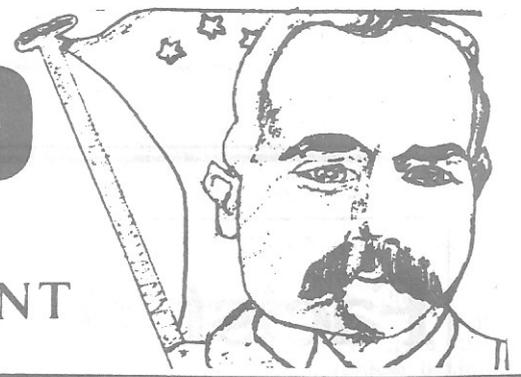


FORWARD

PUBLISHED BY THE
CONNOLLY YOUTH MOVEMENT
1980



MAGAZINE OF THE CONNOLLY YOUTH MOVEMENT (Incorporating YOUNG WORKER in Nth. Ireland)

LEBANON - IRISH DEATHS Who is responsible?



**NORTHERN IRELAND
OUR VIEW**



Facist threat now quite real

The recent demonstrations in Britain by the National Front to promote racialism and their own brand of fascism brings us just that bit closer to Hitlers Nazism.

The fact that there was no outstandingly high level of violence at the major rally of the Front in April, was more due to the fact that there were thousands of police on duty being paid by the taxpayer to protect either the onlookers and counter demonstrators, or the marchers themselves.

The danger of fascism in Britain has been growing steadily over the last few years. The significant strengthening of the National Front poses a very grave danger to British democracy, particularly since the police have made it clear that they will uphold the "right" of fascists to intimidate and insult other citizens.

The ultra-leftist tactics of the Trotskyist Socialist Workers' Party - bringing in outsiders and seeking confrontation for the sake of it - have played into the hands of British reactionaries.

The Left and progressive forces in Ireland always warned that British reaction would one day bring their instruments of repression, as tested in the North of Ireland, back to curb the British people themselves. That day has now come, with riot shields and other apparatus issued to help quell demonstrations.

Despite the provocations of the fascists, and the immature adventurism of the ultra-left, the serious British Labour movement is being brought into active opposition to the National Front. British communists, in particular, are to the forefront of developing that opposition.

Paxton show a sellout

Tom Paxton, many peoples idea of a progressive folk singer, has like many before him, obviously succumbed to the political and economic pressures. Paxton who recently played throughout Ireland, was picketed by members of the Connolly Youth Movement in both Sligo and Dublin.

Shocked and all as you may be to hear this, it came most of all, as a shock to many of those who carried placards outside his concerts.

Revelations that Paxton has been singing the praises of Jimmy Carters "Wreck the Olympics" campaign, has, judging by the response on the pickets, clearly angered and disgusted many of his fans. Paxton of course, owes much of his popularity to the fact that he has, up to recently, been labled as an artist who championed the cause of truth and justice and was always satirically exposing corruption. Al as it would now seem as if Paxton himself is not adverse to a bit of political corruption. Why so, well if you were fortunate enough to miss his brief stay in our country, I can fill you in.

During his stay in Sligo, Paxton following his concert on Friday night during which he urged the Irish Olympic Committee to boycott the games in support of our leaders (sic) call, he went on to sign records on the Saturday morning. In reply to a question from Paxton about what inscription would he like on the record, a young person requested "With the best of luck to Irish athletes Olympics 1980". Paxton responded by defiling the persons record with the slogan "stay at home".

Now every one is entitled to their opinion about the boycott but Paxton should have been told (and presumably knows now) that the vast majority of Irish people are in favour of sending our team to Moscow, and do not need spokesmen from the Carter administration to advise them.

We use the word spokesman carefully, and after reports from our fraternal organisations throughout Europe that Paxton was recruited by the American foreign affairs department to buck up Jimmys sagging boycott campaign. Remember there is nothing too unusual in this when you consider that Mohammed Alli was given the presidents private jet to trave the World looking for support for the wrecking of the Moscow games. Just like Paxton in Ireland, Clay got his answer from the people he spoke to: The Olympics cannot be used as a political football. If you are dump enough to forget about American involvement in dozens of countries with right wing repressive regimes, then stay at home. Also by implying support for American foreign policy on this issue, how can you not support America in Vietnam, Cambodia, Chile, Phillipines and arming murderers of Irish troops in the Lebanon to mention but some.

Well the answer is you cannot accept just some points of Imperialism as being good. What makes Paxtons stance all the more disgusting is that the old rebelliousness and militancy would also appear to have been bought over. In a song about the murder of Steve Biko in South Africa, Paxton may as well have not sang at all as he never mentioned who Biko was or the circumstances. A stark contrast to the lengthy introduction he gave to his song condemning the Afghanistan revolution and calling for full backing for Carters mad plan. Surely an all round change from the Paxton we all knew.

