrediting them, like we might be into with people like Brady or 'Mad Dog' (Sinn Fein Councillor Gerry Doherty), or we can always set them up or do anything like that (AP/RN's emphasis)."

The agent continually stressed to Lambert that in working with him he would be helping to achieve a united Ireland but the prerequisite for this was to "get the men of violence off the streets". The "framework for peace" already started through the Hillsborough Treaty, the agent continued, would then come into being. Lambert and the agent's organisation were really out to achieve the same thing! They just had "different ways of going about it". As the meeting ended the agent handed Lambert a further £50, bringing the total amount to £400.

Another meeting was arranged for a week later in a hotel but Lambert disclosed the whole affair at Monday's press conference, the day before the meeting. He substantiated his account by telephoning "Steve", the agent, in the presence of assembled journalists and, using his codename, he arranged a meeting for 1.15pm that day. Lambert had no intention of keeping the appointment. Later an RTE journalist rang the number and a man with an English accent like the one on Lambert's tape-recording answered and said at first he had been on the road at the arranged time. He then denied knowing anything about Lambert, saying the journalist must have rung the wrong number.

RIGHT TO THE TOP

Sinn Fein's Martin McGuinness said that the whole episode clarified what republicans had been saying for years:

"That various British Intelligence agencies have been active in Ireland and that among their other briefs they had full authorisation to assassinate members of our movement."

"Stephen Lambert has exposed the full extent of these covert operations, revealing their methods, techniques and ability to produce hundreds of pounds. Most significantly, it reveals their self-confessed readiness to discredit and eliminate political activists."

"It also had wider implications in view of recent revelations about Britain's dirty tricks Intelligence departments, as this agent stated that his organisation's authority 'goes right to the highest'."

"It is clear that the British Prime Minister and her Cabinet has sanctioned these operations and are currently overseeing a planned campaign of selective assassination in Ireland."

While they have suffered a setback on this particular occasion, it should not be forgotten, McGuinness said, that their dirty tricks in Ireland would continue "while their political masters are already scheming up ways of banning Sinn Fein".



● Fra McCann (left) and Mairtin O Muilleoir (right) at the launch of the Sinn Féin campaign for the two West Belfast by-elections

Active representation

WITH TEN DAYS TO GO before polling in the two West Belfast by-elections for seats on Belfast City Council, Sinn Féin's candidates, Mairtin O Muilleoir and Fra McCann, launched the start of their campaign with a press conference.

Fra McCann, who is standing in the Lower Falls constituency, explained to journalists that Sinn Féin is daily involved in "active representation". He told AP/RN:

"Before the intervention of Sinn Féin in electoral politics, the Belfast City Council was a political irrelevancy. The SDLP was content to tolerate the loyalist domination of city council politics and to allow this sectarianism to go unchallenged. Most nationalists were not even aware of the name of their local councillor. That situation has radically changed. Not only have we made the city council into an effective political platform and challeng-

ed loyalist domination, but our councillors have established a precedent of active representation, of using their elected status to work with the people of our areas in an effective way."

Much of the press conference was taken up with questions on the British government's discussion paper on ways to stifle elected Sinn Féin representatives. O Muilleoir reaffirmed Sinn Féin's "flexible approach". He dismissed media comments that any British moves towards gagging Sinn Féin would be a "Godsend" for the party: "This is a deliberate attempt to destroy national resistance and we are taking it very seriously."

Meanwhile, the Belfast & District Branch of the National Union of Journalists has agreed to send a letter to NUJ members in RTE asking that they refuse to provide coverage of any elections in the Six Counties unless they are allowed to interview all of the candidates.

The move, which came at a meeting in

Belfast last Friday, was in response to a call from Mairtin O Muilleoir, who is a member of the NUJ, for support from fellow branch members in line with the NUJ's stated policy of opposition to Section 31.

After the meeting, O Muilleoir said:

"It is time for all NUJ members in RTE to stand up and be counted. They can either impose censorship on a fellow member or demonstrate their opposition to political interference in the news media."

"The injustice of Section 31 has already been highlighted through the principled protests of some journalists in Dublin. I hope that this decision will provide the spur to further action by all NUJ members in RTE."

● Mairtin O Muilleoir was mistakenly described in last week's AP/RN as being employed by a Belfast newspaper. He is, in fact, a self-employed journalist who contributes to a number of publications.

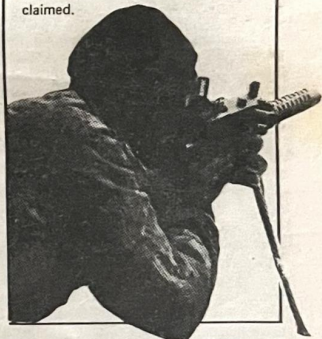


BARRACKS ATTACKED

IN SIMULTANEOUS attacks, IRA Volunteers in West Belfast fired four rockets at two heavily-fortified RUC barracks.

The operation against the military bases by two IRA active service units took place around mid-morning on Wednesday, October 14th. IRA Volunteers using shoulder-held launchers fired two rockets at each of the bases but the rockets failed to detonate.

Earlier in the week, on Sunday night, October 11th, an IRA unit opened fire on the British army outpost at Broadway in West Belfast. The Volunteers commandeered a house in St James's Park at around 7pm before firing 12 shots from a G3 automatic rifle at the observation post. No hits were claimed.



TAXIMAN MURDERED

HUNDREDS of people attended the funeral on Monday afternoon of retired taxi-driver Francisco 'Fra' Notarantano, who was murdered as he lay in bed on Friday morning, October 9th.

The 66-year-old republican veteran, who lived with his wife, Edith, 14-year-old daughter Norreen and two grandchildren, has six daughters and five sons. He had been imprisoned in the '40s for IRA membership and was interned in the early '70s. However, in recent years he had not been active in the Movement.

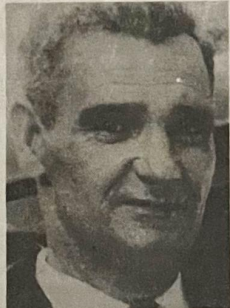
The gunmen struck just before 7.30am. Four men in a Vauxhall Cavalier, hijacked earlier in Disraeli Street in the Shankill Road area, drove up outside the Notarantano home. Two men wearing blue boiler suits, masks and gloves, and armed with at least one handgun, forced open the front door, which

had been damaged in a British army raid, and walked up the stairs to the bedrooms.

Edith Notarantano told AP/RN:

"I didn't hear anything as I have very bad hearing. But my husband must have heard them because he woke up. At first I thought it was a British army raid but then a masked man came into the bedroom and as my husband got up, he shot him in the chest and in the back."

The murdered man's 16-year-old grandson, Francisco O'Brien, narrowly escaped death when the gunman fired three shots at him as



FRANCISCO 'FRA' NOTARANTANO

he was lying in bed. He described what happened:

"One stood at the door and fired a couple of shots. Two went

into my pillow and missed me. I covered my face with my hand when the last shot was fired and it cut my hand."

The assassins then walked down the stairs, got into their car, and drove through Ballymurphy before abandoning the vehicle in Blackmountain Walk in the nearby loyalist Springmartin Estate.

BRITISH FORCES STRANGELY ABSENT

Sinn Féin's West Belfast MP, Gerry Adams, whose father was a good friend of Fra Notarantano, condemned the murder. He also remarked on the absence of British forces in Ballymurphy on Friday morning which was "crawling with crown forces yesterday". Sinn Féin Councillor Sean Keenan,

who had been stopped twice the previous day by British troops said:

"It is strange that every day for the past few months the Ballymurphy area has been saturated by the British army and RUC, with hundreds of homes raided. Yet this morning that presence disappeared allowing loyalists access into and out of Ballymurphy."

The West Belfast Taxi Association, which Fra Notarantano had been a member of for 20 years, described his murder as a "cowardly act". The Association also accused "irresponsible politicians" of creating an "open season on our taxi-drivers".

The West Belfast Taxi Association has often been the target of statements saying that it had "connections with paramilitaries". Fra Notarantano is the fifth taxi-driver to be the victim of sectarian assassins in recent years.

THE FIANNA FAIL FAITHFUL went to Bodenstown last Sunday to hear Charles Haughey deliver what was anticipated as a keynote address on the Hillsborough Treaty and the Extradition Act. If they expected nationalist verbalising they were disappointed, for Haughey's words were pitched for ears far away from Tone's grave-side.

In stark contrast to his oration (out of government) last year in which he called for the renegotiation of Hillsborough and said it had worsened the position of nationalists, Haughey continued the pretence of bargaining with the British which is designed to maintain the credibility of the Treaty.

It was widely anticipated that the Fianna Fail leader would say outright that the Extradition Act would not be implemented until reforms in the Six-County judicial system were made. In the event he merely hinted at the prospect of deferral in a low-key speech designed to facilitate any British moves or hints of moves which would ensure that the Extradition Act becomes a reality.

With cross-party support in Leinster House for this position, the tactic was summed up by former Foreign Minister Peter Barry on Cork Local Radio:

"I think Mr Haughey sees that now and the problems it would cause if the Extradition Treaty is not ratified and he is now trying to push the British government into doing something (anything!) about the administration of justice, about the relationship with the security forces..."

"I think that, at the present time he (Haughey) wants the Extradition Act to go through, SO do I."

MORE FORTHCOMING

But if Mr Haughey's voice was lowered at Bodenstown other Fianna Failers were more forthcoming in expressing nationalist sentiments. They had the prominent presence of anti-extradition campaigners at Bodenstown to remind them of what the Extradition Act really means and it was reported that the response to the leaflets was favourable among the overwhelming majority of the crowd. Several Fianna Fail members also handed out leaflets calling for the repeal of the Act.

Earlier that day, the Garda Special Branch had tried to thwart any raising of the extradition issue at Bodenstown. Five campaigners were arrested under Section 30 of the Offences Against the State Act in Dublin at midday as they were about to set off for the Fianna Fail commemoration. They were held for several hours in Fitzgibbon Street Garda Barracks and another two were later transferred to the Bridewell and not released until 6pm.

But these tactics did not stop the growing disquiet in Fianna Fail and the gulf between its leadership and rank and file becoming apparent both at the week-

HAUGHEY TONES IT DOWN



Charles Haughey tries to put on a brave face despite increasing pressure from within his party to repeal the Extradition Act

end and in the campaign around the country. The latest Fianna Fail representatives to come out against the Extradition Act have been Waterford TD Brian Swift and Kerry Senator Tom McEllistrich. Two members of the party's National Executive, James Kelly and Ann O'Rourke, are actively campaigning for repeal.

AOH

The Ancient Order of Hibernians in America has called on the Dublin government to stop the implementation of the Extradition Act.

A statement issued by the National Board of the AOH said:

"The cases of the Birmingham Six, Guildford Four, the Maguires and Judith Ward clearly reveal the deficiencies of British justice. Convictions through tortured confessions, frame-ups and misinformation are not acceptable to Irish America. Pardons or ministerial investigations cannot alter the injustice imposed upon the innocent wrongly convicted."

WATERFORD

The latest public bodies in Ireland to come out against extradition have been Waterford Trades Council and Tramore Town Commissioners in County

Waterford, Limerick Trades Council and Carrick-on-Suir Trades Council, County Tipperary. The Dundalk branch of the ATGWU have also come out in opposition.

Well-attended public meetings have been held around the country and more are planned for the coming weeks as the December 1st deadline for extradition draws near.

LIMERICK

A meeting was held in Limerick on Wednesday, October 7th. It was addressed by several city councillors and by prominent local solicitor Gordon Hayes.

Councillor Joe Harrington said that extradition was similar to the political status issue of some years back in that it was an attempt to "criminalise the legitimate struggle against British rule in the Six Counties".

Gordon Hayes said: "The British police and justice system is so pervaded by anti-Irish racism as to make it impossible for any Irish person to be treated with fairness and impartiality."

Referring to the Birmingham Six he said:

"Chris Mullin's book should be compulsory reading for every public representative. But even if these innocent people were released in the morning it would still not justify passing the Extradition Act which was a betrayal of the Irish people."

GALWAY

Galway city was the venue for an anti-extradition meeting also on October 7th. A packed hall heard contributions from Captain James Kelly (Fianna Fail National Executive), Joe Costello (National Anti-Extradition Committee), and Pat O'Flaherty (President of University College Galway's Students' Union).

O'Flaherty (who was present in a personal capacity) expressed concern at the plight of Irish students being harassed in Britain under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

Captain Kelly condemned the trend of historical and political revisionism whose aim, he said, was to "finally eliminate the concept of Irishness" through a campaign to remove Articles 2 and 3 of the Constitution:

"History cannot be denied and the right to unity is based on it. They hold seminars to explain why Irish nationalism is out of date since it sticks in their collective revisionist gutlet."

"The Hillsborough Agreement is an indication of their success and now we are about to take another step down the revisionist road."

This was contrary to Fianna Fail's basic principle, he claimed.

Citing the history of extradition legislation, Joe Costello said:

"The main effect of the act will be to emasculate all forms of political protest. The right of protest as seen in Nicaragua, El Salvador and South Africa has always been championed by trade unionists and when the definition of protest becomes this narrow the result is the criminalising of those who struggle for justice."

Costello urges a strong trade union campaign against the Extradition Act.

All the three main speakers agreed that deferment of the Act was not enough and that the campaign must continue until it is repealed.

SHANNON

Shannon, in County Clare, held a very successful anti-extradition meeting on Tuesday, October 13th, the main speaker at which was Fr Des Wilson. One hundred and seventy people attended and Fianna Fail Town Commissioner Geraldine Lambert was elected chair of the Clare action group.

Shannon Town Commissioners were among the first public bodies to call for repeal.

The Irish Anti-Extradition Committee (5 Henrietta Street, Dublin 1) can now be contacted by phone at 01-727757. Donations can be paid to the Anti-Extradition Fund, Bank of Ireland, Rotunda, A/C No. 88331532.

