

AN

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING  
POLITICAL WEEKLY



# PHOBLACHT

## Republican News

Sraith Nua Imi 9 Uimhir 50

31 Nollaig

Thursday 31st December 1987

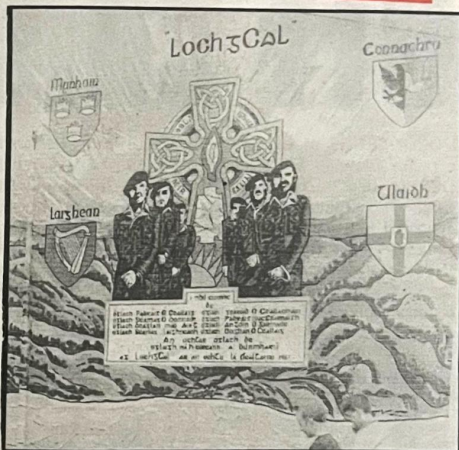
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# REVIEW OF... '87

# PEACE WITH JUSTICE

## - IS STILL THE AIM



**THE LEADERSHIP** of the Republican Movement enters 1988 "defiantly and confidently" in the belief that "revolutionary armed struggle" is the only way to achieve "peace with justice", it said in its traditional Christmas and New Year statement.

The statement, which was delivered to republican prisoners of war before Christmas but only released to the media last Monday, said:

The leadership of the Republican Movement extends Christmas greetings to our imprisoned comrades and to their families. These families, by standing by the POWs, have made a big contribution to maintaining the morale of this long struggle.

But at this time of year our thoughts especially go out to those families bereaved during the last 12 months, families of courageous IRA Volunteers whose lives and deaths bear grim testimony to the price our people have to pay for peace. They will always be remembered by their comrades in arms, by the republican people, and eventually they will

be acknowledged by the Irish nation as the founders of an independent, democratic, socialist republic.

The justness of our cause has never for us been more rooted in conviction, and events of this year prove that as we enter the 20th anniversary of the birth of the Civil Rights protest movement the Six-County state is as violent, inflexible and irreformable as ever.

Revolutionary armed struggle is the only means of countering the evils of British imperialism and the sectarian Six-County state. We repeat that we will never accept this state, nor will we accept British attempts to internalise the conflict and political arrangements to sidestep the reality that it is a colonial situation.

1987 has been a difficult year. We have suffered many losses. We have buried many comrades. Many comrades are serving and have served lengthy periods of imprisonment under many prison regimes. Thousands of families have suffered as a result of Britain attempting to stamp its foreign authority on our native land.

We wish there was another way. The tragedy of war could be avoided if Britain recognised the right of the Irish people to decide their own future. We always remain willing to talk peace but

so long as Britain refuses to enter the peace process and makes war by its very occupation of our country then we remain the only organised and disciplined forces to confront it.

We understand and do not balk at the heavy price of peace.

Our strategy is no secret. It is not to march a thousand armed Volunteers down O'Connell Street or through government offices in Dublin. It is to militarise the armed struggle in the North and thus convince the British public that their government is lying when it says it can win the war in Ireland. It is to persuade the British to pull their troops out.

Parallel with this arises the necessity to defend clearly-defined nationalist areas. Neither Dublin nor the SDLP has the courage, the ability or the intention of doing so. Make no mistake about it — were it not for the IRA presence in many urban nationalist areas, loyalists would be using their old tactic of the pogroms to put nationalists back on their knees.

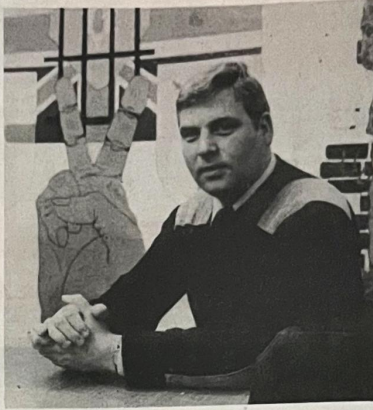
We enter 1988 defiantly and confidently. Our day of peace with justice, our day of freedom, is coming!

P.O'Neill, Irish Republican Publicity Bureau, Dublin.



31st, 1987

# IRA executes UFF commander



**VOLUNTEERS** of the IRA's Belfast Brigade delivered a major blow to the internal structure of the loyalist UFF (a flag of convenience for UDA killer squads) when its commanding officer, John McMichael, was executed on Tuesday night, December 22nd. In a statement admitting responsibility for the attack the IRA said his execution was "a pre-emptive strike against the UFF which was planning to bomb Dublin and other towns in the 26 Counties in the coming weeks".

According to republican sources, after months of collating intelligence on the movements of 39-year-old McMichael, two armed active service units entered the predominantly loyalist Lisburn area and placed a booby-trap bomb containing 5lbs of plastic explosives under McMichael's car, which was parked outside his home at Hilden Court, Low Road.

Shortly after 8pm, the bomb exploded as McMichael got inside, triggering the mechanism. He died shortly afterwards.

McMichael became known as one of the UDA's main political planners, being second in command to UDA leader Andy Tyrrie. Since the early '70s, the UFF's campaign of sectarian violence has resulted in countless assassinations, bombings in the 26 Counties, and the intimidation of hundreds of Catholic families from their homes.

McMichael was appointed South Belfast commander of the UFF in 1979, a period which saw the UFF targeting prominent republicans and other outspoken nationalists. Those assassinated included former Irish Independence Party politician John Turnley, and IRSP leaders Ronnie Bunting, Noel Little and Miriam Daly. The UFF was also responsible for the attempted assassinations of Bernadette McAliskey, Gerry Adams and Alex Maskey. According to a *Sunday Tribune*

report on December 27th:

"As a senior figure in the UDA McMichael also earned his pips in the time-honoured fashion; according to a senior NIO civil servant, McMichael had personally "pulled the trigger" on three Catholics."

He played a major role in the organisation of the March 1986 loyalist 'Day of Action' in protest at the Hillsborough Treaty and sanctioned a campaign of sectarian attacks and intimidation of Catholics. This was strikingly evident in Lisburn where McMichael lived and where over 200 Catholics were either petrol-bombed, stoned or threatened with guns from their homes by McMichael's UFF/UDA henchmen.

It was also around this time - a year before the publication of the UDA document *Common Sense* - that McMichael was promoting the 'civil war' scenario advocating direct confrontation with Catholics by expelling them from loyalist factories and

housing estates. And ironically, ten days after the January 1987 publication of the *Common Sense* document which was applauded by constitutional nationalists and unionists alike, UFF members from McMichael's South Belfast Brigade planted incendiary devices in Dublin and Donegal. He was

also responsible for bombing attacks on Dublin and other towns in the 26 Counties in November 1986 when bombs were left in O'Connell Street. McMichael also tried to publicly distance himself from such blatant sectarianism which conflicted with the political swing

of the UDA outlined in its *Common Sense* but he was still playing the dual role of UFF commander/UDA politico when he was executed.

The IRA statement concluded: "Mr McMichael has a long record of involvement in cross-border attacks and sectarian crimes. He had personally ordered the assassinations of many nationalists and was behind pogroms against Catholic families in unionist areas. "We urge nationalists to be on their guard. Both the UFF and UUVF have explosives in their possession and we warn the leadership of the UFF and the UUVF that they will be held responsible for their organisation's sectarian actions."

## ATTACK ON JUDGE

A senior member of the Northern judiciary escaped injury when a 200lb IRA car-bomb outside his South Belfast home exploded just 20 minutes before his arrival with his RUC bodyguard on Thursday, December 17th.

Using a commandeered car, IRA Volunteers drove the vehicle to Cadogan Park, the home of Donald Murray, a Diplock High Court judge.

A 25-minute warning was telephoned to a newspaper and the bomb exploded, causing considerable damage to the judge's house. In a statement the IRA said the attack was in direct retaliation for widespread and destructive raids on nationalist homes by the crown forces which was effectively "a form of mass community punishment".

The IRA further said: "We believe that members of the establishment and the exclusive areas in which they live cannot be allowed to remain aloof and



● The remains of the car-bomb outside the home of Diplock court Judge, Donal Murray

# SINN FEIN UNDETERRED

## IN STRUGGLE FOR

## FREEDOM, JUSTICE & PEACE

IN A NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE, Gerry Adams has said that in 1988 Sinn Fein will continue undeterred in the struggle for full freedom, real justice, and lasting peace in our country. He said:

Twenty years after the launch of the Civil Rights campaign the demands for basic human and civil rights have yet to be met. The denial by the British of our right to national self-determination and independence secures the loyalist veto and there-

fore perpetuates the injustice and inequality upon which the sectarian Six-County state is founded.

The achievement of civil and human rights for all the Irish people depends therefore on the achievement of our national rights to freedom and independence.

We in Sinn Fein reject totally and absolutely British rule in the North and will oppose in 1988 any attempts by Britain to establish a local Stormont aimed at putting up a front for colonial imperialism.

Next year Sinn Fein will play its part in celebrating 20 years of struggle for civil and national rights. Instead of the politics of dependence and illusion offered by the SDLP and Dublin, we will be offering radical politics based on the reality of our situation and aimed at making real changes.

1987 was marked by a number of tragic incidents. In May the IRA suffered its greatest single loss since the 1920s when British forces executed eight young Irish

republicans and a passing motorist at Loughgal. The sense of grief which followed Loughgal was matched only by the feeling of genuine regret and sorrow which followed the tragedy at Enniskillen.

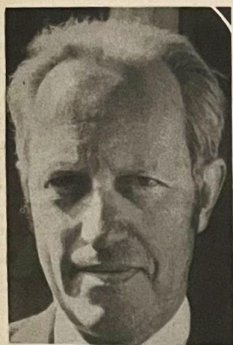
However, both incidents and the continuing conflict which gave rise to them demonstrate the urgent need for a political solution which tackles the historic source of violence and division in Ireland: the continued British presence in part of our country.

It was this urgent need which in our discussion document, *A Scenario for Peace*, released early in the year. In this document we pointed out that the solution to our problems lies with the Irish

people and we urged the unionist community to reassess their position and role in the politics of our country.

In view of the political bankruptcy of their political leadership and the futility of the sectarian policies which they offer, I would again appeal to the unionist population to take the opportunity to join with the rest of the Irish people and participate fully and equally in the building of a real Irish democracy.

Despite unprecedented attempts in 1987 to isolate and marginalise us, Sinn Fein showed through continued electoral successes in the Six Counties and the commencement of a process of building a political base in the 26 Counties that we are not going to go away. In 1988, while maintaining a firm opposition to the British presence in our country, we will be as willing as we have been in the past to listen and talk to our political opponents.



● JUDGE DONAL MURRAY

unconcerned about the repressive activities of their forces in nationalist working-class areas."

**IRA DENIAL OF RACKETEERING**

In a lengthy statement the IRA categorically denied allegat-

ions in a BBC *Newsnight* programme which accused the IRA of involvement in protection rackets and building site fraud.

The IRA said the allegations were made "without producing any shred of evidence to link the IRA to these activities", pointing out that if the RUC had any such evidence it "would not hesitate to put into effect considerable effort to stop this alleged source of finance".

The statement challenged the media to approach the business community on this matter because "they will find, as all others have found, that rather than being involved the IRA is actively attempting to prevent such racketeering".

The IRA went on to deny equally spurious claims in the media by former Official Unionist Assembly member Frazer Agnew that the IRA was planning to kill five leading loyalists (including two Official Unionists) in the next few weeks.

The IRA also accused the RUC of "deliberately withholding the forensic history of weapons used in sectarian attacks, a policy

which was deliberately protecting UDA and UVF gunmen".

**DERRY ATTACKS**

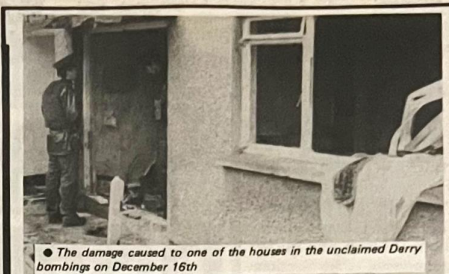
During the course of IRA attacks in Derry, two British soldiers were seriously injured in one of three engagements against the crown forces in the city in as many days.

At around midnight on Saturday, December 19th, IRA Volunteers threw four grenades at a joint British army/RUC mobile patrol travelling along the Strand Road. One of the Land Rovers was damaged.

On Monday night, December 21st, the IRA carried out a punishment shooting on a 20-year-old man in Elmwood Street in the Bogside area. Crown forces personnel involved in a search operation following the shooting came under fire from an IRA unit in the area.

Volunteers threw two grenades, seriously injuring two British soldiers.

The following night, the IRA hurled another grenade at a crown forces mobile patrol travelling along the Letterkenney Road in the Brandywell area.



● The damage caused to one of the houses in the unclaimed Derry bombings on December 16th

**Tullyally bomb attack**

RUC CLAIMS that the IRA was responsible for the Tullyally bomb explosions in Derry city on Wednesday night, December 16th, in which one man was killed and 20 injured, were dismissed as an "effort in black propaganda" by Sinn Fein's Martin McGuinness.

Three no-warning bombs were

placed in the mainly loyalist Tullyally Estate, one at the home of a Catholic, Gerald Doherty, a 70-year-old retired milkman, and a second at a house which until recently had been occupied by a Catholic family. Doherty was killed instantly when the bomb, which had been placed in his hallway, exploded.

The IRA's Derry Brigade quickly denied any involvement in the incident but the RUC continued to lay the blame for the attack on republicans. Martin McGuinness, expressing outrage at the bomb attacks, pointed out that it would be politically damaging and counter-productive for the IRA to bomb civilian homes, "therefore why should they do it?" He said:

"The possibility cannot be ruled out that the attack was carried out by either loyalist elements or by an RUC/British army dirty tricks department.