I WISH TO JOIN/KNOW MORE ABOUT THE CONNOLLY
YOUTH MOVEMENT

NAME

ADDRESS

.....

Send to secretary, 43 East Essex Street, Dublin 2.

Also P.O. Box 85 Belfast BT1 SR.

EXCUSE ME
WHICH WAY
TO THE
UNEMPLOYMENT
LINE?

YOU'RE
IN IT.

Ireland Israel and the United States

The sadness, and indeed the anger, at the murders of Irish soldiers by the Right-Wing Christian Militia in the Lebanon have not been abated by the arrogantly hostile speeches of Israeli spokesmen.

They try to blatantly deny any responsibility for the killings not only by an "disassociation" from Major Haddad's Militia, they in fact in other statements try and put the responsibility on civilians.

On the first point it is clearly established and accepted that Haddad's forces are no more or no less than a part of the Israeli forces. The latter supplies their guns, food and even their wages. Yet, Israel is a member of the very United Nations Organisation whose peace-keeping forces are not only shot at by Haddad's militia but are also taken away by them and murdered in cold blood. That the Christian Militia were the guilty ones has been proven by the evidence of one wounded Irish soldier survivor of the atrocity and by UNO observers.

In the heel of the hunt it could, of course, not successfully conceal that Haddad is Israel's agent. This was conceded in the radio interview with the accredited Israeli Ambassador to Ireland, Mr. Argov, who said that it would not be in the interest of Israel to withdraw support from him.

An astounding part of the Ambassador's broadcast interview was his allegation that Ireland was unfriendly to Israel because of its refusal to exchange full embassies. There are at least 19 other countries with whom Ireland

have diplomatic relations but so far has likewise "refused" to exchange full embassies. They include such countries as Brazil, Finland, Iceland, Norway, New Zealand (and even fellow Common Market member, Luxembourg) as well as Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia.

When the Taoiseach, Mr. Haughey, wrote to U.S. President Carter asking him to bring pressure to bear on the Israeli Government with the aim of stopping all military and other aid to Haddad, he certainly addressed his letter to the right address as the US stands in the same relation to Israel as the letter does to the Christian Militia. It was U.S. guns and bullets that the Irish peace-keeping soldiers were shot with.

It is a contradiction, therefore, at the same time that our soldiers are victims of US backed aggression in the Middle East that the Irish Government should be, as part of the E.E.C., following the Maggie Thatcher line of active support for the US in joining in a boycott and economic offensive against the people of Iran.

Hence the wisdom of not entering on a dangerous diplomatic course from which it may be too late to withdraw later.

The United States has called on its allies for support in its conflict with Iran and with the Soviet Union over Afghanistan. All the EEC States except Ireland are allied to the USA in NATO and may legitimately expect such a call.

Ireland is not an ally of the USA. Why therefore should we adopt joint

positions with the rest of the EEC over Iran or the Olympic Games because this is what America seeks of its allies?

Why should Ireland recall its representative from Teheran simultaneously with the other EEC countries and discuss trade, technological and sporting boycotts with the rest of the EEC?

There are no treaty obligations on us to do any of these things. The Irish people were indeed assured in 1972 that their neutrality would not be affected when they agreed to join the EEC. If we succumb to political pressure and go along with the other EEC States, America's allies, in matters such as these, what

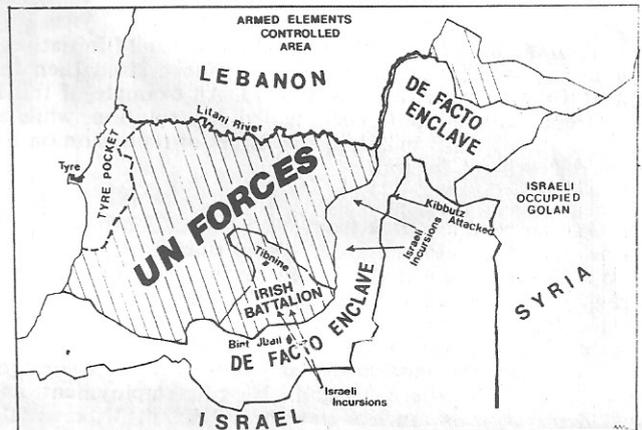
is there to enable us draw the line at participation in more overt military preparations later and in an all-out war if such should happen.

Every citizen concerned about the future should seek

The recent visit by spokesmen for the PLO government in exile has highlighted once again the fundamental problem behind the present situation. In an interview while in Ireland the delegation quite explicitly explained that they (the Palestinians) were prepared to use whatever means were necessary to achieve their goal of an independent Palestinian state. But of course how can the non use of "violent" means be ruled out in a situation where Israel openly proclaims that its fundamental goal is to destroy Palestine and its people. It is more than obvious now that the long term aim of the Israelis is to wipe out any trace of the culture and independence of the Palestinian peoples.