STRIP-SEARCH DELEGATION

THE CAMPAIGN against strip-searching gathered momentum yesterday (Wednesday) when a high-powered delegation met with 26-County government representatives in Dublin. They put several questions to the government officials and at a press conference afterwards said they were optimistic that more pressure to end the practice would be put on the British authorities.

The five-person delegation was made up of Patricia Hegarty (president of the Union of Students in Ireland), Jerry Shanahan, (president of the Dublin Council of Trades Unions), Annie Campbell (Stop the Strip-Searches Campaign), Sylvia Meehan (chairperson of the Independent Public Tribunal on Strip-Searching and Caroline McCamley (Council for the Status of Women).

The group was met by Department of Foreign Affairs First Secretary Brendan MacMahon and two other officials. Foreign Minister Brian Lenihan sent his apologies for being unable to attend.

QUESTIONS

Among the questions put to the government officials were:

● How long does the government intend to wait for a response to any requests made to the

British government, in relation to the practice of strip-searching?

● What was done with the 30,000 signatures on the petitions handed in to the government, at Leinster House, by Sean MacBride in March 1986 for the attention of Mr Barry?

● What representations did the Irish Embassy make to the British government about the cases of the two Irish women in Durhan - Martina Anderson and Ella O'Dwyer?

● Does the government have any plans to end the practice of strip-searching in the 26 Counties, given the modern technology available for security purposes?

Annie Campbell told the press

conference that the government had guaranteed the campaign that all the questions would be answered within one month.

The government "shared the concern of many people" about the lack of progress in bringing about an end to strip-searching, government officials told her, and the Foreign Affairs officials had told the delegation that the issue was 'raised regularly' at the Inter-Governmental meetings under the Hillsborough Treaty.

Jerry Shanahan, who visited Armagh Jail last year, pointed out that there was no valid security reason for strip-searching, describing it as "pure sexual harassment". USI President Patricia Hegarty

also rejected the 'security' excuse, saying that Maghberry had cost £30 million to build with a further £5 million being spent specifically on high-tech security: "Only two items have ever been found during strip-searching - a £5 note and a bottle of perfume, which shows how unnecessary it is for security purposes."

Both Caroline McCamley and Sylvia Meehan asserted that the practice is used as a punitive measure. Said Meehan:

"Strip-searching is inhumane, degrading and humiliating. The Independent Tribunal came to the conclusion that it is used only to destroy the morale of prisoners."

PAY ILLUSION

'AND FOR MY NEXT TRICK...'

BY TOM O'DWYER

WITH ALL THE RAZZMATAZZ of a conjurer, Southern premier Charles Haughey announced on October 9th his new pay deal, the Programme for National Recovery. But, like all magical tricks, the illusion was created with much backstage manipulation and the agreement which Haughey pulled from his top hat wasn't quite what it seemed.

Three months of negotiations between Haughey, the unions and the employers resulted in a package which will make workers pay for an economic crisis they didn't create, and which sets the seal on the already massive public sector redundancies. The tiny pay increases granted under the three-year programme will be quickly eaten away by the cutbacks in health and education. The best that can be said of the trade union leaders who signed the deal is that they negotiated with a gun held to their heads.

The deal means a 3% increase on the first £120 of basic pay and 2% on the rest, but the low-paid will get a minimum £4 rise. Haughey also agreed to take £225 million off the tax bill of the PAYE worker - a sum roughly equivalent to a £6 per week wage increase. All told, the deal will give wage rises to the private and public sector of little more than 4% to 4½% per year for the next three years. But with inflation running at 3.2% and



● Charles Haughey and ITGWU president John Carroll after Fianna Fail launched their latest conjuring trick aimed at further reducing the living standards of the PAYE workers

with extra health, education and local authority charges on top of that, the agreement amounts to a pay cut in real terms.

Haughey's objective is to drive down wages so as to reduce the state's £25 billion debt, but there are other ways of

doing this. Over £3 billion is likely to be lost in unpaid taxes because of cutbacks in the Revenue Commissioners. In addition to this, companies may be getting away with up to £600 million per year in undeclared earnings under the black economy.

But when the agreement turns to the questions of corporation and capital tax, it merely promises to "review the situation". Promises are made to improve tax collection but not to hire more staff for the job. The rich are clearly not expected to pay any more than a nominal part of the state debt although their representatives in successive Fianna Fail and Coalition governments were responsible for it.

AIRY PROMISES

The programme makes some very airy promises about job creation. A further 20,000 jobs per year is the target but where these jobs are to be is not made clear. What is clear is that low-paying industries like tourism and short-term projects like the new Custom House Docks development will play a large part.

The new agreement is a public relations coup for the Fianna Fail government which is not able to claim that it has created an atmosphere of "unity and partnership" between boss and worker. But the agreement of the unions was gained only by government threats to abandon the £4 minimum rise for the lower paid and by fear on the part of the ICTU leaders that their members could not sustain the industrial action needed to force real pay increases.

The magical charm of Haughey's deal faded five days later when his promises were shown up by a set of vicious expenditure cuts. It seems unlikely that anything more substantial than promises with be achieved without sustained struggle.

CPAD charges dropped - again!

FIVE MEMBERS of the Concerned Parents Against Drugs movement had charges of "watching and besetting" the house of an alleged drug-pusher, Vianny 'Boyo' Dunne, thrown out when the main prosecution witness, Dunne himself, failed to appear in the Dublin Circuit Court for the second consecutive day on Tuesday.

The five - Bernard Carney, Noel Sillery, Rose Dugdale, Sean O'Treas-aigh and Paddy Kennedy - complained afterwards that this was the 12th time they had appeared in court on this charge and that it was "a great waste of taxpayers' money".

('Boyo' Dunne's sister-in-law, 'Mero' O'Donoghue, has been given till next Monday by the CPAD to leave her Marrowbone Lane Flats home after being accused of pushing tangestic tablets.)

GARDA PUSH AGAINST CPAD

In January, four members of the CPAD were found not guilty by a jury of various charges arising from the eviction of Marie 'Ma Baker' Nolan in October 1985. Five more were cleared in April by another jury of similar charges arising from the same incident and 12 others consequently had charges against them withdrawn.

On Wednesday, October 7th, CPAD activists Eddie Greene and Hugh Cahill were arrested under Section 30 of the Offences Against the State Act but released without charge the following day. The CPAD Central Committee said:

"This brings the total to seven members of the CPAD arrested under Section 30 in the past six weeks. All were released without charge.

"We call on the Minister for Justice to instruct junior members of the



● VIANNY 'BOYO' DUNNE
Garda to cease this continuing abuse of their powers which are being used to harass and intimidate our members."

Unionists against fair employment

"MAGGIE THATCHER wouldn't employ members of the Labour Party in her Cabinet," was the revealing comment of one Official Unionist councillor who attempted to explain his opposition to Limavady Council passing a motion on fair employment practices.

In his motion on Monday night's council meeting, Sinn Fein Councillor Micky Hasson proposed:

"That Limavady District Council subscribes to the Fair Employment Agency's Declaration of Principle and Intent and registers with the Agency as an equal opportunities employer."

Unionist councillors reacted angrily to the proposals, with Council Chairperson Ronnie Cartwright saying:

"The signing of a bit of paper means nothing at all."

The council is presently under investigation by the FEA. When the vote was eventually taken the motion was lost by seven votes to six.

OMAGH

Omagh District Council has agreed to launch a major publicity campaign following the successful submission of a Sinn Fein motion on the Social Fund legislation due to come into effect next April.

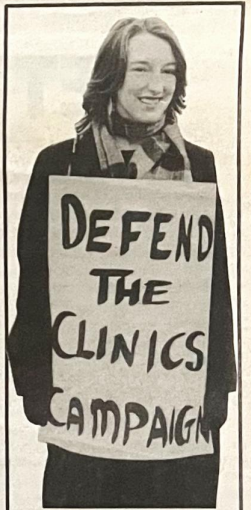
is the County Tyrone council which has accepted a Sinn Fein motion condemning the Social Fund and urging councils to become actively involved in informing the public of their



● MICKY HASSON

rights. Sinn Fein Councillor Gerry McMenamin explained to an attentive chamber the detrimental effects on the "poorer sections of our community". He pointed out, for example:

"For those on supplementary benefit, long-term rates will be abolished: the extra money for additional requirements such as laundry, diet and heating will also go; and the system of single payments will be replaced by discretionary and replaced will be recovered direct deductions from the person's income."



DEFEND THE CLINICS

THE Defend the Clinics campaign in support of the Well Woman Centre and Open Line counselling services against a SPUC injunction held a protest on Dublin's O'Connell Bridge on Saturday.

The SPUC move has out- all counselling and help in the 26 counties for pregnant women.

ABUSE HIGHLIGHTED BY COURT AWARDS



THE INDISCRIMINATE and arbitrary manner of crown forces violence and their abuse of already draconian legislation, was highlighted recently by several successful compensation claims against them.

17-year-old Michael McAlorum from Turf Lodge was awarded a "substantial four-figure sum" for severe head injuries he received just over six years ago. Michael, who was 10 at the time of the incident, was hit on the head by a plastic bullet fired from one of two British army Saracens leaving Fort Jericho on the Springfield Road on Wednesday evening, June 17th 1981.

A British soldier fired a plastic bullet at a group of children striking Michael McAlorum and fracturing his skull. British army claims that he had been struck by a brick were dismissed when the surgeon who operated on the injured child confirmed that it was a plastic bullet injury. Michael McAlorum had to have a steel plate inserted in his skull and still suffers from the injury.

ILLEGAL ARREST
Tony Carlisle (28), a Sinn Fein

constituency worker in Andersonstown, West Belfast, was awarded £750 damages for an "unwarranted body search" by the RUC.

The incident occurred on October 3rd 1985 when Carlisle was stopped on the Andersonstown Road by an RUC patrol. An RUC sergeant searched him and found a notebook containing information about an accident involving a military vehicle. Carlisle was arrested and taken to Woodbourne RUC Barracks where he was held for several hours.

The RUC stopped and searched the Sinn Fein worker under Section 12 of the Emergency Provisions Act which states that such a body-search can only be carried out if the crown forces are looking for guns, ammunition or transmitters. The judge reluctantly accepted the argument by Carlisle's barrister that the search was therefore unlawful and ordered that photocopies of the note-

book, which the RUC had made, should be destroyed.

CASTLEREAGH

The third example of the crown forces abusing their already substantial powers took place three years ago, in April 1984. Richard Fox, a 28-year-old father of two from Iris Drive, was arrested under Section 12 of the PTA. He was held in Castlereagh Interrogation Centre for five days.

The court concluded that the RUC man who arrested Fox had no grounds for suspecting that he was involved in "acts of terrorism". Consequently, the arrest was unlawful. Fox was awarded £4,000 damages.

Sinn Fein Councillor Sean McKnight said:

"Anyone arrested, harassed, or abused by the crown forces should immediately contact a solicitor. While most people will discover that the British army, UDR and RUC are effectively protected by British law, it is still sometimes possible to highlight British repression by seeking damages through the courts."



EXTENDING POLITICAL VETTING

THE WITHDRAWAL of funding to the Conway Education Centre in West Belfast by the Belfast Education & Library Board (BELB) has been criticised by the MP for the area, Gerry Adams. The decision not to pay the fees of part-time tutors from Rupert Stanley College, who provided the adult education service, was described by Adams as "an extension in the practice of political vetting".

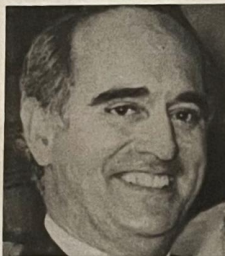
In a letter to the BELB and Stormont Education Minister Brian Mawhinney, Adams pointed out that the provision of adult education in West Belfast is totally inadequate:

"The BELB's action is specifically designed to undermine and disrupt one of the few projects which is attempting to meet the obvious need for educational resources in the area. There has been absolutely no suggestion that the BELB decision was taken

from an educational perspective. On the contrary, the centre has a remarkable success rate and its work has been commented upon favourably by the Department of Education inspectors during a recent visit to the centre.

"It is clear that the withdrawal of funding is as a result of British government pressure on the BELB and that it is an extension of the political vetting of community groups.

"Political conformity and sub-



● BRIAN MAWHINNEY



● GERRY ADAMS

servance, and not the needs of the community, is now the principle criterion on which British government funding in nationalist areas is decided."

Mysterious death in Dundrum

BY ALEX WEST

THE TRAGIC DEATH of a republican prisoner, Colin Maguire, last Saturday has brought into focus the lack of medical care afforded to prisoners in Portlaoise.

Colin Maguire, while a member of the INLA, was sentenced to eight years in August 1984. Last year, the strain of imprisonment began to tell on him. He developed what is called paranoid psychosis and became withdrawn, often refusing to speak with other prisoners. He was transferred to Dundrum on September 26th but sent back to Portlaoise on September 28th.

Although it was clear that Maguire was in urgent need of psychiatric help, the prison authorities either ignored him or put him (for several months at a time) in solitary confinement. After his return from Dundrum in September, Maguire did not eat for nine days. He lost a lot of weight and his condition deteriorated considerably. It was only when other prisoners insisted that he received treatment that he was transferred again to the Central Mental Hospital in Dundrum, Dublin, on Wednesday, October 7th.

The lack of health facilities in Portlaoise has come under persistent attack for some years now. At present there is just a single doctor who comes in five days a week from outside. The doctor misses the odd day and usually disappears after mass 'general searches'. He is then replaced by an untrained prison warder who styles himself 'the medic' and who gives out bandages and tablets.

The doctor's 'surgery' is merely a call on the base computer table, two-way eavesdrops on all conversations and whatever the complaint the treatment is almost invariably aspirin, painkillers, lotions or creams. A doctor once told a prisoner that he had tried to get better facilities from the governor but was given the 'run around'.

In 1985, a republican prisoner

was given painkillers for severe abdominal pains and was locked in his cell. The pain increased and in the early hours of the morning his appendix burst. It was a number of hours before he was brought the 200 yards to the town's general hospital, where he had to be given morphine because of his distressed state. He was strip-searched on leaving the prison.

