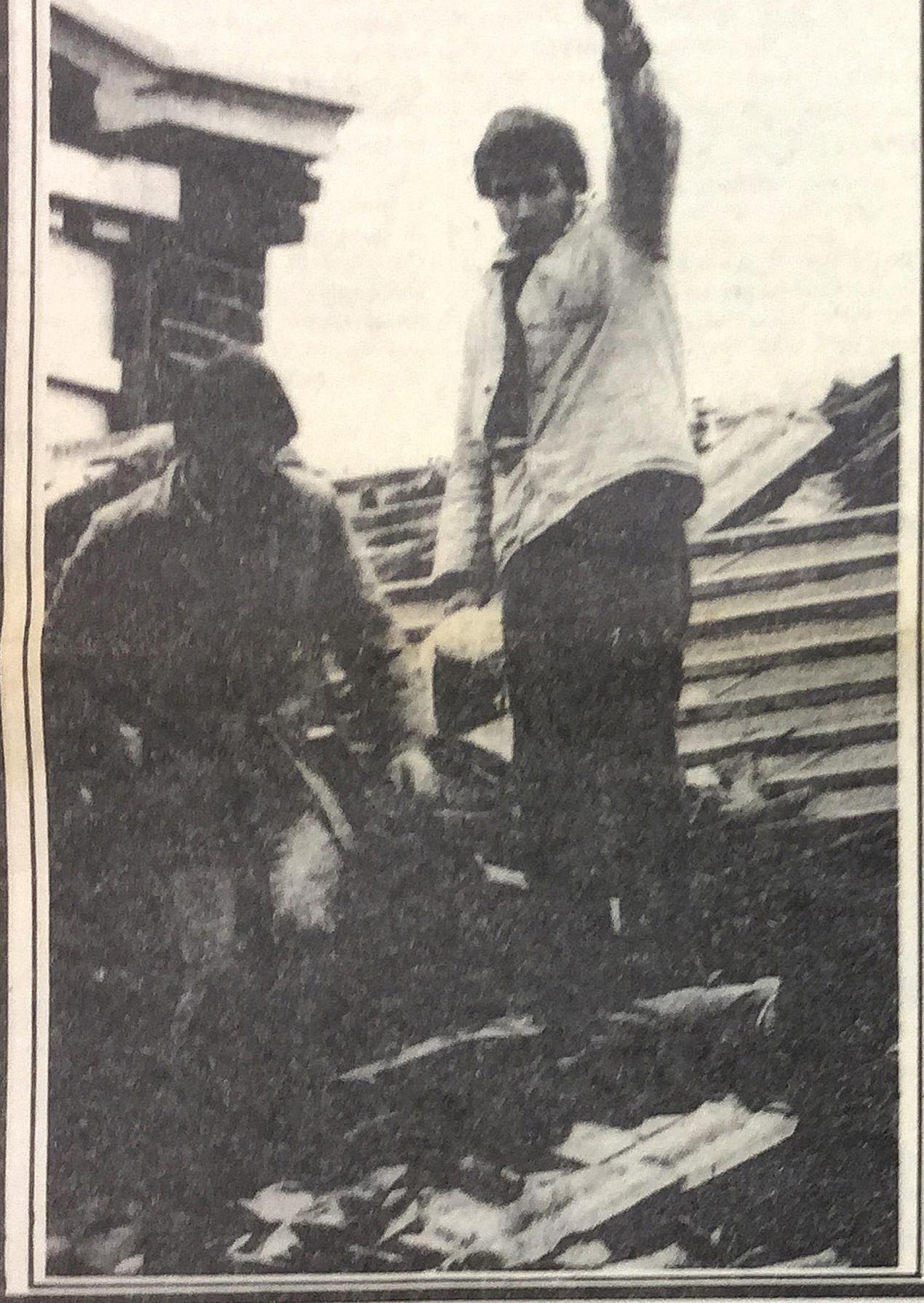


VOL. 1. NO. 10

EANAIR (December) 1976

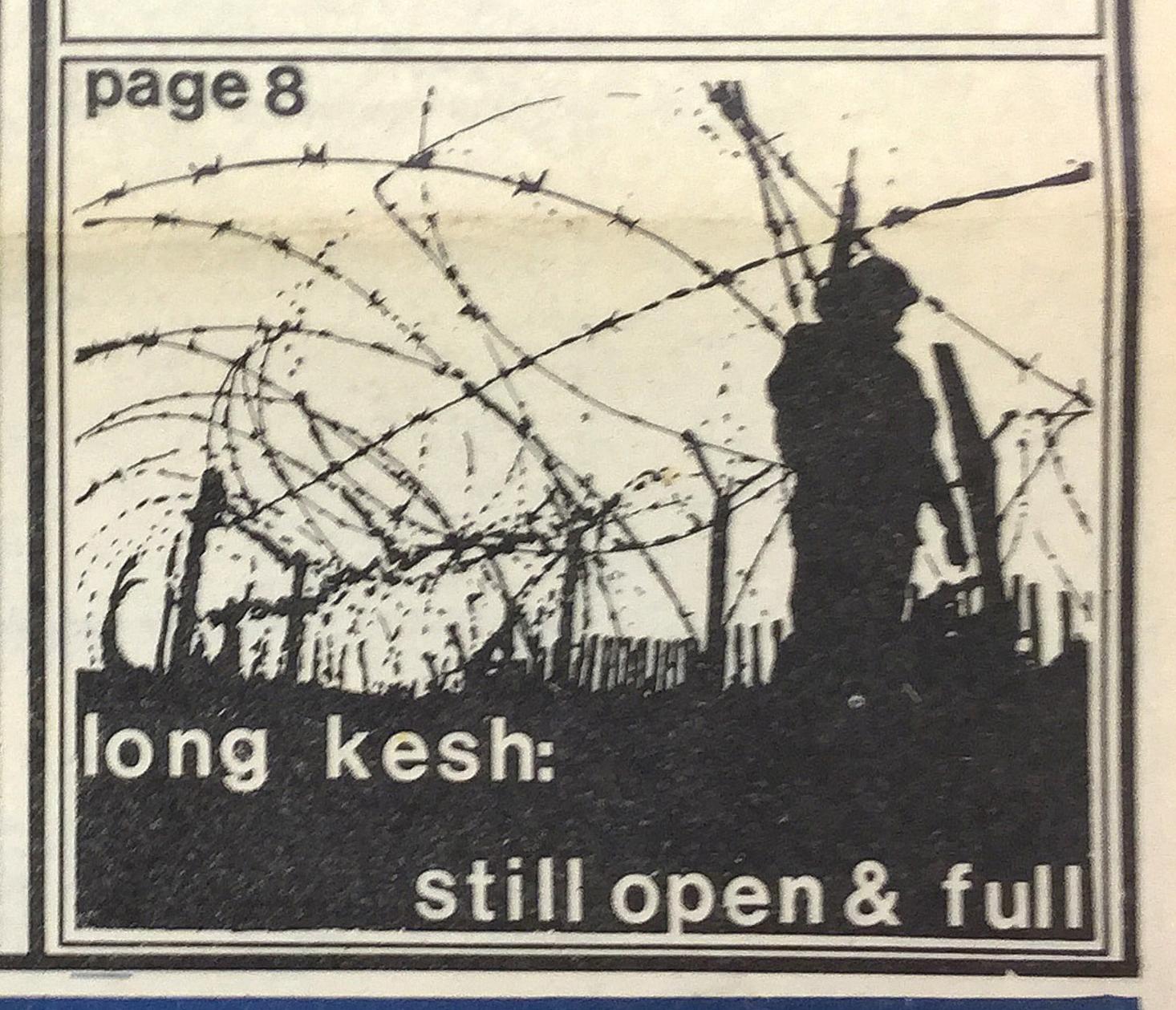
page4 IRISH POLITICAL NATURAL PRISONERS in BRITAIN







full employment possible



The decision of the British government to mobilise the UDR in South Armagh, supposedly in response to the Silverbridge bombing, is one of the clearest examples of the hand in glove co-operation of Britain and the Loyalists in the present campaign of sectarian murders. On past evidence it is not only possible but highly likely that the UDR were implicated in the pub bombing at Silverbridge in which three people were killed. It is worth noting that the 14 year old boy killed in the attack was hit by bullets from the UDR standard weapon, a sterling sub machine gun.

sectarian killings to escalate

essential. It is also essential that the minority in the six counties organise vigilance groups and defence committees to protect their areas.

Even the British Army have been embarransed by the UDR/Loyalist para-military connection and initiated some minor purges following incidents such as a UDR man appearing in the colour party at the funeral of the UVF man who blew hinnelf up during the Miami Showband manacre. Such limited purges still leave the UDR a sectarian force especially when it is openly admitted that a large percentage of the B-Specials (when disbanded) joined the UDR.

Previously UDR men were implicated in the murder of two GAA supporters near Newtonhamilton. When taken in conjunction with the pub bombings in London, Dundalk and the Dublin Airport bombs, it is obvious that the Loyalists are launching a new campaign to coincide with the debate on the Criminal Law Jurisdiction Bill in the Dail. It comes as no surprise therefore that the bombings have not prompted any protest from the Free State government or the media even about the legality of the UDA in the North.

Instead Cosgrave tried to blame republicans for the attack possibly to hide his embarrassment at having met the UDA leader Andy Tyrie a few months previously. While imprisoning republicans Congrave has no hesitation in meeting a man whose organisation has carried out hundreds of sectarian murders.

