

CONCERNED

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF FERMANAGH CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE COMMITTEE

PAY
NO
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NO
RATES

"IRELAND UNFREE SHALL NEVER BE AT PEACE"

No. 148

Saturday, 27th July (De Sathairn, 27 Iúil), 1974

SUNNINGDALE AND AFTER

WHEN the so-called Northern Assembly—rather the Riddle of the Sphinx—came into being in January we were asked to accept it as the panacea of Ireland's troubles. Political manipulators of divers shades had met together to work out a "talking shop". There were calls and more calls for "talk", especially from the SDLP, and they did talk plenty; in fact it is the only promise they ever kept.

John Hume displayed his oratory almost non-stop in Stormont and on television. His speeches, in spite of the speed of delivery and the special grind he secured in first-class hotels from leading Dublin television figures, were never very auricularly pleasing and almost all were "Much ado about Nothing".

Gerry vied with John in volubility and his practised art of emphasis and intonation could almost hide his dissembling from even the most unwary were it not for the fact that he changed his policy so often and broke so many promises.

Volumetric Paddy talked and talked and promised repeatedly he would never sit in an Assembly if SDLP were not in the majority there. He was even shouting this on the very day that the constituted Assembly was about to be published. Gerry, when asked for his comment on Paddy's commitment, dissembled and prevaricated with "Paddy seldom tells lies".

Curry had gone further—he would never sit in an Assembly with Faulkner as head, but the threats and promises were all forgotten when the carrots of power dangled before them.

Hume now boasts that his party never broke any commitment to Britain, but the people who elected him and his colleagues know how he broke his commitments to them. What about the promises on internment, police reform, no watering down of the Council of Ireland—it must have teeth—all the package or none? One could go on and on. They met to talk and they quacked and quacked, but the public saw no eggs, although Austin Curry narrowly missed 25p for his.

Then as soon as Rees sacked the lot of them it became politically expedient, in their passion for party advertisement, to resurrect their policies, and they turned to the hunger-strikers, the internees, harassment of Catholics by British soldiers, etc., all of which they ignored while they were in power.

The only practical result to be seen from the SDLP since the last Assembly Elections was the strengthening of the Loyalists by handing them on a plate the two Westminster seats of Fermanagh-South Tyrone and Mid-Ulster—seats hard fought for and well won from Unionists at the previous elections by Frank McManus and Bernadette Devlin.

These same candidates could have done the same again, but the SDLP acted the dog in the manger. They knew they could not achieve the same success at the polls and so they split the vote and handed the seats over to the Loyalists. They had not long to wait for the punishment of consequences. Those same Loyalists headed by Fermanagh's most truculent Harry West soon got

to work and shifted the floating wreck of the Assembly, leaving the Fitts, Humes, etc., in political bewilderment.

The saddest event in the political history of Ireland is how poor Gerry described the fall of the Stormont talking shop, but, he went on, the SDLP would continue to talk with united voice for the minority. With so many defectors from his party it looks as if he is speaking for a very small minority indeed.

So much for the satellites, but what about Brian Faulkner? He is back from his holiday in Europe but is keeping quiet. Is he examining his conscience, after all it was he who broke Captain O'Neill; he shelved Chichester Clarke and was the final straw that broke the camel's back in the Assembly. He is a good draughtsman and he probably has his next moves lined out, if Roy and Harry don't out-manoeuvre him, but any or all of them are ready to sacrifice the props that held him in power and then talk will turn into gnashing of teeth for the very party who at one time was placed so well for bargaining if they had only kept their promises.

PROTEST AGAINST ARMY HARASSMENT

A VERY well attended public meeting was held at Donagh on Saturday, 20th July to protest against and highlight the extent of British Army annoyance and harassment of the people of this area, which is mainly Catholic and Republican.

The meeting was organised by the local Canon Maguire Sinn Féin Cumann and was addressed by Frank McManus, Tom Flatley and Mrs. McManus, the mother of two men now held in the Crumlin Jail.