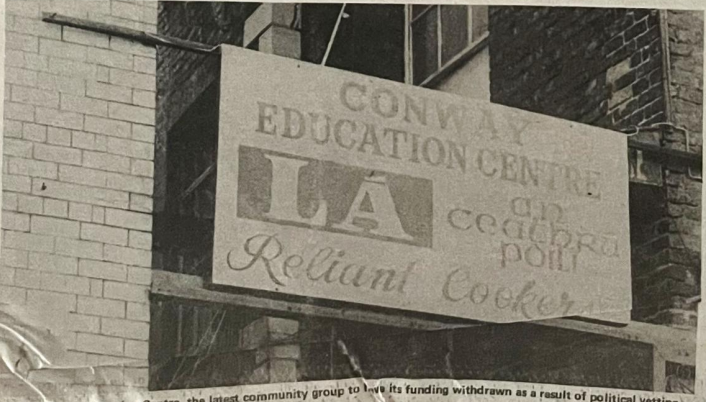
A few months ago, a man who suffered a heart attack was kept in his cell. The authorities merely sent water through a spy-hole to him, using a rubber pipe.

CONTEMPT

Although Colin Maguire died in the early hours of Saturday, October 10th, 2½ days after he was moved to Dundrum, mystery still surrounds his death. His wife Maureen has been treated with contempt by the authorities, with Dundrum Hospital, St Michael's Hospital in Dun Laoghaire, and the coroner's office all claiming that one of the other two were in possession of the body. She told AP/RN that there were many questions still to be answered.

"Why will they not tell me the cause of death? Did he die of natural causes? What have they to hide? A 31-year-old man doesn't just die like that."

In 1985, the government-sponsored Whittaker Report emphasised the need for improved health facilities in Portlaoise. It was ignored. The Portlaoise Prisoners' Relatives' Action Committee has continually called for proper medical attention for prisoners in the jail. Following Colin Maguire's death it has called for "a full independent inquiry into his death, both the events of Friday night and his condition during his incarceration in Portlaoise".



● The Conway Education Centre, the latest community group to have its funding withdrawn as a result of political vetting

IN THIS article Fermanagh prisoner Kevin Lynch (H-Blocks) outlines the 'hearts and minds' struggle within the jails and warns that a major crisis may be brewing despite the relative calm of recent years.

New Move In Jails Battle

BRENDAN MAILEY has just completed 14 years in prison. He was arrested in 1973, aged 16. Several months later he was sentenced to indefinite detention at the 'Secretary of State's Pleasure' (SOSP). A few months ago his case went before the Life Sentence Review Board for 'review' (the procedure by which prisoners serving life sentences are supposedly considered for release). He has since been informed of the outcome — his case "will be reviewed" again in two years time. By then, he will have entered his 17th year of imprisonment.

Brendan is by no means unique, of course. There are almost 200 republican prisoners currently serving life sentences in both Irish and British jails. Their continued imprisonment owes little to the number of years already spent in prison and absolutely nothing to the deliberations of the Life Sentence Review Board. Like all republican prisoners, the fate of those serving life sentences is sealed the minute they are arrested.

Republican prisoners are political hostages. Only within this context can the situation here in the H-Blocks or in any other of the prisons currently holding republicans, be properly understood.

Just as Long Kesh is synonymous with internment, the H-Blocks are synonymous with hunger strikes. If it is an irony that criminalisation, as a central plank in British strategy, founded on the platform on which it was built (i.e., the prison/PDW issue), then it is indeed a cruel one. That particular phase of the prison struggle fought out in the H-Blocks and Armagh Prison from 1976-81 cost us dearly; the catalogue of brutality meted out to republican POWs in the five years of prison protest; the slow agonising death of ten of our comrades on hunger-strike in 1981; the immeasurable suffering of families, relatives and friends throughout.

SUFFERING

Republicans have no monopoly on suffering and hardship, of course. The history of the H-Blocks and Armagh Prison, however, is cited not as witness to the suffering and endurance of republicans but as a statement on both the intensity and the significance of the prison struggle.

By 1976, it was clear enough that the prisons would figure largely in British attempts to push through their criminalisation policy. Criminalisation itself had already emerged as an integral part of the British government's broader strategy of normalisation/Ulsterisation. The media element in all of this was by then well set in motion. "Mafia, godfather, gangland" and other such crime-related terminology were now the norm in media descriptions of the IRA and their actions. The prison element was then initiated. Special category status, IRA command structures within the prisons, concentration camp-style accommodations for the prisoners, even the name *Long Kesh* itself were all incompatible with the criminalisation policy. Political status was, therefore, withdrawn, the H-Blocks were built and Long Kesh was renamed *The Maze*.

Criminalisation, however, went way beyond the manipulation of the media in an attempt to portray the armed struggle as "organised crime". Equally,

the "depoliticisation" of the POWs involved much more than the changing of the public perception of the republican prisoners. Criminalisation was directed at the "hearts and minds" of not just the public but of the prisoners themselves. The republican prisoner, after all, with his/her commitment to the struggle intact would one day re-emerge from the prison and resume the role of political activist. From the British perspective, therefore, criminalisation, if it was to hold any hope of long-term advantage or success, would have to undermine the morale of the prisoners and smash their commitment to future struggle. The Blanket protest could have been resolved at any time by affording the prisoners the right to wear their own clothes and to refrain from prison work. If NIO/jail administration narrow-mindedness was a factor in preventing such a resolution, then it was surely a secondary one. The principle factor was quite simply that the British were not interested in such a resolution. They had set their sights on breaking the prison struggle. Hence, the protracted protests, the brutality inflicted on the prisoners, and the hunger-strike and the death of our ten comrades.

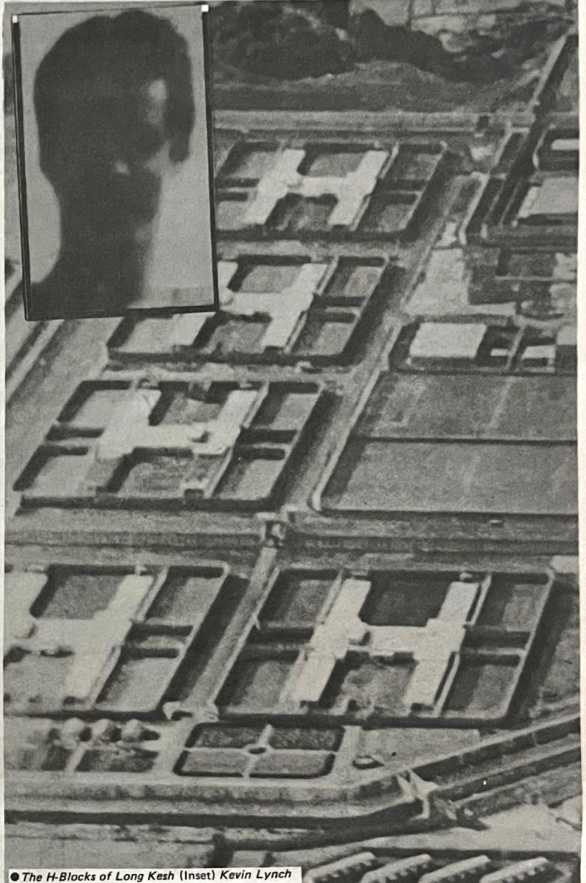
NEW APPROACH

The 1981 hunger-strike had a traumatising effect on all republicans. In terms of the loss of comrades and friends, it most certainly cost us dearly. In political terms, the fallout from the hunger strike was immense. Britain's criminalisation policy had been dealt a major blow and their international reputation had been severely dented; with world attention on the H-Blocks, their normalisation strategy had suffered a significant setback.

Within the jails the termination of the hunger strike marked not the end of the prison struggle but simply the closing of one chapter and the opening of another. The limited concessions introduced by the British in October 1981 offered no more than a temporary respite in the struggle here, an opportunity for the British to review and redesign their approach to prison issues. As if to underline this, the NIO began almost immediately to claw back on their concessions. The extension in association facilities, for example, was withdrawn within months of being introduced. But the real evidence of things to come emerged not here in the H-Blocks but in the other prisons. Efforts to undermine prisoners' morale and to erode their commitment to struggle, it was clear, would continue as an essential part of Britain's prison strategy.

UNEASY CALM

On September 25th, 1983, 38 republican prisoners staged a mass escape from the H-Blocks. Nineteen of them were recaptured either immediately or within the next few days. Those recaptured, and many more within the prison, were severely brutalised by prison staff in the aftermath of the escape. This apart, there has been no major eruption in the situation here over the last five years. Harassment of prisoners and their relatives on a range of issues from compassionate parole to visits, etc, has continued on a daily basis, of course. Despite this, compared to either the pre-1981 period here or the current situation in both Magilligan and Crumlin Road prisons, something of an uneasy calm prevails here.



● The H-Blocks of Long Kesh (Inset) Kevin Lynch

The apparent contrasting situations in the different prisons is no accident. Clearly the NIO does not relish the prospect of a repeat of the "jails crisis" on the scale of 1976-81. Yet, we remind ourselves, their prisons policy remains geared towards the same objective as before — the depoliticisation of the republican prisoner, the breaking of his/her commitment to the struggle.

PRISON STRATEGY

Today they have adopted a somewhat different course than before. Their approach is now a gradualist one concentrating their attention initially on the smaller pockets of republican prisoners in the other prisons. While the H-Blocks remain calm, albeit uneasily so, the strip-searching of women prisoners continues in Maghaberry and English prisons. Brutality is stepped up in Crumlin Road; republican prisoners are forcibly integrated with loyalists in Magilligan, and isolation units are used as a weapon against our comrades in English jails.

In withdrawing political status in 1976, the NIO chose to do battle with all republican prisoners at once. Today they are attempting to reduce the prison struggle to a series of small battles in different prison situations. Towards this end, they have varied not just their tactics but also the particular "issue" from prison to prison. In this way they hope to fragment the solidarity and unity of the POWs. The H-Blocks have so far figured only in a limited sense in the redefinition of British prison strategy which followed the '81 hunger strike. This has been no oversight on their behalf. The NIO have quite simply been biding their time.

About 155 of the approximately 200 republicans serving life imprisonment in Irish and English jails are in Long Kesh. The majority of all lifers

have now spent more than ten years in prison. Indeterminate sentences allow for the playing of the political hostage game to the full. Prisoners serving life, and their relatives are being used as a weapon against the struggle inside and outside the prison. By relating the prospect of release to the termination of the armed struggle, the British hope to generate pressure on the IRA from prisoners and their families for an end to the struggle. Likewise, the prisoners and their families will be asked for a renunciation of their political ideology and aspirations: something akin to the political hostage scenario which was attempted in the latter period of internment will now begin to emerge, only on a much magnified scale. With the majority of republican lifers in the H-Blocks we need ponder no more on the uneasy calm here. The NIO, no doubt, see it as a calm before the storm. When the political hostage scenario emerges from the shadows all the pieces in the British prison strategy will then be in place.

RESISTANCE

It need hardly be said that republicans will resist each and every attempt to depoliticise us. We can ill afford to be complacent, however. We must continually reassess the problems confronting us and our efforts to combat them. In the past we have relied heavily on and drawn strength from our families, relatives, friends and comrades on the outside. We will continue to do so in the days ahead. Our immediate concern is to ensure that those we rely on have a full understanding of our situation. Hopefully, the above few lines will go some way towards that end.

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HILLSBOROUGH — more (m

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

ONE MONTH before the second anniversary of the Hillsborough Treaty, the nationalist people of Carrickmore in County Tyrone packed into a meeting last weekend to discuss the increasing level of crown forces harassment in their district. The lesson drawn from this meeting was clear: Hillsborough has changed nothing and in many ways has further eroded the rights and status of nationalists in the Six-County statelet.

Carrickmore and the surrounding areas are 95% nationalist. No loyalist marches take place here and local people remember well that the one occasion on which loyalists attempted (and failed) to march was on D-Day 1944 at the end of the Second World War.

In November, 1979, Carrickmore became the centre of controversy after a BBC *Panorama* crew filmed the IRA on patrol in the village. The episode clearly demonstrated the IRA's popular support and was scrapped after the BBC crew was attacked in Westminster for acting in an irresponsible and "treasonable" manner.

The village of Carrickmore is set in the scenic heart of County Tyrone. It is an area renowned for its strong republican association and its people are proud of their Irishness, which they promote through Irish games, songs, dance and the Irish language. After centuries of British imperialist attempts to eliminate Irish culture, this particular rural community views the revival of the Irish language as a vital link with their roots and a central issue in their future development.

In the past week, 90 children aged from 8 to 14 enrolled for Irish classes. Seeing that there are only 800 households in Carrickmore, Creggan and Loughmacrory combined, this figure is an indication of the growing enthusiasm for the Irish language. For Paddy Grogan, a teacher:

"The fact that our culture has survived in the face of such an onslaught means that our culture is worth preserving."

The GAA also has a strong influence in this part of Tyrone and Carrickmore people are proud that their hurling and football teams have dominated the Tyrone sporting scene for the past decade.

UNEMPLOYMENT & EMIGRATION

Farming is the main occupation of the community with the building and construction industry the second largest employer. While unemployment is relatively low in the Carrickmore area, the true statistics are disguised by the fact that in the past five years hundreds of local people have taken the well-worn emigration trail to the United States and England. There has been no real attempt to create jobs in the area and the high level of emigration



● Carrickmore Barracks from where the crown forces monitor every move the people of the village make

has robbed the area of almost an entire generation of young people.

Carrickmore is staunchly republican. The village has been used as a base for many nationalist and republican Mid-Ulster election campaigns, notably Tom Mitchell's in 1955 and Bernadette Devlin's in 1969.

First impressions of Carrickmore, Creggan and Loughmacrory are of quiet villages, as 'normal' as any other rural setting — anywhere that is apart from the occupied Six Counties.

