

CONCERNED

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF FERMANAGH CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE COMMITTEE

PAY
NO
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NO
RATES

No. 101

Saturday, 25th August (De Sathairn, 25 Lúnasa), 1973.

Maud Gonne MacBride

(A Composite of Spiritual and Physical Beauty)

"HOWEVER vile and pitiless her soul may be, she must sometimes tremble as death approaches when she thinks of the countless Irish mothers who, shelterless under the cloudy Irish sky, watching their starving little ones, have cursed her before they died. Every eviction during sixty three years has been carried out in Victoria's, the Famine Queen's, name, and if there is a justice in Heaven it will fall on this woman, whose bourgeois virtue is so boasted, and in whose name THEIR homes were destroyed."

Surely only sights and evidences of unbelievable barbarity could have drawn such strong words, such condemnation, from a girl whom contemporaries described as: The most beautiful person I have ever seen; Her extraordinary beauty drew all eyes to her; The most beautiful woman in Europe; A tall girl with masses of golden-brown hair and a beauty which made her Paris clothes unnoticeable. A bricklayer said: "Her services to the land of the Shamrock have been unparalleled and there is no name that will ever shine out with prominence in the history of our country more than that of our beautiful lady, Maud Gonne."

I am sure the bricklayer's compliment was the one she cherished most, not least but not only because the sincerity of the humble is always uncomplicated, for, at the hour and the moment he exalted her, the Daily Express in England was screaming for her immediate arrest

Maud Gonne, later to become Madame Gonne MacBride, wife of Major John MacBride, who gave his life for Ireland, and mother of the internationally eminent jurist who is presently head of Amnesty International, was the elder of two daughters of Colonel Gonne of an English family who could claim Mayo descent. In 1882 he was posted as assistant Adjutant-General to Dublin. Some years earlier his young wife, Edith, had died and he had sent his two little girls first to Ireland and later to France. Upon his appointment to Dublin he took his children with him. Maud, more outgoing than Kathleen, was in her element. In Ireland, she rode, she hunted, and was indeed the daughter of the garrison.

Beneath the surface, however, in Land League Ireland were currents which the beautiful, gay young girl could not fail to detect. From hunting landlords she heard of outrages, but the tones in which they spoke of their tenants and their open, drunken rejoicings in evictions, and in more brutal reprisals, left her in no doubt where the real injustice lay.

Watching a Land League procession march up to Phoenix Park to be addressed by Davitt, her father astonished and delighted her by revealing the same misgivings. "The people have a right to the land," he said. He there and then decided to leave the Army, but death from typhoid took him before he had the opportunity to resign. After his death Maud went to live with an uncle in London. England, appearing more and more clearly the oppressor of Ireland, became also a place of hated exile and she became confirmed in a life-long detestation of



Wife and son of executed 1916 patriot, Major John MacBride.

England. She decided to return to Ireland to find some "little place" in the nationalistic struggle. A little place?

At that time in Ireland, as elsewhere, women's rights were very limited. But the blank wall of stupid anti-feminism very soon at least part crumbled before the force of her indomitable spirit. She set off as a crusader to build huts for the evicted in Donegal, where a very particularly brutal eviction campaign was then in progress.

It was this particular brutal campaign, because of the intensity of its ferocity, which banished her last lingering scruple about the use of physical force. Since that time many more have required some such experience to banish some suchlike lingering scruple.

As she saw old people or mothers with babies thrown out to sleep under the hedges, she wrote: "A thousand men, women and children were left homeless in that campaign and how many of them died that winter I do not know. I have always hated war, and am by nature a pacifist, but it is the English who have forced war upon us, and THE FIRST PRINCIPLE OF WAR IS TO KILL THE ENEMY."

She became more strikingly beautiful as the interior beauty of her spirit conspired with her natural beauty. She became an inspiration, a living flame. She brought to what looked like hopeless causes a courage and a selfless generosity which were her very own. At almost every turn in her life Maud Gonne could have had an easy and cherished existence. It is infinitely to her credit that at every turn she deliberately chose to make it hard.