"Only last week, the IRA released a statement in which they said that material belonging to them had been captured by the crown forces, yet the crown forces refused to acknowledge this. Where did the materials go? Was it used by a dirty tricks department to launch last night's bomb attack with the intention of blaming republicans?"

"Sectarianism has no place in the republican struggle against British rule."

**SECTARIAN ATTACK IN ANDYTOWN**

A NATIONALIST MAN from North Belfast is in hospital with serious injuries following a loyalist assassination bid in the early hours of Wednesday, December 23rd. The 32-year-old married man sustained shotgun wounds to his side, hand and face when he was shot at point-blank range by loyalists as he was returning home from a Christmas party in the Greenan Lodge Hotel.

As he walked past a garage on the Andersonstown Road at around 2.30am, a car which was parked in the forecourt drove after him at speed, screaming to a halt a few yards ahead of him. At first the man thought the car contained joy-riders but a man holding a shotgun jumped out of the back seat and immediately fired at him. He was hit in the right side and fell to the ground. The gunman then pointed the shotgun at the terrified man's head but he raised his hands to his face to protect himself. The man's hands took most of the impact of the blast but he still received injuries to his face.

The gunman ran back to the vehicle which quickly sped off. Shortly afterwards the badly injured man was discovered by passersby and taken to hospital.

**DIVIS**

Also in Belfast, on Sunday night, December 27th, four nationalists were fired on by loyalists in the Millfield area which links the loyalist Shankill and nationalist Divis Street district. Local Sinn Fein Councillor Fra McCann urged nationalists to be particularly vigilant when walking there as it was a favourite 'picking up' point for loyalist assassination squads in the 1970s.



● FRA McCANN



● John McMichael's colleague Andy Tyrre carrying his coffin

**The making of a saint**

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

JOHN McMICHAEL organised, commissioned and condoned the assassination of many Catholics. He masterminded the attacks on Catholic homes in the Lisburn area after the signing of the Hillsborough Treaty. He headed an organisation which, since the early '70s, has tried through terror and random killings to bring nationalists back onto their knees.

John McMichael also published last January a document entitled *Common Sense*, which advocated some form of power-sharing with the SDLP.

Listening to politicians' statements and reading newspaper editorials after McMichael's death, an outsider would have been led to believe that his life's work was that document and that he never had any involvement in the murkier side of loyalism: the Ghandi of Six-County politics had been murdered.

Unionist politicians were touchingly unanimous in their glowing tributes to the late military chief of the UDA. A man of vision, according to Alliance leader John Alderdice: "A vision of Northern Ireland shared by Protestant, Catholic and dissenter." A man of courage in Official Unionist deputy leader Harold McCusker's opinion: "The courage to spell out the alternative to and replacement for the Anglo-Irish Agreement." A man of progress, according to another unionist MP, Jim Kilfedder.

McMichael's funeral saw similar displays of unionist unity, with a large attendance from MPs, councillors and members of Ian Paisley's DUP and the OUP. Present

OUP deputy leader Harold McCusker, and Peter Robinson even took their turn carrying the coffin. Paisley, Molyneux, the Reverend Martin Smyth and many others followed in the cortege.

"For many years he was untiring in his efforts to find a way forward in Northern Ireland," declared Cardinal O. Fiach. Was he referring to McMichael's involvement in the 1974 UWC strike which brought down the power-sharing executive, or his role in orchestrating the loyalist backlash on Catholics after the signing of the Hillsborough Treaty in November 1985? No, he was probably referring to that eight-page *Common Sense* document - a document which did not offer anything new other than the fact that it emanated from the UDA.

**SDLP PRAISE FOR McMICHAEL**

The SDLP was equally full of praise. McMichael had made "a genuine attempt to end the political impasse in the North", according to Joe Hendron. And Austin

Currie declared him to be "someone with whom it was possible to do business" - no reference presumably to the UDA's ventures in the building trade...

**EDITORIALS**

Newspaper editorials reflected the trend, the *Irish News* perhaps less enthusiastically so as it noted the unanimity in condemning the killing, "which does not happen when Catholics, innocent of any crimes whatsoever, are gunned down by loyalist gangs". Most newspapers accused the IRA of trying to provoke loyalist retaliation, a claim which the British have consistently put forward in order to exonerate themselves of any responsibility in the actions of loyalists and justify their continued presence in Ireland as 'peacekeepers'.

In two consecutive editorials the *Irish News* tried to convince its readership that the Republican Movement was split, a 'rumour' obviously culled from British government sources as it reappeared in an *Irish Times* article on British political circles' reactions to McMichael's death.

There were two notable exceptions in this epidemic of eulogising. The *Sunday Tribune* offered a full-page background feature on *How McMichael Earned His Pips*, and *The Observer* quoted from a recent interview with the UDA leader about his attitude to 'violence', which was - as nationalists would expect - hardly Ghandi-like.

Make  
sure  
you're  
registered

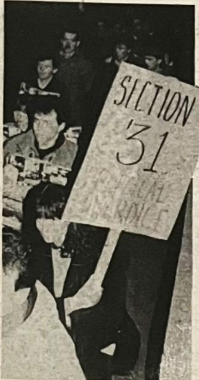
**VOTERS IN THE 26 Counties are urged to make sure they are on the electoral register in case a general election is called in 1988.**

Registers can be checked at libraries, local authority buildings or courthouses. Any additions to be made or errors rectified must be completed by January 15th.

Every vote counts - make sure you're registered.

## Section 31 to be renewed

YET ANOTHER Fianna Fail election pledge bit the dust on December 18th when Communications Minister Ray Burke announced that Section 31 would be renewed in the new year. Free speech campaigners and journalists were disappointed but not surprised by Burke's Christmas U-turn — it joined a long list of broken promises.



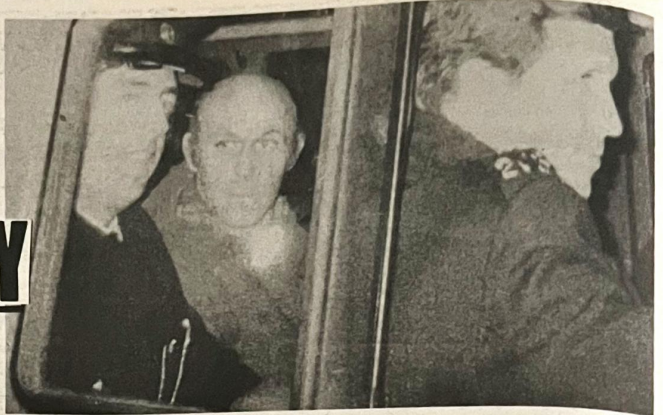
During the election in February, Charles Haughey made a commitment to allow Sinn Fein election candidates and elected representatives access to the airwaves. Interviews with Sinn Fein members and with those of a list of organisations have been banned from RTE radio and television since the early '70s under Section 31. The Act, which has to be renewed every year, is a crude manipulation of the state broadcasting system and has been heavily condemned in a recent report by the International Federation of Journalists and by the National Union of Journalists. It means that voters are unable to hear the wide-ranging policies of Sinn Fein and it means groups such as the Concerned Parents Against Drugs, in which Sinn Fein members play a prominent role, are often ignored by the media.

### LACK OF DISCUSSION

Section 31 is mainly responsible for the lack of serious discussion of the freedom struggle on RTE. By silencing Sinn Fein representatives Section 31 means that the views of 83,000 Northern voters can't get through to people in the rest of Ireland.

Although RTE bosses lobbied the government to drop the ban earlier this year, it complacently accepted the minister's decision. NUJ members at RTE have failed to take firm action against Section 31 in the past but have promised to consider making a protest in the New Year. Their lukewarm response is in contradiction of the NUJ code of conduct which commits them to "eliminate distortion, news suppression and censorship".

# KANE LOSES CUSTODY BATTLE



**LONG KESH ESCAPEE** Paul Kane lost his battle to secure release from illegal detention last week when the High Court turned down his habeas-corpus application.

Judge Egan gave his decision on the case on Monday, December 21st. In summing up he accepted almost all the Garda evidence as fact and said only that they had shown "lack of candour" and that their testimony contained "certain inaccuracies". He said that there was nothing illegal about Kane's detention and, incredibly, that the posse of gardai which followed him and surrounded him did not restrict his freedom of movement. The judge went on to say that Kane would

not have been arrested had he not "assaulted" a garda when he was pursued into a roadside ditch outside Cavan town. Egan also accepted the claim that the reason Kane's car was stopped was to prevent "dangerous driving" and not to detain or arrest the prisoner.

The judicial approval for the walking detention of Kane and his hounding by hordes of gardai has significant implications for civil liberties. It could give the Garda the legal right to restrict a person's

movements and keep them under effective arrest while awaiting warrants.

For Paul Kane the outcome of the High Court inquiry into his detention means that he will remain in custody and must now fight another court battle against extradition to the Six Counties. He is due to appear again on January 5th in the Bridewell, Dublin.

### SERVING BRITAIN'S INTERESTS

Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams described the continued detention of Paul Kane as "a travesty of justice and yet another example of how the laws of the

26 Counties have been twisted to serve Britain's interests".

He said that the Dublin High Court decision to reject Kane's application "apparently gives the gardai a licence to hound and harass people at will.

"Paul Kane was convicted in the Six Counties on the evidence of a supergrass, a conviction later quashed. Now the Fianna Fail government is preparing to hand him back to the RUC to face Diplock injustice once again. His case shows that extradition must continue to be vigorously opposed by all concerned with justice and civil rights."



● Liam McElhinney, surrounded by gardai, outside the gates of Green Street Special Court on December 19th

# STATE ATTACKS ON SINN FEIN REPRESENTATIVES CONTINUE

IN WHAT is being seen as another unshamed attack on Sinn Fein community activists by the Dublin government, armed detectives swooped on the home of Donegal County Councillor Liam McElhinney on Saturday, December 19th, arresting him on a charge of IRA membership and inciting people to join the IRA.

Councillor McElhinney was driven at high speed from his Lifford home to Sligo Garda Barracks, and from there to Dublin where an extraordinary sitting of Green Street Special Court was set up. The court heard gardai claim that on April 19th 1987, at the Easter and Drumboe commemoration, Councillor McElhinney was a member of the IRA

and had urged those present to join the IRA. He was remanded on bail until January 12th.

The Garda action comes only a month after Cork Sinn Fein activist Don O'Leary was jailed for five years by the Special Court for possession of IRA *Call the Shots* posters which were on public sale throughout the country.

The Irish Council for Civil Liberties is now set to take a High Court action to declare the Offences Against the State Act (the Act that both Liam McElhinney and Don O'Leary were charged under) unconstitutional following its widespread use by gardai during the 'National Search'. But the 26-County authorities are also hoping to convict Councillor McElhinney for incitement under Section 3 of the previously little-used Criminal Law Act, which was drawn up during the notorious 'Heavy Gang' period in 1976.



● DON O'LEARY

# DIPLOCK COURTS INDICTED

THE British judicial system in the Six Counties has been severely indicted by a top United States legal group in a study released recently.

The report was compiled by the International Human Rights Committee of the New York City Bar Association and condemns the non-jury Diplock court system and British government emergency powers. The group carried out the study when members visited the Six Counties and Britain early in 1987.

Criticising non-jury trials in the North, the Bar Association says that jury hearings should be returned and that the British Attorney General should have to authorise every case tried without a jury.

The use of forced confessions to convict people before the Diplock courts also came in for condemnation from the US lawyers. The report acknowledges that these confessions are admitted by the British courts "more easily than is normal under accepted common law".

Among the report's recommendations are the use of three judges in non-jury cases and the abolition of the British government's power to intern without trial.

Ironically, the proposal for the cosmetic change to three judges comes after this idea — floated by the Dublin government during the extradition debate — has been

consigned to the political dustbin by the British. Even the most meaningless changes in the system in the Six Counties must conform to the political/military interests of the British occupation.



## NO CHRISTMAS CHEER

IT'S NOT BEEN a season of good cheer for either the 26-County health or education service. By the end of the year more than 3,600 hospital beds have been axed; three quarters of these were for acute illnesses. Fianna Fail's Christmas present to the schoolchildren was to deepen an £89 million gash in the education budget.

Forty-three vocational education teachers who were told they had permanent jobs were suddenly made temporary as the effects of secondary level cuts became clearer in the days leading up to Christmas. Vocational schools cater for a higher proportion of working-class children than any other sector.

Teachers and civil servants have been instructed by their unions to boycott preparations for primary teacher cut-backs due to start as the schools reopen in the new year. The class size review ordered by Education Minister Mary O'Rourke is designed to enable her to order individual schools to reduce teacher numbers, but without the help of primary head teachers and civil servants this can't go ahead.

### LIMERICK CLOSURE THREAT

Limerick health workers were shocked by the threatened closure of Barrington's the city's oldest hospital. Barrington's is one of the busiest hospitals in Limerick and local people organised a large protest at a meeting of the Mid-Western Health Board which ordered the closure.

The Fianna Fail hatchet is likely to fall on yet more social services in 1988 but the government is unlikely to get an easy ride. Parents, managers and teachers have seriously embarrassed Mary O'Rourke by showing their anger at the education cuts. But defending the living standards of communities throughout the 26 Counties will take a prolonged and bitter struggle.

# Dying of cold

A COMPREHENSIVE MOTION will be raised in local councils across the North during January detailing measures needed to eradicate the problem of cold-related illnesses and hypothermia.

Launching the major campaign, Sinn Fein's West Belfast MP, Gerry Adams, commented: "Hundreds of people in the North, mainly elderly, die unnecessarily each year from cold and cold-related illnesses."