In a sense, the very countryside which these people and generations before them worked and lived on has been turned against them through the presence of a massive crown forces barracks equipped with hi-tech cameras which observe and note the people's every movement. The fields and mountains which are named in local folklore and which generations grew to love now harbour the undercover squads of the crown forces. With or without the Hillsborough Treaty, Britain's jackboot still tries to crush the spirit of freedom in Carrickmore and throughout nationalist areas of the Six Counties.

FREQUENT ABUSE BY THE UDR

The UDR, whose role was supposed to have decreased



as a result of Hillsborough, has been markedly intensified in the Carrickmore area. In the past year in particular, countless incidents of harassment, physical and verbal abuse of local people by the UDR have occurred. This was one of the main grievances against the crown forces at the meeting in Carrickmore's Patrician Hall on Friday, October 9th. (Some people miss-

ed the meeting after being detained at UDR checkpoints while others were stopped coming from the hall.)

The meeting was called by local people angered and frustrated by the sheer weight of repression aimed at them and backed by biased laws and courts.

Fr Joe McVeigh, from Irvinestown, Carrickmore man Barry McElduff, and solicitors

Martin Donaghy and Frank Rafferty listened to their grievances. A leaflet entitled *The Intimidation File — Carrickmore* was launched, which detailed a litany of crown forces abuses. These included:

- Village saturation operations (such as those in the run-up to Easter) designed to upset and disrupt the business and commercial life of Carrickmore.

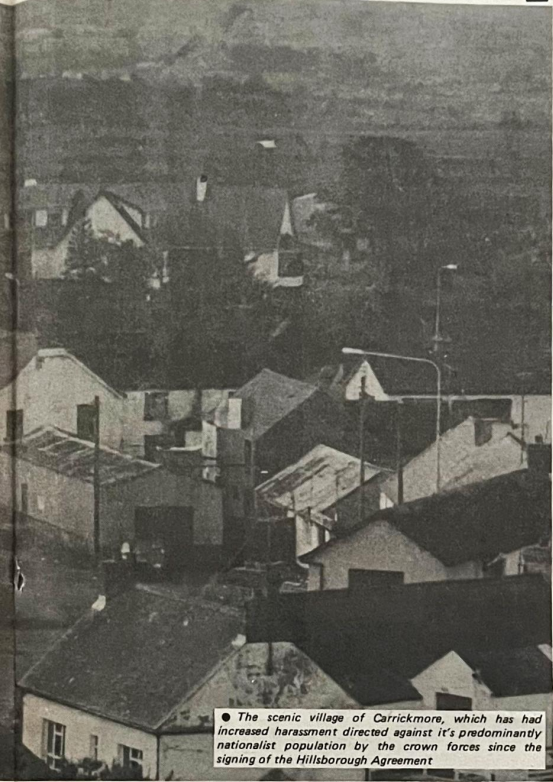
● The closing of roads to Carrickmore, particularly those under surveillance.

● The breaking up of the UDR or linking Carrickmore and Loughmacrory and Loughmacrory damage to cars.

● Marking of people with pinpointing devices.

● Vandalism of property and the closing of businesses.

not less) repression



● The scenic village of Carrickmore, which has had increased harassment directed against its predominantly nationalist population by the crown forces since the signing of the Hillsborough Agreement



and sectarian slogans, most notably on the football stands of St Colmcille's Gaelic Football Club, on the walls of the Patriotic Hall, and on the Sinn Fein advice centre in the village.

● The insistence on the removal of shoes and even items of clothing when being searched at checkpoints.

Fr Joe McVeigh reported that he had received a lot of these complaints from Carrickmore people and it seemed to him there was an intensive campaign of harassment not only in Carrickmore but all over the Six Counties: "It seems selective and at times very concerted and very deliberate." Earlier in the year, Strabane people were receiving a lot of harassment, he said. In Castlederg, this type of harassment culminated in the murder of local man Dermott Hackett in May by the UVF. He went on to say:

"We have to be concerned about the level of harassment because one fears the situation in Castlederg where an individual was singled out for harassment and this made it very easy for groups to kill him."

SHOT AT BY THE RUC

The meeting went on to examine ways in which the

community could take steps to protect itself and several people from the body of the hall recounted their individual experiences of being physically or verbally abused and then prosecuted by the crown forces for no reason at all.

Local man Micky Ward recalled how he and two young women had been shot at several times by the RUC in July and how he and one of the women were arrested and held in Gough Barracks for two days. Adding insult to injury, on Monday, October 14th, Ward and the two women were informed by Omagh CID that they — who narrowly escaped death when RUC automatic gunfire raked their car, grazing Ward — were not going to be prosecuted!

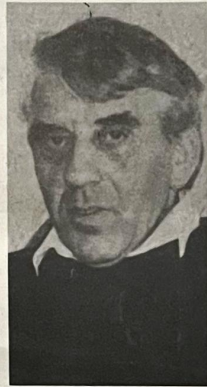
"This demonstrates," as Sinn Fein Councillor Cormac McAleer said, "that the RUC can strike with impunity and there is no check on them whatsoever."

Micky Ward also told the meeting that since the incident he has been nervous and no more than a fortnight ago the UDR stopped him, dropped a bullet on the ground and told him it was intended for him.

A local farmer told of how he had 27 fences on his land



● Fr Joe McVeigh outlining the intensive campaign of harassment against nationalists in the Six Counties, also in the picture Barry McElduff, Francis Rafferty and Martin Donaghy



● PATSY McMAHON

and people then being charged with obstruction.

Several people suggested that passing motorists who witness this should stop somewhere nearby, not directly beside where the search is taking place as they too will be liable to prosecution for obstructing the crown forces "in their duty".

Father-of-ten Patsy McMahon later told AP/RN that a fortnight ago his son, Gerard (22), was woken one morning by the sound of two UDR soldiers trying to open the back door of their home. Patsy felt the incident could have had serious implications as he is frequently the subject of harassment by the UDR. People travelling in his car are also abused and his pregnant daughter-in-law, Veronica, went into hysterics on one occasion, believing they were all going to be shot by the UDR.

Gerald McMahon has also been arrested and beaten in Carrickmore Barracks. Recently he was arrested after just having completed a 250-mile charity walk from Cork to Carrickmore. His feet were

badly blistered and swollen and during two days' detention in Gough Barracks the RUC deliberately used this against him and ordered him to stand up during interrogation. They beat him around the head when he refused.

Other people at the meeting told how young people in the area, especially those going to dances in Cookstown or Omagh, are regularly harassed by the crown forces and many have been beaten up.

200 COMPLAINTS

There was a tangible frustration among people about the law and how its interpretation is heavily slanted in favour of the crown forces. A solicitor pointed out that over the last four years he has dealt with 200 complaints against the crown forces and not one of those was found to be substantiated by the RUC's complaints body.

One of the strongest weapons against crown forces abuses, he went on to say, was simply to know your rights and an appropriate document is now being produced to be distributed throughout the area. The body of the hall also supported the formation of a seven-person steering committee representative of surrounding districts to co-ordinate the cataloguing of incidents as they occur.

Fr Joe McVeigh pointed out that this was essential in order to generate publicity and interest among human rights organisations outside the North.

The meeting in Carrickmore was indicative of the strong fighting spirit of this community which has refused to bend under political, social, economic and cultural assault by British rule. The people of Carrickmore have made an unambiguous statement in standing up to and organising against such blatant repression. It is a statement which needs to be continuously shouted from the rooftops:

The Hillsborough Treaty has meant more not less repression for the nationalist people of the occupied Six Counties.

UDR man goes berserk

mad when I asked him if he was crazy doing something like that. We were searched all over again and so were the cars. The road was then blocked on both sides for the next 45 minutes causing a huge backlog in traffic."

ARRESTED

When McAleer tried to talk to a motorist he knew, the UDR corporal ordered another UDR soldier to arrest him.

When the RUC eventually arrived, an hour later, the UDR corporal denied having arrested McAleer and proceeded to explain away the fact that he had almost shot Michael Fox by alleging that Fox had jumped into the car and driven off without clearance.

The RUC and UDR tried to force McAleer to remove his jacket to be searched yet again before the two cars were eventually allowed to proceed.

THE QUICK REACTIONS of a County Tyrone man undoubtedly saved his life when a UDR soldier cocked his rifle and was about to fire at him at a checkpoint on Monday, October 5th.

The man, Michael Fox from Greencastle, was moving off after being cleared at the road block when the incident occurred. He was driving one of two cars which had been diverted onto the side of the main Omagh/Cookstown road by a UDR patrol at around 11.30am. Sinn Fein Councillor Cormac McAleer was a passen-

ger in the other car. He told AP/RN:

"Michael had just started to move off when this UDR corporal in charge of the patrol went into a wild rage. He cocked his rifle, screamed something and was about to fire when Michael stopped."

McAleer said: "The UDR corporal went

BY TOM O'DWYER

WITHIN DAYS of launching its 'recovery' plan with talk of job creation, "social partnership" and "unity", the Fianna Fail government set about the most savage attack on jobs and services in 30 years.

On Tuesday, October 13th, expenditure cuts totalling €485 million, meaning at least 8,000 redundancies from January 1988, were announced. The cut-backs will bite so deeply into living standards that they'll cause further job losses as the goods and services which working people are unable to afford go unsold or unused. A spiral of poverty and unemployment causing greater poverty and unemployment faces the 26-County state in the late '80s.

The cuts mean a virtual end to the building of new hospitals and schools. There will be 2,500 fewer teachers by the end of this second year and school transport will be cut by 19%. Around 1,000 jobs will go as An Foras Taluntais is merged with ACOT, the agricultural development council, and €33.1 million is being taken from the agriculture budget. Spending on roads and housing is down 11% and the local authorities will lose €31 million (12% of their budget).

But, true to form, spending on Leinster House pensions is due to rise 18% next year as outgoing Coalition government ministers cash in on the reluctant generosity of the PAYE taxpayer.

The cuts are mainly directed at the social infrastructure - the services on which the less-well-off depend. Although 8,000 jobs are earmarked for the chop,

Axe appears

the full effects of the cuts are certain to mean a much larger redundancy total. Local authority jobs are under a particular threat and a 6% cut in the 1988 health budget will probably mean many more nurses on the dole.

These Thatcherite measures are intended, like the illusory Programme for National Recovery (*sic*) are intended to reduce the massive state foreign debt. But they're quite likely to do the opposite. By reducing living standards so radically Fianna Fail may well spark off a severe economic depression which would bring further dependence on foreign banks.

Sinn Fein Vice-President John Joe McGirl said:

"The estimates are a blueprint for misery for hundreds of thousands of working people and those dependant on social welfare. This government has now shown its 100% commitment to Thatcherite economic policies which offer no hope to the growing army of unemployed, threaten existing jobs and services across the board, and which can only serve to further deepen the recession."

CONLON'S CONTORTIONS

CIE's new headline management policies which caused the Clontarf bus dispute, depriving Dublin's Northside commuters of much of their transport, do not stop at forcing the introduction of one-person-operated buses.

Reliable sources have told *AP/RN* that Bus Atha Cliath, the company's

result that there are now 37 conductors at the garage with little to do. The Dublin Labour Court backed the busworkers' unions, the NBU and the ITGWU, on the issue.

CIE boss Paul Conlon moaned on Thursday, October 8th, that the company was losing money over the dispute, but his words sounded hollow when he announced the same day that CIE had made €3.6 million profit the previous year and Bus Atha Cliath made €1.3 million.

As *AP/RN* goes to press, the members of the ITGWU are due to decide on a compromise solution at union headquarters in Liberty Hall on Thursday.

The projected redundancies of Dublin busworkers aren't the only jobs cuts on Conlon's mind. Already 300 jobs at the company's rail works in Inchicore, Dublin, are under threat.

CARLOW JOBS CRISIS

Muine Bheag, County Carlow, where one person in three is out of work, has been shaken by more job losses.

Anglo-Irish Beef Packers have closed their lamb-processing line, with the loss of 30 jobs. Company sources say that more jobs may go due to scarcity of suppliers.

The closure of the furniture-making firm of Thomas Manning has given the 20 employees an uncertain future. The company is now in the hands of the liquidator and some workers have still to get their final week's wages.



Dublin bus subsidiary, wants 600 redundancies and is not prepared to wait for them to occur by 'natural wastage' but will, instead, force the issue.

The Clontarf dispute concerned management's attempts to break an agreement made only last year not to move conductors from garage to garage without their approval. The company has speeded up the introduction of one-person-operation (OPO) at Clontarf with the

SOME FAIRY TALE

BY TOM O'DWYER

'ONCE UPON A TIME, there were two very nice women who were very, very sad because the poor people didn't have enough work and the rich people didn't have enough... chocolate. But along came a good fairy called IDA with all the answers, or so the story goes.

Lir Chocolates manufactures hand-made truffles at the Industrial Development Authority's premises in Dublin's East Wall. It got €2,000 from the IDA to survey the market before beginning production and recently received a €5,000 employment grant for each employee, also from the IDA. That means €93 per worker per week.

But when unemployed young people recently applied for job with Lir Chocolates they were offered €45 for 40 hours' work!

UNRELATED FACT

Neither the generosity of Lir Chocolates towards its workers nor the generosity of the IDA towards Lir Chocolates has anything at all to do with the fact that Mary White (who, with Connie Doody,

owns the company), is the wife of Padraic, the IDA's managing director.

But it is true that the IDA funds hundreds of small companies where exploitation is rife and where the well-off owners are feather-bedded in case the company collapses.

Employers like Mary White have little to lose if their companies go down. White is on a three-year career break from her job with the National Building Agency and has put in no capital of her own to the firm. It's IDA policy to assist such people as a means to 'tackle' the unemployment problem.

White's firm produces Children of Lir chocolates, named after an ancient Irish fairy tale and retailing at €11 per pound. But for its workers it's not a story with a happy ending.



