

SUBMISSION OF LABOUR MOVEMENT DELEGATION TO LABOUR DAIL REPRESENTATIVES

1. The five disorientation techniques which the British Government renounced at Strasbourg have been replaced by many alternative techniques. This has been thoroughly documented by Father Faul. He has shown that 80% of all convictions in Diplock Courts are secured solely on the basis of "confessions".
2. The death by hanging of Brian Maguire, AUEW/TASS Branch Secretary in Castlereagh recently has underlined the seriousness of this matter. There have been two complete stoppages of work in West Belfast and massive demonstrations led by TUCAR to Transport House calling for action. The NCICTU has called for a public enquiry.
3. It is not at all clear that Brian Maguire hanged himself as a result of torture. The sworn statements of Bernard O'Connor (BBC Tonight programme) and of Peter Hand (whose case is going to Strasbourg) after interrogation in Castlereagh include accounts of half-hanging. Another man recently interrogated at Castlereagh, Mr McMahon, and last seen in police custody was recently fished out of the Lagan. The idea of a British policeman enquiring into it is a total farce (remember Sam Devenney). The Belfast branch of TUCAR have called on the NCICTU to hold an independent enquiry. An appeal should be made to the British Labour Party to make Mason accede to this and produce police for cross-examination.
4. Political Status in H-Block: In an attempt to make these men wear prison clothes and do compulsory work all usual human facilities have been withdrawn from them. They wear only blankets, no books or writing materials are allowed and, except where overcrowding compels otherwise, they are confined to cells for 23 hours a day alone. Recently they have decided not to "slop out" in protest. Power hoses are being used on cells and prisoners. There is one doctor for the 300 people.
5. These people have been convicted by special juryless courts, under emergency legislation and have been given special emergency sentences, not to mention that they have been convicted by a British court in Ireland. Among others, Bishop Daly of Derry and the Peace People have asked that they be given "emergency status".
6. The labour movement can no longer remain silent and inactive on the continued repression in the North.

Paddy Healy,
National Public Relations Officer, Trade Union Campaign Against Repression,
46. Bayside Boulevard North,
Sutton,
Dublin 13.

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Author: Paddy Healy

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