The scale of the problem is immense. The Council of Voluntary Action in the Six Counties and the Right to Fuel Group say that between 1975 and 1985 almost 12,500 more people died during the winter months than during

the summer months. The British government's chief medical statistician has calculated that about 80% of the difference between summer and winter deaths is because of changes in temperatures. A number of studies in Britain in the 1970s and 1980s revealed that more than half of elderly people have living-room temperatures below the legal minimum for shops and offices while a 1972 report disclosed that nine out of ten of those

with low temperatures said that they were not warm because heating was too expensive.



GERRY ADAMS

Sinn Fein's motion contains a nine-point plan which includes a demand

for the abolition of the Payment of Debt Act; a comprehensive fuel benefit for those already on welfare benefits; the amount of electricity debt to be repaid to be set at a realistic level dictated by the consumer's income; an end to disconnection; and the establishment of a research programme into fuel poverty and its effects.

Importantly, the motion will also be seeking the creation of council sub-committees which will lobby agencies like the DHSS and Housing Executive.

Sinn Fein Councillors Damien Gibney and Pat Rice are seeking legal

advice after they were prevented from attending a council meeting at Hillsborough because of the intimidating presence of a large number of UDA/ Ulster Clubs members.

The two councillors, who had been stopped earlier at an RUC road-check, arrived at the town hall shortly before 7pm on Tuesday night, December 22nd. More than 50 loyalists were waiting around the main door for the Sinn Fein councillors. There have been several loyalist attacks on Sinn Fein councillors here before and there is usually a large number of RUC personnel present. Their absence on this occasion prompted Sinn Fein Councillor Pat Rice to accuse the RUC of colluding with the UDA in an effort to set him and his fellow councillor up for attack and prevent them from attending council meetings.

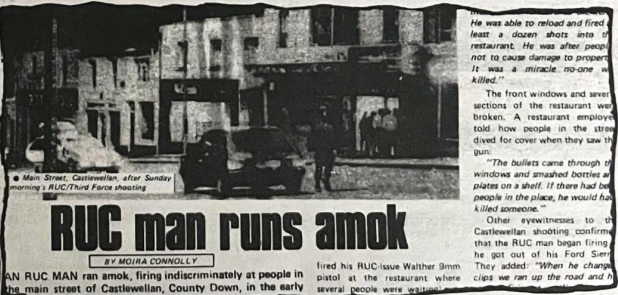
# RUC man sentenced

AN RUC MAN and former UDR soldier, Barry Shields, who earlier this year fired indiscriminately at staff and customers in the Oak Grill Restaurant in Castlewella, County Down, was sentenced to 14 years imprisonment on Wednesday, December 23rd.

Shields, who fired 14 rounds from his RUC-issue Walther 9mm pistol into the crowded premises and at a group of people standing nearby, was cleared of the attempted murder charge. Unionist

Judge Brian Hutton, who was a legal advisor to the Stormont regime and defended Britain in the European Court of Human Rights against charges of torture following internment in 1972, described Shields as a man of "excellent character" who "showed no hint of violence towards anyone before the shooting".

Frank McDowell, local Sinn Fein councillor, described the sentence as "strikingly lenient in comparison to the harsher sentences repeatedly imposed on republicans for less serious incidents".



## RUC man runs amok

AN RUC MAN ran amok, firing indiscriminately at people in the main street of Castlewella, County Down, in the early

He was able to reload and fired at least a dozen shots into the restaurant. He was after people not to cause damage to property. It was a miracle no-one was killed.

The front windows and several sections of the restaurant were broken. A restaurant employee told how people in the street dived for cover when they saw the gun.

The bullets came through the windows and smashed bottles of plates on a shelf. If there had been people in the place, he would have killed someone.

Other eyewitnesses to the Castlewella shooting confirmed that the RUC man began firing as he got out of his Ford Sierra. They added: "When he changed clips we ran up the road and he

# JANUARY

IN JANUARY 1987, for the first time in history, Sinn Fein campaigned for the general election on a non-abstentionist basis when the Fine Gael government fell and called an election. It was a case of 'Good Riddance' to the four-year rule of one of the most right-wing governments ever put in power.

Unemployment stood at 250,000, the government debt was astronomical and cuts in benefits, the education and health services over those four years had caused suffering and hardship. But even before the election campaign got underway, the lack of differences in policy between the main Leinster House parties was obvious. While Fine Gael and the Progressive Democrats were the most zealous in their desire for cut-backs, Fianna Fail and Labour shared the same basic philosophy that balancing the books comes before protecting the living standard of the people.

Fearing anything that would expose their shameful record the Coalition ensured the renewal of Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act a few days before the election was announced in order to censor the Sinn Fein viewpoint.

The Sinn Fein Manifesto was launched on January 27th, putting forward policies vital to protect the people in the short-term and offering them a real alternative for change. The party contested 24 of the constituencies, but from the start blatant media bias, distortion and outright censorship were the order of the day. Many producers and journalists went far beyond the restrictions of Section 31, allowing their own prejudices to misrepresent and more often exclude altogether, the Sinn Fein view.

The South's general election announcement had reverberations for both political parties there and the political situation in the North. On the one hand Fianna Fail avoided the Northern question like a plague - republican posturing is good enough for an opposition leader, not for a future prime minister. Fine Gael equally saw it as a political liability to be avoided. Meanwhile British direct-ruler, Tom King, blurted out during a radio interview on January 22nd that there would be "some suspension of the conference procedure" during the election campaign. He hoped this would satisfy unionist demands and called for dialogue with the SDLP. No dice - unionists wanted the Agreement scrapped altogether and the Maryfield Secretariat shut down completely before any parleying could be undertaken.

Meanwhile an equally bungling Garret Fitzgerald played down as best he could revelations of British intelligence gubbing of communications between the 26-County embassies in London and Dublin and between civil servants based in the Maryfield office and Dublin. Such eavesdropping meant that Thatcher already knew the strengths and weaknesses of Dublin in the months prior to the signing of the Hillsborough Agreement.

January also saw the SDLP increasingly under pressure to support the RUC and encourage Northern Catholics to join its ranks. The SDLP were saved by none other than the Catholic Hierarchy. Cardinal O'Fiaich said the Hillsborough Agreement was disappointing and the time had not yet come when Catholics could join the RUC.

Unionists were up a cul-de-sac in their anti-Agreement protest, which constituted a petition and £272,000 of rates money levied by councils to finance a publicity campaign. But whatever about their difference in tactics they were just as firmly united against the Agreement as they had ever been.

Nationalists continued to pay the cost for Hillsborough with more crown force repression and sectarian attacks. More than half a million

# REVIEW OF...

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people - mainly Irish - had been stopped and questioned since 1974 under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, while less than 200 have ever been charged. An Irish language nursery in East Belfast was under threat of closure just one more victim of British government (and SDLP inspired) political vetting of community projects in the North under which funds were withdrawn.

On January 16th, five of Sinn Fein's Northern councillors met a delegation from the British Labour Party. The delegation included spokespersons Peter Archer and Stuart Bell.

Twenty-four Belfastmen imprisoned on the word of INLA paid-perjurer Harry Kirkpatrick, were finally freed two days before Christmas after spending 4 years in prison on Kirkpatrick's unsupported word. No other paid-perjurer cases were pending but the collapse of the Kirkpatrick show-trial was not viewed as the end of the system.

On January 20th, British Home Secretary Douglas Hurd announced that the British Appeal Court was to reopen the case of the Birmingham Six, following mounting pressure from relatives and concerned individuals. The six had served more than 12 years in jail and one year later have still not been released.

The Housing Executive issued statistics revealing that 1,102 people - mainly nationalists - had applied for housing since they were intimidated out of their homes. The statistics misrepresented the real number of people living in fear and unable to move from their homes.

The first IRA salvos of 1987 were on January 2nd when twice within an hour IRA Volunteers in South Armagh attacked the heavily-fortified Crossmaglen Barracks. Three mortars landed inside the base, causing damage. The first crown force casualty of the year occurred a week later on January 9th when an RUC man was killed and another injured during an ambush in Enniskillen, County Fermanagh.

The month saw a wave of IRA attacks designed to isolate crown forces by denying them the essential services they require such as repair and maintenance of their barracks.

In a spectacular attack on the heavily-fortified and defended cross-border checkpoint two miles south of Newry, County Down, Volunteers demonstrated the IRA's ability to strike at the enemy in the most unexpected of areas. Crown force defences were breached and six mortars were fired, four of which detonated injuring two RUC men.

A UDR major was killed by the IRA while on his way to the regiment's Dungannon headquarters in

County Tyrone on January 26th.

Following media reports on Monday, January 26th that the British were planning to withdraw 600 troops, the IRA issued a strongly-worded statement promising "a continuation of the armed struggle until all British forces had been withdrawn or disbanded".

# FEBRUARY

THE SOUTHERN electorate voted Fianna Fail into power in February.

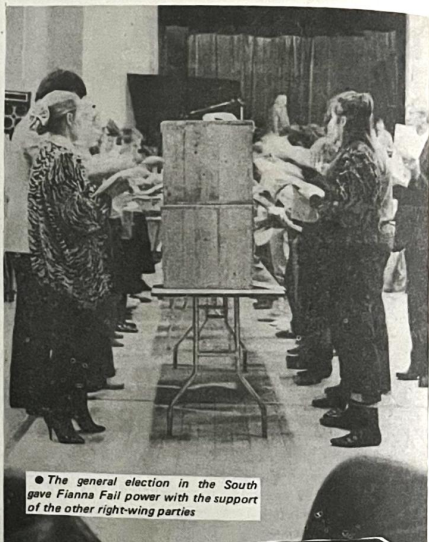
While at the start of the South's general election Sinn Fein were fairly optimistic of a good result, by mid-February it was clear that the prospect of a Fine Gael/Progressive Democrat coalition taking power had frightened many voters who might otherwise have voted Sinn Fein. The isolation imposed by 65 years of abstentionism and many other factors besides was not going to be overturned in one election. Sinn Fein had organisational problems and had a long way to go. It could only progress by setting its sights on winning seats in the next election through being involved in the issues and struggles which affect the people.

The North had been kicked back to centre stage in the final week of the election. FitzGerald and Barry peddled lies and myths about the success of Hillsborough while Haughey changed his tune from one of initial criticism to qualified support. Both he and FitzGerald were taken to task by Northern priests, Des Wilson and Joe McVeigh, who accused them of being part of an establishment conspiracy to present the Treaty as a success.

The UDA did a political about-turn on its former independent Ulster's stance of last year to advocating power-sharing in a new document called *Common Sense*. But while the UDA 'think tank' was producing the document, others in the paramilitary organisation were launching attacks on vulnerable Catholics, and the UFF in flag of convenience for the UDA), planted several incendiary devices in Dublin, Ballybophy and Letterkenny in County Donegal on Sunday, February 8th.

A MORI poll found that 61% of people in Britain wanted the troops withdrawn from Ireland; only 29% thought the Union with Britain should be maintained. There was little comfort for nationalists but even less for loyalists as the poll left them in no doubt that the majority of British people didn't consider them British!

The Republican Movement called



● The general election in the South gave Fianna Fail power with the support of the other right-wing parties

TOO MUCH SPENT ON KEEPING THE PEACE...

## Pull the troops out of Ulster, says poll

Wanted troops out	61%
Should stay	29%

DO YOU THINK BRITAIN SHOULD...?

Special report by JAMES DAVIES

● In February a MORI poll found that a majority of British people wanted troops out

into the INLA to disband following the deaths of several members of two opposing factions in another bitter feud. Mary McGlinchey, wife of Dominic McGlinchey, was shot dead at her Dundalk home on January 31st.

The longest-ever inquest in the North, into the deaths of three Strabane Volunteers, Michael and David Devine and Charles English, finally opened on February 3rd - almost two years after their murder by SAS soldiers. It became evident early on that the British were attempt-

ing to cover up the SAS's involvement. Fabricated statements from British soldiers, glaring ambiguities and perjury were the order of the day.

### WAR NEWS

There were IRA attacks throughout the North in February in which several members of the crown forces were injured and military and commercial targets damaged.

British Stormont Minister Brian Mawhinney was targeted by Derry Brigade on February 11th but the



● Anti-Section 31 campaigners staged a protest outside RTE's Donnybrook headquarters on January 14th against the renewal of the anti-democratic order



● Garret FitzGerald's visit to Clones during the February election campaign was greeted with massive protest by local people



Brits take cover during an IRA bomb attack in Belfast



● The funeral procession of Vol Gerard Logue, which was surrounded by a crown forces ring of steel as it entered Darry's Bogside

operation had to be abandoned because of risk to civilians. The incident caused the British considerable embarrassment and consternation.

Among other attacks, the motor tax office in Belfast was devastated and widespread damage was caused

to commercial premises when a huge 500lb bomb exploded outside. Over a million pounds of damage was caused. Nine bombs and blast incendiaries were also placed in Belfast and Lisburn. A mortar was fired at Dunmurry Barracks, a blast-bomb was thrown at Spring-

field Road Barracks, and in Fermanagh, a UDR soldier had a narrow escape when he discovered a booby-trap attached to his car.

In two attacks on February 12th, IRA active service units in Belfast and Armagh used grenade launchers against the RUC while in Derry an

injured. The same day, over 30 hoax bomb calls and commandeered vehicles brought Belfast city to a standstill while earlier that morning a 100lb bomb was detonated outside the gates of Roselawn Cemetery prior to the funeral of the RUC man killed in Ardoyne three days earlier. In a statement claiming responsibility, the IRA said that the bomb was a warning to the RUC to stop attacking republican funerals.

During the seventh attack on Kinawley Barracks, County Fermanagh, on the 19th, IRA Volunteers drove a tractor and trailer loaded with mortars within yards of the perimeter. All nine mortars fired simultaneously and all nine hit their target, injuring two British soldiers. Among other IRA attacks, a UDR soldier was shot and injured in Cookstown and IRA Volunteers in Derry injured an RUC man.

