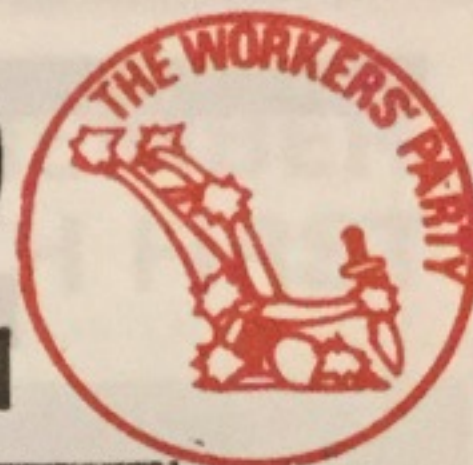


# IRELAND

IRLANDA

IRLANDE

IRLAND



Spring 1983



L-R: Paddy Gallagher, Proinsias De Rossa TD, Tomas Mac Giolla TD, and Joe Sherlock.

## Workers' Party support grows

THE most significant fact to emerge from an analysis of the recent general election returns in Ireland is the steady growth in support for The Workers' Party. This confirms a trend evident in the June 1981 and February 1982 elections.

While the Party is naturally disappointed at the loss of two seats, it takes great encouragement from the fact that our vote nationally was up from 38,099 in February last to 54,888 on this occasion — an increase of 44%. The increase was most significant in Dublin where our vote almost doubled from 15,748 in February last to 29,155 this time.

the lead from party leader Garret FitzGerald, made no secret of the fact that they preferred to see the seats going to Fianna Fáil rather than the Workers' Party. Our party is satisfied however that the exclusion of Joe Sherlock and Paddy Gallagher from the Dáil (National Parliament) will only be a temporary one and that they will be back after the next election.

### National share

The election results also clearly show that, despite popular opinion to the contrary, proportional representation does no favours for smaller parties. While our national share of the vote was 3.25%, this gave us only 1.2% of the seats. Our popular vote was more than one third of the Labour total, yet the Labour Party won eight times as many seats as the Workers' Party.

It is also worth noting that while Workers' Party second preferences went predominantly to the Labour Party, the Labour votes did not transfer to Workers' Party candidates nearly as solidly. This was particularly true in Dublin North East where Labour Party transfers could have ensured the election of another socialist candidate, Pat McCartan, had a large portion of them not gone to Right-wing Fine Gael.

### Satisfied

Overall our Party is very satisfied with the steady growth in its vote. It shows that working people are increasingly questioning the conservative policies of Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael and it shows quite clearly that The Workers' Party is here to stay as a significant force in Irish political life.

### Results

	1st Pref.	%	Total Vote
Dublin N.E. (P. McCartan)	3,056	9.40	5,737
Dublin N.E.* (P. Yeates)	1,476	3.65	2,013
" Central (M. White)	2,161	4.86	2,197
" S. Central (E. Byrne)	3,774	8.23	4,119
" S. East (A. Smith)	1,820	4.57	2,026
" S. West* (P. Rabbitte)	2,365	6.28	2,866
" West (T. MacGiolla)	6,844	14.70	7,877
" N. West (P. DeRossa)	6,251	19.78	6,400
Dun Laoghaire (E. Gilmore)	1,368	2.73	1,492
Wicklow (J. McManus)	3,431	8.17	3,762
Wexford* (J. Roche)	920	1.83	965
Waterford (P. Gallagher)	4,577	10.63	7,019
Cork East (J. Sherlock)	6,186	14.88	6,817
" Sth Central* (N. Power)	1,485	3.00	1,964
" Nth Central (J. Kelleher)	1,836	4.30	2,206
Kerry South* (S. O'Grady)	679	2.06	729
Galway West (J. Brick)	1,787	3.12	1,884
Donegal Sth West (S. Rodgers)	1,972	6.28	—
Louth (D. MacRaghnaill)	671	1.53	—
Carlow/Kilkenny (S. Walsh)	2,189	3.92	2,390

### Party President

The election of the Party President Tomas Mac Giolla in Dublin West at the head of the poll, together with the dramatic increase in the vote for Proinsias De Rossa and the encouraging performance in a number of constituencies where we were running candidates for the first time are all indications of the growing consciousness of working people in Ireland.

The two seats which were lost in Cork East and Waterford were made particular targets by Right-wing Fianna Fáil who adopted a "money no object" style of campaign to unseat Joe Sherlock and Paddy Gallagher. The Right-wing Fine Gael party in both constituencies, taking



## EDITORIAL

THE year which has just ended has been one of the most significant in the history of The Workers' Party of Ireland.

The two general elections which we contested in the Republic clearly demonstrated the growing support for our policies among the working class. Both elections brought substantial increases in our vote and a number of significant electoral breakthroughs, culminating in the election of Party Leader, Tomas Mac Giolla in Dublin West in the November election.

Events since the general election have shown that, more than ever, there is a need for a strong and determined party to defend the interests of working people. The ending of free school transport, massive increases in bus and rail fares, and threats of a wage freeze, are all indications of the type of treatment working people are likely to receive at the hands of this Fine Gael dominated conservative government during 1983.

In Northern Ireland our Party contested the Assembly elections in the most difficult circumstances. The vote the Party received demonstrated that there is a small but growing number of people who are prepared to reject sectarian politics and who are seeking to build the unity of working people necessary to win peace and democracy.

Internationally, one of the most encouraging develop-

ments has been the huge growth in opposition to the threat posed to world peace by nuclear weapons. The Irish government must intensify its support for efforts to end the arms race and reduce international tension. Besides the threat which nuclear weapons pose to the future of the human race, the dreadful waste of finance and resources on military spending is criminal, at a time when there is such poverty and disease in the world. The allocation of these resources to jobs, health, education and environmental improvements, could change the face of the world within a decade.

The objective of The Workers' Party is to win state power for the Irish working class. Our Party will never be content with a society in which the privileged, the wealthy, the landlords, the industrialists tell us how we are to live our lives, determine the future of our children, and dictate the narrow boundaries within which hundreds of thousands of our fellow citizens are to exist.

During 1983 The Workers' Party will encourage into its ranks those who are sick of corruption, unemployment, exploitation and human misery; those who want peace on our island, who want an end to fears of international carnage and destruction; those who want to create a democratic, secular, socialist society.

## IRELAND MUST REMAIN NEUTRAL

The Workers' Party called on the Prime Minister, Dr Garret Fitz Gerald to immediately and publicly reaffirm this country's commitment to the principle of neutrality.