The CYM call for the right of the Palestinian people to their own homeland and the giving back of all lands taken by the Israelis and their right-wing Phalangist henchmen.

to make clear to the Government that Irish membership of the EEC must not be used as a cover for completely forsaking a policy of neutrality and non-alignment.



President Carter



Major Scott Haddad

Our views on

NORTHERN

IRELAND

Joint communique issued by the Executive Committee of the Young Communist League of Great Britain and the National Executive Committee of the Connolly Youth Movement, Dublin, April 1980.

1. Recognising the military, political and economic control of Northern Ireland by British Imperialism, the young communists of Britain and Ireland further pledge their commitment to the principles of the eventual unification of the Irish nation.

2. The political control over Northern Ireland, exercised by the British Government, and its methods of maintaining that control, are the main cause of the violence that hits hardest at the working people of Ireland, and especially its youth. In particular the British Government maintains its policy of using repression to crush political opposition. With the Emergency Provisions Act and the Prevention of Terrorism Act both in force and daily use, Northern Ireland is ruled by the most draconian and repressive laws in Europe.

3. To date all forms of "British solutions" and "Initiatives" have been designed to maintain, and indeed strengthen the hold of British Imperialism on Ireland. An example of this is the current political conference, hailed as a solution, while at the same time British maintains its forces of repression on the streets of Northern Ireland.

4. As long as direct rule from Westminster continues, there will be no democratic solution. Direct rule must be replaced by an assembly which is controlled by the provisions of a Bill of Rights, and elected by proportional representation. Such an assembly must have control over fiscal powers, and power to legislate. The economic and social policies pursued by the British Government have particularly serious consequences for the people of Northern Ireland. Mass unemployment and social deprivation is much worse there than in Britain itself. This is a consequence of the distortion of the economy of Northern Ireland, brought about by British imperialist domination. The continuation of this domination makes the solution of these problems more difficult.

5. The British Army, supposedly here as a peace keeping force, is in fact the most warlike and violent organisation existing in the province. Its frequent acts of brutality, beatings and organised torture and street executions, mark it as a particularly unpleasant army of occupation. The Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) supposedly a normal civilian police force, appear to the working class in general, in a very different way. On the streets they are a heavily armed para military group, constantly harrasing the people, particularly the young who suffer constant harrasment at the so called "P" checks. The Ulster Defence Regiment (UDR) flagrantly sectarian, and demonstrably ready to mutiny at any hint of action against Unionist violence, are a standing provocation to the entire anti Unionist section of the community. In rural areas particularly,

its brutal activities make it a fitting partner to the other state forces.

6. Such repressive apparatus, and daily use of the Emergency Provisions Act and Diplock Courts, deny the people of Northern Ireland their civil rights, and provides the basis for the flourishing of sectarian violence.

7. "Against this background of repressive and undemocratic legislation, it is essential that all those tried, convicted and imprisoned by the Political (Diplock) Courts, for crimes arising out of the political situation in Ireland, have this fact recognised and be treated accordingly during their imprisonment. The situation is highlighted by the inhumane conditions which currently exist in the H Blocks of Long Kesh and Armagh Womens prison. This situation must be brought to a speedy end by the granting of.....

The right not to do prison labour.

The right to wear ones own clothes.

The right to send and receive correspondence.

The right to receive visitors.

The right to associate.

The right to exercise.

The right to have access to education.

8. In its turn, the Prevention of Terrorism Act in Britain cuts into the democratic rights of the British people, and results in the large scale harrasment of people of Irish descent resident in Britain or Irish visitors to Britain. It is urgent that MPs to the British Parliament should vote against its renewal. The struggle for democratic rights in Northern Ireland, backed by an assembly, is a necessary step in the direction of a united, independent Ireland. It is an integral part of the fight to end partition. In campaigning to achieve these rights the basis will be laid for uniting the working people of Northern Ireland. This will make possible the building of a movement which can end the crisis, secure the withdrawal of British troops, and pave the way for establishing a United Ireland. In order to assist this the British Government must renounce all claims to Irish territory. The Irish people must be free to exercise their rights to self determination and decide for themselves what political structures they consider necessary to best serve the interests of the entire people of Ireland. The British Govt. must make clear that it recognises this right.

9. There is an important role for the British Trade Union movement to play in joining in the struggle for civil rights in Northern Ireland. The British Trade Union movement has indeed in the past, adopted policies calling for action on civil rights issues in Northern Ireland. This activity must be turned into active participation in campaigning for these issues throughout Britain.