The only way the South Armagh UDR could contribute to the ending of sectarian murders would be to disarm and disband themselves. We believe that the intensified loyalist and British attacks makes the unity of all republican groups

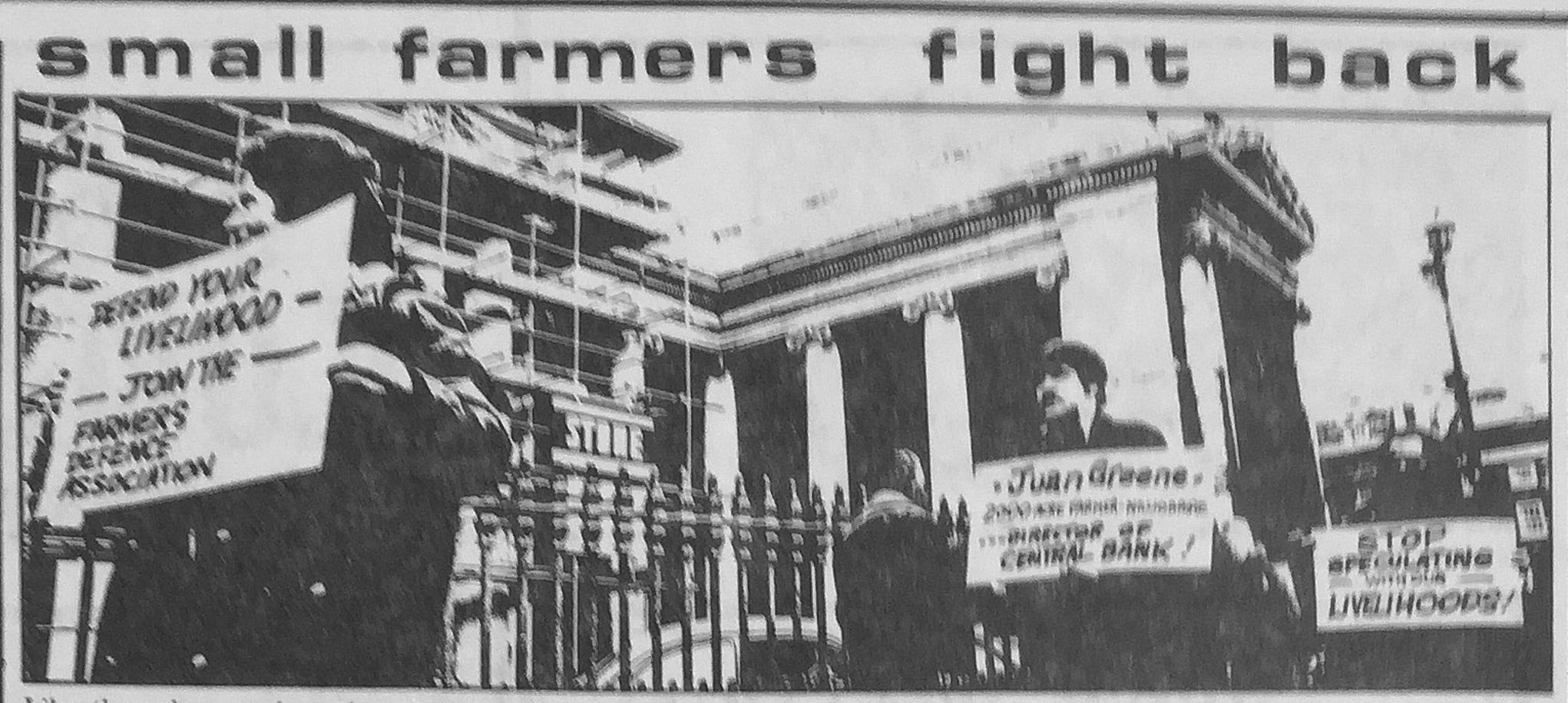
South Armagh now has over 500 sectarian killers prowling its roads in the uniform of the UDR. Once again we call for the UDR's disarment and dishandment.

HANDCUFFED IN WET CELLS

December heard repeated calls for an inquiry into the running of Portlaoise Jail. The following is a message smuggled out of Portlaoise Jail by I.R.S.P. supporters giving the reason for the trouble at the prison.

"... attempts made to introduce plastic crockery and a dispute arose. As a result Screws tried to handcuff us and force us into straightjackets. Many political prisoners protested militantly and as a last resort burnt their mattresses. The cells were then hosed down and all furniture removed . . . we had to sleep on wet floors and bad flooding at ground floor cells . . . governor imposed 22 days loss of remission and an end to visits untila certain date

While it might seem petty to many that a dispute rose to such proportions over the question of crockery, if it is understood that such moves on behalf of the prison authorities are part of a campaign to harass political prisoners, the reactions of prisoners are understandable. Further repression has been initiated against the prisoners who have had their crafts centre closed down. This means that the prisoners will not be able to send the presents they were making (dolls houses etc.) to their children for Christmas - the only contact they would have had with their children over the Christmas. As we go to press it is not clear if the political prisoners are still handcuffed in their cells although it is certain that Vincent Fagan and other political prisoners were for some considerable time. However, we stand behind the prisoners in their fight for proper political status and in their struggle against petty harassment and repression as practised by the prison authorities.



Like the urban worker, the small farmer also suffers his share under capitalism. His needs are cast aside to accomodate the large ranchers, and the speculators. With inflation the value of money is always diminishing and the speculators invest their money into something that will not only keep their investments steady but in fact increase them - land, In urban areas this has taken the form of office block buildings and the acquisition of land which is left un-utilised, despite the chronic housing problems in urban areas (Dublin has over 10,000 homeless families). The reason for this is simple. Office blocks ensure cash returns far higher than those of housing and where land is left idle, with the ever increasing price of land, cash returns on the initial investments are also ensured.

that area alone and have taken place all over the 26 counties.

Capitalism cannot promise the worker or small farmer the right to work, nor can it promise them any of the necessities of life, he they housing, medicine or even education. Industry is geared towards profit as are all products of capitalism instead of being geared towards producing the necessities of life for the Irish people. That is why as long as capitalism remains, small farmers will continue, through necessitiy, to protest over their lack of decent living standards, Only socialism promises that the means of production, distribution and exchange will be in the hand of the working class and as such ensure the production of the real necessities of life for all of the Irish people and a higher standard of living than they have ever enjoyed before.

This is not the first time that there have been calls for inquiries into prisons. Nor will it be the last time they will be ignored by the government. The prison authorities are being given a free hand to repress political prisoners in an attempt to break their will and to force them to abandon their political convictions.

The small farmer is also suffering his share because of similar land speculation. While 20% of the rural population are small farmers, four fifths of them have been classified by EEC standards outside of the field of development grants. Over the past three years their incomes have been hit badly. Therefore in the short term, their immediate

problems are lack of land.

Recently a group of small farmers from the Killoscully and Toomevara area of Co. Tipperary picketed the Government Land Commission offices in Thurles to draw attention to the Commissions failure to distribute vacant, unused land to small farmers. Such protests are not confined to

The strike in Callins in Shannon drags on with the management refusing to pay 8% wage increases due under the National Wage Agreement. At the same time the management have ensured that their profits will

SHANNON GARDAI AID CALLINS SCABS

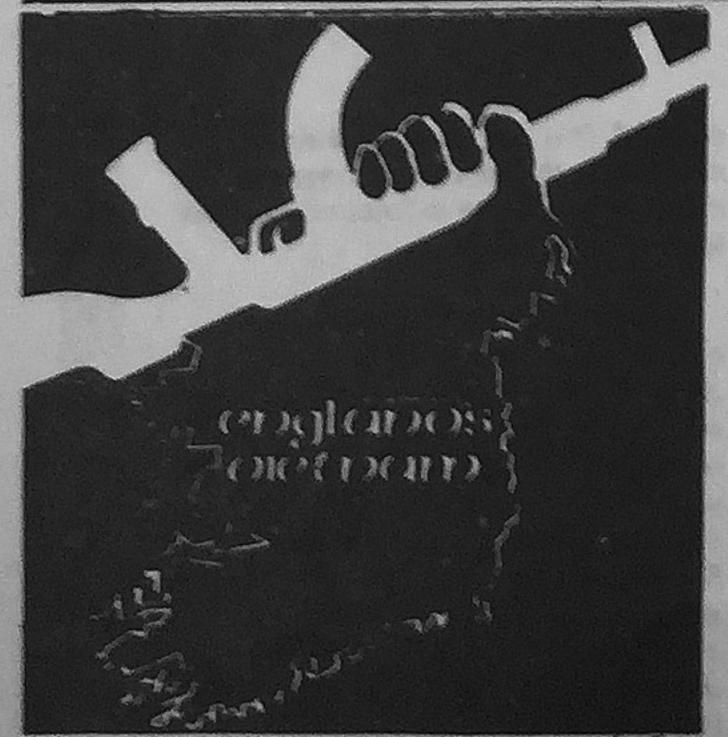
that the scabs can freely pass the pickets and keep the plant going.

turned on before the scabs arrived and then sat down to tea with them! No guessing who the forces of 'Law & Order' are backing. Meanwhile Shannon airport workers intend to come out in sympathy with the Callins workers and the management continue to ignore their just claims.

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continue to soar by investing a quarter of a million pounds in new machinery. Gardai have, for some time now being keeping a 24 hour guard on Callins following some broken windows and also to ensure

On Friday November 28th last Garda John O'Hara from sixmilebridge even went as far as to ensure the fire in the plant was

There are over 9,000 workers unemployed in the Mid West Munster area.

profits continued to rise and millions of workers were made redundant. In Ireland, as inflation raged at 24%, 110,000 workers faced the bleak dole queues. Throughout the economic crisis workers bore the brunt despite the fact that they did not create the crisis. Meanwhile the profits of the Irish Capitalist Class continued to rise.

1975 was the year Cosgrave and the government got a £300 rise and continued to give away our natural resources to the multinational Corporations. These natural resources if nationalised and correctly administrated would not only give full employment but higher wages and a better standard of living to all the Irish people.

NO 10 PAYCUTS

AS WE GO INTO 1976 LET US NOT BE AS BLIND AS WE WERE IN 1975. THAT WAS THE YEAR WE AGREED TO SIGN THE SECOND NATIONAL WAGE AGREEMENT WHEN WE WERE STILL REELING FROM THE FIRST. BUT THE SECOND ONE WAS WORSE, AS IT GAVE THE EMPLOYERS AN ESCAPE CLAUSE SO THAT THEY COULD BACK OUT OF GRANTING PAY INCREASES. MEAGRE AS THEY WERE. IN THOUSANDS OF CASES THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT THEY DID.

THE National Wage Agreement also helped to cement the impression that N.W.A.s were here to stay. In the latter end of 1975 we heard talk of compulsory wage agreements something which would not have been suggested seriously a few years ago. And then only last month we saw the government rush legislation through the Dail to stop bank employees from getting increases due to them, despite the banks having record profits.

1975 was the year when world

NEW RECORD OUT

"England's Vietnam" £2.25 + postage

NOW as we go into 1976 comes the crunch - a pay pause. Let us remember the misery of 1975 and. united, answer a firm 'NO' to any pay pause and let us escalate our struggle for a higher standard of living. Let us escalate the struggle for National Liberation and Socialism which promises the only ultimate secure future.

IRSP COMRADE DIES

AWARDS

FOR TERRORISTS

If you have an eagle eye, and most people don't, you will always find news items in the capitalist press which may horrify you and perplex you as to why they have not blown up into major scandals. If you're any way political you will understand that these kinds of stories are kept deliberately quiet.