In a statement the Party's director of International Affairs, Sean O Cionnaith, said that a clear and unambiguous statement was now necessary in the aftermath of the adoption by the European Parliament of a report urging that Ireland and other EEC countries should operate more closely with NATO on European defence and other security matters.

### Explanation

"The Irish electorate are due an explanation from our members of the European Parliament as to how this report, with potentially disastrous consequences for Irish neutrality, was allowed to pass with nothing more than token opposition from them. It is deplorable that only one Irish member even bothered to speak on the report and that two members actually abstained in the voting.

Since we entered the EEC ten years ago there seems to have been a determined effort to compromise our neutrality. Neutrality is an important part of our history and heritage and it would be deplorable if the decision of the EEC was to endanger this status.

### Positive

Ireland's neutral position offers us a special chance to play a vital role in the struggle for world peace. Neutrality is not — and must not be allowed to become a negative stance — it must be seen as a positive affirmation of our people's desire for peace at home, in Europe, and throughout the world. Those who would weaken or compromise Ireland's neutrality by drawing it closer to a military alliance such as NATO must be challenged and exposed."



## Defend Dennis Brutus



In a letter to Elliot Abrams, Human Rights Section of the State Department in Washington, USA, the International Affairs Bureau of The Workers' Party has urged the US Government to grant political asylum to the distinguished poet and human rights defender, Dennis Brutus, who is threatened with deportation from the United States to racist South Africa.

"The bloodstained record of the apartheid regime in Pretoria can leave no doubt that to deport Dennis Brutus to South Africa would be tantamount to a death sentence.

"The name of Professor Brutus is internationally known as a scholar and educator, and his fate will concern many people around the world. The Workers' Party of Ireland calls on the US Government to accede to his request for asylum."

## REMEMBER RUTH FIRST

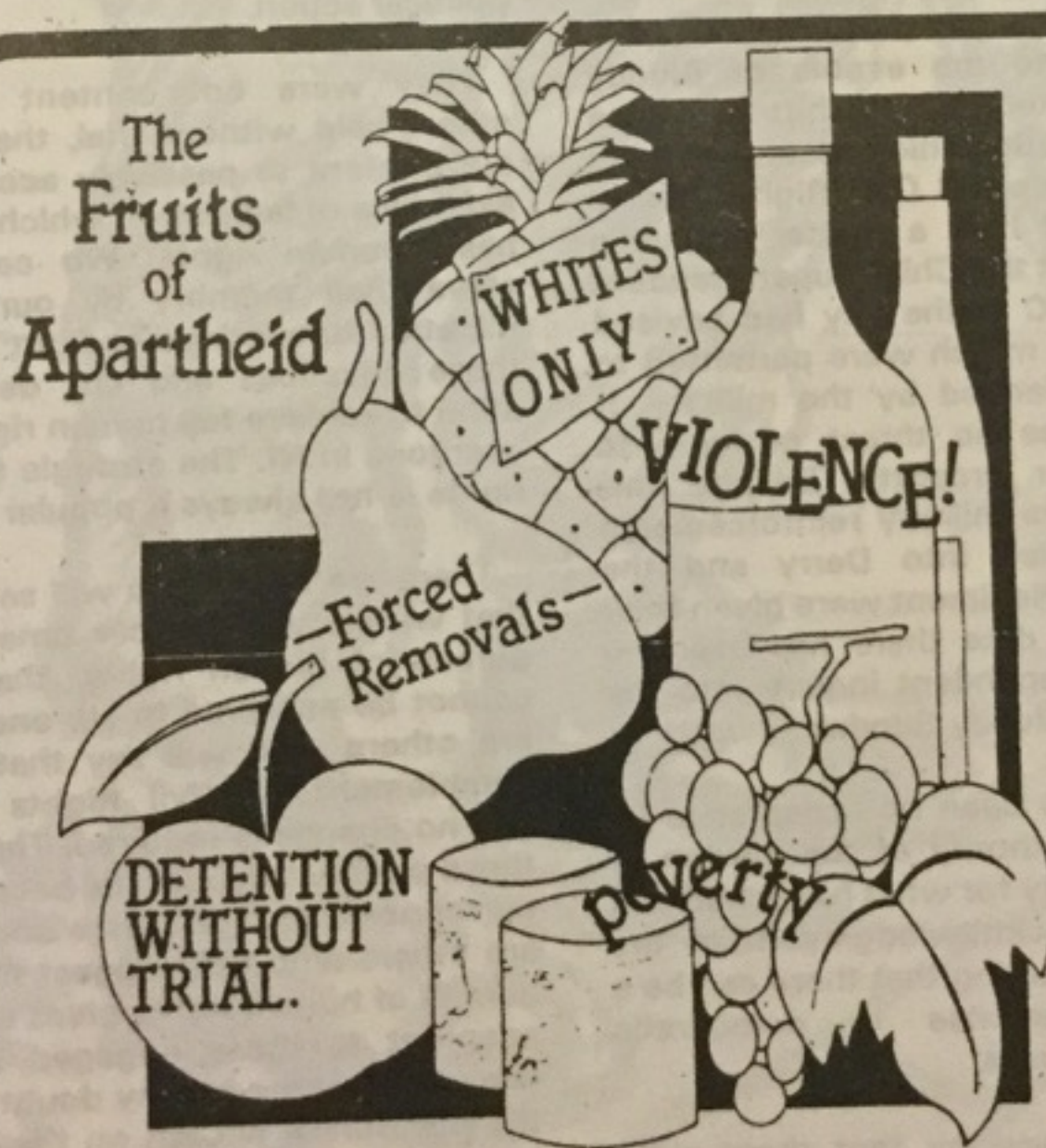


RUTH FIRST

The following message of condolence was sent to Oliver Tambo, President of the African National Congress and Moses Mabhida, General Secretary of the Communist Party of South Africa by the International Affairs Bureau of The Workers' Party of Ireland on the murder of Comrade Ruth First:

"The Workers' Party have learned with deep regret and sorrow of the tragic death of Ruth First. Her murder by the racist South African regime is another vicious crime against the African National Congress and the people of South Africa struggling for human rights, social justice and peace.

"However The Workers' Party know that her work like that of the other fighters against apartheid cannot be destroyed by their deaths. We have known and admired Ruth First for over ten years. We salute her and the other comrades in the ANC and the South African Communist Party. With deepest condolences."



Support the fight for JUSTICE in South Africa  
DO NOT BUY SOUTH AFRICAN FRUIT



*Address by KEVIN SMYTH, Executive member of the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association, at the Bloody Sunday Commemoration in Derry on January 30th.*

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ELEVEN years and numerous atrocities later it is perhaps difficult to perceive the enormity of the events which took place here in Derry on Sunday 30th January 1972.