10. Therefore the Connolly Youth Movement and the Young Communist League of Great Britain, call on all

progressive and democratic forces to unite behind a common programme for action on Ireland. Such a programme must include:

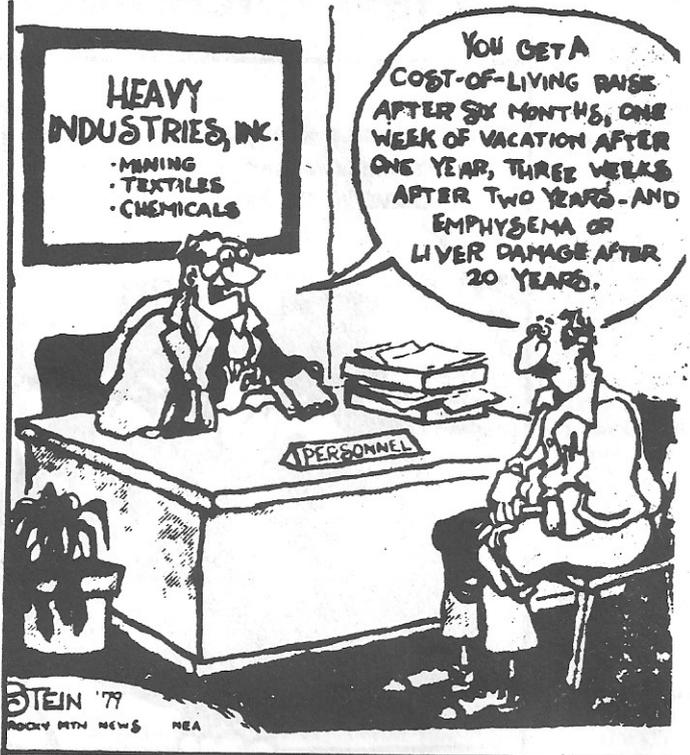
The dismantling of the British apparatus of repression. This must be done firstly by a decisive change in the legal framework. The Emergency Provisions Act and the Prevention of Terrorism Act must both be repealed completely. A genuine Bill of Rights guaranteeing an end to Special Courts, interrogations, police torture etc. must be passed together with a review of all cases of prisoners tried under emergency legislation.

An independent complaints procedure for the police ought to be instituted to give genuine public control over their activities. The army must be withdrawn to barracks pending its ultimate complete withdrawal. The UDR and police Special Branch should be disbanded entirely and immediate withdrawal of all members of the SAS from Irish soil.

The end of Direct Rule and the establishment of a genuinely democratic assembly for Northern Ireland. The basic constitution of this assembly must be the Bill of Rights. As a further safeguard there should be representation, in legislative administration, from the mass organisations of the people, the Trade Unions and community associations in particular.

The Democratic Assembly should have power to control the economic life of the province. It should have fiscal powers, the power to control the import and export of Capital and goods. This would be designed to weaken the power of the monopolies and encourage the autonomous development of the economy. There should be a major programme of state investment, with the biggest companies brought under Northern Ireland public democratic control.

