

S.B. No. 1 (Plain)

METROPOLITAN POLICE

S.D.S.

Special Report

SPECIAL BRANCH

16th day of September 1981

SUBJECT

1. The following information has been received from a reliable source:-

Reference to Papers

2. "On Tuesday 15th September, 1981 between 7.30pm and 10.30pm at the Hackney Trades and Labour Club, Dalston Lane, E8, a meeting of the East London Troops Out Movement took place. The meeting was attended by 10 persons.

Troops Out Movement (TOM)

3. The main item on the agenda was the impending visit to London of the "relatives of the hunger strikers" and Owen CAERON MP. **Privacy** who is one of the main organisers of the visit, informed the meeting of the intended programme for the visit:-

400/81/94

BOX 500

1) Thursday 17th September 1981 - 11.30am arrival at Heathrow Airport from Belfast. (90 persons are now expected and not 100 as originally announced). The welcoming party will consist of members of London E Block/Armagh Committee and probably representatives of London Provisional Sinn Fein. There is concern that some of the visiting party might be prevented from entering the country under the provisions of the Prevention of Terrorism Act, and it is hoped that at least one solicitor will be present at H.A.L. to counter any such action by the authorities.

2) The visitors will be taken by buses from H.A.L. to Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, WC1, where a press conference will take place, at approximately 3.00pm. This press conference will be chaired by **Privacy**.

3) At 7.30pm on the same day, Thursday 17th September 1981, at the Irish Centre, Murray Street, Camden, a public meeting will take place. One of the main speakers will be Owen CAERON MP. This will be followed by a social at the same venue.

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4) On Friday 18th September 1981 at 11.00am a delegation from the visiting party together with a number of well known personalities (identities not known at present) will hand in a letter at No. 10 Downing Street, SW1. During the day it is intended that MP ; should be lobbied, and there may be a visit to T.U.C. Headquarters, Congress House, Great Russell Street, WC1. It is also planned to visit various embassies.

5) During the evening of Friday 18th September 1981 the following meetings have been arranged.

a) A private meeting at Caxton Hall, at 7.30pm for Labour Party and Trade Union activists.

b) A public meeting at 7.30pm at the South Bank Poly, Rotary Street, SE1.

6) On Saturday 19th September there will be public rallies as follows:-

a) 11am Kilburn Square, Kilburn.

b) 11am Opposite Inverness Street Market, Camden.

c) 2.00pm - 4.00pm A Black Flag vigil will take place at Downing Street. (At 8.00pm that evening there will be a social at the Hackney Trades and Labour Club, Dalston Lane, E8)

7) On Sunday 20th September 1981 at 10am there will be a vigil outside Westminster Cathedral.

4. The visiting party will be accommodated in the homes of sympathisers. The majority of the party are scheduled to leave for Belfast at a time unknown but probably during the evening of Sunday. However some of the relatives and Owen CARRON are expected to remain in the country to attend the Labour Party Conference.

5. The following events are planned to take place during the Labour Party Conference at Brighton:-

a) Tuesday: Picket of Conference, whilst 29.9.81 Owen CARRON addresses a fringe meeting (time not known).

b) Wednesday: Torch light march in  
30.9.81 Brighton. It is anticipated  
that coaches will bring  
supporters from London  
and Midlands.

6. A Troops Out Movement Conference will take place in Leeds on 10th - 11th October 1981. The exact venue is not known at present.

7. Submitted with this report are the following documents:-

- a) H Block/Armagh Bulletin No. 14
- b) Minutes of T.O.M. Steering Committee meeting held on 7th September 1981.

8. The following persons are known to have attended the meeting:-

Privacy

9. References:-

Privacy

Owen CARRON MP

London H Block/  
Armagh Committee

346/80/23 Pt 6

Provisional Sinn Fein

335/80/204

1

Trevor Butler

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT

Steering Committee Minutes 7th September, 1981

Present:

Privacy

Several Small Items of Interest:-

Privacy in Newcastle says there is no proper branch in Newcastle contrary to what Privacy says about it, but lots of interested people.