● Location of Lir Chocolates, which like many other IDA-backed companies exploits its workers

Health Board guilty

BY MOIRA CONNOLLY

THE Fair Employment Agency's finding that a County Armagh woman was the victim of illegal religious discrimination was upheld by Judge Russell on October 13th.

The Southern Health & Social Services Board was found guilty of discriminating against a Catholic, Elaine McParland, who com-

plained to the FEA after her application for the post of guide help at a school for mentally-handicapped children was unsuccessful. She claimed that she was more experienced in the work

than the successful Protestant applicant.

UNCONVINCING

Russell readily accepted McParland's statement that she was the better qualified candidate. He explained that he found the evidence of two Southern Health Board members who had been on the interview panel to be "unconvincing" and noted that some parts of their evidence was un-

believable.

The two members had tried to claim that they did not know McParland's religion despite the fact she had given her parish priest's name as a referee. Russell said that this was a clear indication that McParland was a Catholic.

If the Southern Health Board does not appeal the decision, the FEA will now submit a compensation offer to McParland.

Mala Poist

AP/RN, 58 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.

BIRMINGHAM SIX

The following letter was printed in the October 10th edition of the Irish Post newspaper in Britain.

We, the Birmingham Six, are all now in London's Wormwood Scrubs Prison and meeting regularly with our lawyers in preparation for the Court of Appeal hearing which opens on November 2nd.

The final talks will take place towards the end of the month. We are very pleased with our solicitors and barristers. We could not ask for any better than these highly-skilled people. So, come November 2nd, let the battle commence.

There will be some interesting cross-examination at the appeal and we look forward to being present.

We are in good spirits and waiting for the big day.

We understand that meanwhile, on November 19th, we will receive a visit from a group of TDs. We look forward to this, too, because we have some very interesting things to discuss with them.

We will repeat again our concern that neither the Coalition government nor Fianna Fail back in office stood with us as they should - saying openly that they believe we are innocent.

Charles Haughey is especially a disappointment in that regard. He has neither said nor done anything on our behalf, as far as we are aware, since he returned to office. In opposition, he frequently referred to us. Now, when he has the opportunity to take some positive action, he refrains from doing so. We are deeply hurt and disappointed.

We are very grateful for all the marvellous work which has been done by groups and individuals campaigning on our behalf. We and our families appreciate everything that has been and is being done.

I do hope that lots of people will attend at the Courts of Justice for our appeal which is likely to continue for a number of weeks.

At this point in time I am seeing the light at the end of the tunnel.

Hugh Callaghan,
No. 509499.

Wormwood Scrubs Prison,
PO Box 757,
Du Cane Road,
London W12.

EXTRADITION

A Chairde,

It is disturbing, to say the least, that the whole subject of extradition has now become totally obscured and clouded by an unprecedented display of verbal acrobatics, polemics and a welter of legal jargon. Collectively, these amount to no more than a feeble attempt to disguise the unjust and immoral return of Irish citizens to a predetermined fate at the hands of a biased unionist judiciary in the Six Counties and their British counterparts.

There is an even more sinister dimension when one considers the almost imperceptible conditioning of the

Irish people to accept extradition as being normal in the relationship between countries. Of course, Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act went a long way towards helping the government of the 26 Counties securing an unbalanced information service on television an radio through South African-style censorship.

The continuing struggle for national liberation has been equated with acts of terrorism abroad but no-one can deny that the conflict in the Six Counties today (and acts arising from it) is a direct result of the partition of our country following the Tan War - a war which was also denounced by the British as a 'terrorist campaign'.

The 'legitimacy' of armed struggle seems to be determined by the interests of individual governments. Would Ronald Reagan extradite contras to face trial in Nicaragua? Has not Margaret Thatcher declared that the extradition of British citizens to the Soviet Union for alleged Nazi war crimes in the Second World War is out of the question, unless her government can be persuaded by the weight of the evidence. What hypocrisy!

Margaret Thatcher heads a regime that has been indicted internationally (including in the 1987 Amnesty International Report) for its abuses of the human and civil rights of Irish citizens in the Six Counties.

The continued imprisonment of innocent Irish people in England and the Six Counties speaks volumes for the quality of British justice. And if the point needed to be emphasised, we have had the trial by media in recent weeks of three young Irish people arrested near Tom King's home in England. Can we seriously expect them to get a fair trial? Can Fianna Fail categorically state that they will get a fair trial?

The sympathetic coverage and treatment given to Britain's so-called hoodlums in Belgium or British army Captain Simon Hayward, convicted in Sweden of drug-pushing, certainly isn't accorded to Irish citizens charged with alleged offences in England or the Six Counties.

It is ironic that Charles Haughey, Brian Lenihan and the Fianna Fail government are dangling the carrot of extradition before the British to achieve the release of the Birmingham Six (and what about the Guildford Four and Judith Ward?) when extradition itself will consign literally hundreds of Irish people into Margaret Thatcher's hands to suffer the same (in)justice and be held as political hostages.

Jim Dunne,
FRO.

Republican POWs,
Portlaoise Prison.

THE IRISH WAR

Dear AP/RN,

I was shocked and surprised to read your attack on *The Irish War* handbook (September 24th).

For two years I have been

involved in the local government union, NALGO, and the Irish Freedom Movement has been the only group to raise motions at union branch meetings in support of Irish independence. IFM supporters also organised union members to go on an anti-internment march in London this August.

I would have thought that your time would have been better spent attacking the trade union leaders who always try to pass off Ireland as an issue of no importance and prevent any discussion taking place on it at branch meetings.

Peter Riley,
Leeds.

A Chairde,

May I congratulate Cathal MacCormack on his excellent review of the RCP's book on Ireland, *The Irish War*. He clearly shows the essential difference between a genuine solidarity group, prepared to support all those who take a step in the right direction, and a bogus support group which wishes to use the issue of Irish freedom as a tool to further their own political objectives in England.

In my opinion, the Irish Freedom Movement - a front organisation for the Revolutionary Communist Party - is as often a divisive and sectarian as the IFM refuses to acknowledge the sincerity of anyone outside the RCP who calls for a free Ireland. I can tell you as an Irish woman living in London for over 11 years that I view the British Labour Party with a very jaundiced eye, but let me also tell you that Ken Livingstone and the Greater London Council have done more for Irish people here, and to gain support for a British withdrawal, than all the high, smug principles of the RCP and the IFM.

Do these people not understand that there is a revolution on in Ireland? If they're not prepared to work with everybody towards ending British imperialism in Ireland let them trot back to Noddy-land where they came from.

Roisin Lennon,
Wembley,
England.

Dear AP/RN,

Your attack on the Irish Freedom Movement in the review of *The Irish War* (AP/RN, September 24th) was both malicious and destructive. The Irish Freedom Movement has been the leading movement in Britain in recent years organising solidarity for the Irish fighting for self-determination.

Their demonstrations in London this year on August 8th demanding "British troops out of Ireland" mobilised 2,000 people and was sponsored by many trade unions, political groups and Labour MPs, and was reported in AP/RN as an example of British solidarity with the Irish people. This is only one example of the Irish Freedom Movement's commitment to organising solidarity in Britain. Such a movement must be supported in the vital work it does in making the Irish war an issue for British people. Attacks such as yours are destructive and misleading to anyone who is committed to demanding 'troops out of Ireland' and self-determination for the Irish people.

Sue Nichols, a member of Women & Ireland, Newcastle.

A Chairde,

Cathal MacCormack's review of the Irish Freedom Movement handbook, *The Irish War*, was absolutely right. It's long been necessary for Irish republicans to show how we feel about the misuse of our name on the British left.

The recent defeats suffered

by British socialists - the most notable being Thatcher's third term of office - seems to have turned it inwards, setting comrades against comrades with increasing ferocity. It's very sad that supporters of Irish freedom have been caught up in this lunatic atmosphere of faction fighting within which the Irish Freedom Movement is the most factual.

The IFM is not "the largest Irish solidarity movement in Britain" (as one letter to *Mala Poist* suggests) because it isn't an Irish solidarity movement at all! It's an offshoot of a British far-left sect, the Revolutionary Communist Party, and its main function is to lambast the RCP's political opponents, as the letters from IFM supporters show.

A solidarity movement would support all attempts to weaken British imperialism in Ireland and to bring closer the date of British withdrawal. It wouldn't be restricted to those who accept the political prejudices of one socialist current. It wouldn't actively campaign against those in the Troops Out Movement or within the British Labour Party, as the IFM does, as are fighting politically to end British occupation. "Solidarity" in this case means acting as the letters from IFM do the most effective ways possible, not merely repeating slogans or organising demonstrations (however valid these in themselves may be).

Britain is a backward imperialist country - but back-ward imperialist countries have been in the past to relinquish their colonies. In no historical case have the liberation forces demanded that the majority of the people in the imperialist country support anti-imperialist war. From Algeria to Angola to Vietnam, the call has been, "Just get out... under any circumstances!" But the RCP/IFM demand support for armed struggle before they accept that someone is in solidarity with the Irish resistance. By condemning those in Britain who just simply want to end the war and get their troops home, the IFM is splitting, retarding and weakening genuine solidarity with Ireland in that country.

The IFM's parent organisation, the RCP, joined forces with the right in campaigning for the ballot during the British Miners' strike. Once again it was using its tiny forces to limit solidarity with a vital struggle.

The IFM exploits the understandable disappointment of Irish emigrants with the British left. It suggests that anyone disagreeing with its line is foolishly depending on Neil Kinnock. In reality it lets the Neil Kinnocks off the hook and offers a form of activity which merely relieves political frustration.

Robert Doran,
Dublin.

Dear AP/RN,

The next time you review a book that supports the Provos, that chastises the British left for doing next to nothing in 18 years, and that attempts a reasoned analysis of Britain's continued oppression of its oldest colony, I would suggest you find a reviewer that doesn't have an axe to grind.

Your review of the Irish Freedom Movement handbook, *The Irish War*, made me sick.

George Donnelly,
Leeds.

SCRAPING THE BARREL

A Chairde

I want to reply to an article in the *Flying Column*, October 8th, about the Sinn Fein/

Social Workers' Movement debate on *Republicanism & Socialism*.

First, to correct some inaccuracies. The article claimed that I, as chair, "allowed fellow SWM members to rant on at length, while all others were cut short". It was indeed difficult to keep all contributions from the floor within the three minutes allowed, but in fact more Sinn Fein members or apologists spoke at greater length than SWM speakers. A tape recording of the entire debate can verify this.

The Nypro striker who addressed the gathering when the debate was over "while the organisers watched aghast as he revealed to rapturous applause that he was a member of Sinn Fein" - come on! We invited the man. We knew who he was, and what he was. He wore his Sinn Fein badges on his lapel for all to see. The applause that followed his speech was a tribute to the strikers, not "rapture" because, he "came out" as a Sinn Fein member.

But really, the author is scarping the barrel when he quotes "one man who summed up the SWM's ultra left position, saying, 'It's like saying to a Vietnamese person, 'What did you do during the war?' and they say, 'Well I had a debate with the National Liberation Front and I told them they were going wrong on abortion'". The comment is snide and cynical and rubbishes political debate as much as it does women's rights.

Actually, *Maoism in Ireland 1987* was a weekend-long event, not an abbreviation of the title to *Maoism* seems to have afforded some simple-minded amusement to the author of your article, but what matter - and a successful one. The debate was in fact friendly, fraternal and I would say, fruitful - in contrast to a rather petty and dishonest article about it.

What I would like to know is, does the tone of the article reflect the general attitude of Sinn Fein towards "the tiny sect's pie-in-the-sky theorists"? If so, why bother to debate with us? If not, let's have less sectarian sniping and more political criticism.

Mary Smith,
Dublin.

P.S. I didn't think much of the photo of me either!

NIT-PICKING?

Dear Editor,

In the current edition of *An Phoblacht/Republican News*, Mr Brawley of Glasgow maintains the shrill tone of your review of my book *Brooding the Battlefield*, saying that I rewrite history and tell lies. With this in mind he has selected two incidents which I mention in passing and then slated me for what he considers are errors of fact. From there he goes on to deplore "the tone of the whole book".

The fact that he is wrong on both counts is almost beside the point. It is possible to go through most books with a fine toothed comb and to pick up isolated errors on dates, names, places, spelling or whatever. Since it is impossible to put everything into any history, things are always left out and it is possible to criticise any writer on this account. The process of reading a book like this is known as nit-picking.

Mr Brawley's first point

concerns the Miami showband murders. He sees my reference to a premature explosion on the minibus as a lie, implying that the UVF did not mean to kill the showband. Yet common sense dictates that if a bomb kills those who are planting it then it must have exploded prematurely.

All the facts of the case are not known but it is generally accepted that the UVF meant to disguise as a UDR patrol, stopped the bus and the band to get out so that they could secretly put a bomb in it and sent it on its way south towards Dundalk. The idea seems to have been to wipe out the band and to make it look as though they had been moving explosives for the IRA, a long-standing UVF allegation. While the bomb was being planted on the van the band members were lined up at a hedge some distance away and searched by UVF men dressed in UDR uniforms. They were fired on, though there is some dispute as to who fired and there are conflicting reports of another group of people in the area, as the bomb went off, possibly triggered by static in the loudspeakers.

As it happens, there is one real mistake and several omissions in my treatment of the period of the Miami murders, but not of the type Mr Brawley imagines. On the same page I refer to the Kingsmill massacre, carried out by the South Armagh Republican Action Force, saying that five Protestant workers were murdered in a minibus when in fact the number was ten.

In relation to the Miami itself, I might, on reflection, have mentioned that the ambush was said to have been in revenge for the sectarian killing of three dog-lovers two months earlier. I might also have mentioned the similar ambushes of a bingo minibus in which a passenger was killed, the sectarian mass murder of three members of the Bleary darts team in another minibus ambush and the multiple killing of Orangemen at Tullyvalley.

It is this slaughter is concealed behind the bland phrase "several other incidents" is not evidence of some desire to rewrite history on my part, it simply shows that I was reviewing a complex period and that I hadn't the space to cover it exhaustively.