She was familiar with the inside of Holloway prison. She was familiar with the inside of Kilmainham prison, where the first Cosgrave government lodged her. She went on hunger-strike immediately and twenty days later she was released, carried out on a stretcher to the cheers of the awaiting throng. Those who made up that first Cosgrave government

were, in her eyes, the arch-enemies, worse even than the British, because they were betrayers of their own people.

When de Valera came to power in 1932, she waited unsurely and with doubts. Her doubts were not dispelled. He showed himself just as tough with Republicans as his notorious predecessor. Once again she found herself fighting for young Irishmen who were shedding their blood for the freedom of Ireland.

On 29th April, 1953, the coffin bearing the remains of Maud Gonne was carried through Dublin to Glasnevin Republican plot. It was followed by thousands and watched by thousands more. If "Crowds gathered, once if she did but show her face", they gathered still. That day, one could almost hear again the bricklayer's tribute of long years, long past. "Her services to the land of the Shamrock have been unparalleled and there is no name that will ever shine out with prominence in the history of our country more than that of our beautiful lady, Maud Gonne."

My opening quote is from Maud Gonne's opposition political article to Queen Victoria's recruiting mission to Dublin to inspire young Irishmen to fight against the Boers. I will finish with another quote from that article written by the noble-hearted, aristocratic, fabulously beautiful girl who had jettisoned self in order to identify with Ireland unfree, Ireland oppressed, Ireland poor. "Queen, return to your own land. It will be in the ranks of your ENEMIES that my children will find honour."

May the gallant men and girl freedom fighters in the concentration camps of today, who are obliterating themselves in a blessed endeavour to exorcise Ireland of the last vestige of the vile and baneful spirit of Victoria, draw some courage and strength from the triumphs AND FAILURES of the immortal Maud Gonne MacBride. See yourselves as those children of hers who will find HONOUR in the ranks of Britain's ENEMIES.

READ THIS

LITTLE John Brooke, former Unionist Chief Whip, Captain (rtd.), Assembly Member, O.U., for North Down, called on the SDLP, his fellow-assemblers, to encourage their wing to reject and destroy "the bomber and the gunman and to actively support the forces of security (British) in the North.

GO ON

The SDLP acquiesced immediately to Little John Brooke's command. He may be Captain (rtd.), but when he gives orders they are orders. Then he is one of THEIR's and may one day fill his late papa's shoes (SDLP thinking). Note how he could absent himself from the first meeting of the Assembly because Melinda was riding that day. An important Assembler (SDLP thinking).

DO GO ON

So the SDLP did as bid. They condemned in strong terms the continuing Provisional IRA campaign. They said that the IRA was increasing the sufferings of the people in the North, without achieving any political gain. Here the observant reader, like yourself, will not fail to notice the switch from political solution to political gain. Yes, we know it is Hume-an, but it is still worthy of note since the SDLP Assemblers were speaking as one.

THE BEST IS YET . . .

"In its strongest ever condemnation of the IRA the SDLP called on the people to withhold all support from the IRA . . ." (Irish Times, 16th Aug.) Just what Little John Brooke told them to do. ("Permission to report, sir?" Ye-es?)

TO COME . . .

The representatives of the conned section of the minority, the minority voice of the minority, also criticised street demonstrations against internment, on the grounds that such demonstrations could lead to VIOLENCE. Well, did you ever? Has initiation into the A.O. of Assemblers blinded the SDLP to the truth that internment is the most rank violence in Ireland today, and that they have done and are doing NOTHING to end it.

FOR THEIR SHOW IS SLIPPING

"Disgusted Ardoyne Resident" (Irish News) complains about the differences between the sentences meted out to the Unionists and to Republicans. A Unionist, supposedly from the Ardoyne, got EIGHTEEN MONTHS for the possession of a rifle and 90 rounds of ammo. A real Ardoyne man (of course a non-Unionist) got TEN YEARS for the possession of a revolver. "Disgusted Ardoyne Resident" wants to know where is the justice. "Now tell me, where is the justice? Does Mr. Fitt and the SDLP, to whom we gave our vote, know about these things? Or DON'T THEY CARE?"