Take the following for example. Captain David Ash is a member of the S.A.S. (Special Airborne Service) who you may remember even Jack Lynch admitted were responsible for the Dublin bombings when 26 people were killed. He received the Military Cross "for his work in Northern Ireland". He was an interrogator at Hollywood torture centre. Ash was recently detached to the School of Infantry at Warmister (where the C.O. is the infamous General Frank Kitson). He was also recently charged with abducting a fellow British soldier and torturing him and even the judge admitted that Ash was mentally ill since childhood. Other awards have also been made to the R.U.C. man who was in charge in Holywood (he received the M.B.E.). Another great soldier, Lt. Col. Derek Clifford Burrage was also awarded the Military Cross for 'bravery' during an incident which resulted in the death of Michael Mc Larnon in Ardoyne in 1971. The same Eritish Lt. Col. later wrote a letter to the parents of the dead man admitting he had murdered their son. Or take another small print news item, an R.U.C. man has been suspended for taking part in an armed holdup at the Pheasant Inn at Martinstown near Ballymena. With people like these in the Security Forces defending the people of the 6 Cos. who needs enemies. These items simply confirm what the nationalist population in the 6 counties know and what many people in the South also know (despite the lies of Cosgrave's cronies) - British imperialism and its hired thugs in the British Army, R.U.C. and U.D.R. are the real terrorists.

On Sunday night on the 15th of December a car drove up to a house in Ballyroan Park, Portadown. Two men jumped from the car. One fired shots at the house while the other threw a bomb through a window. Within minutes the house was devastated as the attackers sped away unhindered. The next day Ronald Trainor, who was only seventeen years of age died as a result of the injuries he received from that explosion. And so died an I.R.S.P. comrade, murdered by the agents of British imperialism.

Unfortunately, this is not the first death in the Trainor family. Early this year Mr. and Mrs. Trainor were walking home from a local British legion Hall and as a result of a similar attack, Mr. Trainor was injured and Mrs. Trainor was murdered.

AUBRIDBIRBID:

Sectarian murders are nothing new to the area where Ronald Trainor lived, in fact they were quite common. No one is certain whether the S.A.S., U.D.R. or some loyalist paramilitary group is responsible for these attacks. But what is clear is that they seem to be able to operate without fear of being caught by the 'security forces'. When one considers that sectarianism is Britain's invention and has been used to divide Irishmen, and further more, that there is concrete proof of collusion down the last few years between the British Army and loyalist sectarian killers, it is not surprising that the killers can strike at will. This collusion comes in three forms; road blocks (when in operation) let through sectarian killers, S.A.S. squads go out in plain clothes and commit 'sectarian killings' or else send out Loyalist assassination squads from their infiltrated positions of power within those organisations. The reasons for this are that sectarian killings help give the false impression that the British Army is not involved and helps excuse their presence 'to keep the two communities apart'. Secondly it ensures a steady stream of repression against the nationalist population to weaken their morale so that they will grasp at Britain's solution in their hopes for peace. During the summer month of '75, when the sectarian assassination campaign was at its height, Merlyn Rees stated that it was not possible to give protection to the areas hardest hit. The answer, he stated, was for the nationalist population in these areas to accept the R.U.C. back. Here Rees openly admitted that he was quite prepared to use the sectarian killings as a lever against the nationalist population. The death of Ronald Trainor will not be forgotten. It serves as a further warning, if anyone needs any, that death, destruction, misery and anguish will be with the Irish people as long as British imperialism retains its presence or influence on any part of this island, be that military, economic, political or cultural. As long as its presence continues Britain will mow down innocent civilians openly, as in Derry on Bloody Sunday, or secretly through its terror agents

BOMB ATTACK



CONDOLENCES

THE STARRY PLOUGH WOULD LIKE TO JOIN THE ÁRD COMHAIRLE OF THE IRISH REPUBLICAN SOCIALIST PARTY IN OFFERING CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF RONALD TRAINOR WHO WAS MURDERED BY AGENTS OF BRITISH IMPERIALISM. I MEASC NA LAOCH GO RAIBH A AINM.

CONDOLENCES to family, friends and relatives of our true comrade from all IRSP members and supporters in South Derry.

MONAGHAN IRSP members and supporters would like to offer their deepest sympathies to the relatives and friends of Ronald Trainor, who was brutally murdered by the enemies of the Irish people.

IN DEEPEST SYMPATHY on the death of yet another member of the Trainor family to all who knew Ronald but especially to his family – from Derry City IRSP.

ARMAGH SUPPORTERS and members of the IRSP sadly received the news of comrade Ronald Trainor's death. We offer condolences to all his family relatives and friends. His dedication is an inspiration to all of us.



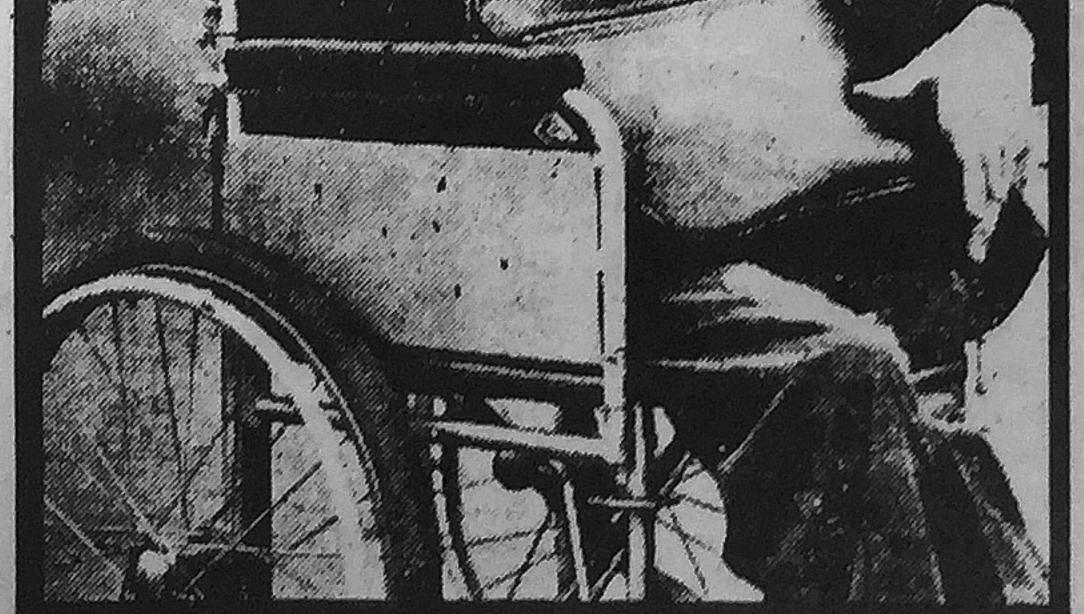
as they did in Dublin when **26** people died or as they did in Portadown on the night Ronald Trainor was murdered. The death of Ronald Trainor will strengthen our determination to resist the Loyalist murder gangs and their British masters.

<section-header>

ON BEHALF of all imprisoned supporters and members of the IRSP we offer our sympathies to the family of Ronald Trainor and also to his relatives and friends. Comrade, you are not forgotten. Long Kesh, Armagh Jail, Magilligan and Crumlin Road Jail.

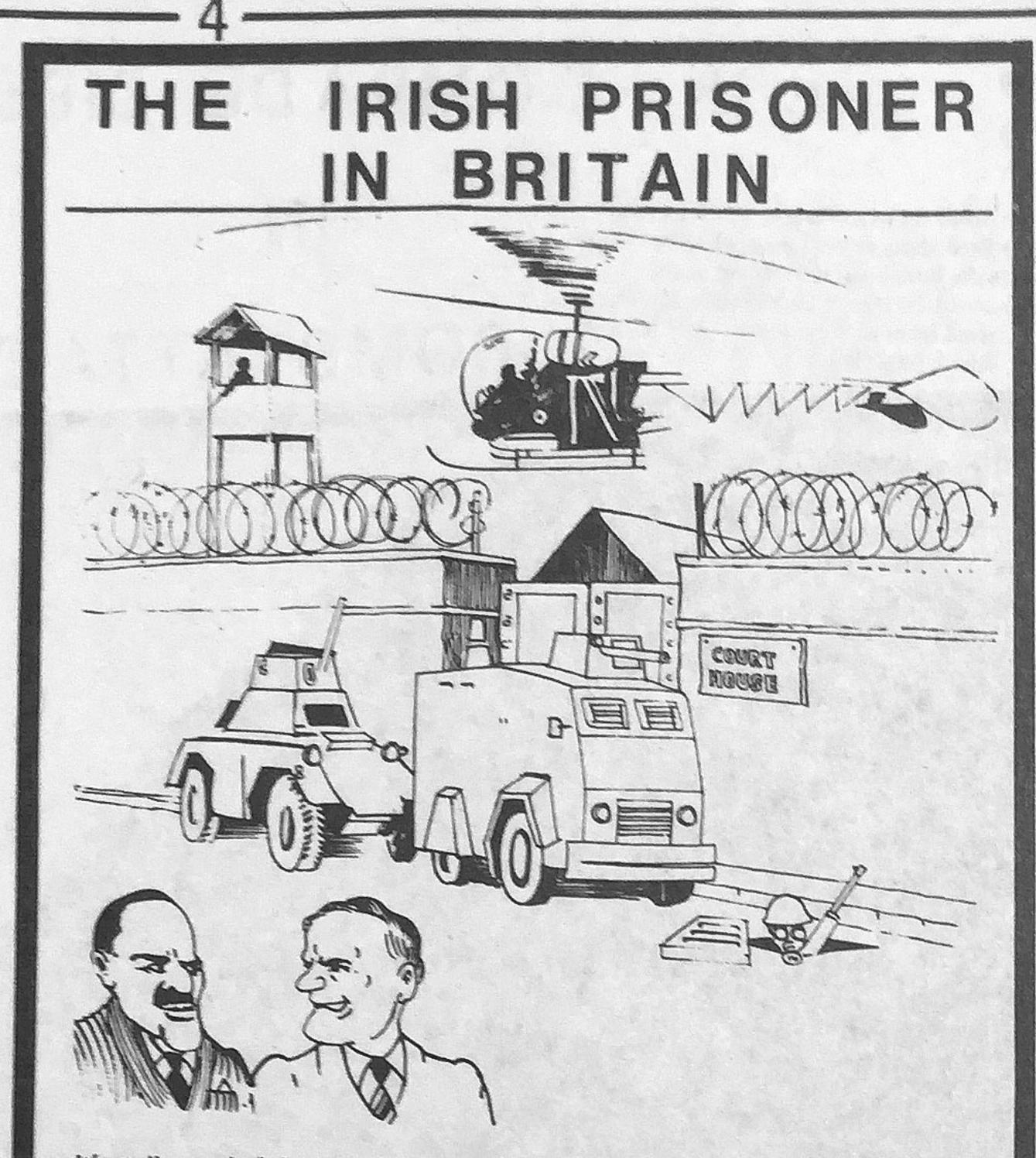
ALL BELFAST IRSP members and supporters offer sincere sympathies to all the family, relatives and friends of comrade Ronald.