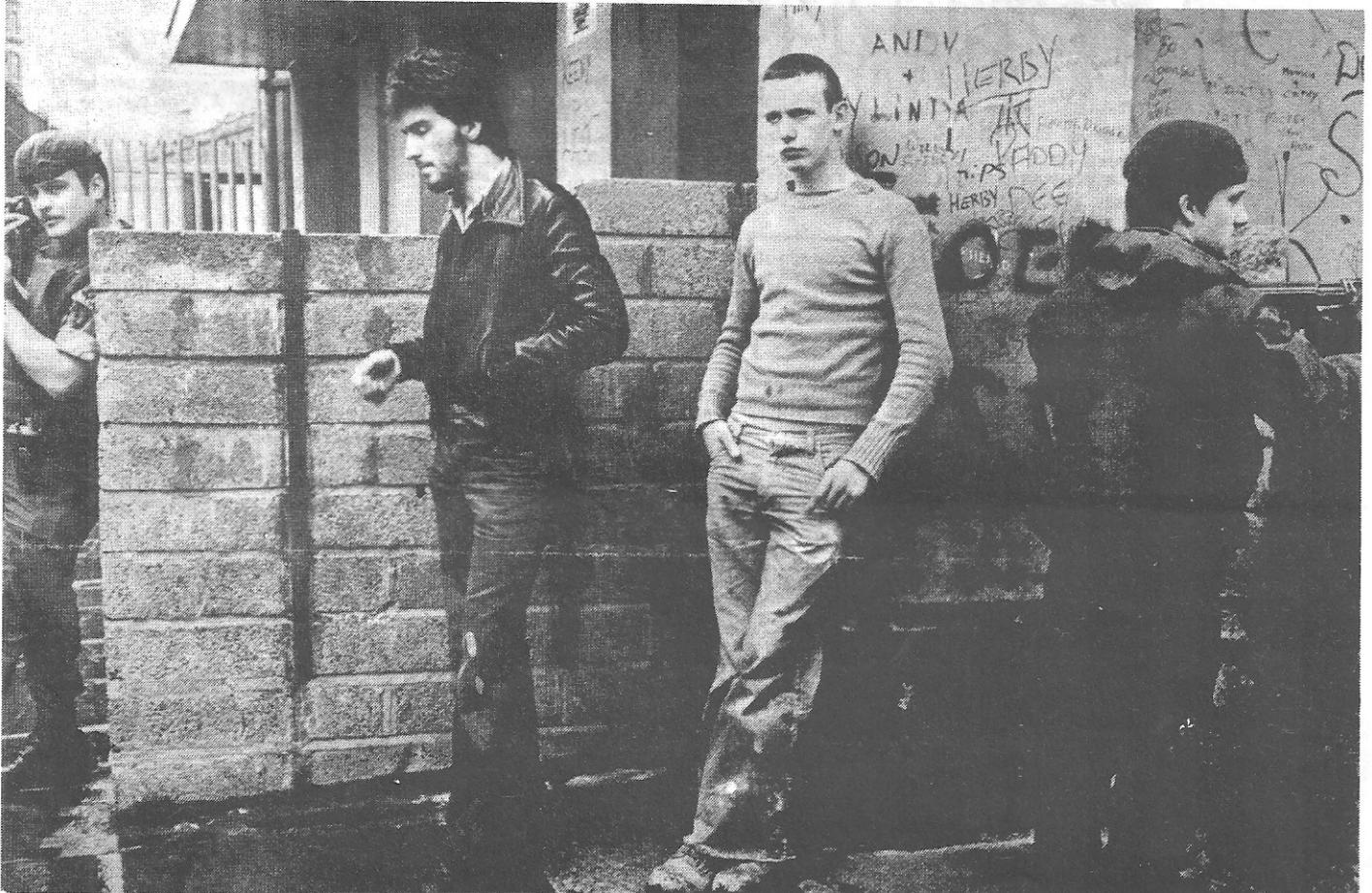
11. It is now time for British and Irish youth to unite in its struggle to end once and for all the centuries old domination and exploitation of the Irish people. This struggle is not a



simple one. Many complex issues are involved, but the struggle of the Irish people is also the struggle of the British working class, to these ends both organisations are committed.

National Executive Committee Connolly Youth Movement
National Executive Young Communist League of Great Britain.

Dublin April 1980.

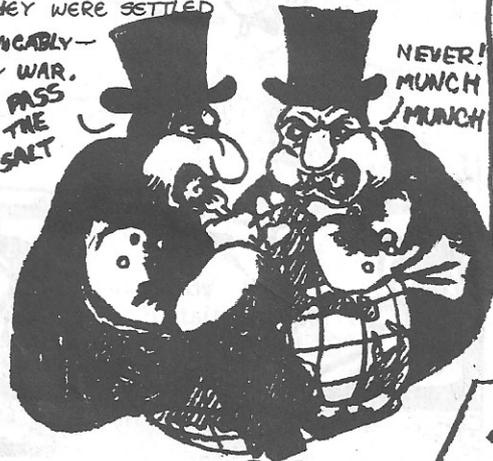


Two youths are held for an identity (P) check outside the city centre. They are bored and resentful of a procedure which is a part of daily life for many Catholics, particularly the youths. It is very simple for the army to abuse this security measure and employ it as a form of harassment.

Class Encounters of the Deadliest Kind

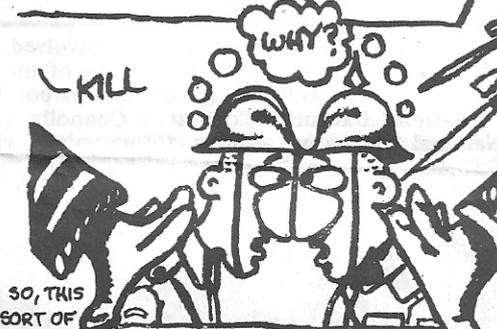
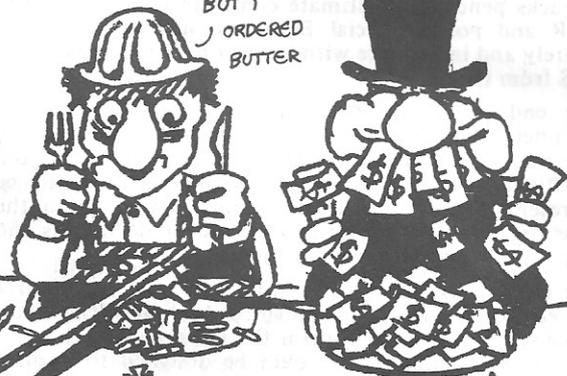
BEFORE WORLD WAR I, WHEN CAPITALISM WAS EVERYWHERE, GREAT IMPERIALIST POWERS COULD CARVE UP THE WORLD FOR THEIR OWN USE. WHEN DISPUTES AROSE BETWEEN THEM, THEY WERE SETTLED