Bloody Sunday stands apart from all the other atrocities which have occurred in Northern Ireland because of the perpetrators and the circumstances in which the killings occurred.

Bloody Sunday has been linked with My Lai and Sharpville precisely because just as in those events naked military might was used in an attempt to silence the voice of democratic protest, so too in Derry, thirteen people were murdered in order to halt a Civil Rights demonstration and to intimidate and terrorise a civilian population from supporting just Civil Rights demands.

On that day here in Derry we witnessed the cool calculated actions of military men who were guided and directed by people in the highest office of the British Government, namely Mr Reginald Maudling the British Home Secretary and Mr Edward Heath, the British Prime Minister. It is insufficient to state that the Parachute Regiment overacted in Derry on Bloody Sunday.

If we are to make progress in Northern Ireland we must be prepared to face up to the realities of the past and the influence that those realities have on the present. The Parachute Regiment did not overact in Derry; they reacted as they were instructed to react; namely to halt the

Civil Rights demonstration, to enforce arrests and to use force to do so. In carrying out their orders they reacted in the way that their training befitted them... they shot their rifles and they shot aggressively.

Those ultimately responsible for the massacres in Derry were those who ordered the Parachute Regiment into the city and those who provided them with their instructions.

The Widgery inquiry established to inquire into the events of Bloody Sunday attempted to shift the blame for the deaths which occurred on the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association. Yet it is a matter of public record that the Chief Superintendent of the RUC in the city had advised that if the march were permitted to go unchallenged by the military, it would pose no threat or harm to persons or property. Despite this advice extra military reinforcements were drafted into Derry and the Parachute Regiment were given their orders. To date there has been no proper independent inquiry into the events of Bloody Sunday.

There has been no acceptance by those in authority of the burden of responsibility for what happened and no public acknowledgement of the error in assuming that there can be a military response to democratic political protest.

It is noteworthy that those who would hide behind the Widgery inquiry are the selfsame people who would lecture the rest of the world on the pursuit of human rights.

The Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association remembers Bloody Sunday not in a spirit of revenge or self-pitying emotion. We come here in a dignified manner to remember those who died and to draw inspiration from the supreme sacrifice which they made in the cause of justice and human rights. They did not choose to die and they did not wish to die. They sought to change the society in which they lived by non-violent political action.

They were not content to see others held without trial, they were not content to passively accept the existence of legislation which denied basic human rights. We can best serve their memory by our determination to continue to fight against these injustices and our determination to achieve full human rights for everyone in NI. The struggle for civil rights is not always a popular one.

There are those who will say to us that we are wasting our time in the pursuit of human rights; that they cannot be achieved in NI; and there are others who will say that a full complement of Civil Rights exists and no change is required. There are those who will despise us because of our opposition to violence and there are others who will suggest that the pursuit of human rights gives encouragement to those engaged in violence. Lest there be any doubt about the position of NICRA on the use of violence we will spell it out clearly.

NICRA is totally opposed to the use of violence from any source. The use of violence violates the most funda-



mental right of any human being, and the primary clause in all human rights charters, the right to life.

Further the use of violence by terrorists' organisations and groups aids those in authority who justify deviations from the normal rule of law and justify the suspension of basic human rights by reference to the actions of violent men and the need to protect society.

NICRA rejects the view that the campaign for Civil Rights was a cause of violence or the even more insidious view that the campaign of violence is a continuation of the struggle for Civil Rights by other methods. Both views stem from a refusal to understand what the struggle for Civil Rights is really about. It is not about achieving political victory for one side of the sectarian divide or the other.

At the heart of Civil Rights policy is the belief that there are certain

minimum standards of justice which must be enjoyed by all and the achievement of these minimum standards will have a liberating effect on the whole political life of Northern Ireland. It is in this context that NICRA has spoken about the need for a Bill of Human Rights which would contain in one single piece of legislation a whole range of Civil Rights guarantees, both to the individual and to groups of people. Opponents of Civil Rights will claim that a Bill of Rights in NI is unenforceable and could not be guaranteed. Why should this be so?

If undemocratic laws and so called emergency legislation can be enforced in NI, why not democratic laws and human rights legislation? When there is a will by those in authority to introduce change, change can come about. It is the task of those engaged in the campaign for Civil Rights to put pressure on those in authority to introduce change.

Change was achieved in the past and victories were won by the mass pressure of a non-violent movement of ordinary people prepared to take to the streets to achieve Civil Rights.

Governments, even right-wing governments like that of Mrs Thatcher, are not impervious to pressure. We must sustain the pressure until all our Civil Rights demands have been met.

There are a number of issues in the field of Human Rights which stand out at this time and must command our attention more than others. To date fourteen people have been killed by the use of plastic baton rounds by the police and military. The use of this weapon is totally unacceptable and even in the terms of those who use it, unjustified. The claim that the weapon is only used to quell riots or disturbances has been shown, during inquests on those who have been killed by the weapon, to be totally untrue.

*contd.*



.. WE SHALL REMEMBER THEM - BOTH!



At the inquest on Paul Whitters the baton round was shown to have been fired at a range of five yards and that in fact he was standing alone when confronted by four policemen, one of who ran towards the boy and fired at his head from a point blank range.

In the majority of cases, where deaths have occurred, there has been no riot situation or at any event disturbances had subsided. Scientific research in the USA has shown that the plastic bullet has an impact far in excess of that which is considered dangerous. The death in NI of 14 people, seven of them children, illustrates clearly that this is a killer weapon and its use must be condemned by all those who abhor violence.

NICRA welcomed the vote in the European Parliament to ban the use of plastic bullets in all ten common market countries and we call upon the Tory Government in Britain to implement the European Parliament's recommendation. We also welcome the decision of the NCCL to take the case of Stephen McConamy to the European Court of Human Rights. We call for the total ban on the use of this weapon before there are any more unjustifiable deaths.

Following recent incidents involving the RUC in which at least ten people have been shot dead, it is

apparent that there is an urgent need for the establishment of an Independent Procedure for the investigation of complaints against the police. These killings have justifiably given rise to the belief that a "shoot to kill" policy now operates within the police. If such a policy exists then the public have a right to know who authorised it and what are the intentions of those pursuing it.