People have been visited by the C.I.D. on fishing expeditions in the wake of the delegation. Advice: say nothing, you have nothing to worry about. Please let the office know as Irish Times and Irish Post are interested in cases of harrasment and if there are a lot of cases it can be made public. Office can also give you the number of a friendly solicitor;

Privacy

Privacy a corrections to the previous week's minutes not minuted; Birmingham are sending a youth delegation not women had seen the LCI. NDM minutes do not have a list of people present. Correction, South London does have regular meetings. Privacy

Privacy did send apologies last week.

Meeting with Leveller on September 22nd. This clashes with the night of the meeting for women who went on the delegation so can anyone especially men go along to discuss their coverage of Ireland and give educational as won't be able to. Please tell Privacy PSF going too,

Privacy

Thames Poly Students Union want TOM do have stall/exhibition at their Societies Fair on 1st and 2nd October. No unemployed people in South East London branch so can anyone else do it? They have mounting boards/tables et al we have exhibition/literature/posters et al Need to have a driver to get stuff to Dartford and Woolich. Please let Privacy know.

Report back from London Vigil 5th September

London very scary, suaddies forced us off the streets. Need to have numbers to phone/observers/photographers. Not enough work done on organisation. Privacy GLC Councillor documenting incidents of Fascist/racist attacks. Privacy to send information. Office producing checklist of things to do when organising events. Debate about informing police For They are an inhibiting factor Against Police just as likely to watch us get attacked. Trial period of informing police as can't expose people to those risks.

Leaflets

Privacy supposed to have updated anti-recruitment leaflet but this has just been reprinted as it was, however, available from office. Privacy and Privacy letter to Sunday Times to be turned into a leaflet on why TOM against an independent Ulster b Central London. Womens Leaflet to be discussed at Womens Meeting on 22.9.81. C & I to be asked to do general hunger strike leaflet. Privacy working on a resources list. Privacy has idea for local use who we are, what we do leaflet to draft for next week. Any more requests or leaflets branches can share?

Conference 10th/11th Leeds

P.2

Birmingham have made alternative suggestions about the agenda to those suggested in NDM minutes e.g. more space for Lab movement discussion. **Privacy** drafting agenda to be discussed next week so any more ideas **Privacy** pass on though we can't accommodate everyone's preferences.

**Privacy** to write to **Privacy** to ask for Treasurer's report **Privacy** to ask SC members about how to give SC report.

Leeds organising creche, food accommodation. London to organise duplicating, pooled fares, standing orders, money, minutes so need people to do this. **Privacy** and **Privacy** to do it for the time being but all very hard pressed so must have help.

Next Internal Bulletin must include: announcement about voting rights MEMBERSHIP CARDS ON LY, Minutes, Motions from last time, Standing Orders Request for volunteers to chair sessions, Request for minute takers, Volunteers for Creche and security, Volunteer to organise pooled fare, volunteers for compositing committee. Registration fee to be £3 waged £1 unwaged. Please ring **Privacy** office if you can volunteer.

Proposal for HB/A Ctte speaker from Ireland to be taken to branches will decide next week.

**Privacy** to ask Leeds if they can supply P.A. system.

London branches please see who is coming so that London can decide to book coach or not.

LEEDS TO BE TOLD A.S.A.P. NUMBERS FOR ACCOMODATION VIA OFFICE

Relatives Visits

**Privacy**'s relatives (100) Full agenda has been made will be mailed to people with these minutes. Please tell **Privacy** what is happening about accommodation (see last week's minutes for phone no.) Desperate for car drivers preferably with cars of their own.

**Privacy**'s relatives (3 coming for Labour Party Conference)

Itinerary: Saturday: Sinn Fein march, Monday: LBC interviews and Press Conference, Tuesday: Brighton picket of Conference **Privacy** to speak at fringe meeting, Wednesday: torchlight march in Brighton. Brighton can give accommodation to anyone who wants to stay Tuesday night. Very important that we build for Wednesday's march as though it were a major national delegation. Also, request for not too much heckling of delegates to Conference. Coach as to be booked from London and advertisements put in left and Irish press.

LGI have decided they won't give us anything towards the costs of bringing over **Privacy** or the relatives! All those branches who keep saying TOM should do more work with the Labour Party please put your money where your mouths are because this is a big venture taking people to Labour Party Conference also it costs quite a bit.