AMICABLY—
BY WAR.
PASS
THE SALT

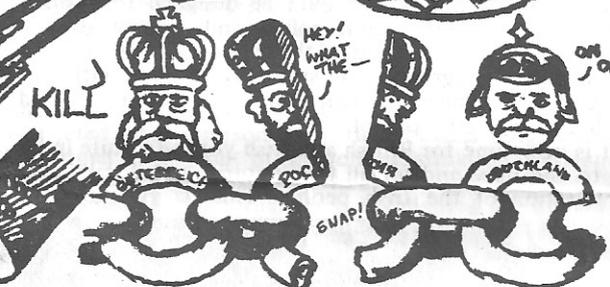


BUT FOR WARS, (BIG ONES AND LOTS OF 'EM) YOU NEED GUNS. SO A LOT WERE MADE. THIS HAD A TWO-SIDED EFFECT— ① LOUSY FOR WORKING PEOPLE. YOU CAN'T DRIVE THEM, LIVE IN THEM, OR SPREAD THEM ON BREAD, AND COST A MINT. ② GREAT FOR MONOPOLIES, AS GOVERNMENTS WERE A GUARANTEED MARKET, THEY WERE ALWAYS GETTING OBSOLETE, AND THE ARMS INDUSTRY MEANT BIG BUX. THEY WERE ALSO GOOD FOR KILLING PEOPLE...

BUT I
ORDERED
BUTTER

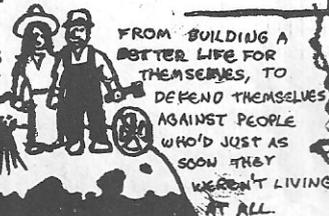


SO, THIS SORT OF THING WENT ON FOR A LONG TIME. A WORKER FROM ONE COUNTRY WOULD FIND HIMSELF FIGHTING ONE FROM ANOTHER — ALL FOR THE GLORY OF HIS KING, KAISER, GOD, COUNTRY, AUNT ETHEL, AND BOSS, OF COURSE.



ONE DAY, A BUNCH OF WORKERS + PEASANTS ASKED THEMSELVES WHY, COULDN'T FOR THE LIFE OF THEM COME UP WITH A GOOD REASON, AND SAID THE HELL WITH THE WHOLE DAMN THING. RUSSIA, THE WEAKEST LINK IN THE IMPERIALIST CHAIN, SNAPPED LIKE A PRETZEL, + BUILT SOCIALISM.

NOW, THE ARMS RACE IS BAD NEWS FOR SOCIALISM. IT MEANS WORKERS HAVE TO TAKE TIME OUT



AND WHAT THE WARHAWKS HAVE PLANNED FOR THEM IS NO PIGNIC. SO THEY HAVE TO MATCH THE PENTAGON GUN FOR GUN (AND BOMB FOR BOMB) WHICH, INCIDENTALLY, THEY STILL HAVEN'T DONE. EVERY SERIOUS PEACE INITIATIVE HAS COME FROM THE SOCIALIST CAMP. THE WHOLE THING HAS TO BE CALLED OFF BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.

THE ONLY REASON WHY WAR HAVEN'T BEEN UNLEASHED FOR 80 YEARS IS THE COMBINED VIGILANCE OF THE SOCIALIST WORLD AND THE PEACE FORCES OF THE WORLD — MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE HAD ENOUGH. SALT II (STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION AGREEMENT) IS UNDER ATTACK FROM THE PENTAGON, AND THOSE FORCES...

WHO WOULD UNLEASH WAR AGAIN. THEY MUST BE STOPPED. THE NEUTRON BOMB MUST BE BANNED, AND THE CRUISE MISSILE. IN THE NAME OF LIFE ITSELF.



Tim Moore's

British and Irish N.E.C's meet

A meeting between representatives of the National Executive Committees of the CYM and British Young Communist League took place recently in Dublin to work out a solidarity programme with the youth and people of Northern Ireland.

The British young communists, who first spent some days in Belfast on a "fact finding mission", pledged full support in exposing the role of British Imperialism in promoting and fostering violence and sectarianism in Northern Ireland.