There were many more death notices from Cumainn throughout the 6 and 26 counties but due to lack of space it was not possible to print them.



when you consider that Joe is a spastic, is dumb and can only move his left hand and left foot and is confined to a wheelchair, the cruelty of the Brits is a little out of the ordinary (or is it!).

Joe can only communicate by carrying written notes or using the wooden letter board he designed himself. It turns out that Joe's younger brother, Gerard, when arrested had been asked "if I was a member of the IRSP or if I knew anybody who was" because the special branch said they had seen him talking to an IRSP member.



last he was attacked and beaten unconscious by other prisoners. This is the third time he has been injured in the past two years and the second time in the past three months).

They are also continuously victimised under prison rules and regulations, refused letters, periodicals and visits and harassed to ensure difficulties for them in meeting their families,

Many prisoners are forced into solitary confinement where the lights are left on continuously to make sleep difficult and where keeping track of time is impossible. Prisoners must 'prove' they, knew their visitors at the time they were arrested before they are allowed the visitors. The same goes for letters. Often the prison authorities demand notice of a visit (in one case as much as a month's notice is required before the prisoner in question is allowed a visit from his wife). There is no privacy during visits as warders sometimes take notes. listen in and Often, huge barriers seperate the prisoner from his visitor. All this means that none of the normal personal problems that arise for a family can be discussed, and that's without counting the obvious problems caused by the prisoners incarceration. The stress this must put on both the prisoner and his relations can be imagined. The prisoner also has to suffer mental isolation from outside life as he is forbidden political books, periodicals (and in many cases, even the Irish daily papers). Another trick of the British government's is perhaps the dirtiest of all – suddenly moving a prisoner from one prison to another without notifying his relatives. This means that relatives turn up at the prison for their visit, perhaps having come a long distance, only to find the prisoner they came to visit has been moved (always) miles away. Prisoners often protest about such prison conditions and consequently suffer beatings, loss of remission and other punitive measures.

victim to spend months in jail while he awaits his trial to come up i.e. internment without trial. They have to succum to degrading 'skin searches' (although relatives visiting non political prisoners do not). They must also allow themselves to be screened (giving their names and addresses and information concerning their private lives) and photographed before their requests to be allowed to visit their kin are even considered. Having gone through all that they are often refused,

Even though it is avowed British Home Office policy to move political prisoners close to their families, even if it means moving them to Northern Ireland, they refuse to do so. The list of repression against the Irish political prisoner in British Jails goes on endlessly.

Besides the torture for 'confessions' prisoners have to suffer, they also have to contend with the bias of the British press (which usually has found them guilty before the trial has even started) the lies of the police, the over-zealous judges, the massive intimidating 'security' at trials, all ensure heavy sentences. The juries attitudes originate from what they have been bombarded with from an hysterical press - and that's besides what they have to contend with during a 'trial'! British Courts at all times attempt to isolate every incident from its historical and social context to a simple 'right' or 'wrong' matter - except when it suits them.

It's really good of them to go to so much trouble to see that these Irish get a fair trial.

THE PLIGHT OF IRISH POLITICAL PRISONERS IN BRITISH JAILS IS NOT KNOWN TO THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE IRISH (AND EVEN BRITISH) PEOPLE. THIS IS UNDOUBTEDLY DUE TO THE LIES AND DISTORTIONS OF THE BRITISH MEDIA, WHO PORTRAY ALL IRISHMEN BEFORE THE COURTS AS CALLOUS, FANATICAL, MASS MURDERERS.

MEANWHILE IRISH POLITICAL PRISONERS IN BRITAIN ARE THE VICTIMS OF A CAMPAIGN OF PHYSICAL AND MENTAL TORTURE AIMED AT BREAKING THEIR WILLS AND FORCING THEM TO ABANDON THEIR POLITICAL CONVICTIONS. serving prisoners, 48 are serving a total of 611 years and 20 are serving life sentences.

Besides the sentences above, which are uncommonly heavy in British criminal law, perhaps what is most disturbing is the manner in which they were got and the way in which they are implemented.

John Walker was arrested for his alleged part in the Birmingham bombings of November 1974. The following is compiled from press reports of his trial.

John Walker says he was punched and kicked and grabbed by the 'privates' and told his house was being wrecked. One detective hit him such a blow that it knocked him out and gave him a black eye. His foot was repeatedly stamped on by Sergeant Kelly who also made him pass out by holding a cigarette near a blister on the big toe. Kelly threatened to have him on the firing range 'for target practice'. He was told that his wife had made a statement that he was responsibile for the Birmingham bombs. He says he signed a statement that he was responsible for the Birmingham bombs. He says he signed a statement that he could take no more punishment. 'I felt awful and a bundle of nerves'. He had been without food all day. On getting out of the van which brought him to prison he found himself in mid air. 'I don't know whether I was pushed or kicked. I fell face forward and my face hit the ground.' He lost five teeth and had two more extracted later. 'I ached all over from top to bottom. I was in a bad state. My back was killing me, my foot was swoolen, I could hardly walk, my ulcer was killing me. My head was aching with thumps and punches'. His hand was guided by a detective as he wrote the statement, his hand was shaking as a result of the violence he suffered. The above was ignored during John Walker's trial and his 'confession' was portrayed as evidence that even Walker admitted his own guilt. He was sentenced to life imprisonment. There are many similar cases reported in The Irish Prisoner.

The families of political prisoners also suffer their share. Relatives who visit their kin in British jails are prone to be arrested themselves and thrown into jail. Another trick is to refuse bail and force the One could go on ad infinitum on this issue but space does not permit. However you can obtain *The Irish Prisoner* for 20p from the Prisoners Aid Committee, c/o 66 York Way, London N.1. In it you will also find interesting information on the Roger Casement and Manchester Martyers trials' and an account of the work done by Karl Marx and Freidrich Engels for Irish political prisoners in Britain during the fenian period.

In conclusion, this quote from the Irish Prisoner sums it all up: "the words 'British Justice' have come to have a peculiar bitter sound to Irish ears. They stand for bias, prejudice, hatred and ignorance ... What is on trial in these courts is British rule in Ireland and it is found guilty every time."

Socialist Republic. As revolutionaries, we recognise the paramount necessity for the existence of an armed Anti-Imperialist organisation, which will play an effective role in the current struggle. We totally reject the right of Britain to interfere in Irish affairs and we are determined to resist any British imposed solution, through the use of armed force against British Occupation Forces and their allies in Ireland. Since our formation, we have been engaged in an extensive programme of recruiting, arming and training of our volunteers. Active service units of the N.L.A. have also carried out a series of military operations against enemy personnel and installations. The details of these operations are outlined at the end of this statement. We continue to oppose British Imperialism in Ireland with all the resourcesat our command and we call upon all sincere Republicans and Socialists to join us in the struggle. In particular, we call upon members of other Anti-Imperialist organisations who are currently involved in destructive and counter revolutionary feuling to recognise the serious damage being done to the morale of the people at the very time when the Imperialists are united in their determination to impose their solution and, when there is a very grave threat of a Loyalist take-over. After 5 years of struggle against imperialism, the Irish people have victory within their grasp. We see it as our task, as revolutionaries, to ensure that they are not deprived of victory through the acceptance of any compromise solution, negotiated without reference to the long term interests of the Irish working class. N.L.A. Active Service Units will continue and intensify their operations against enemy personnel and installations until such time as the Imperialist presence in Ireland is ended. All such operations will be claimed in further press statements which will be issued as and when considered necessary.

EVEN IF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT FAIL IN THIS IT IS CERTAINLY A DETERRENT TO THE **REST OF THE IRISH POPULATION** IN BRITAIN AND IN THE 6 COS. NOT TO INTERFERE WITH BRITISH POLICY IN RELATION TO IRELAND. THE ANTI-IRISH CAMPAIGN BEING CONDUCTED BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT (WHO ARE ALSO THE INSTIGATORS OF SECTARIANISM IN THE 6 COS.) SERVES TO EXCUSE THE ATROCITIES PERPETRATED BY BRITAIN IN THE NORTH AND HELPS TO JUSTIFY ITS PRESENCE THERE.

That is why The Irish Prisoner, published by the Prisoners Aid Committee (England) and selling at 20p is a real eye-opener. As it states "it is the first serious work of its kind on this subject" (the plight of Irish political prisoners in Britain). The horrific facts come glaring through its pages - the victimisation, brutality and harassment Irish prisoners suffer, the mock trials they are forced to participate in, the 'confessions' that are beaten out of them, S.A.S.-style, and the prison conditions they are forced to endure. At this stage it should be mentioned that we oppose the bombing campaign in Britain and indeed all bombing campaigns where innocent civilians are the targets. Having said that, we stress that it in no way reflects on the integrity of Irish political prisoners who must remain innocent until proven guilty. Under no stretch of the imagination could the charades taking place in British courts be called 'justice'. Furthermore, even if they were guilty in no way could we condone their torture in British jails. The Irish Prisoner lists 68 serving prisoners and ten on remand. Of the 64



Having been tortured for 'confersions' and subsequently given vicious prison sentences, one would think that the prisoners would be left in peace to serve their sentences. But that is far from true. Irish political prisoners are assaulted by warders in their cells, or thrown to other prisoners to be mauled. as warders watch on. (Noel Jenkinson, serving life imprisonment, is held in solitary confinement. He has two warders watching him. Yet on November 3rd The following press release was received by the Starry Plough too late for inclusion in the December issue. We now print it in full.