Bang goes a few votes, lads. I bet if you go on hunting for political GAIN, even though it may be purely Hume-an, the old mine-shaft will close in on you and smother you forever, as has happened to so many political GAIN PROSPECTORS of your kind in the past. An enemy's good advice is better than that of a false friend, so watch Little John Brooke. He is not the friend you may be tempted to think he is. I'm damned if he is going to direct you lads except to the most dangerous old shafts. Dig, dig, he'll whisper, and YOU'LL die.

WHERE THE QUEEN'S WRIT DOES NOT RUN

SOME weeks ago a serious incident occurred in the Lisbellaw area. A peaceful, respectable gentleman had his car damaged by a number of thugs calling themselves the UDA.

Some local people witnessed the incident, in which an iron bar was thrown at the car windscreen when the driver refused to halt for the fake road check. The RUC were called and the registration number of at least one car used by these thugs was given to them. The identities of a number of the gang are well known, but still no word from the UDA. No doubt "investigations are continuing". It is believed some members of the gang are also members of the UDR and RUC reserve. This could complicate things and even complete handjacks the whole investigations. However, the outcome is awaited with interest.

THE UFF

CAPTAIN BLACK and his Ulster Freedom Fighters still ride high. Brave men, these UFF. Of rather recent origin, they have carried out many daring operations such as the murder of an elderly couple about to retire to bed; a young Protestant boy was shot in the back because he had Catholic friends. Bombs were thrown into pubs and left at private dwellings. Yes, men, women and children have been their victims.

A surprising thing though is that we were informed by the British Army over six weeks ago that the leaders of these murderers were under arrest. Strange, no word of them ever since. Were they released, charged or still in custody? Were they ever arrested? One thing we are sure of is that Whitelaw knows the answers to these questions. Could he also know who the UFF really are? Who planted the bombs in Dublin, Clones and Belturbet? What mission were the British soldiers on who were caught in Clones and Monaghan? Could the true answers to these questions reveal the identity of the UFF? Remember, British agents murdered the natives before in Ireland, Aden, Cyprus and Kenya.

AGENTS CAUSE AUTHOR TO SNUB ENVOY

THE British Government is using agents to carry out major crimes of violence in this country, author Constantine Fitzgibbon claims.

Mr. Fitzgibbon has turned down an invitation to his wife and himself to attend a reception this month from the British Ambassador in Dublin following revelations in the case of the Littlejohn brothers who were recently sentenced to 20 and 15 years' imprisonment for armed robbery.

Following the announcement of his refusal to attend the reception, which is in connection with the Horse Show, Mr. Fitzgibbon, a former member of the British Army, said that he wondered just how many crimes such as bank robberies and murders committed in Ireland and denied by the IRA were actually carried out by the British on the orders of their Government.

He went on to say that he firmly believed the evidence given by the Littlejohns on the manner in which they were recruited by the British to carry out the robbery and added that he had knowledge which he could not reveal which proved that they were acting on the orders of the British Government.

CONCERNED

"Espionage and the collection of information is accepted as normal between nations in time of war and even peace, but the British used agents to carry out a major crime on their Government's orders," he said, adding that he was sure that many of his fellow Irishmen were as concerned as he was.

Mr. Fitzgibbon's letter to the British Ambassador said that although his wife and he had previously accepted the invitation, he must now withdraw that acceptance since he had no wish to accept hospitality from the representative of a foreign government which employed secret agents to commit major crimes in his country.

When in Lisnaskea, call at . . .

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Home of Traditional Song and Music

MAIN STREET

LISNASKEA

JAMES CAREY

Select Grocers and General Hardware Merchants

Crown Paint and Wallpaper Specialist
PHONE: LISNASKEA 337

THE 'SKEA SCENE

THERE'S been a brave sup of water under the bridge since our last little talk-in. The Brits, the bags and the pigs are still with us. Ernie Sense has got the heebie-geebies, John Brooke has got a seat (he'd look a bit quare without one), the SDLP has got religion and poor Jack Lynch has got amnesia.