Details were also discussed, and final touches put to a jointly sponsored initiative between the British YCL and the World Federation of Democratic Youth, which will take place in London later this year. The theme of the event, which will take the form of a "round table discussion", will be **ANTI IMPERIALIST SOLIDARITY WITH THE YOUTH AND PEOPLE OF NORTHERN IRELAND.**

The purpose of the event is primarily to highlight and "internationalise" the plight of the vast majority of the people of the North who daily suffer the harassment of the armed forces of Imperialism. As well as representatives from CYM and the British YCL, delegates will include contingents from all over Europe.

WFDY (World Federation of Democratic Youth) is the world wide umbrella organisation for progressive and democratic youth organisations throughout the World. It unites over 180 member organisations, and the CYM is its Irish member.

Connolly remembered

As is traditional since its foundation, the CYM will commemorate the death of James Connolly on Sunday the 11th May at 3 o'clock in Arbour Hill graveyard in Dublin.

"Plans well in hand."

Plans for the fifth national Congress of the Connolly Youth Movement are

Youth delegation visit Ireland

At the invitation of the Connolly Youth Movement a delegation from the SSM (Socialist Union of Youth) of Czechoslovakia visited Ireland during March. The delegation consisted of a member of the Czech parliament who has specific responsibility for rural youth, and a representative from the foreign relations department of the SSM.

The delegation received a warm welcome to Belfast by the British Army who immediately stopped and searched the group as it made its way from Aldergrove airport. Having spent some days in Belfast witnessing first hand the misery and oppression foisted on the people of the North, by British Imperialism, the delegation travelled to Dublin.

While in Ireland the representatives of the SSM had a busy schedule meeting with many different youth, political and trade union groups. Some of the organisations met with were: The Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association, The Union of Students in Ireland, The National Youth Council of Ireland, The Student Christian Movement, Labour Party Youth, The National H Blocks Committee and various trade unions.

As well as this the delegation found time to visit places of historical and cultural significance, so as to

reported to be well under way. The Congress will take place on the weekend of the 27/28/29th of November 1980 in Dublin. As well as national organisations, foreign fraternal delegates have been invited from the following countries, Soviet Union, GDR, Cuba, Britain, Chile, **CHECHOSLOVAKIA AND FROM THE World Federation of Democratic Youth.**



Annual CYM Easter march

The annual CYM Commemoration of those who died during the Easter Rising of 1916 took place in Sligo this year on Easter Sunday. Members of the movement from Belfast, Cork, Waterford, Donegal, Dublin as well as Sligo attended. A march took place to the Republican plot in Sligo cemetery, where a graveside oration was delivered by P. Delaney, General Secretary of the CYM. The event was presided over by councillor Declan Bree, chairman of the local branch of the CYM.

About fifty people marched to the grave yard led by members of the Sligo pope band. During the oration P. Delaney pointed out that despite the opportunist display of the Republican image by the Fianna Fail Govt. in the South, it was this very party that had introduced vicious repressive legislation to curb not only the activities of those who would label themselves republicans, but also to effectively harness all who would try to organise to change the nature of our Capitalist state.