Have the government surrendered once again to the military men as happened on Bloody Sunday? Is there to be a cover up of those responsible for initiative and those responsible for carrying out present RUC policy? The public have a right to know the answers to these questions. Statements from Lord Gowrie or the Chief Constable that these matters are being investigated will not allay public fear and suspicion whilst those investigations are being carried out by the police themselves.

Only a totally independent body with the power to investigate individual incidents and general patterns of policing, can hope to gain the confidence of the public.

The continued existence of Emergency legislation which has now become a permanent feature of the legal system in NI must be a cause of concern to all who have an interest in human rights. The Emergency Provisions Act, the Prevention of Terrorism

Act and the Diplock Courts system have created a system of justice based on random arrests, interrogations, confessions resulting from psychological or physical pressure and supergrassing.

The net effect of this barrage of undemocratic law and unacceptable police methods is to undermine confidence in the legal system and far from reducing violence can be seen as a contributory factor. NICRA calls for the dismantling of all emergency legislation and a return to the normal rule of law.

We call for a review of the Diplock Court system and an end to the payment and encouragement of "supergrasses". We also call at this time for the repeal of the Payment of Debt Act which is being used to further penalise families who have been plunged into poverty by a government intent on pursuing economic policies which increase unemployment and reduce living standards.

As we leave here today let us renew our commitment to winning democracy in Northern Ireland and to ending all forms of injustice. Let us not be intimidated from making our legitimate demands and let us remember that the Bloody Sunday March at which 13 Civil Rights activists were killed will continue until civil rights, justice and peace have been achieved.

Ends

## DUBLIN SCHOOL STUDENTS PROTEST OVER PALESTINE MASSACRE



Mount Temple students (Dublin) Liam Phelan (left) and Fergus McCabe with a display they organised to focus students' attention on the Lebanon.

Over 300 pupils at Mount Temple school in Killester, Dublin, have signed petitions of protest over the massacre of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon.

One petition asks the US government: "Why were the children of Beirut left unprotected?" And the other says to the Israelis: "Why do you do unto others as others have done unto you?"

The protests have been delivered to the US Embassy in Dublin and forwarded to the Israeli Embassy in London.

Some 320 pupils at Mount Temple school aged between 11 and 18 signed each petition. The protest was organised by two fifth-year students, Fergus McCabe and Liam Phelan, both aged 15 years and from Howth, Co. Dublin.





**CHILE:**

A delegation from The Workers' Party last month delivered a letter of protest to the US Embassy in Dublin on the continuing US support for the Pinochet dictatorship in Chile. It also urged the US Government to support the return of democracy to the Chilean people. Picture also shows: (left to right) Andy Smith, Sean O Cionnaith and Deputy Proinsias De Rossa of The Workers' Party outside the US Embassy in Dublin.

*Workers' Party protest at  
US Embassy for Chile*

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## Irish Greetings to Yugoslavian Youth

*The eleventh Congress of the Union of Socialist Youth of Yugoslavia received greetings from The Workers' Party and its youth section, The Irish Democratic Youth Movement. The Congress was held in Belgrade on the 18 and 19 December.*

*In its letter of solidarity sent to Bogic Bogicevic, President of the Union of Socialist Youth of Yugoslavia, The Workers' Party expressed "warm greetings and sincere good wishes for the success of your deliberations. We know that the Yugoslavian people have over-*

*come many difficulties and trials since the defeat of Nazism and express our belief that the present difficulties will be overcome given the commitment and determination of the young generation of Socialist youth."*



# To the Government and People of the Soviet Union.....

4th January 1983

Mr Yuri Andropov,  
General Secretary,  
Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

Dear Mr Andropov,

May we on behalf of the National Executive and members of The Workers' Party of Ireland at the outset offer you our congratulations and sincere best wishes in your new position as General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and as leader of the party and people of the USSR. It heartens us in Ireland that from the first day of your becoming General Secretary you have immediately re-dedicated the Soviet Union, its Party and People to the task of preserving world peace.

Under the late President Leonid Brezhnev the Soviet Union made many positive contributions to the struggle for world peace, notably by such proposals as: 'Not to be the first nation to use Nuclear Weapons'; 'The ratification of Salt 2'; 'To freeze the quantitative and qualitative nature of medium-range nuclear missile weapons of the NATO countries and the Soviet Union in Europe'. Among the many other measures proposed by the Soviet Union were to stop the manufacture of nuclear weapons of all types and the gradual reduction of nuclear weapons stockpiles leading to their complete elimination; further quantitative and qualitative limitation and reduction of strategic arms; conclusion of a treaty on general and complete banning of nuclear weapons tests; reduction of military spending; limitation of sales and deliveries of conventional arms; convocation of a world conference on disarmament and a conference on military detente and disarmament in Europe.

We believe it is only because of the policies pursued by the Soviet Union over the past decades, as exemplified in such proposals, that the world has been spared a nuclear holocaust. And yet vigilance and effort cannot be relaxed. The enemies of peace are continually striving to turn the clock back and re-establish their hold on the world. The struggle for peace and disarmament is, in our view, not separate from but an integral part of the world-wide struggle for national independence, against colonialism and neo-colonialism, against racism, apartheid, and the struggle for a new economic order. The immense sacrifices made by the people of the Soviet Union and other

nations in the victory over Nazism thirty-eight years ago must never be forgotten. It would be disastrous for humanity having defeated Nazism and its world genocidal policies, for this same humanity to become infected with a Nazi world outlook. This is why the struggle for peace is so essential, for the securing of peace in the world will in its turn mean the inevitable triumph of Socialism and the liberation of mankind from all oppression.

All over the capitalist world in 1982 millions of men and women demonstrated their desire and their need for peace. An informed, aware and active public opinion is what the enemies of Peace most fear. In a climate of tension, ignorance and suspicion which capitalism attempts to foster and create, capitalists seek to distort and malign the forces of progress and peace throughout the world.

The Workers' Party condemns in particular the failure of Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister of Britain and Mr Ronald Reagan, President of the United States, to engage in meaningful discussions which would lead to disarmament. Their continued and blatant interference in the internal affairs of other nations, their attempts at economic and industrial blackmail, which they have continually demonstrated during 1982, is clear proof that they have not the cause of peace or the well-being of ordinary people at heart but only the preservation of the power and privileges of the few who dominate and control capitalist society. As 1983 begins it is equally clear to us in Ireland that they are not succeeding in their aims for the strength, power and influence of the peace movement in their own countries and throughout the world is growing.