Clarification of dates: 100 relatives 18-20th September, 3 : 25-30th Sept.

Finance

**Privacy** and **Privacy** were supposed to get together and sign more cheques and see what can be done about the cheque book that was lost. **Privacy** was supposed to turn up to office last Friday with signed cheques. As it is, there is no way of getting to money in the accounts. Office is surviving on handouts. **Privacy** to chase **Privacy** - this is desperate and people are very pissed off with the way the "treasurer" keeps dodging responsibilities.

Registered letter come which is a summons for the non-payment of the old phone bill - decided to pay £40 of that. Landlord screaming for **Privacy** owed money, **Privacy** owed money.

Decided on Central London's recommendation to give another £100 to help finance [Privacy] relatives provided no objections received by Friday 11th September (delegation profit money)

But all is not lost because there are opportunities for fundraising:-

People of No Property doing gig for us on 25th September but need a venue [Privacy] trying South Bank Poly [Privacy] to try Caxton House - should bring in a few hundred.

[Privacy] has T Shirt of Bobby Sands to reproduce for sale. [Privacy] willing to do benefit but we need big venue for that [Privacy] investigating.

Other benefit postponed till end Nov/Early Dec as no bands willing to play in London in early October.

Sinn Fein march in Luton 26th September

All branches tell office numbers so that coaches can be booked.

#### Office Report

Please make sure everybody has copies of minutes we need 75 run off each week.

We are pushing our luck a bit with the free franking facilities, does any one know of any alternative free franking facilities? Costs about £6 or £7 a week for mail outs to branches.

Duplicator being fixed soon [Privacy] to chase various options of cheap/friendly mechanics in E. London [Privacy] friend, Gentle Ghost. East London will lend their duplicator to run off Conference stuff. [Privacy] and [Privacy] to clarify office procedures better so that people going in feel that they can make the best use of their time. Rota working well, lots of work is being done. Office to plan out its work a month in advance, what events are coming up, who has to be mailed etc.

#### Branch Liaison

Addresses keep changing. Please tell us your new contact address. People in office who receive the mail please make sure you change the cards.

Membership cards available in the office now and will be sent out to specific requests, e.g. list of names and money.

Womens Meeting Tuesday 22nd September in King Alfred, Wharfedale Road, by Kings Cross at 7.30 pm.

N. W. London meeting to set up new branch 24th September in Anson Hall [Privacy] to attend.

[Privacy] wants a speaker for a meeting and video with youth she is holding in Paddington. [Privacy] and [Privacy] to be asked to speak 23rd September.

Next meeting of Steering Committee: Monday 14th September at Prince Alfred, Wharfedale Road at 7.00 pm sharp

Clarification re 100 relatives: There is not a plot to restrict them to London, if you want them to speak you need to be able to pay their fares guarantee them security.

P.S. Appeal for contributions towards Glasgow's heavy phone bill that was incurred when organising [Privacy]'s walk.

Privacy

3th September, 1981

Dear TOM Branches,

This is to remind you that with the new academic year starting in colleges and Universities, there are opportunities for TOM to have a profile at Societies Fairs and talk to students.

Your branch might think it worthwhile either to approach student contacts to see if they would like to organise an Irish/Charter 80/Hunger Strike/TOM stall at a Societies Fair or approach the Student Union direct if you think they'll be sympathetic.

Information on Ireland, 1, North End Road, London W.14 can supply literature vis; Truth the First Casualty, No British Solutions, British Soldiers Speak Out and the new pamphlet on the hunger strike. Poster Collective, 307, Euston Road, N.W.1. can supply lots of really good posters. Badges are available from the TOM office and papers from the Literature Collective. All these need money with the orders.

I know of sympathetic contacts in Birmingham Poly, Brighton Poly, Cambridge College, Coventry Poly, Middlesex Poly, Glasgow School of Art, UMIST, Oxford Poly, Sheffield Poly, York University and Aberystwyth if you need them.

Please let us know if you do anything and how it turns out.