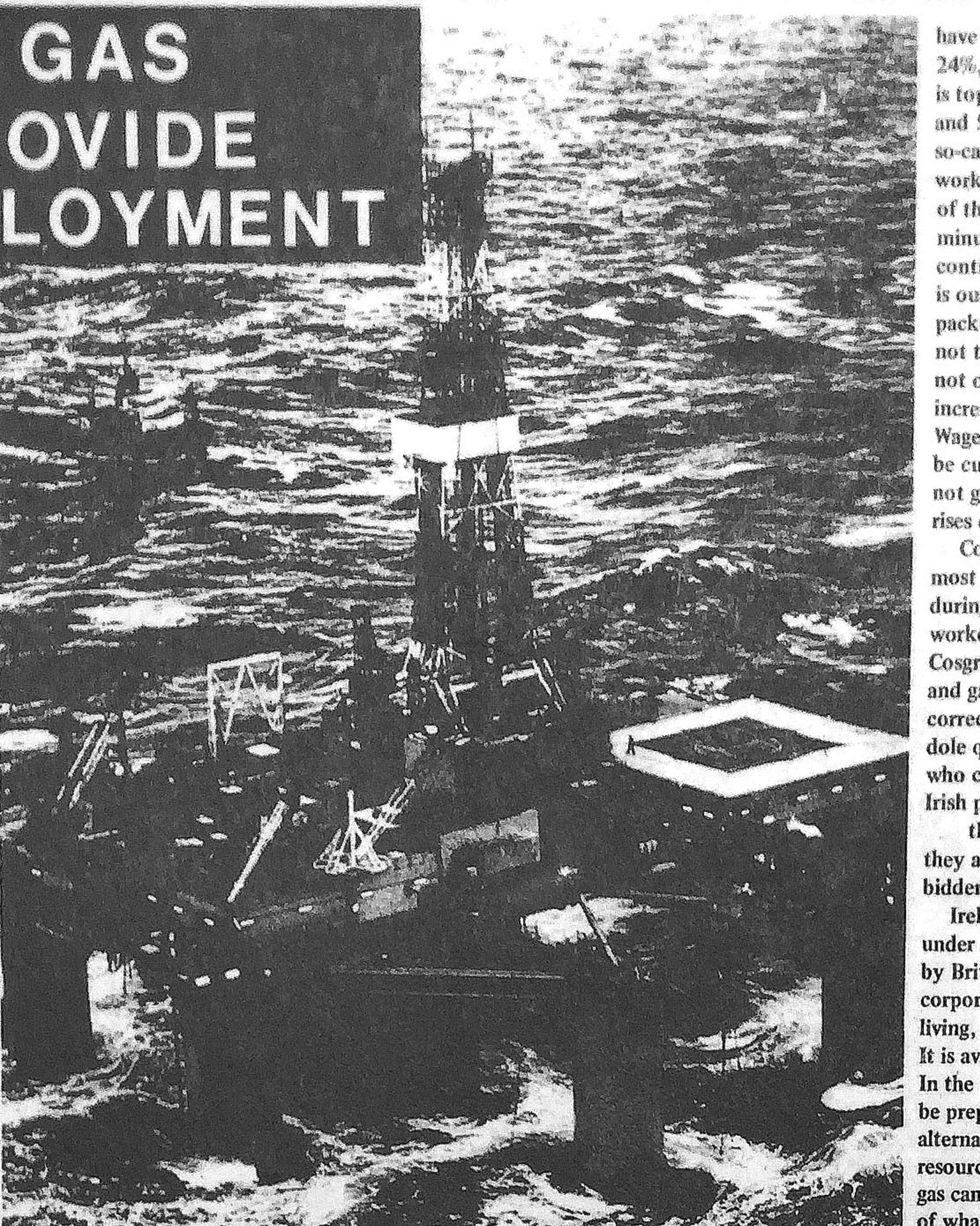
We wish to issue the following press statement on behalf of the Army Council of the National Liberation Army. The National Liberation Army was recently formed with the aim of ending British Imperialist rule in Ireland and creating a 32 county Democratic

KINSALE GAS COULD PROVIDE FULL EMPLOYMENT

Incland could be a rich country except that our natural resources are being given away to multi-national corporations. For instance, Ireland has for the past ten years been one of Europe's leading metal producers. Navan boasts the world's richest deposits of zinc and lead. However, for the purpose of this article we intend to deal only with Gas and Oil,

THE FACTS:

The Kinsale gas strike is worth £1½ Billion, but was sold to Marathon for £500. British Petroleum admit we have 25 million cupic feet of natural gas. In tons of oil that's 512 Million tons, enough to supply Irish



have to pay for it. Inflation is running at 24%, the highest in Europe. Unemployment is topping the 110,000 figure in the South and \$8,000 in the North. Yet this so-called crisis was not brought about by workers (as they have no say in the running of the Irish economy). Their wages are minute in comparison to the bosses' continually rising profits. The cost of living is outstretching the value of their pay packets and Cosgraves says that we are not to ask for more. It also turns out that not only are workers to be deprived of increases due to them under the National Wage Agreement but that their wages will be cut back in 1976. Gimmicks such as not granting T.D.s or Senators their pay rises cannot put food on workers tables. Cosgrave earns at least four times what most workers earn. In spite of that and during his cries for pay restraint by workers, he gave himself a £300 rise.

workers, he gave himself a £300 rise. Cosgrave perpetuates the theft of our oil and gas, which, if nationalised and correctly administered, could end the dole queues. Cosgrave is typical of his class

needs for 100 years.

HOW IT COULD BE USED

With the nationalisation of our oil and gas and run by, say, the E.S.B. there would be jobs available for marine geoligists, geophysicists, petroleum engineers, marine, electrical and gas engineers, master drillers, mud, drilling and production technicians, instrument mechanics and technicians of all kinds. Getting the gas ashore, handling it, shipping it, storing it and transporting it, is the kind of job ideally suited to C.I.E. In Cobh C.I.E. has railway yards and a deep-water berth, perfectly suited to handling bulk cargo. The E.S.B. has more engineers than the Algerians who have their own State Oil Company. Yet both the E.S.B. and C.I.E. are not involved in this gas find and are in fact laying off men!

From oil and gas it is possible to get valuable petrochemicals and compounds in fivestageswhich could produce £127 million, thousands of jobs and cheaper products for the Irish people. If you refine gas it gives you gasses like naphta and methane and it is estimated that £2 million worth of these gases refined to make ethylene and other petrochemical feedstocks is worth £8 million when it is turned into compounds such as styrene and phenol. If this is in next turned into plastic resins and synthetic rubber it becomes worth £16 million pounds. Finally, what you started out with turned into plastic and rubber mouldings, PVC acrylic and vinyl products, is worth £100 million.

and Basil Goulding who intend to make a lot of money from it. Basil Goulding runs Goulding's Fertilisers from which he makes gigantic profits. Our oil and gas could produce a much cheaper fertiliser for Irish farmers, who have been paying through their noses for it over the past few years.

Tom Doyle is a director of Shell B.P.,

nominated to the Senate by Cosgrave. Cosgrave in turn has shares in the Sweeptakes which is run by Patrick Mc Grath).

The Kinsale gas find will not only be sold back to us for the collossal sum of £700 million but in the process will be incorrectly used. 70% will be wasted producing electricity and the production of domestic gas will only mean more profits for the Cork Gas Co. On top of all that the only jobs the Irish people will get will be labour jobs! Yet if nationalised it could give over 110,000 jobs – that's the amount of unemployed in the 26 Counties as we go into 1976.

who care nothing for the real needs of the Irish people and who prefer to ensure their own quick profits. In the process they are selling Ireland to the highest bidder, without batting an eyelid. Ireland's workers and their families under capitalism, and directly influenced by British imperialism and international corporations, face a drastic standard of living, or rather existence in 1976. It is avoidable but not under capitalism. In the coming year Irish workers must be prepared to listen to the socialist alternative which would put their own full resources at their disposal. If the Kinsale gas can provide full employment, think of what the Irish worker could have from the rest of our mineral resources. The Navan mine alone is worth £1,300 million, being the richest lead mine in the world. Add to that the full and correct use of land, the nationalisation of the banks to ensure finance for the development of essential industries, a planned economy and any talk of a crisis is rubbish.

This is the wealth Ireland posesses and the wealth that could be utilised for the benefit of all the Irish people. Capitalism cannot utilise that wealth except to increase the profits of the few. Socialism ensures its utilisation for the working people of Ireland, as it is they who produce the wealth. Socialism gives true democracy so that workers can ensure control over their own lives. Socialism puts the means of production, distribution and exchange out of the hands of the speculators, financiers into the hands of the working class. The choice is straightforward: worse conditions than we have, under capitalism and they will get much worse, or socialism and a secure future with the real necessities of life.

JOBS FOR THE BOYS

C.I.E. are selling their valuable deep sea berth in Cobh to a private oil company, Forest Oil, which is run by Tony O'Reilly the Cork Gas Co. and is also a shareholder for Petroleum Royalties of Ireland Ltd. (which is a front for the International Marathon Corporation). Marathon will make £700 million from selling Kinsale gas back to the Irish people via the Cork Gas Co. The Petroleum Royalties Company will get £11.5 million without ever going to sea. There are hundreds of Tom Doyles in Ireland who oppose the nationalisation of our resources because of their vested interests.

Another man who makes money from this gas find is Patrick McGrath (who was

COSGRAVE'S T.V. LIES

The Irish people were recently subjected to the spectacle of Cosgrave making a television appeal to workers not to ask for more money, that there was a worsening economic crisis and that workers would

new army announced

LIST OF MILITARY OPERATIONS CARRIED OUT BY ACTIVE SERVICE UNITS OF THE NATIONAL LIBERATION ARMY

1. 24/5/75

Constable Noel Davis of the R.U.C. was

4. July 1975

One soldier and one RUC men were held up and disarmed in Dungiven Co. Derry. Uniforms, documents and two weapons were seized.

5. July 1975

8. 9/8/75

One soldier was shot in the head during an attack on a British Army patrol in Waterford Street, Lower Falls area, Belfast.

9. 9/8/75

Active Service Units of the N.L.A. assisted in the defence of the Divis Flats Complex against Loyalist and British enemy attacks.

106/9/75

Rosemount RUC station in Derry City was attacked by N.L.A. Active Service Units. The attack lasted for approximately 15 minutes and one RUC man was seriously wounded by high velocity rifle fire.

13.26/9/75

Private David Wray, Prince of Wales Own Regiment was shot in the chest at the junction of Linsfort Drive and Iniscarn Road, Creggan, Derry City. Private Wray subsequently died from his injuries. Ballistic tests will confirm that he was killed by a .22 calibre high velocity round.

14.30/10/75

Skenes garage and showroom at Drumadd Road, Armagh City, was destroyed by explosives. The garage was destroyed by

killed in a booby trap explosion at the Glenshane Pass near Maghera, Co. Derry.

2. 18/6/75

One RUC man was wounded during the course of an ambush on an RUC mobile patrol at Hamilton Street in the Brandywell area of Derry City.

3, 26/7/75

ml.

Constable Raymond Mc Pherson of the RUC was shot dead during a gun battle with an active service unit of the NLA in Dungiven Co. Derry. Another RUC man was seriously wounded during the attack. Two⁴RUC men were held up and disarmed in Limavady, Co. Derry. Uniforms, documents and two weapons were seized.

6. 9/8/75

Three separate attacks were carried out against British Army patrols in the Windmill Hill-Callan Street area of Armagh City. Two soldiers were wounded in the attacks.

7. 9/8/75

One soldier was shot in the neck during an attack on a British Army patrol in Ballymurphy Belfast.

11.12/9/75

Major Ian Sheppard and a private in the Royal Highland Fusiliers were very seriously wounded in a booby trap explosion at Corrigan park, Belfast.

12.13/9/75

Two soldiers were seriously wounded during an attack on a mobile patrol at Drumleck Drive, in the Shantallow area of Derry City.

explosives. The garage was destroyed by the Active Service Unit of the N.L.A. because it was used for servicing RUC vehicles.

15. 2/11/75 A British Army patrol was ambushed at the junction of Emania Terrace, and Navan Terrace, Armagh City. One soldier was seriously wounded.