We, of the Workers' Party, believe that small non-aligned countries such as Ireland can play a major part in preserving world peace. In this context, we believe that the speech delivered by the former Irish Prime Minister, Mr C.J. Haughey to the 2nd Special Session of the United Nations on Disarmament in June 1982, was a major contribution to their struggle. It will be part of our party's contribution to this struggle for peace and disarmament, within and without parliament, to work to have the new Irish Government follow-up and support in every possible way the measures proposed and steps taken by the previous Irish Government. It is our conviction that no single country, no one person can stand aside from this

task, the resolution of which, as you know, is nothing more or less than the future of humanity.

The recent overwhelming vote in the United Nations General Assembly for a Nuclear Freeze is a further demonstration that the peace aims, policies and actions of the Soviet Union, coupled with those of the other Socialist countries, joined by the activities of the peace organisations all over the world and supported by the countries of the Non-aligned movement, that success is attending the efforts of all those forces engaged in the struggle for peace and disarmament. In 1983 it is therefore all the more urgent that the peace-loving and progressive forces throughout the world do not relax their efforts, do not succumb to the threats and blackmail of the war-mongers. In a world where millions of men, women and children are dying of hunger, where so many more millions are destitute, unemployed and illiterate, the scandal of valuable and scarce resources being wasted on the materials of destruction must cease. We, for our part, are convinced that it is only the policies and aims and principles of the Soviet Union, and other socialist countries, actively pursued and implemented which can and will end this great injustice.

We send the warmest and friendliest of greetings and best wishes to the Party and people of the Soviet Union on the 60th Anniversary of the founding of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The most recent proposals made by yourself, Comrade General Secretary, for a reduction of Soviet Nuclear Missiles in Europe to the same level as that of the NATO allies Britain and France, demonstrates in a very positive manner that the USSR sixty years after its foundation still follows unswervingly the peace policy and principles of Lenin. Be assured that the Party and people of the Soviet Union have the full support and confidence of the growing numbers of class conscious workers of Ireland and of the Workers' Party in what is our common struggle for Peace, Freedom, Justice and Socialism.

On behalf of The Workers' Party,

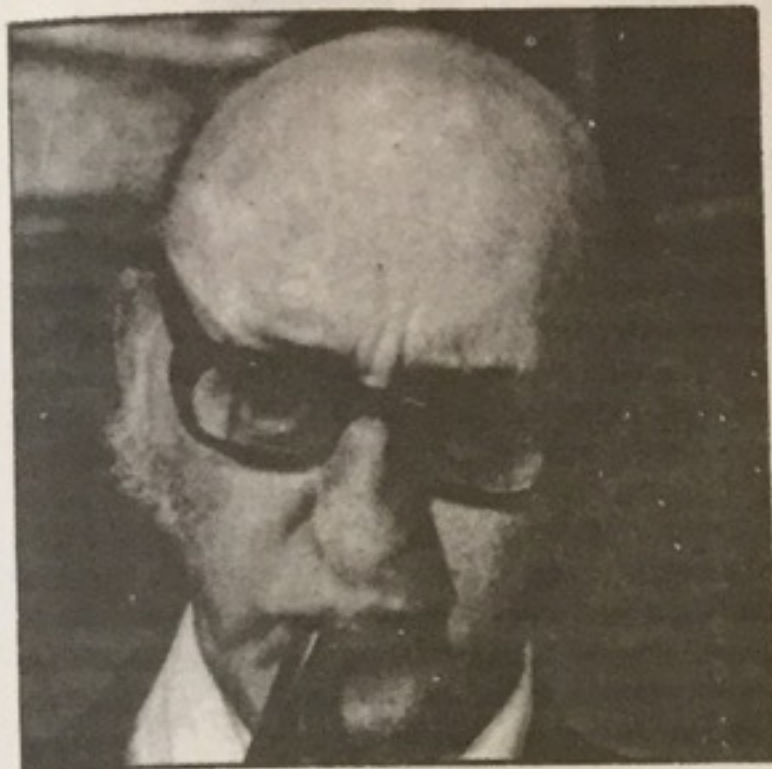
Tomas Mac Giolla TD  
President,

Sean Garland  
General Secretary.

Sean O Cionnaith  
Director, International Affairs.



## British Labour Party meets Workers' Party



The President of The Workers' Party, Tomas Mac Giolla TD and Proinsias De Rossa TD had a meeting with a delegation from the British Labour Party in Dublin on Saturday 26th February last. Among the delegation was Don Concannon MP, Labour Party spokesman on Northern Ireland, and his Deputy Mr Clive Soley MP.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss British Labour Party policy on Northern Ireland on both political and economic issues. Security and civil rights issues were discussed. Both parties agreed that the primary aim of socialists in Britain and Ireland should be the defeat of terrorism and development of class politics.

## DON'T FORGET THE FIGHTING FUND

THE Workers' Party stands absolutely and firmly for a positive Irish neutrality in a world threatened by a nuclear holocaust. We believe totally in a nuclear free Europe and reject the Pentagon concept of so-called "limited nuclear war" being fought from the Urals to the Irish Sea. We would prefer close and friendly relations with the non-aligned countries and we believe that a major part of our role at the United Nations should be to oppose the spread of nuclear weapons which threaten the very existence of the human race.

Who does this programme threaten? The peace loving peoples of the world or the forces of reaction, the industrial-military complexes wasting billions of pounds and dollars on ever-increasing armaments while millions starve and millions more go workless? The answer is obvious.

The Workers' Party stands for world peace and disarmament and

we must recognise therefore that we will be maligned and attacked by those who have a vested interest in maintaining a balance of power.

Equally our Party programme on Northern Ireland has produced vicious attacks from the ultra-left and the ultra-right. What new evil intentions do they have when they oppose our call for Peace and Democracy, for guaranteed civil rights, for integrated education, for working class unity?

Our programme is based neither on despair nor fantasy. It is in the interests of all the people of Northern Ireland and consequently in the interests of the whole island.

We have opposed murder and terrorism in all forms; we stood alone on the Left against those who would have plunged our people into civil war. We have for more than a decade sought to build the unity of the Protestant and Roman Catholic working class. Indeed, we lost many comrades in this difficult task.

A recent *Irish Times* opinion poll shows that in spite of terrorism, sectarianism and reaction, that the people's demands for democracy and peace coincide with the political programme of The Workers' Party.

*If you support our ideas, support us with cash!*

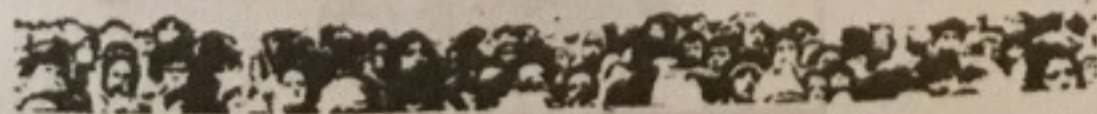
Donations to the **IRELAND Fighting Fund** should be sent to: International Affairs Bureau, The Workers' Party, 30 Gardiner Place, Dublin 1, Ireland. All donations will be acknowledged.