Mr Brawley's second point concerns the killing of Julie Livingstone. I don't accept that my account ("an apparently innocent girl, 14-year-old Julie Livingstone, was killed by a plastic bullet as she made her way home") implies that Julie Livingstone was in any way to blame for her own death but I do feel that, on reflection, the word "apparently" adds nothing to the sentence and that it could have been left out. My statement that a British soldier was also seriously wounded is, whatever Mr Brawley may think of it, true. I did not suggest that the two events happened near each other or were linked in any way except insofar as they both occurred in the aftermath of Francis Hughes's death.

Liam Clarke,
Glengormley,
County Antrim.



Scene of the Miami showband massacre



THE FLYING COLUMN

BRITS based in Armagh's Dromad Barracks turned their own brand of perverted humour on themselves last July after an IRA sniper killed Royal Green Jacket Lance-Corporal Thomas Hewitt in Fermanagh.

At a birthday party inside their Armagh fortress a cake was produced by some Royal Marines. The cake was in the form of a target and inscribed with the words:

"Green Jackets take it in the head - Green Jackets get headaches."

A fight then ensued between the purple Green Jackets and the Royal Morons.

BUT DON'T WORRY - it's not as if the Green Jackets don't enjoy a good joke.

AP/RNS head office move from 44 to 58 Parnell Square, Dublin 1, revealed several dust-covered files in the archives that clearly hadn't been examined in years.

Whilst 'rifling' through one I came across *The Bugle*, the magazine for members of the Royal Green Jackets' 4th Battalion. In the midst of the predictable scribbles was the following hilarious cartoon which amply demonstrates their racism towards Irish people.



SOMETHING has always puzzled me about Fianna Fail's Bodenstown commemoration.

No, not the plethora of ministerial and managerial Mercedes. Nor the smallness of the crowd for the party which

dubs itself the main national party. Nor even the fact that Wolfe Tone's memory is rated so low that his commemoration can be cancelled for a week so that Charlie & Co can shake hands after a cycle race.

What has caused me many a sleepless night has been the presence among the Soldiers of Destiny of men in what could only be described as paramilitary uniform! They were there again last Sunday: a three-man colour party decked out in black berets and led by Dublin City Councillor Ned Brennan, who also wore a trenchcoat.

Now I could be wrong but I never heard of the 'Old' IRA or even the pre-1926 Legion of the Rearguard wearing black berets. In fact, the first reference I can find to the IRA wearing black berets is in the 1950s. I hope this does not mean that Ned and the two boys in black berets are former guerrillas. If it does they could very well be extradited by Charlie.

Very puzzling.

MATCH-STICKS.

"Try lighting the flames of freedom with these and see how far you get!" chuckled my friend Chucky as he tossed me a book of matches.

On the front cover of the matches, embossed in gold on a scarlet background, are the words:

*The Workers' Party
The Class Alternative
Peace - Work - Democracy*

On the back, printed in tiny white letters, are two more words: *"British made!"*

WHATEVER could have caused the blazing row between Downpatrick super Strick Dessie 'The Devil' O'Hagan and Jim Campbell, Northern editor of the *Sunday World* in the Europa Hotel last week?

"I'll never speak to you again!" shouted The Devil as he stomped off in a huff.

Oh, lucky Jim!

MORE NEWS from the Wacky World of the Windsors.

Daily Mirror writer James Whitaker

has just spent an entire week following 'Prince' Andrew and his popular sidekick, Sarah Ferguson, around the island of Mauritius.

To justify his expense account he penned a *Daily Mirror* front page with the revelation that 'Fergie' breaks out in a nasty rash when she shakes hands with the plebs.

"It also makes my hands terribly dirty," she told friends.

AND THERE'S MORE.

Last weekend, Andy turned his hand to photography. The prince, who has explored five continents, set off in search of a medieval castle in the official aeroplane accompanied only by two Wessex helicopters crammed full of guns, a few hundred RUC personnel, hundreds of British soldiers and an SAS gang.

Imagine the prince's surprise when he stumbled across just the type of castle he was looking for in County Antrim's Carrickfergus.

The jolly jaunt is estimated to have cost over £200,000.

NINETY EAGER officers, many of them armed to the teeth, were involved in a dawn raid.

The 13th storey of the flat complex in Salford, Greater Manchester, was evacuated and sealed off. They barged through the door of the small flat to the open-mouth stares of the astonished tenants.

Was it a singing telegram? The next programme of *This is Your Life? Game for a Laugh?* No, not exactly; it's all in a day's work for Manchester's finest - it was the wrong flat.

When they later raided the correct address, less than 40 yards away, they found the place empty.

DUIRT SIAD

On several occasions the Dublin government has voiced its concern about the judicial system in Northern Ireland and the use of informer evidence. Specifically, it has expressed concern over the Maguire family, the Birmingham Six and the Guildford Four and also over the cover-up of the shoot-to-kill policy of the RUC in the Stalker affair.

These issues are not resolved, however, nor is there any reason to believe that they will be, and there is no evidence to suggest that the Dublin government is willing to safeguard Irish citizens from such injustices.

Resource, a "national quarterly publication concerned with human development and the need for social change".

We must be careful not to ask each other for things we can't deliver.

Norman Tebbit, recently-resigned Conservative Party chairperson, speaking on RTE Radio's *This Week*, on the day of Fianna Fail's Bodenstown ceremony, about the Dublin government's call for three-judge Diplock courts.

[Charles Haughey] also demands the reversal of verdicts in the bombing trials at Guildford and Birmingham.

This man, who believes the punishment of convicted terrorists is a matter

CIE - THE LIBYAN CONNECTION.

At last the truth is out about why CIE made a £1 million loss last year. Last Friday's *Irish Times* revealed all with an article by Brendan McGrath on the *Business & Finance* page.

Bus services in Dublin reported a drop in profits from £2.1 million to £1.3 million, and Mr Conlon warned that increasing unemployment, decreasing disposable income and intense competition has reduced the demand for road transport services apart from mainline and suburban rail.

Provincial city services increased operating profits to £0.7 million while provincial services more than doubled operating profits to £2 million. In 1986, the effects of the Libya bombing and the Chernobyl accident resulted in a 26 per cent drop in revenue, and a loss of £927,000 was reported, compared with a small profit in 1985.

IT WOULD APPEAR from our rural columnists that the Housing Executive in Dungannon does quite a bit of its fact-finding in and around the Inn on the Park Hotel. But those lovers of gin and tonics and expense-account lunches were not on their own last week.

To ensure that there was no misappropriation of funds, they were accompanied by the eagle-eyed Fermanagh/South Tyrone MP, ex-UDR Major Ken Maginnis. For seven hours, Maginnis sat, stood and swaggered, glass in hand, overseeing their little tete-a-tete. Everyone agreed that he was great crack, although his party colleagues, who were the butt of his jokes, may not have appreciated his sense of humor.

It was a case of wide-eyed and legless as he headed back to his minders.

for bargain, presumes to lecture Britain on justice.

- Sun editorial.

The broad arguments for the declaration are also arguments for proscribing Sinn Fein altogether. The government's decision document does not rule this out...

- London Times editorial.

Offshore, a Royal Navy minesweeper rears and plunges in a Force Eight swell to beat off a waterborne Irish invasion. Overhead, helicopters drown out Sir Robin Day. Onshore, inside the Imperial Hotel, one is groped at and felt by more police officers than have ever gone over Dr Crippen.

"Be your own bomb squad!" shrieks the West Lancashire Evening Gazette.

It's just wonderful here. The Daily Telegraph's Godfrey Barker on the £14 million security operation to protect last week's Conservative Party conference from the IRA.

Is it possible that the people who fought Nazi Germany can today conspire in silence with the nazis in South Africa?

Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda talking about the British government.

The invasion of English has to be stopped. It is worrying, disgraceful and denigrating.

Spanish Councillor Elvira Castilla del Pino after she persuaded the San Roque Council to vote 20-0 in favour of banning English on advertising signs.



● Is this what Fianna Fail mean by Soldiers of Destiny, the three-man colour party in paramilitary uniforms at Fianna Fail's Bodenstown commemoration or are those 'guerrillas' potential extraditees?

REVIEWS

MEDIA

Signals

BY JOE GABRIEL

THE MEDIA faithfully reported Charles Haughey's 'signal' at Bodenstown in relation to the Extradition Treaty. Haughey seemed to be fumbling with the ball and saying that the time was not right to implement the wholesale handing over of Irish citizens to the British. Surprise, surprise.

What the media failed to highlight was Garrett Fitz-Gerald's intervention a few weeks earlier. Fitz said that the Treaty was tied directly to 'changes' in the administration of justice in the North. This effectively gave Haughey the out on the Treaty. He needed one badly. There were a lot of Fianna Fail TDs who were living very, very uncomfortably with the prospect of December 1st approaching. Fitz's intervention thus gave Haughey the hole he was looking for. The Fianna Fail TDs were giving Haughey 'a hard time', according to some sources.

So his turnaround, for the moment at least, is not all that surprising. Nor is it surprising that Fitz's signals weren't picked up. It can only be presumed that even those who interview him cannot bear to listen to what he says.

that "we can't all live on a small island" is unfortunately true. For once, we at AP/RN are in wholehearted agreement with the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Curly Lenihan was referring to the estimated 40,000 people who are emigrating each year. "We should be proud," added Curly, referring to the fact that all these Irish people were educated and would go on to be part of the Irish global population.

"We can't all live on a small island." How that phrase should be made to haunt the Foreign Minister. We suggest that Brian Lenihan leaves immediately. The country would be better off without you. Also the rest of the government. And while you're at it, you can take most of Leinster House with you. (Now why didn't we think of that before?)

HOT CHOCOLATE

There was an interesting case recently in the Circuit Criminal Court in Dublin

when a 14-year-old boy from Cork was convicted by a jury of stealing a 30g bar of chocolate. The judge in the case decided to apply the Probation Act after hearing the case for nine hours.

This follows another case where a woman, reported to have the AIDS virus present in her body, was given a sentence for stealing 200 cigarettes. Her young child accompanied her to jail. After a storm kicked up by the media, she and her baby were released.

What both these cases underlie is the fact that there are thousands and thousands of such cases coming before the courts throughout the country each week. But court reporting in Ireland is bad. Reporters cover for each other down in the courts. There is so much going on that newspapers have not the time, the money and/or the inclination to cover cases — cases which are taken against people who are not of the same class as establishment reporters, editors and newspaper-owners.

The courts are class based, against the working class, in that working-class people appear almost exclusively before them. Solicitors, barristers, judges, gardai — all are weighed against an accused person. This aspect of the machinery of the state rarely gets reported on — except when a boy is convicted of stealing a chocolate bar, or a woman and her baby (reportedly with AIDS) get sent to prison. The lack of reporting in the courts amounts



● Will Brian Lenihan be leaving us soon or not soon enough?

to nothing short of criminal neglect.

AREN'T YA SICK OF THEM?

Yuppies, aren't ya sick of them? Every time some editor farts, he decides that he wants some article on Yuppies. One recent article talked about what the Yuppies could earn abroad.

A teacher worth £14,000 in Dublin was worth £9,274 in London but could take off for Saudi Arabia and collect £20,000. A journalist was worth a mere £15,000 in Dublin (I'm looking for a raise after this), £18,000 in London and a whopping £36,000 in Hong Kong. (Where's me pass-

port?) A solicitor nets about £15,000 in Dublin, £27,000 in London, but has to make do with a humble £54,000 in New York.

But the article warned aspiring emigrant Yuppies that rent and so on can soon cut their salaries down to size. And there was another warning. Some countries have actually nothing to spend the money on. Isn't it always the same? Just when you thought you had it figured out, you find you're better off where you are. (Forget the raise.)

ARE YOU LONESOME TONIGHT?

According to excellent reports in the Paper of Records, The Irish Times, some of you out there may find yourself lonely in the coming long winter nights. You may wake up some morning to find that, alas and alack, the Special Person in your life is no longer parked outside your door. What sadness. But all good things must come to an end.

Seems that there is a 20% cutback due in Garda overtime from £10 million to £8 million. Gardai, it seems, can increase their basic pay by 30% by availing of all sorts of allowances. This includes working unsocial hours. But, as we always say, a good garda is always working. They are never off duty. And it is confidently expected that even if garda pay was abolished altogether, the men and women of the force will always be with us.

LIVING ON AN ISLAND

Brian Lenihan's statement

MUSIC

Song for Ella and Martina

BY MAGGIE RYAN

JACKET POTATOES is an Irish band that's set to take the London music scene by storm.

The mixture of jigs, reels, group will play a benefit rock 'n' roll and ballads is proving increasingly popular in Dalston, East London, for the city's Irish audiences and on Saturday, October 31st.



The trio have just released their first 12-track cassette, also called *Jacket Potatoes*.

An average of 40 women a year die needlessly from this disease in the Six Counties.

● Preventable infections such as measles and whooping cough continue to occur where as they have largely been eliminated in other developed countries.

SIX FACTORS

NUPE identifies six critical factors which must be eliminated in order to have a healthier society: bad housing, accidents at work, a dangerous environment (particularly a lack of suitable play areas for children), low incomes, poor nutrition, and smoking.

The report notes: "Tackling poverty is the key to tackling the problems of health inequalities. Above all, the priority must be the abolition of child poverty."

Among the recommendations *Equality in Health* makes are an ending of privatisation in the NHS and "public ownership of a broad base in pharmaceuticals in order for the NHS to secure supplies at a true economic cost". It also calls for an end to "pay poverty", pointing out over 40% of all nursing staff earn less than a minimum living wage.

Importantly, the report recommends more emphasis

featuring songs by Bobby Sands, Peggy Seeger and many others.

The band's gentle version of Bobby Sands' *Back Home in Derry* and the lively reels contrast with the direct political attack on the US president in *Ronnie Reagan*. The song was written by John Maguire to coincide with Reagan's visit to Ireland three years ago as part of his re-election campaign:

Do your eyes cry the tears For the last 15 years, Or is that just a vote-catcher's gleam?