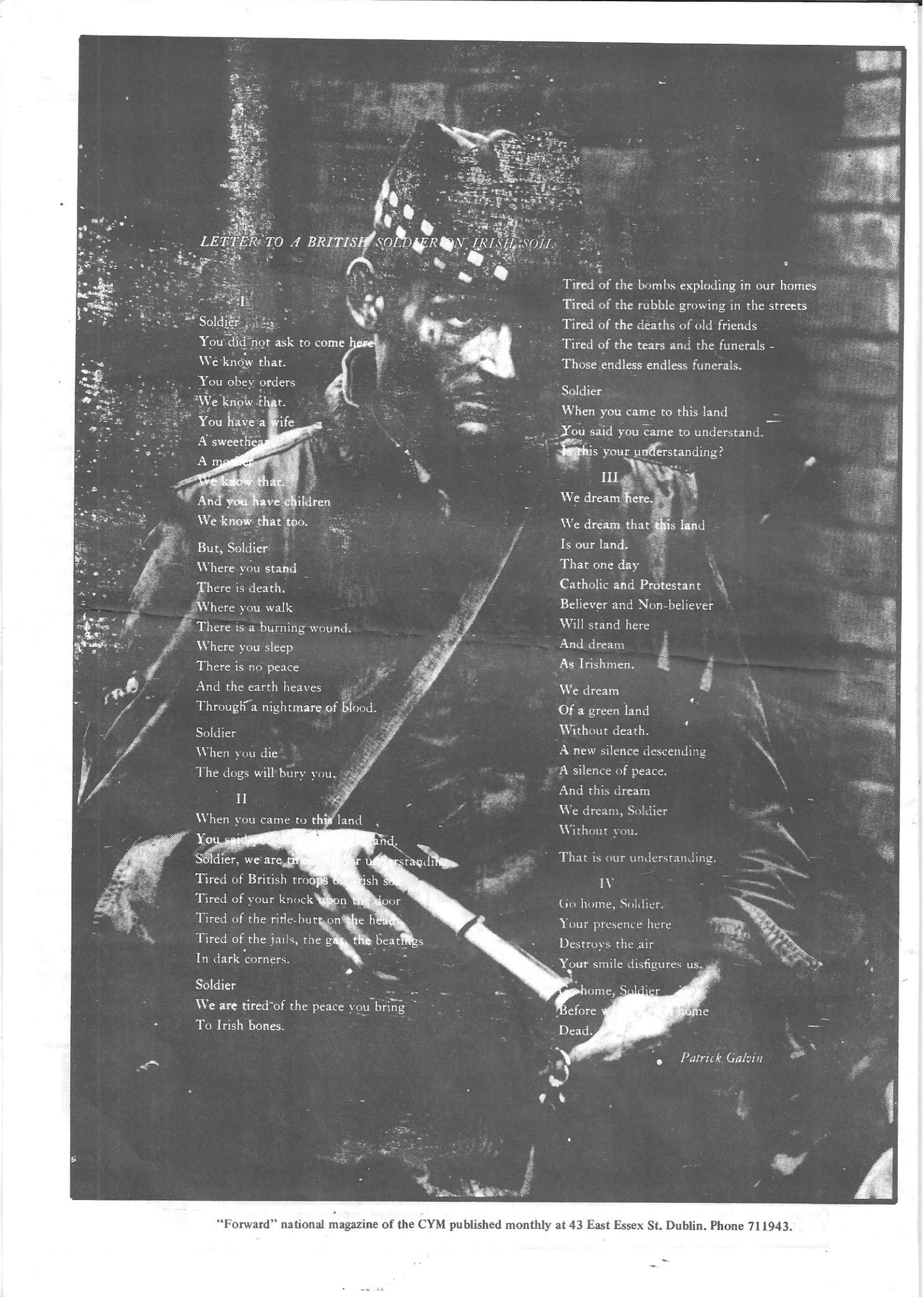
He also said that those on the Left who ranted hysterical anti republicanism and anti nationalism had long sold out the high principles of those who died in 1916. The question of the H Blocks and all political prisoners incarcerated by the Kangaroo political courts in the North, must now be exposed at every opportunity, he continued. In finishing he stated that the CYM fully supported the demands and objectives of the National H Blocks Committee.

CYM picket embassy

About fifty members of the CYM placed a picket on the American embassy in Dublin recently, to protest over Carters plan to wreck the International Olympic movement. In a letter handed into the embassy addressed to the American ambassador to Ireland, the movement called on the American Govt. to stop pressurising the American team, which it said was obviously being forced to support Carters mad plan. It also demanded that America keep its nose out of the affairs of other national olympic committees, including Ireland.

Noting that Carter was prepared to use all conceivable means to drum up support for his hopes in the presidential campaign, it urged the American Govt. to use the games for what they were intended, a vehicle of peace and cooperation amongst peoples, and not as a political football.





LETTER TO A BRITISH SOLDIER ON IRISH SOIL

I

Soldier
You did not ask to come here
We know that.
You obey orders
We know that.
You have a wife
A sweetheart
A mother
We know that.
And you have children
We know that too.

But, Soldier
Where you stand
There is death.
Where you walk
There is a burning wound.
Where you sleep
There is no peace
And the earth heaves
Through a nightmare of blood.

Soldier
When you die
The dogs will bury you.

II

When you came to this land
You said you came to understand.
Soldier, we are tired of your understanding.
Tired of British troops on Irish soil
Tired of your knock upon the door
Tired of the rifle-butt on the head
Tired of the jails, the gas, the beatings
In dark corners.

Soldier
We are tired of the peace you bring
To Irish bones.

Tired of the bombs exploding in our homes
Tired of the rubble growing in the streets
Tired of the deaths of old friends
Tired of the tears and the funerals -
Those endless endless funerals.

Soldier
When you came to this land
You said you came to understand.
Is this your understanding?

III

We dream here.

We dream that this land
Is our land.
That one day
Catholic and Protestant
Believer and Non-believer
Will stand here
And dream
As Irishmen.

We dream
Of a green land
Without death.
A new silence descending
A silence of peace.
And this dream
We dream, Soldier
Without you.

That is our understanding.

IV

Go home, Soldier.
Your presence here
Destroys the air
Your smile disfigures us.

Go home, Soldier
Before we go home
Dead.

Patrick Galvin

Title: Forward

Organisation: Connolly Youth Movement

Date: 1980

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