## Workers' Party urges arms freeze

Nationally and internationally, the greatest single need is peace, the Workers' Party President, Tomas Mac Giolla TD said when addressing the party's International Affairs Committee in Dublin. "This is the first essential, so that the problems of unemployment, housing, health, education and social welfare can be tackled.

"A major cause of the international recession is the appalling waste of resources and money on weapons of war and destruction," Mr Mac Giolla declared. "Over a billion pounds goes on military spending in the world every day, while millions of people starve or suffer appalling living conditions."

The Workers' Party President called for an international freeze on military spending, and in particular for the halting of US plans to develop the new MX nuclear missile system. "This could be a first step on the road to world peace," he said. "But if the MX goes ahead that would represent a major escalation of the arms race, and a serious threat to all humanity."







● Proinsias De Rossa TD and Tomas Mac Giolla TD (Party President) meet with Heidi Tarver, National Co-ordinator of US Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador, and Manuel Bravo, FMLN-FDR.

## Medical Aid for El Salvador

The latest bloodshed in El Salvador underlines the need of the suffering people for help in their struggle against military oppression.

As its contribution to the international effort, the Workers' Party has organised a public appeal for medical aid to El Salvador. The money goes towards the purchase of life-saving medical supplies for the sick and wounded.

Over £400 has already been raised, and we hope to reach our target figure of £1,000 early in the New Year. The need is truly desperate — over 30,000 innocent civilians have been killed by the fascist forces, and many more wounded or "disappeared".

Meanwhile in the liberated zones, field hospitals, clinics and schools are organised by the people despite appalling difficulties. At one of these centres in Chalatenango, a medical team treats the sick and injured, with little medicines and almost no equipment. Classes for children are held under the trees, and babies delivered in a hospital tent.

When you contribute to medical aid for El Salvador, you give hope to the people — and make it clear you believe the road to peace is humanitarian aid, not military backing. The Salvadorean people need all our solidarity in their struggle for justice, democracy and liberation.

All contributions will be acknowledged, and should be sent to: Medical Aid for El Salvador, International Affairs Bureau, The Workers' Party, 30 Gardiner Place, Dublin 1.

*Please send what you can — as soon as you can.*

THE SITUATION IN EL SALVADOR

as seen by Nuez





## Workers' Party appeals to US President Ronald Reagan...

4th January 1983

Mr Ronald Reagan,  
President,  
United States of America.

Dear Mr President,

The Workers' Party decided to write and put before you its views on the present international situation, more especially its views on world disarmament.

In many respects 1982 has been one of the most difficult and dangerous years of this century in international affairs. In particular, the failure of the 2nd Special Session on Disarmament at the United Nations in June demonstrated how difficult the situation is, i.e. how far nations have to go to secure agreement on such essential issues as disarmament and the need to rebuild trust among nations.

Yet, there have been positive and worthwhile happenings in 1982. We believe it is imperative to grasp these opportunities and so enable the world to go forward in peace. The speech made at the Special Session by the former Irish Prime Minister, Mr C.J.Haughey, which we are sure has been brought to your attention, contains many clear ideas and suggestions as to how the major questions of disarmament can be tackled and of what opportunities exist that can be grasped.

The call for a freeze or moratorium for

two years on the manufacture and spread of nuclear weapons is a practical suggestion and one which we are glad to see has been endorsed in recent congressional elections by many States in the US. The resolutions passed by the United Nations General Assembly on Monday, 13th December, further confirms the widespread support for a nuclear freeze.

With the possibility opening up of a new and fresh start to Soviet-US relations, we are convinced that now is the time for you, Mr President, to join with the many millions of people throughout the world who support the freeze proposals. We are equally convinced that such proposals would meet with a favourable response from the Soviet Union, for, as you are aware, already in previous years, 1977, 1978, 1979, the Soviet Union proposed a halt to the Nuclear Arms Race along the lines of the freeze.

Every person concerned about the future of humanity knows there can and will be no winners in a nuclear war and that there is no such thing as a limited nuclear war. There is then, Mr President, as you know from your daily work, a tremendous responsibility on the leaders of the Nuclear Powers to safeguard mankind's future. The first step, which is very often the most difficult in any task, is to stop the Nuclear Arms Race. This, we are convinced, will immediately lead to a lessening of tension and fear throughout the world and then to a reduction of all nuclear weapons. In this connection, we are pleased that the US House of Repres-

entatives has by its decision on the MX Ballistic Missiles, enabled all parties to review this entire programme.

When the whole world is facing a series of crises unprecedented in its history, with millions of people starving, millions more unemployed and destitute, many more millions suffering from bad housing, illiteracy and disease, the words of the late President Eisenhower spoken 30 years ago, have a much more urgent and significant meaning to-day: "Every gun that is made, every warship that is launched, every rocket fired, signifies in the final sense a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, who are cold and are not clothed".

The will of the people of the world has been made clear. Millions of men and women from all the nations as we have already stated, have demonstrated their desire, their need for peace.

The Workers' Party therefore, joins these people and appeals to you, Mr President, to listen to their voice and act on behalf of all humanity.

On behalf of The Workers' Party

Tomas Mac Giolla TD  
President.

Sean Garland  
General Secretary.

Sean O Cionnaith  
Director, International Affairs.

The Workers' Party 1983 Annual Congress  
20-22 May 1983  
Liberty Hall, Dublin.

Messages of solidarity welcomed. Please send them to: Congress Solidarity, The Workers' Party, 30 Gardiner Place, Dublin 1, Ireland. Telex 31490 SFWP EI.



# Sandinista National Liberation Front

THE following letter has been sent to Carlos Fernando Chamorro, Director of Barricada Internacional, the international weekly of the Sandinista National Liberation Front, by Sean O Cionnaith, Director of the International Affairs Bureau of The Workers' Party.

## Donativo desde San Francisco

El señor Michael Houston, de San Francisco, California envió a través de IRISH REPUBLICAN CLUBS. (Una organización de republicanos irlandeses), al Centro de Educación Pre-Escolar, Camilo Ortega Saavedra una donación conteniendo el siguiente material.

Treinta y cuatro cajas de Crayolas de 48 colores y veintitrés cajas de marcadores de 8 colores.