Mrs. McManus told in detail the extent of harassment her family had endured by the so-called Security Forces. She told of the midnight and the early morning calls, the house searching, etc., culminating in the arrest of her two sons as they drove home from working night shift in the ESC factory in Lisnaskea. From all the evidence available it appears two Army road checks were set up for the McManus brothers and two other work-mates to go through. The plan was to plant ammunition in their car at the first road block—to be found by the soldiers at the next. However, this did not go as smooth as planned for one of the occupants of the car detected a soldier dropping something into the car and challenged him. The "Security Forces" invited one of the men to pick up what was dropped, but all refused, thereupon the military recovered what they were seen to drop—a handful of bullets. The four men were arrested and charged with the possession of ammunition. It is also alleged that false information regarding their whereabouts was given to their parents when they contacted the RUC barracks at Lisnaskea.

The people of the area were advised to stand firm against intimidation and harassment, and to carefully document all such incidents by the Security Forces for publication and forwarding to the proper sources.

An appeal was made for a massive turnout at the Anti-Internment Protest to be held in Enniskillen on 9th August, the third anniversary of internment.

AN ARCHBISHOP WITH A DIFFERENCE



HELDER Camara is Archbishop of Olinda and Recife in the North East of Brazil, that country's poorest and most oppressed region. Helder Camara has won a worldwide reputation for his open advocacy of justice and human demands. He has also won the enmity and the hostility of the conservative interests of both Church and State in Brazil. One enmity and hostility combine remains covert; the other, overt.

Camara's "crime" is an absolute reliance on Pope Paul's encyclical on Development — "Populorum Progression". He is called "The Red" Archbishop by the conservative interests who are not sold on Populorum Progression. He is called a Saint by the oppressed people. He has to date survived several threats to his life and attempts on his life. He is surrounded by a large group of clerical and non-clerical volunteers who share his Christian concern for man. Some of these have been ambushed and murdered by slaves to the status quo of self-interest.

The greatness of Archbishop Camara reveals itself in his truly Christian attitude to Father Camillo Torres, the brilliant young Columban priest who died fighting with the Communists, hopefully to liberate his people. "The Red" Archbishop said: "I don't agree with what he did, but I do understand why he did it." I can't help thinking that it would have been for the better had another Archbishop, the Archbishop of Birmingham, contented himself with borrowing the sentiment, tongue and words of Archbishop Camara and have said to Father Michael Connolly: "I don't agree with what he did, but I do understand why he did it." It should have been less difficult for Archbishop Dwyer to make such Christian comment.

After all, Father Connolly did no more than praise his young cousin, Michael Gaughan, for his bravery in giving his life for the liberation of his country. Indeed Father Connolly did no more than the senior medical officer at Parkhurst Prison did. He, too, paid tribute to the bravery of the young Gaughan.

Our picture shows Archbishop Camara being warmly greeted by a group of his intrepid Christian Volunteers. Their common slogan: "Let us liberate, in the fullest sense of the word, every human creature in our midst."

Southern Fascist Speaks Again

A seminar was held in Oxford last week end by the British-Irish Association. Theme of the seminar was the crisis in Northern Ireland. Taking part were British and Southern Irish politicians, quisling politicians from the North, as well as Ulster Workers Council representatives and Mr. Frank McManus, a political figure who has always taken a pro-Republican stand. Provisional Sinn Fein were also invited but the invitations were withdrawn within days of the seminar. It is believed that this was due to pressure by Mr. Cosgrave's Government. The quislings deny freedom of speech to Republicans, because they fear the Republicans will expose them. The net result was a get-together to discuss a war situation, with the most important involved party not present.

O'BRIEN MAKES THE HEADLINES BY DECEIT

Headlines were once again hit by the Fascist Southern Government Minister, Dr. Conor Cruise O'Brien. This time he achieved publicity by a gross insult to all those who attended the seminar. It was pre-arranged by the organisers and parties taking part that the full discussions were to be in secret. This was presumably due to the delicate nature of the discussions, in which the Ulster Workers Council for the first time engaged in political dialogue with other Irish groups, as well as British representatives. The arrangements for secrecy were thus understandable in the circumstances, given even the non-presence of Republicans. The agreement was crudely broken by O'Brien, however, in what was in fact a shameless and blatant breach of confidence. Before he even attended the conference, O'Brien had planned this dishonesty. He issued a script to the Southern Government Information Service. The script was long and ponderous and, judging by the fact that he only delivered a summary of it in Oxford, was devised for publicity purposes only. Participants in the seminar were shocked on Monday morning to read headlines in the newspapers referring to what O'Brien said in what was arranged as a private session of discussions.