Many of us were moved to tears the other night when Jack and his old mate Des appeared on the box. We wept unashamedly as Jack declared that he couldn't remember a thing from one day to the next. We used whole boxes of tissues when Des informed us that although he knew nothing about anything he would have been able to tell Jack everything had he seen him. A bigger pair of cejts haven't appeared on the screen since Laurel and Hardy. However, let us not forget that the electorate in the so-called Free State returned both these self-confessed half-wits to the Dail. Obviously it begs the question: what about all the other deputies? Is there a sane one in the whole bunch? What guarantee have we that the President so recently elected is all in it, especially as he spent so much time in the company of Jack and Des? Already Cosgrave, Cooney and Donegan are showing signs of a wee want in them, although in the case of the latter the affliction has been with the poor fellow a lifetime.

St. John Hume has thumped his breast and spoken to the disciples again this week. Perhaps his holiness would tell us, speaking ex-cathedra SDLP style, of course, since when did Irish people condone common informers. We have borne a heavy burden in this land since Britain unleashed her mad B Specials, RUC and now crazy soldiers upon us. Your city, John Hume, has suffered more than most. You may speak for the touts of Ireland, but get this into your head: you or your party do not speak for the people.

Captain John's victory in Co. Down prompted a well known Unionist to say the other day, "What was Fermanagh's gain could well be Down's loss".

See you.

ANTI-INTERMENT MARCH IN ENNISKILLEN, 9th AUGUST, 1973

FOLLOWING misleading and incorrect reports of the above march in the local Redmondite press, we feel it necessary to state the following facts. First of all, the Redmondite press had just one junior reporter covering the demonstration.

The organisers delegated two men to determine numbers taking part. This was done by counting the lines of marchers at a given point. They both counted 207 lines. Requests were made that three people should make up each line, but as all who participated know an average of five people per line is a truer figure. This gives a different total number than that quoted by the Redmondites.

Very great detail was paid by the West British scribes to "stone throwing". They saw NONE except the two thrown by marchers. It strikes us as rather strange that they missed the bottle and stone-throwing by the mob who occupied the footpath outside "The Horse Shoe Bar" and their cries of "Intern them all", "To hell with the Pope" and "Fenian bastards". Even the RUC, who never had the will to chastise those so-called Loyalists, were forced to threaten this mob with "having their names taken". No mention was made of the window broken by this same mob.

If the editor of this West British rag and his seoinin priest friend, (£10 per article) Ernie Sense, cared for the internees or their dependents they would have been there to join in protest, and then perhaps they would have been in a position to report the truth.

PRISONERS DEPENDANTS' FUND

CEILI - C. & W. - MODERN

PARISH HALL, NEWTOWNBUTLER

SUNDAY, 26th AUGUST, 1973

Music by GREEN GLEN COUNTRY SOUND
Dancing 9.30 - 1.30 Admission 50p

British Intelligence Dept. D16 behind Dublin bombs

by AIDAN CORRIGAN

A BRITISH newspaper, the "Sunday Observer", has recently carried out a detailed and painstaking investigation into the Sackville Street bombs which killed two people last December and blasted through the Dail the infamous Offences Against the State Amendment Bill. This newspaper report emphasises the pressure put on Avis and Hertz, from whom the cars which exploded were hired, by Scotland Yard not to discuss the matter. The two cars plus one "escape" hijacked vehicle were hired on the strength of a driver's licence in the name of a Joseph Fleming from Derby in England, a licence which was taken from a Ford Zephyr stolen at a car park in Ballymoney. The Zephyr was soon returned minus Mr. Fleming's licence. According to the report the man who hired the car was a "well built Englishman who looked like an ex-soldier". The report "rules out the involvement of extreme Loyalists in the bombings", stating that the two cars had been completely disposed of and that "the bombers not only seemed to know Dublin, they also had an acute sense of political timing".