Desde 1949, cuando quedó establecida la selección del jugador Novato del Año en cada liga, cuatro jugadores latinoamericanos se han hecho acreedores al trofeo en la Liga Americana, y solamente dos en la Nacional.

El primero en encabezar la lista de honor fue el venezolano Luis Aparicio en 1956, cuando inició su notable carrera en los Diamantes, como defensor corto del Medias Blancas de Chicago, en la Liga Americana.

EL NUEVO DIARIO  
**Camilo**

### WELCOME DONATION TO NICARAGUA

A welcome donation of boxes of crayons and markers was received in November 1982 by the Kindergarden School — "Centro De Education Pre-Escolar, Camilo Ortega Saavedra" in Managua, Nicaragua, from Michael Houston on behalf of the San Francisco (USA) Irish Republican Clubs. The material, worth more than \$250, will be used in the educational projects at the pre-school. The Irish Republican Clubs of North America is the support group for The Workers' Party of Ireland in the United States.

El Nuevo Diario 25 November 1982

"Dear Comrades,

The Workers' Party of Ireland follows with great interest the struggle of the Nicaraguan people, led by the Sandinista National Liberation Front, to build a just and democratic society in your country. Your victories are a major encouragement to other peoples in the world seeking the end of neo-colonialism and exploitation.

Our Party organised a 'Nicaragua Appeal' in Ireland to support your literacy campaign, and raised over £700 which we presented to your Embassy in London (Nicaragua has no embassy in Ireland). Workers' Party representatives also met a delegation of Nicaraguan leaders, including Antonio Jarguin and Nora Astorga, when they visited Ireland recently.

Our Party led the campaign in this country against United States support for the genocidal Somoza regime, and many times picketed the embassy here in protest at Washington's backing for the fascist military dictatorship which your people have now happily overthrown.

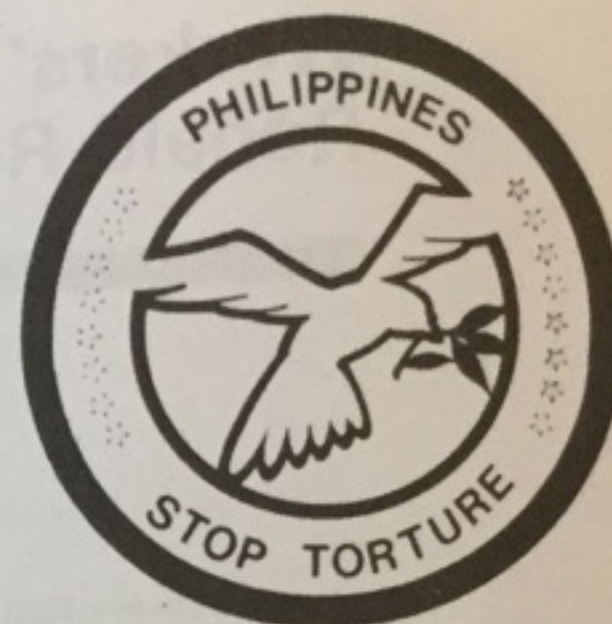
We are continuing the struggle to oppose US conspiracies against Nicaragua and other liberated people in Latin America and the Caribbean region. We are particularly concerned at Washington's growing military pressure in Honduras.

Here, at home, The Workers' Party is gaining increasing support among the Irish working class, and now has two elected deputies in the Irish Parliament and many members of local authorities throughout the country. We send you our international magazine *Ireland*, which gives you regular information on the struggle for socialism in this country.

The Workers' Party campaigns on a programme of "Peace, Work and Class Politics". We firmly reject the sectarian terrorism which divides working people in our country, thus serving the interests of monopoly capital and international imperialism.

With warm wishes for your future success, and our firm solidarity in your struggle."

Irish Unions condemn Philippines repression



THE Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU) has called for the release of all detainees and the establishment of full trade union rights in the Philippines as a matter of urgency.

In its statement, the Congress — representing 600,000 workers — unreservedly condemns the continuing violence of human rights by the Marcos regime.

### Human rights

"The growing frequency of arbitrary arrests and disappearances is a flagrant breach of the UN Charter of Human Rights."

The ICTU executive welcomed the Secretary General of the Philippine Federation of Labour (KMU), Ernesto Arellano when he visited Ireland. Mr Arellano has been arrested three times and tortured during the nine years of anti-union repressive legislation. He has been adopted by Amnesty International as one of its Prisoners of Conscience.

### American base

The Philippines was the main US base during the Vietnam War and the Americans still hold 20 military bases on the islands.

In 1975 President Marcos admitted that 50,000 people had been arrested and detained since he declared 'Martial Law' in 1972. Since then thousands more peasants and trade union members have been tortured and killed.



## A Life dedicated to Peace



## WORKERS' PARTY EXPRESS DEEPEST SYMPATHY

LEONID BREZHNEV, the outstanding political leader and statesman and consistent and ardent fighter for peace, died on November 10, 1983.

At his funeral, his companions and friends, leading representatives of the Communist and workers' movement, state and government leaders from all over the world, including President Patrick Hillery of Ireland, delegations from all the republics of the USSR paid tribute to the historic achievements of Leonid Brezhnev's political life and work.

In a message of condolence to Ambassador H.E. Nesterenko, Embassy of the USSR in Dublin, Workers' Party general secretary Sean Garland, said his party extends "our deepest sympathy on the sudden death of Leonid Brezhnev, President of the USSR and general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

"The death of a statesman of the stature of President Brezhnev will be a severe loss not only to the people of the Soviet Union but to peace-loving people throughout the world.

"The role President Brezhnev has played in attempting to build peace and detente and reduce the risk of nuclear warfare ensures him an honoured place in the history of mankind.

"Please convey to your government and to the people of the Soviet Union our deepest sympathy on their sad loss."

### *Irish support for Cyprus*

THE Workers' Party, in a letter to Mr Peter Barry, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has urged the Irish Government to support the courageous stand of Cyprus against violations of human rights by the Turkish forces occupying the island.

The letter signed by the party's spokesperson on Foreign Affairs, Sean O Cionnaith, stated: "Our country should use its influence at the United Nations and in the EEC to defend the Cypriot people against the outrageous breach of international law involved in the military occupation of Cyprus by Turkish military forces and the subsequent flouting of human rights and the principles of justice.

"As a member of the Council of Europe, Turkey must be pressed for immediate withdrawal of its invading forces from Cyprus and an end to its illegal occupation of the island territory.