AIM FOR UNITY AND IRISH CULTURE MUST GO

The tune of his proposed speech was predictably bitter and savagely anti-Republican. Taking his massive pro-British political campaign a stage further still, he again stated that culture was the basis of all the "trouble". His obsession with hatred of Irish culture he tried to relate to the prevailing situation in the following manner:

"While cultural considerations are inevitably somewhat long term in nature they are fairly basic to the roots of the problem in Northern Ireland. It is also fair to say that many of the differences in Ireland are concerned with symbols rather than substance, and it may be appropriate that any political settlement should be accompanied or preceded by a suitable rearrangement of cultural symbols".

He then gave an insight into how he intended to "suitably arrange the cultural symbols". (O'Brien is one of those people who believes that cultures can be destroyed and replaced by others, by means of censorship and naked force). As usual, the method was to be a combination of extirpation and brainwashing. The first and most important thing to be done was to do away with Ireland and the strengthening of the Irish language two particular national aims — the unification of guage. Referring to these aims as "defeatism, cynicism, lip-service and double-think", he said they "contributed unnecessarily to intercommunal tension by suggesting a constant threat to Unionism (with Britain)". Referring to the national aims as "ritual pronouncements", he said that "they bred an unhealthy atmosphere".

JOURNALISTS, TAKE NOTE

In an outburst against journalists, he said: "Many a journalist thinks his work well done if he has reaffirmed an aspiration, reshuffled its wording to make its impossible fulfillment look more plausible and denounced someone else for betraying".

BRITISH TELEVISION FOR ALL IRELAND

He listed as one of his means to "suitably arrange culture" his plans to spend thousands of pounds on blaring British TV all over Ireland.

"The complaint is heard in some quarters that the B.B.C. is not really a Northern Ireland service, but a British service. This is hardly the contradiction it is made to appear as people in Northern Ireland regard themselves as British. Nor do I think that if Northern Ireland were to assert its independence from Britain, that the broadcasting would become more acceptable. Rather, the contrary would be the case. Quite an adequate service could be achieved merely by redistribution, throughout the Republic, the television signals which were already spilling over the border".

JUSTICE?

The circumstances of arrest, detention, prosecution and conviction at most of these trials represent the gravest miscarriages of justice in the history of this country. The very existence of the Special Juryless Courts that need no evidence except the trusted word of a police officer is the most blatant submission to British pressure the country has known for 50 years. The seeming extravagance of the charges can be readily substantiated by the facts of each case.

INTERMENT TO REMAIN

As we go to press the British Generals have succeeded in dictating policy to the British Government once again. Despite determined opposition from varied quarters the Emergency Provisions Act was renewed, this Act which provides for detention without trial means that internment without trial is to remain with us.

Meanwhile the Northern Secretary of State, Mr. Merlyn Rees has announced new (once again) phased programme to end Internment but this time with an added bonus of rehabilitation by means of financial compensation. It is worth remembering two points here. Firstly, Mr. Edward Heath gave a "phasing out" promise when suspending the Old Stormont Parliament in 1972. Secondly, it is of little use promising to phase out internment with one hand while continuing to sign internment orders with the other

The Assistant Secretary of State, Mr. Stanley Orme who announced the details on the Rehabilitation Scheme said it was a pilot one and would get an initial grant of £20,000. The Resettlement Association, Northern Ireland would be representative of both communities and would be completely independent of government.

Mr. Rees followed these major announcements, by British standards, and released seven out of the six hundred internees, insulting all, especially the S.D.L.P. From this on school boys and school girls can be "lifted" and interned under the new legislation. British Labour or British Tory—What's the difference?

DEMOCRACY COONEY STYLE

ELIS de Barra is eighteen years old. She hails from Blarney Street, Cork. She was fined £15 for selling copies of An Phoblacht, a newspaper, the official organ of Sinn Fein, the only political party which is legal in both parts of partitioned Ireland.

Elis de Barra elected to go to jail rather than pay a fine since a fine is always associated with crime. Understandably Elis did not wish to have her name associated with crime. "Freestate democracy" could not see her point of view, so IT sent her to jail for one month. Elis, quite rightly, saw jail as also being associated with crime, so she went on hunger strike in her effort to get her views across to the "Freestate democrats". As far as I know she is still in jail and still on hunger strike. It is difficult to accept that her manifest innocence of any crime is as clear to Republican-baiter Cooney as it is to Elis, to you and to me.