> The press release was signed A. Fitzgerald, Director of Publicity

The demand for National Liberation is an integral part of the Republican and Socialist political tradition in Ireland but over the years and particularly since 1969, different stands have been taken on it dividing many republican and socialist groups. In theory all republican and socialist groups and parties agree that the British presence must be ended, that unionism must be smashed, and believe in varying degrees that working class control should be taken by those who produce the wealth. It is on the question of method that they disagree.

The establishment parties (bar the Loyalists) in the North, the Free State and Britain are all agreed that primitive unionism must be replaced, sectarian for the time being, with powersharing (or coalition as it is being called lately). One of the major obstacles to this is the refusal of the S.D.L.P. to back the R.U.C. The S.D.L.P. knows well that if it did, it would lose every bit of support it has in the nationalist areas. But they hope to find a way round this problem and pave the way for powersharing between the North's middleclass. In such a situation the full wrath of British imperialism and its native hacks will be directed against the nationalist population in an attempt to break the momentum of the current struggle. The middleclass are abolsutely united in establishing the rule of law and order into all areas, which of course means they want the state to re-establish the security of all their profits and financial interests which have been seriously threatened for the first time in 50 years by the Northern troubles. As the months roll on the SDLP and all other middleclass parties become increasingly exposed for their betrayal of working class interests as in their desperation to gain a share in power they make concession after concession to the Loyalist coalition. Compared to 1972 their position is desperately weak. One by one they have abandoned all their important demands and pledges. Their betrayal of the internees and civil resistance campaign was followed by their abandonment of demands for a council of Ireland and reform of the R.U.C. There are those on the left particularly in the Official Republican Movement, who deny that the solving of the national question is the immediate priority. They believe that it is possible to unite the working class in the context of the six county state and then proceed to a united capitalist Ireland, leading eventually to revolution and the establishment of a socialist society. A genuine revolutionary can recognise no such rigid divisions, just as the struggle for civil rights turned into a struggle for national liberation when the people realised their demands could not be met in the context of a six county state. We believe that the Irish people will see that they can only achieve true national independence in the context of a socialist society. There is also another incorrect stand taken on the National Question and that is that the only immediate problem is getting British troops out and that the politics of society and why British imprialism is there in the first place, can be settled afterwards. This attitude is typified by statements such as "when Ireland is free I won't take any interest in politics". The provisionals abstract promotion of the idea of regional government avoids the crucial question of who will control the wealth and resources of Ireland. A group which fails to put forward a clear political perspective leaves open the possibility that its sacrifices will be exploited by opportunists. The struggle for national liberation can only reach a successful conclusion with the complete breaking of all ties with the imperialist and capitalist system. On the other hand one comes across those who claim to be interested in the national question and the class question but who in reality are merely using the national question as it happens to be in the public mind at present and a good crowd puller. Because it ignores the political reality of the present situation it is bound to fail. The national question is as essential issue not a crowd puller.

THE NATIONAL QUESTION

Question". From an Irish working class viewpoint this attitude ignores the role that the British working class can play in the Irish struggle, and it also disregards the positive effect that a successful Socialist orientated National Liberation struggle can have on the class struggle in Britain. In dealing with the question of solidarity with the Irish struggle, for obvious reasons Britain must not be viewed in the same light as the other European countries. This is because Britain is the imperialist power that directly controls Ireland, and with the other countries in Europe we recognise the impact a successful victory over British imperialism can have. During the course of the current struggle the two wings of the Republican movement adopt the same tactics in relation to International Solidarity. In Britain, they organised Irish emigrants into units of the movement structure, which in itself is fair enough, but on a European level they channeled emerging solidarity groups into propaganda committees for their respective organisations. This in our view is incorrect as support for the Irish struggle should be built solely on the basis of the overall demands of the Irish struggle i.e. an end to repression, troops out now, and self-determination for Ireland.

Troops

Movement

Ireland

The Troops Out Movement (T.O.M.) which

was formed in Britain in 1973 has not been

given the attention it deserves by the main

There are many reasons for this, one of which

anti imperialist organisations which welcomes

On the surface this may appear to be a

very narrow nationalist outlook, but closer

is merely a reaction to, and a reflection of,

the failure of the British T.U. and Labour

movement to come to grips with the "Irish

examination will reveal that this outlook

Anti-Imperialist organisations in Ireland.

relates to the almost non internationalist

outlook of the current struggle in Ireland.

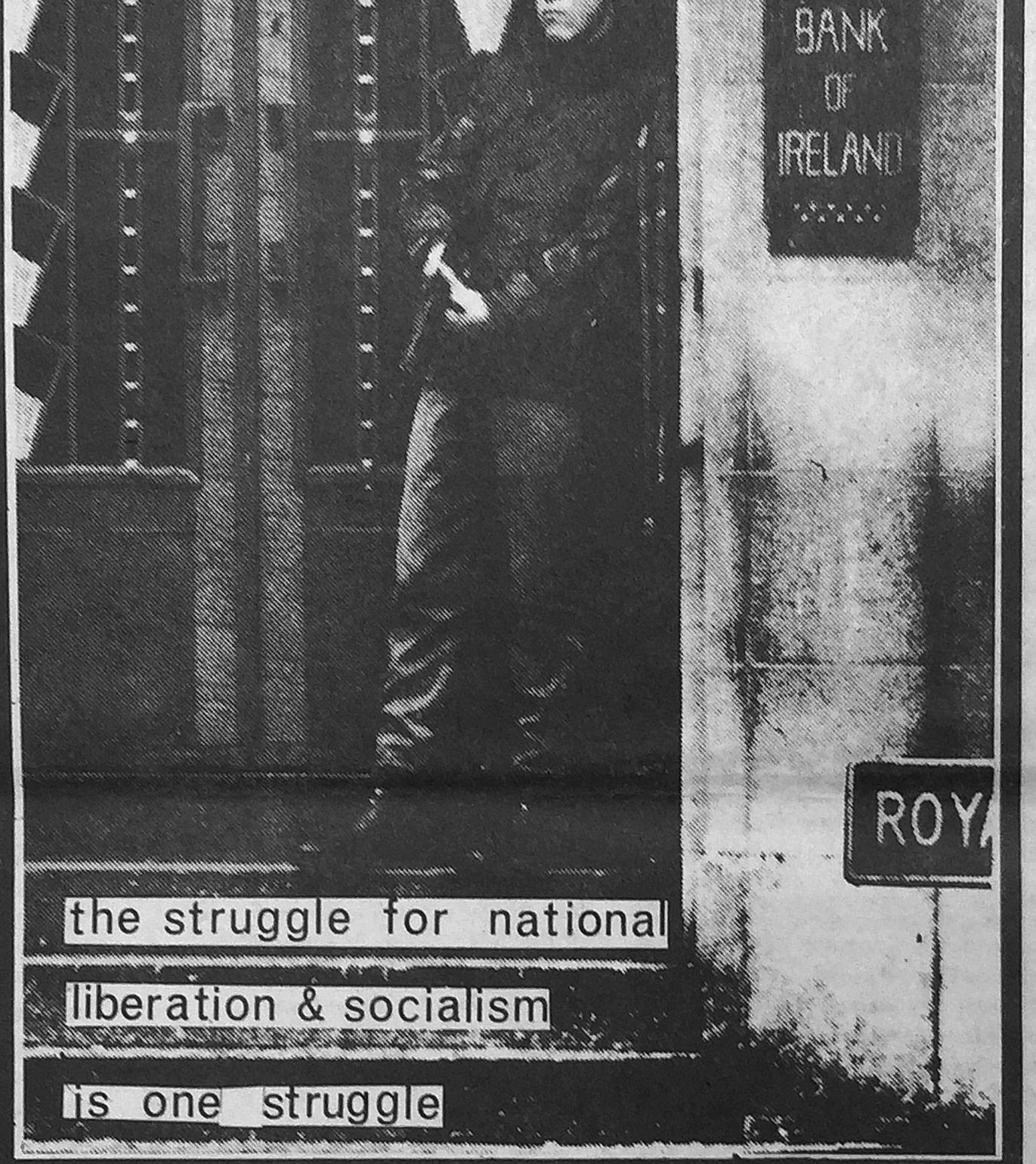
the call for a troops withdrawal regardless

of the political reasons behind this call.

There is one tendency in the

Out

&



This is the only way in which mass solidarity can be built. In the context of the political situation that exists in Ireland, it is politically incorrect to urge foreign support groups to organise on the basis of support for the political and/or military programme of any particular anti-imperialist organisation. The question of organising solidarity propoganda has been a feature of the internal debates within the T.O.M. and this, along with the question of structure has produced what appears to be a bitter factional war within the T.O.M. If T.O.M. adopts a policy of expressing solidarity with the Irish anti-imperialist organisations, then the T.O.M. will have to embrace issues which are divergent from the stated aims of the organisation. This in itself should have the effect of narrowing the base of T.O.M. and destroying the principled basis that exists for united action. If the T.O.M. were to express direct solidarity with the organisations struggling in Ireland they would give credence to the racist right wing media who would be only too happy to hold the T.O.M. as scapegoats in the public eye for the activities of the Irish anti-imperialist organisations. It would leave the T.O.M. in the position where they would have to justify tactics such as the bombing in England to a confused and

The L.R.S.P. also realises that no Republican or Socialist group or party in Ireland by itself can successfully oppose and defeat British imperialism. That is why we see the necessity of a broad front where all such groups can unite on specific demands without fear of losing their own identities. But to be a real Broad Front it must include all and any radical and

anti-imperialist elements within the country, not only republicans and socialists. In such a front it would be the task of Republicans and Socialists to ensure that the leadership of the Broad Front remains in the hands of the Irish working class.

The impact such a broad based unity could have on the national question can only be imagined. Not only would one have the unity of all republican and socialists but united with them would be the broad mass of the Irish people. This would completely isolate the middle-class hacks of British imperialism in Ireland. The results would be the end of British imperialism as it could not withstand such broad based united opposition.

Those who talk of Irish freedom as an abstract thing are rarely consciously right-wing they

SUPPORT THEM NOW!

Support Irish Republican Socialist Party political prisoners by supporting their families.

THREE FINED FOR

BELFAST

Lastly, though not least, is the philosophy that the national question and the class question are one question, not to be divided nor either merely used. Embodied in that philosophy is the knowledge that British Imperialism and all its agents must be defeated before national liberation and the class question can be solved.

That is why the LR.S.P. demands the immediate withdrawal of British Troops and the disarming and disbanding of the R.U.C. and R.U.C.-Reserve and the U.D.R., an amnesty for all political prisoners and an end to all repressive legislation.