Covert British Intelligence service activities in Ireland which resulted in the deaths of nationalists and republicans were highlighted in March by two former British army officers, Colin Wallace and Fred Holroyd, both of whom played a major part in British counter-insurgency activities in the mid-70s. They made detailed claims of British Intelligence links with loyalist murder gangs and with senior gardai. The scandal severely embarrassed the London and Dublin authorities.

Less than 24 hours after Fianna Fail leader Charles Haughey took over as 26-County premier in the 23rd Leinster House government, Garret FitzGerald announced on March 11th that he was resigning as party leader. It was described by Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams as "his most positive contribution to Irish political life".

Neither FitzGerald nor the British need have worried about Haughey's attitude to the Hillsborough Treaty. His new Foreign Affairs Minister, Brian Lenihan - co-chair of the Inter-Governmental Conference - said they wouldn't be altering anything in the Treaty without Britain's permission. In fact, any changes would, he said, only "improve" it.

Several members of the UDR appeared in court on charges of raiding the armoury of their own base at Coleraine. They also kept an arsenal in an attic for Paisley's Third Force and were involved in one of the Shankill Butcher Lenny Murphy's sectarian murders. It was nothing unusual for the UDR.

The Public Order Bill for the North was hurriedly voted through the British House of Commons on March 10th. While it was portrayed as a measure to curb loyalist marches through nationalist areas, the principle aim of the legislation was to repress the nationalist community.

Amid tremendous controversy raised by the British establishment and media, Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams addressed a packed Oxford University debating hall.

In Derry, despite a massive crown forces presence, thousands of nationalists attended the republican funeral of IRA Volunteer Gerard Logue who was tragically killed as a result of an accidental discharge of a rifle while he was on active service on March 21st.

In East Belfast's Short Strand area, nationalists took to the streets in protest at the unwelcome introduction of the sectarian UDR into their area. The Hillsborough Treaty had effectively changed nothing for Northern nationalists.

## MARCH

FOR THE FIRST time in several years, IRA Volunteers attacked a major British military target in Europe when a 500lb car bomb exploded outside the joint British army/Royal Air Force headquarters at Rheindahlen, West Germany. The blast was heard 10 miles away and injured several officers.

But operations were overshadowed by the accidental death in Derry of IRA Volunteer Gerard Logue on active service on March 21st.

The IRA executed a member of the prison staff at Magilligan as he arrived for night classes at Magee College on the 23rd. The Volunteers then placed a 7lb booby-trap bomb in his briefcase which was later detonated by two senior RUC personnel who arrived to investigate. Both were killed instantly.

And following a marked increase in IRA activity in Belfast, an RUC man was killed in Ardoyne and a British soldier seriously injured in two separate attacks on March 10th and 6th. British soldiers and RUC personnel had to dive for cover when two bombs exploded in the new Smithfield Market on March 13th. One RUC man was

## APRIL

REPUBLICAN BELFAST buried Volunteer Larry Marley with dignity despite an RUC siege of his family's home and repeated

● continued from previous page

# REVIEW OF ... '87

● continued from previous page

attacks on the funeral. But it wasn't a month crown forces would like to relive.

Larry Marley was murdered at his Ardoyne home by the sectarian UVF on April 2nd. On three consecutive days his wife Kathleen and her family tried to bury her husband. Twice they were forced to call off the funeral when the RUC turned on the mourners with batons and plastic bullets. Cardinal O'Flaherty and Bishop Cahal Daly were removed by pleas from the family to speak out against the harassment. On the third day, Volunteer Marley was buried with the help of thousands of mourners.

At the beginning of April, British authorities expressed worry "at the heightened level" of IRA activity. These worries were to prove correct before the end of the month. Seven members of the crown forces were killed by the IRA in April, including an RUC inspector.

The Haughey government received a jolt on April 9th when the Supreme Court ruled that the Single European Act (SEA), designed to draw the state deeper into the EEC, contradicted the 1937 Constitution. The previous Coalition government signed the Act which removes the right of Laisneer House governments to veto EEC decisions and will force them to follow the international strategy of the NATO nations.

Although Charles Haughey in opposition condemned the act as a denial of national sovereignty, his government once again took the Fine Gael line and backed it. A referendum to change the offending Constitution was set for May 26th. The three main right-wing parties supported the Act and Labour was split on the issue with its leadership backing the SEA.

At the Easter commemoration ceremonies, the IRA statement said: "The British will only be talked out of Ireland through the rattle of machine guns and the roar of explosives." Judge Gibson was killed by the IRA at Killeen, County Armagh, on April 25th. The 73-year old bigoted freed the British soldier who murdered 12-year-old Majella O'Hare in 1976 and dropped murder charges against another who raped and then killed an Enniskillen woman in 1981.

Gibson also acquitted three members of an RUC shoot-to-kill squad who killed three IRA Volunteers at Lurgan in 1982. He complimented the killers of the unnamed Volunteers for bringing the IRA members to "the final court of justice".

William "Frenchie" Marchant, the UVF commander who organised a number of sectarian attacks on Catholics in North Belfast and murdered Larry Marley, was executed by the IRA on April 28th.



● The RUC's ghoulish conduct at the funeral of Larry Marley showed the world what British imperialism means in Ireland

area outside Loughall RUC Barracks into a free-fire zone. Three were killed before they could even get out of their vehicle. Some of the bodies were riddled with bullets. Civilian Anthony Hughes' (who was driving by with his brother, Oliver) car was also targeted. Anthony Hughes was murdered and Oliver seriously injured.

The RUC feared to disrupt the funerals and six of the seven Tyrone men were buried with full military honours. At the joint funeral of Declan Arthurs and Seamus Donnelly Martin McGuinness said that their suffering at the hand of the British military was "the story of Ireland".

The funeral of Jim Lynagh, which crossed the border into Monaghan was, however, disrupted by armed gardai at Emvallye when Volunteers fired a volley of shots over the coffin.

Black flags appeared all over Ireland in the wake of Loughall and many local authorities paid their respects to the courage of the Volunteers. In Belfast, with tragic irony, the sixth annual commemoration of the deaths of the hunger-strikers on May 10th became a protest against the Loughall killings. Danny Morrison reminded marchers that Seamus Donnelly, the youngest Volunteer to die, had been born in 1983 "when some of the people here were first coming onto the streets to march for civil rights".

May also saw the launch of Sinn Fein's proposals for a British with-

drawal from Ireland: *A Scenario for Peace*. It calls on the British government to declare that the Six-County statute "is no longer part of the United Kingdom", to give a definite date for withdrawal within the lifetime of one government, and proposes an all-Ireland constitutional conference to organise an alternative government.

During the Single European Act referendum, Laisneer House reached new lows in servility. Politicians queued up to denounce the 'No' campaigners and suggested that the Act could not be altered or renegotiated. The SEA was finally passed but more than half the 26-County electorate stayed away from the polls and only 31% supported the Act.

After prolonged legal wrangling, Paddy McIntyre, the H-Block escapee whose extradition was sought by the RUC was released by a Dublin court on May 7th.

Sectarian murder gangs were highly active in May. Gary McCarran, from the Ormeau Road area in Belfast, was gunned down at point-black range in a random killing on May 7th and on May 16th a home in the New Lodge area was riddled with bullets. Six days later, Sinn Fein Councillor Alex Maskey survived a murder attempt by loyalists and in the following day Dermot Hackett, a County Tyrone nationalist, was murdered by the UDA.

But May also saw the campaign for the Westminster general election

heat up although the results were not to be seen until the following month.

## JUNE

JUNE SHOWED that, despite the RUC, the British army, the loyalist gun gangs, the Thatcher and Haughey governments, and the Irish hierarchy, Sinn Fein support was standing firm in the Six Counties. It also showed up once more the slavish attitude of Leinster House politicians to their multinational economic masters.

Sinn Fein election worker Brendan Davidson was shot and wounded by loyalists in Belfast and the party's activists were continually harassed as the June 11th polling day approached. The entire political establishment in Ireland and Britain united to predict a Sinn Fein defeat in West Belfast.

When Gerry Adams got 16,800 votes — over 2,000 more than his SDLP rival — the embarrassed pundits suddenly forgot all about Sinn Fein. The party got 83,000 votes, 11.4% of the total.

The IRA killed three soldiers (including two UDR soldiers) and two RUC members in June, and a

UDR soldier was critically wounded.

Cuts by the Fianna Fail government, elected to preserve the rights of the sick and the elderly, began to bite in June and Junior hospital doctors went on strike putting hospitals throughout the state on emergency-only service. Over 40,000 health service workers demonstrated against the cuts at marches all over the 26 Counties.

Over 240 workers at the Hyster factory in Dublin were thrown on the multinational scrap-heap on June 10th when their multinational bosses suddenly closed the factory without any prior notice. The high-tech company was funded to the tune of £17 million by the Dublin government.

At the 1987 Bodenstown commemoration on June 21st, Rita O'Hare reminded republicans:

"The politicians who so willingly collaborate with Thatcher and the British government's strategy in Ireland are the same ones who mimic the social and economic policies of Thatcherism."

## JULY

JULY was a month of tension, sectarianism and increased collaboration. The British concentrated on the border area, building

## MAY

IN MAY it seemed that the days of the 1981 hunger-strike returned. The sacrifice at Loughall brought a similar sombre, disciplined anger onto the streets. But the bereavement only strengthened republican morale and the month ended with up-tempo political campaigns.

Volunteer Finbarr McKenna was killed in a premature explosion on May 2nd and his funeral was the scene of an RUC riot in which 20 mourners were injured in scenes reminiscent of South Africa.

But the month was dominated by the IRA's most tragic loss since the Tan War when eight Volunteers and one civilian were killed in an ambush at Loughgall, County Armagh, on May 8th. Seven of the Volunteers were from Tyrone. Volunteers Tony Gormley, Declan Arthurs, Seamus Donnelly and Eugene Kelly all came from the Galbally area. Paddy Kelly was from Dunganon, Padraig McKearney from The Moy, and Gerard O'Callaghan from Benburb. Volunteer Jim Lynagh lived in Monaghan.

The eight died in an indiscriminate hall of bullets which turned the

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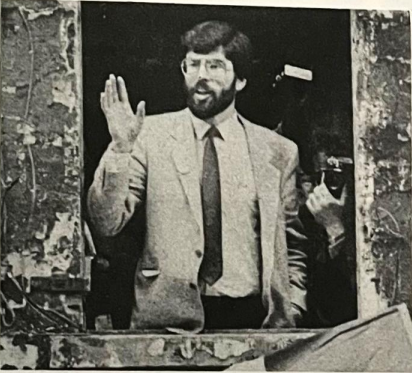
● Loughgall RUC Barracks which was the centre of an RUC/British army free-fire zone on May 8th. Eight IRA Volunteers of the East Tyrone Brigade and one civilian lost their lives in the ambush

"The final court of justice" - remains of the car driven by Judge Gibson who was killed in an IRA bomb attack in April 1987

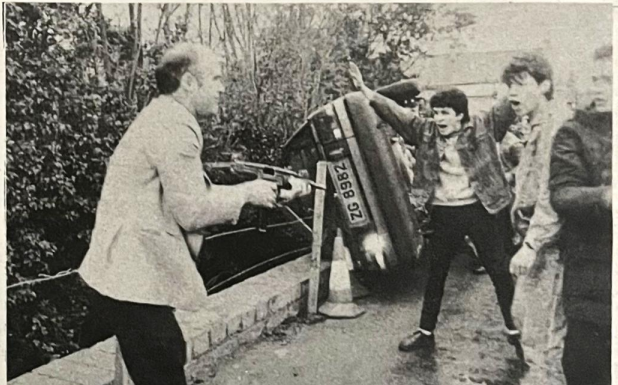
spy-posts to view the front and blocking many roads with steel and concrete barricades. They were used in these tasks by an increasingly compliant Fianna Fáil administration.

The IRA executed a UFF leader, Reynolds on Tuesday the 7th. He had been involved in many attacks in Belfast. The 12th saw the usual display of bigotry all over the Six Counties. Tension was highest in areas where loyalists broke through their fence in Ardoyne. The IRA was forced to take defensive actions against them, killing one. There were weekly incursions by troops into the 26 Counties and the government was always forced to accept the excuse of a "padding error".

John Fall's Jobssearch programme was stepped up and was seen and more as an unashamed attempt to intimidate people into the unemployment register of the country. Thousands of workers all over Ireland were laid off by unemployment. It was learned that Klaus Barbie had been recruited as a US agent.



● In June, despite a well-financed SDLP electoral campaign and a deadly loyalist murder campaign, Gerry Adams held the republican seat of West Belfast



● At Emyvale, County Monaghan, the body of Vol Jim Lynagh, who was killed at Loughgall, was carried across the border. (Below) Thousands of people looked on as IRA Volunteers paid their final salute to a brave soldier of Ireland, and (above) millions of viewers observed the outrageous, and dangerous, behaviour of the gardai who fired on civilians after the IRA's appearance at Emyvale

**AUGUST**

The IRA made sure that August started with a bang with the production of a newly developed impact grenade. Sources told journalists that they were "terrified" of the device. The attacks continued during the month, in Belfast and elsewhere, culminating in the death of a Catholic taxi driver, Micky Power, on the 1st.

The Dublin government declared a state of emergency to implement the Emergency Powers Act on December 1st. It was a move to mumble that it was necessary to refer three unionist judges to the North's notorious Diplock court.

At the time, all those who were in their right to earn their living were jailed and the workers at the processing plants were told to go on strike when the 26th government reneged on a pay rise.