### Support for Palestinian Mayors

The following Resolution was carried unanimously by Dublin City Council in November, proposed by Councillor Tomas Mac Giolla, of the Workers' Party and seconded by Councillor Carmen-city Hederman, community councillor.

"That this Council expresses its solidarity with the dismissed Palestinian Mayors in West Bank and Gaza and calls on the Government of Israel to release the Mayors from house arrest and restore local democracy to the area."

It was agreed that copies of the Resolution be sent to the Mayor of Bethlehem.

"Ireland should add its voice to the international pressure on the military dictatorship in Ankara, particularly in the context of Turkish membership of the European Council."

### DECLARATION OF EAST TIMOR

Two members of the Irish Parliament, Tomas Mac Giolla TD and Proinsias De Rossa TD, both from The Workers' Party, have signed a declaration on East Timor recently launched by The British Parliamentary Human Rights Group to raise signatures from members of parliament in various countries against the continuing disregard by Indonesian authorities of human rights in East Timor. The Declaration states:

"We the undersigned members of Parliament call upon the Governments of the European community to work collectively for the self-determination of the people of East Timor, in accordance with the United Nations Covenant of Civil and Political Rights, and the Resolution of the General Assembly adopted in December 1981."



**Republic  
of Cyprus  
welcomes  
Ireland's  
support  
in their  
struggle  
against  
Turkish  
occupation**



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
MINISTER'S OFFICE

Nicosia 31st December 82

Mr. Sean O Cionnaith  
Director of the International  
Affairs Bureau,  
The Workers' Party of Ireland,  
30 Gardiner Place,  
Dublin 1,  
Ireland.

*Dear Mr. O Cionnaith,*

I thank you very much for your letter of 16th December, 1982, informing me that the Worker's Party of Ireland has urged the Government of Ireland, with which Cyprus maintains friendly relations, to support the stand of the Republic of Cyprus in its struggle against the Turkish occupation of part of Cyprus territory and against the violations by Turkey of human rights in my Country.

The above initiative of your Party, for which the Government and the People of Cyprus are most grateful, strengthens our belief that active solidarity on behalf of the World Community will enhance decisively the prospects for the vindication of the just struggle of our People.

*N. A. Rolandis*

N. A. Rolandis  
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the  
Republic of Cyprus



## JAPAN

We thank you very much for your friendly message of greetings to the 16th Congress of the Japanese Communist Party. Your message was carried in full by the JCP Central Organ "Akahata".

The Congress adopted unanimously the introductory speech by Chairman Miyamoto, the Report and Concluding Remarks of the Central Committee, the Resolution, etc. and elected a new Central Committee. Thus it concluded its work successfully, demonstrating firm unity of the whole party and powerful determination to strive for development of the party.

We hope that friendship and solidarity between our two parties will be developed on the principle of independence, equal rights of every party, non-interference in internal affairs and co-operation based on common tasks agreed upon.

**Central Committee,  
Japanese Communist Party.**

## USA

Enclosed is a donation to The Workers' Party from the Irish Republican Club of Boston. Congratulations on the victory of two Dáil (Parliament) seats,  
**Kevin Coleman Joyce,  
Dorchester, Mass. USA.**

## IRELAND

Louise and I are personally very grateful to the Workers' Party for sending us a copy of the statement that was issued following Ruth First's murder. The Movement, of course, will publicise your messages.

Ruth First was a very dear friend of ours. But it is not simply our private grief which is important because she was one of the most formidable, committed intellectuals any liberation movement could have boasted of. Her international reputation as a scholar and revolutionary are well known. What is not as well known is her commitment to social transformation, without which liberation will remain an empty shell.

All of us, in the South African liberation movement and elsewhere, will miss her.

Yours sincerely,  
**Kader Asmal,  
Chairman,  
Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement.**

We are pleased to receive letters from our readers. If you would like to express your views on any subject especially Ireland, through the columns of our magazine please write to

The Letters Editor,  
IRELAND Magazine  
30 Gardiner Place,  
Dublin 1, Ireland.

# LETTERS

## U.S.A.

Thank you for the many newspapers and articles you have been sending to us and, particularly, for the news of your work on the case of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg. We enclose a contribution of \$25 to cover some of your expenses. Good luck and carry on.  
**Ethel & Julius Weissen,  
Washington, D.C., USA.**

## IRAN

Thank you very much for your letter of support and solidarity. The Chairman of the National Council of Resistance, Mr Mas'us Rajavi, has been informed of your letter and we have much pleasure to convey his sincere regards and profound gritudes.

As you are well aware, the reactionary dictatorship of Khomeini has been in a full campaign of war against humanity and democracy, the reply to which has nevertheless, been a remarkable resistance that has surpassed historical boundaries stretching far beyond.

Your support for the National Council of Resistance does indeed speak of the respect that you hold for the Iranian people's just and democratic struggle, which being also indicative of the faith you maintain for the realisation of justice and democracy in our homeland. In fact, deep in their hearts and in their thoughts, our people will always cherish your support and solidarity.

With profound gritudes and best wishes.

**National Council of Resistance  
For Independence and Freedom  
of the Democratic Islamic  
Republic of Iran.**

## NICARAGUA

Dear Friends,

We are very interested in receiving regularly your international magazine *IRELAND*, which gives us important information about the struggle in your country. In exchange, we will send you *Barricada Internacional* regularly.

In solidarity,  
**Cecilia Remon,  
Secretary,  
Barricada Internacional,  
Managua.**

## MEXICO

About a year ago I asked you to send me some material including your publication, *IRELAND*, and I am very grateful for your letter as well as the contacts you gave me in the United States. If I have not acknowledged your kindness before now I do so with this letter.

In the meantime, I met the Irish Inter-Party Delegation which visited Central America last January, and, all things considered, we are pleased with the efforts that have been undertaken by the Irish Government, including yourselves, on behalf of the persecuted people of Latin America. I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Charles J. Haughey (ex Irish Prime Minister) as well as an up-to-date report on the situation in Central America.

Latin America, generally, have a deep feeling of affection and solidarity with Ireland, and I think we should build on that. Please keep in touch, and let us know how we can be of assistance.

**Rev. Jaime O Fogarty,  
Centre Nacional De  
Comunicacion Social,  
Mexico City,  
Mexico.**

## USA

Here is a donation of \$10. I have just returned from a trip to Haiti. I saw the slums of Limerick when I was small but it was nothing compared to the slums of Haiti and Port-O-Prince especially.

**Lian Madden,  
New York.**







**Title:** Ireland, Spring 1983  
**Organisation:** Workers' Party  
**Date:** 1983

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