Privacy

PP Steering Committee Working Group

# H-BLOCK ARMAGH

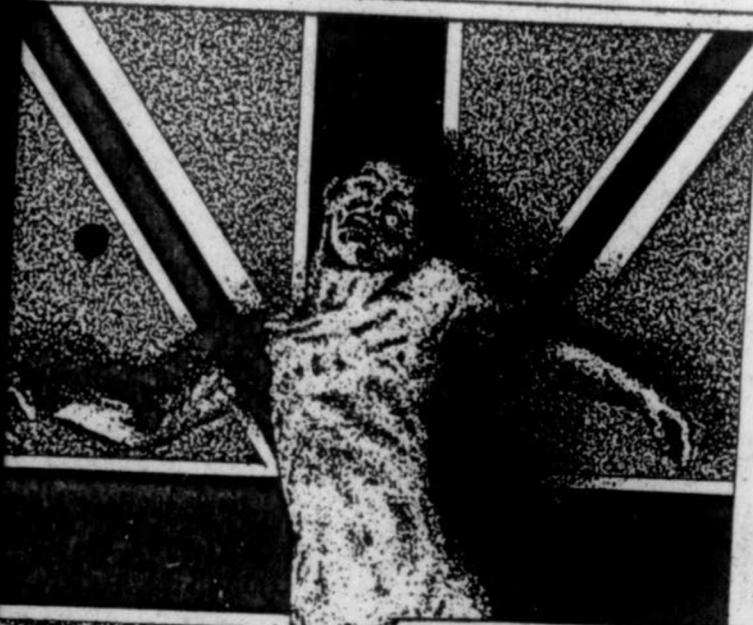
Published weekly by the  
London H Block/Armagh  
Committee

# BULLETIN

No. 14

Friday September 11th 5p

THE PRISONERS' DEMANDS: THE RIGHT NOT TO WEAR PRISON UNIFORM • THE RIGHT NOT TO DO PRISON WORK • THE RIGHT OF FREE ASSOCIATION WITH OTHER PRISONERS • THE RIGHT TO ORGANISE THEIR OWN EDUCATIONAL AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND TO RECEIVE ONE VISIT, ONE LETTER AND ONE PARCEL PER WEEK • FULL REMISSION OF SENTENCE.



## THE HUNGER STRIKE GOES ON

A Chara,

In the midst of so much torture and death in the H-Blocks at present, we feel compelled to advise and reassure our tormented people once again, in an effort to strengthen their resolve even further against the Thatcher 'death policy' here.

Firstly, to even contemplate calling off the present hunger strike in the face of British murder and arrogance would be a greater catastrophe in itself and is therefore out of the question. To disengage now would be fruitless, not only for the hundreds of Republican prisoners throughout the H-Blocks and in Armagh Jail who have struggled since 1976 to retain their human dignity, but for those countless thousands who have demonstrated their support and solidarity for our decent cause.

The hunger strike is our ultimate weapon against a callous and vindictive government, which refuses to see reason and common sense, but instead is hell bent on smothering those qualities which make us what we are. To pressurise those with the power who can force Thatcher to concede our '5 Demands' would be a much more fitting and honourable strategy, rather than have pressure exerted on the hunger strikers and their families. The SDLP, the Catholic hierarchy and the Free State Administration have that life-saving power which, if used positively can resolve this whole heart-breaking affair once and for all. Why won't they act on behalf of the prisoners and their people? Our position is now crystal clear, so we want the position of the SDLP, the Catholic hierarchy and the Free State Government made crystal clear also, regarding our '5 Demands'.

Finally we renew our determination to continue to seek an honourable settlement to the H-Block crisis, which has cost far too much pain and anguish for people both inside and outside of these blocks for it to end miserably. We ask those sincere and gallant people who have supported the prisoners' cause for so long, to strengthen their resolve and close ranks even further against Thatcher and her absurd policy in here. Unity is our strength. Victory to the hunger strikers!!

Is Mise Le Meas

Lenadoon Blanketmen, H-Blocks, Long Kesh.

### SANDS

This is a song of silence.  
This is the song of the bone  
breaking through the shin  
of a slowly dying man.  
This is the echo of his death  
— and also of his living on.

JOHN MONTAGUE

## JOHN PICKERING

The first prisoner to go on hunger strike in the H-Blocks since April 1st, John Pickering refused breakfast on Monday morning. John, 25 years old, comes from a family of seven brothers, and four sisters, who live in Anderson-town, Belfast.