Elis reasons like this. In her eighteen years of life she has no memory of anyone being fined £15 for selling copies of the official organ of Fine Gael or of Fianna Fail. She also is very conscious that neither of these political parties is legal in ALL Ireland. So she wonders why a self-styled Minister of Justice should want to associate her and her name with crime. So by accepting persecution for justice sake, she neatly turns the tables on her persecutor and now the crimes becomes crime indeed, but is associated not with Elis's good name but with Cooney's bad name.

A thing ceases to be amusing when it becomes dastardly tragic. The Twenty Six County outfit never tires of purporting to be democratic. We of the Irish Republican tradition who have so often sampled Twenty Six County democracy with very good reason don't buy it. If we were heretofore without very good reason for not buying it we are now presented with scepticism dispelling evidence in the case of Twenty Six County democracy versus Elis de Barra.

It is to be deplored that so many humane, sensitive, honest and honourable people in the Twenty Six County partitioned area of our country can seemingly tolerate so much hostile incursion upon general liberties. One would like to see such people take an assertive stand against such incursion. One would like to see newspapers, for example, display An Phoblacht side by side with the Fianna Fail papers and the Fine Gael papers and the British papers.

Such a gesture would indicate to Mr. Cooney that their definition of democracy was different from his. It would also make known to him that they had heard, read and seen more than enough of police states. It would also be instrumental in making Elis de Barra the last victim of this British puppet Cooney's vicious and arrogant injustice.

Please send this copy of CONCERNED to: Elis de Barra, Irish felon, Limerick Jail. Should she be in hospital through hunger-striking a blow at injustice, CONCERNED will tell her that you are concerned. It will also show Cooney's minions that you are concerned.

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Court Ruling—Irish Territorial Waters:

In a Belfast court recently during a hearing on Fishing Rights in territorial waters, Judge Maxwell ruled that the seas around the whole of the island of Ireland fall within the jurisdiction of the Dublin Government. While such a decision caused embarrassment all round one nevertheless regrets that the subservient government in Dublin took such an insipid interest in the verdict. Doubtless their main problems now is how quickest to abdicate whatever right they have in this matter to their London manipulators, and then reaching for their Pilate's bowl to wash their hands of one more basic Irish interest.

Someone somewhere must be indulging in a hearty horse laugh that the British were able to anchor their prison hulks, containing Irish patriot prisoners in Strangford, Larne and Belfast Loughs at various times during the past fifty years, without any protest from the various Dublin Governments at this—practical use of Irish territorial waters. But the Irishmen interned without trial on such hell-hole floating prisons as the Al Rawdah and the Maidstone are not laughing. One wonders what claim they could make in the International Courts against those Dublin governments that acquiesced in their imprisonment and degradation within Irish maritime jurisdiction.

BRITISH FORCES CONTEMPT FOR SUCH A RULING

Two recent incidents illustrate the contempt of British forces for the recent court decision in the North that all Irish waters, under the 1920 Government of Ireland Act, are subject to the control and jurisdiction of the Dublin Government. There is a continuation infringement of Dublin sovereignty in Carlingford Lough by British troops and last week publicity was given to the complaints of Mr. William Sweetman, Dundrum, Co. Dublin, concerning the violent boarding of his boat at the entrance to Greengore Harbour, Co. Louth, by British armed troops.

One British soldier was reported by Mr. Sweetman as saying he intended boarding and that, unless the owner consented to a search, he would be removed and arrested. With guns pointed at the crew and Mr. Sweetman, a 'casual' search took place. During the search six more British soldiers boarded. The boat owner was told at the conclusion of the search that if he ever came to Greengore again he would be searched in like manner. Mr. Sweetman said he had contacted the Dublin Department of Foreign Affairs. Although his letter was acknowledged, the Department had taken no further action, he asserted.

A much more vicious incident took place in Irish territorial waters off Co. Donegal involving the British naval forces. Late last week Donegal fishermen claimed that British mine-sweeper had "run amok" among the Greencastle fleet (a 26-Co. fishing fleet), causing thousands of pounds worth of damage to nets.

As salmon fishermen surveyed wrecked nets after the early morning incident, a local politician gave the details to the Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin. He demanded that the Dublin Government lodge immediately a strong protest with the British Government and seek compensation for damage caused.