The IRA struck a crushing blow to the crown forces intelligence when they killed two RUC Special Constables in Belfast, Oliver North and another in the Contragate area. They were with his cohort Admiral...  
Continued on next page



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Poindexter who said "I don't know" or "I cannot recollect" a total of 174 times. August ended with the death of two Dublin children, Daryl O'Brian and Alan Moore, when they were hit by a stolen car. Local people in Ballyfermot asked that ramps be erected to stop joy-riding. Three months later, the establishment politicians who then clamoured for media coverage of their supposed grief have failed to put the ramps in place.

## SEPTEMBER

TOM KING went to Dublin and told Charlie Haughey and Brian Lenihan that even the most cosmetic reforms of the British judicial system would not be considered. Peter Barry went to West Belfast, but when people from West Belfast invited him to come on a tour he ran away!

The IRA's new grenades were used many times with marked effect, the RUC stepped up its attempts to bribe nationalists to inform, Springfield Road Barracks was wrecked by IRA mortar bombs and the Alliance Party's John Cushman resigned but no one noticed.

A UDR soldier who was found by the 26-County authorities in Dundalk with a gun was fined £50; his fellow soldiers carried out extensive raids in Springhill and Ballymurphy, wrecking many houses.

The unofficial coalition of Fianna Fail and Fine Gael was strengthened when Alan Dukes pledged to support the Haughey administration so long as it continued its policy of vicious cutbacks. The Special Branch in Dublin began an orchestrated campaign of intimidation of members and supporters of the Concerned Parents Against Drugs, but despite their efforts the month ended with a massive show of strength by the CPAD as 3,000 people marched to Government Buildings to demand action from the Fianna Fail administration.

British Nuclear Fuels Limited announced its intention to dump deadly radioactive waste in the sea, less than 100 miles off the Irish coast. Ray Burke, the 26-County Minister for Energy, met his British counterpart to "let him know the feelings of the Irish people" on the issue. BNFL is to go ahead with its plan.

## OCTOBER

A DARK WINTER ahead was promised by the Fianna Fail government when it announced its budget estimates in October involving £485 million in spending cuts and wielding a Thatcherite hatchet on the health and education of working people in the 26 Counties.

The cuts came soon after Foreign Minister Brian Lenihan had said in the United States that people "should be proud" of emigration from Ireland. He told the tens of thousands of young people forced out of their country by bankrupt economic policies that we "can't all live on a small island".

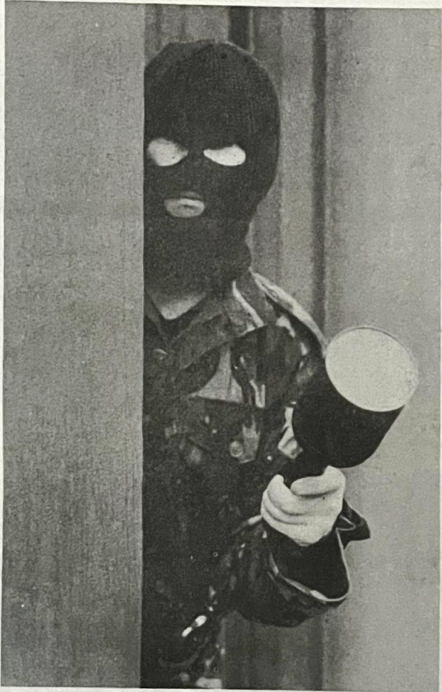
The hill-top fort of Glasdrummin in South Armagh came under a barrage of IRA mortars on October 3rd, causing damage to the base and reminding British forces there that, two years on, their Hillsborough Wall is as vulnerable as ever to IRA attacks.

Sectarian loyalist killers claimed another victim on the 9th when they shot dead Francisco Notarantano in his home in Ballymurphy. The crown forces were conspicuous by their absence in the area on the morning of the killing even though they had saturated it for days previously.

Conscious of the sustained support for Sinn Fein among over 40% of the nationalist electorate in the Six Counties, the British government announced further plans to penalise republican elected representatives.

# REVIEW OF ...

# '87



● In August the IRA launched its new impact grenade which has had a deep effect on crown forces morale

The proposals would require candidates in elections to make a declaration that they would not "support or assist" any illegal organisation. Clearly aimed at Sinn Fein, the proposals met with a determined response from the nationalist electors of West Belfast on the 22nd when they elected Fra McCann and Mairtin O Mullioir to Belfast City Council. The by-election made Sinn Fein the largest non-unionist party on the council.

The day before the by-election, the 12th London Dublin Inter-Governmental Conference took place in Belfast. Brian Lenihan received a stern warning from Tom King that if the Extradition Act was not ratified it would have "serious implications for Anglo-Irish relations". Fianna Fail, despite much opposition, was soon to bow to British threats and surrender once again.

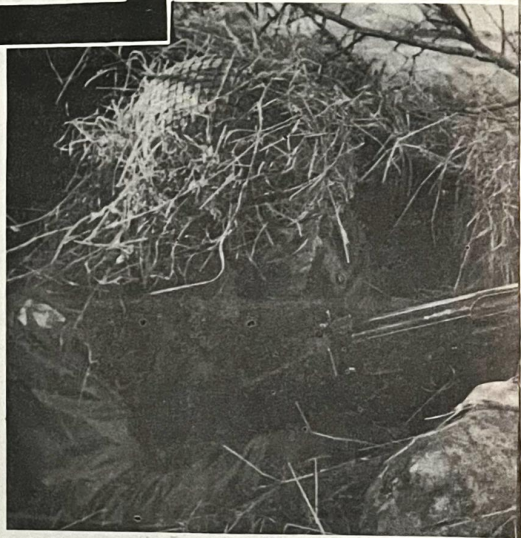
The heavy armour of a British army saracen was shattered by an

IRA impact grenade in Belfast on the 26th. The attack seriously injured a British soldier.

Two Volunteers of the Derry Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, lost their lives in a premature explosion on the 28th. Paddy Deery and Eddie McSheffrey were buried on November 2nd after the thousands of Derry people who turned out to honour them were attacked by RUC who resumed their policy of violating republican funerals.

## NOVEMBER

ON SUNDAY, November 8th, a bomb exploded in Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, killing 11 people who were waiting for the annual British Legion Remem-



brance Day ceremony to begin.

In a statement the following day, the IRA admitted responsibility for planting the bomb but said that it had not detonated it. The radio remote-control device was apparently set off by a British army scanner or some other device. Expressing its deep regret at what occurred, the IRA said:

"In the present climate, nothing we can say in explanation can be given the attention which the truth deserves, nor will it compensate the feelings of the injured or bereaved."

In the days and weeks following Enniskillen, British and unionist politicians, and the Irish political and church establishment, joined in a chorus of condemnation which cynically used the Enniskillen victims to bolster the British partition and occupation of Ireland. But as Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams told the party's Ard-Fheis in Dublin on November 1st, there remains only one road to lasting peace:

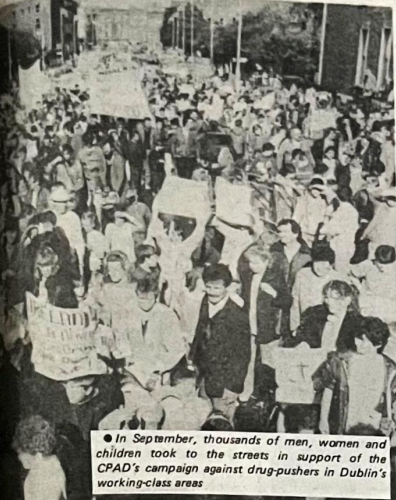
"We are seeking to create conditions which will lead to a permanent cessation of hostilities, an end to our long war, and the development of a peaceful, united and independent Irish society. Such objectives will only be realised when a British government adopts a strategy for decolonisation."

On the 9th a young Protestant man, Adam Lambert, was shot dead by loyalists in North Belfast. The sectarian attackers who killed him in the belief that he was a Catholic, struck again in North Belfast on the 11th when they shot a shop-owner, Tommy McAuley, who died five days



later. These and other loyalist attacks received little attention in the media.

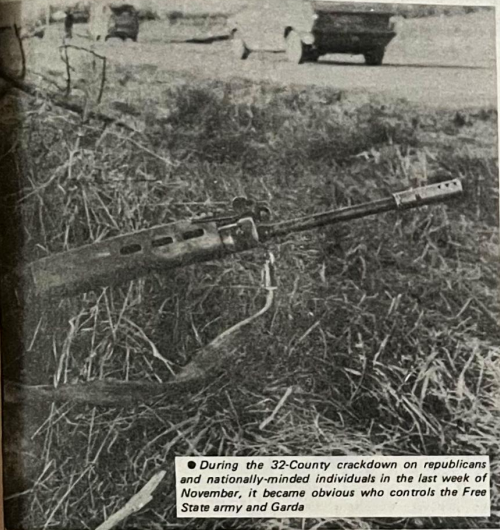
On Monday morning, November 23rd, a huge military and political police operation was mounted jointly throughout the 32 Counties by the



● In September, thousands of men, women and children took to the streets in support of the CPAD's campaign against drug-pushers in Dublin's working-class areas



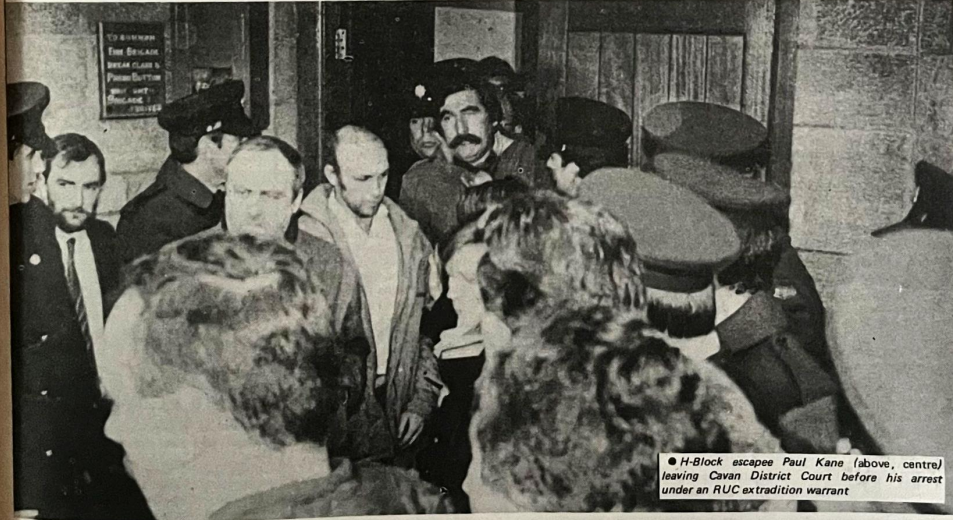
● At the funeral of Vols Eddie McSheffrey and Paddy Deery on November 2nd, the RUC in Derry savagely renewed its policy of attacking republican funerals



● During the 32-County crackdown on republicans and nationally-minded individuals in the last week of November, it became obvious who controls the Free State army and Garda



● Fra McCann and Mairtin O Muilleoir celebrated a famous victory in the Belfast City Council by-elections at the end of October



● H-Block escapee Paul Kane (above, centre) leaving Cavan District Court before his arrest under an RUC extradition warrant

by Charles Haughey with the announcement of cosmetic "safeguards" for the Extradition Act. These were duly passed in Leinster House after Haughey threatened a general election.

Despite the huge clampdown in repression during November, the IRA continued to engage the crown forces. Enemy barracks and vehicles came under gun and grenade attack in Belfast, and at the height of the searches on the 28th in South Armagh, the IRA mortared a British army checkpoint, injuring two soldiers. The IRA also issued a detailed statement reiterating its policy of not coming into conflict with 26-County forces.

## DECEMBER

**THE EXTRADITION ACT** came into force on December 1st and opened the way for the conveyor-belt extradition of Irish political prisoners to Britain and the Six Counties.

Leinster House approved the final stages of a bill amending the legislation to allow the 26-County Attorney General to scrutinise British warrants. Meanwhile, the case of Paul Kane, who was pursued by the gardai after his release from a district court, and then rearrested while they awaited RUC warrants, highlighted the reality of extradition.

The massive opposition to Fianna Fail education cuts was demonstrated when tens of thousands of parents, pupils and teachers marched to demand the withdrawal of the Department of Education's Circular 20/87. This circular ordered cut-backs involving the loss of 2,000 teachers' jobs and the increase of many class sizes to over 40.

While the campaign against the education cuts continues to escalate, Fianna Fail, with the support of Fine Gael, remains determined to pursue its ruthless policy in all areas of public spending.

On December 7th, IRA Volunteer Peter Rodden died tragically when his car plunged into the River Bann.

Peter Rodden's comrades maintained a consistent level of attacks against the British crown forces during the month. There was a mortar attack on Fort Jericho in Belfast on the 3rd and there were gun and grenade attacks in North Belfast and Irvinestown, County Fermanagh. On the 10th, at least two RUC men were seriously injured by the IRA in Derry. IRA grenades ripped through a heavily-armoured RUC Land Rover.

In the month the Extradition Act was passed there were revelations of the full extent of cross-border collaboration. RUC boss Jack Hermon announced that for over a year British crown forces had official permission from Dublin to cross the border. The next day, the 14th, 20 British soldiers entered County Louth and searched farms. The Fianna Fail government said nothing.

In the Old Bailey in London, the Birmingham Six appeal came to an end. The hearings had exposed once again the inherent bias of the British judicial system against Irish people and as 1987 ends it looks less likely that the Birmingham frame-up victims will get justice.

Justice was also in short supply for Paul Kane when the High Court in Dublin ordered that he be kept in custody. He now faces extradition to the Six Counties.

On the 22nd, the IRA executed John McMichael, leader of the loyalist paramilitary Ulster Defence Association. The IRA had identified McMichael as having planned a bombing campaign in the 26 Counties and described the attack as a pre-emptive strike to prevent this. The campaign plans were admitted by the UDA.