At the same time the I.R.S.P. believes that it is necessary to go beyond both the methods and ideology of pure nationalism to solve the national question. are usually apolitical nationalists, but they can be manipulated by the de Valer's and Haugheys because of their vagueness.

It is necessary to politicise the instinctive nationalism of the Irish working class by pointing out the meaninglessness of independence if our mines, banks and . factories are still controlled by the multinationals.

At the same time we do not see the working class as passive supporters of republican organisations but as active participants in the struggle for a socialist republic. In the North it is necessary to bring the minority into direct conflict with British imperialism. In the south it is necessary to politicise the people by taking part in their struggle for a living wage, decent housing and control over finance and national resources.



Three people who took part in an IRSP protest in Belfast city centre in June appeared in court recently charged with blocking Wellington Place.

On June 16, traffic was brought to a standstill when about 40 members of the IRSP blocked the road in a protest over jailed members not getting political status.

One of them Sean Flynn, Monagh Drive, Belfast was fined £7 and two others Denise Dorrian (17), Cromac Street and Patricia McKiernan (22), Joy Street, were given conditional discharges.

divided working class.

If the T.O.M. were to adopt this position without having a say in the day to day tactics of the anti-imperialist organisations an effective brake could be applied to the development of the T.O.M. as a mass organisation.

The success of the T.O.M. in building a united front structure depends to a great extent on the political perspectives and discipline of the left organisations that make up the framework of the T.O.M. The success of the Troops Out Movement in regard to its political perspective depends to a

cont. on p.7

THE PAST TEN YEARS HAS SEEN A RESURGENCE OF NATIONALISM AMONG OPPRESSED NATIONALITIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. IN EUROPE, STRONG SEPERATIST MOVEMENTS HAVE COME INTO CONFLICT WITH THE FRENCH, SPANISH AND BRITISH STATES. THE STRENGTH OF SEPERATIST FEELING AMONG THE OPPRESSED NATIONALITIES OF EUROPE VARY A GOOD DEAL FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION, BUT IT IS ALWAYS PRESENT.

IN THE EARLY SIXTIES, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 20 YEARS, THERE WAS AN UPSURGE IN SUPPORT FOR SEPERATIST ORGANISATIONS IN ENGLAND, EUSKADI (BASQUE LAND), BRITTANY, ALSACE, SCOTLAND, WALES AND CATALONIA, INSPIRED PARTLY BY THE SUCCESS OF THE ALGERIAN REVOLUTION. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT JUST AS THE REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT SWUNG TO THE LEFT AFTER THE DEFEAT OF THE 1956-62 BORDER CAMPAIGN, MANY OF THE NEW ORGANISATIONS MOVED AWAY FROM PURE NATIONALISM TO UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY COULD ONLY ACHIEVE NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE IN THE CONTEXT OF A SOCIALIST SOCIETY. IT IS IMPORTANT AT THIS STAGE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN NATIONALITIES WHICH HAVE SUFFICIENT POLITICAL AND CULTURAL IDENTITY TO FORM SEPERATE STATES AND REGIONS WHICH ARE ONLY DEMANDING SELF GOVERNMENT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PRESENT BOURGEOIS NATIONAL STATES.



This distinction will become vey important in the future as governments try to buy off the seperatists with some form of home rule. When the new Spanish regime introduces a certain amount of reforms it will almost certainly offer a very limited amount of autonomy to appease the Basques and the Catalans.

In a typically meaningless gesture Juan Carlos has lifted the ban on the speaking of regional languages ignoring the fact that legal or illegal Basque and Catalan have continued to be spoken for the last 30 years

OUTSIDE IRELAND, the strongest national liberation movement in Europe is in the Basque country - Euskadi. Political and military resistance to Spanish colonialism enjoys massive popular support. A general strike last December received the support of over 300,000 workers. There are three seperate organisations using the name E.T.A. but despite their differences they work in a broad front. Part of the Basque country is under French rule and although there is no military resistance, the Basques continue to demand re-unification with their compatriots who are under Spanish rule.

The present situation in Scotland offers some interesting parallells with the situation in Ireland 50 years ago. Like Griffith's Sinn Fein, the S.N.P. has grown very fast and combines many diverse elements who only point of agreement is the need for some form of self-government for Scotland. If it wants to achieve even this limited objective it will inevitably have to go beyond parliamentary methods or risk losing their support to more radical groups.

One notable difference is that there is a stronger socialist tradition in Scotland and there are many S.N.P. voters who will not be content with a Scottish assembly which leaves the oil wells and major industries under imperialist domination. There is a revived interest in the writings of John Mac Lean, a contemporary of James Connolly, who combined Scottish Republicanism with Socialism.

Napoleanic times, France SINCE has been the most centralised European State with all the power concentrated in Paris. This has led to massive emigration from areas such as Brittany and Corsica.

Lack of finance leads to the closing of railways and ailing industries and to the neglect of schools and hospitals, which in turn leads to massive emmigration

It is government policy to directly discriminate against workers who do not want to emigrate. For example A Breton schoolteacher can never reach the top grade of his profession unless he moves to Paris.

The F.L.B. which has repeatedly attacked government installations and land speculators, lacks a clear political programme and for this reason has failed to gain a mass following.

In general it is obvious that separatism is a growing political force among the oppressed nationalities of Europe. While supporting their struggles, Irish republicans and socialists must show the inadequacy of any group which advocates 'independence' without also calling for a complete political and economic break with imperialism. The best example of the result of a nationalist movement seeking "independence" and avoiding the economic and social issues, is to be seen in the Irish Free State, who are supposedly free, yet remain controlled by British Imperialism, and monopoly capitalism through multi national corporations.



Another example of colonial exploitation is the seizure of huge tracts of land for use by the army in areas where there is a land shortage. Peasant defence organisations have sprung up in many areas to resist the buying of land by wealthy speculators.

There is a total ban on the teaching of the Breton language in schools the support for organisations despite promoting Breton culture. At present the most important seperatist organisation in Brittany is the Breton Democratic Union (U.D.B.) a left-wing reformist party. There is also a Maoist oriented Breton Communist Party and a military group called the F.L.B.

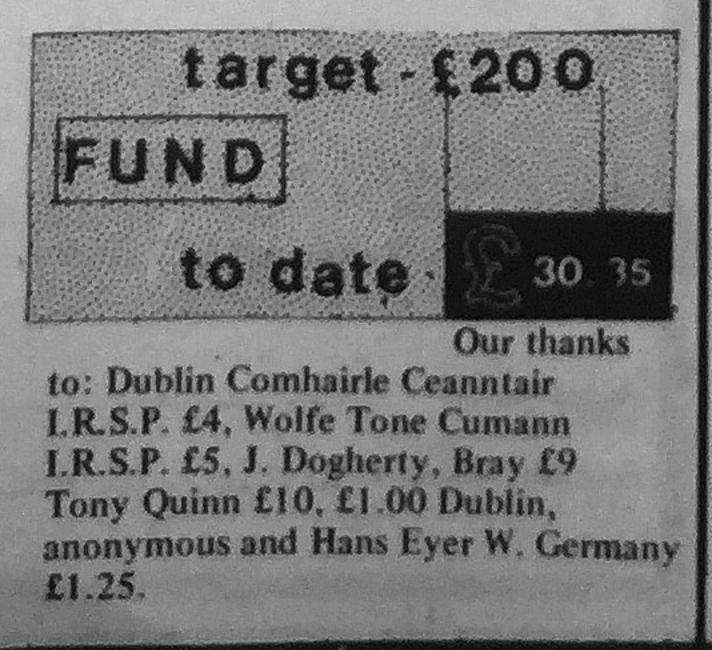
THE SEARCES PER ON CONCENT CONTACTED AT LE ISSEN GATE DUBLIN 8. OR BY PHONING. 770295. WE WELCOME NEWS. VIEWS AND COMMENTS.

from page 6 Troops Out

It is to be hoped that other nationalities will learn the lesson of the defeat of the Irish Revolution 50 years ago.



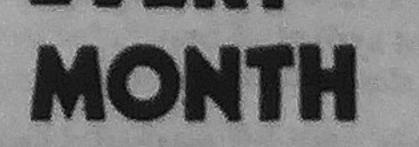
At the beginning of December we opened an appeal fund for I.R.S.P. political prisoners and their families. We set a modest target of £200. The fund now stands at £30.35. You can support I.R.S.P. political prisoners by making donations no matter how small or buying prisoners handicrafts: plaques £1, leather wallets £3 and leather handbags £15. Donations should be sent to Starry Plough Prisoners Dependents Fund c/o la Essex Gate, Dublin 8.



Movement

great extent on the political discipline of the various groups which constitute the organisation. If the T.O.M. is to become a mass organisation its political direction is again dependent on the combined ability of the British left to ensure that the long term interest of the Irish and British working class is maintained.

This is no easy task, and as a guideline to its future. Republican Socialists in Ireland watch the efforts of the T.O.M. to solve its internal crisis with a special concern.

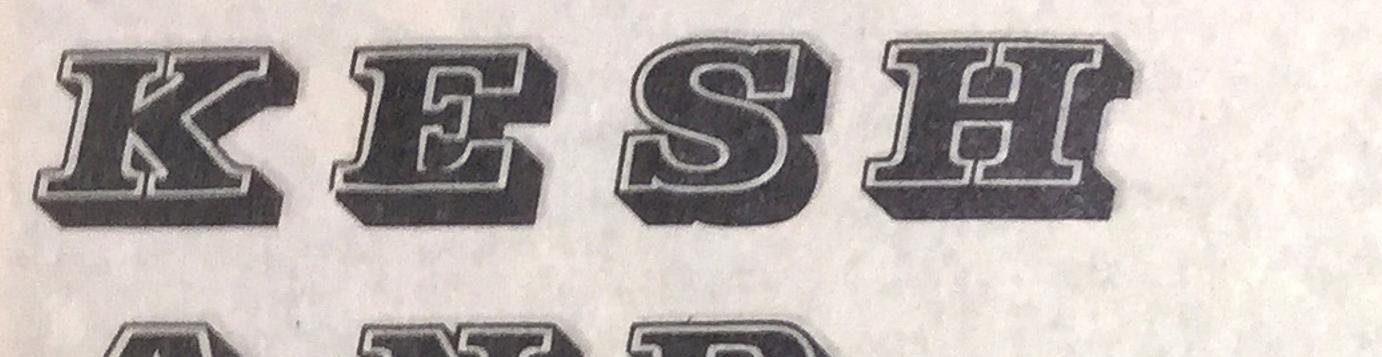


An annual subscription for the Starry Plough is available from head office. Ireland £2.00, Europe £2.50 and United State \$ 6. As can be seen the cost of the annual subscription has been reduced. The prices above include postage.