CALL TO RUSSIA FOR HELP ?

The Greencastle Fishermen's Association—representing about 200 fishermen operating 50 boats have decided to send a deputation to the new Russian Embassy in Dublin asking for a Russian war-ship to provide protection for the fleet because of the Dublin Government's failure

to do so. A spokesman for the Association said they were deeply perturbed by the lackadaisical attitude of the Government to fishery protection. "We have decided to send a deputation to the Russian Embassy. The Russians have always

Southern Diary

STUDY carefully the following:

"We are assembled here today to pay tribute to all the men and women who died for Irish freedom in every generation. Almost 200 years ago Wolfe Tone laid the foundation of Irish freedom when he gave the headline to break the connection with England—the never failing source of all our political evils—to unite the whole people of Ireland; to abolish the memories of all past dissensions; to substitute the common name of Irishmen in place of the denominations of Protestant, Catholic and Dissenter.

"In each generation, Irishmen have asserted their right to freedom and sovereignty. He also set out to show that their Irish Parliament was an ineffective body.

"Pearse and his comrades followed Tone's doctrine. They have laid for us the Charter of Liberty which they sealed with their blood. As a result of their sacrifice, the Irish people elected a Republican Government to legislate for the 32 counties.

"The IRA fought a guerrilla war to drive the occupation forces from Irish soil. As a result of their heroic fight, the English Government of that time realised that they could not defeat the IRA. They called a truce and offered certain concessions to Ireland which, unfortunately, were accepted—and those people who accepted them claimed they could use them as a stepping stone to a free, independent Republic. The Treaty was opposed by the far-seeing men and women in the Republican Movement.

"The position since that time is that Republicans, North and South, have been jailed by the various Governments. The people of the occupied area have been treated as second class citizens and England, and the privileged people in the occupied area, have played the sectarian card.

"The members of the Republican Movement look forward with pleasure to the evacuation of the British from Ireland and Republicans know what philosophy of freedom Irishmen and Irishwomen have died to attain—it is not the exploitation of the majority by the privileged minority.

"The men of the thirties, forties and fifties knew what they meant by freedom. The men who are fighting and dying for the freedom of the country today will accept nothing less than the complete freedom of the country.

"The politicians, North and South, who are prepared to accept every crumb from the British table are only prolonging the day. It is the duty of every Irishman and woman to state clearly that the British army must get out of our country and that a minority within a certain area have no right to have our country occupied.

"If the people of Cork and Kerry decide to give their allegiance to Russia, or if the people of Roscommon, Longford and Cavan decide to give their allegiance to Germany—have they the right to do so?"

That, ladies and gentlemen, is the text of a speech that was to be given by Mr. John Joe

McGill, of Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim, at Milltown Cemetery, Belfast, on the 14th April this year. Mr. McGill was arrested on his way to the cemetery and is at present in Long Kesh. And this despite the fact that Sinn Féin (Kevin Street) has been officially recognised in the six-counties ten days before—on 4th April.

John Joe McGill was elected to Leitrim County Council on 19th June this year and is now an elected representative of the people of that county. He has a mandate, the thing politicians North and South lay so much score by—but not one of them has raised a peep to have him released to carry out his civic duties.

The speech John Joe McGill was to give is not seditious. It merely states historical facts and re-states Republican policy. It is the sort of speech you have heard many times and will, please God, hear again, because the aims and ideals of the Republican Movement cannot be stated too often. Yet it was a passport to Long Kesh for John Joe McGill.

Let us give a united roar, North and South, for his release. The British lackeys of the SDLP and the Dail, despite their lip-service to democracy and the sacredness of a mandate from the public, will do nothing. It is up to us—pass resolutions, send telegrams, make sure Wilson and Rees know our wish. We are doing it down here—please add your voice.

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PATRICK JOSEPH KELLY

AS we go to press there is still no trace of Councillor Patrick Joseph Kelly, who left the Corner Pub, which he managed, late on Tuesday night last.

Mr. Kelly, who is on Omagh District Council and a member of the Community Party, has not been located since he left the pub in Main Street, Trillick, to drive to his home at Golan, two miles away. He was aged 33 years and was married with four young children.

Mr. Kelly is employed by the drainage division of the Department of Agriculture.