Leinster House has certainly been rocked by the Littlejohns' revelations. Lynch, Cosgrave, O'Malley, Cooney, O'Brien and Fitzgerald are all sitting on a hornet's nest. An impartial public sworn inquiry would leave a few at least of the present TDs idle if not in jail for a few years. The "Sunday World" (19/8/73) carried a very scathing article on the misdemeanours of Messrs. Cosgrave and O'Brien, etc., by The Senator (a colleague of Brian Lenihan). It goes as follows:

"The Littlejohn brothers are not so much important in themselves as is the stagnant pool which they have disturbed. That pool contains the hanky-panky arrangements between Jack Lynch's Government and British forces dealing with Ireland, and the same hanky-panky between Liam Cosgrave's administration and British forces.

It is entirely unsuitable for either Lynch or Cosgrave to have the full story of their official collaboration revealed. British ineptitude and lies ensure that a great deal of information, hitherto secret, will be published.

The British did not trust either Lynch or Cosgrave and sent in both agents provocateurs and intelligence agents in plenty, simply to ensure that the information they were getting from the Governments was correct and full, also to use "aggro" to guide the political situation.

Tell tales on a Watergate scale is now going on. Jack Lynch and Colm Condon are afraid; so are Liam Cosgrave and Conor Cruise O'Brien; so are Edward Heath, Peter Carrington and William Whitelaw.

Frank Kitson, the man responsible for designing the full terror campaign against the Irish, is not worried. To him politicians are expendable.

I enjoyed the outraged innocence of Jack Lynch and Condon's character reference for that curiosity, Sir Norman Skelhorn, was uproariously funny. Skelhorn is Britain's Director of Public Prosecutions; he is unlikely to visit here again.

From where I view things, Littlejohn seems the murkiest affair in years. Far murkier than the Locke's Distillery scandal exposed by Oliver Flanagan in 1947, for example. That rated a full sworn enquiry ordered by Eamon de Valera at the insistence of the Fine Gael and Labour and Clann na Talmhan parties which fully supported the then Independent Deputy Flanagan.

Can Liam Cosgrave give us less now?

The most damaged Minister is Conor Cruise O'Brien, the man who constantly sees Britain's point of view. Did he draft the Information Bureau statement which Condon says was untruthful? Was it he who readily accepted a further English lie?

The feeling amongst the few colleagues I met last week was that the dirt has hit the fan, and that no one now can say for sure where it will all end, or who will be implicated. No one doubts that the British bombed Dublin and killed the innocent CIE men and wounded the scores of others. No one doubts there are still British agents at work here.

It is not so much Watergate as the attempt to cover it up that is slowly breaking the political career of Richard Nixon and his cronies. The same is true here.

The feeling among many Deputies on both sides, and among uncommitted Senators, is that it is now best that the truth should come out and that traitors must be exposed no matter what delicate posts they may hold, or to whom they may be related.

Again it must be asked: how did Patrick Crinnion, a Garda with a strange stain on his record, manage to move from the uniformed branch to the political police and become secretary to Chief Super John Fleming, head of the Special Detective Unit (Special Branch)?

How did he then become Registrar of C3, the SDU department dealing especially with the most sensitive information about the IRA?

Who was Patrick Crinnion's mentor? What rank does he now hold where? I am not the only one to believe that when these questions are fully, truthfully and publicly answered, the present British spy network in our part of the country will be much weakened.

If there are British agents high in the Special Branch, in Army Intelligence, in the Department of Justice and in the Department of Defence, they should be exposed. Can I take it that there is no British agent with intimate connections with the Attorney General's office?