At 15 he was working as an apprentice joiner, when he was arrested and held for two months. In 1972 he was again arrested and held for 48 hours in Dummurray Interrogation centre. Afterwards he went on the run because of threats to the effect he would be interned as soon as he reached the age of 17.

Two months after his 17th birthday and 10 days before Christmas he was again captured. He was interned in Long Kesh until November 1975. After his release he wholeheartedly threw himself into the struggle.

On May 25 1976 he and 3 others including the late Kieron Docherty T.D., were captured on the Malone Rd, Belfast. After 17 months remand he appeared before a Diplock Court and was sentenced to 26 years imprisonment on charges of possessing explosives



and killing a members of the Ulster Defence Regiment.

He immediately went on blanket protest and later joined the 'no wash' protest. He has only returned from hospital, where he had a serious ear operation. His hearing is still badly affected.

John is held in H-Block 6. He was a cellmate of Kieran Doherty for several months prior to Kieron going on hunger strikes.

## HUNGER STRIKES ENDED BY FAMILIES

Laurence McKeown, the 24 year old hunger striker from Ronallstown, Co. Antrim, was taken off hunger strike by his relatives last Sunday morning after 70 days without food.

When his family had previously visited him on Monday 31st August he was already very weak, suffering from impaired vision and complaining of a sore throat. He was then 64 days on hunger strike. Despite repeated requests for daily visits by his family, they were not allowed to see him during the week. The appeals were rejected by the Northern Ireland Office which said these were granted only on the advise of a prison doctor, and would be allowed when they were considered necessary. Over 60 days on hunger strike did not necessarily warrant daily visits. Then on Saturday his family were finally allowed visit him again. On Sunday morning because of his especially deteriorating condition Laurence's relatives agreed to medical intervention.

## MATT DEVLIN

On the Friday night previously, Matt Devlin was taken off the hunger strike by him family. Matt was serving a seven year sentence and would have been released last year but for remission last due to being on the blanket protest.

Mat was on his 52nd day without food when he was given medical treatment. He had been having difficulty holding down water and had developed a sudden kidney failure.

While it is not known how much it affected the McKeown and Devlin families, intense pressure is being exerted on the families of men on hunger strike to intervene as soon as they last consciousness by the clergy and heirarchy.

Mr Danny Morrison of the Republican Centre in Belfast said that the trend of families taking their sons and husbands off the hunger strike would "at some stage be reversed by a man going back on hunger strike again. The problem is that once the medics get their hands on a hunger striker and a family has sanctioned medical intervention, he is given a drug which creates a tremendous dependance on further nourishment."

## PLASTIC BULLET CAMPAIGN

Leading specialists in Northern Ireland hospitals are compiling a detailed dossier on the dreadful injuries caused by plastic bullets. They include chest specialists, dentists, neuro and plastic surgeons, all of whom have first hand knowledge of the after effects of this "crowd control" weapon which has lead to seven deaths and hundreds of injuries during the hunger strike campaign.

One of those involved is Mr William Rutherford, consultant in accident and emergency medicine at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast where maney of victims were treated.

While Mr. Rutherford stressed that the report will be on strictly medical lines and not politically motivated, many doctors and nurses are appalled at the extent of the brutal injuries caused by these so-called "harmless" bullets. The report will contain the same sort of information as the report in 1975 into injuries caused by rubber bullets which was published in the "British Journal of Surgery".

Meanwhile several meetings were held over the last week in various parts of Belfast to bring together those who themselves have been injured or had loved ones injured by plastic bullets. The meetings were convened by Sinn Fein to ask for assistance in establishing

and promoting a campaign directed at the British army and the R.U.C.'s use of plastic bullets.

One of the first activities of the campaign is to be a civil action brought by the mother of Brian Stewart a young teenager murdered by a plastic bullet in 1976. A picket made up of the families of Carol Anne Kelly and Julie Livingstone will be held outside the High Court in Belfast during the hearing.

On Sunday there will be a demonstration from the Falls Rd., to Linden St in Belfast to highlight the use of plastic bullets. Linden St is where Mrs Mora McCabe was murdered by this weapon in July.