One song, which sarcastically extols the virtues of the border is a great laugh, and it

is followed by some great jigs.

Song for Ella and Martina, dedicated to POWs Ella O'Dwyer and Martina Anderson, calls for an end to the barbaric practice of strip-searching and calls for everyone to support them and the Stop the Strip-Searches Campaign.

For a first album it shows remarkable musical maturity and an ability to cover a wide range of different styles. Watch out for Jacket Potatoes, I think we'll be hearing more from them.

● *Jacket Potatoes* costs £5 (including postage) from 27 Davanant Road, Dublin N19 3NW. Cheques/POs payable to Patrick Flahive.

BOOK

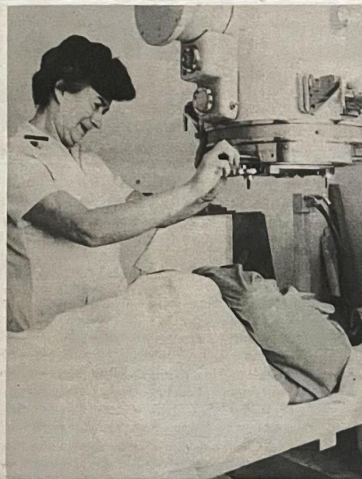
Health for all?

BY MOIRA CONNOLLY

AT THE ANNUAL British Conservative Party conference last week, the British government called for greater privatisation in health-care services. This will hardly come as a surprise to people in the Six Counties who have, over the years, seen British government policy in action: millions slashed off the health service budget, a rise in prescription charges to £3 each, the closure of small but much-needed community hospitals, and the lengthening of hospital waiting lists.

As a response to the uncaring attitude of the British government, the National Union of Public Employees recently published a major statement of its health policy. *Equality of Health* is intended both as a "framework for organising and negotiating and a target for campaigning" for change.

The main emphasis of the report is on equal access of all to the health service. This goes hand in hand with making the National Health Service accessible to people, including, as issues such as the quality of care and reducing the length



on prevention. This includes improved housing, better screening programmes, nutritional education, free birth control services and accident prevention programmes.

Unless the British government begins to act now, Britain and the Six Counties

will fall far short of the World Health Organisation's goals for *Health for All* in Europe by the year 2000. WHO's goals are:

"Add life to years, add health to life, add years to life."

IMEAGHTAI

ANTI-EXTRADITION SOCIAL
Saturday 17th October
Billy Doyle's Pub
Hill Street
DUBLIN
Taille £2

ANTI-APARTHEID AGM

Saturday 17th October
10.15am: Registration
10.30am-12.45pm:
Video and Workshops
2-6pm: AGM
ATGWU Hall
Middle Abbey Street
DUBLIN
(including address by Theo-Ben Gurirab, Foreign Affairs Secretary SWAPO)

SOCIAL NIGHT

Featuring: The Irish Brigade
Saturday 17th October
Andersonstown Social Club
BELFAST

EDUCATION WORKSHOP

2-6pm Sunday 18th October
O'Meara's Hotel
NEHAUGH
County Tipperary
Organised by
North Munster Sinn Fein
Comhairle Linnistear

KEVIN BARRY

COMMEMORATION
3pm Sunday 18th October
RATHVILLY
County Carlow

JIMMY KEENEY

COMMEMORATION
Assemble after 11.30 Mass
Sunday 18th October
SAGGART
County Dublin

SOCIAL NIGHT

Featuring: The Irish Brigade
Tuesday 20th October
Felons Club
BELFAST

WELCOME HOME SOCIAL

(For Andy and Paddy Mulryan)
Tuesday 20th October
Belvedere Hotel
Denmark Street
DUBLIN

MAYO ANTI-EXTRADITION

COMMITTEE
PUBLIC MEETING
9pm Wednesday 21st October
Welcome Inn
CASTLEBAR
County Mayo

1st IRISH COFFEE BRIGADE

TO NICARAGUA
BENEFIT NIGHT
Quiz and Folk Night
8pm Friday 23rd October
The Bird Flanagan
Rialto
DUBLIN
Taille £3

BALLAD SESSION

Featuring the Jolly Begganmen
Friday 23rd October
Hunting Lodge
Ballyfermot
DUBLIN
Taille £2
Organised by
Dublin West Sinn Fein

ANTI-EXTRADITION

PUBLIC MEETINGS
8pm Friday 23rd October
Boylan Community Centre
DUN LAOGHAIRE
Speakers: Fr Denis Carroll,
Joe Costello, Alastair Rutherfordale
8.30pm Tuesday 27th October
Queen's Hotel
ENNIS
County Clare
Speakers: Captain James Kelly,
Gordon Hayes

IRELAND : CAUSE OF LABOUR

Patron: Sean MacBride SC
Hon. Treasurer: Ken Livingston MP
Saturday 28th November
The Camden Centre
Bldborough Street
LONDON NW1
England

IMEAGHTAÍ

Continued from Page 13

LATIN AMERICAN FOLK NIGHT
Featuring: Mapuche, the Sands family and Breda O'Riordan
8pm Wednesday 28th October
Mansion House
Dawson Street
DUBLIN
Tallie E3
Tickets from Golden Discs/Free Bird/South Cellar

DAY SCHOOL
Saturday 31st October
Doncaster Irish Club
Doncaster
ENGLAND

10am-12.30pm Labour and Ireland
2pm-5pm Ireland the the Miners
Tallie: £2 (£1 unwaged)
Organised by Doncaster LCI and Hatfield Main Branch NUM

STOP THE STRIP-SEARCHES CAMPAIGN BENEFIT SOCIAL
Featuring: Jacket Potatoes, Tom McCann & friends, Na Buachallí
8pm Saturday 31st October
Crown and Castle
Kingsland Road
LONDON
England
Tallie £2.50 (£1.50 unwaged)

SOCIAL NIGHT
Featuring the Irish Brigade
8pm Thursday 5th November
Newry Town Hall
NEWRY
Tallie E2

WORLDWIDE STRIP-SEARCH RALLY
Sunday November 8th
PHILADELPHIA
For help or information contact:
PO Box No. 14648
Philadelphia PA 19134 or phone
area code 215 637 3728
or 215 242 1522
Information packs available

Get the TRUTH behind the lies

AN PHOBLACHT Republican News

Ireland Ir£25
Britain Stg£25
Europe Surface Stg£30
Europe Airmail Stg£45
USA US\$60
Canada Can\$65
Australia Aust\$65
Elsewhere Stg£40/Ir£45

Name
Address

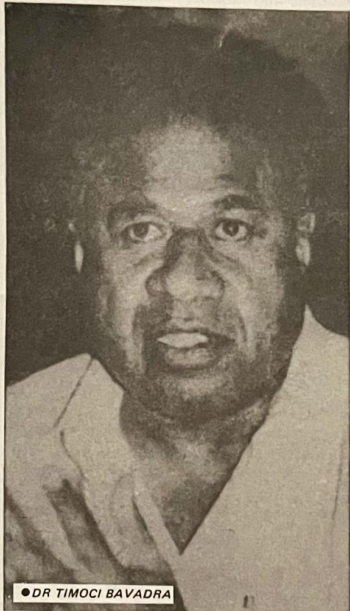
Send to: AP/RN, 58 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.

Fascist expulsion remembered

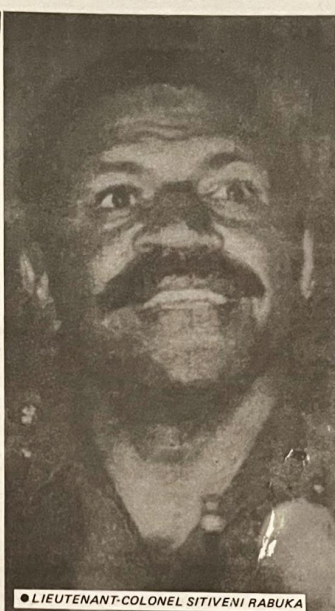
SINN FEIN was among a number of progressive organisations which attended a reception in Dublin on Saturday held by Libyan, Palestinian and other Arab students to mark the 17th anniversary of the expulsion from Libya of the Italian fascist occupying forces.

A selection of videos was shown and the gathering was addressed by Libyan students' leader Abdu Sharif and Maher Lufti, general secretary of the General Union of Palestinian Students in Ireland.

WORLD VIEW



● DR TIMOCI BAVADRA



● LIEUTENANT-COLONEL SITIVENI RABUKA

SANDHURST RACIST RULES

Fiji's military dictatorship under Lieutenant-Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka underlines the damage done to the Pacific islands group by 96 years of British occupation.

On September 25th, Rabuka declared his second armed coup in four months. Tribal leaders of the Melanesian community (Fiji's original population) grasped power from the caretaker government of Dr Timoci Bavadra. Rabuka later announced a racist constitution designed to enforce the power of the Melanesian 'ratu' (chief) and to reduce the voting rights of Fiji's Asian community, descendants of forced labourers brought to the islands

by British colonialists.

Bavadra's Labour Party represented the majority Asian community and the poorest sections of the Melanesians. An election in April brought him to power but on May 14th Rabuka burst into the parliament building, kidnapped Bavadra and took power. Workers on Fiji's sugar plantations (the country's main industry) went on strike, forcing the tribal leaders to set up a concilia-

tion conference involving Asian and Melanesian leaders.

When the conference agreed on September 22nd to a caretaker government involving both communities and with Bavadra as leader, Rabuka moved to crush this new peace move. The racist Taukei movement, dedicated to the power of the tribal chief, marched against the Asians, burning them out and forcing many to flee the country.

Three days later, Rabuka once again seized power and after some time declared the country a republic. Trained with the elite of the British army at Sandhurst, he showed reluctance to break a link with the crown which dates back to 1874 when Fiji became a British colony. Since the last century, Britain maintained its power on the islands by using the tribal chiefs. Since independence in 1970 the chiefs maintained their power through the Alliance Party. Their frustration after the April election when Bavadra was elected led to the coup by Rabuka.

Sickening disaster

THE WORLD'S most serious nuclear accident since Chernobyl occurred last month in the Brazilian city of Goiania involving an almost incredible set of events. Over 24,000 people have been treated for radiation sickness.

A private clinic treating cancer victims in the city of nearly a million people closed and a "caesium bomb" - a lead cylinder containing radioactive dust was left behind. The "bomb" was used in radiation treatment to kill cancer cells.

Scrap metal dealers broke into the abandoned hospital and found the lead cylinder. Unaware of the danger of caesium, they took it home and broke it up. Thinking that what they found was a precious metal, they passed it around. Children rubbed the dust on their bodies to see it glow. Nineteen people are now being treated for serious radiation burns and a six-year-old girl is not expected to survive.

It took the Brazilian authorities over a week to realise the full extent of the catastrophe. The first teams from the country's Nuclear Energy Commission arrived at the scene without protective clothing or equipment. It took a fortnight for them to map out the area.

EVACUATED

On Saturday, October 10th, Nuclear Energy Commission workers began plastering over the contaminated buildings. Seven residential areas near the centre of Goiania have been evacuated and the authorities believe they have the situation "under control".

The Brazilian air force now plans to dump nuclear waste from the site of the accident on the Cachimbo weapons-testing range in the Southern Amazon. Over 2,000 Indian people live near Cachimbo which is in an important mining area. A geologist for the Brazilian Ministry of Mines and Energy has denounced the decision as dangerous. The area has a high rainfall and the River Tapajos which flows near the range could carry the nuclear waste into the Amazon River basin.

The story of the Goiania disaster illustrates a number of tragic lessons about nuclear power and the ignorance of its dangers - an ignorance fostered by governments whose object is profit rather than safety. Maybe the most important lesson is that Goiania - simply because it is thousands of miles from Europe or North America - will never gain as much media attention as the nuclear accidents at Chernobyl or Three Mile Island.

Che Guevara and the Irish Mafia

"TWENTY YEARS AGO, Ernesto 'Che' Guevara and several other revolutionary soldiers were pinned down by the Bolivian military forces. Although he was badly injured, he fought bravely to give his comrades time to get away. His rifle was made useless and he was captured. Over 24 hours later he was executed in the village square. Che did not die in combat - he was murdered." Maria Fernandez, second secretary at the Cuban embassy in London, told the Ireland-Cuba Friendship Society on the anniversary of Guevara's death last Thursday.

Maria Fernandez, who wore a badge commemorating the ten H-Block martyrs, gave a detailed account to the packed meeting of Che's life and ideas. She spoke of his Irish ancestry - his great-great-grandfather, Patrick Lynch, took part in the 1798 rebellion and had to flee to Argentina - and his love of football and chess.

"Although Che was appointed Minister for Industry in Cuba after the fall of Batista, he gave up all his positions to fight in Bolivia. He was a true revolutionary," she said. "The best thing we can hope is that our children grow up to be like Che."

BATISTA

Senator Brendan Ryan told the meeting that when Fidel Castro and Che Guevara overthrew the Batista regime it wasn't just an evil dictator that had been dispensed with, but one of the Mafia's headquarters as well. He pointed out that Ireland is rapidly becoming dominated by what is effectively a new Mafia.

"Some people are doing extremely well. Capital gains on the shares of the top 12 companies in the Irish Stock Exchange in the last nine months amounted to £1.5 billion. Capital gains tax of close to £700 million is due. We'll be waiting for it!"



● Maria Fernandez addressing the Ireland-Cuba Friendship Society meeting on Thursday, October 8th

If the corporate sector even paid as much tax as they do in Margaret Thatcher's Britain they'd be paying £200 million more.

Less than 1,000 people, Senator Ryan told the meeting, hold extraordinary power. By selling government stocks they can push up interest rates, undermine the exchange rate and frighten the government. They can do as much damage in days as a general strike would do in six months. "They

are nameless, faceless and ruthless," he said.

Ryan went on to call for a united Irish left to fight government cutbacks and unemployment.