When the full facts of British interference and bombings in the Twenty Six Counties are revealed, as they will and must, it will emerge that it was Heath, not Lynch, who was running the Free State. Already there is evidence, corroborated by the Littlejohns themselves, that they were responsible for petrol bombing the Castlebellingham and Louth Garda Stations last September in the wake of a disturbance after a rally by Provo Sinn Fein in support of hunger strikers in the Curragh. People will remember that bombs were planted in Dundalk the following day (the day before the All-Ireland Final) and later defused by the Free State Army. Both the petrol bombings of the Garda stations and the setting of the other bombs outside Dundalk courthouse had their desired effect, namely to pressurise or rather give the Dublin Government the excuse for preparing its Offences Against the State Act. It can now be seen that the Louth/Dundalk/Castlebellingham incidents laid the foundations for the Amendment Bill; Sackville Street bombs ensured it became law. But remember that the Bill was law for four weeks before it was enforced. Why? Not because O'Malley had any mercy or Christian charity. No. The Bill became law on 2nd December, but then on the 6th December there was a backlash against the Government on the Constitution Bill. Less than 50% voted; there was a 500% rise in the number of spoiled votes, most of these voters writing pro-Provo slogans on the ballot sheet and others denouncing Lynch and his new legislation. Lynch at this stage faltered and then the British Secret Service moved again; this time Belturbet was the target and a young boy and a young girl were the victims. They lost their lives. Lynch delayed no longer. Rory Brady was arrested within 24 hours and on Chief Superintendent's opinion was jailed for six months. Britain was not yet satisfied that Lynch was doing enough; another bomb in Dublin later in January and another life lost led to the arrest of John Kelly and a number of other Republicans.

It is a well known fact that the man, Chief Supt. Fleming, who gave the evidence which convicted O'Bradaigh, Kelly, etc., was in cahoots with British agents. Fleming is well known for his treachery and disloyalty to everyone except Fleming. He is not trusted by the Gardai themselves. In the light of all this murky history it is no wonder "Sunday World" (19/8/73) front page headline reads "THE BIG GARDA FIASCO" and continues as follows:

"The Garda Síochána is to conduct an internal investigation into why the Littlejohn brothers were at liberty in Ireland for two full years when they had been gazetted as bank robbers in Britain and when Kenneth Littlejohn's name and alias was sup-

posed to be posted in every Garda station in the 26 Counties.

Between the police forces here and in Britain, there is an interplay of information, with background material, including photos of identikits, and wanted British criminals are marked down in the Criminal Record Office at Garda offices in St. John's Road, Dublin.

When "Sunday World" asked the Garda authorities for information as to the holding of the investigation, it received the reply: 'It is not usual to issue information on internal inquiries in the force.'

Kenneth Littlejohn was gazetted by the British police as using his won name or the name of Austin.

Yet Kenneth Austin was able to set up in a ladies' underwear business at Farranfore Airport in Kerry, to hire goods through borrowing from Bowmakers Ltd., industrial bankers, to establish himself in a bungalow in Caherciveen and pose as a business promoter.

And although a writ was issued against him in February, 1972, Littlejohn was able to join the socialites at the best hotels in Dublin, periodically place thousands of pounds for safekeeping in a solicitor's office, adjourn to a guesthouse in Clogherhead where he again mixed with rich company and from whence he carried out his spying activities.

Meanwhile, top-level inquiry into the Littlejohn affair is taking place in the British Secret Service at the direction of the Prime Minister. It is the first of its kind since the defection of George Blake.

A senior diplomat who retired from the diplomatic service in Ireland last year has been called to London to assist.

One of the items to be discussed is a communication between an Allied Irish Banks official in London with his head office in Dublin to the effect that one of the Littlejohns was acting for British Intelligence. The communication was monitored by the communications centre at Oakley, Cheltenham, a centre subject to D-Notice, that is that mention of it is barred from the British media.

This information, the British believe, was passed on by Allied Irish Banks to the Irish security authorities long before the courier was sent (on 3rd January) by the Irish Ambassador in London.

A telephone conversation between Kenneth Littlejohn and his solicitor, Mr. Denis Murnaghan, then on holiday in Cyprus, was also intercepted by the station at Oakley. This was to the effect that Littlejohn's Ministerial controller had informed him that he was now 'on his own'."