"Rubber and Plastic Bullets Kill and Maim" is a comprehensive booklet prepared for the International Tribunal of inquiry into Deaths and Serious Injuries caused by Rubber and Plastic Bullets in Northern Ireland, which was held in August. The booklet is a well illustrated and documented account of the effects of these weapons and is available for £1 + .32p p&p from the Belfast H.B./A Cttee, 85B Falls Rd., Belfast.

March in support of Eamonn O'Connor's hunger strike in Sydney. Eamonn has been on hunger strike since Aug 9th calling on the Australian Government to support the prisoners 5 demands. The prisoners in the H Blocks have sent a message thanking Eamonn for his courage and support but asking him to end his strike immediately.



## WHY BRITAIN SHOULD NEGOTIATE

Charles Haughey, leader of Ireland's opposition Party Fianna Fail has again called for direct negotiations between the British Government and the H Block and Armagh prisoners, on the basis of the 5 demands. In a major interview, last Sunday Mr. Haughey denied that this call represented a change in policy now that he is out of office. He said that he told the British Government privately that this was his policy when he was Taoiseach (Prime Minister).

"All the evidence and information at my disposal indicates that it is the prisoners inside the Maze prison who decide what course of action should be taken in regard to the hunger strikes."

When asked why he hadn't called on the Provisional IRA or the INLA to order an end to the fast he said, "I believe that calls of that sort in general in this sort of situation are ineffective and irrelevant. In my view, the prisoners will end the hunger strike whenever they decide to do so."

He went on to say "I think it would be wrong to conclude that pressure, diplomatic and political has not achieved

## INLA PRISONERS STATEMENT

A statement by the I.N.L.A. prisoners in the H-Blocks that they would not be replacing the late hunger striker Micky Devine, who died on August 20th was made to the National H-Blocks Armagh Conference held in Dundalk over last weekend.

Up to now they have been maintaining a ratio of one I.N.L.A. hunger striker to every Provisional hunger striker. If they kept it up, all 28 protesting I.N.L.A. men in Long Kesh would be dead within six months, so further I.N.L.A. prisoners would go on hunger strike in a lower ratio to the Provisional I.R.A. There are 400 Provisional protesting prisoners in Long Kesh.

However the I.N.L.A. prisoners stressed that their rethink of strategy should not be seen as any weakening — their resolve to achieve the five demands.

anything. In any event, the clear need now is to continue by every available means to persuade the British government of the fundamental nature of the present development, of the very serious harm that has been done to both sections of the community in Northern Ireland, to the requirements of normal political life in this part of the country, and to the whole future of Anglo Irish relations."

"The British Government have negotiated with the prisoners before and a settlement was reached, and special

status is afforded to a certain section of the prisoners in the Maze. So there is absolutely no question of principles being violated by the initiation of a process to reach a settlement. What should totally prevail at the moment is a need to bring the tragedy to a close."

"It is the British Government in my view who have the capacity to secure a settlement. They did so before and I cannot understand why in view of the enormity of the consequences of the present situation they do not do so again."



Section of Women's March in Dublin in support of the protest prisoners in Armagh and the H Blocks.

## NATIONAL H BLOCK/ARMAGH CONFERENCES

A national conference of H Block/Armagh activists was held in Dundalk last weekend. In a business-like conference, serious consideration was given to campaign strategy, economic action, international action and other activities. A new committee was also elected. One of the main emphasis was put on expanding the campaign and harnessing new forces. It was also felt that not enough attention had been paid to the labour movement. The committee was extended from twenty to thirty people. The extra ten to be co-opted from cultural associations such as the G.A.A. and from Trades Unions. The conference felt that there was no sign of dramatic breakthrough, but rather the campaign should be geared to cope with the prolonged hunger strike and what they need to do in their own areas to ensure that the prisoners receive to support their heroic stand requires.

## FRENCH AIRPORT WORKERS STRIKE

Last week, members of the French Communist Party who work in the Paris airport, used their day off and subsidised air fares to fly to London. When they arrived they began distributing leaflets condemning the government's handling of the hunger strikers.