British and Dublin governments. It was announced by Fianna Fail Justice Minister Gerry Collins on the pretext of a search for a shipment of IRA arms which had allegedly been imported. But for over a week the

gardai raided over 50,000 homes, targeting not only republicans but community and cultural activists, trade unionists and ordinary citizens in a massive political information-gathering and intimidation exercise.

During that week the gardai arrested four H-Block escapees — Paul Kane, Dermot Finucane, Seamus Clarke and Anthony Kelly. They found no 'arms shipments' but did provide the British government with

four more political hostages for extradition.

The Fianna Fail crisis on extradition also came to a head. A threatened revolt by backbench TDs and grassroots members was bought off

# WORLD VIEW



## REVIEW 1987



● A frightened Palestinian mother leaves the Chatilla refugee camp after being besieged by Syrian-backed forces



● Thanks to the US, the Nicaraguan army faces the prospect of unending war



● Conragate hero Ronald Reagan jokes with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, is not amused

# Reagan's prairie sunset

IT WAS THE YEAR when the prairie sun began to set on the White House cowboy. While there were few outright victories over imperialism in 1987, the year marked an important, if small, decline in US power.

An almost comic note was hit in December when the US president entertained Mikhail Gorbachev in Washington. Gone was Reagan's denunciation of the Soviet leader's "evil empire" — the Soviet Union had suddenly become flavour of the month in the capitalist West. In his last year of office Reagan is trying to win a reputation as a peacemaker — an ironic fact in view of his massive nuclear arsenal and his attempts to crush freedom in Central America.

In recent years, US foreign policy has been to replace the Third World dictators it fostered and supported for decades with a new brand of right-wing politicians who will continue the old policies but have better public relations. Ferdinand Marcos in the Philippines and Jean-Claude Duvalier in Haiti were unceremoniously shipped off to exile despite years of loyal service to Uncle Sam involving the murder of thousands of people.

In both cases the military remained the strongest power and its objective was to crush genuine popular movements. Meanwhile the US State Department and the CIA funded local right-wingers encouraging them to play at being democrats — at least until the elections were over.

But Reagan's sham democrats didn't do very well in 1987. This was the year when the PR gloss faded slightly on the American dream and American dreams became nightmares for Haitians and Filipinos. Elections which Reagan had funded in Haiti became a bloody battleground in November. Back in January, Reagan's puppet, Cory Aquino, gunned down hundreds of farmers who were merely calling on her to make the land reforms she had promised during her election campaign. Throughout the year her government stumbled further and further to the right under pressure from the military.

But it was a tiny Central American country, with a population smaller than Ireland's which embarrassed Reagan most.

Nicaragua's revolutionary government wrongfooted the US president with a devastatingly simple proposal: peace. The US has dominated the Central American region since the last century by the threat of war. The peace plan signed in August by the five Central American presidents (known as Esquipulas 2) heavily reduced that threat by binding together the region's right- and left-wing leaders to end the wars that have devastated their countries.

As long as the US backs military juntas and counter-revolutionary mercenaries, the region will never know real peace. But Esquipulas 2 showed that Reagan's gun law can't last for ever if people are willing to stand up against it. It showed the region's business class is losing confidence in Reagan — and well they might.

### LOSING HIS GRIP

The Irangate hearings were the first sign that Reagan was losing his grip on events. His undercover agents sold weapons to the Iranians and then used the money to finance counter-revolutionaries in Nicaragua. But journalists found out about the operation and it became a serious embarrassment to

the president. The US Senate carried out an investigation which showed that Reagan knew about the deals.

What was remarkable about Irangate was its sheer stupidity. Reagan was selling weapons to the Iranian government although he strongly opposed the Khomeini regime. His attempt to smuggle arms to the contras behind the back of the Congress was discovered.

Reagan's bungling agents caused him some problems but these were as nothing compared to this year's financial crisis. US power is based on an immense military budget — nuclear missiles, Star Wars and troops based all over the world. To finance this budget Reagan had to borrow enormous sums, creating a credit boom. In October, this boom brought on its inevitable crash and fortunes were lost on the over-valued Wall Street Stock Exchange. Suddenly, American economic power didn't seem great.

In South Africa, repression continued... and continued to fail. Reagan's apartheid allies were unable to crush the spirit of the townships and were forced to withdraw forces they had illegally sent into Angola to back counter-revolutionaries there

Govan Mbeki, an ANC leader, was released from jail in the vain hope that this would dampen protests.

In Beirut, Palestinian refugees were besieged once again in the camps where thousands were killed in 1982. At that time, Israeli-backed forces were guilty of the — genocide but now the Syrian-backed Amal organisation is doing the killing. But this year saw an important reunification of Palestinian radical forces and the PLO at Algiers when the Palestinians' parliament in exile met in April.

In Chile, resistance is also growing to the rule of General Pinochet and a visit by Pope John Paul on April 1st sparked off large-scale demonstrations.

What underlined the decline in Reagan's world influence more than anything else in 1987 was his failure to win the media battle at December's Washington summit. The ex-actor who prided himself on his television performances was upstaged by Gorbachev again and again. A poll taken at the end of the summit showed that more Americans felt they could believe Gorbachev's word than that of their own president.

## IMEAGHTAI

**BALLAD SESSION**  
Music by Raka & Ramblers  
Saturday 2nd January  
The Pike Inn  
Mulgrave Street  
LIMERICK  
Organised by Fianna Eireann

**SINN FEIN EDUCATION SEMINARS**  
Jan 8th-10th Wicklow (new members only)  
Jan 15th-17th Cavan  
Jan 22nd-24th Wexford/Wicklow  
Jan 29th-31st Kerry  
Feb 5th-7th Donegal  
Feb 12th-14th Wicklow (organisers only)  
Feb 19th-21st Cork  
Feb 26th-28th Clare  
Details: Education Department, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY MARCH ON DURHAM PRISON PLANNING MEETING**  
1pm Saturday 9th January  
21 Savile Mount  
off Chapelstown Road  
LEEDS  
All women welcome  
Organised by the Irish Republican POW Campaign

## TORTHAÍ CRANNCHUR

An Cumann Cabhrach, Dundalk Christmas Draw  
Large Christmas hamper: Paul O'Neill; Framed picture & Christmas cake: Nolen McArdle; Wall clock & Christmas cakes: H. Hoey; Bottle whiskey & Christmas cake: Owen O'Neill; Bottle whiskey & Ear-rings: Ann Carroll; Bottle whiskey & Towel set: Tommy Quigley; Bottle whiskey & tennis set: Barbara Murden; Bottle vodka & £5 voucher (Golden Fry): Ailbe O'Riawey; Bottle vodka & £5 voucher (Golden Fry): Collette Fox; Bottle vodka & Bottle sherry: Seamus McGrath; Bottle vodka & Christmas cake: Brian Murtagh; Hair dryer & Bottle sherry: Margo Davidson; Voucher: meal for 2 & Bottle of wine: F. Devlin; Ladies watch & Bottle wine: Gordie; Oil painting & Bottle Martin: Jerry Macklin; Large teddy bear & Bottle wine: 'Kitty'; Leg of lamb & bottle wine: Tommy Kiernan; 2 chickens & bottle wine: E. Connolly; Stone-ware set & bottle port: Mick; Kitchen set & ½ dozen beer: Gerard Campbell; Tracy doll & ½ dozen beer: John Lennon; £10 meal voucher & ½ dozen beer: Lillie Coleman; £10 sports voucher & ½ dozen beer: Michael Green; Babes cot quilt & ½ dozen beer: Gabriel Gray; Tin snails & ½ dozen beer: M O'Callaghan.  
We extend thanks to all our contributors, helpers and supporters and the commitments of the season. From An Cumann Cabhrach, Dundalk P.D.F.

**Ballyman Sinn Fein Christmas Draw**  
£25: John Craugh, c/o Liam, Shanagan Ave; £15: Jacqueline Murphy, Silloge Rd; £10: Brian Heuston, West; £5: James Kelly, c/o Shanagan Green and Mick Strain, c/o The Fingal.

**Dublin North East Sinn Fein Christmas Draw**  
1st: Gary Hanlon; 2nd: Tiarlach Mac An Iolair; 3rd: Ellen O'Connor.

# Sinn Fein AGMs

**Donegal Sinn Fein Comhairle Limistéar**  
Cathaoirleach: Liam McIlhinney; Rann: Una McEvoy; Leas-cathaoirleach: Gerry McMonagle; OCP: Johnny White; Cisteoir: Veronica Molloy; Joe Hynes; Eagraí: Johnny White; Oldéachas: John McCluskey; Talmaíocht: Eamonn Monaghan; Cultúr: Maura McCluskey.  
**Keating/Sands Sinn Fein Cumann Cathaoirleach:** Gerry Rockett; Rannal/OCP: Ben Duggan; Leas-cathaoirleach: Jackie Whelan; Cisteoir: Michael Lacey.

# OBITUARIES

## 'SONNY' McDERMOTT

THE DEATH has occurred in Dundalk, County Louth, of 60-year-old Belfast republican 'Sonny' (Thomas) McDermott, formerly of Thames Street, Falls Road, West Belfast.

Sonny died from cancer after several months of illness and his body was taken to his native city for burial on Wednesday, December 23rd. There was a large turnout at his funeral which followed Requiem Mass in St Paul's Chapel.

The coffin was draped in a Tricolour and a Sinn Fein guard of honour flanked the hearse. Speaking at the graveside of Milltown Cemetery, Sinn Fein Ard Chomhairle member Danny Morrison paid tribute to Sonny

and recalled that as a child he and his family has been burned out of their home in Kilmore Street in 1934.

In the '60s, Sonny had been involved in the republican election campaigns. When the present phase of the struggle began in 1968, Sonny again played a part. In 1976, after the discovery of an IRA arms dump in his Broadway home, he was forced to leave Belfast. He was predeceased by his sister Nora Murphy, another well-known republican, by 16 months. On behalf of the Republican Movement, Danny Morrison extended sympathy to his relatives, the clann Ul Mhurchadha, and his friends.

## KEVIN HUGHES

THE UNTIMELY DEATH of Kevin Hughes on St Stephen's Day has robbed both his immediate family of a loving father and his wider family in the Republican Movement of a lifelong and committed activist and comrade. His death was all the more tragic, coming as it did at a time when family and friends should be rejoicing, not mourning.

Kevin, from Belfast's Falls Road, first joined the Republican Movement in 1938 when he became a Fian in the Sean McCartney Slua ('D' Company). His first experience of prison, like so many other republicans, came at an early age when he, along with fellow Fianna, was remanded to Crumlin Road Jail after being arrested from the old McKelvey hut in Rockmount Street and charged with illegal drilling.

After a short spell on remand, Kevin was released and rejoined his old slua, which was to be disbanded one year later. Kevin continued his involvement as a Volunteer in 'D' Company.

### INTERED

Imprisonment came again for

Kevin in 1942 when he was interned without trial. Shortly after his release in 1945, he married Josie Cooney. In 1957, Josie was to tragically die, leaving Kevin to raise five sons and a baby girl, then only several months old. It was Kevin's strongest wish to keep his family together, something which he did until the internment swoops of the 1970s. Kevin himself was arrested when British troops raided his home looking for one of his sons.

Kevin was no stranger to the hardship and suffering which is so much a part of a republican's lot, but true to his ideals he was never found wanting.

Slán leat, a Chaoimhín.



## INDIL CHUMHNE

DEVLIN, Eugene (15th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Eugene Devlin, West Tyrone Command, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on December 27th 1972. Sleep in peace, brave Irish soldier. On this day we think of you. For Ireland's cause you fought and died. 'Tis in a martyr's grave you lie. Proudly remembered by Strabane Sinn Féin.

MCDONNELL, Gerard (16th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear son-in-law Gerard McDonnell, who was murdered by British crown forces on December 23rd 1971. He gave his all in freedom's cause and faced the tyrant's guns. Proudly remembered by his father-in-law Mr and Mrs K. McGattigan, Ballymurphy, and entire family circle.

MCDONNELL, James (15th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol James McDonnell, Derry Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died

while on active service on December 29th 1972. Fuair sé bás ar son muintir na hÉireann. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Cherry Brigade.

McGILVERAY, Sean (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Sean McGilveray, who was killed on active service on December 15th 1973. Thus at a rathas na son saoirse na hÉireann. Proudly remembered by Strabane Sinn Féin.

MCDONNELL, Sean (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Sean McDonnell, who was murdered by the RUC while on active service in North Armagh on December 17th 1984. Always remembered by Dalri.

## COMHBHRÓN

CASEY, RODDEN. The O'Keane family, Glasgow, extends deepest sympathy to the families of Peter Rodden and Liam and Geraldine Casey on their tragic loss.

CASEY, The McCusker/McMullan Sinn Féin Cumann, Swatragh, extends deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Liam and Geraldine Casey, who were tragically killed on Monday, December 7th.

HUGHES, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, extends deepest sympathy to the Hughes family on the death of their father Kevin Barry.

HUGHES, Belfast Comhairle Limistéar Sinn Féin extends deepest sympathy to our comrade Brendan and the Hughes family on the death of his father Kevin Barry.

HUGHES, The staff of the Republican Press Centre, Belfast, extends deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Kevin Barry Hughes.

HUGHES, The staff of An Phoblacht/Republican News extends deepest sympathy to our friend and comrade Brendan and his family on the death of his father Kevin Barry.

HUGHES, Deepest sympathy is extended to Brendan and the Hughes family on the death of his father Kevin Barry. From Danny Morrison.

HUGHES, Deepest sympathy is extended to the Hughes family on the untimely death of their father. From Brian and Chrissie Keenan.

HUGHES, Sincere condolences to the Hughes family on the tragic loss of their father Kevin. From Traipot and Ann Marie.