FERMANAGH CITIZENS' ADVICE SOCIETY

WON £5 EACH

Week ending 28th July, 1973:

THOMAS McNULTY,
27 Barranderry Hts., Derrycharra, Enniskillen
TERENCE McKENNA,
Macken, Enniskillen

Week ending 4th August, 1973:

OWEN McBRIEN,
Rosdarnan, Derryvester, Co. Fermanagh
MR. EUGENE OWENS,
Drumdoney, Derrylin, Co. Fermanagh

Week ending 11th August, 1973:

T. CRUDDEN,
Carrigans, Newtownbutler, Co. Fermanagh
MISS A. McGRATH,
90 Hillview Road, Enniskillen

Week ending 18th August, 1973:

MR. DANNY KEOWN,
Cornahilla, Roscor, Belleek, Co. Fermanagh
MRS. ANNE JANE MAGUIRE,
Skea, Arney, Bellnaleck P.O., Enniskillen

Week ending 25th August, 1973:

MR. KEVIN MCCARVILLE,
2 Cornagrove Terrace, Enniskillen
MR. THOMAS ROBINSON,
Coonlan, Fivemiletown, Co. Fermanagh

THE LITTLEJOHN CASE

by CAPTAIN JAMES J. KELLY

THE ramifications of current British spying activities in Ireland go back much earlier than the Littlejohn affair.

The first indications emerged at the Public Accounts Inquiry into the funds for the North where it was disclosed that a British agent, Captain Markham-Randall, had offered arms for the defence of the minority population in the Six Counties in late 1969.

Captain Markham-Randall pursued his offer by arriving in Dublin and staying in the Gresham Hotel. Subsequently he was advised to leave for his own safety. Later, in February, 1970 — the very month in which the then Minister for Defence, Mr. Gibbons, gave instructions to the then Army Chief-of-Staff "to prepare for incursions into Northern Ireland"—a file forwarded by the British Secret Service to Special Branch headquarters in Dublin was shown to Army Intelligence. The file and photographs referred, from information compiled by Captain Markham-Randall, to the two Irishmen with whom he had been negotiating about his offer of arms.

Both men, I should point out, were acting with the knowledge of Irish Intelligence. I, as the Intelligence Officer appointed by the Government to liaise with the Northern minority, reported at the time on Markham-Randall's mission to the relevant section of Army Intelligence, from where it was passed to the Special Branch.

One wonders, therefore, why Mr. Lynch now urges the present Irish Government to press the British Government on the Littlejohn affair, when he took no action in the case of Markham-Randall.

It was this covert collaboration with British Intelligence by the Government, contrary to the stance adopted by Mr. Lynch and his Ministers when meeting delegates from the Six Counties, which encouraged the British Tory Government to decide in July, 1970, to resort to military measures as a solution.

From there, the violence, formally and officially initiated by Britain, led to the over 800 deaths to date, including the deaths of those who were victims of bomb explosions in the Republic—the bombs in Dublin reciprocating Lynch co-operation and copper-fastening it by ensuring passage of the Amendment to the Offences Against the State Act.

In the circumstances, one need not wonder why

Wyman and Crinnion were so adroitly spirited out of the country, but the Irish tragedy is that as long as Britain secures such co-operation from the Government here, Britain will continue to seek a solution in restoring "law and order by military means", a euphemism for Kitson-type warfare, with its corollary of lives being expendable, be they British soldiers or Irish civilians.

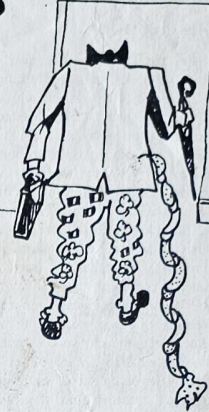
Kitson in 1970 (see "Low Intensity Operations"), estimated that it would be 1975 before "law and order by military means" could be established in the Six Counties.

Government co-operation here, epitomised by the Markham-Randall affair and its aftermath, created the situation where the Heath Government saw fit to give Kitson his head. The experiment in counter-insurgency has still two years to go, according to the Kitson timetable, with its success, indeed its very continuance, dependent on continued co-operation from Dublin.

The Littlejohn affair is merely the top of the iceberg which Mr. Lynch covertly launched in 1969. How Mr. Lynch acted in Government is what counts. Let him explain his actions then if he is sincere now.