The leaflets printed in French and English accused Thatcher of the murder of Irish prisoners and praised the courage of the hunger strikers. The workers leafleted all the mainline train stations as well as the Oxford Street, Trafalgar Square areas of central London. Before returning to Paris they left piles of leaflets at each station for evening commuters to take with them.

Earlier in the week groups of workers at Orly airport outside Paris kept putting themselves in front of British planes preventing them from taking off. Their actions, which were in support of the hunger strikers, caused considerable delays.



# We Support Our Prisoners

## MASS DELEGATION

Owen Carron and a mass delegation of 100 relatives of prisoners in the H Blocks and Armagh are coming to London, on the 17th of September, to publicise the prisoners demands. At the request of the relatives, the National H Block/Armagh Committee (Ireland) and the London H Block/Armagh Committee are helping to arrange the visit. The relatives are coming to show the support, the hunger strikers and the other prisoners have, and to appeal directly to the British people to pressurise their government into conceding the five demands of the prisoners. While they are here they hope to lobby prominent political figures, as well as trade unionists and churchmen. They also will be making a special appeal to the London Irish community.

1.30 <del>Saturday</del> <i>Conway Hall</i>	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
3.00 Press conference chaired by Daffyell Ellis Thomas. Conway Hall.	11.00 handing in of letter to Downing Street	11.00am. Public Rally, Kilburn Square	10.00am Vigil outside Westminster Cathedral
7.30 Public Meeting Irish Centre, Murray Street Camden. Social afterwards	Lobbying of MP, Trade Unions etc.	2-4pm Black Flag vigil outside Downing Street	
	7.30 Meeting for Labour Party and Trade Union activists		
	7.30 Public Meeting South Bank Poly, Rotary St, SE1		

This programme is not yet finalised. For further details ring the office 267 2004.

We desperately need help in the form of you to act as guides for the relatives, transport, and money. If you can help please phone the office.



Westminster vigil.

### WESTMINSTER VIGIL

A vigil in memory of the ten dead hunger strikers was held outside Westminster Cathedral last Saturday afternoon. The vigil organised by the London Troops Out Movement laid 10 wreaths in memory of the hunger strikers. While most members of the vigil held black flags in a silent demonstration, a few distributed leaflets telling passers by about the vigil and the reasons for it.

Soon after the vigil began, two men started abusing some of the people there and shouted obscenities at the placards and about the hunger strikers. Throughout the afternoon the vigil was plagued by fascists and squaddies who kept coming around and threatening violence. They were particularly enraged by the dignified manner in which people carried on maintaining the vigil. Despite the provocation there was no police presence, until one member of the vigil was forced

to threaten retaliation against two young men who were kicking at the wreaths.

The vigil finished at four o'clock and some members brought the wreaths up to Highgate cemetery and laid them, each with the name of a hunger striker, on the grave of Karl Marx.

### VIDEO SHOWING

A successful showing of the video "We ourselves speak" was held in Islington on Tuesday evening. Between fifty and sixty people came to the meeting organised by Camden and Islington Troops Out Movement. Along with the video was shown a home made cine film of the recent mass Troops Out Delegation to Belfast. The video itself was well received, and members of the audience expressed a wish to use it in their own areas of work, colleges etc. to help give more people in London accurate information on the hunger strike, and also to build the campaign for the prisoners.

PLEASE TELL THE OFFICE OF EVENTS IN YOUR AREA. Ring 01-267 2004.

IF A HUNGER STRIKER DIES, BLACK FLAG MOURNING VIGILS will continue in KILBURN SQUARE for three consecutive evenings or until the day of the funeral, starting each evening at 7.30pm.

### MARCH FOR THE 5 DEMANDS Called by Sinn Fein

SATURDAY 26th SEPTEMBER  
IN LUTON

Assemble People's Park 1.30pm and march to town centre

### WE OURSELVES SPEAK

new video by London Media Workshop

SUNDAY 13th SEPTEMBER 7.30pm

LONDON FILMMAKERS CO-OP  
42 Gloucester Ave, NW1  
(Camden Town tube)

organised by Central London  
Troops Out Movement

### WE OURSELVES SPEAK

WEDNESDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER 7.30

The Factory, Marylands Community  
Centre, Chippenham Mews, London W9

organised by ad hoc Prisoners Action Group  
North Paddington

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