HUGHES, Deepest sympathy to the Hughes family on their tragic loss. From Pat and Bernadette.

Mac AODHA, Le comhbhrón don Dorcha agus a theaghlach ar bhás alnairi a-nathai Caomhín. Ó Jake, Chrissie agus Orlaith.

HUGHES, Deepest sympathy is extended to Brendan and the Hughes family on the death of their father.

Kevin Barry. Go ndeana Dia trocaire air. From Sinn Féin Bun na bhFal.

HUGHES, Deepest sympathy is extended to Brendan and the Hughes family on the death of Kevin Barry. From Padraic and Sal.

HUGHES, Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Kevin Barry. From Robin.

McDERMOTT, The Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, extends deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Thomas McDermott.

McDERMOTT, Belfast Comhairle Limistéar Sinn Féin extends deepest sympathy to the McDermott family on the recent death of Thomas.

McDERMOTT, Deepest sympathy is extended to the McDermott family on the recent death of Thomas. Go ndeana Dia trocaire air. Deeply regretted by Sinn Féin Bun na bhFal.

McDERMOTT, Deepest sympathy is extended to the McDermott family on the death of Thomas. From Sinn Féin Lar na bhFal.

McDERMOTT, Sincere condolences are extended to the McDermott family on the death of Thomas. From Danny Morrison.

RODDEN, Deepest sympathy is extended to the father and family circle of Vol Peter Rodden, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died as a result of an accident. A Mhuire, Mathair Dé, aif orthu. Deeply regretted by the James McGinn Sinn Féin Cumann, Killybegs, South Derry.

RODDEN, Heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Vol Peter Rodden, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was tragically killed on Monday, December 7th. From the McCusker/McMullan Sinn Féin Cumann, Swatragh.

RODDEN, Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Peter Rodden, who died recently. From Paddy Dempsey.

## BEANNACHTAI

ARMSTRONG, Billy; McDONNELL, Gerry; WELLS, Nat (England). All the best on your birthdays and for the New Year. Regards to all

POWs with you. From Mary and Patrick, Bunrana, County Downgal. CUNNINGHAM, Busty. Great to hear that you are out of England's hell-holes. All the best for the future. From Mary and Patrick.

## SEAN SABHAT

## COMMEMORATION

Assemble  
2.45pm  
SUNDAY 3rd  
JANUARY

Bedford  
Row  
LIMERICK

March to Mount St Laurence Cemetery  
Organised by Sinn Fein



Speaking Ciaran McCann and left Conor Foley at the NUS winter conference in Blackpool

# STUDENTS DEMAND WITHDRAWAL

SINCE SPRING 1986 the London-based National Union of Students has recognised that Britain has no progressive role to play in Ireland and should commit itself to a programme of unconditional political and military withdrawal.

The 1987 winter conference, held in Blackpool on December 6th, saw a successful and well-attended fringe meeting on Ireland — British Repression in Ireland: The Case for Withdrawal — organised by Campaign Student. Delegates from all over Britain and Ireland heard Conor Foley, national

The other speaker, Sinn Féin's Ciaran McCann, dealt mainly with the proposals outlined in the Sinn Féin discussion paper, *A Scenario for Peace*. "It is only through the process of decolonisation and dialogue," he said, "that a peaceful, stable Ireland will emerge. Only when independence is restored can Ireland hope to prosper and take her place among the nations of the world. Britain must take the initiative and declare its intention to withdraw. This is the first step on the road to peace. Republicans will respond quickly and positively."



All the best for the New Year, Crisp. Always in our thoughts, from you and Veronica, Perth, West Australia.
McWILLIAMS, Crisp (Long Kesh). Happy New Year. All the best. From Marie, Paddy and Padraig Piaras McKee.
MAQUIRE, Gerry (H-Block). Happy New Year. Our thoughts are with you. Love from Mam and Dad.
MAQUIRE, Gerry (H-Block). Happy New Year. Thinking of you. Love and always. Lots of love and best wishes. From Tom, Janet and Emma.
MAQUIRE, Gerry (H-Block). Happy New Year. Best wishes for the New Year. From John, Frances and Kevin.

KILLVEEGS SINN FEIN CUMANN extends New Year greetings to Jim Boyle (Portlaoise), Joe O'Connell, Ronnie McCartney (England) and the freedom fighters of the IRA and all who struggle for Irish freedom.

MARKEY, Peter (H-Block). New Year greetings. Hope you'd a good Christmas. From Clara and Gerry. Hope you had a good Christmas. From Aunt Anna and Uncle Jimmy.
MASSEY, Billy (Long Kesh). Happy New Year. Billy. From the McMenamy family.
MASSY, Billy (Long Kesh). Best wishes for the New Year, Billy. From Martin, Phyllis and Cathy.
MEEHAN, Gerry (Portlaoise). Happy New Year. Gerry. Adh mór. From Ann and Emmabell.
MEEHAN, Martin (Long Kesh). Happy New Year. Martin. From Benny, John and family.
MOORE, Kieran (Crumlin Road). Happy New Year. Sorry about the house. From Fergus and family.
MCGREW, Mark (Crumlin Road). Happy New Year. From the McElhatton family.
MCILROY, Gerard (Crumlin Road). Happy New Year. From Lar na bhFiá Sinn Féin.

MCILROY, Kieran (Long Kesh). Happy New Year. Best. From Stab, Sam, Jimmy and Tony.
MORREY, Paul (Long Kesh). Happy New Year. Darling. Love and miss you very much. From your loving wife Brid.
MURPHY, Paddy (H-Block 8). Hope you have a happy New Year, Paddy. Lots of love. From Ellish, Gus and family.
MURPHY, Paddy (H-Block 8). Happy New Year. Paddy. From Conor. Tloctaidh ar B.
MURPHY, Paddy. Happy New Year. Paddy. Thinking of you. From Dolores.
MURPHY, Paddy. Happy New Year. Paddy. From the Jenkinson family.
MURPHY, Ella (Durham). Happy New Year. From Betty and all the McElhatton family.
MURPHY, Don (Portlaoise). New Year greetings. From your comrades in the UK.

O'SHEA, Gerald (Portlaoise). Wishing you and all the lads a very happy New Year. Love always from Mam, Joe and Nora.
O'SHEA, Gerald (Portlaoise). Wishing you and all the lads a very happy New Year. Love from Joan and George.
O'SHEA, Gerald (Portlaoise). All the best for the New Year. Love Liz, Richard and Siobhan.
O'SHEA, Gerald (Portlaoise). Best wishes to you and all the lads. Also from Pat, Susan and the children.
O'SHEA, Gerald (Portlaoise). Happy New Year to you and all the lads. Wishing you all the best from Eileen, Peter and Liza. Greetings also from Mike, Margaret and children.
O'SHEA, Gerald (Portlaoise). Happy New Year. From William, Margaret and children. Best wishes to you and all the lads. From Liam and Mary; love also from Con, Marie and the team.

QUIGLEY, Frankie (Portlaoise). Happy New Year, Frankie. Not long now. From Tommy, Geraldine, Sean and Danielle.
QUIGLEY, Tommy (Parkhurst). Happy New Year. Love. Counting the days. All my love. From Geraldine.
QUIGLEY, Tommy (Parkhurst). Happy New Year. Can't wait for us to see you, Daddy. All our love. From Seaneen and Danielle.
QUIGLEY, Tommy (Parkhurst). Happy New Year. Thinking of you always. From Jim, Malraed, Orla and Claire.
QUIGLEY, Frankie (Portlaoise). Happy New Year. Thinking of you. Love from wife Val and son Patsy.
QUINN, Frankie (Portlaoise). Happy New Year. From Tommy, Clare and family, Ballyshannon. UTP.
QUINN, Frankie (Portlaoise). Roll on '88. I'll see you in the New Year. From Eugene.
QUINN, Frankie (Maghaberry). Happy New Year. From Jackie and Louise.

QUINN, Frankie (Maghaberry). Looking forward to seeing you in '88. From Eugene.
QUINN, Sean (Long Kesh). Happy New Year. From all the McElhatton family.
RANKIN, Paul (Portlaoise). Happy New Year. From the Rankin family.
SEELY, Eddie (Long Kesh). Happy New Year. Soda and Eddie. From Carmel.
SHERRY, Peter (Parkhurst). New Year greetings to a dear son. Thinking of you always. Love from Dad.
SHERRY, Peter (Parkhurst). New Year greetings to my dear brother Tom. Wishing you and all the lads throughout '88. Missing you always.

From your sister Veronica and Paul.
SHERRY, Peter (Parkhurst). Thinking of you throughout Christmas. Happy New Year. Keep your spirits up. Tloctaidh ar B. From your loving sister Irene and Gerard.
SHERRY, Peter (Parkhurst). Wishing you a happy New Year. From Tony, John, Fiona and Stephen Sheridan.
SHERRY, Peter (Parkhurst). New Year's Greetings. From Martin, Anne and Marie.
SMYTH, Gerry (Long Kesh). All the best for the New Year. From Tom and Stephen.
SMYTH, Gerry. Thinking of you in

the New Year. From Aunt Marie and Eamonn.
SMYTH, Gerry. Happy New Year. From your friends and all relations in Skerries, County Dublin.
SMYTH, Paul (Magilligan). Happy New Year. From you and all republican POWs. From John, Padraig, Sharon, Laura, Aileen, Julie-Ann and Leona.
STEWART, Sean (Portlaoise). Happy New Year to our son Sean and all your comrades. Love from Mum and Dad.
STEWART, Sean (Portlaoise). Happy New Year. To our brother Sean. From Seamus, Joseph, Paul, Bobby, Róisín and Jeanette.
STEWART, Sean (Portlaoise). Happy New Year. From Granny Maggie and Uncle Ricky.

STEWART, Sean (Portlaoise). Happy New Year. From Yeapheag Sean. From the McArdle family.
TAYLOR, Alice (Maghaberry). Happy New Year. From Lár na bhFiá Sinn Féin.
TIDD, Noel (Portlaoise). Happy New Year, Dad. Love from Rosario, Noel and Cionna.
TIDD, Noel (Portlaoise). Happy New Year. Love, not too long now. I'll have many more to enjoy. All my love. From Ger and Fergus.
TRAYNOR, P.J. (Long Kesh). To my dear husband P.J. Wishing you a very happy New Year. From your loving wife Brid. I love you.
TRAYNOR, P.J. (Long Kesh). Wishing you a very happy New Year. From Diddy. We love and miss you. From your loving sons Padraig and Sean.
VADELELY, M. (Crumlin Road). Happy New Year. From Collette.

WATKIN, Nishy (Long Kesh). Happy New Year. From Tommy and Geraldine.
THE LEO O'HANLON SINN FEIN CUMANN, Downpatrick, sends New Year greetings to all republican POWs at home and abroad, especially those in the Downpatrick area.
WILSON, Pat. Happy New Year, from the rock. Tloctaidh ar B. From Kevin, Kate and Eimhear.
WILSON, Pat (Long Kesh). Happy New Year. Pat. From Lár na bhFiá Sinn Féin.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Beaky McKee (Portlaoise). Happy New Year. Best wishes to Gerry, God bless. From Hughie and Mary.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Beaky McKee (Portlaoise). Best wishes to you. Always in our thoughts. From cousins Bernadette, Derry and kids; and Susan, Eamonn and kids.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Beaky McKee. Best wishes for the New Year. From Tom, Gerry and Hughie Jr.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Beaky McKee. Happy New Year to you and all the lads. God bless you all. Our thoughts are with you. From Tony and family.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Beaky McKee. Perth, West Australia. Tloctaidh ar B. UTP.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Beaky McKee. All the best for the New Year. From Marie, Paddy and Padraig Piaras McKee. UTP.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Claran Pritchard, Gypie Kelly, Kevin Campbell and Mickie McNaught (Long Kesh); and from Debbie Rankin.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS to all republican POWs in England. From Lily Campbell and family.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to all republican POWs in Ireland and the USA. From Jimmie and comrades in prisons in Ireland, Britain and the USA. And to all our friends in the USA. From Lily and Rich.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Alice Taylor (Maghaberry), Gerard Murray (Crumlin Road), Gerard Keary (Portlaoise) and Billy Massey (Cages). From the Taylor family. Belfast.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to all

the boys and girls in prison. From the Broily family, Castlefin.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Peter Whelan, Padraig Moore, Kevin Campbell, Gerry Kelly, Bill McFarlane, Jim Gibney, Tommy McKearney and Laurence McKown (H-Block). From Terence and Hyndrick Glennon (Crumlin Road); Colette Bradley (Maghaberry); Mickie Hogan (Portlaoise); John McCarty and Martina Anderson (England); Cleiky Clarke, Dermot Finucane, Paul Kane and Anthony Kelly (Belts); Belle and the belidh midne saor uilig. UTP. O Sean.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Pod Davenny, Peter 'Pedlow' and Kevin McGuigan (Crumlin Road); Billy Clinton, Brian, Leeroy and the rest of the boys in the Cages, and Peter Sherry (England). Ireland. From Kieran, Clare and Caoimhghinn Flynn, Marktes.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to all republican POWs in English, Irish and US Jails. From Ellen Collins.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Nobby Pritchard, Digger Moore and Don Brown. From Hanks, Gerry, Ken and Digger.
New Year Greetings to Nobby, Tony Catney, Adrian Kelly, Peter Whelan, George Doherty, Eug Coyne and Digger Moore (Long Kesh; Crumlin Road). From Tracey Collins, Karen Rudd, Martina Doherty, Cathy Carey and Elaine Collins, Bostide.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to all our friends in British and Free State Jails. From the Finlayshams (Long Kesh), and their families. From Nellie and Dan McCaughy and all republican POWs in England.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to J. Crane, Ta Moran, Chris Moran, Robbie and the boys. From Lundy, Billy Chillingworth, Ned Maguire, Brendan Shannon, Brendan Neave, Pat Masterson, Dominic Adams, Gerald McKee, Anthony McCabe, Liam Berkey, Emanuel McCaughy, John Flanagan, Gerard Pritchard, Robert Henry and Ed McLaron. From Colette Henry.