I'M OFF NOW DEAR
I HOPE I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN
ANYTHING



Southern Diary

THERE seems to be an agreement between the 26-county media and the politicians to let the Littlejohn sleeping dog lie since Lynch made his "I forgot" admission and followed it with a hint he might resign. Littlejohn has also adopted a "sealed lips" policy. Nobody, but nobody, seems interested in investigating whether there are other Littlejohns operating their foul trade unhindered in the so-called "Free State". I wonder why.

BBC Dublin reporter John Simpson blew the gaff on Lynch and former Attorney General Colm Condon. He said he had proof Lynch, O'Malley and Condon knew of the Littlejohn connection with British Intelligence in January and the Coalition Government swiftly threw all established political convention aside by showing selected journalists "secret" papers that clinched the point.

Now many Dublin journalists are wondering aloud if a senior 26-county Government Minister showed the "secret" document to Simpson earlier so that he could "scoop" his colleagues and precipitate the Lynch admission. The Dublin reporters are wary of personalising their suspicions, but the name bandied about privately is that of Conor Cruise O'Brien, Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, aided by Garrett Fitzgerald, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

What puzzled journalists, back-bench politicians and political observers was why these two also rushed to place Lynch's head on the block and then proceed to decapitate him politically with maximum speed. The answer, to my mind, is absurdly simple.

When the Littlejohn affair broke wide open, Britain's Defence Minister, Lord Carrington, and his aide, Geoffrey Johnson Smith, were in the hot seat. They bungled the initial handling of the matter and the British Government were becoming increasingly embarrassed. The only solution was to take the heat off by switching 26-county public attention elsewhere.

Jack Lynch was the chosen "fall guy"—it had to be somebody big—and he co-operated 100 per cent. Conor and Garrett followed up smartly and, hey presto, the Brits are off the hook. One can only surmise about how many skeletons were likely to be let out of what cupboards if co-operation were refused.

Some day the whole truth may emerge, but one thing is already patently clear. Conor Cruise O'Brien and Garrett Fitzgerald have proved conclusively they put Britain's interests before those of their own country. Can anyone still doubt that there are British agents at work down here?

THE recent massive turn-out at the anti-internment protests in the six-counties and the attendance at the funeral of two freedom fighters has given Dublin

commercial interests a sinking feeling in their bank balances. They had been deceiving themselves that their puppets, the SDLP, were the only spokesmen for the minority in the Province. Hadn't Gerry Fitt told them so, but events tend to dispute that view.

Dublin businessmen have put a lot of money into the SDLP and they don't like wasting it. You can expect more anti-Provo outbursts from this crew and, perhaps, a "revelation" or two masterminded by the Brits. Mark my words.

THERE is speculation that Brian Lenihan, the late unlamented Fianna Fail Minister for Foreign Affairs, may be a compromise choice for leader of the Party when George Colley and Charlie Haughey deadlock the struggle. Brian is the ex-TD for Roscommon/Leitrim and the stories of his "no problem" promises to get votes are legion here. There are tales of how Brian promised a vacant sub-postmastership to five applicants to secure their family votes; others concern land deals and jobs. Just imagine what a horse trader of that calibre might do with Ireland given the opportunity!

BRITISH UNDERCOVER AGENTS

THE fact that the Littlejohns have been clearly established as British undercover agents working with their senior spy, John Wyman, confirms what Republicans said last December that the Dublin/Clones/Belturbet explosions which killed and maimed so many were the work of British agents.

LYNCH AND O'MALLEY KNEW

It has now been further confirmed that what we said in the springtime, namely that Lynch and O'Malley knew and were probably co-operating through the Irish Special Branch with British undercover agents, is true. This has now been established as a fact and explains why armed British SAS when arrested in the South were released. Cosgrave knew of these spies since March and he also has, naturally, collaborated with them. On his personal instructions British SAS men arrested in Clones were given a good meal and escorted royally to the Border instead of being taken to the Special Court on arms charges and for giving false names.

It is now clear that both the former and present governments collaborated with British spies in Ireland who have killed five people in the South and many in the North.