Fears for his safety were increased when it was reported that a trail of blood and some shirt buttons were found near Mr. Kelly's home on the Baldoney Road a few miles outside the town.

When he failed to return home his wife, Teresa, alerted the police at Enniskillen, who have now called in the assistance of the British Army to help in the search.

Any information about Mr. Kelly should be forwarded to the police at Enniskillen 3201.

● We have just heard that a Mazda car similar to that driven by Mr. Kelly has been found near Lisbellaw.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

INTIMIDATION CAMPAIGN STEPPED UP

A Chara,

In recent weeks the authorities in Long Kesh have stepped up their campaign of intimidation and harassment against the prisoners under their care. As usual we get little but glib comments from the Governors and their representatives, and as usual no reason or explanation for their Nazi-like behaviour, but the object of the exercise seems to be directed towards depriving the prisoners of whatever few miserable "privileges" (comforts) are left.

For example, despite repeated promises the "A" Block visiting cubicles have not been altered to anything like an acceptable standard, most of the cubicles are designed to prevent physical contact between a prisoner and his wife and children. The feeling among the men here is that the object of this shoddy exercise is to further punish the men and their families.

Handicraft material and tools have been seriously curtailed and there is a total ban on wood now for some time. This means that anyone who relied on woodwork to help pass away their day now has to sit and twirl his thumbs. Long Kesh is bad enough at any time, but without some way of passing the time to break the monotony it becomes unbearable. Leatherwork is at a minimum because of the action of the Long Kesh authorities who allow either an inadequate amount of tools and material or a total ban on some things at the discretion of the censor.

Parcels and letters are another source of grievance; sometimes they are damaged or 'mislaid' and on numerous occasions incoming and outgoing letters have been 'lost' altogether.

Enquiries are met with a blank stare or a blank denial. It all helps to ensure that our already hostile environment depreciates and brings the men to breaking-point.

The routine-strip searches and damage to personal property or "confiscation" of items during these searches is another effective method of putting pressure on the men. Is it any wonder that a system that adopts such brutalising tactics to dehumanise men produces so many determined people sworn to destroy the evil influences which have brought barbarism into our midst?

But the greatest single cause of immediate concern is the treatment (or lack of it) to a number of men held in Cage 17. We emphasise that the prison doctor and his medical staff are very capable men and have served their patients in the best traditions of their profession; however, medical facilities in Long Kesh do not provide amenities for seriously ill patients or patients who require immediate surgery. Only an outside and properly equipped, properly staffed hospital can do so, but for a prisoner to receive treatment at an outside hospital requires the approval of the Prison Governor and the Security Forces, neither of whom are qualified to give a medical opinion; yet a man might die because of their veto, based on their own prejudiced opinions.

Here are just a few examples in Cage 17. Eddie Brophy has a serious heart complaint. On a number of occasions a heart attack led to his heart stopping altogether, but he was revived by his comrades. His condition is so serious that the surgeon cannot operate. Only lengthy convalescence in a healthy environment (which hardly describes Long Kesh) would be of any assistance now, unless this is done very shortly it may be too late. Sean Magill has been suffering from perforated ear-drums for a number of years. Since he was arrested two years ago he has been attempting to get to an outside hospital for surgery, but without success. Unless he gets immediate treatment he

will probably become totally deaf. Needless to say the authorities are not impressed and seem to be determined that Sean will suffer on. His brother Tom is completely blind in one eye, yet the "optician" declared after examination that Tom could see perfectly with "both" eyes. That speaks for itself.

These are only a few cases in one Cage. There are twenty other Cages, all with their own stories. It would appear that the Long Kesh authorities have been instructed that every person sent here, not only as a punishment, but for further punishment and that their families must also be punished, if only for their association with the considered guilty party. Typical British justice.

Is mise le meas,

M. McManus,
P.R.O., Cage 17.

CONCENTRATION CAMP

A Chara,

We request the use of your columns to inform the Nationalist people of Fermanagh on the situation existing here at Magilligan concentration camp, Co. Derry.

By various press releases the Ministry of Home Affairs have painted a false picture of the conditions here. They say that millions of pounds have been spent in creating the best facilities. This is lies.