"It is time we got beyond the jibes about coalition, democratic centralism, reds under the bed, etc.," he said. "It is time to start anew. We can persuade the working class that Fianna Fail has betrayed them. We owe it to them to stop indulging ourselves..."

MEMORIAL TO PAUD GALVIN

A MEMORIAL to Volunteer Paul Galvin was unveiled in Killmore Cemetery, Lixnaw, County Kerry, on Sunday, October 4th.

The attendance at the ceremony was mainly made up of Paud Galvin's comrades, friends and relatives who marched behind a colour party to the graveside. Wreaths were laid by Sinn Féin Councillor Donal Keilher, Bill O'Shea, and John Holly and the proceedings were chaired by John Paul Connolly.

The main speaker was Colreall Mac Curtain from Limerick, who spoke about Paud Galvin's contribution to the republican struggle and the tragedy of his death at the age of 28

in 1976.

John Paul Connolly thanked the Galvin family, in particular Paud's mother, for their support for the Republican Movement and also congratulated local Listowel sculptor Tom Enwright on his fine and fitting memorial.

dict, the foreman, Archibald Thompson of Cusheadland, and three other jurors who believed Orr to be innocent, were threatened and beaten by armed soldiers until they agreed to a verdict of guilty. Meanwhile, the other members of the jury were supplied with alcohol.

When the jury emerged at six in the morning with their verdict of guilty, some of them were clearly drunk. After a sentence of death was passed, Orr spoke from the dock with stirring eloquence:

"The law has branded me a felon, but my heart disclaims this imputation... But if to have loved my country, to have known its wrongs, to have felt the injuries to the persecuted Catholics, and to have united with them and all religious persuasions... If these be felonies, I am a felon, but not otherwise."

His last words spoken on the scaffold just before his execution were:

"I am no traitor. I die a persecuted man for a persecuted country."

DEFIANT

The nature of his death, the extremes to which the crown went to secure a conviction, and his defiant stance in the dock and on the gallows were factors in rallying Antrim eight months later to strike a blow for the cause of freedom. "Remember Orr!" became a watchword among the United Irishmen throughout the North for many years afterwards.

William Orr was hanged at Gallows Green, just outside Carrickfergus, on October 14th 1797, 190 years ago this week.

REMEMBERING THE PAST

William Orr

BY PETER O'ROURKE

NO SINGLE TRIAL and execution of the 1798 period aroused such indignation as that of the United Irishman, William Orr, in October 1797.

The son of a Presbyterian farmer, Orr was born at Farranahane, County Antrim, in 1766. With his brothers, James and Samuel, he joined the United Irishmen soon after its formation in 1791.

A champion of liberty, he enjoyed considerable popularity among his co-religionists because of his efforts to unite all creeds and classes in their demand for the political, economic and cultural freedom of the Irish nation.

Betrayed by the notorious Newry informer, Samuel Turner, Orr was arrested in September 1796 for allegedly administering the United oath to two soldiers of the Fishery Fencibles, Hugh Wheatley and John Lindsay, and imprisoned in Carrickfergus Jail.

He was held there for a year without trial, during which time inducements were made to him to inform and plead guilty in return for his freedom. Orr rejected all of these overtures and was brought to trial at Carrickfergus on September 18th 1797.

TRAVESTY

His trial was a travesty. Having



heard perjured evidence from Wheatley and Lindsay, the jury retired at six in the evening to consider their verdict. They failed to agree and, on being sent back to reconsider a ver-



● Anti-Sellafield demonstrators highlighting the dangers of nuclear power outside the British embassy

'Our lives at risk'

THE SERIOUS FIRE which broke out at the Windscale (now renamed Sellafield) nuclear reprocessing plant in Cumbria 30 years ago was marked by a 100-strong Irish CND vigil at the British Embassy in Dublin on Saturday.

The protesters collected over 1,000 signatures on a 'commemoration card' calling for the plant's closure in just half an hour in the city centre before handing it in to the duty officer at the British Embassy, David Holt.

Finally brought under control three days later, was the world's worst nuclear accident until the Chernobyl disaster in 1986.

Calling for the closure, the Irish CND spokesperson said:

"The possibility of another serious accident occurring at the Sellafield plant is a risk the Irish people can not afford to take. Steps must be taken now to have the plant shut down completely. Enforcement of safety measures will not be enough. No, matter what way you look at it, we in Ireland lose."

"If Sellafield is not working properly, we suffer the consequences of radioactive leaks and the possible catastrophic accidents. If Sellafield is working 'properly', we suffer from the dangers of an escalating nuclear arms race."

"Whether it be bungling generals or bungling management, all our lives are at risk. And for what? We must remember that the prime motive for continuing operation of the Sellafield plant is to feed the nuclear arms industry with the raw materials that it needs."

ARMS RACE
The vigil had been organised in solidarity with the participants in other events held around Ireland and Britain on the same day.

The accident, which occurred on October 8th, and which was

CHURCH

DONAGHY, John; MAGUIRE, Patrick; McKINNEY, Joseph (15th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Volis John Donaghy, Patrick Maguire and Joseph McKinney, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died on active service on October 10th 1972. **THUIAD** siad a rabhadh ar son saoirse. **Always remembered** by Sinn Féin Bun na bhFál.

DUNNE, Jack (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Sean O Duinn (Jack Dunne), Oglagh na hÉireann, Loch Garman, who died on active service on October 18th 1984. Ar dhéas lámh Dó go raibh sé. **Always remembered** by An tOglagh na hÉireann.

FITZSIMMONS, Francis; MARLOWE, Paul; SURGENOR, Joseph (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Volis Francis Fitzsimmons, Paul Marlowe and Joseph Surgenor, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died in an accidental explosion on October 16th 1976. "Life springs from death, and from the graves of patriot dead and women spring living nations." — P.H. Pearse. **Fuail siad b'as go troid ar son mhuintir na hÉireann** agus ní raibid siad mórán réamhchlois. **Always remembered** by their friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

FITZSIMMONS, Francis (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my brother Vol Francis Fitzsimmons, 3rd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on October 16th 1976. Also his two brothers, Michael and Paul Marlowe and Joey Surgenor. **Masses offered.** Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for them. **Always remembered** by his brother Paddy, Hannah and family.

FITZSIMMONS, Francis; MARLOWE, Paul (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Francis and Paul, who died while on active service on October 16th 1976. Will those who think of them today, a little prayer to Jesus say. **Remembered always** by the Surgenor family.

HUGHES, Brendan (2nd Anniversary). In loving memory of Brendan who died on October 16th 1985. **Always remembered** by his friends in Mourneview, Skerries, County Dublin.

HUGHES, Michael (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Michael Hughes, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died while on active service on October 18th 1974. **I measc laochra na nGael go raibh sé.** **Always remembered** by his friends and comrades in the South Down Battalion.

KEENE, Jimmy (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Jimmy Keene, who died on October 18th 1984. **Always remembered** by his friends and comrades in the

Brough/Keeney Sinn Féin Cumann, Rathcoole, County Dublin.

KEENE, Jimmy (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Jimmy Keeney, who died on October 18th 1984. **Always remembered** by his friends and comrades in the Wolfe Tone Sinn Féin Cumann, The Co. Wick, County Wick.

MCCLELLAND, Tony (8th Anniversary). Pray for the soul of Tony McClelland, who died on October 16th 1979. **RIP.** St Joseph, pray for him. **Always remembered** by his loving mother Ellen McKinney and sisters Marie and Geraldine.

MAGUIRE, Colm. In loving memory of Colm Maguire, who died on October 10th after being transferred from Portlaoise to Luncrun. Mourned by his wife Maureen, mother, father, sister and friends. **Always remembered** by his family and since it is given to him to live but once, he must so live as to feel no torturing regrets for a life without purpose, so live not to be seared with the shame of a cowardly, trivial past; so live that, dying, he can say to himself: "All my strength were given to the finest cause in the world, the liberation of mankind."

MAGUIRE, Joseph (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my son Joseph, who died on October 16th 1976. **RIP.** Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for him. Sweet are the memories silently kept of the son I loved and I will never forget. **Always loved and remembered** by his mother and sisters Suzanne and Margaret.

SURGENOR, Joseph (11th Anniversary). In loving memory of my brother Joseph, who died while on active service on October 16th 1976. **Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for him.** There will always be a heart-aching and silent tears, but forever precious memories of the days when you were here. **Always remembered** by his sister Ellen, Jimmy and family, Twinbrook.

SURGENOR, Patrick Joseph (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Patrick Joseph Surgenor, 3rd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died on active service on October 16th 1976. St Anthony, pray for him. **Always remembered** by his cousin Jimmy Surgenor, Una and family, Melbourne, Australia.

COMHBHRON

CUNNINGHAM. Deepest sympathy to Brian and Jim on the death of their brother Martin. From the John Francis Green Sinn Féin Cumann, Castleblayney, County Monaghan.

KERNAN. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Francis Kernan, who died recently. From the John Francis Green Sinn Féin Cumann, Castleblayney, County Monaghan.

LUUNDY. Sinn Féin Bun na bhFál extends deepest sympathy to John and the Lundy family on the recent death of their mother, Roseleen. **Gó náránadh Dia trocaire uirthi.**

McFADDEN. Deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Róisín McFadden, who died recently. From Noel Murphy and family, Ringsend.

McGRATH. The Republican Movement Sligo, extends deepest sympathy to Páckie McGrath (Portlaoise) and family on the death in England of his mother Nora.

McGRATH. The republican prisoners in Portlaoise prison extend sincere sympathy to our comrade Páckie on the death of his mother, Nora. **Gó náránadh Dia trocaire ar a hanam.**

McGRATH. Deepest sympathy is extended to Páckie McGrath on the death of his mother. From the Sligo Sinn Féin Comhairle Ceantair.

McGRATH. The North Six Sinn Féin Cumann, Sligo town, extends deepest sympathy to Páckie McGrath, the McGrath family and friends, on the recent death of Nora.

BEANNAICHTAI

ELLIS, Dessie (Portlaoise). Happy birthday Dessie. See you soon. From Mary, David and all the family.

ELLIS, Dessie (Portlaoise). Happy birthday Dessie. Another year nearer to freedom. From the Clarke/Smith Sinn Féin Cumann, Rathfriland.

ELLIS, Dessie (Portlaoise). One and a half to the back of it, and that much closer with the front. **Birth day greetings on your 20th.** From Sean, San Francisco, USA. **UTP** (H850).

BERITAND, Joe. From your friend Beritand and the kids, Sweden.

HOLDEN, Liam (Long Kesh). Happy birthday, brother. From your sister Lorraine.

HOLDEN, Liam (Long Kesh). Happy 21st birthday, plus VAT. From the Southern Divislop of the Mile High Club to our honorary member. Love from Olive, Angela, Pauline and Caroline.

HOLDEN, Liam (Long Kesh). Happy birthday Liam. Lots of love and kisses. From Anne. xxx

MULRYAN, Paddy. Enjoy home Paddy. All the very best for the future. From Alan and Patrick, Bunrana, County Donegal.

O'DWYER, Ella (Durham). Best wishes and keep well from Mrs Mary McKee.

WILD, Keep in touch. Lots of love. From Kathleen. xxx

National Draw Week 7
£300: c/o Donal Carolan; £250: Card 1335, Line 3, County Down; £150: Niall Murphy, Mason's Bar, Tralee, County Kerry; £100: T. Moylan, 123-124, Knockmay, Portlaoise; £50: Card 1574, Line 5, Belfast area; Patrick Manning, c/o Pat, County Cork; Thomas Larkin, Churchview, Bannagher, County Offaly; Card 1411, Line 4, Derry city area.

AN

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UNEMPLOYMENT, EMIGRATION, CUTBACKS

Fianna Fail Thatcherism

THE DUBLIN GOVERNMENT'S estimates, announced this week, with their massive expenditure cuts of £485 million represent the Fianna Fail blueprint for misery for hundreds of thousands of working people in the 26 Counties.

Not since the 1950s, when unemployment and emigration seemed set to completely depopulate Ireland, has a Dublin government set about attacking public spending with such savagery and with such disastrous consequences for the less-well-off.

Workers in the public service will be hit with 8,000 redundancies next year. But so drastic are the cuts that they are certain to lead to many more job losses.

The health service, which has already been devastated by cutbacks this year, will face greater cuts with more health workers' jobs threatened and care for patients reduced still further.

The huge reduction in the under-funded area of education will mean 2,500 less

teachers at the end of the school year and the pupil/teacher ratio — already the highest in the EEC — will go up again.

DEATH-KNELL FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES

The death-knell has also been sounded for the jobs and services of local authorities who have lost £31 million. Plans for roads and houses will join new schools and hospitals in the waste-paper basket.

With the savagery of these cuts, which will increase poverty and unemployment, the Fianna Fail government has shown its commitment to Thatcherite economic policies. Fianna Fail is making working-class people pay for the massive debt accumulated

by successive governments and while the TDs awarded themselves an increase of £18 million in Leinster House pensions they tell working people that they can "no longer live beyond their means".

The root of the problem is that it is they and the rich whom they represent who have been living beyond our means. The much-heralded Programme for National Recovery (*sic*), finalised on October 9th, creates the illusion of pay increases for workers, but with inflation and the effects of service cutbacks on the pay packet it will amount to a reduction in wages. It contains no measures for the radical tax reform that is necessary or any intention to go after the billions in profits from big business which leave the country every year.

The £1 million per day spent on upholding Britain's border is not, of course, to be cut.

Interviewed in the United States recently, Fianna Fail Foreign Minister Brian Lenihan said that the growing exodus of young people from Ireland was nothing to worry about:

"We shouldn't be defeatist or pessimistic about it. We should be proud of it. After all we can't all live on a small island."

That fairly sums up Fianna Fail's economic policy in a divided and exploited Ireland with a population still less than half of what it was before the British forcibly depopulated our country through the famine and emigration in the last century.

Workers, small farmers, the unemployed and the waves of young people with no choice but emigration must be organised in the face of those savage policies to tell Fianna Fail that they have every right to live and work in their own country, and they will assert it!