DOWNPATRICK GREEN CROSS sends new year greetings to all republican POWs at home and abroad, especially those from the Downpatrick area.

especially to Sean Kinsella and those in Jails in England. From the Claran Fleming Sinn Fein Cumann, Knockatilla; from Hanley McCMahon; from Sinn Fein Cumann, Monaghan town; Sean McKenna Sinn Fein Cumann, Clare; South/Huron Sinn Fein Cumann, Ireland and Tydavnet Cumann and all Sinn Fein members and supporters in North County Monaghan.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Brendan Dowd (England), John O'Sullivan, Peter Nigra, Martin Ferris, Mike O'Downe, Mike O'Shea, Moira Prendergast, Nicky Buckley, Dennis Magee, Angelo Fusco (Portlaoise), and special card, mile dílte to

Paddy Boyle on his release, to all POWs in Irish British and American prisons and all greetings to their families and supporters. From the Republican Movement, North Kerry.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to John McCaughy, Gerry Doherty. From Nilly and Danny, Bostide.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Marcus, Sean and all the boys in the Cages. From Mary, Barry and children.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Gano and Desi (H-Block). From the boys in the Cages, and all my friends still serving time in English prisons. From Maureen Maguire, London, England.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to all our republican POWs in English, Irish and American jails. From Jim Cumann and supporters. From Joe Cumann Cabhrach, Dundalk, County Louth.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to all Irish republican POWs in English, Irish and American jails. From 'Mad' Mac, B.R. Scuse, Joe 'Celtic' Noel, Diarmuid and all the Sons of Ireland, Celtic Supporters Club, West London, England.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to POWs in England and Ireland, especially Peter Rogers and John Fox (England). Belated birthday greetings to Noel, from Anthony and Mary O'Keefe.

and family, 'Aisling', Stradbally, County Waterford.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Gerry Meehan, Michael Hogan, Spaza Kelly, Seamus Clarke, Hankin, Frankie McCaughy, John McElhinney and all POWs in Portlaoise. From John Buncrana and John Donegal. Also from Michael McLaughlin, USA.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Colm McLaughlin, John Coleman, Mag-Mag, Kevin Campbell and John Nolan (H-Block), and all POWs in English Jails. From John Buncrana, County Donegal. Also from Michael McLaughlin, USA.
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NEW YEAR GREETINGS to all republican POWs at home and abroad, especially to Joe O'Connell, Harry Duff, the Clare Sinn Fein Comhairle Ceantair.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to all POWs, especially those incarcerated on foreign soil. From the Terence McCaughy Sinn Fein Cumann, Shan-Ron, County Clare.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to all POWs in British and Irish Jails. From Muirheara Mor, Dundalk. Always remembered by the Durfy/Dowling Sinn Fein Comhairle Ceantair, Dundalk, County Louth.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Don O'Leary. From all the lads in the office.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Don O'Leary. From Don, Patrick Sinn Fein Comhairle Ceantair.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to all republican prisoners. From Flanna Eirisean.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS to all republican prisoners. From Cork Sinn Fein Comhairle Ceantair.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Seamus and family, Dundalk, County Louth.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Gerard Rogan, John O'Grain, John McComb and all Irish POWs everywhere. From Monnie and Willie Higgins and family, Dundalk.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Gerard Rogan, John O'Grain, John McComb and all Irish POWs everywhere. From Monnie and Willie Higgins and family, Dundalk.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to all the comrades in Portlaoise. From Tommy, Clare and family, Ballyshannon.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Seamus and Tony (Portlaoise). From Valentine and Patsy. Tloctaidh ar B.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Seamus and Tony. From the Lionheart and family. UTP.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Marlan. All the best love. From Seamus Clarke (Portlaoise) and family.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Peter Sherry, Irish POW in England. Special thoughts of you at this time. From Gerry and Teresa McKown and family, Dundalk.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Eoin O'Donnell, John O'Grain, Jimmy Foy, Kenny Carnegie, Don McEvoy and Leonard Ward (Portlaoise). From Bridge and John, Dundalk.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Pat and Wilson, Gerry McCann, Liam Lynott, Tea-pot and Hucker (H-Block). From J.D. Gairnorr.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Sean Kenna (Portlaoise). Hope you're getting plenty of tea Sean. From Briege and John, Dundalk.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS to all republican POWs at home and abroad. Blain U' mháthair daibh. From Jim and Theresa.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS are extended to all republican POWs at home and abroad. From Convoys Sinn Fein Cumann, Convoys, County Donegal.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Tommy Eccles (Portlaoise) and all the lads. From the Craigh family.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Docco (Portlaoise). Your last we hope. From the Fitzers.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Brendan

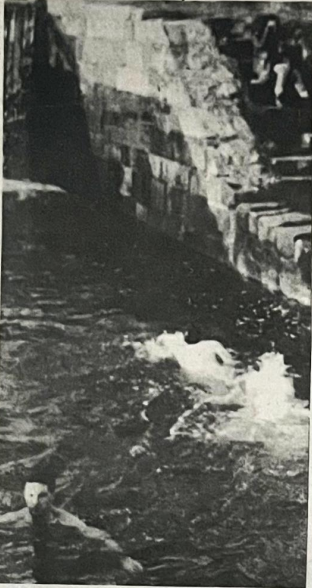
dan Dowd (Frankland) and all the political prisoners in English and Irish jails. From Helen and Tim O'Sullivan.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to all Irish POWs and relatives and to all those who have fallen in battle over this past year. From the Irish Hunger-Strike Commemoration Committee.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Denis Griffin. Wishing you, your family, love and miss you. From Rita. Happy New Year, Daddy. Lots of love and kisses. From Rita, Caitriona and Caoimhín.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Denis Griffin. You are in our thoughts. From the Caldwell clan. Happy New Year, Griff. See you soon. From the Morrow clan.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Liam McCotter (Brixton). From David and Mary Hoy.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Patricia McCaughy (Maghaberry). Wishing you all the best for '88. Looking forward to February for a good booze-up. Love from Joe, Louise and Conchur.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Patricia McCaughy (Maghaberry). All our love and best wishes for the New Year. We can celebrate together. February. God bless (Birmingham).
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Patricia McCaughy (Maghaberry). Love and kisses to David from your Hub, Paul.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Anthony Morrow. We are thinking of you, son. See you soon. Love from Mum and Dad.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Jimmy 'The Monkey' Hamill, Paddy 'Hair' Pat 'The Queen' McCann (Portlaoise). The Monkey still does what dog says. From Hen and Dano.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Brendan 'Jake' McManus (H-Block). All the best to ye in the New Year. From Geraldine.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Anthony Morrow. Love and best wishes. From Geraldine, Michelle, Liza, Patricia and Pamela. Also from Rita, Caitriona and Caoimhín, and the Caldwell clan.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Peter Rogers (Portlaoise). Forever in my thoughts. All my love. From Delrude. Happy New Year, Daddy. I love you. From Eamon.
NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Peter Rogers (Portlaoise). Out of sight but never out of our minds. Love from Mary, Kevin, Donna and Kevin; also from Brian, Geraldine and kids.
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NEW YEAR



# THE FLYING COLUMN



● The annual Christmas Day sponsored swim, in Inchicore, Dublin, in aid of An Cumann Cabhrach, where (left) swimmers try to find the brass monkey and then (right) have roasted chestnuts

**TWO LOONY BRIT ROYALS** had a narrow escape when they met with father-of-four Derek Simpson last month. In a 'cry for help' Simpson, who is unemployed, thrust a letter explaining his situation to Charles and Diana Windsor. He found himself arrested and charged with "throwing an offensive article" by London's Metropolitan Police.

And *The Flying Column* can now exclusively reveal that the IRA has managed to import several of the deadly, Russian-made A4 brown envelopes that were used in the attack. Anyone wishing to see photographs of the 'malicious manilas' can receive them free — just send me a stamped addressed Kalashnikov!

**BUT EVEN 'PRINCE' CHARLES** likes to be with his family at Christmas. He went off last month to a leech farm in Swansea where he met with hundreds of six-inch suckers. But the smaller parasites do actually serve a purpose: they inject a vital anti-clotting substance into the victims before sucking blood.

**DECEMBER SAW** the uncovering of a neo-fascist group within the Free State navy. Derek Turner, a 22-year-old sailor who works in the secret naval communications centre in Haulbowline, Cork, admitted recruiting other seamen into the Nazi group and producing its hate-sheet *Ar Aghaidh*. Turner admitted having liaisons with the UDA and the British National Front.

The sick seamen's sect supports the 'repatriation' of anyone who isn't born white, Irish and heterosexual.

**THE BRITISH TORIES** have made it clear that Greater Manchester Chief Constable James Anderton does not come under their party whip. Even the Official Hang 'em and Flog 'em Party in government found it necessary to keep Alderton at arm's length after his latest outburst.

Speaking to *Woman's Own* magazine, the crazed copper said he would gladly thrash criminals himself "until they beg for mercy". Despite their claim that Anderton's views are "not those of the government", the Tories have no plans to pull the trap-door on the zealous police chief.

**SECTION 31 GOES TO THE US.** Here is a (Republican) Government Health Warning for all our readers in the United States.

Last week, RTE and UTV revealed their dastardly plan to supply news reports for a special Irish cable TV network to begin broadcasting from Manhattan, New York.

A spokesperson for the RTE/UTV group claimed that their coverage of events would "introduce an air of reality into news reports from Ireland", but perhaps no one has told him that the US have had 'talkies' for quite some time now.

**HERMON'S VERMIN** are at it again. RUC Constable Craig Porteus Johnston has been charged at Newry Court with the unlawful killing of one of his cronies, Constable Lyle Roxborough, who was shot dead in a sangar at Newry Barracks last September. Johnston was returned for trial at Craigavon Court on January 4th.

One to watch for in the New Year!

**BLACK TAXI SERVICE** has been given a new meaning by gardai at New Ross, County Wexford.

On Friday, November 27th local Sinn Féin activist Maureen Hayden was arrested for refusing to pay a £10 fine for selling Easter lilies, and jailed in Mountjoy Prison in Dublin. Local gardai hired well-known New Ross taxi-driver Jim Cooney to provide the transport and Maureen says she had a very comfortable journey to the 'Joy — in the back of a hearse!

**SPEAKING ON RTE** Radio's *This Week* recently, UDR commander Brigadier Michael 'Donkey' Bray claimed that Ulster's Dirty Ratpack had only made "two serious mistakes" during the year but had otherwise behaved "in a splendid manner".

Robert Owen, a UDR soldier of the 5th Battalion, Ballykelly, is an example of such psychopathic splendour. On December 5th, Bobby bounced into the bank in Coleraine and persuaded staff there to extend his overdraft. He was assisted in these negotiations by his officially-held UDR pistol.

**NOW THAT** the sun sets and rises every day on what is left of the British Empire, some children of Mother England are not quite sure of their place in the world.

The annual report of the British Foreign Office

lists the numerous abuses of the consular service by British people abroad. One disgruntled English motorist complained to the embassy that it was just not cricket that a French autoroute toll-gate would not accept a £1 British coin.

And among the questions and not-quite-right answers received from a survey on young people's knowledge of geography carried out by the Associated Examining Board was:

Name an important port and centre of commerce in the South China Sea and currently a British crown colony. Answer: Dublin.

## DÚIRI SIAD



We are in a war situation and traitors and collaborators should be shot in a war.

— DUP Councillor Denny Vitty, Mayor of Castlereagh, at a local council meeting.

No one gave the relatives of Mrs Sweeney of County Donegal a chance to be emotional and touching on television when the 72-year-old woman died of a heart attack after being raided during the National Search. Of course, as Section 31 was renewed again this year, only certain types of people are allowed to be emotional and touching on RTE.

— Gene Kerrigan's Television Year, Sunday Tribune.

He despises the hype and trial by tabloid which occurs at the outset of such (political) Irish cases. He feels that the average English juror has no conception of the situation in Northern Ireland or of the background the defendant has come from. Jurors may even have difficulty understanding the accused...

He says that he and his clients are essentially all Irish people, with much in common, standing in a foreign court.

— Magill profile of Richard Ferguson QC, former Unionist MP for Fermanagh, who has represented the Birmingham Six and Gilbert 'Danny' MacNamee, among others, at London's Old Bailey.

Mrs Thatcher says she won't talk to terrorists but she trains them!

— British Labour MP Diane Abbott on the British government's admission that it has given military training to the armed forces of Chile, El Salvador, Turkey and Iraq.

Join the revolution — what was taken by force can only be retrieved by force.

— Syrian government statement urging Arabs to support protests by West Bank Palestinians.

We can sympathise with Israel in its travail.

— The South African pro-government newspaper, *The Citizen*, commenting on the worldwide hostility towards Zionist troops shooting dead young Palestinian protesters.

The ANC adopts a policy towards the police similar to the IRA's attitude to the Royal Ulster Constabulary in Northern Ireland, and many black officers have been shot or hacked to death while off duty.

— British Daily Telegraph report on the killing of two black policemen in an ambush in Soweto in mid-December 1987. The South African police described the ANC unit responsible as "cowardly criminals".

But her two years in Holloway left her in no doubt that, far from being concerned with rehabilitation and compassion, the prison regime was brutal and inhumane...

'It's an awful thing to say but I wouldn't trust a prison officer; you have to be a two-faced chameleon.

— English ex-Prison Officer Julie Davis interviewed in the *Guardian*.