A few sentences will illustrate our point:

1. The camp contains no medical equipment such as a cardiac unit or X-ray machine.
2. An optician has not yet been appointed.
3. There is no full-time dentist. A dentist from outside pays us flying visits.
4. The Ministry referred to "health studios". These do not exist.
5. Food is as bad as that dished up in Long Kesh. Enough said.
6. The toilets are permanently blocked.
7. The huts, although new, still have leaks because the barest amount of material was used. Outside these huts would not be passed as suitable for cattle.
8. The millions of pounds supposedly spent were unable to cover the cost of a set of goal-posts for the football pitch.

These are but a few of our many grievances. It would take many pages to detail the many more petty rules and red tape bureaucracy indulged in by the camp authorities. The Brits do their bit by blowing up food parcels as suspected bombs! The prison screws when on cage patrol after lock-up pass the time by stoning the huts to keep us awake. It is befitting of their mentality.

All of these things are the continued attempt to downgrade our political status fought for by Billy McKee and his comrades in Crumlin Rd. Prison and gained by them on the point of death. Republican prisoners of war will not be dictated to by Irish lackeys and English bounty hunters. Men like our late comrade, Michael Gaughan, have shown to what lengths Republican prisoners will go to fight for their rights.

We warn the authorities here in Magilligan that if we are pushed any further we shall go to the same lengths.

We send our greetings to the people of Fermanagh and we are confident they shall not be found lacking when it comes to raising their voices in protest against the injustices in this the latest of Britain's concentration camps in the Six Occupied Counties.

Mise le meas,

PRO, Sentenced Republican Prisoners
Magilligan Concentration Camp,
Co. Derry.

30,000 THUGS NOT ENOUGH TO DEFEAT THE IRA

Mr. Taylor left no doubt as to what he intends the new Home Guard to be: "We are now approaching a time when we will have to demonstrate our military strength". He praised the British Army, Royal Ulster Constabulary, Ulster Defence Regiment and Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve, but said: "They are not and they cannot be everywhere". The fact that the cry for a Home Guard was made by several reactionary politicians in the North on the same day, demonstrates that the Home Guard is already being systematically planned and prepared.

Mr. Taylor himself referred to "things which will reveal themselves as time proceeds".

At Broughshane, Co. Antrim, Mr. William Craig, the Vanguard leader, said the people would 'very soon' have to take on responsibility for their own security. The way to prepare was to join the present security forces, the Ulster Defence Regiment and Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve "in preparation for that day".

"I appeal to loyalists to offer themselves to the RUC reserve and the U.D.R.", adding that it was time to 'cut the cackle' and ensure that the North would never again be subjected to "I.R.A. terrorism".

He said that "we will stamp-out the I.R.A. terrorism. With proper preparations we will crush it and remove it from the community forever".

In Portlengone, Co. Antrim, the Rev. Ian Paisley, arch-sectarian bigot, said: "It's our right to arm ourselves... we are not going to surrender this right".

In an attack on the forward-looking elements in the loyalist paramilitary groups, the Orange Grand Master of Ireland, the Rev. Martin Smyth, said that international communism was one of the greatest perils facing Northern Ireland. He said: "Many of us are ready to acknowledge its presence in Republican associations. Too few of us recognise its power in Loyalist circles."

This is seen as an attempt by the ultra-reactionary politicians in the North to thwart the influence of more progressive sections of the Protestant community, and to win back support for their own "divide and conquer" sectarianism and bigotry.

Mr. Smyth said that internment must not be ended until "a more satisfactory method for dealing with evil is found".

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Treasurer of the Internees' Dependents Fund wishes to acknowledge the sum of £5.50 raised by the Kinawley GFC and others at the Kinawley v Belnaleck match in Maguirebridge.

NO IRA ARMS ON CARGO SHIP

DURING a search of the cargo vessel Kilcrea in Dungarvan, Co. Waterford, on Monday, 15th July the Free State forces failed to find any "incriminating evidence" or illegal arms.

The Kilcrea, registered in Cork, had been tailed by one of Cosgrave's six corvettes, "The Deirdre", since entering Irish waters on the previous Saturday, returning from a trip to France.

The Free State forces boarded her at daybreak on Monday in Dungarvan and proceeded to search the vessel and question the crew. The operation was a result of a tip-off, reportedly from the British police, that the vessel contained arms destined for the Provisional IRA and it also involved the sealing-off of Dungarvan harbour, while awaiting the refloating of the Kilcrea after she went aground off Dungarvan.