over 1,500 political prisoners in



northern jails





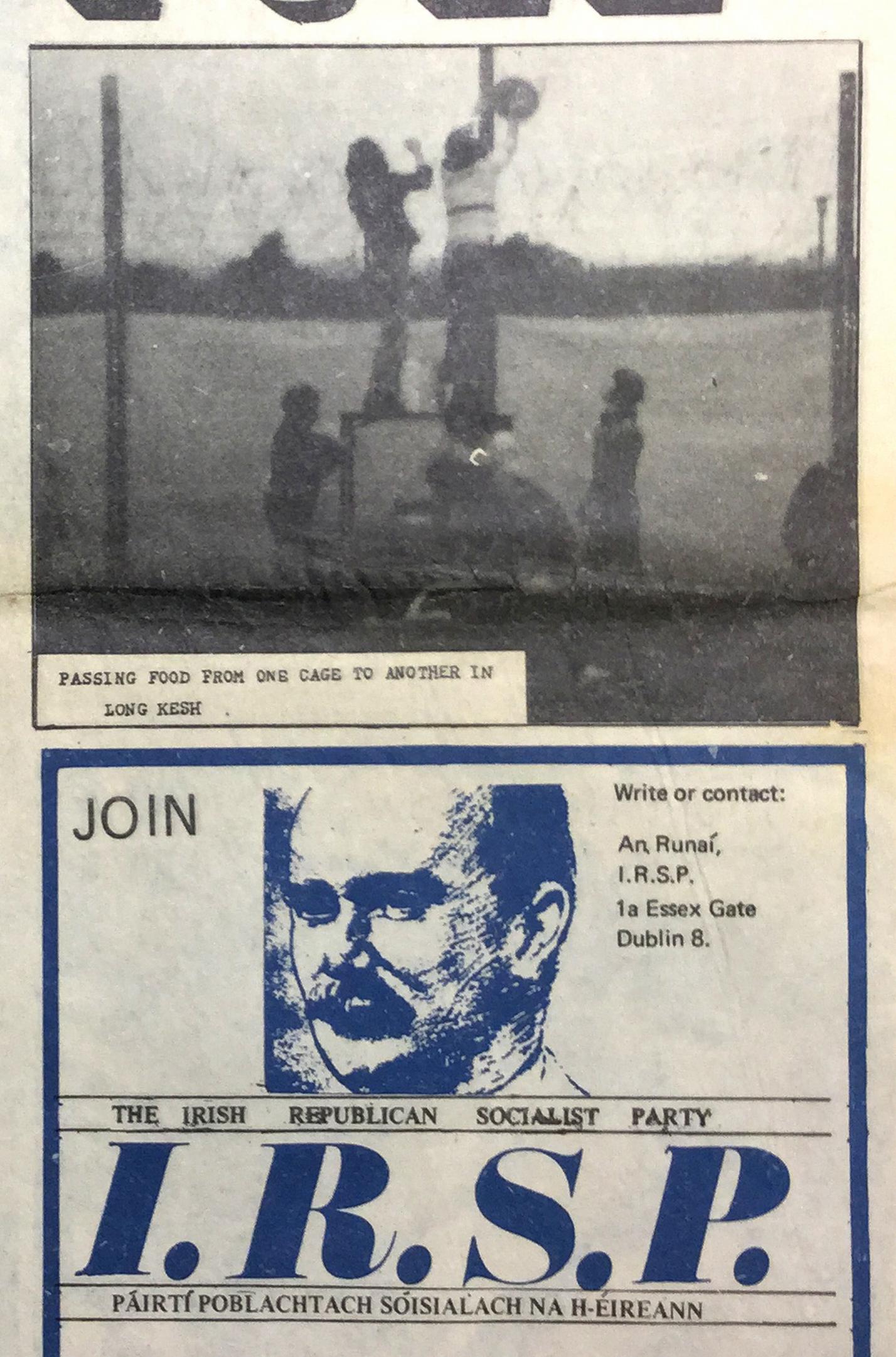




As Long Kesh opened its gates to let out the internees, the media screamed "Internment Ends". This is the fourth time that the British government has said "Internment is over". Yet as the internees left the hell hole of Long Kesh they left behind them 1,200 political prisoners – 28 of them internees sentenced for trying to escape. One thing they did not leave behind them were the memories of the men who were murdered in Long Kesh by British Imperialism – men such as Hugh Cooney shot dead in cold blood as he tried to escape, Jim Moyne, Paddy Tear, Frankie Dodds and Teddy Cambell who were murdered through medical neglect and Paddy Joe Crawford who committed suicide because he couldn't stand Long Kesh Concentration Camp.

"Our release is tinged with sadness" said a statement on behalf of the internees "at the thought of so many of our fellow country men and women still in there, in behind the wire, doing 5,000 years between them, as well as in other concentration camps in this country, England and Scotland. Our hearts at this time are with them and our hopes are that the day of their release cannot be long postponed."

The ending of internment means that in the future the Irish people may yet again hear a similar statement from the British government saying it has 'ended' internment, as internment still remains on the statute books, the Hollywood tortures are still loose, and one of the many reasons the British government has ended internment is because it appears likely that they will be found guilty by the European Court of Human Rights of inhuman treatment. Under such circumstances it was politically expedient for the British Government to end internment. Undoubtedly, the 'ending' of internment was forced upon the British government because of the peoples continued and unflinching opposition to internment through the civil resistance campaign, the long marches and protests and despite harrassment and murders such as the Bloody Sunday massacre.



No one believes that the British government intends to slow down on its repression. In fact, the Nationalist population now fear heavier prison sentences, following the British governments intention to end political prisoners status in March. It also seems likely that the wrath of the nationalist population will now be directed against the British government both in defence of political status and also in support of the demand for a total amnesty for all political prisoners and an end to all repressive legislation.

Internment was first introduced by the British government in Northern Ireland in 1922 to 1924 when about 500 were held. In 1938 about 200 were interned up to 1945. Then in 1956 four hundred were rounded up and interned. In 1969 eleven people were interned and released a month later. But in August 1971 the real internment swoop began. More than 2,000 men, women and even children were interned. The internees suffered everything that it is possible to suffer: torture, both mental and physical, lack of medical and educational facilities, bad sanitation and harassment of their families. They were starved, beaten, gassed and even murdered.

Throughout that time some people sold them out while many stood firmly by them. Thousands in the North refused to pay rent and rates until internment ended. Pledges were made and broken by the S.D.L.P. and the Republican Clubs "To the S.D.L.P. and other constitutionalists we say: take no credit for our release. While our people suffered you concerved with the enemies of Ireland to your own advantage". So said the internees on their release.

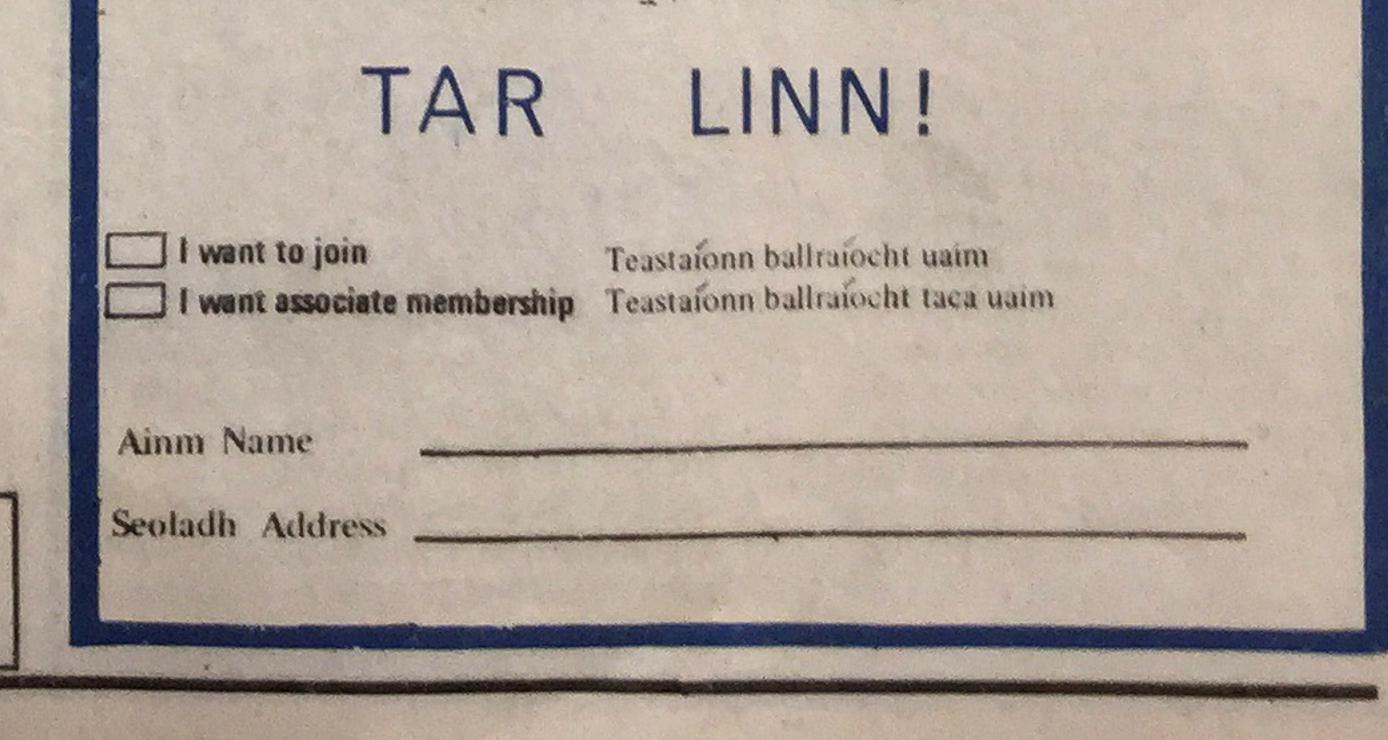
Not until Britain is out of Ireland, having withdrawn her political economic and military presence from Ireland is there any hope of the Irish people being certain that the horrors of Long Kesh will not be repeated. To ensure the real ending of imperialist presence it is essential that the Irish people also break the cultural influences of imperialism. The aim of the I.R.S.P. is "to end Imperialist Rule in Ireland and establish a B2 County Democratic Socialist Republic with the working class in control of the means of production, distribution and exchange.

It is only with the successful end of the struggle for national liberation and socialism that the Irish people will know that the gates of Long Kesh and all the other concentration camps in Ireland will be closed for ever.

It needs to be repeated, as the media have purposely not, that there are still 1,200 political prisoners incarcerated in Long Kesh and hundreds more through Northern and Southern jails and yet more hundreds in English and Scottish and Welsh jails. Let them get the same support the internees got.

POSTERS:

I.R.S.P. Recruiting Posters (two colours) - 5p each Constance Markievicz Poster (new on market) 60p each



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